



Therefore, should an Optional Protocol be adopted, it should meet the following requirements:

- 1. It should also be applicable to non-governmental forces.**
- 2. It should prohibit all direct or indirect participation of children under 18 years of age in armed conflicts.**
- 3. The minimum age of recruitment (on a voluntary or compulsory basis) should be set at 18 years.**
- 4. The Optional Protocol should be applicable to situations of both international and non-international armed conflict.**

The last Council of Delegates reaffirmed its previous resolutions by appealing to

All National Societies to promote the Movement's position on the 18 year age limit for recruitment and participation in hostilities, with a view to encouraging their respective governments to adopt national legislation and recruitment procedures in line with this position.

(Resolution 8.1.5., 1997 Council of Delegates)

## **II.A FEW EXAMPLES OF MEASURES TAKEN TO DATE:**

### On the international level

- Statements made in the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Working Group entrusted with the task of drawing up a draft Optional Rights to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Commission on Human Rights (ICRC and International Federation).
- The ICRC's position paper on the Optional Protocol.

### On the regional level

- Joint representations made to their respective governments by the National Societies of the Nordic and Baltic countries.

### On the national level

- Nationwide campaigns (e.g., Spanish, German, Colombian and Netherlands Red Cross).
- Representation made to their governments (e.g., Netherlands and Danish Red Cross).