

COUNCIL OF DELEGATES  
Birmingham, 29-30 October 1993

Draft Resolution

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SITUATIONS  
OF NATURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DISASTERS  
"THE NEED FOR A CODE OF CONDUCT"

(item 5.3 of the provisional agenda)

The Council of Delegates,

noting Resolution 17 of the 1991 meeting of the Council of Delegates, and the report on the Code of Conduct,

noting that on the Federation's initiative, discussions have taken place with other members of the Humanitarian Response Steering Committee and the ICRC, culminating in the drafting of a Code of Conduct, which covers disaster response in natural and technological disasters, and in situations of armed conflict,

recognising that for the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and then the Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Disaster Relief, have precedence over the Code of Conduct,

recognising that in disaster response, assistance by foreign disaster response agencies is not always necessary,

also recognising that the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement may seek the protection of intergovernmental security services only in exceptional circumstances, bearing in mind the Movement's Fundamental Principles of Independence and Neutrality and

recognising the need to maintain operational complementarity between the components of the Movement, in conformity with our Statutes,

approves the Code of Conduct,

urges the Federation and the ICRC to take steps to promote the Code's implementation within the Movement and to disseminate the Code amongst disaster response agencies, encouraging them in turn to endorse the Code through their governing bodies,

recognises that, because of the need for approval by the governing bodies of other agencies, amendments may still be needed to the text of the Code of Conduct, and therefore authorises the Federation in agreement with the other members of the Humanitarian Response Steering Committee and the ICRC to approve these amendments,

calls on the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to bring the Code of Conduct to the attention of governments, by all appropriate means, and in particular to draw their attention to Annexes I, II, and III of the Code,

further calls upon the Federation and the ICRC to report to the next session of the Council of Delegates on the dissemination and implementation of the Code within the Movement and the NGO community, and also to report upon the reception given by governments and intergovernmental organisations to the Code.