

**XXth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS**

Vienna, October 1965

**ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS  
OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES  
HELD IN GENEVA IN 1963**

(Item 2 of the provisional agenda of the  
three Commissions)

**Report submitted  
by the International Committee of the Red Cross  
and the League of Red Cross Societies**



Geneva  
February 1965

ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF  
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After the Centenary Congress, the League communicated the Resolutions of the Council of Delegates to National Societies and drew their special attention to Resolutions 2, 11, 12, 17 and 20.

The ICRC sent them to Governments and stressed the importance of Resolutions Nos 5 and 13.

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I

Reports of the International Committee,  
the League and National Societies

"The Council of Delegates,

having with deep satisfaction taken note of the Reports submitted on the occasion of the Centenary of the Red Cross,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League and each National Society for the humanitarian work which they have accomplished since their foundation and which to the honour of the Red Cross Movement has greatly expanded in recent years."

This Resolution did not call for any action.

## II

### Relief Actions on behalf of the Victims of Natural Disasters

"The Council of Delegates,

notes with satisfaction the increasing role of the National Societies in relief actions undertaken on behalf of victims of natural disasters; congratulates the National Societies and the League of Red Cross Societies for their activities in this field;

reaffirms that it is the vocation of the Red Cross to come to the help of all who are afflicted by these disasters;

recalls the role played by the League as a coordinating institution of international relief actions;

invites the National Societies to make this role better known both to government authorities and the general public."

In February 1964, the League wrote to all the National Societies drawing their attention to the contents of this Resolution. At the same time, it enclosed a commentary which outlined the work accomplished in this field by the Red Cross and gave all the necessary data so that they could take effective measures thereon.

At the South East Asian and Pacific Red Cross Forum (May 1964), the Secretary-General of the League was able to stress the importance of this Resolution in the presence of 31 delegates from 13 countries.

It was also discussed at the Meetings which were held in Latin America at the end of 1964. Meeting of the Presidents and Technical Personnel of Central American and Panama Associations (San Jose in Costa Rica, 6-9 November 1964); regional Seminars, one for the Societies in the northern part of South America (Lima, 9-12 November 1964) and one for those in the southern part (Santiago in Chile, 16-20 November 1964).

After an exchange of views between the United Nations Secretariat and the League, and public discussions at the Social and Economic Council's Session, the United Nations Secretary-General submitted a document which was sent to all the National Societies. It defines the part played by the Red Cross in disaster relief work and gives the United Nations' point of view.

### III

#### Henry Dunant Medal

The Council of Delegates approves in principle the creation of a Henry Dunant medal as a reward for exceptional services rendered on a national and international level to the Red Cross.

It instructs the Standing Commission to study the conditions under which the medal shall be awarded. The Standing Commission will make its report to the next International Red Cross Conference.

This Resolution was addressed to the Standing Commission, which has made the study requested and will report to the XXth International Conference.

### IV

#### Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva

#### Conventions

"The Council of Delegates,

whereas by virtue of articles 47 to 49 of the First Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949; of articles 48 to 50 of the Second Convention; of articles 127 to 129 of the Third Convention and 144 to 146 of the Fourth Convention, the Contracting Parties have undertaken :

- a) to give the text thereof the widest possible dissemination in their respective countries, both in time of peace and war, and in particular to incorporate the study of the text in their programmes of military and, if possible, also civil instruction, in order that these principles may be made known to the population as a whole;

- b) to communicate to one another, through the intermediary of the Swiss Federal Council and, during hostilities, through the intermediary of the Protecting Powers, the official translations of these Conventions, as well as the laws and regulations adopted to ensure implementation;
- c) to take the necessary legislative measures for the repression of serious infringements of these Conventions;

whereas the application of these articles is the basis of a general and complete implementation of these Conventions, the Council of Delegates, after having earnestly deliberated on the matter in Geneva, in September 1963 again calls the attention of National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies, whose Governments have not yet discharged their obligations, to the humanitarian importance of the question :

requests these Societies to approach their Governments with a view to the early and effective implementation of the aforesaid articles; proposes the inscription here and now of this question on the agenda of the next International Conference of the Red Cross, to which these National Societies will submit a report on the steps taken as regards this present Resolution."

The ICRC has continued to promote the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions in various countries, in particular by preparing appropriate information material (illustrated brochures, model courses, slides, etc.). It gives an account of these activities in the Report entitled "Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions", which will be presented to the XXth International Conference (Item 3 - Humanitarian Law Commission).

The League and the ICRC have cooperated in the task of disseminating the Geneva Conventions among young people. This work will be described in a Report to be submitted to the XXth International Conference (Item 3 c-Health, Social Service and Junior Red Cross Commission).

## V

### Application of the Geneva Conventions

by the United Nations Forces

"The Council of Delegates,

considering that the States which are parties to the Geneva Conventions have undertaken to respect and to ensure the respect of these Conventions;

considering that it is necessary that the United Nations Emergency Forces shall observe and be protected by these Geneva Conventions, expresses its appreciation for the efforts already made by the United Nations to that effect and recommends:

- a) that the United Nations be invited to adopt a solemn declaration accepting that the Geneva Conventions equally apply to their Emergency Forces as they apply to the forces of States parties to the said Conventions;
- b) that the Governments of countries providing contingents to the United Nations should as a matter of prime importance give them before departure from their country of origin adequate instructions on the Geneva Conventions as well as orders to comply with them;
- c) that the Authorities responsible for these contingents should agree to take all necessary measures to prevent and repress any infringements of the said Conventions."

The ICRC has communicated this Resolution to all Governments.

Below we give extracts from the most significant replies, which it has received :

United States of America : The United States considers that the forces under United Nations command should abide by the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 where applicable. So far as United States Forces which might become a part of such forces are concerned, they would already have been properly instructed on the Conventions since all United States Forces are so instructed as a part of their training. Of course, such United States Forces could not act independently of the forces under United Nations command of which they were a part.

Federal Republic of Germany : The Federal Republic of Germany is not directly affected by Resolution No V concerning the application of the Geneva Conventions by the United Nations Forces since she is not a member of this organisation. However, the Federal Republic welcomes this Resolution, for its basic aim is to secure universal application of the Geneva Conventions.

Austria : With regard to Resolution No V, I (the Minister of Foreign Affairs) shall gladly support the project for the adoption of a solemn declaration by the United Nations. I shall again stress the importance of teaching the provisions of the Geneva Conventions to the military authorities. The study of these Conventions and of the international law of war is already a part of the obligatory (Austrian) military instruction programme.

Republic of the Philippines: Cognizant of the humanitarian value contained in Resolution No V, the Philippines is prepared to support any move within the United Nations which may seek to apply the Geneva Conventions to the operations of United Nations peace-keeping forces.

Denmark : The Danish Government is in full agreement with the principles underlying Resolution V relative to the Application of the Geneva Conventions by the United Nations Forces. As you will know, Denmark is contributing contingents to several of the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations, and, consequently, we are profoundly interested in the application of the Geneva Conventions to forces made available to the United Nations.

Ireland : I (the Minister for External Affairs) wish to inform you that the terms of Resolution V on the application of the Geneva Conventions by the United Nations Force...commend themselves to me. As regards paragraph (b) of Resolution V, it may be of interest to you to know that all personnel of the Irish Permanent Defence Force joining the United Nations peace-keeping forces are instructed in their rights and duties under the Geneva Conventions.

Saudi Arabia : We have considered with appreciation the resolutions adopted, and we are concerned ...that the United Nations adopts the Geneva Conventions as far as the international forces are concerned.

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For further information in this connection please refer to the Report of the ICRC, entitled : "Implementation and Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions" (Item 3 - Humanitarian Law Commission).

## VI

### Repression of Violations of the Geneva Conventions

"The Council of Delegates,

recommends that the International Committee of the Red Cross collects information on legislation introduced in all countries to repress violations of the Geneva Conventions, and that it submits a report on the subject to the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross."

The ICRC has approached all National Societies asking them to supply the texts of legislation introduced in their countries to repress violations of the Geneva Conventions.

It has received a certain number of documents, the first collection of which will be communicated to those concerned in the form of a Report to the XXth International Conference (Item 4 a - Humanitarian Law Commission).

## VII

### Status of Personnel of Civil Defence Services

"The Council of Delegates,

referring to Resolution No IV relative to the participation of National Red Cross Societies in Civil Protection, which was adopted by the Council of Delegates assembled in Prague in the autumn of 1961,

having studied the report presented by the International Committee of the Red Cross to the Council of Delegates concerning the Status of Personnel of Civil Protection Services,

- a) notes with satisfaction the intention of the International Committee of the Red Cross, if it obtains such governmental support as it deems necessary, to draw up, in consultation with experts provided by the interested Governments and National Red Cross Societies draft international rules defining the Status of personnel, equipment and installations of civil protection organisations in the event of armed conflict;
- b) expresses the wish that these draft rules, if drawn up, be submitted to the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross;
- c) hopes the National Societies will support the efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross and draw the attention of their Governments to this proposal which aims at strengthening appreciably the protection of war-victims, unceasingly advocated by the Red Cross."

The ICRC convoked the Commission of experts referred to above in October-November 1964. In a Report to the XXth International Conference, the ICRC will communicate their conclusions and the results of its own studies in this field (Item 5 b - Humanitarian Law Commission).



## VIII

### Protection of Civil Medical and Nursing Personnel

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the Draft Rules for the Protection of the Wounded and Sick and Civil Medical and Nursing Personnel in time of conflict submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross, invites the International Committee of the Red Cross to pursue the study of the problem, if possible with the help of Government experts, and present a Report to the next International Conference of the Red Cross."

For lack of time and in view of the death of the specialist on this question, the ICRC has not been able to convoke the experts it intends to consult. It plans to do so in 1966 and would be glad to know already now which countries and Societies would be prepared to send a qualified expert to Geneva. There is no doubt that this question needs further detailed study.

## IX

### Protection of Victims of Non-International Conflicts

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the Report of the Commission of Experts for the study of the question of aid to the victims of internal conflicts, which sat from October 25 to 30, 1962,

requests the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue its action with a view to extending the humanitarian aid of the Red Cross to the victims of non-international conflicts,

recommends National Societies to support these efforts in their respective countries in conformity with the Red Cross Principles."

As will be seen from the report on its activities, the ICRC has not failed to continue with its work on behalf of the victims of non-International conflicts.

X

Use of the Emblems of the Red Cross,  
Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken cognizance of the Draft Regulation presented by the International Committee of the Red Cross on the use of the emblems of the red cross, of the red crescent and of the red lion and sun by National Societies,

accepts this Draft as amended,

invites the International Committee to submit it to the next International Conference of the Red Cross, for final approval,

invites the National Societies, as a trial measure, to give immediate consideration, as far as possible, to ensuring its full and proper implementation."

The Regulations will be submitted to the XXth International Conference for final adoption (Item 7 - Humanitarian Law Commission)

XI

Expansion of First Aid among National Societies

"The Council of Delegates,

considering First Aid as an essential activity of National Societies and the teaching of the subject to the public as an intrinsic Red Cross activity in promoting health,

considering the role which First Aid teams are called upon to play in the varied aspects of health education of the greatest importance,

draws the attention of recently-founded National Societies to the importance of extending First Aid instruction and organising properly-trained First Aid teams,

emphasizes the responsibility of training instructors and leaders in that field,

requests the experienced sister Societies to afford, through the League, every possible assistance with the object of training First Aid leaders and increasing the number of First Aid teams among recently-founded National Societies."

This Resolution stressed the importance of extending First Aid instruction and training instructors, and called for action on the part of National Societies. Thus, within the framework of the League's Development Program, some highly experienced National Societies have kindly placed the services of their experts at the disposal of newly-founded sister Societies. These experts have concentrated on training instructors to teach First Aid in their respective countries. A manual of First Aid Practice in West Africa, which the League approved, was published for the French speaking Societies concerned. Thanks to a vast exchange of handbooks between National Societies, some of them have made Spanish and Arabic translations of the ones they have adapted to their own needs.

The experience accumulated at the Red Cross International Meeting of First Aiders (Macolin 1963), has been compiled in a brochure which can be used as a textbook of modern relief work techniques. Moreover, First Aid is part of the joint five year Plan of Action intended for the Junior Red Cross Sections (cf. Measures Taken on Resolution No XXVI of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross).

Lastly, in response to a request made by the World Touring and Automobile Organisation, an ad hoc Group set up within the Commission on First Aid Practice of the Health and Social Service Advisory Committee of the League is preparing an international model edition on how to deal with road accidents.

On the whole, the development of First Aid activities has played an important part in the programs of National Societies and has appeared on the Agenda of many League meetings.

## XII

### Simplification and Standardization of First Aid Techniques

"The Council of Delegates,

bearing in mind Resolution No XXIII of the XXVth Session of the Board of Governors and Resolution No XVII of the XXVIth Session of the Board of Governors,

considering the work undertaken by the Commission on First Aid Practice of the Health and Social Service Advisory Committee of the League and the encouraging results achieved at the Red Cross International Meeting of First Aiders at Macolin in 1963,

proposes the simplification and standardization of first aid methods and equipment, both on national and international levels,

to this end, urges the League to repeat at regular intervals the organisation of such international meetings of first aiders where the representatives of National Societies who are qualified in first aid training may pool their experiences,

invites the National Societies to take into consideration the results of such meetings and as far as possible keep informed those members who are responsible for first aid,

on the same lines requests National Societies to promote Red Cross first aid work by regularly communicating to the League their achievements in this field and to circulate amongst the members concerned such documents which the League might publish on this information."

On the strength of this Resolution, the Commission on First Aid Practice set up within the Health and Social Service Advisory Committee has pursued its work with the aim of simplifying and Standardizing First Aid methods and material. National Societies have been regularly informed of recommendations made thereon by the three Sessions of this Commission. These recommendations related to First Aid principles and instruction, new methods of artificial respiration, treatment for haemorrhages, fractures, burns, frost-bites and poisoning.

Recommendations on the standardization of regional instruction programs were made at the following meetings : Red Cross Meeting of First Aiders, Managua (1964), organised together with United States and Central American Societies; Meetings of the President and Technical Personnel of Central American National Societies, Lima and Santiago in Chile (1964); Seminar for the Red Crescents of North Africa, Algiers (1964).

### XIII

#### Health Education and Accident Prevention

"The Council of Delegates,

in consideration of Resolution No. XXV of the XIXth International Conference and Resolution No. XVI of the XXVIth Session of the Board of Governors, on health education and accident prevention,

recalling the mission of the Red Cross in public health and aware of the educational role the Red Cross is called upon to play, by reason of its prestige and the response it obtains from the general public,

emphasizes the vital part which National Societies can play in the health education of the public, and more particularly in the prevention of accidents, firstly through their various activities and the work of numerous volunteers, and secondly by drawing the attention of the public authorities, teachers and doctors to the problems of health education and accident prevention,

encourages National Societies to continue their activities in this field in cooperation with the public authorities and specialised agencies."

(cf. Measures Taken on Resolutions No. XXV and XXVI of the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross.)

### XIV

#### Blood Transfusion

"The Council of Delegates,

referring to the terms of Resolution No. XIV of the XXVth Session of the Board of Governors and of Resolution No. XIX of the XXVIth Session of the Board of Governors,

reaffirms that the Red Cross is called upon to play a role in the field of blood transfusion, which is a particularly urgent problem and calls for the education of the public,

invites the National Societies to continue this education of the public by actively working for the recruitment of regular volunteer donors and giving the civil authorities all possible assistance with a view to promoting the popularisation of blood transfusion in their countries,

thanks the League for the help it has given to National Societies and for having coordinated their efforts on behalf of the less experienced sister Societies and invites the League to continue to foster the exchange between Societies of experience (for instance by meetings and seminars), and technical assistance (sponsorship, delegation of experts, donations and loans of equipment),

encourages the League to carry on cooperation with the large international organisations which are concerned with blood transfusion (World Health Organization, International Blood Transfusion Society, Council of Europe) with a view to increasing effectively concerted action vis-à-vis civil authorities and the public."

(cf. Action Taken on Resolution No. XXIV of the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross.)

## XV

### Training of Auxiliary Social Workers

"The Council of Delegates,

bearing in mind the increasing responsibilities assumed by Governments in matters relating to social welfare and the role which National Societies are nevertheless called upon to continue in this field,

bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations set out in the Report of the Expert Committee on Social Welfare of the Health and Social Service Advisory Committee of the League assembled in Geneva in February 1963, in compliance with Resolution XIV of the XXVth Session of the Board of Governors,

accepts the report and expresses its thanks to the members of the Expert Committee on Social Welfare and, in particular, its Chairman,

recommends that in view of current developments, the National Societies devote further study to the policy directing their social activities,

recommends that in the light of these developments, the League undertakes, at the request of National Societies, the study of those problems in which the said Societies are interested,

recommends that in the light of modern trends of social work, National Societies devote special attention to the training of auxiliary workers."

This Resolution follows up Resolution No. XXVII of the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross (New Delhi 1957), on Voluntary Auxiliary Red Cross Personnel.

During the last eight years, moreover, in compliance with the recommendations of the three Sessions of the Health and Social Service Advisory Committee (1958, 1961, 1964), which were adopted in the form of Resolutions by the Board of Governors (Athens 1959), of the Council of Delegates (Geneva 1963) and of the Executive Commission of the League (Geneva 1964), Social work has become increasingly important within the National Societies and the League. In 1960, a Study Group on Social Work was assembled in Geneva for medical and social personnel of European Red Cross Societies and, in 1963, it was followed by an Expert Committee on Social Welfare which was entrusted with defining the main lines of Social Red Cross activities.

This Committee stressed in particular the training of social auxiliary workers, and its conclusions have been sent to the National Societies and reiterated at the IIIrd Red Cross International Seminar on Recreational Therapy (May 1964). This Seminar recommended publishing a basic handbook on the training of volunteers. A draft was prepared by the League in collaboration with the British Red Cross and was examined by a Working Party including experts from four National Societies (January 1965). The revised draft was then sent to a number of National Societies to be tried out and reported on before it was finally printed.

Moreover, cooperation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and especially with the Office of Social Affairs of the European Office has steadily increased. An agreement between the League and the European Office has offered National Societies the opportunity to send observers to United Nations courses and seminars, and to

request the assistance of experts for short-term missions. Each year, the League informs the National Societies in whose countries these meetings are to be held.

Lastly, the International Conferences of the Social Service (Tokyo 1958, Rome 1961, Rio-de-Janeiro 1962, Athens 1964) have supplied the framework for Red Cross Meetings jointly organised by the host Society and the League for Red Cross participants in the different Conferences. These meetings have given delegates from National Societies the opportunity to report experience and activities which are specially related to the main theme of the Conference. Furthermore, thanks to these meetings, the League delegate has been able to inform Red Cross representatives of the social work accomplished by the Secretariat during the preceding period.

## XVI

### Social Activities on Behalf of the Disabled

"The Council of Delegates,

conscious of the work accomplished by National Societies on behalf of disabled and elderly persons,

considering the interest displayed by National Societies during the II<sup>nd</sup> International Red Cross Seminar on Recreational Therapy (Chianciano, May, 1962),

bearing in mind the discussions which took place at the VII<sup>th</sup> Inter-American Red Cross Conference,

recommends that, in accordance with the policy adopted by the Red Cross since its foundation, National Societies attach an ever-increasing importance to social activities on behalf of the physically and mentally disabled, of the chronically sick, and elderly persons."

On the recommendation of the VIII<sup>th</sup> Session of the Health Advisory Committee, a Resolution on the organisation of Working Parties and Seminars was adopted by the Executive Commission at its 78<sup>th</sup> Session (Geneva 1958). In pursuance of this Resolution, a series of international Red Cross Seminars on Recreational Therapy were held at the invitation of National Societies.



These Seminars took place in the Netherlands (1959), Italy (1962) and Great Britain (1964). The first one examined the general and specific aspects of therapy, while the second one discussed the Organisation of holidays for the disabled, the therapy for disabled children, for elderly persons in establishments or at home and for the mentally disabled in military hospitals. The last Seminar concentrated on the training of volunteers and on assistance to the disabled.

After these Seminars, the National Societies increased their help to the disabled and elderly persons both in the way of material comforts, (meals on wheels service, domestic help) and recreational means (libraries, recreational therapy in establishments or at home, the organisation of vacations in one place or holiday tours for increasingly varied categories of disabled and elderly persons).

The League has kept in touch with the International Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled by attending its Conferences and Congresses or being represented by the National Societies of the host country. That is why the League was asked to preside over a meeting on international cooperation organised by this Society within the framework of the XIth International Conference of Social Work (Rio-de-Janeiro 1962), and to conduct the discussion groups of the Working Party on "social progress and planning in rehabilitation" (Athens 1964).

Lastly, the League has furnished data on National Societies' plans and activities concerning the rehabilitation of the disabled for the successive editions of "Summary of Information", published by the Division of Social and Economic Affairs of the United Nations.

## XVII

### Recruitment and Preparation of Nursing Personnel

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the reports presented by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies on Red Cross responsibilities in the field of nursing,

shares the concern expressed by the authors of these reports regarding the serious lack of nursing personnel of all categories in almost every country of the world,

emphasizes the fact that National Red Cross Societies have a responsibility in contributing to the full measures of their possibilities, directly or indirectly, to the recruitment and preparation of such personnel in order that optimum assistance in the field of health be ensured to the people of their countries, namely in cases of disaster or conflict,

expresses the wish that National Societies assume fully such responsibility, in close cooperation with the Public Authorities and the civilian and military Medical Services as well as with the various national and international organisations of the medical and health professions,

invites to this end National Red Cross Societies to put in practice as widely as possible and without delay the measures recommended in the above named reports."

This Resolution appeals particularly to National Societies. On December 10th, 1963, it was expressly addressed to their nursing services.

## XVIII

### Nursing Study Centres

"The Council of Delegates,

recommends that National Societies give full support to the desire expressed at the Red Cross International Nursing Study Centre, that more such Study Centres be held in the future and, when possible, on a regional basis in order that more Red Cross nurses might participate."

As the first Study Centre of this kind was held in August 1963, it was deemed too early to plan a second one before the present Conference.

XIX

"Red Cross Nursing Around the World"

"The Council of Delegates,

whereas it was noted that the Nursing Advisory Committee of the League of Red Cross Societies received the Booklet "Red Cross Nursing Around the World" with great approval and suggested that wide distribution of this publication be made,

therefore recommends that member Societies of the League of Red Cross Societies take all necessary measures to ensure such distribution."

This report was widely disseminated both among National Societies themselves and among many people who visited the League Secretariat.

XX

The Red Cross and the Humanitarian Education of Youth

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken cognizance, with interest, of the seven recommendations adopted by the World Conference of Educators (Lausanne, August 19-23, 1963,) as well as the recommendation adopted by the Meeting of National Chairmen and Directors of the Junior Red Cross (Lausanne, August 24 1963),

approves these recommendations,

and requests the League of Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and National Societies to implement those recommendations which concern them.

Below : the eight recommendations referred to above.

RECOMMENDATION A

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

considering modern educational trends and the demand for programmes suited to the needs and conditions of youth in the world, both today and for the future,

testifies to the usefulness and the great educational value of the Junior Red Cross programme,

appeals to educators throughout the world to utilize the resources the Red Cross has to offer in order to help in the promotion of health and good citizenship, nationally and internationally, and the improvement of international understanding,

Recommends :

1. that the exchange of ideas and experiences which has resulted from the present Conference should be continued and intensified;
2. that a Working Party, composed of Educators be convened to this end by the League Secretariat with the following terms of reference:
  - to help in the organisation of one or more pilot courses of a progressive nature in health education and first aid instruction;
  - to help revise the brochure, "Juniors at Work", by relating the activities concerning voluntary service and programmes of social work to particular age groups;
  - to collaborate actively in the organisation of national and regional courses for educators;
3. that the League of Red Cross Societies consider the possibility of convening a similar World Conference of Educators within a reasonable period of time, which would enable participants at this Conference to see the results achieved."

The League has not yet been able to assemble a Working Party of educators, but the Secretary-General is closely following up this question and examining the possibility of convening one.

Consequently, no measures have been taken on the recommendations "to help in the organisation of one or more pilot courses of a progressive nature in health education and First Aid instruction", or "to collaborate actively in the organisation of national and regional courses for educators."

Nevertheless, as regards the revision of the brochure "Juniors at Work" and the assigning of voluntary and social program work to particular age groups, the League Junior Red Cross Bureau prepared a document which was submitted to the National Societies for them to examine and comment on. The Societies represented at the South East Asian and Pacific Forum (Sydney, May 1964), made a list of youth service programs which greatly facilitated the task of the Junior

Red Cross Bureau. Thanks to this list and to the replies from National Societies, it was possible to prepare a new edition of "Juniors at Work", which responds to the request made in this recommendation. This new version, which is now being printed, is a brochure illustrated with many photographs. It will become available to National Societies during the first half of 1965 so that they can use it on May 8th, 1965 for the World Red Cross Day celebrations, whose main theme is "Red Cross Youth... tomorrow's strength today".

Finally, the League Secretariat plans to convene a World Conference of Educators within a reasonable period of time; we feel that a suitable date might be the year 1969, when the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the League will be celebrated. However, between now and then, the financial and practical means for organising this conference will have to be found.

#### RECOMMENDATION B

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

Recommends :

that National Societies assist in the evaluation of the programmes of activities presented at the Conference by convening meetings of Educators in their own countries to compile a survey of activities suitable to their particular area so that a more varied programme may be presented to their young people in the light of experiences gained from all parts of the world during the Conference."

The League was not responsible for furthering this Recommendation but, for the reader's information, it must be mentioned that many national Sections benefit from the participation of educators in their Advisory Committees of the JRC. This enables them to evaluate their programs of activities on a national level.

### RECOMMENDATION C

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne, on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

Recommends

that National Societies inform educational authorities and teachers of -

- a) the opportunities for international friendship, understanding and education for peace available to young people through the wide and varied programme of activities of the Junior Red Cross;
- b) the assistance which can be given by the Junior Red Cross in the form of self-help projects to areas of need in all parts of the world;
- c) the channels available through Red Cross by which assistance can be provided to victims of disasters;
- d) the necessity to ensure that all such programmes should adhere to the accepted practice whereby all communications concerning them and any gifts sent should be through the respective National Headquarters of the Societies concerned."

This Recommendation did not concern the Bureau of the JRC and, at present, we have but very scanty information on the action taken by the National Societies.

### RECOMMENDATION D

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

considering the need not only to educate youth in humanitarian principles, but also to provide them with opportunities to practice these principles in order that mankind may achieve international understanding and peace,

recognising that the Red Cross, through the ideals and values inherent in the Geneva Conventions and through its programmes designed to protect life, is in fact to make a definite contribution to humanitarian education,

recognising the essential role which educators play in this connection and the facilities which the Red Cross offers,

Recommends

1. that the International Committee of the Red Cross continue to persuade Governments to use not only their military but also their educational and other authorities in disseminating the Geneva Conventions among the entire population;

2. that the League of Red Cross Societies, through a continuous evaluation of the programmes undertaken by National Societies, ensure that the Junior Red Cross is in a position to function in partnership with educational authorities in this field;
3. that National Societies themselves obtain the advice and assistance of educators in the preparation of such information media as will emphasize the necessity to safeguard humanitarian principles at all times and under all conditions."

One of the duties of the International Committee of the Red Cross is to disseminate the Geneva Conventions, and it is pursuing its work in this field by placing at the disposal of Governments courses on the Conventions, summaries thereon and ways of implementing these texts.

In full agreement with the ICRC, the Bureau of the JRC has sent all National Societies two brochures on the Geneva Conventions, which were recently printed by the National Societies of the Federal Republic of Germany and of Sweden. There were French, English and Spanish translations of the original texts. The Bureau of the JRC took this opportunity to request National Societies to inform it of the initiatives they have taken in propagating the Geneva Conventions, so that the programs adopted by National Societies might be evaluated. (See also "Action Taken on the Resolutions of the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross, New Delhi 1957).

#### RECOMMENDATION E

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

recognising that in each culture, each society, each religion there exists a common, basic fund of moral codes and rules of conduct which correspond to the fundamental principles of the Red Cross,

invites National Societies to contribute to a collection of stories, biographies, statements, etc., from the traditions of their countries, which illustrate human responsibility, the spirit of service, love for one's neighbour, respect for human life, the protection of the weak and of those in distress, in order that these can be used in Red Cross magazines, text books, as well as for the publication of a common Red Cross anthology for youth,

takes note with satisfaction that the editorial office of the 'International Review of the Red Cross' agrees to receive them."

This Recommendation concerns both the ICRC and the League which are keeping in touch with one another concerning this subject. The editorial office of the "International Review of the Red Cross" is responsible for assembling documents thereon but it has not yet received any.

The aim of this Recommendation is to prove the unity and universality of human principles which are the essence of our movement. Furthermore, the two international organisations of the Red Cross are of the opinion that National Societies would do well to take action thereon.

#### RECOMMENDATION F

"The World Conference of Educators assembled at Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,

recognising the necessity for education in health and the application of practical methods and techniques to promote health in every sector of the community, with a view to developing a sense of social consciousness and respect for life as bases of world peace,

recognising that a wide gap exists between knowledge of health laws and the practical application of these laws for the attainment of personal and community health,

recognising the lack of facilities for the attainment of basic health in some areas,

Recommends :

1. that National Societies

- a) approach school authorities in order to ensure the inclusion of instruction in health, first aid, disease and accident prevention in the curriculum of primary and secondary schools and teacher training colleges;
- b) provide training courses in first aid, home nursing, nutrition, hygiene and other aspects of health;
- c) assist education authorities by providing lectures and demonstrations to promote widespread knowledge of health;



- d) cooperate with other welfare agencies in the promotion of personal and community health;
  - e) encourage the promotion of facilities for the care and training of handicapped children;
- 2) that the League
- a) consider the establishment of regional study centres for the training of suitable members of National Societies and other personnel engaged in health teaching with a view to producing new methods and techniques of teaching suited to the health needs of the community; and
  - b) consider supplying to National Red Cross Societies suitable material to enable such teaching facilities to be adequately developed."

For Action taken on this Recommendation, see below ("Action Taken on Recommendation XX/H").

#### RECOMMENDATION G

"The World Conference of Educators, assembled in Lausanne on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary,  
considering the importance of educating youth for voluntary service;  
recognising the natural inclination of youth towards service as a means of self expression and personal development,  
recognising that the development of this spirit of voluntary service goes hand in hand with training for civic and social responsibility,

Recommends :

- a) that National Societies train both leaders and Juniors in the special aptitudes, technical knowledge and skills essential for most forms of voluntary activity, and give young people an opportunity to participate in the planning of such programmes;
- b) that school authorities encourage the establishment of Junior Red Cross Committees to serve as initiative groups in interesting and educating their fellow students in programmes of voluntary social activity;
- c) that teachers use the Junior Red Cross programmes as a means of providing young people with opportunities for developing a sense of purpose, challenge and responsibility towards the needs of others;
- d) that governmental and local authorities, in planning social welfare programmes, assign to youth specific areas of responsibility."

This Recommendation appeals solely to National Societies, and it is still too early for the Bureau of the JRC to receive data on the steps taken.

## RECOMMENDATION H

"The National Junior Red Cross Presidents and Directors, meeting in Lausanne, following the World Conference of Educators, considering the desire of the participants to the World Conference of Educators to launch a world-wide Junior Red Cross action,

Recommend :

that the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies explore the possibility of associating Junior Red Cross with the Development Programme, especially in regard to the training of leaders, by providing training facilities such as materials and equipment, as well as making experts available."

This Recommendation was made at the meeting of the National Junior Red Cross Presidents and Directors, (Lausanne, 24th August, 1963), convened immediately after the World Conference of Educators. Its importance was such that one item on the Agenda of the XIth Session of the Junior Advisory Committee was reserved for its examination. Following the discussions of the Advisory Committee and at its request, the Executive Committee of the League adopted Resolution No 20, entitled: "Junior Red Cross and the League Development Programme".

It reads as follows :

"The Executive Committee,

having discussed the role of Junior Red Cross in the Red Cross Development Programme and,

believing that National Junior Red Cross Sections can and want to provide effective assistance through this Programme for the development of new Junior Red Cross Sections by means of

- a) putting technical personnel (experts in Junior Red Cross organisation, health education, first aid, home nursing, water safety, etc,) at the disposal of Societies needing them,
- b) organising regional conferences and seminars,
- c) study visits,
- d) material aid, especially to schools, and first aid and health education units,

1) recommends that the League Secretary-General, if he considers it necessary, set up a Task Force composed of the League's own experts and, if necessary, members of interested Societies who are expert in the above-mentioned technical fields, the purpose of this Task Force being to devise a plan of mutual action designed to assist new Societies, in developing their Junior Red Cross Sections, and which will contain information on the conditions and needs of new Societies, as well as a priority list of those Societies in need of immediate help. It is further recommended that this programme be completed and submitted to National Societies at latest by January 1st, 1965.

2) requests National Societies desirous of receiving aid for the development of their Junior Red Cross Sections to explore the possibilities of assuming a portion of the expenses for experts sent to them, and to furnish the League with information on their countries' history, economic and social conditions, which information will be useful to donor Societies in encouraging their young people to support the Development Programme. It should be a rule that no request for aid be sent without corresponding information on why that aid is needed and what purpose it will serve."

This Resolution furthered many previous ones adopted by the supreme bodies of the League. It also carried out a wish which had been widely voiced at the World Conference of Educators (Lausanne, August 1963)

To apply this Resolution, the League Secretariat had to take immediate steps, of which the following must be mentioned :

A Working Party was set up - within the League Secretariat - composed of members of the Bureau of the Junior Red Cross, the Health and Social Service Bureau and the Sections of the "Development Program". This Party has also been assisted by two health education specialists. It has prepared a five-year plan with a special theme for each : health education for the first year; First Aid for the second year; home nursing, child and mother care, accident prevention and water safety for the third year; leadership training at international level, for the fourth year; and international understanding for the fifth year.

Once the annual projects have been launched, they will continue to develop in the course of the following years so that, by the end of five years, all the National Junior Red Cross Sections will not only have considerably expanded but also found the necessary leaders for the development of their activities.

Before putting this plan into practice, the League Secretariat consulted the World Health Organisation, UNESCO, UNICEF, the International Union for Health Education and the International Children's Centre, which assured the League of their support and cooperation in carrying it out.

It has been planned to engage a health education specialist in the League Secretariat to launch the aforementioned program. He will coordinate the work of five or six health educators who, for one or two years, will do field work on the main continents, wherever newly-founded and developing National Societies are faced with serious problems. It has also been arranged to send out to these educators teams of older Juniors with sound training, who will serve as the best information and publicity agents when they go back to their countries.

This program, especially the part for the first year, must be scrupulously prepared, and that is why the abovementioned Working Party will pursue its work thereon and concentrate even more on approaching the best qualified bodies and organisations. As the full first year plan on health education had to be sent to all National Societies towards the middle of March 1965, it was not possible to give more details at the time when this report was written.

## XXI

### Educational Value of the Junior Red Cross

"The Council of Delegates,

thanks the World Conference of Educators held at Lausanne from August 19-23 which examined the Junior Red Cross programme with a view to relating it to the needs of youth and which testified to the usefulness and great educational value of the Junior Red Cross,

draws the attention of school authorities and educators to the contribution of the Junior Red Cross to

- 1) education of youth in humanitarian ideals;
- 2) health education through its varied programmes and training possibilities;

- 3) promotion of voluntary service among youth, thus developing social conscience nationally and internationally;
- 4) practical programmes for international understanding, mutual assistance and the promotion of peace,

appeals to all educational authorities to give every possible support to the work of educators serving the cause of the Red Cross."

## XXII

### Youth and peace

"The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of Resolution No 1572, adopted at the 15th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which recommended to non-governmental organisations to undertake effective measures with the object of promoting free and unrestricted exchange of ideas and opinions among youth on an international scale for the purpose of fostering the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the peoples,

having taken note of the conclusions contained in the report submitted to the Junior Red Cross Commission on the important subject of "Responsibility of the Red Cross for educating Youth in Humanitarian Ideals",

- 1) confirms that the fostering among youth of the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding amongst the peoples is an intrinsic duty of the Red Cross,
- 2) recommends to National Societies to continue taking all the necessary appropriate measures with a view to contributing effectively to the dissemination of these ideals among the youth of the whole world."

These two Resolutions directly appeal to National Societies and do not call for any special action on the part of the Bureau of the Junior Red Cross. They were published in No 3/1963 of the review "Junior Red Cross News Letter", together with all the Resolutions adopted by the Council of Delegates and relating to the Junior Red Cross. Furthermore, all of them have been communicated to the National Sections at the same time as the report which was submitted to the Council of Delegates by the Junior Red Cross Commission of this Council.

### XXIII

#### Red Cross as a factor in World Peace

"The Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross, assembled in Geneva on the occasion of the centenary of the foundation of the Red Cross movement,

- a) noting that during the past century wars have become increasingly ruthless and dangerous,
- b) noting that all peoples of the world are unanimous in their desire for a lasting peace based on law and justice, welcomes the efforts which are being made by the Governments to dispel the menace of armed conflict by the reduction of armaments, the banning of nuclear tests and weapons and the resort to peaceful methods of negotiation,
- c) expresses the fervent hope that Governments will persevere unremittingly to seek appropriate means for restoring confidence between peoples and thereby lay the foundations for friendly cooperation and peace between States,
- d) urges all National Societies to continue ceaselessly to foster peace through the fraternal links that bind them so that their example of humanitarian service may bring home to all peoples the realisation that the time has come to open up a new era when fear and violence shall be replaced by hope and peace."

This Resolution did not call for direct action on the part of the international organisations of the Red Cross.

### XXIV

#### Contribution of the International Committee towards the Elimination of a Threat to Peace

"The Council of Delegates,

- after having taken cognizance of the conditions in which the International Committee of the Red Cross was invited by the United Nations Organisation, with the agreement of the parties concerned, to intervene in the Cuba incident,

- considering it is desirable that the Committee respond to the call made upon it simultaneously by States in conflict to act as intermediary or assist in the proper discharge of the obligations they have undertaken, thus contributing to the maintenance of peace,
- approves the action taken by the International Committee in the Cuba incident and congratulates it for having accomplished that action."

This Resolution did not call for any action.

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