

Statutes of the Movement on the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

Article 16 - Definition

The Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (called 'the Standing Commission' in the present Statutes) is the trustee of the International Conference between two Conferences, carrying out the functions laid down in Article 18.

Article 17 - Composition

1. The Standing Commission shall comprise nine members, namely:

a) five who are members of different National Societies, each elected in a personal capacity by the International Conference according to Article 10, paragraph 4 and holding office until the close of the following International Conference or until the next Standing Commission has been formally constituted, whichever is the later;

b) two who are representatives of the International Committee, one of whom shall be the President;

c) two who are representatives of the International Federation, one of whom shall be the President.

2. Should any member referred to in paragraph 1 b) or c) be unable to attend a meeting of the Standing Commission, he may appoint a substitute for that meeting, provided that the substitute is not a member of the Commission. Should any vacancy occur among the members referred to in paragraph 1 a), the Standing Commission itself shall appoint as a member the candidate who, at the previous election, obtained the greatest number of votes without being elected, provided that the person concerned is not a member of the same National Society as an existing elected member. In case of a tie, the principle of fair geographical distribution shall be the deciding factor.

3. The Standing Commission shall invite to its meetings, in an advisory capacity and at least one year before the International Conference is to meet, a representative of the host organisation of the next International Conference.

Article 18 - Functions

1. The Standing Commission shall make arrangements for the next International Conference by:

a) selecting by place and fixing the date thereof, should this not have been decided by the previous Conference, or should exceptional circumstances so require in terms of Article 11, paragraph 2;

b) establishing the programme for the Conference;

c) preparing the provisional agenda of the Conference for submission to the Council;

d) establishing by consensus the list of the observers referred to in Article 11, paragraph 5;

e) promoting the Conference and securing optimum attendance.

2. The Standing Commission shall settle, in the interval between International Conferences, and subject to any final decision by the Conference:

a) any difference of opinion which may arise as to the interpretation and application of the present Statutes and of the Rules of Procedure;

b) any question which may be submitted to it by the International Committee or the League (now called the International Federation) in connection with any difference which may arise between them.

3. The Standing Commission shall:

a) promote harmony in the work of the Movement and, in this connection, coordination among its components;

b) encourage and further the implementation of resolutions of the International Conference;

c) examine, with these objects in view, matters which concern the Movement as a whole.

4. The Standing Commission shall make arrangements for the next Council by:

a) selecting the place and fixing the date thereof;

b) preparing the provisional agenda of the Council;

c) establishing by consensus the list of the observers referred to in Article 15, paragraph 4.

5. The Standing Commission shall administer the award of the Henry Dunant Medal.

6. The Standing Commission may refer to the Council any question concerning the Movement.

7. The Standing Commission may establish by consensus such ad hoc bodies as necessary and nominate the members of these bodies.

8. In carrying out its functions and subject to any final decision by the International Conference, the Standing Commission shall take any measures, which circumstances demand, provided always that the independence and initiative of each of the components of the Movement, as defined in the present Statutes, are strictly safeguarded.