

Resolution 5

International migration

The Council of Delegates,

recalling and reaffirming the resolutions on topics relating to migration adopted by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Resolution XXI, Manila, 1981; Resolution XVII, Geneva, 1986; Resolution 4A, Geneva 1995; and Goal 2.3 of the Plan of Action of the 27th International Conference, Geneva, 1999) and the resolutions adopted by the Council of Delegates (Resolution 9, Budapest, 1991; Resolution 7, Birmingham, 1993; and Resolution 4, Geneva, 2001),

taking into account the respective roles and mandates of the different components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) as outlined in the Statutes of the Movement and the Seville Agreement and as inspired by the Movement's Fundamental Principles,

1. *recognizes* that migration is a multifaceted and complex global issue, which today affects every country in the world;
2. *calls upon* the components of the Movement to seek to give more prominence to the humanitarian consequences of migration at international, regional, national and local levels;
3. *welcomes* the decision by the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) to develop a policy on migration for National Societies,¹ noting that it will benefit from the specific role, experience, and expertise of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in restoring family links and other protection issues, in particular regarding persons deprived of their liberty, and *requests* the International Federation to report back on this at the next Council of Delegates in 2009;
4. *takes into account* previous resolutions on restoring family links and its relevance to the field of migration;

¹ In 2003 the International Federation adopted a Policy on Refugees and other Displaced People. However, feedback from National Societies shows that this policy does not provide them with sufficient guidance in their work to address the plight of persons made vulnerable as a consequence of migration.

5. *requests* the ICRC, in close consultation with the International Federation and National Societies, to develop guidelines for National Societies working or wishing to work in places where migrants are being detained, basing itself on the work already initiated by the ICRC and several National Societies in this respect, and to report back on this to the next Council of Delegates in 2009;
6. *endorses* the general orientations described in the background note concerning the respective roles of the different components of the Movement in the field of cross-border migration;
7. *requests* the ICRC and the International Federation, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of National Societies to gain access and provide impartial humanitarian services to migrants in need, regardless of their status, and to do so without being penalized for such action;
8. *invites* National Societies to utilize their capacity as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field to engage in a dialogue with their public authorities to clarify their respective roles relating to the humanitarian consequences of migration, noting that while acting in an auxiliary capacity National Societies will be in a position to base their services strictly on vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs and maintain their independence and impartiality at all times;
9. *calls upon* the different components of the Movement, in accordance with their respective mandates, to promote in this context respect for international law, including international human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law;
10. *requests* the various components of the Movement, in conformity with their respective mandates, to cooperate in the development of advocacy strategies addressing the humanitarian consequences of migration;
11. *requests* the International Federation, National Societies and the ICRC, in accordance with their respective mandates, to cooperate closely and coordinate within and beyond the Movement to support the provision of the necessary services and protection to vulnerable persons throughout the entire migratory cycle, including return and reintegration.