



STANDING COMMISSION  
of the Red Cross and Red Crescent  
COMMISSION PERMANENTE  
de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
COMISIÓN PERMANENTE  
de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja

## CONVOCATION

To the Members and Observers of the  
**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES**  
Nairobi, Kenya

**23 to 25 November 2009**

Geneva, 22 May 2009

Dear Madam,  
Dear Sir,  
Dear friends,

In conformity with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, I have the pleasure to inform you that the next meeting of the Council of Delegates will take place in Nairobi on 23-25 November 2009 within the grounds of the United Nations Nairobi Conference Centre (UNON).

I already wish to thank the Kenya Red Cross Society for its invitation to host the 2009 Council of Delegates. I am assured that rich cultural experiences as well as lively meetings and discussions await us in Nairobi, at the first ever Council meeting to be held in Africa.

### ***Provisional annotated agenda***

Please find enclosed the provisional annotated agenda prepared by the Standing Commission. The agenda and the programme for the Council of Delegates builds on the many comments and suggestions received from the members of the Council in response to my letter of November 17, 2008 and on the deliberations of the Standing Commission's preparatory working group for this Council.

The 2009 Council of Delegates will be held in the spirit of the 150<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Battle of Solferino and of the "Our World, your Move" Campaign, which inspires the work of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent throughout this year. This campaign, will serve as a background for our discussions at the forthcoming Council and for the reaffirmation of the Movement's commitment to tackle today's Solferinos and the main humanitarian challenges faced by millions of victims and affected communities around the globe.

### ***Substantive issues for decision***

The 2009 Council of Delegates intends to address a wide range of humanitarian concerns and to lay ground for the further development of new policies and strategies as the Council decides. The Council will adopt a forward looking stance, preparing the ground for the 2011 Council of Delegates and the 31st International Conference.

During its plenary meetings the Council will discuss and adopt resolutions on a number of important issues for our Movement that will certainly capture attention and spark lively debate. The Standing Commission will endeavour to ensure that draft Resolutions and background Reports on each substantive agenda item are shared in advance with National Societies in order to ensure a truly participatory process in the formulation of the Council's final outputs.

Follow-up reports on Resolutions adopted by previous Councils will also be presented and discussed. Such reports will be shared in advance with participants in the Council and will be open for questions and comments during the Council's Plenary Session.

### **Workshops**

The second day of the Council will be dedicated to a series of structured Workshops (6 in all), which will form an integral part of the Council's agenda. The Standing Commission sincerely hopes that discussions in the six workshops will be thorough and creative and will provide orientations for the future work of all Movement components in the areas addressed. To ensure an optimum participation from all Delegations, each workshop will be repeated three times. Consolidated reports from the workshops will be brought to the closing plenary session on the last day, with recommendations as relevant.

A first Council meeting in Africa will naturally focus on the special challenges that the continent faces. The Council is expected to adopt a Declaration that affirm the Movement's particular undertaking to work in partnership with the continent's National Societies to respond to these challenges, and to respond to the global challenges highlighted in the 'Our World – Your Move' campaign.

### **Next steps**

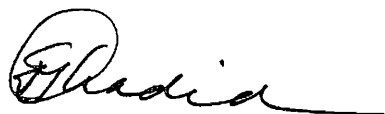
Rule 6.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Movement requires that the Standing Commission receive observations, amendments or additions to the provisional agenda at least 60 days before the opening of the Council. Any such communication is therefore requested latest 23 September 2009. However, as the Commission meets on 15 September, I would appeal to you to submit your comments **no later than 11 September** to reach the said meeting. They can be sent to the address below, faxed (+41 22 730 4975) or e-mailed to ([contact@rcstandcom.info](mailto:contact@rcstandcom.info))

Secretariat of the Standing Commission  
of the Red Cross and Red Crescent  
17 chemin des Crêts  
1211 Geneva 19  
Switzerland

The working documents for the Council of Delegates will be sent to all members 45 days before the opening of the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you in Nairobi and to your active participation,

Yours sincerely,



Mohammed Al-Hadid  
Chairman  
Standing Commission