

MR Chairman,

May I avail myself of this opportunity to present ³⁶ to you and to the members of the Bureau my warmest congratulations. I would like also to express my gratitude to the I.C.R.C. and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies for the excellent preparation of this XXVth International Conference of our movement.

Since our last meeting in 1986 many painful developments took place throughout the world which needed interventions of the I.C.R.C. and other components of the movement. Unfortunately, as we heard from President Somaronga, flagrant violations of I.H.L. were registered very frequently.

We therefore have to exert all possible efforts to put an end to these violations in keeping up with the spirit of article 1 of the Geneva Conventions and article 89 of the 1st Protocol which prescribe sanctions against those responsible for grave violations. We have to foresee the establishment of mechanisms for control of groups and individuals as well as the creation of an international Criminal Court.

[Salute to the Colombian R.C. & the Ethiopian R.C.]

The Moroccan Red Crescent has been very active for the last ten years in discriminating I.H.L. In fact we have even created a national training Center in Mehdia for this purpose. We are grateful to the German Red Cross for its generous contribution in building and equipping this Center which organises, with the help of the I.C.R.C. and the federation continuous seminars

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to the attention of several groups.

The Moroccan Ministry of higher education promised us to create chairs for I.H.L. in the various faculties of Law.

Mr. Chairman, the government of Morocco has signed the two additional protocols years ago. Unfortunately, these protocols are not yet ratified by the Moroccan parliament. On investigating the matter, it appeared that the legal commission of the parliament has to amend certain national laws before it be able to ratify the two conventions. The Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs promised us to put pressure on the pertinent committee of the parliament to hasten its work.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the Moroccan Red Crescent would like to express its full support to the project resolutions before this Commission.
