



EUROPE DELEGATIONS

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Georgia

EUROPE REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Moscow
Tashkent
Western Balkans

Ankara
Brussels
International Tracing Service
London
Paris

THE AMERICAS DELEGATIONS

Colombia
Haiti

THE AMERICAS REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Brasilia
Caracas
Lima
Mexico City
Washington

New York

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection
35,856

Assistance
75,787

Prevention
37,126

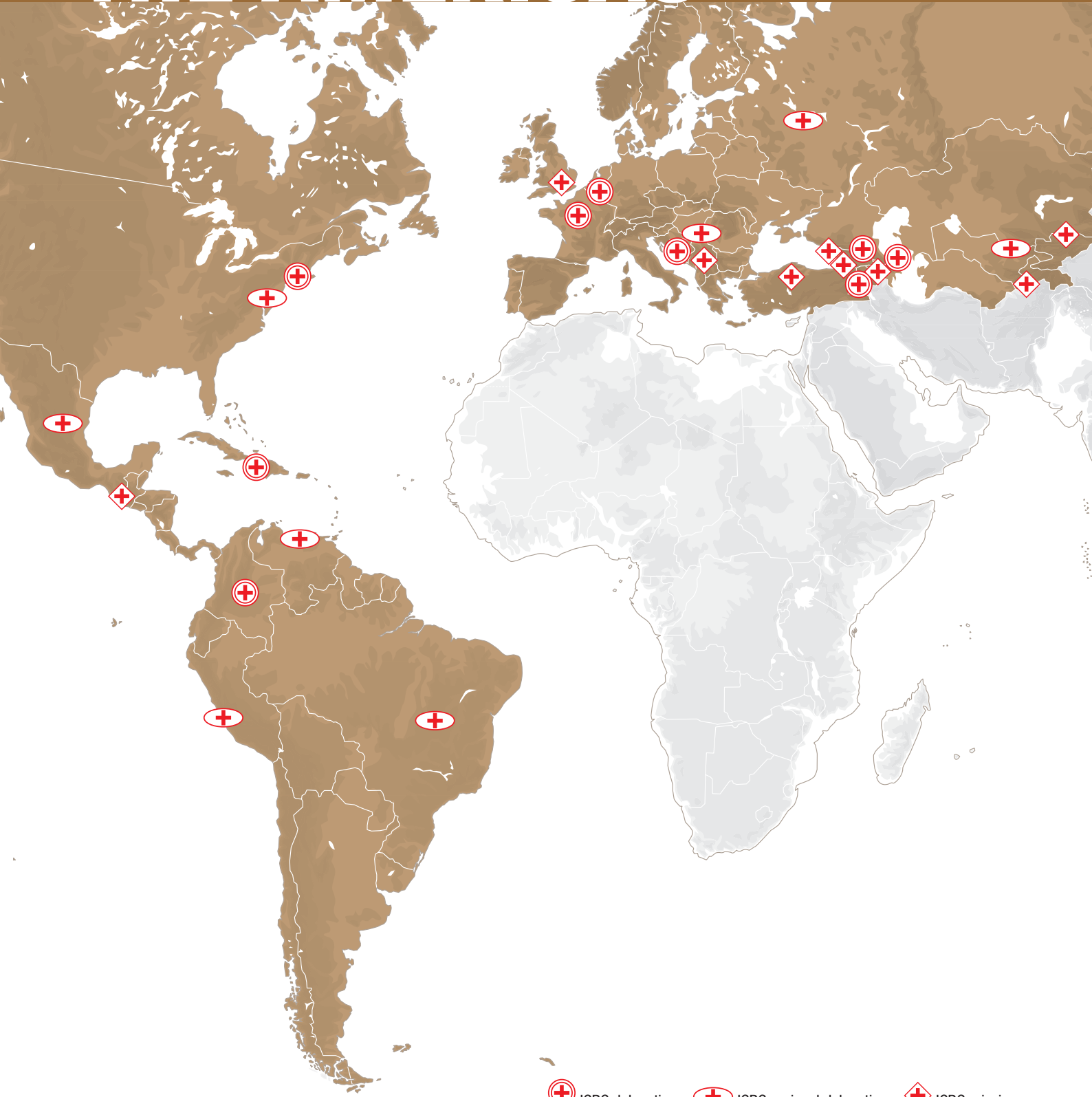
Cooperation with National Societies
15,465

General
-

164,234 of which: Overheads **9,946**

Implementation rate
95%

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS



 ICRC delegation  ICRC regional delegation  ICRC mission

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

In 2010, the ICRC's priorities were: to assist and improve the protection of people directly affected by an ongoing armed conflict or other situation of violence, including displaced persons, particularly in Colombia, the Caucasus and Kyrgyzstan; to help clarify the fate of people unaccounted for from past and current conflicts and provide support for their families; and to contribute to better protection of people deprived of their freedom. The ICRC also continued to promote IHL and other applicable norms, and to foster a deeper understanding of its role and activities among authorities, armed and security forces, universities and schools.

National Societies were the ICRC's main operational partners in many activities, notably in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Colombia, Georgia, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan. They continued to benefit from ICRC capacity-building support, particularly in the field of emergency preparedness, the Safer Access approach, weapon contamination, restoring family links, and IHL dissemination. In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC helped National Societies adapt their legal bases and structures to Movement requirements.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian players as appropriate to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.

Regionwide, delegates continued to visit detainees according to the organization's standard procedures, particularly those held for reasons of State security. The detainees were able to communicate with their families using the RCM network. Confidential reports were submitted to the authorities, where necessary recommending measures for improving the detainees' treatment or living conditions.

The ICRC offered its expertise to governments in acceding to IHL treaties and enacting national implementing legislation. It worked with the armed forces to incorporate IHL norms into military doctrine, operating procedures and manuals, while helping them to achieve autonomy in conducting IHL training. A similar approach was employed regarding police training in international human rights standards and humanitarian principles applicable to the use of force. The ICRC encouraged academic institutions and secondary schools to integrate IHL and humanitarian topics into their curricula. It further consolidated its network of media contacts to spur journalists to highlight humanitarian concerns when reporting on conflicts around the world.

The region covered in this section comprises three sub-regions: Eastern Europe and Central Asia; North America and Western, Central and South-Eastern Europe; and Latin America and the Caribbean. The main ICRC activities in each sub-region in 2010 are summarized below.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

In 2010 the ICRC deployed a rapid response team in Central Asia that provided emergency aid to nearly 400,000 victims of inter-communal violence in Kyrgyzstan, including those who had fled to neighbouring countries, in partnership with the relevant National Societies. The team helped ensure medical and other essential services, visited people detained in relation to the events, repaired damaged houses and assisted the authorities in the management of human remains. To be able to carry out these activities, the ICRC appealed for additional funds. Following clashes between security forces and armed groups in Tajikistan's Rasht valley, medical facilities and affected households received emergency aid from the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan. In both cases, the ICRC called on all concerned to protect violence-affected people.

The ICRC continued to deal with the aftermath of the 2008 hostilities between Georgia and the Russian Federation, and earlier conflicts in the Caucasus, notably by supporting efforts to address the issue of people unaccounted for. It facilitated meetings of two coordination mechanisms aiming to clarify the fate of a few dozen people missing from the 2008 hostilities and of over 2,000 people missing from the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. The ICRC worked with NGOs and family associations to extend psychological and other support to the families of missing persons, and included them in ICRC micro-economic initiatives. In parallel, it urged the authorities to provide answers to the families, lending them expertise to boost national forensic capacities and to strengthen legislation.

In the Caucasus in particular, activities were developed to heighten awareness of, and to reduce risks and provide livelihood support for villagers affected by weapon contamination.

While providing emergency relief to meet the immediate needs of victims of violence, the ICRC focused on helping particularly vulnerable households, including IDPs and returnees, to regain self-sufficiency. For example, some 8,400 households in Georgia, 1,000 in Kyrgyzstan and 980 in the Russian Federation benefited from vocational training, agricultural supplies or micro-economic projects. Health facilities and local water boards received support, and IDP centres and settlements and water supply systems were refurbished.

In Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan, ICRC medical supplies and training enabled health facilities and medical professionals to cope with influxes of weapon-wounded patients. In the Caucasus and Tajikistan, amputees, including many mine victims, continued to benefit from ICRC support for prosthetic/orthotic centres.

People deprived of their freedom in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, as well as in the breakaway region of Transnistria, received ICRC visits. The national authorities in Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan worked with the ICRC to screen and treat tuberculosis (TB) in prisons; cure rates were high in Azerbaijan, where the authorities were taking over responsibility

for TB treatment, and in Georgia, where they had already done so. With the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, one POW and one civilian internee held in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict were repatriated, as were the remains of six people. In the Russian Federation, where visits were suspended in 2004 owing to the authorities' disagreement with its standard procedures, the ICRC continued to organize family visits and the delivery of family parcels for some 360 sentenced detainees from Chechnya held far from their homes. In Georgia/South Ossetia, the ICRC initiated family visits for detainees across administrative boundaries.

Dialogue with the Turkmen authorities on access to detainees did not bring concrete results. While such discussions remained suspended in Tajikistan, detainees were nonetheless offered family-links services provided by the National Society, with ICRC support.

Cooperation on IHL continued with regional bodies, such as the Secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Community of Independent States. During a regional meeting on IHL implementation in Belarus, steps were taken to set up an association of national IHL committees. Dialogue continued with the Interior Ministries of Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan on international standards applicable to situations of violence. The ICRC wound up its support for the school programme, begun in 1995, in Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, with final reports being prepared by the education authorities.

NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

ICRC activities in the United States of America focused on detention-related issues and the protection of civilians during military operations. In its dialogue with the US Department of Defense, the ICRC provided input on IHL for military doctrinal texts and for debates on the modalities in the event of the use of force by the United States outside existing theatres of military operations. A similar dialogue was engaged with the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Delegates continued to visit people held by the US authorities at their internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, and in Afghanistan and Iraq. In Guantanamo, internees enjoyed improved contact with relatives through expanded telephone and videoconferencing services. Similarly, across the region, the ICRC visited people deprived of their freedom who were under investigation or had been sentenced for war crimes, including those in the custody of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. It also visited people released from the Guantanamo Bay internment facility and resettled in third countries.

In the Western Balkans, ascertaining the fate of the approximately 14,600 people still unaccounted for in relation to past conflicts remained an ICRC priority. Access to various archives resulted in the exchange of information, exhumations and the handover

of human remains to families. The ICRC chaired further sessions of the Working Group on Missing Persons (and the sub-working group on forensic issues), the only forum for dialogue between Belgrade (Serbia) and Pristina (Kosovo¹) on the issue.

Through its presence in Brussels (Belgium), London (United Kingdom), Paris (France), New York and Washington (United States), the ICRC entered into dialogue on IHL, the Movement and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, in particular with intergovernmental organizations and their member States, and endeavoured to enlist their support. The ICRC engaged with various European Union (EU) institutions, UN bodies and agencies, inter-American organizations such as the Organization of American States, and their member States on critical humanitarian issues and shared its expertise in debates and reports as appropriate, for example, on the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, the EU Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL, the protection of civilians in armed conflict and humanitarian coordination. From Brussels and Washington, it pursued its dialogue on civil-military relations with NATO commanders and EU and US armed forces and participated in pre-deployment and training exercises, particularly for troops going to Afghanistan.

From these cities, the ICRC also strengthened humanitarian coordination with all concerned and its network of contacts with NGOs, the media and think-tanks.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Within hours of the earthquake that struck Haiti in early January, the ICRC took action to support Movement efforts and flew in additional staff and materials to mount a swift response in cooperation with the Haitian National Red Cross Society, for which it appealed for additional funds. Together the Haitian Red Cross and the ICRC launched emergency water and health activities and provided food and other essentials to people who had lost their homes. In Haiti and after the earthquake in Chile, National Society/ICRC teams provided services to restore family links.

When cholera broke out in Haiti in October, the ICRC helped the authorities apply a variety of measures to stem the epidemic. It treated 5,800 prisoners in 18 places of detention and evacuated some 2,000 sick people from violence-prone neighbourhoods in Port-au-Prince through the ambulance services of the Haitian Red Cross.

The ICRC worked to address the consequences of the armed conflict in Colombia and its spillover into the border regions of neighbouring countries, of sporadic fighting between government forces and Shining Path members in Peru, and of situations of violence related to social, economic or land issues in other countries.

1. UN Security Council Resolution 1244

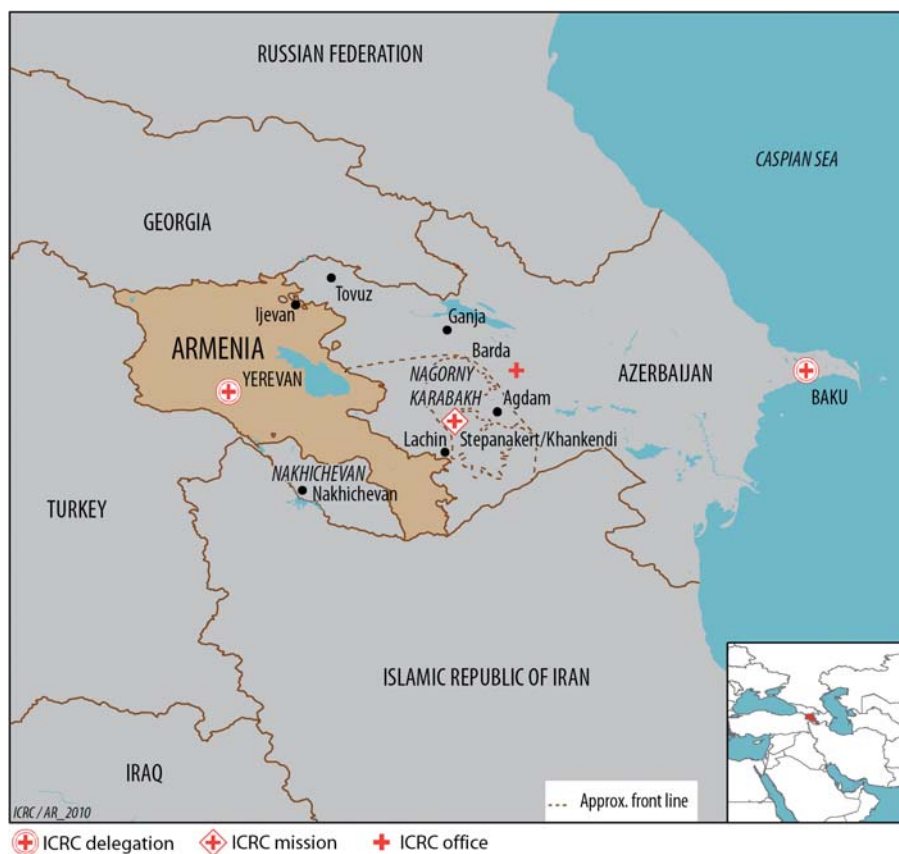
The ICRC pursued a multidisciplinary approach to meeting the needs of affected people in Colombia, focusing on 25 mainly rural and remote zones. Delegates documented abuses against civilians and medical services and, through representations, urged the alleged perpetrators to end such practices, reminding them of their obligations under IHL and explaining the ICRC's neutrality and independence. This helped the ICRC facilitate health care services, medical evacuations, the release of people held by armed groups, and the recovery of human remains. The ICRC continued to advocate improved services for IDPs, while working with the Colombian Red Cross to provide direct assistance to IDPs and affected residents, including activities to restore livelihoods and reduce mine risks.

In Ecuador's Sucumbios department, the ICRC and the National Society strengthened their presence to help people affected by the spillover from the Colombian conflict. Similarly, aid was provided to health care services for remote communities in Panama's Darien region. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Peru, community projects provided support for residents of violence-affected areas.

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the ICRC's multidisciplinary project to help civilians particularly affected by armed violence in seven *favelas* progressed in cooperation with the National Society and municipal health and state education authorities. Across the region, the ICRC developed its dialogue with the military and civil police forces and other weapon bearers on basic rules to respect at all times, in particular regarding the use of force in law enforcement. It worked with national mechanisms for missing persons and forensic experts in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Peru, and shared its expertise regarding the exhumation and identification of human remains, and the support needed by families of missing persons.

The ICRC monitored the living conditions and treatment of detainees in 10 countries. It shared its findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities and backed their efforts to upgrade penitentiary health care, including through regional events for health officials and prison health staff co-organized with the Paraguayan and Peruvian authorities respectively. In Haiti, the ICRC supplied food, hygiene products and medicines to detainees immediately following the earthquake, and made emergency repairs to detention facilities with the authorities.

ARMENIA



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)	
Protection	592
Assistance	580
Prevention	597
Cooperation with National Societies	263
General	-

► **2,032**
of which: Overheads 124

IMPLEMENTATION RATE	
Expenditure/yearly budget	98%

PERSONNEL	
Expatriates	3
National staff (daily workers not included)	28

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- continued monitoring the situation of people deprived of their freedom, including those held in connection with the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, POWs and civilian internees
- acted as a neutral intermediary in the repatriation of POWs, civilian internees and human remains
- provided people living in the frontline village of Koti, in Tavush province, with safe access to clean water by rehabilitating 5 spring water catchments
- with a local NGO, funded the repair of 8 houses belonging to vulnerable families of missing persons, following completion of a household economic survey
- handed over ante/post-mortem database software to the State Commission on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons to aid its management of data collected in 2008 and 2009
- identified local mental health professionals and social workers who could support families of missing persons and began training them using ICRC-devised materials

The ICRC has been working in Armenia since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh armed conflict. It focuses on the issue of missing persons and on detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons, and works to protect and assist communities living along the international border with Azerbaijan. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into the armed and security forces' doctrine, training and sanctions and into academic curricula. The ICRC works in partnership with and aims to strengthen the capacities of the Armenian Red Cross Society.

CONTEXT

Despite several high-level meetings between Armenia and Azerbaijan, mediated by the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and meetings mediated by the Russian Federation, little progress was

made in finding a peaceful solution to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Incidents along the international border with Azerbaijan and the presence of mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to affect the lives of the local civilian population, causing both military and civilian casualties and exacerbating political tensions between the two countries.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS				
PROTECTION				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages		Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected		8		
RCMs distributed		8		
Phone calls facilitated between family members		1		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations		Total		
Human remains transferred/repatriated		2		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		3	1	1
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		2		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)		411	24	14
Documents				
People to whom travel documents were issued		5		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
ICRC visits		Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited		12		
Detainees visited and monitored individually		12		
Detainees newly registered		2		
Number of visits carried out		14		
Number of places of detention visited		5		
Restoring family links		Total		
RCMs collected		8		
RCMs distributed		8		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		4		
Detainees released and transferred/repatriated by/via the ICRC		2		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	1,300		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC in Armenia continued to tackle the humanitarian consequences of the unresolved Nagorny Karabakh conflict, acting as a neutral intermediary during the return of civilian internees, POWs and human remains. Delegates monitored the situation of civilians through field visits to areas along the international border with Azerbaijan and raised any concerns with the authorities when necessary.

A household economic survey of families of persons missing in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict was completed, confirming their vulnerability, and recommendations on specific areas of possible support were submitted to the authorities and other actors concerned (including the Armenian Red Cross Society), with a view to developing joint activities. The ICRC and a local NGO signed a cooperation agreement to rehabilitate dilapidated houses of vulnerable families of missing persons in the province part-funded

through long-term, interest-free loans. At the same time, the delegation laid the groundwork for the provision of psychological support to such families by identifying local mental health and social workers and giving them the appropriate training using ICRC-devised materials. With the National Society, it also raised awareness of the issue among the general public and other organizations working in the country and brought together representatives of families of the missing to share their concerns and potentially form family associations. The ICRC also provided the authorities with software with which to start entering ante-mortem data collected in 2008 and 2009. In a bid to improve safe access to sufficient quantities of water for people living in the border village of Koti, Tavush province, including families of the missing, the ICRC supported the rehabilitation of five spring water catchments.

The ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their freedom, including those detained in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, and provided confidential

feedback to the authorities. A review of the prison health system, conducted by the ICRC and focusing on tuberculosis (TB) following the handover of its TB programme, enabled the authorities to assess the care they provided to inmates and make any necessary improvements.

ICRC delegates held regular meetings with the authorities to discuss Armenia's accession to and implementation of IHL treaties and work was in progress on the adoption of a national law on missing persons. In line with a cooperation agreement signed in 2009, the ICRC and the Defence Ministry continued integrating IHL into military doctrine, education and training and supported the training of IHL instructors. The delegation completed its support to the education authorities in incorporating IHL into the secondary school curriculum, notably by training textbook authors. Meanwhile, the National Society and the ICRC, for the first time in collaboration with the Armenian Association of International Law, organized a moot court competition for law students to further encourage the study of and research in IHL.

Cooperation between the Armenian Red Cross and the ICRC included assisting families of missing persons, restoring family links, dissemination, and first-aid training, during all of which the National Society strengthened its capacities, in coordination with the International Federation.

CIVILIANS

Civilians' basic needs met

Civilians living along the international border with Azerbaijan, particularly in Tavush province, faced continued insecurity because of cross-border fire and the presence of mines/ERW. Through field trips to all five of the regions along the border, and its contact with local civilian and military authorities and National Society branches, the ICRC kept abreast of the situation. During these field trips, civilians were able to raise their concerns with ICRC delegates, who brought them to the attention of the authorities. The authorities were also reminded of their obligations and responsibilities towards civilians and received further assistance in integrating IHL into military doctrine and training (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

The prevailing insecurity impeded access to means of livelihood for people living near the border, particularly in terms of land and water for irrigation. However, 1,300 residents in Koti village, Tavush province, were able to access clean water from five spring catchments rehabilitated by fellow villagers in exchange for cash and using ICRC-donated tools.

Families of the missing better able to cope

As a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, 4,571 people were still unaccounted for, with 411 families in contact with the National Society/ICRC in this respect. To assess the economic and other needs of the families of missing persons and, on that basis, make recommendations to the authorities, plan joint activities with the National Society and mobilize social actors, an ICRC-sponsored

household survey initiated in 2009 was completed. It confirmed that families had lost assets while searching for missing relatives, lacked opportunities to improve their economic conditions and struggled to live with the psychological trauma of a relative's disappearance. It also identified other organizations working with families of the missing in Armenia with a view to future collaboration, and they, along with the authorities, received a comprehensive report on the findings. Consequently, a local NGO specializing in the rehabilitation of homes via a long-term, interest-free loan programme signed a cooperation agreement with the ICRC to provide technical assistance, materials and partial funding for the repair of houses belonging to the most vulnerable of these families. Work began on the repair of the roofs of eight homes in Tavush province, with the owners taking part in the construction.

In parallel, local mental health professionals and social workers who could provide psychological support to these families were identified, and some received training using ICRC-devised materials. Representatives of families of the missing came together for the first time at three meetings organized by National Society branches and the ICRC, where they shared their concerns and discussed the possibility of forming family associations to represent their interests.

The general public and national and international actors in Armenia learnt more about the issue of missing persons, including where to obtain further information or seek advice on the matter, and the ICRC's role in this domain, through media reports and ICRC publications (see *Civil society*).

Authorities assisted in assuming their responsibilities towards the missing

The authorities received updated lists of missing persons and discussed the humanitarian nature of the issue and support for the families with the ICRC, which provided input to a draft law on the subject (see *Authorities*).

During dialogue with the ICRC, officials expressed a desire to improve forensic procedures, including the management of ante-mortem data collected from families of missing persons in 2008 and 2009. With this in mind, they received specially designed software from the ICRC, while the ICRC/National Society continued to prepare electronic files, including photographs and other documents, for handover to the authorities.

Representatives of the State Commission for Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons learnt about the proper management of human remains and standard operating procedures for exhumations and identification from an ICRC expert. They also received ICRC-produced materials on best practices.

With the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, four families in Azerbaijan received the remains of dead relatives, of which two were transferred from Nagorny Karabakh and two were repatriated from Armenia, while one family in Armenia and one family in Nagorny Karabakh received the remains of their relatives respectively repatriated and transferred from Azerbaijan.

Families separated by conflict receive support

Conventional communications links between Armenia and Azerbaijan, including Nagorny Karabakh, had not been fully restored. RCMs and ICRC-facilitated satellite phone calls thus remained the only means for some family members separated by the conflict to communicate with one another. For example, a phone conversation was organized between a mother and her daughter living in Azerbaijan. A family of four and another individual without the necessary identity papers received travel documents from the ICRC at the request of UNHCR to enable their resettlement abroad.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Civilians and soldiers continued to be captured along the international border with Azerbaijan in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, albeit in small numbers. Detainees, including three POWs and one civilian internee held in connection with the conflict, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard procedures. Delegates assessed their treatment and living conditions and shared their findings and any recommendations confidentially with the relevant authorities. Particular attention was paid to vulnerable individual detainees, including foreigners, women, minors and people arrested in relation to post-electoral events in 2008.

When needed, detainees were able to correspond with their families via RCMs. Inmates of Azeri origin received books in Azeri. At the request of all parties, one POW and one civilian internee were repatriated from Armenia to Azerbaijan, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

Detainees with TB and other health problems receive treatment

Following the 2009 handover of the ICRC's TB programme in Armenia's prisons to the national authorities, the ICRC continued monitoring the situation. The authorities received ICRC technical expertise where necessary, particularly to encourage coordination between the penitentiary and civilian health sectors. A survey of the prison health system, focusing on TB post-handover, was completed and served as a means for the authorities to assess the care they provided to inmates and make any necessary improvements. Other international organizations working in the field

of TB, as well as educational institutions, pursued dialogue and cooperation with the ICRC where relevant.

To help prison health services increase their capacities to deal with infectious diseases, including TB and HIV/AIDS, 13 prison doctors underwent ICRC-supported training in related issues, including sexually transmitted infections and skin diseases. Similarly, five prison doctors undertook postgraduate training in family medicine, public health and TB prevention at the National Health Institute.

The distribution of 1,200 clinical waste-disposal containers to prison health units improved infection-control measures.

AUTHORITIES

Although Armenia had not yet acceded to several key treaties, the authorities and the ICRC regularly discussed humanitarian issues of mutual interest. These included ICRC activities and Armenia's progress in the ratification of IHL treaties, including the Convention on Cluster Munitions and Additional Protocol III, the latter of which was submitted to the Constitutional Court to ensure it complied with the national legal framework, a prerequisite for ratification.

The Culture, Defence and Foreign Affairs Ministries established a commission charged with implementing the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, with ICRC input. Representatives of the Ministries of Defence and Foreign Affairs discussed IHL implementation with regional counterparts and presented a report on the state of IHL implementation in Armenia at the third Regional Seminar on the Implementation of IHL, held in November in Minsk, Belarus (see *Moscow*). Officials from the same ministries reaffirmed their commitment to the process by attending the third Universal Meeting of IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Meanwhile, the interministerial working group, established in 2009 to work on a draft law protecting the rights of missing persons and their families, held regular meetings, with ICRC input, including legal expertise. State officials and parliamentarians gleaned further advice from Armenian-language copies of *Missing Persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians*.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	ARMENIA	IN ARMENIA, IN RELATION TO THE NAGORNY KARABAKH CONFLICT
ICRC visits		
Detainees visited	8	4
Detainees visited and monitored individually	8	4
Detainees newly registered		2
Number of visits carried out	3	11
Number of places of detention visited	3	2
Restoring family links		
RCMs collected	1	7
RCMs distributed	1	7
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	1	3
Detainees released and transferred/repatriated by/via the ICRC		2

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL continued to be taught at the Defence Ministry's main institutes of higher education, but it had not been fully integrated into military doctrine, training and operations. To better focus future activities, the Defence Ministry began assessing the level to which such integration had taken place, with ICRC technical support. To improve the quality of IHL training in the armed forces, the Defence Ministry and the ICRC co-organized two IHL train-the-trainer courses, while a senior ministry official participated in an IHL course in San Remo. A high-ranking army officer also shared experiences in IHL implementation with counterparts at the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, held in Lucerne, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Some 40 officers and soldiers set to join the NATO-led international forces in Afghanistan were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities.

During all of these activities, Defence Ministry and armed forces representatives were reminded of their duties under IHL to protect civilians and detainees and to ensure ICRC access to vulnerable populations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media continued to raise public awareness of humanitarian issues, drawing on press releases, meetings and interviews to produce articles on National Society/ICRC activities, including those for missing persons and their families and for detainees. Trainee journalists learnt about IHL relevant to their profession during ICRC presentations, and international organizations, foreign embassies and NGOs kept abreast of ICRC activities via publications in Armenian and English.

The ICRC's IHL education programme for secondary schools was completed and handed over to the authorities, along with a report on the programme's 15-year evolution to promote its sustainability. The programme's integration into the curriculum continued, and local authors added basic information on IHL, acquired at an ICRC seminar, to the 10th grade military education textbook. To boost the quality of IHL teaching, six universities introduced the subject in their teacher-training syllabuses, in one instance following a lecturer's attendance at an IHL summer course in Warsaw, Poland, which was also attended by Armenian legal specialists, cadets and humanitarian actors.

University lecturers and students enhanced their IHL knowledge after receiving relevant materials. Law students tested their skills at a national moot court competition organized for the first time by the Armenian Association of International Law, with National Society/ICRC support. The winning team participated in the de Martens regional IHL competition (see *Moscow*) with ICRC funding.

The pool of national IHL experts, created with ICRC support to further encourage IHL research in universities, formalized its existence by establishing an NGO. Some of these experts participated in international IHL events.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Armenian Red Cross continued to respond to the needs of conflict-affected people and to strengthen its capacities in the areas of restoring family links, dissemination of IHL basics and the Fundamental Principles, and first-aid training, with ICRC technical and financial support provided in close coordination with the International Federation. It also played a pivotal role in efforts to support families of missing persons (see *Civilians*).

Drawing on ICRC expertise, the National Society carried out a countrywide assessment of potential family-links needs during disasters. The findings contributed to ongoing efforts to increase the Movement's family-links capacity in Armenia.

As part of emergency preparedness activities, around 70 National Society volunteers and residents from communities along the international border learnt first aid during six ICRC-funded courses.

Armenian Red Cross staff/volunteers were familiarized with IHL and ICRC action, particularly its education programmes, before undertaking IHL dissemination activities themselves, sometimes alongside the ICRC.

AZERBAIJAN



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,808
Assistance	2,255
Prevention	710
Cooperation with National Societies	263
General	-

► **6,036**

of which: Overheads 368

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	9
National staff (daily workers not included)	72

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- visited detainees held under the authority of the Interior, Justice and National Security Ministries, including people held in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, to monitor their treatment, living conditions and improve the treatment of tuberculosis
- acted as a neutral intermediary during the return of POWs, civilian internees and human remains
- monitored the situation of civilians living along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, discussing any concerns with the authorities
- improved living conditions for conflict-affected communities through the rehabilitation of 7 water supply systems and 2 school premises
- identified the specific psychological needs of families of missing persons, their coping mechanisms and the capacities of local NGOs to meet these needs, with a view to developing appropriate programmes with local partners
- with Azerbaijan's Ministry of Culture and Tourism, co-organized a conference on the protection of cultural property during armed conflict

The ICRC has been working in Azerbaijan since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh armed conflict. It focuses on the issue of missing persons and on detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons, supports health-related initiatives in places of detention, particularly tuberculosis control; and works to protect and assist communities living along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia. It promotes implementation of IHL and its integration into armed and security forces' training and into academic curricula. The ICRC works in partnership with and aims to strengthen the capacities of the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan.

CONTEXT

Despite several high-level meetings between Armenia and Azerbaijan, mediated by the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and meetings mediated by the Russian Federation, little progress

was made in finding a peaceful solution to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Incidents along the international border with Armenia and the Line of Contact and the presence of mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to affect the lives of the local civilian population, causing both military and civilian casualties and exacerbating political tensions between the two countries.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS			
PROTECTION			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	73		
RCMs distributed	33		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	69		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations	Total		
Human remains transferred/repatriated	4		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	37	5	2
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	18		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	4,160	338	89
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	53		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	10,179		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	72	1	3
Detainees newly registered	17	1	3
Number of visits carried out	51		
Number of places of detention visited	27		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	46		
RCMs distributed	58		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	42		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	4		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Food	Beneficiaries	850	85%	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	85		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	850	85%	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	85		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	24,203	39%	27%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	3,630		
Health				
Health centres supported	Structures	70		
Average catchment population		47,463		
Consultations	Patients	125,637		
	<i>of which curative</i>		41,676	40,850
	<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		6,711	
Health education	Sessions	1,433		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	970		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC in Azerbaijan continued to tackle the humanitarian consequences of the unresolved Nagorny Karabakh conflict, acting as a neutral intermediary during the return of civilian internees, POWs and human remains. During field visits to communities living near the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, ICRC delegates monitored civilians' needs and concerns, raising these with the authorities when necessary.

To improve access to clean drinking water and education for several communities along the front line, the ICRC rehabilitated seven water networks and two schools, providing furniture and teaching equipment to a third school for displaced children. The completion of a household survey into the economic and other needs of residents, IDPs and families of the missing living in conflict-affected areas enabled the ICRC to make recommendations to the authorities and plan activities for 2011.

In line with an agreement concluded with the Azerbaijani authorities in 2008, the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan collected further ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. The delegation arranged for families of missing persons to meet, facilitating contacts between them and resulting in the creation of a family association. The psychological needs and traditional coping mechanisms of families of the missing were further assessed, as were the capacities of local organizations providing psychological support, so that the ICRC could develop culturally appropriate psychological and social support programmes for implementation in 2011. The ICRC provided advice to the authorities on a draft law on missing persons. In Nagorny Karabakh, too, it collected ante-mortem data, raised awareness of the needs of families of the missing, and used an assessment of such families' needs undertaken in 2009 to submit recommendations to the *de facto* authorities.

ICRC delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their freedom, including those interned in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, providing confidential feedback to the authorities. The treatment of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB) continued to improve in Azerbaijan's prisons, with the ICRC providing materials and expert advice to support the authorities in their efforts to combat both TB and MDR TB and encouraging the Health and Justice Ministries to coordinate their activities, particularly in the follow-up of released detainees undergoing treatment for the disease. These efforts were complemented by ICRC technical assistance, training and management support to the national reference laboratory and the rehabilitation of a prison hospital.

The ICRC encouraged the authorities to accede to and implement IHL treaties, providing input to and documentation for a government conference on the protection of cultural property during armed conflict. It also pursued discussions with the relevant authorities on the integration of IHL into the training of the military and interior troops. It strengthened contacts with the media to heighten public awareness of humanitarian issues and

ICRC activities, particularly the ante-mortem data-collection project and the ICRC's role as a neutral intermediary. Delegates continued to assist the education authorities in integrating IHL into secondary school curricula and to discuss further IHL training with universities.

The ICRC kept up support to the Azerbaijani Red Crescent in strengthening its tracing and dissemination capacities and its cooperation with others involved in mine action. With the help of the ICRC and other Movement partners, the National Society constructed additional safe play areas for children in conflict-affected villages and continued collecting data on mine-related incidents. After assessing the needs of families who had lost breadwinners in mine incidents, the National Society provided 13 families with livestock, with ICRC support.

CIVILIANS

Conflict-affected civilians better able to cope

Civilians living on both sides of the Line of Contact and along the international border with Armenia, including refugees and IDPs, faced continuous insecurity because of cross-border fire and the presence of mines/ERW. They were able to raise their concerns with the ICRC during its regular field trips to these areas and, through its intercession, bring them to the attention of the national and local authorities, who were reminded of their obligations towards civilians.

A household survey carried out in villages along the Line of Contact confirmed that the prevailing insecurity was impeding residents' access to means of livelihood, particularly in terms of land and water for irrigation, as well as to public services and adequate housing. Based on these findings, the ICRC made recommendations for corrective measures to the authorities and planned activities for 2011. Meanwhile, civilians, including IDPs, from seven communities near the Line of Control faced fewer health risks thanks to the rehabilitation of water supply systems by the ICRC. Teaching at a school for displaced children was aided by ICRC-donated furniture and equipment (including desks, blackboards and bookshelves) and at two other schools by ICRC-funded structural repairs.

In Nagorny Karabakh, 125,637 people living in conflict-affected districts, including the elderly, IDPs, returnees and families of the missing, attended consultations at 70 village health centres, which received regular ICRC deliveries of essential drugs. While the ICRC remained ready to provide medical support for the wounded in case of an emergency, such intervention was not required. However, children were better protected against intestinal worms thanks to ad hoc ICRC donations of medicines to the epidemiological services, and communities learnt good hygiene practices during 1,433 education sessions conducted by ICRC-supported health workers.

Ahead of a planned handover of ICRC-supported primary health care programmes in 2011, and to help them with the recentralization

of health services, the *de facto* health authorities took part in all ICRC field trips, and regular meetings were held with both central and district health officers. They also received training in drug management, and drug-management forms were printed instead of hygiene-education materials.

Meanwhile, the most vulnerable citizens within Nagorny Karabakh's urban population, namely the elderly, invalids and some families of missing persons, relied on humanitarian assistance to meet their nutritional needs, with 850 people receiving ICRC food rations and hygiene kits.

Families of the missing supported in their quest for answers

As a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, 4,571 people were still unaccounted for, with 4,160 of the cases being handled by the National Society/ICRC in Azerbaijan. The Azerbaijani authorities were reminded of their responsibilities towards, and the needs of, the families of the missing. They received updated lists of missing persons and discussed the humanitarian nature of the issue and support to the families with the ICRC, which provided input for a draft law on the subject (see *Authorities*).

In line with agreements concluded in 2008 with the State Commission on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons and the Azerbaijani Red Crescent, the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of missing persons continued. The families received psychological support during the process from ICRC-trained National Society volunteers, who themselves received psychological support and further training in data-collection techniques. By mid-December, 1,249 families living in the Baku area, 819 families in western Azerbaijan and 931 families in central and southern Azerbaijan had completed questionnaires and provided other documents.

Families of missing persons were better placed to provide mutual support and advocate with the authorities on their own behalf when the first association of such families in Azerbaijan was established in May. Their specific psychological needs and traditional coping mechanisms were identified and the capacities of local organizations providing psychological support were assessed to enable implementation of appropriate programmes, through appropriate organizations, in 2011. Meanwhile, families accessed advice via a National Society helpline and a network of legal NGOs, with the ICRC covering transport costs when necessary. In parallel, public campaigns raised awareness of the issue of missing persons and the plight of their families (see *Civil society*).

Difficulties in identifying relevant forensic practitioners prevented the ICRC from providing any of them with training, including in the handling of human remains, but ICRC forensic publications were translated into Azeri and given to the Ministries of Defence and Health.

With the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, four families in Azerbaijan received the remains of dead relatives, of which two were transferred from Nagorny Karabakh and two were

repatriated from Armenia, while one family in Armenia and one family in Nagorny Karabakh received the remains of their relatives respectively repatriated and transferred from Azerbaijan.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the *de facto* authorities were assisted in strengthening the capacity of the working group on data collection and consolidation. Some 200 families of missing persons provided ante-mortem data to the ICRC, and the results of a survey conducted in 2009 to assess their economic vulnerability and needs were presented in a report to the *de facto* authorities to raise awareness of the families' plight and make recommendations.

Relatives separated by conflict receive support

RCMs and satellite phone calls remained the only means for some family members separated by the conflict to communicate with one another. Three such families living in Azerbaijan, including Nagorny Karabakh, benefited from reunions in Tbilisi, facilitated and financed by the ICRC.

Meanwhile, 53 refugees and asylum seekers were issued with ICRC travel documents, in coordination with the UNHCR, to facilitate family reunification or their resettlement in third countries.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees better able to cope with incarceration

On both sides of the Line of Contact of Nagorny Karabakh and the international border between Azerbaijan and Armenia, people continued to be captured, albeit in small numbers. Detainees held under the authority of Azerbaijan's Interior, Justice and National Security Ministries, including six POWs and six civilian internees held in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard procedures. Particular attention was paid to vulnerable inmates, including POWs, civilian internees, security detainees, women, minors and foreigners. In Nagorny Karabakh, people held in detention facilities under the responsibility of the *de facto* Ministry of Justice received similar visits. At all times, detainees' treatment and living conditions were assessed, and delegates' findings and any recommendations were shared confidentially with the relevant authorities.

Inmates corresponded with their families via RCMs, while families in Nagorny Karabakh received financial support to visit their relatives in prison. At the request of all parties, one POW and one civilian internee were repatriated from Armenia to Azerbaijan, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. A person of Azerbaijani origin, formerly held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and resettled in a third country, received an ICRC-funded family visit.

Living conditions improved for detainees in Nagorny Karabakh thanks to ICRC-donated furniture. Vulnerable foreign detainees received clothing and personal items, female detainees were given personal hygiene items and, in a bid to break the monotony of their incarceration, detainees received ad hoc supplies of books and games and gained access to two computers. Visits from ICRC

delegates and donations of schoolbooks helped the families of some civilian internees to better cope with their circumstances.

Detainees with TB and other health problems receive treatment

The Justice Ministry assumed greater responsibility for efforts to tackle the MDR TB epidemic in prisons, with ICRC technical and financial advice, including on the implementation of a directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS)-plus pilot project, with a view to the handover of the ICRC's TB programme by mid-2011. The programme's success had led to the number of TB-related deaths at the country's Special Treatment Institution for detainees near Baku falling from 285 in 1999 to 20 in 2009.

Through a national working group, the Health and Justice Ministries cooperated to develop joint policies to address MDR TB throughout society. Thanks to these efforts, 472 detainees began DOTS treatment, 102 detainees began DOTS-plus treatment and 384 detainees completed DOTS treatment. The Justice Ministry screened detainees using the hospital laboratory, providing treatment where necessary, while detainees and health personnel at Justice Ministry-run detention facilities received protective masks and examination gloves to prevent infection.

Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding in 2009, the Health and Justice Ministries and the ICRC continued to follow up 39 detainees with MDR TB after their release, providing them with medical treatment and subsidizing their transport to health facilities.

To ensure the programme's long-term sustainability, the national reference laboratory increased its capacity, with ICRC technical, material and training support, including in training laboratory technicians in Azerbaijan. Sanitary conditions in the prison TB hospital in Baku improved after the garbage-disposal area was rehabilitated, sterile areas were created on the wards, and doors and windows in three wards were replaced.

Meanwhile, a donation of medical equipment and the sponsorship of a detention nurse's attendance at a "TB in detention" course

in Yerevan, Armenia, aimed to improve the health care of people held under the responsibility of the *de facto* Interior Ministry in Nagorny Karabakh.

Three disabled detainees were fitted with prostheses, with ICRC support, at the Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre in Baku.

AUTHORITIES

Although Azerbaijan was not yet party to several key IHL instruments, the authorities continued to discuss with the ICRC the rules contained in the Additional Protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, the Mine Ban Convention and the Rome Statute.

The Culture and Tourism Ministry organized a conference on the protection of cultural property during armed conflict, attended by State officials and members of the national commission on the implementation of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, with ICRC input. The ministry subsequently began drafting a new plan of action to implement the convention.

Meanwhile, the Azerbaijani parliament started work on the first draft of a law on missing persons and their families, with the ICRC providing input for a round-table on the subject (see *Civil society*).

The State's understanding of IHL implementation and the role of national IHL committees improved when representatives of the Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice Ministries attended the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees, held in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*). Officials also shared experiences with counterparts at the third Regional Seminar on the Implementation of IHL, held in Minsk, Belarus (see *Moscow*).

During all contacts with the authorities, the ICRC emphasized the need to protect civilians and people deprived of their freedom and to facilitate ICRC access to conflict-affected populations.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	AZERBAIJAN	IN AZERBAIJAN, IN RELATION TO THE NAGORNY KARABAKH CONFLICT	IN NAGORNY KARABAKH
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	10,167	12	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	60	12	
		<i>of whom women</i>	1
		<i>of whom minors</i>	3
Detainees newly registered	11	6	
		<i>of whom women</i>	1
		<i>of whom minors</i>	3
Number of visits carried out	41	8	2
Number of places of detention visited	24	1	2
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	43	3	
RCMs distributed	55	3	
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	25	17	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2	2	

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With IHL not fully integrated into the armed forces' doctrine, training, operations and sanctions, the military authorities in Azerbaijan and the ICRC discussed progress made in this regard, as well as their duties under IHL to protect civilians and detainees and to ensure ICRC access to vulnerable populations. Representatives of the Defence Ministry learnt more about IHL at an international seminar in Switzerland (see *Authorities*). To better understand how humanitarian principles could be integrated into staff work, 47 senior officers, including from the land and air forces and working at the Azerbaijan Higher Military School and the Defence Ministry's training and education centre, participated in three IHL courses.

Senior staff of the interior troops, under the responsibility of the Interior Ministry and of the military school, kept up dialogue with the ICRC on training in IHL and international human rights law. IHL continued to be taught to military staff within the interior troops, with ICRC advice, and to sustain efforts made, some 25 senior officers and trainers of operational officers explored international policing standards and their applicability to their work at a workshop-style seminar.

In Nagorny Karabakh, 14 officers of the *de facto* security forces increased their knowledge of IHL during an ICRC course.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media continued to play a key role in raising public awareness of humanitarian issues, drawing on press releases, briefings, newsletters and courses when reporting on National Society/ICRC activities, particularly those on behalf of detainees, internees and missing persons. Journalists covering the conflict better understood their rights and ICRC activities after attending a regional workshop.

NGOs working with families of missing persons cooperated with the ICRC to increase awareness of the issue during a round-table discussion also attended by a member of parliament and representatives of the families. In Nagorny Karabakh, leaflets listing potential sources of advice were produced and distributed by the ICRC in cooperation with the local family association.

Education Ministry representatives continued integrating IHL into new secondary school textbooks. The content of an ICRC CD-ROM on teaching IHL was uploaded to the ministry's education network and made accessible to secondary school students and teachers.

Azerbaijani institutes of higher education also continued to discuss cooperation on IHL teaching. A lecturer from Baku State University tested his knowledge at an IHL summer course abroad while students of international law and international relations learnt about IHL at various presentations. Law and journalism students from Nagorny Karabakh attended three ICRC seminars/lectures and, for the first time, applied their new knowledge at a moot court competition.

Meanwhile, trainee judges learnt about sanctions for IHL violations at ICRC presentations.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Society continued to respond to the needs of people affected by conflict, including the families of missing persons (see *Civilians*). Meetings between the National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC increased the efficiency of joint activities.

Drawing on ICRC expertise, the National Society continued its support to mine victims. It conducted a household survey of the needs of 13 families whose breadwinners had been killed in mine incidents and consequently provided them with livestock to kick-start income generation. It also trained personnel in mine-incident data collection and, with funding from Movement partners, constructed seven safe playgrounds in mine-affected villages near the Line of Contact.

In accordance with the National Society's mandate, ICRC-trained volunteers dealt with non-conflict-related tracing cases.

Volunteers refreshed their knowledge of the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, basic IHL, the emblem and the Safer Access approach at ICRC-funded workshops, and relayed the relevant information to the general public.

GEORGIA



The ICRC has been present in Georgia since 1992. It supports the families of missing persons and protects and assists displaced people and other vulnerable groups in conflict-affected regions. It visits detainees throughout Georgia, including Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and provides expertise on health-related issues in places of detention. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into armed and security forces' doctrine, training and sanctions and into academic curricula. In cooperation with Movement partners, the ICRC helps to strengthen the capacities of the Red Cross Society of Georgia.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,681
Assistance	8,754
Prevention	1,820
Cooperation with National Societies	685
General	-

► **13,939**

of which: Overheads 851

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	29
National staff (daily workers not included)	198

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- where possible working with the National Society, helped some 28,580 people, including 1,429 IDPs, recover from the effects of the August 2008 hostilities, by providing them with support to improve or restore their livelihoods
- supported the Red Cross Society of Georgia in building its capacities to assist vulnerable people, by training staff and volunteers in first aid, mine action and needs assessment
- enabled family members separated by armed conflict to exchange news, reuniting 29 with relatives at their request, and to cross the administrative boundaries in case of emergency
- encouraged coordination mechanisms to clarify the fate of persons missing from the 2008 hostilities and earlier conflict, while working with NGOs and family associations to extend support to their families
- worked to improve the living conditions of detainees by means of a confidential dialogue with the relevant authorities, the provision of support to prison health care, and the launch of a family-visits programme
- supported the authorities in integrating IHL into national legislation, the armed forces and academic curricula

CONTEXT

The effects of the 2008 international armed conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation continued to be felt by the civilian population living along the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries, which were still patrolled by Russian border guards. Although the withdrawal of border guards from Perevi in October was a step towards greater mobility for the population, movement restrictions and related arrests continued to affect many, worsening existing economic problems. IDPs accommodated in State-built settlements, returnees and elderly

Georgians remaining in South Ossetia without family faced particular hardship.

The peace negotiations (Geneva Talks) between Georgia, the Russian Federation and the *de facto* Abkhaz and South Ossetian authorities continued, with the UN, the European Union (EU) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe acting as mediators.

The EU Monitoring Mission did not gain access to Abkhazia or South Ossetia, but its mandate was extended for another year.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages		Total	UAMs/SCs*
RCMs collected		741	
RCMs distributed		704	
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations		Total	
People reunited with their families		29	
People transferred/repatriated		98	
Human remains transferred/repatriated		3	
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons¹		Total	Women
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		53	21
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		23	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)		83	19
			Minors
			12
			12
Documents			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		22	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits		Total	Women
Detainees visited		25,190	
Detainees visited and monitored individually		104	10
Detainees newly registered		25	5
Number of visits carried out		88	
Number of places of detention visited		30	
Restoring family links		Total	
RCMs collected		65	
RCMs distributed		72	
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		12	

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. not including people missing as a consequence of the 1992–1993 Georgian-Abkhaz conflict

ASSISTANCE

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Economic security, water and habitat			Total	Women	Children
Food		Beneficiaries	619	42%	11%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	31		
Essential household items		Beneficiaries	4,746	44%	19%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	238		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives		Beneficiaries	28,581	43%	20%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	1,429		
Water and habitat activities		Beneficiaries	72,487	35%	15%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries	6,370		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)					
Economic security, water and habitat					
Essential household items		Beneficiaries	59		
WOUNDED AND SICK					
Physical rehabilitation					
Centres supported		Structures	2		
Patients receiving services		Patients	1,088	115	429
New patients fitted with prostheses		Patients	78	16	
Prostheses delivered		Units	196	26	5
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	Units	33		
New patients fitted with orthoses		Patients	404	39	318
Orthoses delivered		Units	802	61	656
Crutches delivered		Units	226		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to monitor the situation of civilians in central and western Georgia, Abkhazia and, as the only humanitarian organization present, in South Ossetia, adapting its response to their needs. With the Red Cross Society of Georgia, and after training its volunteers, the ICRC assessed the needs of families of missing persons and of people affected by mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) in central and western Georgia, aiming to provide recommendations to the authorities and plan future action.

Some vulnerable people, particularly the elderly, in Abkhazia and South Ossetia still received food and essential household items from the ICRC. To aid long-term recovery, the ICRC provided agricultural support to people across Georgia, enabled others to increase their income through micro-economic initiatives, which it extended to rural areas of South Ossetia, and built water supply systems along the South Ossetian administrative boundary. ICRC rehabilitation projects helped improve living conditions and sanitation in collective centres housing IDPs and a kindergarten in central and western Georgia and in an orphanage in South Ossetia. To extend access to health care in South Ossetia, the ICRC renovated health centres, donated supplies and equipment to the centres and to hospitals, and provided medical support to elderly people. With the relevant authorities' permission, it reunited family members separated by conflict and transported in particular ill people to hospital across the administrative boundaries.

The ICRC alerted the authorities to the presence of mines/ERW, contributed to their efforts to include mine awareness in school curricula, and trained National Society volunteers in data collection and the assessment of mine/ERW victims' needs. It supported physical rehabilitation centres in Gagra and Tbilisi and enabled some South Ossetian patients to receive such services in the Russian Federation.

The ICRC reminded the authorities of their obligation to provide answers to the families of missing persons, offering technical support to the relevant parties with regard to those missing in connection with the 2008 hostilities. As a neutral intermediary, it encouraged the parties to establish a tripartite coordination mechanism to resolve the cases of missing persons. This helped revive the dialogue between Georgian and *de facto* Abkhaz authorities, resulting in the creation of a similar mechanism in relation to the 1992–93 Georgia-Abkhazia conflict. It consolidated the collection of ante-mortem data from the families and launched a pilot project to address families' psychological and social needs through local providers.

The delegation monitored the individual cases of security detainees, including those held in relation to the conflicts and the alleged planned military mutiny in 2009, people accused of spying and those arrested for crossing the administrative boundaries. In March, the ICRC handed over its tuberculosis (TB) programme in prisons, begun in 1998, to the authorities, continuing to offer ad hoc support to the programme and technical input for a pilot primary health care programme, including mental health aspects,

for detainees. For the first time, families were able to visit across administrative boundaries relatives detained in western and central Georgia and South Ossetia.

The Georgian authorities and the *de facto* authorities in Abkhazia and South Ossetia held discussions with the ICRC on IHL and other norms relevant to conflict and other situations of violence and were briefed on ICRC activities to enlist their support. Progress was made in discussions with the Georgian authorities on establishing a national IHL committee.

The ICRC continued to develop its longstanding efforts to promote IHL among the armed forces, academic circles and the general public, providing relevant training for military lawyers, officers and troops. The delegation also assisted the Education Ministry in introducing IHL-related topics into school curricula and stimulated wide interest in the subject through competitions for university students. Widespread media coverage prompted by ICRC initiatives raised public awareness of humanitarian issues.

In cooperation with the International Federation, the ICRC continued to support the Georgian Red Cross in developing its capacities, particularly in emergency response. It coordinated its activities with Movement partners and other humanitarian actors, as appropriate.

CIVILIANS

The situation of civilians living in areas affected by the August 2008 hostilities was closely monitored by the ICRC. All parties were reminded of their obligations under IHL and other relevant norms to protect civilians and to meet their basic needs.

Civilians get relief and income-generating opportunities

Vulnerable people living on both sides of the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries continued to receive assistance as needed, provided by the ICRC, where possible, jointly with the National Society. Following assessments of changed circumstances, the planned cash grants and micro-credit programmes were replaced by additional agricultural support or micro-economic initiatives.

In central and western Georgia and Abkhazia, 9,935 IDPs, returnees and affected residents (2,915 households) maximized their summer harvest with ICRC-donated seed and agro-chemicals. In South Ossetia, 14,000 similarly vulnerable people (4,242 households) received similar inputs for their orchards and vegetable gardens.

Through micro-economic projects in central and western Georgia and Abkhazia, 3,904 vulnerable people (1,046 households), including 50 households whose breadwinner was missing or who lived in mine/ERW-contaminated areas, increased their incomes, with ICRC funding, material supplies and, in 833 cases, business training. In South Ossetia, 742 people (242 households) received tractors, livestock or beekeeping equipment. IDPs in collective centres who had participated in similar projects in 2009 received additional guidance.

To plan further assistance, Georgian Red Cross/ICRC teams conducted a household survey among such vulnerable families in central and western Georgia, sharing the findings with the authorities. Similarly in South Ossetia, the ICRC identified vulnerable IDP families requiring assistance.

Vulnerable groups still needed household basics and regular or ad hoc food supplies to cover immediate needs. Some 4,805 people therefore received essential household items and 619 got food rations from the ICRC. They included mostly: people living in South Ossetia, such as returnees in rural areas and 576 households (1,248 people) affected by weapon contamination (see below); elderly people or those awaiting integration into welfare programmes; households that were assisted with the transport of flour supplies from the market back to their villages; and 250 others, including residents of Abkhazia's remote Kodori valley and IDPs expelled from Tbilisi to western Georgia.

Communities enjoy better water, sanitation and health services

Overall, 72,487 people, including 6,370 IDPs, benefited from ICRC renovation/infrastructure projects. These included the refurbishment of water and sewage networks and the replacement/installation of roofs, windows and sanitation facilities in collective centres and settlements housing IDPs in central and western Georgia. In South Ossetia, an orphanage was refurbished and villagers received materials to repair houses.

On both sides of the South Ossetian administrative boundary, communities had access to more and better-quality water through ICRC projects to construct/renovate water supply systems; the irrigation system was assessed regarding potential need for improvement. Georgia's water supply company received ICRC equipment and training enabling it to upgrade its services. In South Ossetia, the water board restored the Tskhinvali/Tskhinval sewage system, the irrigation network and public infrastructure using a truck, excavators, materials and expertise provided by the ICRC.

In South Ossetia, ambulance and health facilities were able to function thanks to ICRC provision of materials and infrastructure renovation (see *Wounded and sick*). The authorities refurbished the Tskhinvali/Tskhinval hospital and nursing school using such assistance; seven health centres were renovated/constructed by the ICRC. The Tskhinvali/Tskhinval children's polyclinic received fuel and transport for an immunization campaign. With clearance from the relevant authorities, 34 people needing specialized medical care were transported across administrative boundaries by the ICRC.

Mine/ERW-affected communities helped in reducing risks

Authorities welcomed ICRC input on the location of mines/ERW. An ICRC-initiated working group standardized data-collection forms, while the Georgian Red Cross agreed to exchange data with the national mine action centre. Red Cross volunteers were trained in data collection and assessment of victims' needs. In South Ossetia, families received firewood to reduce risks associated with gathering wood in weapon-contaminated areas, a safe play area was built in the Tskhinvali/Tskhinval district, and

ICRC-trained schoolteachers undertook mine-risk education. The South Ossetian mine-clearance unit acquired additional expertise through ICRC training.

Families and authorities benefit from ICRC expertise on family links and missing persons

Family members separated by conflict communicated or sought to trace relatives through the tracing and RCM services, and in 29 cases were reunited across administrative boundaries by the ICRC, with clearance from the relevant authorities. Three families also had the remains of relatives returned to them, while 22 official documents were relayed between family members across the administrative boundaries. With the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, 98 people also crossed administrative boundaries, mainly for medical care.

The authorities concerned were reminded of their obligation to provide answers to the families of persons missing in relation to the August 2008 conflict. The Georgian, Russian and *de facto* South Ossetian authorities met three times under the auspices of a tripartite coordination mechanism convened by the ICRC, exchanging and updating lists of missing persons. The parties had received the names of the 45 people still being sought by the ICRC by end-2010. Missing persons' families provided the ICRC with ante-mortem data.

To follow up the cases of over 2,000 people missing from the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict, with the ICRC acting as neutral intermediary, the Georgian and *de facto* Abkhaz authorities met in December, which led them to establish a coordination mechanism and to set up a forensic working group.

Around 190 families of missing persons received psychological support, as well as legal and economic assistance, through group meetings and home visits conducted by local NGOs and associations trained by the ICRC. A new NGO was identified to extend such services to families of people missing in relation to the 2008 conflict.

In both contexts, the authorities were offered ICRC technical support regarding the management of human remains.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Security detainees across Georgia, including people held in connection with armed conflicts or the alleged planned military mutiny in 2009, or for crossing the South Ossetian administrative boundary, or who had been accused of spying, were visited individually by the ICRC according to its standard procedures. The authorities received confidential feedback on the findings and, as necessary, recommendations regarding detainees' treatment and living conditions. Detainees held by the *de facto* Abkhaz Interior Ministry and security services also continued to benefit from ICRC visits.

Detainees in the custody of the *de facto* South Ossetian Interior and Justice Ministries, including, for the first time, those held

in police stations, received ad hoc ICRC visits. By year-end, the *de facto* authorities had not replied to a formal offer made by the ICRC in 2009 to visit all detainees regularly.

Detainees contacted relatives through RCMs and received family parcels, some containing medicines otherwise unavailable, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary; in total, 55 parcels were delivered. Thanks to a programme launched by the ICRC in coordination with the relevant authorities, 10 detainees in Georgia and 2 in South Ossetia were able to receive visits from 18 relatives.

In the absence of projects undertaken by the *de facto* Abkhaz authorities to improve detention conditions, detainees in their custody received recreational and cleaning materials from the ICRC.

Contact was established with Georgia's new national mechanism to prevent torture.

To mark the handover of the ICRC TB programme in prisons to the Georgian authorities, the authorities and the ICRC published a brochure and presented the programme at Tbilisi's medical school. The authorities continued to receive ad hoc ICRC support in terms of transport of health teams, supervision of detainees with multi-drug-resistant TB, and maintenance of prison TB facilities.

With ICRC expertise and funding, the ministry newly responsible for primary health care in prisons established a pilot project plan for two detention facilities, and the penitentiary medical department introduced disease-reporting software and trained prison health staff in primary and mental health care.

To exchange expertise with colleagues, representatives from Kyrgyzstan studied the TB programme in Georgian prisons during a visit facilitated by the ICRC, while joint teams of Georgian and ICRC representatives visited Azerbaijani and UK prisons. A Georgian representative attended an expert meeting on TB in Germany, with ICRC funding.

In South Ossetia's Tskhinvali/Tskhinval prison, the refurbishment of women's cells in a separate block was completed; a ventilation system was installed in a newly renovated block.

WOUNDED AND SICK

In South Ossetia, the needs of some 30 medical facilities continued to be monitored by the ICRC. Four main rural hospitals and the nursing school offered better services thanks to ICRC donations of medicines and medical, surgical and maternity-care supplies and equipment, as well as of bed linen, hygiene kits, water supply and storage equipment, and teaching materials. Rural health centres received similar provisions. Elderly Georgians remaining in South Ossetia were regularly visited by the ICRC, which provided them with basic health care and hygiene items. Disabled elderly people got walking aids; as needed, patients received incontinence pads.

There were an estimated 5,600 amputees, including mine/ERW victims, throughout Georgia. By year-end, the physical rehabilitation centre run by the Georgian Foundation for Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation in Tbilisi had achieved financial autonomy, enabling the ICRC to end its funding as planned. The centre continued to receive monitoring visits from the ICRC, which also financed and ensured the delivery of prostheses and orthoses. Meanwhile, the authorities were urged to take account of international standards in developing Georgia's national physical rehabilitation policy. Abkhazia's Gagra Orthopaedic Centre received ICRC technical assistance and funding for the centre's partial refurbishment and to cover the costs of importing prosthetic/orthotic materials, as well as help with transporting these across the administrative boundary. Five South Ossetian patients were treated in the Russian Federation, with ICRC support (see *Moscow*).

While no South Ossetian doctors were available for ICRC-funded training, two Abkhaz surgeons upgraded their skills at an ICRC emergency-surgery course.

AUTHORITIES

The Georgian and *de facto* Abkhaz and South Ossetian authorities were reminded of their responsibilities under IHL and other relevant norms, were briefed on ICRC operations with a view to enlisting their support, and drew on ICRC expertise to address the issue of missing persons (see *Civilians*). Other international actors sought the ICRC's views on the general situation and operational issues.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	GEORGIA	ABKHAZIA	SOUTH OSSETIA
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	25,158	4	28
Detainees visited and monitored individually	72	4	28
	<i>of whom women</i>	5	2
	<i>of whom minors</i>		2
Detainees newly registered	10		15
	<i>of whom women</i>	3	2
	<i>of whom minors</i>		2
Number of visits carried out	48	8	32
Number of places of detention visited	19	3	8
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	16	20	29
RCMs distributed	39	13	20
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	10		2

To encourage Georgia's adherence to key IHL treaties, the authorities and the ICRC pursued discussions on the creation of a national IHL committee. To this end, an earlier study on the compatibility of Georgian legislation with IHL was being updated by the ICRC, which also sponsored Georgian representatives to attend fora such as the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, (see *International Law and Cooperation*) and a regional IHL seminar in Belarus (see *Moscow*). These efforts contributed to Georgia's ratification of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Georgian Defence Ministry, and particularly the relevant working group, continued to integrate IHL into military training, including field manuals, and operations, inviting the ICRC to contribute expertise. Officers of the Joint Staff and military lawyers honed their IHL skills at week-long ICRC courses, while troops heading to Afghanistan learnt about IHL and the ICRC during pre-deployment briefings. A representative of the Georgian Army Joint Staff participated in the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, held in Lucerne, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*). The Georgian Army Joint Staff and the ICRC printed and distributed 1,500 copies of an IHL handbook for officers, as well as 16,000 copies of a booklet for soldiers on the rules of behaviour in combat.

In Abkhazia, the ICRC maintained a dialogue on IHL with military personnel and the *de facto* authorities.

In South Ossetia, the *de facto* armed and security forces, the Russian Interior Ministry and Russian border guards learnt about the ICRC's mandate and IHL through dissemination sessions and seminars.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Journalists regularly reported on humanitarian issues and ICRC activities across Georgia, using ICRC-provided information and focusing particularly on activities for detainees and missing persons, including the tripartite coordination meetings (see *Civilians*). Russian journalists covered ICRC activities in South Ossetia, while local media in Abkhazia and South Ossetia broadcast similar items. Local government and NGO representatives across Georgia attended briefings on ICRC action.

The Education Ministry continued to finalize the integration of IHL topics into new school curricula and textbooks with ICRC technical support. University lecturers providing input to the integration process learnt more about IHL and the teaching of the subject from the ICRC, while two universities included IHL in 2010–11 teacher-training curricula. A national coordinator was appointed to oversee IHL teaching in schools after the end of ICRC involvement, and reference publications were made widely accessible in digital form at the National Library.

IHL was an optional subject in the law curricula of leading universities, where students received copies of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols. Tbilisi State University and the ICRC consolidated their longstanding cooperation through a written agreement. Student teams tested their IHL skills at an ICRC-organized national IHL competition, while a Tbilisi State University team participated, with ICRC sponsorship, in the international Jean-Pictet Competition on IHL, held in Canada. In western Georgia, an ICRC-coordinated university project brought together lecturers, students, schoolchildren and representatives of local authorities, NGOs and the media to learn about IHL.

Students in Abkhazia attended an ICRC presentation and a local IHL competition. In South Ossetia, the local university agreed to include IHL in its law curriculum, using ICRC publications, and sent a law lecturer to an IHL seminar in the Russian Federation, with ICRC sponsorship.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Movement partners met regularly to coordinate both aid efforts and support to the Georgian Red Cross.

The Georgian Red Cross and the ICRC worked together to assist people affected by the 2008 hostilities, distributing relief supplies and agricultural inputs, conducting household surveys and improving capacities to deal with victims of mines/ERW (see *Civilians*).

With Movement support, the National Society developed its emergency management and assistance strategies, focusing on training trainers and volunteers in first aid, the Safer Access approach and restoring family links, and working with local authorities to help vulnerable groups. With European first-aid certification in mind, it prepared to publish the Georgian-language version of an ICRC first-aid manual.

With ICRC support, the Georgian Red Cross reinforced links between its headquarters and 33 branches, prepared to commission an audit of its accounts and drafted a communication strategy.

The Red Cross in Abkhazia discussed possible cooperation projects with the ICRC.

Reference documents relating to the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement were translated into Georgian to facilitate its implementation by the National Society in 2011.

MOSCOW (regional)

COVERING: Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,433
Assistance	4,681
Prevention	4,987
Cooperation with National Societies	2,360
General	-

► **15,461**
of which: *Overheads* 944

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	22
National staff (daily workers not included)	247

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- in the northern Caucasus, helped 5,243 vulnerable people to join income-generating schemes and over 1,000 elderly people and relatives of missing persons to receive support provided by Russian Red Cross nurses
- encouraged the Russian authorities to establish mechanisms to clarify the fate of missing persons in the northern Caucasus, providing forensic training for national experts
- organized 3 meetings of a new tripartite coordination mechanism aimed at clarifying the fate of people unaccounted for from the 2008 armed conflict with Georgia
- helped 348 families to visit detained relatives and others to send 340 parcels to detainees
- in the northern Caucasus, provided emergency-surgery training to specialists and assistance to 11 hospitals, enabling them to treat 11,541 patients, including 200 victims of explosions and suicide bombings
- welcomed the ratification by the Republic of Moldova of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Rome Statute and Ukraine's deposit of the instrument of ratification for Additional Protocol III

Opened in 1992, the Moscow delegation combines operational functions in the Russian Federation with regional functions. It supports families of missing persons and, with the Russian Red Cross Society, works to protect and assist vulnerable conflict-affected populations in the northern Caucasus. It helps build the capacities of the region's National Societies, particularly in the field of emergency preparedness and restoring family links. In all the countries covered, it runs communication programmes to promote an environment conducive to the respect of IHL and other norms relevant to the use of force and fosters understanding of the ICRC's mandate and work.

CONTEXT

A new northern Caucasus federal district was created in January to better address the region's social and economic problems. Tensions and insecurity nonetheless persisted, leading to ad hoc "special operations". Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to affect rural inhabitants. Occasionally the violence spread further afield, as shown by a suicide attack on the Moscow underground system in March.

Relations between the Russian Federation and Georgia remained tense following the 2008 hostilities. Russian border guards continued to patrol the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries.

The Russian Federation continued to emphasize its interests in the "near abroad" of former Soviet republics, including through regional mechanisms such as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

In Belarus, over 600 opposition supporters were reportedly arrested following protests in connection with December's presidential election, which was brought forward from the originally planned date in 2011. The incumbent president remained in office. Some people were still in detention by year-end.

After the election of a new president early in the year, Ukraine consolidated relations with the Russian Federation, signing agreements on energy and prolonging the presence of the Russian Black Sea Fleet on the Crimean Peninsula until 2042.

In the Republic of Moldova, the pro-European coalition was still unable to elect a head of State after more than 18 months. Negotiations between the Republic of Moldova and the breakaway Transnistria region continued but made no significant progress.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	30		
RCMs distributed	26		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	2		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations	Total		
People reunited with their families	1		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	435	17	19
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	21		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	2,256	81	83
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	52		
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	5		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits¹	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	4		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	4		
Detainees newly registered	4		
Number of visits carried out	2		
Number of places of detention visited	1		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	12		
RCMs distributed	32		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	359		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	9		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Republic of Moldova only

ASSISTANCE

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ²				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Food	Beneficiaries	1,566	70%	8%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	392		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	8,028	40%	39%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	2,007		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	5,243	36%	39%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	1,311		

2. Russian Federation only

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS				
ASSISTANCE				
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ²				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Food	Beneficiaries	340		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	340		
WOUNDED AND SICK ²				
Hospitals				
Hospitals supported	Structures	11		
	<i>of which provided data</i>	Structures	11	
Admissions	Patients	11,541	4,579	4,293
	<i>of whom weapon-wounded</i>	Patients	200	12
	<i>(including by mines or explosive remnants of war)</i>	Patients	76	1
	<i>of whom other surgical cases</i>	Patients	5,183	
	<i>of whom medical cases</i>	Patients	3,759	
	<i>of whom gynaecological/obstetric cases</i>	Patients	2,399	
Operations	Operations performed	5,745		

2. Russian Federation only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC focused on helping vulnerable populations recover from the effects of the past conflict, as well as of the ongoing insecurity. It implemented micro-economic initiatives to boost self-sufficiency, targeting mainly IDPs, families of the missing and detainees, patients of the Grozny Prosthetic/Orthotic Centre, including mine victims, and residents of rural mine-affected areas. It supported health structures by donating emergency surgical supplies, promoted the training of health personnel, monitored the functioning of the Grozny Prosthetic/Orthotic Centre and enabled a few disabled patients from South Ossetia to receive treatment at the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre. In Chechnya, it assisted the Russian Red Cross branch in increasing the number of elderly people it could reach through its home visiting nurses programme.

The ICRC continued to promote a comprehensive and systematic approach to addressing the issue of missing persons in the northern Caucasus, including through discussions with government and civil society representatives. It reminded federal and republican authorities of the need to intensify efforts to resolve outstanding cases and to provide answers to the families. Government officials and specialists in the management of human remains received training in forensics and data management, while families benefited from psychological and social support from the ICRC and the Russian Red Cross Society. To resolve the cases of persons missing as a result of the 2008 hostilities, the ICRC convened tripartite meetings of the parties.

The ICRC enabled family members to stay in touch with detained relatives through visits and RCMs and to send them parcels. Delegates visited four detainees held in Transnistria. The ICRC did not gain access to people detained in connection with the Belarus presidential election. It continued to express its interest to the Russian federal authorities in resuming visits, according to its standard procedures, to people detained in connection with the situation in the northern Caucasus.

The ICRC pursued cooperation with the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (IPA) and the CSTO secretariat to encourage the integration of IHL and the promotion of other relevant norms at regional level and itself promoted the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties in all the countries covered. It supported national IHL committees in developing or implementing legislation protecting missing persons and their families and cultural property. The ICRC and the Ministry of Justice of Belarus strengthened regional cooperation on IHL implementation by co-organizing a regional seminar on the subject. IHL continued to be integrated into the education systems and operations of the region's armed forces.

The ICRC worked with universities, secondary schools and the media to boost IHL dissemination and teaching efforts and with National Societies to publicize family-links and other services. It promoted humanitarian principles widely through photo exhibitions and held a regional competition to familiarize journalism students with IHL and humanitarian issues. In Ukraine, the ICRC helped the Ukrainian Red Cross to strengthen its capacities to administer first aid in Crimea and provide family-links services, particularly to migrants. The ICRC's Moscow-based regional communication centre supported long-term communication and prevention programmes in the countries covered by the delegation, as well as in other Russian-speaking countries.

CIVILIANS

Vulnerable people receive assistance and regain some economic security

As confirmed by an assessment conducted in April, the worst-off people in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia, in particular those who had lost a breadwinner, were able to increase their income and cover subsistence costs through ICRC micro-economic initiatives carried out in 2009. In 2010, 5,243 people (982 households), of whom about a quarter were IDPs, benefited from such initiatives. They comprised 334 families of missing persons,

161 families of victims of weapon contamination (see below), and 487 households whose breadwinner was detained or was a patient of the Grozny Prosthetic-Orthotic Centre.

In addition, to help people cope with the immediate aftermath of an emergency, some 8,028 people received essential household items and 490 one-off food rations provided by the local branches of the Russian Red Cross.

Civilians' protection concerns shared with the authorities

The humanitarian consequences for civilians of the deteriorating security situation in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia continued to be monitored by the ICRC. Although reforms at the Interior Ministry and the creation of the northern Caucasus federal district constrained dialogue with the authorities, they were reminded of their obligations under IHL and other relevant norms to respect and protect people not or no longer participating in armed conflict or other situations of violence, with reference to specific incidents when necessary. The authorities were also encouraged, where relevant, to ensure that people received State-guaranteed entitlements and were adequately compensated for loss or damage to property. The people concerned were informed by the ICRC – via a referral system – of the steps they had to follow to receive compensation.

The authorities and the ICRC regularly discussed the situation of IDPs in the northern Caucasus, particularly those living in temporary accommodation in Ingushetia.

Missing persons' families get counselling and experts build forensic capacities

In the northern Caucasus, families continued to approach the ICRC to register missing relatives; 435 requests were registered, bringing to 2,256 the total number of cases followed by the ICRC. Representations on behalf of relatives whose family members had disappeared recently were made to the authorities. During regular discussions, the Russian federal and republican authorities were reminded by the ICRC of their responsibilities to the families of the missing and the need to establish relevant mechanisms, including a legal framework (see *Authorities*) and a federal commission to coordinate lists of missing persons. Representatives of the federal authorities attended three tripartite meetings of the parties to the August 2008 conflict with Georgia, convened by the ICRC to address the issue of persons missing in relation to that conflict (see *Georgia*).

To assist the authorities in providing answers to families of the missing, a government representative was sponsored to attend an ICRC international training course on the management of human remains, while experts from the northern Caucasus underwent training in the use of ICRC ante/post-mortem data management software. The Grozny morgue received forensic equipment enabling it to strengthen its capacity to conduct exhumations and identifications of human remains.

At the same time, national organizations working on the issue of missing persons and associations of families of the missing received ICRC support for their activities. Four organizations were equipped with computers, and one association got office

supplies. For the first time, family associations were coached in working with relatives of missing persons at a three-day training course run by an ICRC psychologist.

In Chechnya and Ingushetia, families of the missing benefited directly from ICRC-funded micro-economic initiatives (see above). In Chechnya, elderly relatives of missing persons also received home care, sometimes including essential items or supplementary food (1,076 beneficiaries), from ICRC-supported Russian Red Cross nurses (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). After further training, including that provided by an ICRC psychologist in accompanying relatives of the missing through active listening, they were able to increase the number of people helped.

As in past years, a small number of relatives separated by conflict communicated through the Russian Red Cross family-links service (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). In coordination with the authorities concerned, 52 refugees and asylum seekers were provided with travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

Civilians access safe water supplies and get help to overcome mine/ERW risks

The population in rural Chechnya continued to have access to safe drinking water thanks to rehabilitation projects completed in 2009 by the Chechen rural water board, in partnership with the ICRC, and monitored by the delegation in 2010. Their needs in terms of access to safe water and adequate sanitation facilities were further assessed, and the authorities were urged to prioritize investment in rural water infrastructure.

Despite regular dialogue and advocacy with the Chechen authorities, little progress was achieved in stepping up demining efforts and in establishing a relevant coordination mechanism. However, 161 families in villages where fields were suspected of mine/ERW contamination participated in ICRC micro-economic initiatives reducing their exposure to risky income-generating activities (see above). As part of longstanding cooperation between the education authorities and the ICRC (see *Civil society*), teachers were encouraged to teach mine-risk education in schools, with technical support from the ICRC.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC reiterated its interest in resuming its visits, according to its standard procedures, to monitor the treatment and living conditions of people detained in connection with the situation in the northern Caucasus.

Families were able to keep in touch with relatives detained in penal colonies across the Russian Federation through RCMs and 359 ICRC-supported visits, while those unable to visit could send parcels via the ICRC; 340 parcels, containing food and essentials such as hygiene items, were delivered to detainees. The most vulnerable families had access to ICRC-funded micro-economic initiatives (see *Civilians*).

Four Moldovan detainees held in Transnistria were visited by delegates, according to standard ICRC procedures. The findings and recommendations were shared with the authorities in a confidential dialogue.

In Belarus, the ICRC did not obtain access to people detained following opposition rallies in connection with presidential elections.

WOUNDED AND SICK

In Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia, 200 victims of explosions and suicide bombings were treated with the help of surgical materials provided by the ICRC to 11 hospitals. Six hospitals in Chechnya, along with the Grozny central blood bank, were twice supplied with drugs and consumables to bolster their contingency stocks.

The authorities in the northern Caucasus were given further support to train health personnel, thereby improving the quality of emergency medical care, with 10 nurses participating in advanced trauma, surgery and anaesthesia courses co-organized by the Rostov-on-Don nursing training centre and the ICRC. The North Ossetian State Medical Academy and the ICRC developed their partnership to strengthen training, including through two emergency-room trauma courses attended by 40 specialists from Belarus, the Russian Federation and the southern Caucasus.

The Grozny Prosthetic-Orthotic Centre continued to be fully financed by the authorities. Its work was monitored by the ICRC following the cessation of its direct support in 2008. Disabled people, including mine victims, in Chechnya received appropriate physical rehabilitation services, which were extended to patients from Ingushetia following an agreement concluded in 2010 between the centre and the Ingush Social Insurance Fund. Staff included orthotic technicians and a physiotherapy nurse who had undergone ICRC-supported training; four orthotic technicians from Grozny upgraded their skills at seminars in Moscow, thanks to ICRC sponsorship.

With ICRC assistance, five disabled patients from South Ossetia were fitted with prosthetic/orthotic appliances at the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre, under a partnership agreement between the centre and the ICRC.

AUTHORITIES

The Russian authorities and the ICRC maintained dialogue on ICRC operations in the northern Caucasus, including ICRC access to victims and staff safety, and on humanitarian and IHL-related issues, for example missing persons and their families.

The CIS IPA, as well as the region's authorities, including their national IHL committees, and the ICRC discussed the promotion, ratification and implementation of IHL treaties bilaterally and in regional and international fora. This contributed to the Republic of Moldova's ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

and the Rome Statute and to Ukraine's sending the instrument of ratification for Additional Protocol III to the depositary. Belarus made headway in implementing the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, while in the Russian Federation a study comparing national and international law on missing persons was completed. In Ukraine, work began on updating the 2006 study on the same topic.

Representatives from Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine attended the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees, held in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*). In Belarus, the Ministry of Justice and the ICRC co-organized the third Regional Seminar on the Implementation of IHL for countries of the former Soviet Union. These events helped create a new dynamic for both regional and international cooperation on IHL promotion, prompting Belarus to propose the establishment of an international association of national IHL committees and to draft its statutes.

The CIS IPA reviewed recommendations on implementing the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions. The IPA Council addressed CIS parliaments and governments, making recommendations on IHL teaching in universities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Ongoing reforms in the Russian Federation reduced interaction between the Defence and Interior Ministries and the ICRC. However, the Defence Ministry continued to integrate IHL into the operational, educational and legal systems of the Russian armed forces. Notably, the ministry included draft instructions on its cooperation with the ICRC during hostilities in the revision of IHL regulations for the armed forces. Some 110 lecturers from military education establishments attended IHL instructor training co-organized by the Ministry of Defence and the ICRC. Teachers and pupils of military academies and schools participated in ICRC sessions on IHL. The Russian Federation sent a representative to the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, held in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*), and training of Russian-speaking officers resumed in San Remo after a four-year break. Armed forces members destined for peacekeeping operations or service in the northern and southern Caucasus were briefed on the ICRC's humanitarian activities and basic IHL norms.

In the northern Caucasus, particularly in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia, law enforcement agents participating in "special operations", and representatives of the local Interior Ministries were briefed on international law enforcement standards and the ICRC's activities in the region.

Elsewhere in the region, dialogue on the integration of IHL into armed forces' doctrine, training and operations continued, and the ICRC contributed regularly to officer training in IHL. As a result of the creation of a working group comprising the CSTO secretariat

and Joint Staff representatives and the ICRC, IHL-related topics were included in pre-deployment briefings and training of Joint Staff officers. High-ranking military officials were involved in ICRC regional and supra-regional activities.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Russian media covered humanitarian and IHL-related issues, including ICRC activities regarding missing persons and their families and visits by International Tracing Service representatives (see *International Tracing Service*). A regional ICRC competition for journalism students from 12 universities helped build IHL awareness among future reporters.

The “Humanity in War” and “The Road to Peace” photo exhibitions highlighting humanitarian issues and ICRC action attracted over 3,700 viewers in Belarus, the northern Caucasus and Ukraine.

The Russian Association of International Law and leading universities in the region were encouraged to provide input for CIS deliberations (see *Authorities*). To stimulate interest in IHL teaching and research, students and lecturers received IHL materials, and lecturers from the region and from Central Asia attended ICRC seminars on IHL, including a course held in Switzerland, an international conference co-organized with Kazan State University and IHL-related events organized by Moscow academic establishments. Student teams tested their skills at IHL competitions, with ICRC sponsorship. These included the de Martens regional IHL competition in Moscow, the international Jean-Pictet Competition on IHL, held in Canada, and the International Olympiad on IHL in Belarus.

The ongoing Russian education reform process provided opportunities to lobby for the further integration of IHL into student and teacher-training curricula. The authorities received a draft report on the completion of the ICRC programme to promote humanitarian principles in schools, conducted jointly with the Education Ministry and the Russian Red Cross over 15 years, aimed at promoting the sustainability of such teaching.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region’s National Societies continued work to improve their legal base, management and performance and to provide family-links services, with ICRC and International Federation support. At a meeting in Kyiv, the leadership of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies from countries of the former Soviet Union pledged to revise their statutes according to ICRC/International Federation recommendations.

The tracing service of the Ukrainian Red Cross received funding to pursue its family-links programme for detained migrants. Its first-aid capacity-building programme continued, with further volunteer training and first-aid competitions offered by the Crimean branch.

The Belarus Red Cross worked with the ICRC on dissemination and planned activities for migrants similar to those in Ukraine.

Russian Red Cross branches in the northern Caucasus consolidated their emergency preparedness and assistance programmes, with ICRC support. The home visiting nurses programme focused on chronically ill people in remote areas, as well as on the elderly and families of missing persons (see *Civilians*). In North Ossetia, IDPs, children and vulnerable people benefited from psychological and social support provided through Red Cross playrooms and a psychosocial centre in Beslan. In the tension-prone Prigorodny district, the North Ossetian branch built a playroom for both Ingush and Ossetian youngsters. The Ingush branch worked with the ICRC to launch a psychological and social support project for vulnerable groups in 2011.

TASHKENT (regional)

COVERING: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan



The regional delegation in Central Asia was opened in 1992. It assists governments in implementing IHL instruments and integrating IHL into academic curricula. It also supports the integration of IHL into armed forces' doctrine, training and sanctions, and promotes international norms among police and security forces dealing with law enforcement. It endeavours to protect and assist people affected by tensions or violence and people detained for security reasons and, in Kyrgyzstan, provides support on health-related issues, particularly tuberculosis, in places of detention. The ICRC contributes to strengthening the capacities of the region's National Societies, particularly in the fields of restoring family links and promoting IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,672
Assistance	23,782
Prevention	3,245
Cooperation with National Societies	2,129
General	-

► **34,828**

of which: Overheads 2,056

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	51
National staff (daily workers not included)	127

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- with the relevant National Societies, provided almost 400,000 people affected by the violence in southern Kyrgyzstan, including those who took refuge in neighbouring countries, with food, essential household items and clean water
- in Kyrgyzstan, supplied 64 health facilities with medical materials and equipped first-aiders
- through a cash-for-work programme, reconstructed 317 destroyed houses in Kyrgyzstan to enable people to have shelter before the winter
- continued visits to detainees in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, while supporting tuberculosis control measures in Kyrgyzstan and pursuing discussions with the interim government there on a formal agreement on access to all detainees in the country
- in Tajikistan, with the National Society, provided emergency assistance to medical facilities and victims of clashes between armed groups and security forces in Rasht district

CONTEXT

In April, thousands of people took to the streets of Bishkek and Talas in Kyrgyzstan to protest against the arrest of senior leaders, price increases and alleged corruption. The government of President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was overthrown and an interim government, headed by Roza Otunbayeva, installed in its place. Tensions persisted, however, and in May violent riots broke out, particularly in Jalal-Abad and Osh, opposing supporters of the interim government and followers of the former president. These were followed by interethnic clashes, including between young people of Kyrgyz and Uzbek origin. According to the official death toll, almost 400 people were killed and thousands wounded. The clashes also prompted the burning of houses and public buildings. Tens of thousands of people were internally displaced, some 100,000 others fled into Uzbekistan, and a few hundred crossed into Tajikistan.

By end-June, the situation was slowly calming down and people were returning home. Although a referendum on the new constitution

went smoothly, tensions between communities remained high. In July, Ms Otunbayeva was sworn in as caretaker president until presidential elections in 2011. In October, the country held parliamentary elections – the first step in moving from a presidential system to a parliamentary democracy.

Violence was also on the rise in Tajikistan later in the year, particularly in the Rasht valley, where attacks on law enforcement and security forces triggered major security operations.

Tensions persisted between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan over border-demarcation and energy- and water-related issues.

In Turkmenistan, reforms of the judiciary, law enforcement and penitentiary system got under way, leading to the approval of a new penal code.

Kazakhstan became the first post-Soviet State to assume the chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	152		
RCMs distributed	209		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	25		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations	Total		
People reunited with their families	3		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	88	6	9
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	42		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	55	4	4
UAMs/SCs,* including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers	Total	Girls	Demobilized children
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	3	3	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	3	3	
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	104		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits¹	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	7,390		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,084	120	4
Detainees newly registered	724	59	4
Number of visits carried out	147		
Number of places of detention visited	51		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	315		
RCMs distributed	208		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	4		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS				
ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
		Total	Women	Children
Food ²	Beneficiaries	396,059	20%	65%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	200,709		
Essential household items ²	Beneficiaries	93,627	20%	65%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	38,255		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives ³	Beneficiaries	3,754	20%	65%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	1,502		
Water and habitat activities ¹	Beneficiaries	73,360	40%	30%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	8,800		
Health				
Health centres supported	Structures	24		
Average catchment population		133,288		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat ³				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	800		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals ¹				
Hospitals supported	Structures	40		

1. Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan

2. Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

3. Kyrgyzstan only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In partnership with the relevant National Red Crescent Societies, the ICRC launched a large-scale operation to respond to the needs of people affected by the violence in Kyrgyzstan and appealed for additional funds.

In Kyrgyzstan, to ensure that the wounded received adequate treatment, the ICRC supplied medical facilities, equipped National Society first-aiders, and trained surgeons. IDPs and their hosts received food rations, essential household items, and clean water trucked in while existing water systems were rehabilitated. This assistance, along with support to health centres, helped avoid outbreaks of disease. Psychological support was provided by an association set up with National Society/ICRC support. A few family members separated by the violence kept in touch using RCMs, and the ICRC gave technical support to Kyrgyz forensic practitioners to contribute to efforts to clarify the whereabouts of people unaccounted for.

To complement the efforts of the authorities in Uzbekistan to care for refugees, the ICRC delivered three planeloads of relief materials and installed showers, latrines, water points and rubbish collection boxes in camps. In Tajikistan, with the National Society, the ICRC provided first aid and transport to refugees and returning Tajik nationals.

Once the emergency phase was over, as part of a cash-for-work programme, the ICRC supported the reconstruction of 317 destroyed houses in Osh, to enable people to be accommodated before the winter, and provided roofing materials to other families.

Later in the year, with the Tajik National Society, the ICRC also provided emergency medical assistance to hospitals and food and shelter materials to victims of the clashes between

armed groups and government military and security forces that broke out in Rasht district.

ICRC delegates continued to visit detainees in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to monitor their treatment and living conditions and provided confidential reports to the relevant authorities. After the change of government in Kyrgyzstan, the ICRC established contacts with the interim authorities to pursue discussions on a formal agreement on access to all detainees in the country, including those arrested in connection with the violence. In parallel, it continued to support the Health Ministry and the GSIN, an independent State agency under the direct responsibility of the prime minister, in efforts to control multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB), particularly in implementing the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS)-plus programme and upgrading infrastructure.

With ICRC support, the region's authorities pursued work to implement IHL, drafting related legislation and improving training in IHL and international norms relating to law enforcement. In all dialogue, the ICRC reminded authorities and weapon bearers of their obligation to protect people not participating in but affected by violence. Through various media, including radio and mobile phone messages (SMS), it raised awareness of humanitarian principles among the general public and organized events to help sustain IHL teaching in universities, schools and military lyceums.

As well as being key partners of the ICRC during emergencies, the region's National Red Crescent Societies continued to receive financial, technical and material support to boost their emergency preparedness, family-links services and IHL dissemination skills. Throughout the region, Movement components coordinated their activities with those of other humanitarian actors to maximize impact while avoiding duplication.

CIVILIANS

During the violence in Kyrgyzstan, people approached the ICRC to report abuses by weapon bearers. The authorities were reminded of their obligations to protect people not participating in but affected by the violence, to meet their basic needs and to allow medical and humanitarian workers safe access to them. To respond better to victims' material needs, Kyrgyz National Society personnel underwent training and received equipment to boost its capacities to provide emergency relief items and a clean water supply. National Society/ICRC partnerships in all three countries affected (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) were instrumental in ensuring an effective response to the needs of victims (see below).

People affected by violence in Kyrgyzstan able to meet their immediate needs

In Kyrgyzstan, some 325,000 people who had lost their food stocks or ability to procure food themselves or who had shared their own limited supplies with IDPs received a one-month food ration and hygiene items. More than 80,000 of these people received food/goods on more than one occasion. In addition, some 92,000 people were given essential items such as tents and blankets or cash to buy winter footwear. In support of the efforts of the Uzbek government and National Society to assist refugees arriving from Kyrgyzstan, the ICRC sent three planeloads of relief items (food, shelter materials, first-aid kits, etc.) to the country, enough to assist a further 70,000 people. In Tajikistan, the most needy among the refugees and returning nationals received first aid or help with their transport.

In Batken, Jalal-Abad and Osh, the water board received trucks, electrical transformers and other equipment so that they could continue to provide essential services, such as water distribution, sewage management and power supply, benefiting some 10,000 people. Furthermore, some 25,000 people around Osh benefited from the rehabilitation of 12 boreholes. In villages hosting IDPs, existing water resources were already insufficient for the usual inhabitants. Thus, with ICRC support, the water board trucked in water for 15,000 people (780m³ of drinking water over five weeks), installed extra water points and repaired others. Following a National Society/ICRC assessment of needs in 27 refugee camps in Uzbekistan, more than 12,000 people were provided with showers, latrines, water points and storage tanks, and rubbish collection boxes. Once the refugees had returned home, the facilities remained for the people who usually used the premises hosting the refugees.

While such water and sanitation work aimed to prevent disease, people in need of curative care attended 24 primary health care centres in Osh supplied or rehabilitated by the ICRC. Furthermore, with National Society/ICRC support, local psychologists, psychiatrists and the ombudsman for the southern region set up an association to provide support to victims of violence, including sexual violence.

Communities in Kyrgyzstan begin to rebuild their lives

Upon their return home, IDPs and refugees often found their homes uninhabitable. More than 10,000 people benefited from an emergency shelter programme, which included the reconstruction of 317 houses allowing 3,000 people to be accommodated before winter, and the provision of roofing kits to other families. Additionally, 1,021 daily labourers received cash for clearing rubble for preparing the houses for rehabilitation, and for the reconstruction work, helping them support themselves and their families (3,754 people).

With a view to assisting other people who had lost their jobs/assets, the ICRC assessed local markets to determine the impact of the violence on household economies and began to plan livelihood-support projects for 2011.

Forensic capacities receive a boost

People generally managed to keep in touch with relatives by their own means, although a few RCMs were exchanged and three children were reunited with relatives. Many people, however, remained without news of relatives unaccounted for since the unrest. Furthermore, some human remains could not be immediately identified. The Kyrgyz authorities received ICRC support in the management and identification of the human remains. The Jalal-Abad and Osh forensic departments received technical advice, Osh central morgue was renovated, and ICRC-donated equipment facilitated the work of forensic practitioners in the field. Alongside, National Society volunteers were trained in ante-mortem data collection, to better enable comparison of ante- and post-mortem data, in parallel with DNA analysis initiated by the authorities.

Victims of violence in Tajikistan's Rasht district better able to cope

Ninety people (18 households) whose homes were severely damaged during clashes between armed groups and security and military forces, or who were affected by mines, received an emergency food ration, shelter materials and essential household items from the National Society/ICRC.

CIVILIANS		KYRGYZSTAN	TAJIKISTAN	UZBEKISTAN
Economic security, water and habitat				
Food	Beneficiaries	325,433	90	70,536
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>			70,536
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	92,137	90	1,400
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>			1,400
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	3,754		
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>			
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	60,980		12,380
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>			8,800

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People in places of detention under the authority of the Interior Ministry and the GSIN in Kyrgyzstan and under the authority of the Interior Ministry in Uzbekistan received visits from delegates, carried out in accordance with standard ICRC procedures. They monitored detainees' treatment and living conditions, paying particular attention to potentially vulnerable inmates, such as people held on security-related charges, women, minors, foreigners, and detainees serving life sentences, and informed the relevant authority confidentially of their findings and any recommendations.

In Kyrgyzstan, visits took place despite the lack of a formal agreement with the authorities on ICRC access to all detainees. Following the unrest, the ICRC made an offer of services to the new authorities and intensified efforts to visit people detained in relation to the violence, including to follow up allegations of arrest. In August, at the request of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the ICRC handed over a proposal for an agreement on visits to all detainees for review by the ministries and agencies concerned.

In Turkmenistan, there was no tangible progress regarding the initiation of ICRC visits to places of detention as an agreement on use of the organization's standard procedures had yet to be reached.

During visits, detainees were able to restore/maintain contact with their families through RCMs. In Kyrgyzstan, four children visited their detained mothers. In Uzbekistan, with the consent of the authorities, 17 foreign detainees were able to notify their embassies of their detention, via the ICRC. Discussions continued, meanwhile, regarding family visits for detained women and minors and phone calls for foreign detainees. In Tajikistan, where the ICRC had suspended active negotiations regarding access to detainees in 2009, family-links services were provided by the National Society.

Detainees' health prospects improve

Kyrgyzstan had one of the world's highest rates of MDR TB, posing a serious health threat both within and outside prisons. The GSIN and Health and Justice Ministries continued to address

the problem, including by implementing the DOTS-plus programme. TB detection, diagnostic and treatment activities were undertaken with ICRC funding and technical back-up, while MDR TB patients were monitored for treatment side-effects and given medication to combat them, along with dietary supplements. Detainees benefited from improved treatment conditions following rehabilitation of a TB laboratory and hospital and ventilation systems.

From January, detainees with TB and staff working in Colony 27 were supported by an ICRC psychologist, while GSIN nurses were supervised and trained by an ICRC nurse, who also conducted health education sessions for detainees and staff. The GSIN created a working group to draft TB guidelines for the penitentiary system, and its staff began training in the use of ICRC software for managing MDR TB data. Negotiations with the national TB control programme, and thus preparations for a pilot project to help MDR TB sufferers complete their treatment after their release, were interrupted by the violence and postponed. To support the authorities in their long-term planning, five GSIN officials conducted a study tour of facilities accommodating detainees with TB in Azerbaijan and Georgia, where the ICRC also ran support programmes.

TB sufferers were among the detainees in five Kyrgyz places of detention, including three police stations, who benefited from improvements to infrastructure, including water and electricity systems, and from ICRC support for ongoing maintenance. As GSIN donors were not forthcoming with funds for the renovation of Colony 19, ICRC expertise was not required for the project.

In Uzbekistan, four disabled detainees received wheelchairs; two more wheelchairs were donated to a penitentiary hospital.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Thousands of people wounded as a result of the violence in Kyrgyzstan received emergency medical treatment at 37 ICRC-supplied medical facilities and from ICRC-equipped National Society volunteers. To strengthen the country's emergency preparedness, the National Society trained almost 200 law enforcement

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	KYRGYZSTAN	TAJIKISTAN	UZBEKISTAN
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	6,583		807
Detainees visited and monitored individually	277		807
	<i>of whom women</i>	7	113
	<i>of whom minors</i>	4	0
Detainees newly registered	248		476
	<i>of whom women</i>	5	54
	<i>of whom minors</i>	4	
Number of visits carried out	100		47
Number of places of detention visited	32		19
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	39	7	269
RCMs distributed	13	16	179
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	4		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued			1

staff in first aid, and 250 doctors from the Health and Interior Ministries and from hospitals under the State Service for National Security and the Border Service learnt war-surgery techniques during three ICRC-held seminars.

People wounded during the armed clashes in the Rasht district in Tajikistan received treatment at three ICRC-assisted medical facilities in Dushanbe and Gharm.

The Tajik Labour and Social Protection Ministry continued to run the physical rehabilitation centre in Dushanbe with technical and financial support from the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled. The delegation monitored the services and discussed with the centre possibilities for diversifying funding. Two State technicians underwent training abroad to help further boost the quality of the services provided.

AUTHORITIES

Given the violence in Kyrgyzstan, the movement of many of the people affected into Uzbekistan, and the clashes in Tajikistan, the region's authorities were reminded of their obligations under applicable laws to protect and assist those affected and to allow medical and humanitarian workers access to them.

In parallel, the authorities and the ICRC discussed the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. Officials attended a range of events that aimed to create momentum. For example, representatives of the Kazakh and Kyrgyz IHL committees participated in the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*), as did an Uzbek official to learn more about the workings and benefits of such bodies. Meanwhile, future members of the Turkmen IHL working group within the interministerial committee on human rights took part in a round-table on the same topic. Furthermore, officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan attended the third regional seminar on IHL implementation in Belarus (see *Moscow*).

At national level, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan received advice on revising draft laws regulating the status of their National Societies, while with the support of the Kazakh Justice Ministry and the ICRC, the Kazakh National Society began drafting a law to protect the emblems. The Tajik authorities and the ICRC discussed the need for a study on the compatibility of national legislation on missing persons with model legislation promulgated by the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States, while law professors began drafting a legal commentary on war-crimes articles in the criminal code. Discussions continued with the Kazakh authorities regarding a headquarters agreement to formalize the ICRC's status and presence in the country.

Members of the diplomatic community attended briefings and received newsletters on Movement activities that aimed to enlist their support.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Weapon bearers were reminded of their obligations to protect people not participating in violence and to respect relevant international norms relating to law enforcement. At its own request, the Tajik Interior Ministry received 320 copies of the ICRC booklet *Code of Conduct for Combatants* for troops in Rasht. With ICRC support, it also set up a working group to consider ways of improving training for law enforcement troops. A plan of action based on the group's recommendations was submitted to the ministry for consideration.

The region's Defence Ministries and the ICRC discussed integration of IHL into the armed forces' decision-making processes and into their training. High-ranking officers in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and military instructors in Turkmenistan participated in ICRC workshops. In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, these officers made progress in assessing the extent to which IHL featured in operational documentation, while similar work began in Uzbekistan. For the first time the Collective Security Treaty Organization invited the ICRC to attend, as an observer, a military field exercise in Tajikistan.

All participants in discussions and courses were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Following the violent events in Kyrgyzstan, community leaders and other influential figures were encouraged to help restore an environment conducive to maintaining law and order. A communication campaign involving the two largest mobile phone operators and four radio stations was organized via SMS and radio spots to promote the protection of people not participating in the violence, including health care and humanitarian workers.

Otherwise, opinion-makers and the general public across the region increased their awareness of humanitarian principles thanks to media coverage based on ICRC press releases, events such as round-tables and competitions for journalists, the broadcast of ICRC films and publicly distributed fact sheets.

Senior academics, lecturers and students deepened their IHL knowledge at national and regional training events and competitions, while law faculties in Astana, Bishkek, Dushanbe and Osh received equipment and publications to develop IHL resource centres.

The region's Education Ministries and National Societies pursued efforts to ensure the continuity of IHL teaching in secondary education. Uzbek teachers and curriculum writers attended ICRC round-tables, conferences and guest lectures at teacher-training universities, while the Tajik Defence and Education Ministries integrated IHL into a new pre-military training curriculum. Ten years of ICRC support to the secondary school programme drew to a close at the end of the year, with the ICRC/Education Ministry producing final reports on the programme's evolution with a view to ensuring sustainability.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Kyrgyz, Tajik and Uzbek National Societies were key ICRC partners in efforts to assist people affected by violence and to enable them to restore contact with family (see *Civilians* and *Wounded and sick*). All Movement partners present in the area closely coordinated their activities.

With ICRC support, the region's National Societies continued to build their capacities and strengthen their legal bases (see *Authorities*). The Turkmen National Society hosted the annual regional meeting, at which common goals and strategies were formulated, while the heads of all five National Societies participated in the Russian-speaking Leadership Meeting in Ukraine.

The National Societies worked to boost their disaster preparedness. Staff and volunteers underwent training in the Safer Access approach and first aid, and the Kyrgyz and Turkmen National Societies worked to better integrate tracing and RCM services into their emergency response. All National Societies organized training to enhance family-links services in general, and the Uzbek National Society developed electronic data-management tools.

The National Societies continued to disseminate IHL and humanitarian principles. In Kyrgyzstan, a new dissemination method and training module improved the quality of the work undertaken. In addition, the Tajik National Society pursued its activities to raise awareness of mine risks.

WESTERN BALKANS (regional)

COVERING: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo*, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia), Montenegro, Serbia



ICRC regional delegation
 ICRC delegation
 ICRC mission
 - - - - Inter-entity boundary line
 *UN Security Council Resolution 1244

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	4,133
Assistance	7
Prevention	1,512
Cooperation with National Societies	1,503
General	-

▶ **7,154**

of which: Overheads 437

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	13
National staff (daily workers not included)	71

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ mobilized international support for efforts to determine the fate of missing persons in the Western Balkans
- ▶ chaired 4 sessions of the working group on missing persons in Kosovo and 2 sessions of its sub-working group on forensics, contributing to the exhumation and handover of 47 sets of human remains and the identification of 6 others
- ▶ increased public awareness, regionally and internationally, of the plight of the families of missing persons through the publication of a book and the launch of an open-air photo exhibition
- ▶ visited people held on war-crimes or security-related charges in 23 places of detention, including The Hague, Netherlands
- ▶ participated in the training of judges, prosecutors and lawyers involved in war-crimes cases, in order to expand their knowledge of IHL, humanitarian issues, including missing persons, and the work of the ICRC/National Societies

The ICRC has been working in the countries covered since the early 1990s. The organization strives to respond to the needs remaining from armed conflicts in the region. It seeks to clarify the fate of missing persons and to address the needs of their families. Throughout the region, the ICRC visits detainees, works with the authorities and civil society to promote IHL, and supports the development of the National Societies.

* UN Security Council Resolution 1244

CONTEXT

In Kosovo, the international community and NATO remained concerned about ethnic divisions, the fragile security situation, political instability and growing poverty. Members of the Serbian community resisted Pristina's efforts to extend its control, and parallel government structures remained in place. In July 2010, the International Court of Justice delivered its advisory opinion that Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence did not violate international law. The European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) launched investigations into alleged corruption and organized crime, and arrested crime suspects.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, political tensions persisted, particularly in the run-up to the October elections. The Office of the High Representative, the Peace Implementation Council and the European Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR)

remained there following the extension of their mandates in 2009. In March, the Serbian parliament formally apologized for the 1995 Srebrenica massacre.

Although the Serbian authorities filed a countersuit for genocide against Croatia at the International Court of Justice, relations between the countries improved, paving the way for dialogue on long-outstanding issues.

Progress towards European Union (EU) membership remained stalled in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) owing to the ongoing dispute over its name, and in Albania following accusations by the political opposition of fraud during the 2009 elections. The EU Stabilisation and Association Agreement entered into force in Montenegro in May, and Serbia's EU membership application was accepted for review by the European Commission.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
Names published on the ICRC family-links website	12,973		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons¹	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	27	7	
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	884		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	12,100	1,459	651
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	1		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ²			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	68		
Detainees newly registered	4		
Number of visits carried out	40		
Number of places of detention visited	35		
Restoring family links	Total		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	9		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	515		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Not including cases of persons missing in relation to the Croatia conflicts 1991–95, dealt with by the Croatian Red Cross and Red Cross of Serbia
2. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to support efforts in the region to determine the fate of persons missing in relation to past conflicts and to safeguard their families' legal rights and provide for their psychological and economic needs. Dialogue between the authorities of Kosovo and Serbia through the ICRC-chaired Working Group on Missing Persons, combined with ICRC endeavours to glean new information from the archives of international organizations and national military contingents in Kosovo, resulted in the exchange of information, exhumations, and the handover of human remains to families in both countries. In a major breakthrough, the Serbian Defence Ministry submitted information from the military archives to the Serbian Missing Persons Commission, at the ICRC's prompting, while the ICRC examined police documents to which access was granted in 2009.

The delegation continued to support the capacity building of the Missing Persons Institute in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government Commission on Missing Persons in Kosovo. To boost assistance to families of the missing, the delegation trained National Society staff in the provision of psychological support and gave funds and advice to family associations. The launch of an ICRC book, *Missing Lives*, and an accompanying open-air photo exhibition displayed in various cities across Europe, increased public awareness of the plight of the families of missing persons in the Western Balkans. Together with the authorities and the Croatian Red Cross, the ICRC also published a new edition of the *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia*.

The ICRC visited people deprived of their freedom throughout the region, in accordance with its standard procedures, focusing

on those detained on war-crimes or security-related charges and particularly vulnerable detainees. The authorities were provided, in confidence, with the findings of these visits and, when necessary, recommendations. Delegates assessed the situation of three people released from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and resettled in Albania. They also facilitated visits by relatives to detainees held in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo, contacts between people held in the Guantanamo Bay internment facility and their families and, acting as a neutral intermediary, the return home of a Serbian detainee following his release from a Croatian prison.

National authorities in the region received advice from the ICRC on acceding to and implementing IHL treaties and on developing laws protecting missing persons and their families. Judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers dealing with war-crimes cases attended presentations on IHL and its relevance to their work. The delegation maintained a dialogue with the region's armed forces regarding the integration of IHL into military training and helped develop training manuals. It also participated in training sessions at the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) and conducted various others on IHL for military and police troops in the region.

The ICRC raised awareness of humanitarian issues, particularly those relating to missing persons, through public events and dialogue with media and civil society representatives throughout the region. It also assisted the authorities in ensuring the sustainability of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools by supporting systematic teacher training and monitoring, and contributed to university IHL teaching through various competitions and seminars.

In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC provided the region's National Societies with funding, training and technical assistance to develop their family-links services, IHL dissemination and mine action.

CIVILIANS

Work to clarify the fate of the missing continues

The process of clarifying the fate of persons still missing from the Balkan conflicts advanced during 2010, albeit slowly. More than 14,600 of the 34,700 people whose relatives had approached the ICRC for assistance in locating them remained unaccounted for. More than 4,300 sets of human remains had been recovered but not identified. The National Societies/ICRC provided detailed, updated information on missing persons to all relevant authorities, based on ongoing contact with families and the consultation of available archives. People all over the world could consult the list of names of those still being sought in the Western Balkans on the ICRC family-links website (www.familylinks.icrc.org).

The region's authorities were reminded of their obligations towards the families of the missing and encouraged to share information with one another and with the families, to support the relevant bodies, institutions and mechanisms involved in work to clarify the fate of missing persons, and to enact relevant legislation.

A regional cooperation meeting organized by the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and the ICRC brought all stakeholders together to discuss these issues.

To increase global support for efforts to ascertain the fate of people unaccounted for, the ICRC discussed the issue with representatives of the UN, European Union member States and institutions and the United States of America, both in the region and abroad.

Bosnia and Herzegovina conflict 1992–95

Of the region's missing, more than 10,500 had disappeared during the 1992–95 conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although the fate of more than 800 persons was resolved during 2010, most families remained without information or compensation.

The Missing Persons Institute (MPI) benefited from ICRC expertise, in addition to that of other organizations, and material assistance, including seminars to boost communication and coordination both internally and with family associations and other institutions. The transfer of data from the National Societies/ICRC to the MPI on all persons reported missing in relation to the conflict was initiated, and the MPI used it in its efforts to establish a national central register of missing persons. The ICRC monitored this process, providing technical support where necessary.

With ICRC input, the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina pursued efforts to amend and implement the law on missing persons.

Kosovo conflict 1999

Further progress was made in identifying people missing in relation to the Kosovo conflict, although some 1,800 individuals remained unaccounted for.

The authorities in Belgrade and Pristina exchanged new information about gravesites at four meetings of the ICRC-chaired Working Group on Missing Persons. As a result, 47 sets of human remains were handed over to families in Kosovo and Serbia, another 6 sets were identified and Belgrade began working on 3 locations in Serbia where 11 sets of human remains were discovered before the end of 2010.

Forensic coordination between the authorities in Belgrade and Pristina improved following two meetings of the Kosovo Sub-Working Group on Forensic Issues, chaired by the ICRC. Members of this working group became aware of challenges in forensics and strengthened their regional network at a meeting in Albania, which was also attended by forensic pathologists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia and representatives of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus. Meanwhile, the EULEX Office of Missing Persons and Forensics and the Pristina Forensic Institute were merged to form the Department of Forensic Medicine (DFM), where staff continued to be trained to use the ICRC ante/post-mortem database.

For the first time, the Serbian Defence Ministry gave the Serbian Missing Persons Commission access to military archive documents, following sustained ICRC advocacy, and the process of

checking them for new burial sites began. Serbian police documents containing information about gravesites, access to which was granted in 2009, were also examined by the ICRC. New information was provided to the DFM thanks to ongoing National Society/ICRC efforts to access the archives of international organizations and those of the national military contingents deployed in Kosovo. Nine sets of human remains were recovered following the excavation of three gravesites reported to the DFM.

The Kosovar authorities received further ICRC input for the draft law on missing persons, although it was not enacted by the time the parliament was dissolved in November. Kosovo's Government Commission for Missing Persons benefited from ICRC expertise during its regular deliberations.

Croatia conflicts 1991–95

Work on determining the fate of some 2,400 people still missing from the past conflict in Croatia gained momentum as the Croatian and Serbian authorities were encouraged to exchange further information and carry out more exhumations. In November, following the publication of a common list of missing persons, the ICRC made representations to the highest authorities in Belgrade and Zagreb, with support from the two national committees on the missing and the EU, aiming to accelerate the process.

Families of the missing receive support

Families of the missing travelled to identify the remains of their relatives and buried them, with ICRC financial help. When visiting morgues, during handovers of human remains and at reburial ceremonies, they received psychological support, and first aid when necessary, from National Society and family association staff and volunteers, trained with ICRC support. An ICRC handbook, widely distributed to NGOs and social and psychological health services, provided a consistent framework of best practice to guide those endeavouring to help such families.

Family associations throughout the region continued to receive funding, materials and advice to support their efforts to help families of the missing, which included raising public awareness, holding commemorative ceremonies, providing economic assistance and advocating for the families' rights. They also received support to improve cooperation with each other, National Societies and national institutions and were kept updated by the various working groups on any progress made in discovering the fate of missing persons.

Meanwhile, the region's National Societies assumed greater responsibility for activities dealing with the missing and received equipment such as computers, when necessary, to aid their work. The ICRC transferred further case summaries to the Red Cross of Serbia which became the focal point for the 1,200 families of missing persons that lived within its remit.

Local and international support to resolve issues relating to missing persons was mobilized with the launch of the ICRC publication, *Missing Lives*, and an accompanying open-air photo exhibition, which was shown in various European cities. Both documented the plight of families of the missing across the Western Balkans through 15 individual stories. A second edition of the *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* was also launched by the authorities, the National Society and the ICRC, listing the names of all missing persons and providing official recognition of their status.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Throughout the Western Balkans, people continued to be held in connection with war crimes or for security reasons. Others were held by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands, and other locations in Europe. Such detainees and others deemed potentially vulnerable, particularly women and children, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard procedures. The authorities were informed confidentially of delegates' observations and any recommendations arising from these visits.

Detainees held in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia in relation to past conflicts were visited by relatives living in other countries thanks to ICRC funding for their transportation costs. A detainee without identification or travel documents was able to rejoin his family in Serbia after release from a Croatian prison, with the agreement of both countries' authorities and with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

Internees in US custody at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba kept in touch with family members in Bosnia and Herzegovina through video calls, while three former inmates who were resettled in Albania upon release were visited twice by ICRC delegates to check on how they had settled in and to address any potential needs, such as contact with their families.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	CROATIA	KOSOVO	FYR MACEDONIA	MONTENEGRO	SERBIA	OTHER COUNTRIES*
ICRC visits							
Detainees visited and monitored individually	21	2		3	2	16	24
Detainees newly registered	2			2			
Number of visits carried out	13	2		5	2	4	14
Number of places of detention visited	10	2		3	2	4	14
Restoring family links							
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	1	7				1	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	486		28				1

* Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden

AUTHORITIES

The region's authorities continued to pursue legal reforms to meet international standards, some of which were required for EU/NATO membership. They discussed accession to, and national implementation of, IHL treaties with the ICRC, through IHL committees where they existed, with varying results. Both Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro became party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Serbia established a national IHL committee and ratified Additional Protocol III. The new committee then participated in the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*), as did regional counterparts.

Drawing on ICRC expertise, the Kosovar parliament passed laws on the red cross and red crescent emblems and the status of the Red Cross of Kosova, and the government in Bosnia and Herzegovina drafted a law protecting torture victims and civilian victims of armed conflict. Both authorities worked on drafting a law protecting the rights of missing persons and their families.

To stimulate further interest in IHL implementation, senior officials were briefed on the subject at regional seminars. Meanwhile, judges and prosecutors dealing with war-crimes cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina increased their knowledge of IHL and humanitarian issues, including missing persons, at an ICRC-run course and at a conference co-organized with the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With NATO membership high on the political agenda, the region's armed forces continued to integrate IHL into their training and operations. Their commitment and resources, along with the presence and involvement of other international partners, reduced the need for ICRC support.

Drawing on ICRC expertise, the Serbian armed forces adopted a five-year action plan, with guidelines, for IHL integration into military education and training. It also published an IHL training manual, and the Belgrade Faculty of Political Science, the General Staff, the National Society and the ICRC continued working on a manual incorporating IHL into military exercises. The legal adviser to the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina enhanced his IHL knowledge at a seminar organized by the Austrian Ministry of Defence in Vienna, for which he received ICRC financial support.

In parallel, troops of the Serbian armed forces and cadets at military and police academies in Belgrade gained understanding of the provisions of IHL applicable to their roles and of neutral, independent and impartial humanitarian action at courses run by trained IHL instructors.

Likewise, more than 60 officers from the region preparing for peacekeeping missions learnt about IHL at a variety of courses

run at the PSOTC in Sarajevo, where delegates were regular guest lecturers. The PSOTC continued integrating IHL into its curricula and courses, with National Society/ICRC support, including in producing textbooks.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media coverage of humanitarian issues, particularly the issue of missing persons, received a boost mid-year following the publication of the ICRC book *Missing Lives* and launch of the accompanying open-air photo exhibition. Journalists drew on ICRC advice and materials to raise public awareness of IHL and ICRC activities. Kosovar, Serbian and international civil society organizations were briefed on National Society/ICRC activities related to the missing, to enlist their support.

The integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula progressed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia, while the programme was fully handed over to the Albanian, Macedonian and Montenegrin authorities. To ensure its sustainability, pre-teacher training in the programme was made obligatory at the University of Mostar's teacher-training faculty in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the National Society/ICRC supported systematic training for both teachers and university lecturers, with hundreds attending workshops and seminars. To ensure smooth implementation of the programme, coordination meetings were organized for education authorities and National Societies and materials provided.

Students at the region's major universities continued to have access to IHL education, increasing their interest and knowledge in the subject through ICRC-run courses, such as a regional one held in Belgrade. Students in Kosovo also explored international public law at an ICRC-sponsored course at Pristina Summer University. They further enhanced their IHL knowledge by participating in moot court competitions. In Serbia, for the second year in a row, the National Society held a national moot court competition, without ICRC support, having secured alternative funding. Students from nine states, including Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, deepened their understanding of IHL at a regional moot court competition in Sarajevo and, following their success at national and regional level, some Serbian undergraduates went on to compete in the international Jean-Pictet Competition on IHL held in Canada. Albanian and Macedonian lecturers gained advanced knowledge of IHL at the sixth Advanced Training Course in IHL for University Teachers held in Geneva, Switzerland.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies received International Federation and ICRC support towards their capacity building. The two Red Cross entities in Kosovo continued to cooperate with the Movement. The Red Cross of Kosova's legal base was strengthened by the passing of a law recognizing its status (see *Authorities*).

With ICRC training and support, National Society volunteers taught schoolchildren and adults in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo about mine risks, gathered data on mine-related incidents in Albania and arranged the construction of safe playgrounds for children in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The region's National Societies and authorities shared data and experiences at a second regional conference organized by the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the national Mine Action Centre and the ICRC.

Meanwhile, National Society ownership of tracing activities gathered pace, with staff capacity strengthened to support families of the missing, to manage data and to work with family associations and national institutions responsible for missing persons (see *Civilians*). In Kosovo, for example, the Red Cross entities began providing psychological support. Training and materials were provided when needed, including an off-road vehicle which allowed staff to provide better services to families. Across the region, volunteers were better placed to restore family links after attending an ICRC presentation at a seminar organized by the Hungarian Red Cross.

National Society personnel continued to learn about IHL, the Movement and its Fundamental Principles before sharing their knowledge with the public.

ANKARA



✚ ICRC mission

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	102
Assistance	-
Prevention	678
Cooperation with National Societies	131
General	-

► **912**

of which: Overheads 56

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	1
National staff (daily workers not included)	4

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- helped families in Turkey stay in touch with relatives detained/interned in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Iraq via RCMs and/or telephone calls
- submitted to the Turkish authorities a consolidated list of activities it would like to carry out in Turkey
- participated in IHL training for more than 200 military officers from 22 countries taking part in courses run by NATO's Ankara-based Partnership for Peace Training Center
- provided relevant authorities and civil society circles with various publications
- gave financial and editing support to academics at Galatasaray University to produce a Turkish translation of the ICRC's study on customary IHL
- continued to support the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula by the Ministry of Education and the Turkish Red Crescent Society

In direct relation to the armed conflict in neighbouring Iraq, the ICRC opened a temporary mission in Ankara in 2003. ICRC activities in connection with the situation in Iraq focus mainly on protection issues. ICRC activities in Turkey include supporting the authorities in the promotion of IHL and assisting the armed forces in integrating IHL into their training programmes. The ICRC stands ready to work with the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

CONTEXT

In 2010, Turkey continued to assert its position as an influential political player at regional level and worldwide and to play an important mediation role in defusing tensions in the region and beyond.

The country further strengthened its political, economic and military ties with the Syrian Arab Republic and worked towards the creation of a free trade zone with Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Turkish leaders contributed proactively to efforts to reconcile rival groups in Iraq.

High-level talks were also held with the Chinese and Russian governments in Ankara and in Beijing and Moscow respectively.

Armenia and Turkey had not yet ratified the protocols they signed in October 2009 to normalize their bilateral relations.

Turkey's relations with Israel remained strained following an Israeli commando attack on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla in May, in which several Turkish nationals were killed.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	17		
RCMs distributed	5		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	12		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC maintained its temporary presence in the Turkish capital to support operations in neighbouring conflict-affected Iraq.

Dialogue with the Turkish authorities centred mainly on operational matters related to the armed conflict in Iraq. ICRC activities in relation to the situation in Iraq included visiting Turkish nationals detained/interned there and enabling them to exchange news with their families in Turkey through RCMs.

The ICRC briefed the authorities on its mandate, activities and IHL, and in its dialogue with them explored possibilities for developing ICRC activities inside Turkey.

The Ministry of Education and the Turkish Red Crescent Society received technical support to facilitate the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Turkish families were able to renew or maintain contact with relatives detained/interned in Iraq, Afghanistan and Azerbaijan – and visited by ICRC delegates – through the ICRC family-links service.

Such families received 5 RCMs from and sent 17 RCMs and 3 family parcels to detained/interned relatives. Four of them spoke from the ICRC's Ankara office to relatives interned in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility in Afghanistan (12 calls altogether); the calls

lasted for an hour and each detainee/internee was allowed to make one call a month to family (see *Afghanistan*). In October, the mother of a Turkish citizen detained in Dohuk, northern Iraq, paid a visit to her son under ICRC auspices. The mother was accompanied during the journey by an ICRC representative from the Ankara office.

AUTHORITIES

At the beginning of the year, following dialogue with the Turkish authorities, the ICRC provided the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a list of the activities it wished to carry out in Turkey. The ICRC also indicated through which channels and institutions it planned to carry out the proposed activities.

Published in 2009 with ICRC support, the Galatasaray University Turkish-language version of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols was circulated among relevant ministries and military circles, parliamentarians and universities.

In early April, the head of the ICRC mission in Ankara spent five days in northern Iraq, where he visited Dohuk and Erbil. In Erbil, the new Turkish consul and the ICRC representative had a meeting where they reviewed humanitarian issues of mutual concern.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

More than 200 military officers from some 20 countries, including members of the Turkish Armed Forces, received training in IHL

and related issues during six courses run by NATO's Partnership for Peace Training Center in Ankara. In March, the ICRC took part in a one-week field exercise in the framework of courses on the provisions of IHL applicable in armed conflict. Participants were informed about the ICRC, its roots, mandate, services and IHL and received various ICRC publications, including *Discover the ICRC* and *Emblems of Humanity*.

CIVIL SOCIETY

A team of academics from Galatasaray University completed the translation of the ICRC study on customary IHL into Turkish for publication in early 2011, with ICRC support.

Fifty students at Gazi University's communications faculty in Ankara learnt about the ICRC, its mandate, its activities and basic IHL during an ICRC presentation. Galatasaray University, Istanbul Kultur University, Istanbul Koç University and the Marmara University law faculty each received a full set of reference materials in support of their IHL teaching.

A four-member team (one lecturer and three students) from Marmara University law faculty took part in a regional moot court competition organized by the ICRC in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (see *Western Balkans*).

Representatives of several national and international NGOs attending a three-day conference on the role of humanitarian organizations in international politics, organized by the governor of the southern city of Şanlıurfa, were familiarized with the ICRC and its mandate and activities, which contributed to better mutual understanding. In June, a senior ICRC delegate also met members of various think-tanks and other foreign policy experts to gain a better understanding of Turkish views on matters of concern to the ICRC.

With ICRC support, the Ministry of Education and the Turkish Red Crescent pursued their commitment to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula, although the testing and integration of the programme were delayed. The ministry's new coordinator visited the Austrian Ministry of Education and National Society, at the ICRC's invitation, to learn about how the programme had been integrated in Austria.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Turkish Red Crescent finalized and began to implement its five-year strategic plan focusing on disaster preparedness and response.

BRUSSELS



The ICRC has been working in Brussels since 1999, building strong institutional and operational relations with European Union institutions, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and NATO and its Parliamentary Assembly. It is expanding its sphere of activity to include key armed forces based in Western Europe. Its aim is to make the ICRC's mandate better known, mobilize political, diplomatic and financial support for its activities and ensure that relevant military decision-makers in Western Europe view the ICRC as the main reference point for neutral and independent humanitarian action.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	42
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,453
Cooperation with National Societies	203
General	-

► **2,697**

of which: Overheads 165

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	87%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	2
National staff (daily workers not included)	10

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- president exchanged views on humanitarian contexts, issues and challenges with the new European commissioner for international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response, the NATO secretary general and the NATO supreme allied commander Europe
- discussed with EU institutions, the Council of Europe, NATO and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe topical humanitarian issues, the integration of IHL into their activities, decisions and policies, and use of the ICRC's expertise and experience in so doing
- organized for the first time with the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris, France, a colloquium on humanitarian issues
- organized with the College of Europe the 11th Bruges Colloquium on IHL, focusing on new technologies of warfare and applicable laws
- coordinated activities with European National Societies and the International Federation through the Brussels-based Red Cross/EU Office

CONTEXT

The European Union (EU) remained involved in crisis management and conflict resolution worldwide through political mediation or other interventions. The EU expressed particular concern about the situations in Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Somalia and in Haiti following the earthquake. It supported efforts to find a settlement to the 2008 conflict over South Ossetia, in particular as co-chair, with the UN and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), of the continuing Geneva Discussions on Georgia. Within the framework of the European Security and Defence Policy, 13 EU field missions were under way at the end of 2010, including an operation to counter piracy off the Somali coast.

Spain and Belgium held the EU presidency in 2010, during which EU States and institutions began implementing the provisions of the Lisbon Treaty, including the creation of the new posts of European Council president and high representative for foreign affairs and the new European External Action Service, and looked at ways to create a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. The EU Council Working Group on Public International Law continued to work on IHL, including its provisions related to direct participation in hostilities, the ICRC study on the current state of IHL, and the Review Conference of the Rome Statute. The EU Council's Working Group on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid and the European Commission adopted several measures to implement the plan of action of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid (ECHA).

Other political institutions addressed matters of ICRC concern, including specific contexts, IDPs and the issue of missing persons and their families. Council of Europe bodies and the OSCE deliberated similar issues, in particular the conflicts in the Caucasus, the crisis in Kyrgyzstan and the humanitarian consequences of past conflicts in the Balkans.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force remained heavily deployed in Afghanistan, with the United States of America increasing the number of its troops there and calling on EU member States to do the same. In Kosovo,¹ NATO forces continued to lead a peace-support operation, in cooperation with the UN, the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo and other actors, although it was expected to progressively reduce its troop presence there. NATO also conducted an operation to counter piracy off the Somali coast. NATO's New Strategic Concept was adopted at the Lisbon summit in November.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to develop its dialogue with EU institutions, the Council of Europe, NATO and the OSCE to ensure that IHL was taken into account in Europe-wide decisions, policies and

programmes. It also drew attention to specific humanitarian issues and contexts to contribute to European efforts to protect and assist conflict victims worldwide.

ICRC discussions with EU bodies centred on the humanitarian situation and related issues in major operational contexts, particularly relevant in light of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the implementation of the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL. The dialogue also touched on thematic issues such as IDPs, migration, missing persons, direct participation in hostilities and the current state of IHL.

The ICRC also provided input on specific contexts or thematic issues into a range of European Parliament hearings and debates, maintained discussions with the European Commission, particularly its Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), and participated in discussions on the ECHA and on the planned creation of the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. Following developments linked to the EU Common Security and Defence Policy, the delegation initiated or strengthened contacts with relevant civilian and military entities. It also contributed to European Parliament and NATO thinking on civil-military cooperation through input into hearings, briefings and exercises.

Dialogue on humanitarian issues and operational contexts continued with NATO political representatives and with commanders of NATO and US Africa Command forces based in Stuttgart, Germany. In support of these discussions, the ICRC gave presentations on IHL and its neutral, impartial and independent approach during training activities, including pre-deployment exercises, for EU and NATO forces and other bodies.

Participation in events run by NGOs and think-tanks based in Brussels enabled the ICRC to increase knowledge of humanitarian principles and action and IHL. With this aim, the ICRC and respectively the College of Europe and EU Institute for Security Studies also organized colloquiums on IHL.

To ensure the coherence of Movement humanitarian diplomacy, European National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC enhanced their cooperation through the Red Cross/EU Office in Brussels.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees and released detainees/internees transferred to Belgium from abroad, including from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, or detained in Belgium following their conviction by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia were monitored or visited by the delegation. Any findings and recommendations were shared confidentially with the detaining authorities.

1. UN Security Council Resolution 1244

AUTHORITIES

To help integrate IHL into EU activities and decisions, dialogue was fostered with the Council of the EU, including the Spanish and Belgian presidencies and the General Secretariat. Topics broached included the implementation of the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL and Common Security and Defence Policy missions. Attention was also paid to following up recommendations from the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and preparing for the 31st Conference. Members of Council working groups made use in their debates of ICRC briefings on IHL, direct participation in hostilities, IDPs, and missing persons in the Balkans.

Regular contact with representatives of other multilateral institutions in Brussels enabled the ICRC to monitor and contribute to developments in the humanitarian field. The new European commissioner for international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response met and exchanged views with the ICRC president three times. The European Commission – particularly ECHO – and delegates discussed ways to implement the ECHA, establish the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps and enhance support for ICRC operations.

The European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs, its Sub-Committee on Security and Defence and the Committee on Development also deliberated on humanitarian issues, including civil-military cooperation and ECHA implementation, thanks to ICRC input during debates and hearings.

Meetings with the NATO secretary general, with NATO's assistant secretaries general for political affairs and security policy and for operations and with participants in NATO's Parliamentary Assembly sessions and the NATO/ICRC annual staff talks provided opportunities to share views on issues of common interest, including IHL, the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and missing persons in the Balkans.

The main bodies of the Council of Europe and the OSCE also benefited from ICRC expertise and advice on humanitarian issues and IHL integration.

Whenever requested or possible, the ICRC contributed to the drafting and implementation of guidelines and other policies by providing the relevant institutional bodies, officials and member State representatives with legal and operational input.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The supreme allied commander Europe and the ICRC president met twice to discuss specific operational contexts. The highest levels of NATO's military command regularly exchanged views with delegates on topics of common interest during specific training sessions for senior and general officers in the framework of generic and pre-deployment exercises. Topics discussed included the conduct of hostilities, detention, the protection of medical

workers, facilities and equipment, missing persons and the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent approach. For the first time, senior officers of the Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum and ICRC delegates discussed human remains management in Afghanistan as part of efforts to prevent people from becoming unaccounted for. A high-level meeting with its commander and command group strengthened ICRC relations with Allied Joint Force Command Lisbon. Similarly, relations with Allied Joint Force Command Naples were enhanced through the ICRC's participation in the NATO Response Force's main annual exercise.

Numerous NATO and EU officers attended briefings on IHL and ICRC activities during courses or pre-deployment training sessions held by the EU Somalia Training Mission and the NATO School and Defence College. Such briefings were systematic for UK armed forces departing for Afghanistan. The German Ministry of Defence and the ICRC agreed on a plan of action for general officers' training and relations, and a constructive relationship was developed with the Italian Armed Forces' training institutes. The US Africa Command based in Stuttgart invited the ICRC to take part in its Joint Planners Course for senior staff officers.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Participants in debates and conferences organized by think-tanks, including the European Policy Centre and the Security & Defence Agenda, and humanitarian NGOs were made more aware of humanitarian issues and activities through ICRC input.

The 11th Bruges Colloquium on IHL, organized jointly with the College of Europe, focused on new technological challenges, including cyber warfare and autonomous and remote-controlled weapons such as drones, and the applicable laws. The event brought together researchers, university professors and experts from governments and international organizations. A first colloquium on humanitarian issues held in Paris, France, in cooperation with the EU Institute for Security Studies dealt with current challenges to humanitarian action.

Students were familiarized with humanitarian principles during ICRC-run IHL courses at College of Europe campuses in Belgium and Poland. Others attending a European Network on Humanitarian Action seminar learnt about IHL and international human rights law applicable to private military and security companies during an ICRC presentation.

A photo exhibition on missing persons was displayed in the EU buildings in Brussels. While work started on a new spot, cinemas in additional EU countries showed the existing ECHO/ICRC spot highlighting the plight of children in armed conflict and the partnership between the two institutions.

European media services and the large network of ICRC contacts in the EU received regular electronic information from the ICRC, including news releases and operational updates, which they drew upon in their work.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Coordination between the Red Cross/EU Office and the ICRC facilitated coherence in Movement humanitarian diplomacy among European institutions. In addition to reviewing various issues such as disaster management and migration and benefiting from ICRC expertise in IHL, they endeavoured to follow up on pledges made at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent ahead of the 31st Conference in 2011. With the aim of presenting a shared vision, they also reviewed the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps project.

In wider Movement efforts, meetings of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants, of the European Legal Support Group and of the Disaster Management Working Group benefited from ICRC expertise and experience in IHL.

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE



The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, serves the victims of Nazi persecution and their families by documenting their fate through the archives it manages. The ITS preserves these historical records and makes them available for research. The ITS is governed under the 1955 Bonn Agreements and their 2006 Protocol by the 11-member International Commission for the International Tracing Service (Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America). The ICRC manages the ITS on behalf of the International Commission.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	302
Assistance	-
Prevention	315
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **617**

of which: Overheads 38

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	2
National staff (daily workers not included)	0

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- provided answers to 12,981 enquiries (relating to 30,786 persons), 10,265 of which were from victims of Nazi persecution and/or their families (430 coming from survivors themselves) and the remainder from public and academic institutions and the media
- promoted its work and services to make them better known and accessible in Eastern European countries through missions to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine and the launch of a Russian-language website
- introduced new electronic search tools on its website to facilitate access to its records, while pursuing work to complete the digitization of its archived documents
- restored personal effects from the ITS archives to their rightful owners in the Netherlands
- took an active part in the debate on the future of the institution

CONTEXT

The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, remained an invaluable resource for civilians persecuted under the Third Reich and for their families, particularly those residing in Eastern Europe, where the ITS made a concerted effort to make its services better known through joint ITS/ICRC missions to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

The ITS used its archives to record and confirm the incarceration of individuals and their subjection to forced labour and other forms of Nazi persecution. It also undertook worldwide searches for persons missing from that period.

Researchers, research institutions, and memorial and educational bodies continued to show strong interest in the work of the ITS following the opening of the archives to the public in 2007, requiring the ITS to adapt its services to accommodate this added focus, including the introduction in 2010 of new electronic search tools. It also meant striking an appropriate balance between the need to protect sensitive personal data and that of ensuring public access to information required for historical research or other purposes, reinforced by a data protection handbook introduced in 2010.

The Strategic Study Group established by the International Commission in 2008 continued to discuss the future of the ITS. At its annual meeting in May in Washington D.C., United States of America, the International Commission endorsed the text of a new agreement on the ITS to replace the 1955 Bonn Agreements and their 2006 Protocol. The new agreement formally added cataloguing, historical research, education and commemoration to the existing ITS mandate and provided a basis for its future organizational structure. The International Commission also decided that the German Federal Archives would play a key role in the management of the ITS following the ICRC's withdrawal, planned for the end of 2012.

ITS ACTION AND RESULTS

CIVILIANS

Victims of Nazi persecution and their families receive answers

Victims of persecution under the Third Reich and/or their family members continued to receive timely responses to their enquiries, including certificates to enable them to access due compensation. The number of requests from victims and families increased by nearly 16% compared with 2009, and averaged around 850 per month. A total of 10,265 humanitarian enquiries were answered, the majority of them within eight weeks of submission.

The increase was partly attributable to more frequent requests for information from countries in Eastern Europe. This followed five joint ITS/ICRC missions there (see *Context*) to raise awareness of ITS services, and the establishment of a Russian-language ITS website in May where survivors and next of kin could make

online information requests in Russian free of charge. During the missions, contacts were established with representatives of local archives covering similar periods and topics, as well as with National Societies, victims' associations and research institutions. This led to various proposed cooperation projects, some of which were initiated.

A study carried out in 2009 led to the completion of a data protection handbook for use in the processing of humanitarian requests. This was particularly helpful to staff, for example in dealing with tracing requests for next of kin such as siblings. In many cases, the ITS could help provide information obtained from its large archive and social network in Germany and the worldwide Red Cross and Red Crescent network.

Thanks to renewed ITS efforts, 35 families of victims in the Netherlands – including resistance fighters and others deported between 1940 and 1945 to the Neuengamme concentration camp in Germany – had personal effects, mainly wallets and letters, formerly stored in the ITS archives, returned to them.

Researchers have better access to the archives and other information

Since the opening of the ITS archives to the public in 2007, an increasing number of researchers, scholars and authors continued to consult them, regarding them as an important information source. In 2010, 1,546 scholars and authors made use of the records. A further 442 visited the ITS to conduct research on-site.

To cope with this high level of demand, the ITS visitors' centre and catalogues were expanded, improving in particular facilities for researchers, scholars and authors. Two new archive collections of administrative documents and four search tools addressing specific collections were made accessible on the ITS website. Work to complete the digitization of archived documents continued, with the conversion of the ITS's 3 million correspondence files beginning in January, while that of documents relating to the tracing of children was ongoing.

Research and remembrance institutions in France received digital copies of ITS archive data for the first time, while those in Belgium, Israel, Luxembourg, Poland and the United States of America, which had first received data in 2008 and 2009, were sent further digitized archival material.

The public and visitors learn about the historic importance of ITS documents

The number of visitors to the archives slightly decreased, totalling some 1,863 visits in 2010 (compared with 1,975 in 2009). They benefited from the improvements made to the ITS visitors' centre (see above).

Various organizations, including universities, remembrance institutions, and research and education facilities, continued to cooperate with the ITS. This led to public exhibitions hosted by the ITS, including one developed by the Darmstadt History Workshop about Karl Plagge, a Wehrmacht major recognized

as “Righteous Among the Nations” for his efforts to save Jewish people during the Second World War. Another exhibition, mounted by the regional youth organization Kreisjugendring Ebersberg, explored the goals of the Schutzstaffel (SS) association “Lebensborn”. The definition in 2010 of a pedagogic concept for partnerships with educational institutions led to agreements on projects with two schools and two universities.

In addition, 282 information requests from the media were answered.

Discussions on the future of the ITS progress

To ensure the long-term sustainability of its support to people who suffered Nazi persecution, their family members and the public, including researchers, the ITS and the ICRC continued to take an active part in the work of the Strategic Study Group to determine the future of the institution (see *Context*).

LONDON

COVERING: Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



 ICRC mission

Set up in 2003, the London mission focuses on pursuing humanitarian diplomacy and facilitating ICRC operations in the field. Its target audiences include the British authorities and armed forces, members of parliament, think-tanks, the media and major international NGOs. Through such contacts, the ICRC seeks to improve understanding of and secure broad support for IHL and ICRC and Movement operations. The London mission works in close cooperation with the British Red Cross on a wide range of areas of common interest.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	104
Assistance	-
Prevention	704
Cooperation with National Societies	385
General	-

▶ **1,193**

of which: Overheads 73

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	117%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	1
National staff (daily workers not included)	0

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ developed contacts and dialogue with the new UK government and key decision-makers in the UK parliament and civil service on a range of humanitarian issues
- ▶ strengthened dialogue with senior government officials and high-ranking members of the UK armed forces on issues related to the conduct of hostilities and to people deprived of their freedom during armed conflict and other situations of violence
- ▶ contributed to discussions on a future code of conduct for private military and security companies
- ▶ welcomed the UK government's ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
- ▶ developed contacts and dialogue in Northern Ireland relating to the humanitarian effects of recent tensions there
- ▶ worked with the British Red Cross to raise the public profile of IHL, humanitarian action and the Movement

CONTEXT

After 13 years of Labour rule, a general election in May brought a Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition to power. The new government announced major public spending cuts aimed at reducing the country's largest peacetime deficit on record, and was faced with tackling weak economic growth.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereafter United Kingdom) continued to play an important role on the international scene and to be politically active in many contexts of interest to the ICRC. UK armed forces remained engaged in the non-international armed conflict in Afghanistan. The situation in that country, as well as in the Middle East, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, featured regularly in the media and was of public concern.

In Northern Ireland, the risk of violence increased owing to lack of political development, economic recession, and sectarian tensions resurfacing ahead of local elections set for spring 2011.

In part owing to the diverse community of hundreds of ethnicities, languages and cultures that co-exist there and in other UK urban centres, London remained home to influential think-tanks and civil society and academic institutions with an international focus. It hosted conferences, seminars and workshops dealing with international relations, security, humanitarian issues, conflict analysis and military intervention. As one of the world's foremost media centres, the city was a focal point for international debate on current global issues. A large number of news organizations with worldwide reach were based in London.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

To enhance its network for humanitarian diplomacy, the ICRC continued to build close relations with the UK political authorities and other key stakeholders. It organized events with the British Red Cross and fostered ties with academic institutions and think-tanks to increase public awareness of IHL, humanitarian action and ICRC activities. The ICRC reinforced its links with UK-based media, encouraging journalists to give prominence to humanitarian issues when reporting on conflicts around the world. Resources were allocated to developing contacts in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland relating to the humanitarian effects of the resurfacing tensions.

In addition to briefings on ICRC operations and current major humanitarian challenges, meetings with the authorities, in particular with Ministry of Defence officials, focused on IHL implementation, especially regarding the conduct of hostilities and issues surrounding people detained in relation to armed conflict and other situations of violence, on the ICRC's mandate and on neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. The ICRC further developed its IHL training activities with the UK armed forces. These included support for officer training at the Joint Services Command and Staff College and participation in training events for troops heading to Afghanistan. The organization also contributed to discussions on a future code of conduct for private military and security companies.

The British Red Cross and the ICRC continued to implement their cooperation agreement, consolidating their partnership and further strengthening working relations.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People resident in the United Kingdom after their release from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba were approached by ICRC delegates with a dual objective: to gain an insight into their perceptions of the ICRC during their captivity; and to identify any difficulties they may have faced since their release and look at ways in which they could be assisted.

AUTHORITIES

Key decision-makers in the UK parliament and civil service and ICRC representatives met regularly to discuss shared concerns, thus improving mutual understanding. These included issues surrounding people detained in relation to armed conflict and other situations of violence, the ICRC's mandate and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, and the possibility of formalizing the ICRC's presence in the United Kingdom. Senior politicians from all parties were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities.

Representatives of the UK and Irish governments also met ICRC delegates in Belfast, Dublin and London to discuss the effects in humanitarian terms of the current situation in Northern Ireland. Moreover, an exchange on people deprived of their freedom took place with the authorities concerned. The ICRC also had a discussion on the role of the existing mechanisms to address the issue of persons missing in connection with past unrest.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) hosted a series of workshops to draft a paper for ministers on a code of conduct for private military and security companies, benefiting from ICRC advice. The FCO and the Department for International Development (DFID) received expert ICRC input during meetings on such issues as health in armed conflict, priority operational contexts, and women and war. At its request, DFID was provided with the information required for the conduct of a series of reviews into the effectiveness of its overseas development aid.

In May, the United Kingdom ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, following ICRC support in 2009 to introduce the relevant bill in the House of Commons.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Senior Defence Ministry staff, Permanent Joint Headquarters officers, civil servants and ICRC personnel engaged in dialogue on areas of operational interest, particularly Afghanistan, as well as on people detained in relation to armed conflict, the conduct of hostilities, the protection due to people not or no longer participating in hostilities, and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

Military officers, as well as troops to be deployed in contexts such as Afghanistan, enhanced their knowledge of the ICRC's mandate and activities and worked on IHL implementation during training and regular briefings. Senior officers at the Joint Services Command and Staff College and the Permanent Joint Headquarters took part in IHL training sessions, at which the ICRC gave presentations. Participants in training courses run by the UK Joint Civil-Military Cooperation Group and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst also learnt about ICRC activities and their relevance to UK military operations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Representatives of UK-based media, NGOs and think-tanks met regularly with senior ICRC personnel to discuss the organization's mandate and activities in conflict zones and the importance of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

Events hosted by think-tanks, NGOs and academic institutions provided opportunities to increase knowledge of IHL and ICRC activities, as well as awareness of current topics of ICRC concern, among influential members of civil society. This included a photo exhibition to launch the "Missing Lives" publication.

The UK media gave extensive coverage to humanitarian issues and stories based on ICRC statements and press releases, helping to increase public awareness of IHL and ICRC activities worldwide, including in Afghanistan, Haiti and Pakistan. The British Red Cross and the ICRC also worked together to boost the public profile of IHL, humanitarian action and the Movement. Audiences inside and outside the United Kingdom gained insight into the neutral, impartial and independent nature of ICRC activities thanks to media broadcasts of interviews with ICRC staff.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The British Red Cross and the ICRC continued to implement the partnership framework agreement established in 2009, strengthening cooperation through regular working meetings and high-level strategic discussions, which took place in London and Geneva, Switzerland.

As part of the agreement, the two organizations worked together on communication activities and events. For example, they jointly carried out presentations at the London School of Economics. A round-table on Somalia chaired by the British Red Cross and Médecins Sans Frontières provided the ICRC with an opportunity to present its activities in the country and illustrate the importance of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

In Northern Ireland, the British Red Cross and the ICRC discussed the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula.

PARIS



⊕ ICRC delegation

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	46
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,016
Cooperation with National Societies	272
General	-

▶ **1,333**

of which: Overheads 81

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	1
National staff (daily workers not included)	5

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ welcomed the establishment of a Prisoners of War Information Bureau by the French authorities and the integration of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Rome Statute into French legislation
- ▶ visited or monitored the conditions of detainees transferred to France from abroad, including those convicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, sharing its findings and recommendations confidentially with the detaining authorities
- ▶ raised public awareness of IHL, humanitarian issues and its mandate and activities, including through 4 web-based public debates, exhibitions and a blog
- ▶ briefed armed forces officers at military schools and the Groupement interarmées des actions civilo-militaires and Defence Ministry legal advisers on IHL
- ▶ enhanced cooperation with the French Red Cross, which made its first-aid expertise available to ICRC operations

The Paris delegation, set up in 2000, focuses on promoting IHL, pursuing humanitarian diplomacy and facilitating ICRC operations in the field. Its target audiences include the French authorities, military and academic circles, the diplomatic community, representatives of third countries, economic interest groups, the media, and the French Red Cross.

CONTEXT

France continued to play an important role in international affairs in 2010, undertaking high-profile diplomatic initiatives in contexts of interest to the ICRC. The French armed forces remained engaged in Afghanistan, Chad and Côte d'Ivoire, among others, and participated in UN and European Union peacekeeping and military operations.

Given the country's traditionally close ties with many African countries and its large Arabic-speaking community, France remained an important focus for humanitarian diplomacy, offering opportunities for the ICRC to intercede on behalf of victims of armed conflict in parts of Africa and the Middle East.

The French authorities hosted the 25th Africa-France Summit on 31 May–1 June.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Paris delegation remained a key element of the ICRC's humanitarian diplomacy network, through which the organization sought support for its operations worldwide, promoted IHL and its integration into national legislation, increased understanding of its mandate, and stimulated debate on humanitarian issues. In France, this network included the French authorities, particularly the president's staff, the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice, the National Assembly and the Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme, as well as foreign opposition movements based in the country, Paris-based international organizations, NGOs and the media.

With French Red Cross and ICRC assistance, the French authorities created a Prisoners of War Information Bureau. The ICRC also welcomed the integration of the provisions of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Rome Statute into French legislation.

The delegation continued to assist the authorities in their efforts to train the French armed forces in IHL, briefing officers on the ICRC's mandate and operations.

The ICRC gave presentations on IHL at leading academic and research institutions. It also worked on projects to stimulate and inform public interest in humanitarian issues and the ICRC's mandate and activities, particularly through the delegation's blog and the Internet.

Detainees transferred to France from abroad, detainees convicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and people held prior to their transfer to The Hague received visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and living conditions and shared their findings and recommendations confidentially with the detaining authorities.

The ICRC and the French Red Cross maintained their dialogue on practical issues regarding contexts in which both were working.

Together, they continued to mount the "Humanity in War" photographic exhibition in French cities and to implement a cooperation agreement to make French Red Cross first-aid expertise available to ICRC operations.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

One detainee transferred to France from abroad, as well as people detained in France following their conviction by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and others held prior to their transfer to The Hague, were visited by ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and living conditions. Visits included private interviews. Any findings and recommendations were shared confidentially with the detaining authorities. Ex-detainees transferred to France from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba were also met.

AUTHORITIES

The French authorities and the ICRC broadened their discussions on a wide range of humanitarian issues. These exchanges included in-depth briefings on the ICRC's mandate and activities, particularly in Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen.

In major developments, the French authorities created a Prisoners of War Information Bureau with French Red Cross and ICRC assistance and integrated the provisions of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Rome Statute into national legislation.

In parallel, parliamentarians and Defence, Foreign and Justice Ministry officials worked closely with the ICRC on France's accession to and implementation of other IHL treaties, in particular Additional Protocol III. They welcomed ICRC input into discussions on the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions and contributed to updating the ICRC customary IHL study and to the ICRC study on the current status of IHL in terms of its relevance in protecting victims of contemporary forms of armed conflict. Working sessions as well as a conference attended by 60 Defence, Foreign and Justice Ministry officials and academics were opportunities to promote and review the ICRC's *Interpretive Guidance on the Notion of Direct Participation in Hostilities under International Humanitarian Law*.

The Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme involved the delegation in its meetings as an observer. It received ICRC expert opinions on IHL and the role of national IHL committees and decided to re-create a sub-committee specifically charged with promoting IHL. Its representatives attended the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Participants in the 25th Africa-France Summit in Nice discussed humanitarian issues with ICRC representatives. Foreign opposition

movements and international organizations based in France increased their understanding of the ICRC's mandate and role through regular contact with the organization, facilitating ICRC operations in the field.

UNESCO received ICRC input into its "Protecting Education from Attack" review. The fifth meeting of the UNESCO Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, held in Vienna, Austria, also benefited from ICRC expertise in IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Defence Ministry and the ICRC continued to discuss IHL training and the integration of IHL into military curricula. For the first time, military intelligence and operational command representatives took part in these discussions.

Defence Ministry legal advisers learnt more about IHL and the ICRC at a course prior to their deployment abroad. Following the course, other armed forces divisions and the delegation discussed ad hoc IHL training for officers similarly deployed. Three Defence Ministry officials attended an IHL course in Vienna and one senior officer participated in the 2010 Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Switzerland.

Some 70 military officers and cadets at main military training establishments, including the Groupement interarmées des actions civilo-militaires were briefed on IHL, the importance of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, and ICRC activities. Around 150 high-ranking officers were briefed on the same topics during three presentations.

Owing to Defence Ministry budgetary constraints, planned IHL briefing sessions for officers at the Ecole de gendarmerie de Rochefort did not take place.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media, academic and NGO circles received regular information on topics of ICRC concern, and relevant articles appeared in the French-language press. An international audience also enjoyed access to high-quality television and radio programmes on IHL-related subjects selected by members of the Paris-based International Radio and Television University chaired by Radio France. The university received five ICRC audiovisual productions on various humanitarian topics. The Monte Carlo Television Festival again featured an ICRC-sponsored prize for a documentary focusing on a humanitarian topic.

Lecturers, researchers and students from leading academic institutions and research centres increased their knowledge of IHL and ICRC action at presentations and courses. To boost such activities, the delegation began developing an interactive online IHL course. At the request of universities, it presented IHL to some 200 master's level students.

Academics, journalists and the wider public also followed and discussed humanitarian issues and ICRC activities on the ICRC blog and a Facebook page, which received 7,800 visitors. Some 50 academics, researchers, journalists and representatives of the authorities, armed forces, National Society, NGOs and international organizations joined four ICRC public debates on humanitarian issues, streamed live online at www.lesinfos.com and posted on the ICRC blog. French humanitarian NGOs and other relevant organizations invited the ICRC to participate in conferences and debates, contributing to improved coordination of humanitarian action.

Work started on a photo-book project by an independent photographer to illustrate the resilience of women affected by armed conflict.

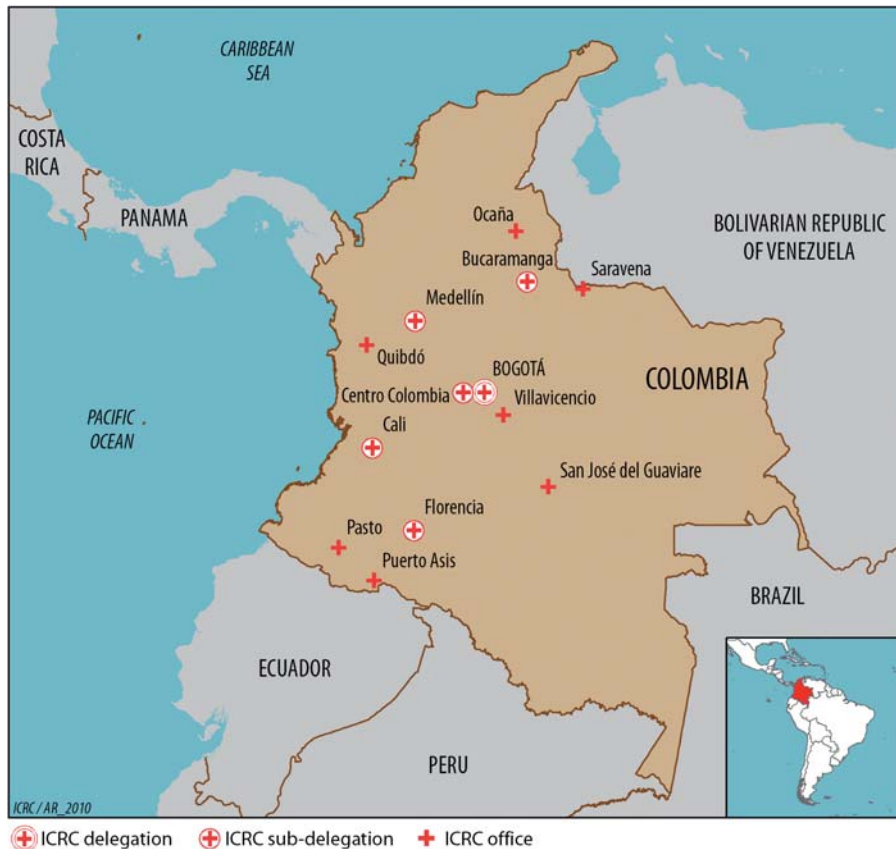
RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The French Red Cross and the ICRC regularly discussed practical issues regarding operational contexts in which both were working, including Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Niger and Sudan, as well as issues such as staff training, IHL promotion and restoring family links. They co-organized a number of events on IHL (see *Civil society*).

Some 15,000 people visited the ICRC "Humanity in War" photographic exhibition, shown in several major French cities and in Monte Carlo, with French Red Cross assistance. To mark the 100th anniversary of Dunant's death, the Henry Dunant Society, with ICRC funding, published the proceedings of a symposium on the topic, while public commemorations received ICRC support.

The French Red Cross and the ICRC continued to implement a joint project whereby French Red Cross first-aid expertise was made available to other National Societies and to ICRC operations in Chad, Georgia and Guinea. Staff at the French Red Cross Guadeloupe branch received ICRC training at the request of national headquarters.

COLOMBIA



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	7,246
Assistance	23,350
Prevention	3,755
Cooperation with National Societies	1,933
General	-

► **36,284**

of which: Overheads 2,214

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	68
National staff (daily workers not included)	287

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- continued to remind all parties of the need to respect civilians, the wounded, and medical personnel and infrastructure
- acted as a neutral intermediary to facilitate the release of hostages or the return of human remains to families
- together with the Colombian Red Cross, enabled IDPs and residents to better cope with the effects of the fighting by providing 18,683 with food rations and 47,162 with essential household items
- boosted health and medical care by facilitating access of the population in remote areas to health services and training staff in the management of weapon wounds
- contributed expertise to efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families, particularly in terms of psychological support during exhumations
- with the penitentiary authorities, completed a joint assessment of the prison health system, leading to the establishment of a plan of action to address shortcomings

In Colombia since 1969, the ICRC strives to protect and assist victims of the armed conflict, to secure greater compliance with IHL by all weapon bearers, and to promote integration of IHL into the armed forces' doctrine, training and operations. The ICRC also visits security detainees. For IDPs and conflict-affected residents, it provides relief, helps ensure access to health care, and carries out small-scale repairs to infrastructure. It also runs a comprehensive mine-action programme that includes mine-risk education and physical rehabilitation for victims. It works closely with the Colombian Red Cross and other Movement components active in Colombia.

CONTEXT

The former minister of defence, Juan Manuel Santos, obtained a clear majority in the second round of the presidential elections. The new government launched a series of major reforms, such as the passing of laws relating to conflict victims, land restitution and the distribution of revenue from natural resources, and worked to normalize relations with Ecuador and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Clashes between the army and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) escalated around the elections. Targeted attacks on FARC camps reportedly led to the deaths of some high-level commanders. Nonetheless, in a highly publicized operation, the FARC released two army officers, one of whom had been held for 12 years, and handed over the remains of a police officer who had died in captivity.

The situation in the country was exacerbated by intensifying confrontations between competing armed groups along drug routes and in cities. According to the authorities, emerging armed groups were consolidating their activities, necessitating an increase in security operations.

For civilians, the fighting, together with the widespread use of improvised explosive devices, meant continuing abuses, restrictions on movement, general economic hardship, a lack of basic services and further displacements.

To compound the situation, heavy rains at year-end caused floods and mudslides affecting more than 2 million people, mostly in the northern departments and on the Pacific coast.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS			
PROTECTION			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	35		
RCMs distributed	30		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations	Total		
People transferred/repatriated	12		
Human remains transferred/repatriated	2		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	247	15	61
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	106		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	313	28	56
Documents			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	2		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	5,534		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,319	224	2
Detainees newly registered	1,105	95	2
Number of visits carried out	153		
Number of places of detention visited	86		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	13		
RCMs distributed	26		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	1,998		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
		Total	Women	Children
Food	Beneficiaries	18,683	26%	51%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	9,769		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	47,162	26%	51%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	37,690		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	37,191	26%	53%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	27,921		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	11,859	24%	53%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	4,094		

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

ASSISTANCE

Health		Total	Women	Children
Health centres supported	Structures	20		
Average catchment population		161,549		
Consultations	Patients	11,764		
	<i>of which curative</i>		3,726	5,015
	<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		207	62
Immunizations	Doses	3,025		
	<i>of which for children aged five or under</i>	1,486		
	<i>of which for women of childbearing age</i>	1,539		
Referrals to a second level of care	Patients	2,331		
Health education	Sessions	120		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals				
Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	50		
Physical rehabilitation				
Centres supported	Structures	7		
Patients receiving services	Patients	29,161	6,623	13,839
New patients fitted with prostheses	Patients	135	21	1
Prostheses delivered	Units	963	186	80
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	216		
New patients fitted with orthoses	Patients	9	2	
Orthoses delivered	Units	6,813	1,350	3,394
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	19		
Crutches delivered	Units	204		
Wheelchairs delivered	Units	48		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC pursued a multidisciplinary approach to meeting the needs of violence- and conflict-affected people in Colombia. In addition to focusing on 25 mainly rural and remote zones, it began to build contacts in Buenaventura and Medellín with a view to initiating and pursuing projects in 2011 to address some of the needs of people subjected to armed violence in urban settings. The ICRC maintained dialogue with the authorities and weapon bearers, reminding them of their obligation to respect civilians and to allow Movement staff unhindered access to victims. Delegates documented abuses against civilians and medical personnel/infrastructure and made representations to the alleged perpetrators urging them to end such practices. The ICRC's dialogue with all parties and its acceptance as a neutral intermediary enabled it, with logistical support from the Brazilian authorities, to facilitate the release of hostages, including two army officers, and the hand-over of the remains of a police officer who died while in FARC custody. The ICRC shared with the authorities and other organizations its analysis of the situation in Colombia, from a legal and a humanitarian point of view.

To help clarify the fate of missing persons, the ICRC worked with the relevant State bodies, NGOs and family associations. It offered technical expertise to strengthen the national database on missing persons, gave input into various working groups dealing with identification, and promoted the prompt ratification of the Convention on Enforced Disappearance. It helped organize an international congress, which adopted minimum standards for psychological support for families.

While exhorting the authorities to provide a better response to IDPs' needs, the ICRC and the Colombian Red Cross worked to assist displaced people in cities. In parallel, IDPs and residents in remote rural areas, including those hit by flooding and mudslides, received food and household essentials, while agricultural projects sought to boost self-sufficiency and help prevent displacement. In cities, the ICRC repaired or upgraded State-run IDP reception centres, and in remote areas it renovated schools.

The ICRC facilitated patients' access to health care by referring them to national services and in some cases funding transport/treatment. In remote areas, it supplied and rehabilitated health centres and obtained security guarantees for mobile units to circulate, sending its own staff when necessary. It worked with the National Society to build community first-responder capacities and trained medical staff in dealing with weapon wounds. An ICRC surgeon helped the authorities draft a manual on weapon-wound management.

Weapon contamination was addressed through a mix of mobilization and persuasion of the relevant actors and direct support to victims. These efforts enabled: victims to obtain first aid and medical and physical rehabilitation services along with other wounded people; communities to develop self-protection measures; and national mine-action bodies to enhance their work and improve coordination.

Detainees received visits from ICRC delegates, who checked on their treatment and living conditions and made confidential reports to the authorities. Dialogue with the penitentiary authorities (INPEC) and the Interior and Justice Ministries was further strengthened to boost prison health.

The ICRC worked with the armed forces to translate IHL and humanitarian norms into practice. Activities ranged from holding IHL information sessions for troops to contributing expertise to After Action Review exercises. The police, too, received training in the proper use of force during urban security operations, along with advice on improving their training. The authorities were encouraged to accede to additional IHL treaties and enact implementing legislation.

Cooperation between ICRC structures and National Society branches in remote areas remained essential to meeting victims' needs. The ICRC provided support to boost the National Society's institutional and operational capacities, and the two organizations coordinated their activities with those of other humanitarian actors to maximize impact and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Civilians in remote areas remained at risk of abuses by weapon bearers, including summary executions, forced disappearances, sexual violence and death threats. People reported such abuses to ICRC delegates, who made representations to the relevant authorities and weapon bearers urging them to end such practices.

People also approached the ICRC hoping to trace relatives. Others, including demobilized child soldiers, used the RCM service to restore contact with their families. Recipients of death threats were referred to organizations that could help them or were given the means to move to safer places. Families of civilians killed in the fighting were helped with funeral expenses.

IDPs in cities and people in remote areas better able to cope

Prompted by fear or by actual abuses, individual households and larger groups continued to flee their homes. However, the overall number of newly displaced people fell, reducing the demand for ICRC assistance.

In cities, the worst-off IDPs got through the first three months (six months if necessary) of their displacement thanks to the support provided by the Colombian Red Cross and the ICRC. This gave them time to find alternative support mechanisms. A total of 9,769 people (2,425 households) received food and 37,690 people essential household items. As direct assistance continued to be replaced by vouchers, 27,921 people (7,991 households) had greater autonomy in choosing goods to suit their needs. Some 370 individuals improved their chances of social reintegration through National Society psychological or vocational counselling sessions.

Meanwhile, the authorities and relevant organizations were urged to improve services for longer-term IDPs, based on the findings of a 2007 ICRC/WFP study on their needs. Some 90,000 people had access to greater support after being oriented to State services, while those in 14 State-run reception centres benefited from better conditions and services after the centres were given furniture and IT equipment.

In the 25 remote conflict zones on which the ICRC focused, where free movement was restricted by weapon bearers or by mines/explosive

remnants of war (ERW) or where host communities were sharing resources with IDPs, 8,914 residents (1,998 households) received one-off food rations and 9,472 received essential household items to meet their immediate needs. They included people also affected by the floods and landslides at year-end. Agricultural and other income-generating projects, such as handicraft production and small retail businesses, helped shore up the economic security of 9,270 residents. This enabled them to stay put rather than flee to already crowded cities. For 1,600 children in 14 conflict-affected areas, renovated or rebuilt schools meant higher attendance rates and less exposure to weapon contamination, recruitment and fighting.

Isolated communities access health services

For the first time in over a year, people in six remote rural areas had access to health services after the ICRC, as a neutral intermediary, obtained safe passage for nine mobile health units operated by the Ministry of Health (when necessary accompanied by the ICRC), or by ICRC staff when the security of national health workers could not be guaranteed. Patients able to reach fixed health centres benefited from services boosted by ICRC supplies, and seven such centres provided treatment in more hygienic conditions following ICRC repairs to infrastructure.

Primary health care services included vaccinations of children and women. Some 2,300 patients, including 247 mine/ERW victims, were referred to a second level of care, with 1,316 receiving financial assistance for their transport and treatment. At the ICRC's behest, authorities in Antioquia started including victims of weapon contamination in the public health surveillance system. While 172 victims of sexual violence received medical and psychological care directly from the ICRC, 58 were referred to specialized organizations.

Medical infrastructure marked with protective emblem

Following reports of infractions against medical personnel, equipment and infrastructure, weapon bearers and authorities were reminded of their obligations to protect the medical mission. For their part, 1,217 medical personnel in rural areas received training in how to better protect medical services, prompting the proper marking of 89 medical facilities and vehicles. Health officials drew up an action plan for the collection of data on infractions during a workshop co-organized by the Ministry of Social Protection and the ICRC.

Communities learn to cope with weapon contamination

A total of 11,017 community members and local authorities in weapon-contaminated areas were better equipped to cope with the associated risks thanks to 275 workshops on safe behaviour and victims' rights organized by the National Society with Norwegian Red Cross/ICRC support; nearly 1,000 others acquired first-aid skills. The National Workshop on Mine Risk Education, a coordination and advocacy group comprising the main actors dealing with weapon contamination in Colombia, including the ICRC, drafted a multi-year plan to address issues such as victims' rights and mine-risk education. Mine/ERW victims were among those benefiting from ICRC income-generating projects (see above).

Unfortunately, a mine/ERW disposal project with indigenous communities had to be halted owing to security concerns.

Families of missing persons receive psychological support

State entities and family associations, backed by the ICRC, continued working to clarify the fate of nearly 44,000 people missing as a result of the conflict. Affected families received psychological and legal support or funds enabling them to travel to exhumation sites. With the plight of these families in mind, specialists in psychological support shared best practices at the second World Congress on Psychosocial Work in Exhumation Processes, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth, held in Bogotá. Practitioners from 27 countries adopted minimum standards for psychological support to families and a plan for their dissemination worldwide. A high-level working group facilitated by OHCHR and the ICRC discussed improving psychological support for families during the exhumation process and lobbying authorities to implement core provisions of legislation on missing persons. The group also mobilized key senators to work towards the ratification by Colombia of the Convention on Enforced Disappearance.

To help consolidate data on the missing and speed up the identification of human remains, members of the National Forensic Institute discussed improvements to the ante/post-mortem software with ICRC experts in Geneva, Switzerland. Following a forensics seminar held in 2009, another such event brought together local experts from small towns to discuss identification procedures and methods, such as the use of DNA. An inter-institutional working group met regularly to harmonize procedures and provide the Prosecutor's Office with methodological recommendations. The National Police began implementing a national plan to trace missing persons by drawing up a directive and training measures, in coordination with other institutions.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

A total of 5,534 people detained by the Colombian authorities in relation to the conflict received regular visits, carried out according to the ICRC's standard procedures, from delegates, who assessed their treatment and living conditions. The detaining authorities were informed confidentially of delegates' findings and recommendations. Some detainees contacted their families using RCMs and 1,998 received ICRC-facilitated family visits.

Although people held by armed groups were denied ICRC visits, some were able to receive family news via RCMs. Acting as a neutral intermediary, and in one case with the logistic support of Brazil, the ICRC facilitated the release of 2 army officers and 2 civilians and the return to the family of a police officer's remains. Families with a member held by an armed group obtained support from a specialized organization that had received ICRC funding.

The authorities take steps to improve prison conditions

Acting on insights gained during an ICRC-organized round-table on judicial guarantees, local authorities took remedial measures to address prolonged police custody. Despite efforts to improve conditions in prisons, however, detainees remained affected by overcrowding and the persistence of certain diseases coupled with limited access to health care. High-level prison authorities continued

to receive ICRC representations regarding the need for greater technical and financial involvement in upgrading the national prison health system. After carrying out an in-depth assessment of the system with the ICRC, INPEC committed to implement the resulting recommendations. The authorities set up a joint working group to draft a prison health policy and drew on ICRC expertise and financial support to tackle specific areas of concern, such as tuberculosis.

To boost skills in various health-related areas, INPEC staff members participated in training events, including an international seminar on prison health in Peru (see *Lima*). Prison health personnel attended a special course based on a curriculum elaborated by several Colombian universities to enable them to train health promoters within prisons to inform other inmates of basic health and hygiene practices. INPEC officials and academics examined prison psychiatric care at an ICRC-sponsored round-table during the annual meeting of the National Association of Psychiatry.

Detainees in need of physical rehabilitation were cared for by a private health provider appointed by INPEC.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Patients from remote conflict zones were referred to the national health system for specialized care (see *Civilians*), while eight wounded people were evacuated by the ICRC to the nearest health facility. To increase first-responder capacity within communities in these areas, 30% of health workers attended ICRC/National Society seminars on how to handle incoming wounded, including mine/ERW victims. Similarly, civilian and military surgeons, doctors and nurses enhanced their skills during ICRC-sponsored or -organized events, including the country's first advanced seminar on the management of weapon wounds held at the general military hospital in Bogotá for 130 medical staff. With the full-time support of an ICRC surgeon, the Ministry of Social Protection produced a manual containing new national guidelines on weapon-wound management.

Some 29,000 disabled patients, including mine/ERW victims, received multidisciplinary services at 7 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres, including lodging if they had travelled far. To ensure good-quality care, the centres received materials and technical assistance, and prosthetic/orthotic technicians and physiotherapists underwent further training, including abroad. The authorities drew on ICRC expertise in introducing technical standards and international professional requirements for the manufacture of prosthetic/orthotic devices and in designing two technician training centres.

AUTHORITIES

In their dialogue with the ICRC, authorities were reminded of their obligations to ensure respect for civilians, medical services and the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and to allow it access to vulnerable populations. In response to ICRC representations regarding reported IHL violations

(see *Civilians*), the Ministry of Defence issued instructions requiring all troops to observe the principle of precautions in attack. The launch by the Public Prosecutor's and Presidential Offices of a broad IHL and human rights programme for the investigation and prosecution of IHL and human rights violations meant that a similar ICRC training programme was no longer required.

Colombia ratified the Hague Convention on Cultural Property. With ICRC technical support, the National Congress made progress towards ratification of the Convention on Enforced Disappearance and Convention on Cluster Munitions, which was approved by the Senate's Second Committee. At the Organization of the American States General Assembly (see *Washington*), Colombia's Foreign Ministry sponsored a resolution on missing persons.

Thanks to the support of the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four, the international community in Colombia learnt more about humanitarian issues, including the applicability of IHL to Colombia's situation and the urgent need to address weapon contamination.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Weapon bearers were reminded of their obligations under IHL. Thousands of troops in conflict areas and several hundred police personnel were briefed on the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and the protection of medical services during information sessions co-organized by the Ministry of Health, the National Society and the ICRC. In preparation for the extension of activities for victims of violence in urban settings, the ICRC stepped up contacts with police forces in Buenaventura and Medellín. Armed groups in previously inaccessible areas attended sessions on IHL and respect for the emblem, sometimes coupled with first-aid training.

The Defence Ministry accepted the organization's recommendations on its pedagogical material on IHL promotion and the proper use of force. The findings of an ICRC report on the conduct of hostilities in 2009 were also used in After Action Review exercises, during which officers analysed case studies and suggested corrective measures. Implementing a formal directive issued by the Defence Ministry, with National Society/ICRC expertise, the armed forces took charge of organizing and running 12 four-day IHL training workshops with key personnel.

The police, too, pursued efforts to enhance the training of its personnel in international human rights law and IHL provisions relevant to their functions. For the first time, members of the National Police Intelligence Directorate in Bogotá and the military police in Medellín participated in two ICRC seminars on the legal use of force during security operations in an urban context, also learning how to integrate these legal requirements into training. Acting on an ICRC/National Society assessment of police schools, the director of police training shared recommendations with the various establishments and scheduled follow-up visits to ensure IHL/international human rights law were properly integrated into police training and education.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media remained a key player in fostering public understanding of the ICRC's humanitarian concerns and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. Thanks to press releases, radio and TV interviews and specialized workshops, journalists reported more accurately on humanitarian themes. Writers from a leading weekly gained access to conflict zones, accompanied by the ICRC, generating four features on vulnerable populations, such as victims of sexual violence.

The public also learnt about the importance of respect for the emblem and Movement action through presentations and photo exhibitions. Lecturers and students regularly approached the ICRC for reference materials on a wide range of humanitarian topics, and medical faculties participated in ICRC projects (see *People deprived of their freedom* and *Wounded and sick*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Colombian Red Cross remained a key ICRC partner in alleviating the plight of conflict-affected people and in informing weapon bearers of their obligations under international law (see above). It received financial, material and technical support for these joint operations as well as for its own programmes.

Meetings between the two organizations ensured smooth operations in the field, where the focus was on strengthening coordination between National Society branches and ICRC structures in remote areas. There, the branches honed their emergency response skills, in particular in meeting the needs of IDPs and in the provision of psychological support, and established a mechanism for revising their security-management strategy using the Safer Access approach. The National Society also strengthened internal communication, designating branch focal points.

To boost the National Society's institutional set-up as a whole, staff attended training events on topics such as leadership and volunteer management, and four branches were rehabilitated.

HAITI



ICRC / AR, 2010

 ICRC delegation

The ICRC opened a fully-fledged delegation in Haiti in 2004. It responds to acute humanitarian situations in prisons and supports national authorities in improving respect for judicial guarantees. It seeks to mitigate the effects of social unrest throughout the country and in violence-prone shanty towns in Port-au-Prince. It also supports security forces in integrating human rights norms applicable to the use of force into their doctrine, training and operations. With other Movement partners, the ICRC helps strengthen the emergency response capacity of the National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,066
Assistance	9,440
Prevention	1,263
Cooperation with National Societies	1,673
General	-

► **14,443**

of which: Overheads 874

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	22
National staff (daily workers not included)	73

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- supported all Movement partners responding to January's earthquake by facilitating family contact, first aid, hospital care, access to clean water and dead body management
- reminded all weapon bearers, but particularly those in violence-affected neighbourhoods, of their obligations to protect civilians, to allow them access to medical care and to respect the emblem
- with the penitentiary authorities, set up a cholera response mechanism, which included hiring additional health staff, supplying medicines, hygiene items and cleaning materials, and disinfecting premises
- in the violence-affected neighbourhood of Cité Soleil, worked with the water boards to repair water and sanitation systems damaged in the earthquake or dilapidated after years of neglect
- helped relieve the problem of overcrowding in prisons and police stations by carrying out rehabilitation projects with the authorities and supporting their efforts to respect judicial guarantees

CONTEXT

The devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January, killing more than 230,000 people, injuring nearly 250,000 and leaving over a million people homeless, triggered a large-scale relief effort by States, international and national organizations, and NGOs. The quake inflicted heavy damage on the country's infrastructure, in some areas wrecking up to 80% of water systems, roads, hospitals, schools and other buildings. Many places of detention were also badly hit, allowing an estimated 60% of the country's 8,500 prison inmates to escape, although many were soon rearrested. The overall security situation nonetheless stayed relatively stable as the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) rapidly redeployed with increased troop numbers.

As reconstruction efforts got under way, so did preparations for legislative and presidential elections in November. The announcement of inconclusive provisional results in December triggered some violent protests. Throughout the year, people in poorer neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince continued to be affected by a lack of basic services and ongoing criminal violence.

In October, an outbreak of cholera spread throughout the country, including in prisons, infecting 140,000 people and killing about 3,000 by December.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS				
PROTECTION				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages		Total	UAMs/SCs*	
Phone calls facilitated between family members		5,861		
Names published in the media		112		
Names published on the ICRC family-links website		29,288		
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations		Total		
People reunited with their families		22		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		130	8	110
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		81		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)		19	1	14
UAMs/SCs,* including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Total	Girls	Demobilized children
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society		145	61	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society		27	10	
	<i>including UAMs/SCs registered by another delegation</i>	1		
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at 31 December 2010		39	13	
Documents				
People to whom travel documents were issued		1		
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		8		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
ICRC visits		Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited		6,181		
Detainees visited and monitored individually		81	4	18
Detainees newly registered		11	1	4
Number of visits carried out		123		
Number of places of detention visited		33		
Restoring family links		Total		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		585		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Food	Beneficiaries	4,430	56%	5%
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	8,559	75%	5%
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	250,000	35%	32%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
Food	Beneficiaries	4,500		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	4,687		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	5,500		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals				
Hospitals supported	Structures	13		
First aid				
First-aid posts supported	Structures	12		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Within hours of the earthquake, the ICRC had flown additional staff and materials to Haiti and the neighbouring Dominican Republic, using chartered planes, to mount a swift response in collaboration with the Haitian National Red Cross Society. With the National Society, the ICRC initiated emergency water and health activities, as well as a substantial programme to restore family links, making available a special website, a telephone service and other resources. Unaccompanied/separated children were registered and put in the care of UNICEF until parents or relatives could be found. To manage the large number of human remains, ICRC forensic specialists provided the authorities with advice and body bags. As the Movement operation unfolded, 35 National Societies became involved, led by the International Federation. Alongside them, the ICRC stepped up its action to contribute to the response, appealing to donors for additional funds.

Given their extensive presence on the ground, Movement partners set up coordination mechanisms. The emergency phase requiring massive mobilization lasted until late March, after which the ICRC gradually scaled back its operations and refocused on its previously planned activities in Haiti. Some work directly related to the emergency continued, however, such as tracing activities for vulnerable children.

Key to relief work in violence-prone neighbourhoods was the ICRC's ongoing dialogue with the residents, various community organizations and weapon bearers active there, including MINUSTAH and members of armed gangs, to whom it explained the need to respect civilians and the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. Dialogue was stepped up ahead of the elections. The Haitian Red Cross first-aid posts in these neighbourhoods continued to provide emergency care and ambulance services and held public health-awareness sessions with ICRC support. The ICRC and the water board continued work, begun in 2009, to improve water supply in the violence-affected neighbourhood of Cité Soleil.

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, the ICRC, which under normal circumstances conducted regular visits to detainees in the country, assessed the situation in Port-au-Prince's still-functioning detention centres. It supplied inmates with food, hygiene products and medicines and carried out emergency repairs with the authorities. Once the situation had normalized, it resumed its regular visits, in accordance with its standard procedures, to prisons and police stations in and around Port-au-Prince and continued discussing urgent needs for improvements with the authorities, notably regarding the problem of overcrowding. To improve conditions, the ICRC rehabilitated prison units and upgraded cells, kitchens, and water and sanitation facilities.

Following the cholera outbreak in October, the ICRC immediately took measures to stem its spread. In prisons, it assisted the detaining authorities in a variety of ways, including by disinfecting cells and other areas, distributing hygiene kits to all detainees, supplying dispensaries with medicines, dispensing antibiotics

to inmates and hiring additional personnel. In violence-affected neighbourhoods, it supported the evacuation of patients and, with the Haitian Red Cross, distributed water-purification tablets, chlorinated private water tanks and a pumping station, and raised hygiene awareness.

CIVILIANS

Notwithstanding January's earthquake and the cholera epidemic at the end of the year (see below), the situation for residents of Haiti's violence-affected neighbourhoods continued to be very harsh. In oral and written representations and awareness-raising sessions, all weapon bearers, including the police, MINUSTAH and gang members, were familiarized with basic humanitarian principles and urged to respect civilians and the humanitarian workers and medical teams assisting them. In view of the potential for greater violence in the run-up to the election, such dialogue was stepped up.

The ICRC also intensified contacts within the communities themselves, as well as with national and international NGOs active in the neighbourhoods, highlighting the needs of particularly vulnerable groups, such as women and children, who were often targets of crime and sexual violence. Specially trained volunteers operated the ICRC-supported Haitian Red Cross first-aid and ambulance services in Cité Soleil and Martissant, which treated the wounded, transferred sick people and pregnant women to hospital, and referred victims of sexual violence to specialized medical and psychological care.

Earthquake victims receive life-saving medical care

During the post-quake emergency phase, which lasted until May, injured and sick people were treated at 13 hospitals and 12 first-aid posts supplied with medicines and medical materials by the ICRC. The first-aid posts comprised four permanent ones run by the Haitian Red Cross in Cité Soleil and Martissant to meet violence-related needs (see above) and those set up by the Haitian Red Cross and other National Societies in the makeshift camps where people made homeless by the earthquake had gathered. As well as treating minor injuries, the first-aiders stabilized more seriously wounded people before taking them to hospital.

Even before the earthquake, Haitian physical rehabilitation services had struggled to meet the needs of the huge number of disabled people in the country. The disaster led to thousands more people requiring such services, while the facilities providing them were damaged or destroyed. Towards the end of the year, the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled, with financial support from the American Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross, began to rebuild and re-equip the limb-fitting centre managed by Healing Hands for Haiti International in Port-au-Prince. The work continued into 2011.

Homeless people and residents face fewer health risks

Despite the disruption caused by the earthquake, over 250,000 people, mainly in Port-au-Prince, had sufficient drinking water and faced fewer health risks thanks to the action of joint Haitian

Red Cross/ICRC water and sanitation teams and the ICRC's ongoing cooperation with the water authorities. This number included over 43,000 people in Cité Soleil and seven makeshift sites housing the homeless across the capital who received water from distribution ramps and storage tanks, as well as from trucks that delivered more than 13,000 cubic metres of water in the five months following the disaster. They also benefited from better hygiene conditions with the removal, organized by the ICRC, of 1,486 cubic metres of refuse and the building of latrines in camps and institutions. Given the precarious sanitary situation, camp dwellers learnt ways of lowering their exposure to health risks through hygiene-awareness sessions conducted by the Haitian Red Cross with ICRC support; more than 12,000 children and adults in Cité Soleil and Martissant were immunized against common diseases in a campaign carried out jointly by Red Cross volunteers, the Ministry of Health and the International Federation, with ICRC support. Additionally, 8,559 people were given essential household items, including soap, jerrycans and mosquito nets to help reduce the risk of infection. Some 4,430 others received food.

In addition to emergency measures, the authorities worked to repair water points and supply networks damaged during the earthquake, using ICRC-provided hydraulic materials, fuel and logistical support. Cité Soleil's water committee managed to keep the neighbourhood water supply going with reinforced ICRC assistance, including salary support for the committee's 84 members over five months, and technical advice and materials thereafter. With ICRC support, Haiti's water board also resumed work, begun in 2009 but disrupted by the earthquake, to build or refurbish pumping stations and a network of tapstands in Cité Soleil. Building on relations consolidated during the earthquake response, the water authorities, other bodies and organizations addressing needs in violence-affected neighbourhoods, and the ICRC set up a working group that met fortnightly to plan and execute further improvements.

Following the cholera outbreak in mid-October, some 2,000 people were evacuated from Cité Soleil and Martissant and taken to appropriate facilities by National Society volunteers in ICRC-provided vehicles. To prevent the disease from spreading further, people received some 90,000 water-purification tablets, private water retailers were given chlorine for their tanks, and a chlorination system was installed at a pumping station. During special Haitian Red Cross/ICRC sessions, some 30,000 residents were reminded of the need to be extra strict about hygiene.

Families able to reconnect after the earthquake

Because of the earthquake, many people lost contact with relatives. Family members in Haiti and abroad were able to restore contact using a website set up by the ICRC (www.familylinks.icrc.org) less than 24 hours following the disaster. More than 29,000 people registered, either looking for relatives or announcing that they were alive.

While telecommunication links were down, survivors could contact relatives via a back-up service set up by the Haitian Red Cross and the ICRC in coordination with Télécoms Sans Frontières;

5,861 satellite and cell phone calls were made, mostly abroad. The population was alerted to these services via radio broadcasts and other promotional means.

The Haitian Red Cross opened a tracing office at its headquarters with fixed and mobile units run by National Society/ICRC teams in Port-au-Prince and outlying areas. They collected tracing requests and sought survivors, including during visits to hospitals and other institutions.

Unaccompanied/separated children were in a highly vulnerable position, including the risk of being taken abroad illegally for unauthorized adoption and other purposes. They were thus given priority. Such children referred to the ICRC/Haitian Red Cross were registered and then placed in the care of UNICEF-approved institutions. Meanwhile, the ICRC worked to trace the children's relatives and reunited the families whenever possible and appropriate.

As normal services resumed, the demand for family-links services declined. As of late March, only activities for the most vulnerable individuals, mainly unaccompanied/separated children, were maintained. Poster campaigns later in the year helped resolve some of the remaining cases, although they also generated new tracing requests.

Support provided for human remains management

Faced with the enormous number of people killed in the earthquake, the Directorate of Civil Protection consulted ICRC forensic specialists on ways to better manage human remains. Some 20 mortuary staff were trained, and mortuaries received over 2,000 body bags.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Many places of detention were damaged in the earthquake. Within days, the ICRC had assessed the immediate needs in police stations and still-functioning prisons throughout the country. Detainees had the opportunity to contact their relatives and more than 4,500 received food, hygiene products, essential household items and medicines. Where needed, they were housed in ICRC-supplied tents. To restore adequate conditions as fast as possible, three prisons (in Jacmel, Les Cayes and Port-au-Prince) were cleaned, disinfected and had their water supply and waste-disposal systems repaired. The prison authorities used ICRC technical assessments to prioritize reconstruction work.

Regular visits to detainees in prisons and police stations, conducted according to standard ICRC procedures, resumed in May, with 6,181 detainees being visited during the year. The detaining authorities were informed confidentially of the findings and recommendations regarding detainees' treatment and living conditions. The visits also revitalized discussions, begun before the earthquake, notably on issues such as respect for judicial guarantees and means of combating the overcrowding contributing to poor health conditions in places of detention (see overleaf). Plans to provide the prison legal and social services with the necessary materials and expertise were revived, and a bimonthly meeting between the authorities and the ICRC ensured coordination and momentum in addressing the most pressing issues.

For the rest of the year, work continued on supporting the repair and rebuilding of prisons and police stations damaged in the earthquake, with a focus on those already identified as priorities by the ICRC in 2009 (prisons in Port-au-Prince, Hinche, Cap Haïtien, Les Cayes and Jacmel, and police stations in Petit Goave, Aquin, Miragoâne and Gonaïves). For example, two units of the central prison of Port-au-Prince were rehabilitated, while repair of the main block continued into 2011. Infrastructure under strain because of the severe overcrowding also received attention, with inmates benefiting from improved water supply and kitchen facilities and more comfortable sleeping arrangements thanks to the installation of bunk beds.

MINUSTAH and other stakeholders in Haiti's prison reform process acted in close coordination with the ICRC, drawing on its expertise for their own purposes as well as for seminars organized for prison administrators.

Detainees and prison authorities combat the spread of cholera

Efforts to improve health in prisons resumed after the earthquake, when additional health staff recruited in 2009 finally took up their posts in April 2010 and prisons outside Port-au-Prince established and stocked dispensaries. As the pilot project to address tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS also resumed, detainees attended consultations, had sputum tests sent for analysis at the laboratory and received treatment at the prison dispensary. Prison health personnel, guided by the ICRC, established a medical file for each detainee.

The TB and HIV/AIDS control programme had to take a back seat, however, as resources were diverted in October to combating the cholera epidemic. Almost 5,000 detainees received antibiotics, and prison dispensaries were continuously restocked. Detainees who fell ill were treated in especially designated areas inside the prison facilities by additional health personnel hired by the ICRC or by regular staff whose overtime was paid by the ICRC. Inmates and staff learnt how to prevent the spread of the disease. They received hygiene kits and cleaning products on a regular basis and benefited from the disinfection of cells and latrines and chlorination of the water supply.

AUTHORITIES

The country's infrastructure having suffered severe damage in the earthquake, the national authorities turned their attention first to the reconstruction effort and later to the parliamentary and presidential elections, thus adjourning all work on IHL or related topics. Contact with the authorities nevertheless remained crucial as it contributed to the smooth running of relief efforts and helped maintain the dialogue built up over the years on various humanitarian issues, such as the situation of detainees (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

Given the large-scale response to the earthquake involving many additional international actors, regular coordination meetings were essential, as was the constant briefing of those same actors on the Movement's operations and the ICRC's mandate as a neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian organization.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

MINUSTAH resumed its activities rapidly after the quake, boosting its numbers with additional troops and police, and backed up an international Joint Task Force during the emergency phase. These weapon bearers, along with gang members in violence-affected neighbourhoods, were briefed on Movement activities and on their obligations to respect civilians and the emblem and to allow humanitarian workers to reach and assist all vulnerable people unhindered.

With the potential for violence increasing as the elections neared, police officers deployed on the ground as well as those in police stations attended a number of ICRC sessions on humanitarian issues, such as international norms regulating the use of force and the treatment of people during arrest, interrogation and detention, as well as general respect for civilians, medical personnel and infrastructure.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking with influential community members in Cité Soleil and Martissant contributed to informing residents and gang members in these neighbourhoods of the Movement's activities and neutral and impartial stance, with a view to gaining their support.

Radio was widely used to inform the general public about family-links services and the search for relatives of unaccompanied/separated children following the earthquake, as well as to promote awareness of the emblem and the medical mission, particularly in the run-up to the elections. Worldwide, reporting on the earthquake and the ensuing humanitarian response drew attention to the plight of Haitians and the vulnerability of unaccompanied/separated children, the situation of detainees in Haitian jails and the precarious living conditions of people made homeless. In addition to journalists receiving press releases and other information materials to aid their reporting, 15 teams from major international media organizations gained first-hand insight into the plight of earthquake victims in the course of ICRC-facilitated trips.

In spite of damage to the State University, law and economics students attended presentations on IHL and were able to consult a newly donated set of IHL reference books.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Throughout the year, the Haitian Red Cross and the ICRC worked together to deliver emergency assistance to and restore family links among people affected by the earthquake and, as in previous years, those in violence-affected neighbourhoods (see *Civilians*).

Despite being seriously affected itself by the earthquake, the Haitian Red Cross mobilized swiftly, backed up by partner National Societies already present in the country and first-aid materials and fuel supplied by the ICRC. It then joined in the

Movement relief effort involving 35 National Societies, coordinated by the International Federation through strategic, operational and technical coordination meetings, and supported by the ICRC. In their daily operations, National Society staff and vehicles enjoyed greater security and communications range thanks to very-high-frequency radios and other materials donated by the ICRC.

The Haitian Red Cross drew on ICRC financial, technical and material support to boost its capacities and to help it get back on its feet after the earthquake. With major constraints to its work removed as damaged infrastructure began to be repaired, the National Society was better able to focus on its core activities. To improve services for violence-affected neighbourhoods, 13 regional and 108 local National Society committees received first-aid kits and training and support for ambulance fleet maintenance. Volunteers were also trained in using street theatre to raise awareness of a variety of issues, from the consequences of and support available to victims of sexual violence to the importance of breastfeeding. Following the cholera outbreak, volunteers underwent emergency training in promoting good hygiene practices to help stem the spread of the disease.

To prepare for the tropical storm season and other emergencies, such as election-related violence, the National Society developed a contingency plan with help from Movement partners. This included the pre-positioning of relief goods.

Throughout the year, volunteers continued to raise awareness of humanitarian principles among a wide variety of audiences.

BRASILIA (regional)

COVERING: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay



ICRC / AR, 2010

⊕ ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office * ICRC regional communication support centre

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,016
Assistance	2,150
Prevention	2,591
Cooperation with National Societies	853
General	-

▶ **6,610**

of which: Overheads 403

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	7
National staff (daily workers not included)	42

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ developed dialogue with the region's military and police commanders on their obligations regarding the use of force in law enforcement operations and regarding respect for civilians and medical services
- ▶ with the Rio de Janeiro authorities and the Brazilian Red Cross progressed in the implementation of a multidisciplinary project in 7 favelas to help civilians particularly affected by armed violence
- ▶ helped provide training in first aid and the Safer Access approach to trainers and volunteers of the region's National Societies, as well as to communities and other first responders
- ▶ backed the Chilean Red Cross in restoring family links following the earthquake
- ▶ supported efforts to improve health care and tuberculosis control in Paraguayan prisons

Established in 1975 in Buenos Aires, the delegation moved to Brasilia in late 2009. The ICRC visits security detainees and responds to situations of internal strife and social unrest, often with the region's National Societies, which it supports in developing their capacity to act in such situations. It also runs a project to address urban violence in Rio de Janeiro. The ICRC promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and into the doctrine, training and operations of the armed forces. It also works with police forces to integrate international human rights law applicable to the use of force into theirs.

CONTEXT

Brazil's international influence and economic performance on the global market contrasted with the economic disparities at home and the drug-related violence blighting many of its cities. The Rio de Janeiro state government stepped up its "pacification" programme by launching large-scale law enforcement operations in a number of the city's slum neighbourhoods or *favelas*, resorting to the use of the military alongside police units. While public agencies returned to some areas, many *favela* dwellers continued to be affected by violence. Thus, in December, after regaining control of the Complexo do Alemão *favela*, considered a drug traffickers' stronghold, a joint force under military command remained in charge of law enforcement.

In Chile, an earthquake in February reportedly left more than 800 dead or wounded and devastated mainly the coastal regions

of Maule and Bio Bio, home to the indigenous Mapuche community. Members of this community continued to be arrested and charged under anti-terrorism legislation in relation to disputes over land-tenure issues, in some cases leading to expulsions. A number of the people arrested went on hunger strike to protest against alleged violations of judicial guarantees. In December, after police on Easter Island ejected Rapa Nui indigenous people from properties they had occupied, several wounded people had to be evacuated from the island.

In Paraguay, the authorities declared a state of emergency and deployed several thousand troops and police in five northern provinces to curb the activity of an armed group known as the Paraguayan People's Army. Arrests, deaths and abuses were reported. Land distribution issues also led to the expulsion back to Brazil of around 500 families of Brazilian origin settled in Paraguay.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	2		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	402		
Names published on the ICRC family-links website	599		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	100	10	2
Detainees newly registered	38	7	1
Number of visits carried out	40		
Number of places of detention visited	17		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ²			
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women
Food	Beneficiaries	2,000	30%
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	2,180	33%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
Economic security, water and habitat			
Essential household items ¹	Beneficiaries	140	
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives ³	Beneficiaries	2	

1. Chile and Paraguay
2. Brazil only
3. Chile only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Addressing the humanitarian consequences of violence due to social, economic, indigenous and land issues plaguing various regions and communities in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay remained the ICRC's operational priority. To respond better to these challenges, it moved its regional delegation from Argentina to Brazil.

Through a multidisciplinary project in Rio de Janeiro, the ICRC developed activities in seven *favelas* to assist civilians particularly

affected by armed violence. In so doing, it reinforced cooperation with the municipal health and state education authorities, co-organizing training in the Safer Access approach for first-aiders and other medical personnel working in the *favelas*. Teams trained in psychological support led group therapy sessions for violence-affected people. First-aid training for *favela* residents continued, in cooperation with the Rio de Janeiro branch of the Brazilian Red Cross. Children at seven high schools participated in activities aimed at preventing violence. In parallel, the ICRC developed dialogue with the military and civil police forces and other weapon bearers on basic rules to respect at all times and on humanitarian

issues in the *favelas*. It pursued discussions with the authorities concerned on possible visits to people held in Rio de Janeiro's prisons, where much of the violence was rooted.

In southern Chile and central and northern Paraguay, operational cooperation with local Red Cross branches was strengthened. National Society health teams provided services to isolated Mapuche communities, where police agents were trained in first aid, as were inhabitants of rural communities in northern Paraguay. In both countries, the ICRC regularly visited people detained in connection with protests over land tenure and indigenous issues. In Chile, following the earthquake, the ICRC provided medicines and family-links services to detainees. In Paraguay, the National Society managed family visits for ICRC-registered detainees and kept up a craft project for women detained in Asunción. Across the region, the ICRC worked with authorities to address prison health issues.

In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC supported the National Societies in responding to natural disasters. Following the earthquake in Chile, it assisted the Chilean Red Cross in restoring family links. After floods struck Rio de Janeiro in April, it coordinated the Red Cross relief distribution for *favela* residents.

The ICRC continued to cooperate with the national IHL committees on integrating IHL into domestic legislation, including that relating to missing persons, and encouraged them to mobilize support for these and similar issues raised in regional fora, such as the Organization of American States (OAS). It worked with national forensic institutes in the region to improve skills in human remains management.

The ICRC kept up its dialogue with the region's police forces on their obligation to observe applicable laws and standards governing the use of force in law enforcement operations. It developed a similar dialogue with military forces increasingly being deployed alongside police in such operations throughout the region. With the region's armed forces, the ICRC also continued to work on integrating IHL into their doctrine, training and operations. UN peacekeepers were briefed on humanitarian principles and the ICRC prior to being sent to Haiti.

Universities in Brazil and Paraguay continued to integrate IHL into their curricula, with ICRC expertise and training.

CIVILIANS

In Rio de Janeiro, *favela* residents get community health care, first aid and safer schools

As confirmed by an ICRC assessment, residents of the worst-affected neighbourhoods in seven violence-ridden *favelas*, including Complexo do Alemão, lacked access to adequate health care, particularly teenage mothers and their children and people traumatized by violence. This situation was set to improve with the further implementation of the ICRC's multidisciplinary project,

carried out in partnership with the Rio de Janeiro municipality, the local branch of the Brazilian Red Cross, Brazilian universities and research centres, and other bodies, aiming to: secure safer access of primary health care professionals to violent neighbourhoods, thereby facilitating inhabitants' access to health services; provide back-up to teams dispensing specialized mental health care to violence-affected patients; and set up a comprehensive support system for teenage mothers and their babies by means of weekly home visits.

First-aiders and other medical personnel working in the *favelas*, in particular 14 teams of the state-run family health programme (84 health professionals in all), received training in the Safer Access approach to enable them to assist people in need while ensuring their own safety. These teams also benefited from professional support in their daily practice. As a result, 112 people in three *favelas* were referred to and attended group therapy sessions provided by teams coached by an ICRC psychologist. Guided by an ICRC women's health specialist and a social worker, health staff, university students and community focal points received training in conducting home visits and discussion groups with a view to launching activities to provide teenage mothers with psychological and other support starting in 2011. To further improve communities' capacities to deal with medical emergencies, 208 residents were trained in first aid, while 45 others became instructors.

During the police operation in Complexo do Alemão, National Red Cross volunteers, mobilized to support state and municipal emergency medical facilities, received ICRC operational and logistical support. At the request of the authorities, 88 health professionals working there and in another neighbourhood attended emergency workshops on basic security and stress management issues.

In a bid to reduce and prevent violence and improve security in schools, pupils at seven high schools in dangerous neighbourhoods learnt about safe behaviour, respect for life, solidarity and basic first aid in courses and activities run as part of the "Opening Humanitarian Spaces" project. Prior to the launch of the project, which was coordinated by the Rio de Janeiro education authorities and the ICRC, 40 teachers studied course modules adapted from the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

The effects of violence in the *favelas* were exacerbated in April by torrential floods that forced people from their homes. To ease their plight, some 150 temporarily displaced people in two of the *favelas* received hygiene items and cleaning materials distributed by the local Red Cross branch, with ICRC logistical support.

In parallel, dialogue continued with all security forces operating in and around the *favelas* (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Elsewhere in Brazil, 500 Paraguayan families of Brazilian origin (2,000 people) expelled from Paraguay owing to land disputes received ICRC emergency food rations and basic supplies to help them cope with their displacement.

Concerns of violence-affected communities in Chile and Paraguay taken up by the ICRC

Mapuche leaders and Rapa Nui representatives on Chile's Easter Island and members of rural communities in central and northern Paraguay reported abuses to and shared their grievances with ICRC delegates. In both countries, meetings with central and local authorities, including police and other security forces, NGOs and community representatives, enabled the ICRC to voice its concerns, highlighting the need to respect civilians, to ensure medical access to the wounded and sick at all times, and to observe rules governing the use of force in maintaining law and order.

In Chile, members of remote Mapuche communities accessed medical services, including primary health care and hospital referrals, provided by the Chilean Red Cross/ICRC. Police agents received first-aid training, as they were likely to be among the first on the scene in an emergency. In Paraguay, residents of 20 violence-affected communities learnt basic first aid through an ICRC-financed project implemented by the Paraguayan Red Cross.

People trace missing family members

Following February's earthquake in Chile, people searching for relatives or those who had no other means of getting in touch used the family-links website set up by the ICRC in cooperation with the Chilean Red Cross. Red Cross staff received coaching and training from ICRC tracing specialists drawn from a pool of experts created as part of the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement. During the emergency phase, 402 families in remote coastal areas of the Bio Bio region used a satellite telephone service provided by three mobile Red Cross/ICRC teams. The national forensic institute also drew on ICRC expertise to improve the handling and identification of human remains and received basic materials. Once the needs diminished, the National Society designed a plan of action for the next few years to strengthen its capacities in this field with ICRC support.

Similarly, as part of efforts to build family-links capacities across Latin America, a Paraguayan Red Cross volunteer and ICRC staff took part in a regional training course in Panama.

Regionwide, many people continued to seek information about relatives who had disappeared during the years of military rule. To optimize the use of forensic science for the recovery and identification of human remains and to provide missing persons' families with support, eight forensic specialists from Argentina, Brazil and Chile shared best practices with counterparts from other countries at the Second World Congress on Psychosocial

Work in Exhumation Processes, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth, held in Bogotá (see *Colombia*). Disaster management, forensics and human rights were also discussed by representatives of most forensic institutes in Latin America at the fourth annual meeting of Ibero-American Medico-Legal Institutes in Santiago, co-organized and sponsored by the ICRC. To broaden the transfer of skills, a member of Argentina's national forensic team qualified as a teacher trainer for instructors working with the ICRC-developed ante/post-mortem software. Two officers from the Training Centre for Peacekeeping Operations in Rio de Janeiro attended a one-week course in Geneva, Switzerland, on the management of human remains, with the aim of enhancing the centre's curriculum.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People in Chile, mainly from the indigenous Mapuche community, and in Paraguay, arrested in connection with land grievances or political issues, had their treatment and living conditions monitored in the course of ICRC visits conducted according to the organization's standard procedures. The authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and recommendations. In Chile, they were to receive the conclusions of a study completed during the year regarding respect for judicial guarantees under anti-terrorism legislation. A group of Mapuche hunger-strikers were regularly visited by an ICRC medical delegate, including for recording their will in case they lost consciousness, and authorities were reminded of the World Medical Association's position on force-feeding.

During visits, detainees in Chile contacted their families through the RCM service, as necessary, following the earthquake, using telephones made available by Chilean Red Cross/ICRC mobile teams (see *Civilians*). In Paraguay, they also enjoyed family visits organized by the National Society, enabling them to receive medication and other assistance. Two women detained in Asunción's Buen Pastor prison learnt crafts as part of a joint project with the National Handcraft Institute, providing them with job skills and income.

Brazilian provincial authorities continued to examine the possibility of the ICRC visiting Rio de Janeiro's prisons and of engaging in joint humanitarian projects. As an initial step, the health coordinator in charge of young offenders imprisoned in Rio state took part in the fourth Latin American seminar on penitentiary health (see overleaf).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	CHILE	PARAGUAY
ICRC visits		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	55	45
	<i>of whom women</i>	9
	<i>of whom minors</i>	2
Detainees newly registered	17	21
	<i>of whom women</i>	7
	<i>of whom minors</i>	1
Number of visits carried out	27	13
Number of places of detention visited	11	6

Detainees' health concerns addressed

As a way of improving health in prisons generally, all detainees visited received hygiene kits. After the earthquake, medical staff in Chilean detention facilities treated sick and wounded detainees, in part with ICRC supplies.

Health officials and medical personnel working in prisons in the region examined prevention, detection and treatment programmes and ways of tackling tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted diseases at two regional events: the fourth Latin American seminar on health in prisons, co-organized with Peru's National Penitentiary Institute (see *Lima*), and a technical workshop on TB and HIV/AIDS in detention centres, co-organized with the Paraguayan Ministry of Health. The latter was attended by 25 representatives from the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru.

Drawing on ICRC recommendations and experiences shared during regional events on prison health, the Paraguayan Ministry of Health prepared a TB and HIV/AIDS control programme for prisons supported financially by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. As a first step towards its implementation, the ministry organized a national workshop during which participants took stock of the results of the extensive assessment of Paraguay's prison health system conducted in 2007 and benefited from ICRC expertise and technical support. Following the workshop, the Ministry of Health and the ICRC conducted a new series of assessments of the state of health in the country's six main prisons. On the basis of these updated results, the authorities were encouraged to start reforming the prison health system, including through setting up an information system to track and manage prison health.

AUTHORITIES

Governments in the region pursued dialogue with the ICRC on the need to strengthen respect for IHL and international rules governing the use of force in situations of violence. They were encouraged to address humanitarian concerns, including on IHL promotion, displacement, enforced disappearance and detention issues, in national and regional fora, such as the Latin American Parliament and the OAS. They supported the adoption of the amended Rome Statute at the Review Conference of the International Criminal Court held in Uganda. Based on discussions on the Convention on Enforced Disappearance, they were offered ICRC expertise in addressing the issue of persons gone missing during past regimes or conflicts. Argentina and Chile completed studies to assess whether their national legislation on missing persons and their families was in line with ICRC recommendations.

With ICRC input, the region's national IHL committees continued to work to advance the ratification of IHL treaties and their national implementation. They shared best practices with their counterparts from other Latin American and Caribbean countries at a conference hosted by Mexico, as well as at the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Chile ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Paraguay established a national information bureau by presidential decree. ICRC support for the training of magistrates in measures to repress war crimes was not required.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed and security forces learn the need to observe norms and standards in law enforcement operations

In Brazil, including Rio de Janeiro, and in Paraguay, authorities and the ICRC developed their dialogue on law enforcement operations and the obligations of armed and security personnel to observe applicable laws and standards governing the use of force in such operations and relating to respect for civilians and medical services.

Brazilian police officers countrywide started to benefit from a new e-learning module on human rights norms introduced by the National Secretariat of Public Security with ICRC support. An evaluation by external consultants in four states confirmed the need to follow up the integration of human rights norms into training in all states where work had been initiated, while concentrating efforts on the military police and security forces in a few states (Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and possibly Pará) with the aim of fully integrating human rights norms into doctrine, training, operations and sanctions. In São Paulo, based on an agreement, the state military police and the ICRC began to assess the force's current curriculum to prepare for the integration of human rights norms.

In Rio de Janeiro, military and civil police forces operating in the *favelas*, including newly created community police units, and the ICRC strengthened dialogue on security and humanitarian issues. This was facilitated by a designated liaison officer for the ICRC within the military police and included meetings with commanders and dissemination sessions. As the law enforcement operations got under way in the *favelas* of Complexo do Alemão and Vila Cruzeiro, regular dialogue also started with the federal- and state-level military bodies involved.

In Paraguay, the interior minister and the national police director started to work with the ICRC to revise the national police training curriculum, while 30 human rights instructors attended training courses. In Chile, in addition to first-aid training provided to the police by the National Society, discussions with various branches of the police, including the *Carabineros*, on joint dissemination and prevention activities were ongoing.

Armed forces continue integrating IHL

The region's armed forces continued to work on integrating IHL into their doctrine, training and operations. Argentina and Brazil finalized a new IHL manual for soldiers, while Chile incorporated IHL into more than 200 manuals used by the different services. Military instructors in Argentina were trained in IHL. In Paraguay, military decision-makers issued a directive on IHL integration and began drafting rules of conduct for operations

carried out alongside police forces. In all their meetings, the armed forces' upper echelons in Brazil and Paraguay and the ICRC discussed the use of force in situations of violence, and high-ranking officers from both countries attended the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations in Lucerne, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Peacekeeping contingents from Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay were briefed by the ICRC on core humanitarian issues prior to their deployment to Haiti.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public kept informed of humanitarian issues and ICRC activities through the ICRC's Spanish and Portuguese websites, publications, the photo exhibition "Humanity in War", and media coverage of the response to the Haiti and Chile earthquakes. Residents of the Rio de Janeiro *favelas* became aware of and engaged in ICRC work thanks to a partnership with local media and community relations.

Journalists and communication students studied the ICRC's humanitarian concerns and safer reporting at a course on journalism in armed conflict and other situations of violence. The leading universities of the region continued to enhance knowledge of IHL thanks to ICRC presentations and donations of IHL literature to libraries. To complement these efforts, three lecturers participated in an advanced IHL course in Geneva, Switzerland.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued to strengthen their legal bases and good governance mechanisms with support from the International Federation and the ICRC: the Argentine Red Cross provided members of its steering committee with further training; the Brazilian Red Cross initiated a financial audit; and the Uruguayan Red Cross progressed with statutory reforms.

With ICRC support, the National Societies also worked on building their operational capacities, including in restoring family links; this helped them assist populations enduring violence or natural disaster (see *Civilians*). They improved their Safer Access and first-aid skills and learnt basic security and stress management. The Paraguayan Red Cross expanded its range of action after receiving a 4x4 vehicle from the ICRC.

CARACAS (regional)

COVERING: Suriname, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago



ICRC / AR, 2010
 ICRC regional delegation

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	170
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,210
Cooperation with National Societies	471
General	-

► **1,851**

of which: Overheads 113

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	4
National staff (daily workers not included)	8

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- supported the region's National Societies in boosting their emergency preparedness by honing their first-aid and Safer Access skills
- supported the Jamaica Red Cross in assisting over 1,000 families affected by unrest in Kingston
- offered technical advice in the integration of international human rights norms into the new training curriculum of Venezuela's Bolivarian National Police
- welcomed the ratification of IHL treaties by Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The Caracas regional delegation was established in 1971. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and into the operational procedures and training of the region's armed forces, as well as the inclusion of human rights standards in police manuals and training. It reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies in the fields of IHL promotion, restoring family links, emergency response capacity and assistance to victims of violence. It visits security detainees in the region and monitors the humanitarian situation along the Venezuelan border with Colombia.

CONTEXT

For the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereafter Venezuela), 2010 was a year of hardship, with enduring recession and heavy rain and floods towards year-end. The country's economic problems in turn contributed to the growing crime rate, which posed a challenge for the newly created Bolivarian National Police. Legislative elections on 26 September returned the opposition to the National Assembly. A few days before the inauguration of the new Assembly, the outgoing members voted in a law entitling the president to rule by decree for a period of 18 months.

The spillover of the conflict in Colombia continued to fuel tensions in the border states of Tachira and Zulia. Relations between

the two countries improved, however, following the Colombian presidential elections in August when the two countries began to discuss confidence-building mechanisms. These aimed to solve economic disputes and improve cooperation on border security and transnational issues.

The countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) also felt the effects of the global economic crisis. Gang and community violence was on the rise, driven by drug and small arms trafficking. In May, violence erupted in Kingston and other parts of Jamaica following the government's decision to extradite an alleged drug trader to the United States of America. The armed forces were sent in alongside police to quell the unrest. Over 75 people were reportedly killed.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	1		
RCMs distributed	1		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	2		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	32		
Detainees newly registered	10		
Number of visits carried out	5		
Number of places of detention visited	2		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

ASSISTANCE

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat		Total	Women	Children
Essential household items ¹	Beneficiaries	2		

1. Venezuela only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to act as the principal reference in the region for IHL matters. The constructive working relationship resulting from the 2007 cooperation agreement between the CARICOM Secretariat and the ICRC continued to bear fruit. The ICRC offered the various bodies and member States its expertise in the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. During the year, Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines all became party to additional IHL instruments.

Given the tensions in Venezuelan regions bordering Colombia and in the Caribbean, it remained crucial for the military, which often backed up police personnel during law-enforcement operations, and the police themselves to raise awareness among their ranks of IHL and international human rights law applicable to the use of force. Through dissemination sessions and other training events, along with advice in the development of training curricula and manuals, the ICRC sought to support the armed and police forces' efforts in this regard. The smooth working relationship

with the Jamaica Defence Force allowed the ICRC to discuss with it the use of force in security operations relating to the violence in May.

In light of the general volatility in the region, the ICRC assisted the National Societies in upgrading their emergency response skills. It provided financial, material and technical support to enable them to hone their skills in first aid and applying the Safer Access approach. During the turmoil in Kingston, the ICRC assisted the Jamaica Red Cross in distributing emergency supplies.

In Venezuela, ICRC delegates visited and monitored the treatment and living conditions of security detainees, sharing their observations confidentially with the authorities.

In February, the ICRC closed its office in Port of Spain, Trinidad, ending its 10-year presence there. It had earlier informed the authorities and the diplomatic community that ICRC activities for the English-speaking countries of CARICOM would be covered by its delegation in Caracas.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Venezuela, arrests were reportedly on the rise. Despite a five-year plan to reform the penitentiary system launched in 2010, the situation in prisons remained worrying, with severe overcrowding, high levels of violence and frequent hunger strikes.

A total of 32 security detainees in 2 places of detention received visits from delegates carried out according to standard ICRC procedures. Their treatment and living conditions were checked in relation to internationally recognized standards, and the authorities were informed of delegates' observations and recommendations in a confidential dialogue. All detainees were offered the RCM service to contact their families. A Colombian boy whose mother was detained was able to return to his family thanks to a coordinated effort involving the authorities, the Colombian consulate, the boy's relatives and the ICRC's delegations in Bogotá and Caracas.

During ICRC visits, two vulnerable individuals received telephone cards, underwear and hygiene items. To boost the capacities of the prison administration in meeting the needs of detainees, the authorities were invited to send a representative to the fourth Latin American seminar on health in prisons held in Peru (see *Lima*). Unfortunately, however, Venezuela was not represented.

In Jamaica, in the immediate aftermath of the unrest in May, six detainees held in a temporary holding facility talked informally to ICRC delegates prior to their release.

AUTHORITIES

CARICOM member States, supported by the CARICOM Secretariat and drawing on ICRC legal resources and expertise, continued their work on ratifying and implementing IHL treaties. To keep up the momentum, a high-level representative of the CARICOM Secretariat attended the third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*). CARICOM States supported resolutions promoted by the ICRC at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (see *Washington*).

The CARICOM Secretariat and the ICRC focused on a number of humanitarian issues, such as the proliferation of small arms/light weapons. To regulate the use of a variety of weapons, Antigua and Barbuda ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, along with Protocols I, III and IV to that instrument, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, along with all five Protocols. Both countries became party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Progress was made elsewhere in the region, with Guyana ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Saint Lucia ratifying the Rome Statute. Suriname's Ministry of Justice and Police continued, with ICRC support, to revise its criminal code to outlaw war crimes.

Furthermore, CARICOM's Implementation Agency for Crime and Security discussed with delegates the possibility of the ICRC familiarizing the Councils for Foreign and Community Relations and for National Security and Law Enforcement with IHL and humanitarian norms and their application in security operations.

In Venezuela, IHL implementation was slow owing to the political situation. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Defence amended the draft emblem law to strengthen penalties for abuse and sent it for approval to the Attorney General's Office. Dialogue initiated with the National Assembly's international relations director led to lawmakers being briefed on the ICRC and its IHL advisory services. Authorities were informed of the ICRC's activities for detainees and armed and police forces and of ICRC/National Society activities along the border with Colombia.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Rising urban violence and the growing involvement of the military in law enforcement, as exemplified during the Kingston unrest, highlighted the need for armed and police forces to integrate IHL and human rights norms into their doctrine, training and operations. This was the main topic at numerous bilateral and multi-lateral meetings between CARICOM chiefs of defence and police commissioners and the ICRC.

Thanks to high-level contacts, the ICRC was able to share its concerns with the Jamaica Defence Force and Constabulary Force regarding actions during the Kingston unrest. To improve compliance with IHL, the Jamaica Defence Force developed an abridged manual on the use of force and trained with regional military officers at the Caribbean Junior Command and Staff Course, which used various teaching modules drawn from ICRC resources. A high-ranking officer was sent to the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Lucerne, Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Elsewhere in the Caribbean, the armed forces of Guyana, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago revised their education and training orders to comply with IHL norms, while some 50 military and police officers in Belize learnt basic IHL rules during an ICRC presentation.

In Venezuela, the armed forces continued to raise awareness of IHL among troops. Given the potential for increased tension along the border with Colombia, some 60 officers in Tachira and Zulia learnt more about IHL and the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. In addition, 880 cadets at military schools attended courses to familiarize them with those topics, although efforts to access senior military personnel in charge of policy and writing doctrine were so far unsuccessful.

Similarly, the Bolivarian National Police General Council welcomed continuing ICRC expertise in incorporating international human rights norms into new policing standards and training. Although no police representative was able to attend

an international seminar on human rights norms, key officials discussed the integration of such standards into the new police curriculum at an ICRC-facilitated seminar at the National Experimental Security University in Caracas. During other events, the university's teachers and trainers and police advisers refreshed their knowledge of human rights norms and those governing the use of force.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Escalating volatility in the region, combined with growing public demand for information on humanitarian issues affecting the region and the wider world, increased the need to reinforce the media's capacity to give greater and more accurate coverage to such matters, including respect for the emblem and support for National Society/ICRC work. With this aim, journalists were given briefings, interviews, and resource materials and participated in workshops on conflict reporting. One of the main TV stations in Caracas, with an estimated audience of five million, received audiovisual material.

Likewise, law and journalism lecturers and students used ICRC reference materials and expertise on IHL and weapon contamination for specialized courses and research.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies in the region worked to strengthen their legal bases and capacities with financial, material and technical support from the International Federation and the ICRC. Progress was made towards approval of a draft emblem law in Venezuela (see *Authorities*). Heads of the CARICOM National Societies discussed best management and governance practices at the annual cooperation meeting co-organized by the International Federation and the ICRC.

In light of increasing violence, the region's National Societies worked to strengthen their emergency response capacities. The Jamaica Red Cross and the ICRC collaborated to bring food, water and medication to some 1,000 families during the unrest in May, and offered psychological support to some 200 people. In the aftermath, all branches held Safer Access training as a prelude to formulating security and operational guidelines. In Venezuela, volunteers also honed their Safer Access skills and went on to share their knowledge of first aid with violence-affected communities, including those affected by the spillover of the Colombian conflict. In Trinidad and Tobago, the National Society used the Safer Access approach to bring first aid to one of Port of Spain's most dangerous neighbourhoods. In Guyana and Suriname, the National Societies upgraded their communication units.

LIMA (regional)

COVERING: Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru



⊕ ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office/presence

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,979
Assistance	457
Prevention	1,809
Cooperation with National Societies	850
General	-

► **5,095**

of which: Overheads 311

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	8
National staff (daily workers not included)	32

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- extended its network of contacts in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, while implementing a joint project with health authorities and local NGOs to address mental health problems in violence-affected communities
- welcomed the agreement of the Bolivian authorities to cooperate on incorporating IHL/international human rights norms into military and police doctrine, training and operations and into national legislation
- in Peru, on 2 occasions comprehensively addressed the humanitarian consequences of social violence by providing medical assistance, discussing the use of force with authorities and law enforcers, and visiting people arrested
- contributed to strengthening psychological and social support to missing persons' relatives in Peru by providing NGOs and family associations with funding, and medical, legal and forensic officials with expertise
- in Ecuador, reinforced its presence along the border with Colombia, enabling it to strengthen dialogue with weapon bearers and to support an Ecuadorean Red Cross project to help remote communities improve their water supply
- welcomed the ratification by Ecuador of the Conventions on Cluster Munitions and on Enforced Disappearance, and the adoption of a resolution on missing persons by the Organization of American States

The delegation in Lima opened in 1984, becoming a regional delegation in 2003. The ICRC visits detainees, addresses the issue of missing persons, and monitors the humanitarian situation along the Ecuadorean border with Colombia. It seeks to respond to needs arising from internal strife and reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies to do the same. It helps security forces integrate human rights norms applicable to the use of force into their doctrine, training and operations and the armed forces do the same for IHL. It also promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation.

CONTEXT

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia (hereafter Bolivia), Ecuador and Peru, deep-rooted social, political and indigenous grievances frequently sparked protests that turned violent. Confrontations between protesters and law enforcement agents often resulted in injuries, arrests and, sometimes, deaths. In Bolivia, this was the case during outbreaks of violence in Potosí, Santa Cruz and Caranavi, and in the main cities at year-end, following protests against a government decree, later rescinded, announcing a fuel price hike. In Ecuador, social tension peaked on 30 September

when President Rafael Correa was briefly sequestered by police dissatisfied with pay conditions, and later freed by armed forces units. In Peru, social conflict triggered violence, for example in Arequipa and Piura.

In Peru's Apurímac-Ene valley, civilians suffered the effects of weapon contamination, movement restrictions and sporadic clashes between armed forces and Shining Path members. In Ecuador's northern border provinces, communities were at risk because of the presence of weapon bearers linked to the armed conflict in neighbouring Colombia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs distributed	4		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	9		
Documents			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	3		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	312		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	253	66	13
Detainees newly registered	89	6	13
Number of visits carried out	58		
Number of places of detention visited	22		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	5		
RCMs distributed	1		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	1		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	42		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Bolivia and Peru

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Lima delegation kept a close eye on situations of violence and their impact on civilians in all three countries covered. It endeavoured to address these through dialogue with weapon bearers and authorities, visits to detainees, and emergency assistance to affected populations. In parallel, it worked to strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies to respond to such situations, alongside the ICRC or independently.

In Ecuador and Peru, the ICRC dealt with the issue of excessive use of force in situations of violence through awareness-raising and the training of armed and security forces and continued cooperation with the military and police on integrating IHL and international human rights norms into their doctrine, training and operations. It signed similar cooperation agreements with the Bolivian military and police.

The Bolivian authorities expressed their support for a fledgling ICRC project to address mental health needs in violence-affected communities in the Pando department; residents were trained as health promoters so that they could provide services in their own communities.

In Ecuador, the ICRC regularly visited the Carchi, Esmeraldas and Sucumbíos departments bordering Colombia to monitor the situation of the population living there and to foster dialogue with armed forces stationed there regarding the need to respect and protect the civilian population; it also shared these concerns with armed forces at central level. To get a clearer picture of the humanitarian consequences stemming from the spillover of Colombia's armed conflict, the ICRC opened an office in Nueva Loja, Sucumbíos. An ICRC-funded rainwater recycling project of the Ecuadorean Red Cross ensured that Putumayo river communities had access to safer water.

In Peru, the ICRC stepped up field trips to the Apurímac-Ene valley, where it prepared a school sanitation project with the health and education authorities, and to Alto Huallaga. Delegates registered and followed individually the cases of people arrested in connection with the situation there, and shared their concerns and recommendations regarding the protection of civilians with military, police and civil authorities. Security detainees in other places benefited from similar visits, while prison staff were trained in human rights norms.

In Peru, as in Bolivia, where it also visited security detainees, the ICRC provided the penitentiary administration with support to address prison health issues. Prison administrators from 11 Spanish-speaking countries discussed detainee health issues at an ICRC regional seminar in Lima.

Using a combination of awareness-raising and technical support activities, the ICRC worked to keep the issue of missing persons and the support due to their families on the agendas of the Peruvian authorities and civil society and of the Washington-based Organization of American States (OAS), which held its General Assembly in Lima. It also raised this and other issues of mutual concern with the region's three permanent missions to the OAS. In Bolivia, the ICRC prepared to assess national forensic capacities.

To promote the ratification and implementation of IHL in all three countries, the ICRC worked with the respective national IHL committee. In Peru, one partner university introduced an IHL degree, while two others started teaching IHL as part of other courses.

CIVILIANS

In all three countries, as social protests turned violent, injured civilians and police officers received first aid from National Society volunteers and were taken to hospital if necessary. In Arequipa and Piura, Peru, the injured received medical attention from the ICRC, which also visited people arrested (see *People deprived of their freedom*) and documented allegations of excessive use of force by both police and demonstrators. Observations on the need to curb excessive use of force and ensure proper medical treatment for the injured were later shared with the police high command. The need to promote respect for civilians, basic humanitarian principles, the emblem and medical services was stressed in all ICRC dialogue with weapon bearers (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*), with the authorities both at central level and during frequent ICRC visits to areas variously affected or threatened by violence (see *Context*), and with community representatives.

Communities in such areas were better able to deal with their situation thanks to ICRC-funded projects. This was the case of some 15 communities in Bolivia's Pando department still psychologically scarred by violence that erupted there in 2008. To help address mental problems and other violence-related issues, 12 future health promoters attended eight two-day training sessions enabling them to provide services in their own communities under a pilot project carried out in close cooperation with the Health Ministry, local NGOs and an indigenous women's organization. In Ecuador's Sucumbíos region, 163 families living in communities along the Putumayo river bordering Colombia learnt how to improve their water supply and reduce health risks by recycling rainwater and adopting better hygiene practices through an ICRC-funded project of the Ecuadorean Red Cross. In both Bolivia and Ecuador, these projects resulted in plans to extend similar initiatives to other communities in 2011. In Peru's remote Canaire region, in the Apurímac-Ene valley, 30 teachers received training and teaching materials in preparation for a pilot

project conducted with the education and health authorities to improve hygiene and sanitation in schools.

In all three countries, people who had been uprooted or lived in remote areas were offered National Society/ICRC services to locate or restore contact with family.

Families of missing persons have access to psychological and social support

Peruvian State bodies and NGOs worked to optimize their coordination and practices to clarify the fate of some 15,000 people missing as a result of Peru's past armed conflict and to assist their families, with ICRC technical back-up and funding.

Missing persons' families had better access to psychological and social services thanks to an ICRC-supported project carried out by a Peruvian NGO, while State and private organizations worked to have such services incorporated into forensic investigation procedures. To this end, they held three coordination meetings and sent representatives to the second World Congress on Psychosocial Work in Exhumation Processes, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth (see *Colombia*), where they shared best practices with forensic experts from other countries. The national association of families of missing persons and detainees drew up objectives and action plans at a workshop organized and financed by the ICRC, which also funded the participation of associations in national fora and the organization of awareness-raising and information events.

As part of an ICRC-supported project, a specialized NGO continued to collect ante-mortem data from families of the missing, which were fed into a centralized victim registry established by the State Reparations Commission to facilitate the identification of human remains. Meanwhile, ICRC efforts were directed at further clarifying the procedural framework for and encouraging best practices in the work of prosecutors and forensic experts during exhumations (see *Authorities*).

With their travel expenses covered by the ICRC, 98 relatives of missing persons were able to take part in preliminary investigations and travel to exhumation sites. Where needed, families were provided with coffins by the ICRC.

To strengthen forensic capacity, Peru set up a coordination mechanism to standardize technical procedures for forensic institutes, organized regular meetings of forensic teams and assessed the technical needs of the national Medico-Legal Institute, resulting in ICRC funding of a conference on forensic anthropology hosted by Peru's Catholic University (see *Civil society*). Peruvian forensic practitioners broadened their knowledge at events held in Peru and abroad, such as the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in the United States of America and a train-the-trainer course on ante/post-mortem data management in Geneva, Switzerland.

In Bolivia, where 158 people were still missing from the time of military rule, the head of the national forensic service agreed to an assessment of capacities and training needs, to be carried out with ICRC support.

Directors of Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian institutes of forensic medicine attended the fourth Conference of Latin American and Caribbean Institutes of Forensic Medicine, held in Santiago de Chile, Chile, in November (see *Brasilia*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Ecuador, the ICRC stood ready to visit people arrested during protests or for alleged links with armed groups. In Bolivia, a number of people were detained for security reasons. In Peru, people continued to be arrested, frequently on “terrorism” charges, especially in the violence-prone Alto Huallaga and Ayacucho regions. In both Bolivia and Peru, these detainees were visited, according to standard ICRC procedures, by delegates, who checked on their treatment and living conditions and then provided the authorities with confidential feedback, recommending or carrying out improvements as needed. In Peru, detainees held in a police station enjoyed better access to running water and shower facilities thanks to ICRC renovation work, and in another detention centre inmates were better able to cope with overcrowded conditions after receiving ICRC-donated mattresses and board games. Proposals for improvements in six temporary detention centres were included in a working paper to be shared with the relevant authorities in early 2011.

The detainees were offered the RCM service to contact relatives and were able to receive family visits financed by the ICRC.

Authorities provided with technical back-up to improve the penitentiary system

In Peru, the Justice Ministry and the ICRC renewed a cooperation agreement aimed at accelerating the judicial process and reducing chronic overcrowding by strengthening the public defender system. In three workshops, 120 court-appointed lawyers updated their knowledge of criminal law, enabling them to give adequate legal counsel and bringing to 380 the number of public defenders trained over a three-year period. This initiative was backed up by a revised manual informing detainees and lawyers of the new procedures and detainees’ rights, produced by the ministry with ICRC technical support.

In a new initiative, 32 staff of the national penitentiary administration (INPE) from five regions were coached in teaching human rights norms to other prison personnel at Peru’s first course for prison human rights instructors. The course, held in March, was co-organized by INPE, the centre for penitentiary studies and the ICRC, based on a manual produced in 2008 with ICRC technical and financial support. The newly qualified instructors in turn trained 194 colleagues countrywide.

In Bolivia, ICRC recommendations regarding penitentiary reforms, including the introduction of a digitized detainee registry and training of prison staff, had not resulted in any follow-up by year-end. Similarly, the opening of the new Qalauma rehabilitation centre for young offenders continued to be delayed, although the authorities were provided with internal regulations specifically produced for the centre by an NGO, with ICRC expertise.

Penitentiary authorities work to control TB and HIV/AIDS

At the ICRC’s fourth Latin American seminar on prison health in Lima, prison administrators and health specialists from 11 Spanish-speaking countries discussed best practices in addressing detainee health issues such as tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted infections.

The Peruvian penitentiary administration and the ICRC monitored the TB- and HIV/AIDS-control programmes under way in four of the country’s prisons, which enabled them to identify shortcomings and take remedial action to ensure that national standards were properly applied. An ICRC report on detainees’ mental health issues did not yet lead to any action as the authorities had other priorities.

In Bolivia, disease-control issues were addressed through the training of 15 prison health staff at a one-week certification course organized by the Health Ministry with ICRC support, while experts discussed ways to tackle TB and HIV/AIDS at an ICRC seminar in Santa Cruz in November. The authorities also used the findings of an assessment conducted jointly with the ICRC in eight major prisons to present a new funding proposal to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and prepared a training module on the national TB programme for prison health professionals with ICRC participation.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA	PERU
ICRC visits		
Detainees visited	33	279
Detainees visited and monitored individually	31	222
	<i>of whom women</i>	66
	<i>of whom minors</i>	12
Detainees newly registered	17	72
	<i>of whom women</i>	6
	<i>of whom minors</i>	12
Number of visits carried out	10	48
Number of places of detention visited	3	19
Restoring family links		
RCMs collected		5
RCMs distributed		1
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		1
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		42
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	4	1

The training of health promoters recruited among the prison population was carried out by the penitentiary authorities in Peru without further ICRC involvement, but was shelved in Bolivia, where prison health services were not yet up to ensuring the continuity of training.

AUTHORITIES

National authorities and OAS permanent missions discussed with the ICRC the need to regulate the use of force in situations of violence, to respect the emblem and to prevent disappearances. The OAS adopted a resolution on missing persons proposed by Peru at its 40th General Assembly in Lima.

In all three countries, following up a 2008 regional meeting, experts carried out ICRC-commissioned studies on the compatibility of international rules governing the use of force with national legislation. Ecuador's IHL committee included regulation of the use of force and the protection of civilians in its two-year work plan and worked towards the adoption of emblem legislation, while Peru's committee drafted legislation on the use of force by the military, according to IHL requirements and other applicable standards. The proper use of force was also the central theme debated by government, military, civil society and National Society representatives at the fifth Miguel Grau seminar organized by Peru's IHL committee, with ICRC technical support. Based on the outcome of ICRC-initiated workshops in 2009, the committee prepared a working paper for the authorities outlining best practices in preventing disappearances, clarifying the fate of missing persons and providing support to their families.

The Ecuadorean and Peruvian IHL committees drew on ICRC expertise to promote and implement IHL treaties and sent representatives to a regional conference of IHL committees (see *Mexico*), while the Bolivian committee requested the ICRC's cooperation. Ecuador ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on Enforced Disappearance and examined draft legislation to implement the Rome Statute. Peru drafted legislation outlawing the recruitment of child soldiers.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In all dialogue with the ICRC, whether at central level or on the spot following violent incidents, weapon bearers were reminded to observe rules governing the use of force and respect humanitarian principles.

Armed forces incorporate IHL and human rights standards

The Bolivian Defence Ministry and the ICRC signed a cooperation agreement on the integration of IHL and international human rights norms into military doctrine, training and operations and began working on an action plan.

In Ecuador, IHL had been integrated into military curricula at all levels. The IHL committee, comprising representatives of the Ministry of Defence, armed forces Joint Command,

the Ecuadorean Red Cross and the ICRC, included in its agenda the revision of legislation regulating armed forces' activities on the Colombian border. The National Society also accompanied the ICRC in its dialogue with weapon bearers stationed in Quito and near the northern border.

In both countries, the vice-ministers of defence and military commanders listened to presentations on IHL and ICRC activities, and officers attended courses for IHL/international human rights law instructors; in Bolivia, these were organized by the Defence Ministry, with ICRC support, and in Ecuador, by the ICRC. In Ecuador, troops were familiarized with the basic principles of IHL.

The Peruvian armed forces' IHL centre organized some 60 courses on IHL/international human rights law for officers and other military personnel, with ICRC input. Peacekeepers going to Haiti learnt about the ICRC's mandate and activities at two courses organized by the peacekeeping training centre.

Ecuador and Peru sent officers to an IHL course in San Remo, while Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian officers participated in the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, held in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Police work to integrate rules on the use of force

After signing an agreement with the ICRC, the Bolivian Interior Ministry and police commanders established an action plan, allowing training in international standards governing the use of force to go ahead, and requested ICRC input to update police doctrine.

In Ecuador, the police human rights department pursued cooperation with the ICRC, requesting its expertise in the drafting of a manual on law enforcement operations. Police officers stationed in Cuenca and along the northern border learnt about human rights norms relating to policing at two seminars organized with ICRC participation.

Peru's police leadership and the ICRC discussed strategies to limit the use of force in situations of violence, starting with police doctrine and education and focusing on special units. At two ICRC-supported training events, 30 instructors updated their human rights teaching skills, and 50 riot police studied human rights norms.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Regionwide, the general public kept abreast of ICRC activities through a variety of sources, including the ICRC website and the media. To be able to portray these accurately and help raise awareness of humanitarian concerns, some 150 journalists attended briefings and workshops; in Peru, the plight of missing persons' families was highlighted in an initiative to commemorate the missing by knitting a giant "Scarf of hope". A wide audience learnt about the humanitarian consequences of violence and the dangers of weapon contamination by cluster munitions through two ICRC photo exhibitions.

With ICRC sponsorship, university lecturers from Ecuador and Peru attended an advanced IHL course in Switzerland, while a Peruvian student team participated in the 22nd Jean Pictet Competition on IHL held in Canada. Peru's Centre for Higher National Studies introduced a human rights law/IHL master's degree, and another university incorporated IHL slots into penal law and public administration courses. Peru's Catholic University integrated IHL into international public law studies and hosted a conference on forensic anthropology and a human rights contest for representatives of relevant universities in the region.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian Red Cross Societies strengthened their emergency response capacities with ICRC technical support and funding, enabling them to respond in situations of violence (see *Context*), and the Ecuadorean Red Cross to work along the northern border (see *Civilians*). All three National Societies trained staff and volunteers in first aid and the Safer Access approach and carried out family-links activities, following ICRC training in 2009.

With support from the International Federation and the ICRC, the Peruvian Red Cross started an extensive review process ahead of developing a 2011–2020 strategic plan and revising its statutes. The National Society leadership elected in 2009 was still waiting to take over from the transitional management appointed during the internal crisis.

MEXICO CITY (regional)

COVERING: Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,370
Assistance	331
Prevention	2,671
Cooperation with National Societies	562
General	-

▶ **4,934**

of which: Overheads 301

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	10
National staff (daily workers not included)	34

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ familiarized over 1,700 members of the Central American, Guatemalan, Honduran and Mexican armed forces with IHL and the rules governing the use of force in law enforcement
- ▶ in cooperation with the National Societies, provided health care to border communities in Panama and first-aid, ambulance and limb-fitting services to injured migrants in Central America and Mexico
- ▶ with the judiciary authorities, held Mexico's first national conference of forensic services, resulting in the creation of a working group to establish a national protocol for the identification of dead bodies
- ▶ under the auspices of the Mexican Foreign Ministry, organized an international conference of national IHL committees from Latin America and the Caribbean
- ▶ following an earlier agreement with the Mexican navy, welcomed the willingness expressed by Mexico's National Defence Secretariat to cooperate on the integration of IHL and human rights norms by the army and air force
- ▶ in Honduras, signed an agreement with the Ministry of Education on an "Opening Humanitarian Spaces" project to address the consequences of violence affecting inner-city schools

The Mexico delegation opened in 1998, becoming a regional delegation in 2002. It strengthens the capacities of the region's National Societies, works with them to meet the needs of violence-affected people, including those in Panama affected by the conflict in Colombia, and vulnerable migrants, monitors detainees' conditions, and endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons, particularly in Guatemala. It helps integrate IHL into armed forces' doctrine and into academic curricula, and human rights norms applicable to the use of force into the doctrine, training and operations of security forces. The delegation hosts the regional advisory service on IHL.

CONTEXT

Growing violence linked to the expansion of organized crime meant that the region's governments frequently deployed armed forces alongside police to ensure law and order. Social tensions often led to protest movements and, occasionally, violence. In Mexico, armed confrontations between drug cartels and security forces had severe consequences for civilians caught in the crossfire and exposed many, including Red Cross workers, journalists and human rights defenders, to deadly dangers. In Guatemala, the government declared a state of siege in Coban in December to curb organized crime.

Tensions between Costa Rica and Nicaragua arose over their San Juan river border dispute. Panama continued to feel the

spillover effects of the conflict and drug trade in Colombia, particularly in the Darién border region. In Honduras, following the overthrow of the previous government in June 2009, the new government continued to seek recognition by the Organization of American States (OAS).

Migrants headed for the United States of America risked abuses, physical injury and even death on their hazardous journey. The region remained affected by the issue of people unaccounted for as a result of past and current violence and by migration.

In Cuba, after the hunger strike and death of a human rights activist, the authorities released the majority of a group of 75 detainees allegedly held for political reasons.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS			
PROTECTION			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages		Total	UAMs/SCs*
RCMs distributed		2	
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Total	Women Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		2	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)		3	1
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹			
ICRC visits		Total	Women Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually		84	3
Detainees newly registered		53	2
Number of visits carried out		40	
Number of places of detention visited		21	
Restoring family links		Total	
RCMs collected		1	
RCMs distributed		1	
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		2	
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		6	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued		2	

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Honduras, Mexico and Panama

ASSISTANCE				
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)²				
Health			Total	Women Children
Health centres supported	Structures		3	
Average catchment population			2,290	
Consultations	Patients		662	
	<i>of which curative</i>	Patients		54 334
	<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>	Patients		18
Immunizations	Doses		337	
	<i>of which for children aged five or under</i>	Doses	201	
	<i>of which for women of childbearing age</i>	Doses	136	
Health education	Sessions		2	
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Physical rehabilitation³				
Centres supported	Structures		4	
Patients receiving services	Patients		36	
New patients fitted with prostheses	Patients		36	
Prostheses delivered	Units		36	

2. Panama only

3. Guatemala and Mexico

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

As a priority, alongside cooperation on IHL integration, the ICRC strengthened its dialogue with Mexican and Central American armed and security forces, including, at the regional level, the Conference of Central American Armed Forces (CAFC), on international human rights norms applicable to law enforcement operations. After completing the training of Mexican federal police instructors in human rights norms and humanitarian principles, the ICRC pursued discussions with the Public Security Secretariat regarding the integration of these norms into police doctrine and education. In Guatemala, similar activities resumed. A joint assessment of the state of IHL integration in the military started in Guatemala, based on a previous exercise conducted in El Salvador.

In Mexico, the ICRC stepped up visits to people detained for alleged links with armed groups or arrested during confrontations with security forces, mainly in the southern states. In Panama, visits continued to detained Colombian nationals allegedly linked to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). In Honduras, as in Mexico, comprehensive agreements giving the ICRC access to detainees in any prison were being studied. The ICRC addressed the overarching issue of detainee health by, among other things, sponsoring relevant officials from the region to participate in an ICRC prison health seminar in Peru (see *Lima*).

In meetings with the Guatemalan authorities, the ICRC stressed the need to address the issue of persons missing as a result of confrontations in the 1970s and 80s, including the support due to their families. In parallel, it provided technical and financial support to relevant State institutions and NGOs and helped families deal with administrative, legal and economic problems arising in connection with the disappearance of a relative. With the Mexican authorities and forensic services, it started the process of building national forensic and institutional capacities to improve the management and identification of dead bodies.

In Panama's Darién region, the Red Cross Society of Panama and the ICRC assessed and then reoriented their joint health activities to also meet the longer-term water and sanitation needs of border communities. The ICRC signed a headquarters agreement with the authorities formalizing its presence in the country.

The ICRC continued to fund Guatemalan, Mexican and Salvadorean Red Cross services for vulnerable and injured migrants and increased its support to prosthetic/orthotic centres treating them.

In cooperation with the International Federation and other Movement partners, Mexican and Central American Red Cross Societies continued to receive ICRC support in implementing the Safer Access approach in situations of violence. Across the board, National Societies worked to develop a regional family-links strategy for migrants and natural disaster victims. To help address youth violence, the ICRC continued supporting a project run by the Guatemalan and Spanish Red Cross Societies in Guatemala

City and worked with Honduran education professionals to develop a project for inner-city schools, building on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

The ICRC participated in regional fora, including the OAS and the Central American Integration System (SICA), to ensure that topics of humanitarian concern, in particular the missing persons issue, stayed on the agenda, to contribute IHL and humanitarian expertise to their deliberations, and to foster understanding of its neutral, impartial and independent stance. The Mexico City-based IHL advisory service for Latin America and the Caribbean continued to work with national authorities to promote the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. The ICRC coordinated its activities with Movement partners and other humanitarian players, as appropriate.

CIVILIANS

Addressing the issue of persons missing as a result of armed conflict, other situations of violence, natural disaster or migration remained a key concern across the region, requiring forensic, legal, psychological and social expertise. In April, a Guatemalan Red Cross representative and Mexican forensic expert updated their knowledge of human-remains management at an ICRC-led course in Geneva, Switzerland. Meanwhile, 10 psychological and social counsellors from 5 countries covered by the Mexico delegation shared best practices with their colleagues at the second World Congress on Psychosocial Work in Exhumation Processes, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth, held in Bogotá (see *Colombia*).

Guatemalan families assisted in their search for information on missing relatives

Guatemala's non-international armed conflict, which spanned three decades, left tens of thousands of people unaccounted for. Their families continued to encounter administrative, legal and economic problems. A draft law on the establishment of a permanent commission on missing persons was still awaiting final approval in Congress. In meetings with the ICRC vice-president in February, the authorities discussed the problems experienced by missing persons' families and the need to create a national search committee to inject fresh momentum into the process of clarifying the fate of the disappeared. The authorities received an ICRC report providing them with essential guidance on these issues.

Families continued to receive assistance from State institutions and NGOs working to ascertain the fate of missing persons, reunite families and provide psychological support; 14 NGOs and more than 20 local committees in 5 departments received funding and/or technical and material support, including computer equipment and training, from the ICRC; a total of 19 NGOs were trained in the use of the national ante/post-mortem database, based on specially designed ICRC software to facilitate data centralization and management. Thanks to the work of institutions and NGOs, 362 families started searching for missing relatives, while another 395 families whose relatives' remains had been found were able to give them a proper burial. Thirty-five people who had been

separated from their families as children were reunited with kin. Nearly 650 birth, death and marriage certificates were delivered to facilitate administrative procedures for missing persons' relatives.

Preparations were made to commission a study aimed at identifying ways of speeding up legal procedures for the exhumation of human remains.

Mexico takes steps to establish a national protocol for the identification of the dead

In Mexico, inadequate investigation and identification procedures reportedly resulted in unidentified human remains, including those of many migrants, being disposed of in a way that precluded any possibility of recovery for future identification. In their dialogue with the ICRC, the authorities were urged to create a national protocol and mechanism to standardize and facilitate the search for missing persons and identification of the dead. To enable Mexican agencies and investigators to share information and expertise with their counterparts from abroad, the Federal District Supreme Court of Justice and the ICRC co-organized the country's first national meeting of forensic services in Mexico City, with the participation of armed forces and police representatives and experts from abroad. The meeting resulted in the creation of a working group to draw up a national protocol for the identification of dead bodies. The proposal to establish such a protocol was approved by the conference of directors of forensic services under the public prosecutor at year-end, which enabled the working group to start the drafting process, with ICRC guidance.

Efforts made to reduce the effects of excessive use of force

Across the region, governments opted for robust policies to fight expanding organized crime. Social unrest frequently led to clashes between demonstrators and law enforcement agents. As part of ICRC efforts to address the excessive use of force in these situations, Central American and Mexican armed and security forces were reminded of international human rights norms applicable to law enforcement operations (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). Violence also affected many urban areas, prompting Red Cross initiatives to help their inhabitants. A project run by the Guatemalan and Spanish Red Cross Societies enabled 100 residents and National Society volunteers in two violence-affected neighbourhoods of Guatemala City to receive ICRC-funded training in first aid and the Safer Access approach. An ICRC assessment prepared the ground for future health activities.

Struggling communities and injured migrants access medical care

In Panama's Darién region, indigenous families and Colombians who had fled the violence in their home country had extremely limited access to primary health care services and lived in precarious hygiene conditions. In the course of three field visits carried out jointly by Red Cross Society of Panama/ICRC mobile health teams in April, August and October, 662 people in 6 communities had medical consultations and learnt about hygiene measures; training for community health workers was in preparation. Uprooted families were offered ICRC services to locate or restore contact with

relatives. The April tour had to be interrupted because of security concerns raised by the authorities but was completed in July. An assessment of the communities' longer-term needs undertaken during the April visit resulted in plans to improve their access to basic health care, clean water and emergency assistance, to be provided by the local branch of the Panamanian Red Cross and the ICRC. The National Society branch premises were being refurbished in the latter part of the year in preparation for these activities.

Many US-bound Central American and Mexican migrants were seriously injured travelling north in dangerous conditions and were left stranded in border regions, with little chance of access to physical rehabilitation. Sick or injured migrants were transported home by Guatemalan and Mexican Red Cross ambulance services, with the ICRC covering the costs. To that end, Guatemalan Red Cross volunteers of the Tecun Uman branch received first-aid training and supplies. Migration officers were trained in first aid by the Salvadorean Red Cross, enabling them to treat migrants if needed. People who had injured or lost a limb had access to appropriate care delivered by an ICRC-trained technician at a physical rehabilitation centre in Mexico and at three centres in Guatemala, all supplied by the ICRC with equipment and raw materials to produce prosthetic/orthotic devices. With ICRC sponsorship, three technicians from Honduras and Mexico were trained in ICRC polypropylene technology. In total, 36 patients regained mobility through ICRC-supported services, three times the number assisted in 2009.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Mexico, people detained for alleged links with armed groups or arrested in connection with political unrest, mainly arising from social, ethnic and land issues in Chiapas, Guerrero and Oaxaca states, were visited by delegates according to standard ICRC procedures. They checked on detainees' treatment and living conditions and provided confidential feedback to the authorities. Intensified contacts with authorities and an increased ICRC presence in the southern states led to more frequent visits. Detainees on hunger strike in Chiapas state were visited by an ICRC doctor, who provided the authorities with written recommendations regarding their health, in line with World Medical Association guidelines. Six detainees were visited by family, with transport costs covered by the ICRC. In the state of Guerrero, the Mexican Red Cross branch and the ICRC concluded an agreement aimed at providing immediate assistance to families of people detained there. Federal prison guards were trained in detention standards as part of the ICRC train-the-trainer programme on human rights and humanitarian principles for federal police (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). Efforts to secure a comprehensive agreement on visits to detainees in any prison were ongoing with the public security authorities.

In Honduras, a similar agreement was being discussed with the new authorities. Two people detained in the aftermath of political upheaval in 2009 were visited.

In Panama, one person still detained in connection with the 1989 US military operation and other people arrested for alleged links with the FARC were similarly visited by ICRC delegates. Acting on ICRC recommendations, the authorities transferred four detainees from a transitory to a permanent detention facility in March.

To enhance their expertise on prison health issues, one Guatemalan and six Mexican officials took part in the ICRC's fourth Latin American seminar on prison health (see *Lima*). Following an assessment of the prison health system in Guerrero state, the ICRC looked into the possibility of providing the authorities with technical support in this domain, including training in HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis management for prison doctors. As Guatemala's national mechanism for the prevention of torture was not yet functioning, ICRC training plans for members were postponed.

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with the region's governments focused on rules governing the use of force in law enforcement operations (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). The Guatemalan authorities were urged to address the missing persons issue (see *Civilians*) and consulted the ICRC on the creation of national search and reparations mechanisms.

States worked with the ICRC to promote IHL through their national IHL committees, inspired by events such as an international conference of IHL committees from Latin America, the Caribbean and Suriname, hosted by Mexico's IHL committee and attended by representatives of 17 countries and the OAS. The third Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, (see *International Law and Cooperation*) helped galvanize processes, including the revision of national penal codes by the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico. Guatemala and Panama ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Dominican Republic ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Additional Protocols I to IV, while Honduras and Panama ratified Additional Protocol V to that Convention. Honduras also ratified the Environmental Modification Convention. Mexico and Panama were encouraged to ratify, respectively, Additional Protocols II and III to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

Inter-American institutions helped promote IHL in their member States. The OAS Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs co-organized with the ICRC the fourth annual IHL course for OAS officials and members of permanent commissions and the eighth OAS special session on IHL, and requested ICRC expertise on the International Criminal Court (see *Washington*). The Inter-American Court of Human Rights held another IHL study day and exchanged expertise with the ICRC, as did the Inter-American Juridical Committee.

Based on their 2009 agreement, SICA and the ICRC discussed cooperation possibilities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces urged to apply rules on the use of force alongside IHL

The Guatemalan, Honduran and Mexican armed forces were urged to apply rules governing the use of force and firearms in law enforcement, in addition to incorporating IHL. Nearly 1,700 armed forces' legal advisers, defence officials, military trainers, and military and civilian personnel were familiarized with such rules, as well as with IHL, through ICRC presentations and training sessions.

As done in El Salvador, the Guatemalan armed forces and the ICRC started a joint assessment of the state of IHL integration, including the integration of rules governing the use of force in military manuals. In December, Mexico's Secretariat of National Defence agreed to cooperate with the ICRC on the promotion of IHL and human rights norms in the army and air force; cooperation with the navy had already started.

In support of CAFC peacekeeping missions, 400 Guatemalan personnel heading abroad were briefed on the ICRC and the Movement; 42 members of the regional body were trained in rules governing the use of force and on the repression of war crimes.

Six representatives in all from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua were sponsored by the ICRC to attend the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*) and IHL training in San Remo.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	HONDURAS	MEXICO	PANAMA
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2	63	19
<i>of whom women</i>		3	
Detainees newly registered	1	38	14
<i>of whom women</i>		2	
Number of visits carried out	2	33	5
Number of places of detention visited	1	17	3
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected			1
RCMs distributed			1
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		2	
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		6	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued		2	

In Cuba, the IHL study centre run by the National Society with ICRC funding pursued its teaching, research and dissemination activities mainly aimed at armed and security forces.

Police trained in human rights norms and proper use of force

After ICRC training, 3 police officials from Honduras and Panama and 98 federal police instructors and 3 prison officials from Mexico stood ready to coach police and penitentiary personnel in human rights norms and humanitarian principles. Twenty Mexican federal trainers had in-depth training in the proper use of force and the integration of human rights norms into police doctrine and education. Discussions were ongoing with the Secretariat of Public Security on allowing such integration to go ahead. Some 90 federal police officers, state police directors and public security officials involved in crime-fighting were trained in or briefed on the proper use of force and ICRC activities. In Guatemala, 47 officers of the National Civil Police attended a seminar on these topics.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public learnt about ICRC activities through the media and ICRC sources, including two photo exhibitions to mark the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Red Cross and an electronic newsletter on mine action. In Guatemala, key media representatives were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities so they could report on them more accurately. In Mexico, over 150 journalists and State and human rights representatives attended workshops on security issues and/or ICRC activities.

Contact was maintained with academic institutions, and a lecturer from Mexico was sponsored to attend advanced IHL training in Geneva, Switzerland. The Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in Costa Rica held a multidisciplinary course enriched by ICRC presentations.

In Honduras, to ensure that secondary school pupils would continue to study humanitarian principles after the ICRC's handover of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme to the authorities, education professionals were trained in project management and specific teaching skills. Simultaneously, the education authorities agreed to an ICRC project entitled "Opening Humanitarian Spaces" to address violence in 20 schools in 5 affected regions.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With funding and technical back-up from the ICRC and other Movement partners, the National Societies of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama made or updated contingency plans and trained staff and volunteers in the Safer Access approach. In Nicaragua, the new National Society board and chapters were inducted into their responsibilities.

National Societies worked with the ICRC and assisted sick or injured migrants (see *Civilians*); Red Cross representatives participated in the conference of national IHL committees (see *Authorities*).

The Honduran, Italian and Swiss Red Cross Societies continued the "Broadening Opportunities" (*Ampliando Oportunidades*) project in Tegucigalpa, enabling more than 2,500 violence-affected youngsters to learn first-aid, literacy and job skills.

Dominican and Mexican Red Cross volunteers were trained with a view to increasing the pool of family-links experts in the Americas available for emergencies. During the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, all National Societies activated their networks and connected their web pages to the ICRC's. The National Societies of El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico restored family links, with ICRC technical back-up, following a tropical storm and flooding.

The Cuban Red Cross created a dissemination training centre and included family-links provisions in its contingency plans.

WASHINGTON (regional)

COVERING: Canada, United States of America, Organization of American States



ICRC regional delegation ICRC delegation

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,093
Assistance	-
Prevention	3,256
Cooperation with National Societies	932
General	-

▶ **6,281**

of which: Overheads 383

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	103%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	11
National staff (daily workers not included)	19

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ through special briefings given by its field staff, reinforced its operational dialogue with US political and military authorities
- ▶ was increasingly consulted by members of the US administration, security agencies and the law and policy system on detention/internment policy and other IHL-related and humanitarian issues
- ▶ stepped up telephone and videoconferencing services to restore/maintain contact between people in US custody at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and their families in 22 countries
- ▶ strengthened IHL expertise by helping to establish common teaching practices at top law schools across the United States of America
- ▶ fostered exchanges between civil society and national authorities at fora on civil-military relations and IHL

Established in 1995, the Washington regional delegation engages in a regular dialogue on IHL and issues of humanitarian concern with government officials and bodies, academic institutions and other interested groups in Canada and the United States of America. The delegation heightens awareness of the ICRC's mandate, mobilizes political and financial support for ICRC activities and secures support for IHL implementation. It visits people held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba. It works closely with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies, focusing on their international activities and the promotion of IHL.

CONTEXT

The US administration continued to face significant economic and foreign policy challenges. National security remained a major concern, prompting the State Department legal adviser to reaffirm the right of the United States of America (hereafter United States) to self-defence.

Over the course of the year, the government stalled or backtracked on many of its detention policy initiatives, including efforts to close the internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, transfer its inmates to the United States and try suspects through civilian courts. Mid-term elections in November 2010

resulted in a Republican majority in the House of Representatives and a narrow Democratic majority in the Senate, which increased uncertainty over policy directions.

At the international level, the United States continued to withdraw US combat troops from Iraq, but stepped up its military effort in Afghanistan.

The US response to the earthquake in Haiti was substantial. The year also saw the administration take the leadership on nuclear issues, re-engage with the UN Human Rights Council and the International Criminal Court, and initiate a review of its stance on the Mine Ban Convention.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS			
PROTECTION			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
Phone calls facilitated between family members ¹	489		
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	1		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	199		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	196		
Number of visits carried out	10		
Number of places of detention visited	2		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	3,043		
RCMs distributed	1,972		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	407		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	25		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Phone calls/videoconferences between people held in US custody in Guantanamo Bay and their families abroad

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Washington delegation maintained close contacts within the US law and policy system connecting government, NGOs, media, think-tanks and universities. Network-building and awareness-raising helped the ICRC enhance its understanding of the system and engage in a substantive dialogue with the various components.

The ICRC expanded its dialogue with the US authorities, especially the Department of Defense, on the protection of civilians in military operations. It provided input on IHL for military doctrinal texts and for debates on the modalities of the use of force by the United States outside existing theatres of military operations.

Contacts with senior military personnel on US soil played an important role in promoting respect for civilians in battle zones. ICRC pre-deployment training helped heighten military awareness of the risks faced by civilians and of the organization's work and neutral, impartial and independent stance.

ICRC activities and working methods also formed the substance of briefings provided to US political and military authorities both by

the Washington delegation and visiting ICRC delegates from the field or the organization's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. These personalized briefings helped maintain US trust in the ICRC and funding for its operations. By organizing visits for congressional staff to its operations in Georgia and the Balkans, the ICRC aimed to give them first-hand insights into the humanitarian issues at stake and the ICRC's response.

As a matter of priority, the ICRC continued to visit people held in the Guantanamo Bay internment facility and helped them maintain family contact via RCMs and increasingly also through expanded telephone and videoconferencing services.

Efforts to establish the ICRC as a reference organization on IHL resulted in numerous invitations for the delegation to take part in government and civil society discussion panels on humanitarian and IHL-related issues. This led to lively interaction with a widening network of political and military circles, including, at the regional level, the Organization of American States (OAS).

As before, the delegation shared electronic and printed information on ICRC operations, as well as IHL reference materials, with authorities and civil society, including the media.

Cooperation continued with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies, focusing mainly on a consistent approach to the media and IHL promotion across civil society. The two National Societies and the ICRC also worked together as the Movement rolled out its earthquake response in Haiti.

CIVILIANS

There continued to be civilian casualties as a result of US military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The humanitarian consequences of military activity and the importance of conducting hostilities in line with IHL rules thus remained at the core of the in-depth dialogue between US authorities and senior military personnel and the ICRC, both in the United States and in the field. These discussions aimed to heighten awareness of the risks faced by civilians during military operations; combined with training sessions and briefings for the US military, they contributed to enhancing understanding of the ICRC's role and mandate (see *Authorities* and *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

By year-end, 174 people remained in US custody at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station. They included: internees who had been cleared for departure by an Inter-Agency Task Force, but for whom no suitable host country had yet been found or whom the US authorities deemed to pose a security threat should they return to their countries of origin; people identified for indefinite internment or awaiting trial; and a small number sentenced by military commissions.

The detainees continued to receive visits, according to standard ICRC procedures, from delegates who checked that their treatment and living conditions complied with internationally recognized standards. The findings were shared confidentially with the detaining authorities. One detainee was visited in a detention facility on the US mainland.

Many of the detainees/internees had significantly improved family contact after family phone calls were introduced in 2008, including "humanitarian calls" arranged rapidly following the death of a close relative. The number of inmates able to interact visually with their families via videoconferencing, starting in 2009, grew rapidly as the service was extended to Saudi Arabia in September and to Yemen in December, raising to 22 the number of countries where it was available. In total, 489 phone calls and videoconference calls took place

in 2010 and delegates made 407 calls to convey messages between detainees/internees and their relatives. Family visits for all persons held at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station continued to be recommended by the ICRC, which offered its services to facilitate them.

The US authorities and the ICRC held regular discussions on detention-related issues, including clarification of the legal framework governing present and future US detention/internment at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station and in other operational theatres.

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with an expanding network of political decision-makers remained essential to promoting respect for IHL and mobilizing support for the ICRC. Consultations with the US administration covered, for example, detention/internment-related issues, humanitarian concerns in Afghanistan and Iraq, ICRC operations elsewhere, and the geographic scope of IHL applicability. The US authorities and members of security agencies and the law and policy system sought the ICRC's views on topics ranging from detention policy reviews to the modalities of using force in potential military operations conducted outside existing battlefields.

The government used ICRC input for its policy review on anti-personnel landmines and a report on sexual violence in parts of Africa.

Congress members and staff gained insights into ICRC working methods through field visits to Georgia and the Western Balkans. Congressional counsels preparing for hearings on US drone policy and Truman Security Fellows obtained IHL expertise during ICRC briefings. Congressional staff studied IHL topics at a seminar hosted by the Congressional Research Service and another co-hosted by the Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School, the University of Virginia and the ICRC.

Substantive dialogue with the Canadian and US authorities on the protection of civilians not or no longer participating in hostilities led to a better mutual understanding of viewpoints.

In Canada, official investigations into the treatment of Afghan detainees by Canadian forces were followed closely by the ICRC.

IHL is promoted throughout the Americas

The OAS and its related bodies drew on ICRC expertise on IHL, rules governing the use of force and humanitarian issues.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	Guantanamo	USA
ICRC visits		
Detainees visited	198	1
Detainees visited and monitored individually	195	1
Number of visits carried out	9	1
Number of places of detention visited	1	1
Restoring family links		
RCMs collected	3,043	
RCMs distributed	1,972	
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	407	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	25	

Following the earthquake in Haiti, the OAS referred to the ICRC family-links website in its disaster response information. At the organization's general assembly, member States adopted IHL-related resolutions, for example on missing persons and IDPs.

Diplomats and staff of inter-American entities studied IHL and other international norms at an ICRC course, while defence ministers of the Americas renewed their commitment to these bodies of law at their ninth conference. Contacts with Washington-based OAS diplomats enhanced support for ICRC operations in their respective countries.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The dialogue between the US military and the ICRC focused on the conduct of hostilities and protection of civilians in military operations, detention/internment-related issues and the inclusion of IHL elements in training and doctrine. Relations with the Department of Defense were further consolidated through high-level meetings. Operational dialogue was expanded to include the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Pre-deployment briefings for US troops on the ICRC's mandate and activities remained a priority, particularly for Marines units deploying to southern Afghanistan, and were extended to Marines units preparing for global deployment at sea. Officers taking part in mission rehearsal exercises organized by the Joint Warfighting Centre and Canadian troops going abroad were similarly briefed.

Interaction with US Special Operations forces was substantiated through operational briefings conducted jointly with their training division and with the Joint Special Operations University. Staff at Special Operations Command headquarters were briefed on major ICRC operations.

Leading military education facilities, for example the National Defense University, pursued joint activities with the ICRC. Contact was consolidated with the US land forces through an ICRC visit to the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth and initiated with two additional Combatant Commands.

Contacts were expanded with Army, Marines and Special Operations civil affairs units. The Military Police School requested regular ICRC participation in their captains' career course. Career officers at specialized military schools were briefed on the ICRC and IHL, as were provincial reconstruction teams deploying to Afghanistan and, for the first time, participants in a Canadian Forces interrogators' course.

The US Joint Forces Command drew on ICRC input regarding IDPs for their Joint Rule of Law Handbook, while the military media received ICRC press releases.

Both the Canadian and the US armed forces sent representatives to the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

Key think-tanks and NGOs deepened their understanding of IHL and humanitarian concerns by drawing on ICRC expertise, for example regarding respect for civilians and health services in armed conflict and professional protection standards. The US Institute of Peace Working Group on Civil-Military Relations consulted the ICRC on guidelines for such relations and for peace-keeping operations. Others similarly shared expertise and worked with the ICRC to increase awareness of humanitarian issues and IHL-related topics by organizing or participating in events on such themes. This helped give the ICRC greater insight into key humanitarian and policy debates in North America.

Policy-makers and law experts in Canada and the United States, also drawn from government and military circles, built their IHL expertise and forged mutual links through participation in fora involving the ICRC, including events co-hosted with top universities. ICRC-trained experts went on to lecture at the ICRC's IHL courses in North America and Europe.

More than 6,000 people gained better understanding of humanitarian issues by viewing the "Our World At War" travelling photo exhibition and participating in associated events. The exhibition was co-hosted by the American Red Cross and, in Boston, by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, providing opportunities to forge new partnerships for promoting humanitarian topics.

The media and other target groups were updated on ICRC operations and IHL topics via the ICRC's electronic monthly newsletter and other information materials. More than 4,000 publications were distributed, including an IHL reference library requested by the US Department of Justice.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The American and Canadian Red Cross Societies cooperated with the ICRC to promote IHL, highlight humanitarian concerns and inform the media. During the initial Movement response to the earthquake in Haiti, they used ICRC family-links and media relations expertise.

Both National Societies expanded their IHL-related activities, particularly the Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme, with ICRC funding. The American Red Cross increased the programme's audience via its website, publications and teacher training. An ICRC-funded survey showed heightened awareness of IHL-related issues among US and Canadian pupils studying the programme.

The Canadian Red Cross drew on ICRC expertise to organize IHL events for diplomats and continued its joint project with the Liu Institute for Global Issues to mobilize IHL capacity in policymaking. ICRC-trained Red Cross volunteers took part in simulated field exercises of the Canadian military.

NEW YORK



The multiple tasks and activities of the UN often have implications of a humanitarian nature. Operating since 1983, the ICRC delegation to the UN serves as a support and a liaison for ICRC operational and legal initiatives. The delegation conveys the ICRC's viewpoint, keeps abreast of trends and developments relating to humanitarian issues and promotes IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,533
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **2,533**

of which: Overheads 155

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	4
National staff (daily workers not included)	7

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- president and other senior ICRC representatives exchanged views on humanitarian issues and contexts with members of the UN Security Council and selected member States of the UN General Assembly
- vice-president highlighted the ICRC's mandate in a ministerial-level meeting to mark the 10th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security
- director-general reaffirmed the ICRC's central role in the protection of civilians in armed conflict in an address to the Security Council
- made 9 official statements before the General Assembly on legal, thematic and humanitarian issues
- maintained its outreach to the diplomatic community, including through the 27th annual seminar on IHL for UN-accredited diplomats and numerous thematic and operational briefings
- on a monthly basis, briefed the rotating presidency of the Security Council on humanitarian issues

CONTEXT

The UN and diplomatic community in New York continued to address topics of global concern and contexts of relevance to the ICRC.

The efficiency of humanitarian action and coordination was called into question at year-end following the large-scale response by the UN, international humanitarian organizations and NGOs to needs resulting from January's earthquake in Haiti and August's floods in Pakistan.

The UN Security Council oversaw UN peacekeeping operations and monitored situations around the world, including many in which the ICRC operated. It also addressed themes of interest to the ICRC, such as: the protection of civilians in armed conflict; women and children affected by armed conflict; post-conflict peacebuilding; disarmament and non-proliferation; strategies for UN peacekeeping operations; and international criminal justice.

Weapons and disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, remained key issues. The 2010 Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons took place in May, and the first Preparatory Committee for the Arms Trade Treaty was held in July.

Women were high on the UN agenda, with the 10th anniversary of the Security Council's landmark resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, the decision to create a UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the appointment of a special representative of the secretary-general on sexual violence in conflict and, as a follow-up to renewed reports of mass rapes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in August, a Security Council resolution establishing a monitoring and reporting mechanism on conflict-related sexual violence.

The Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute met in New York twice, before and after the first Review Conference of the Statute in Kampala, Uganda, in June.

At the 65th session of the UN General Assembly, many States defended the UN's relevance as the only truly global forum at a time when its legitimacy was being challenged. Apart from the situation in the Middle East, natural disasters received more attention than contexts involving the application of IHL. Member States continued to have divergent views on humanitarian issues, in particular on humanitarian action and coordination, the proposed Arms Trade Treaty, and universal jurisdiction for serious international crimes, including violations of IHL.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

To contribute to international efforts to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence worldwide, the ICRC maintained contact with UN bodies, member States, observers and civil society. Through seminars, meetings, reports and bilateral dialogue, the ICRC expressed its views and shared its legal expertise and operational perspective with UN and State officials, encouraging the incorporation of IHL and related humanitarian issues into UN activities, policies, programmes and resolutions.

The ICRC president's February meetings with members of the Security Council and General Assembly, meetings between other high-level ICRC representatives and UN and diplomatic officials, monthly meetings between delegates and the rotating Security Council president, and ICRC attendance at Security Council and General Assembly debates, enhanced understanding of each other's perspective on humanitarian issues and strengthened ties with member State and UN Secretariat representatives.

Visits of high-level ICRC representatives organized by the delegation included those of: the vice-president on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325; the director-general, notably to address the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict; the director and deputy director of operations; and three heads of operations.

As part of its ongoing activities to promote IHL and its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian approach among the diplomatic community in New York, the ICRC engaged with UN, member State and NGO representatives on matters within its expertise. It held bilateral meetings and organized briefings on topics such as IDPs, weapons and IHL, and the protection of civilians in armed conflict during peacekeeping operations. The delegation and the New York University School of Law jointly organized the 27th annual IHL seminar for State diplomats.

The delegation monitored international debates on and developments regarding humanitarian and IHL-related issues, including peacekeeping, humanitarian coordination and international criminal justice. To this end, it followed the work of UN bodies, in particular the Security Council and General Assembly, and maintained regular contact with the UN Secretariat and other UN bodies and agencies, including the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) and the Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). The delegation also contributed to UN discussions on specific topics, such as children, women and sexual violence in armed conflict, the Rome Statute, cluster munitions, nuclear disarmament, and operational contexts.

Events organized by NGOs provided further opportunities to contribute to humanitarian dialogue and coordination and to enhance understanding of each other's roles, challenges and activities. The delegation liaised with the International Federation's representatives in New York, to coordinate humanitarian diplomacy efforts.

AUTHORITIES

UN bodies and member States and the ICRC pursued dialogue on humanitarian issues and measures to protect and assist victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence.

In February, Security Council, General Assembly and Humanitarian Liaison Working Group members met the ICRC president for in-depth exchanges on humanitarian issues, IHL and the ICRC's mandate and operations. Monthly meetings between the Security Council president and ICRC delegates permitted regular discussion of humanitarian concerns and contexts on the Council's agenda. Delegates' attendance as observers at open debates served to further such discussions, with a debate on Kosovo resulting in the encouragement of parties to communicate information on missing persons to relevant organizations, including the ICRC, and another on the protection of civilians in armed conflict in which the ICRC, through its director-general, took on a central role.

Security Council and General Assembly members were informed of emerging humanitarian needs and responses through meetings, ICRC reports and press releases. Contacts were fostered with the UN Secretariat and other UN bodies, including the DPA and UNDSS, and strengthened during high-level meetings, including with member State representatives and:

- ▶ the UN under-secretary general for safety and security during a visit of the ICRC director of operations
- ▶ the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Conflict in connection with the ICRC vice-president's address to mark the 10th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325
- ▶ the Security Council, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other bodies during two visits of the director-general and a statement by the deputy director of operations at the opening of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) segment on humanitarian affairs
- ▶ the UN Secretariat, in particular the UN legal counsel and the OLA, during a visit of the head of the legal division

The ICRC's specific role and scope of activities in armed conflict and other situations of violence were highlighted during the address of the director-general to the Security Council and during briefings by the heads of ICRC operations in Africa and the Middle East for UN officials and member State representatives. ICRC operational practice in responding to sexual violence in armed conflict was kept regularly on the agenda, including during a panel discussion on violence against women at the annual meeting of the ECOSOC Commission on the Status of Women. Discussions also dealt with the importance of safeguarding neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and of recognizing the distinct roles of the UN and the ICRC while strengthening areas of complementarity. Delegates pursued this dialogue daily in many fora, including coordination meetings organized by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and OCHA. They provided input for various reports and draft resolutions, including the secretary-general's report on

humanitarian coordination submitted to ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

At the 65th session of the General Assembly, nine ICRC statements made in committees and the plenary raised member States' awareness of ICRC concerns and positions, including on internal displacement, children and women, humanitarian coordination, peacekeeping operations, weapons, and universal jurisdiction. Thematic and context-related resolutions adopted during the session included references to IHL and humanitarian issues discussed by the ICRC with member State representatives. Similarly, during their meetings, members of the Peacebuilding Commission drew on ICRC expertise.

Cooperation with the DPKO developed, notably with a first briefing on ICRC activities for police commissioners from peacekeeping operations and the second annual DPKO/ICRC workshop, bringing together peacekeeping officials with ICRC experts. Participants at a workshop organized by UN member States on the protection of civilians by peacekeeping forces and members of the Special Committee for Peacekeeping Operations benefited from ICRC contributions on the topic.

At the sessions of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute and at preparatory meetings for the June Review Conference, delegates provided expertise on ways to encourage States to pledge commitments to the Statute and discussed developments in international criminal law with State diplomats. An expert meeting on international criminal tribunals benefited from ICRC input. The UN high representative for disarmament affairs discussed the ICRC president's April 2010 statement on nuclear weapons with the ICRC delegation at the Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

UN and member State representatives consulted the ICRC on matters within its expertise, often sparked by their attendance at events held by or with ICRC participation. Many such events included input from ICRC operational and legal experts visiting New York.

State and/or UN representatives also attended:

- ▶ the 27th annual IHL seminar, organized jointly by the New York University School of Law and the ICRC, which focused on IHL and the protection of civilians in armed conflict
- ▶ a briefing on IHL for government legal advisers by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization and the ICRC
- ▶ briefings by ICRC experts on IDPs and the protection of civilians in armed conflict

Over 70 officers from some 50 States attending courses at the US Naval Staff College were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities worldwide.

To coordinate the above efforts in humanitarian diplomacy, information on UN-related activities and policies affecting

ICRC operations was exchanged regularly with ICRC headquarters and field delegations. Coordination with the International Federation's New York delegation on matters of common concern was strengthened.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In addition to regular exchange of information with the consortium of NGOs connected to the UN, workshops and seminars organized by think-tanks and NGOs contributed to strengthening humanitarian action and coordination and facilitated the exchange of views and expertise, in part thanks to ICRC participation. They also helped promote understanding of the ICRC's mandate and activities, as did the distribution of ICRC publications. Numerous bilateral meetings between civil society and ICRC representatives, including experts visiting New York, deepened dialogue on humanitarian issues.

UN media services and UN-accredited media included in their reports information based on ICRC news releases and interviews and briefings given by the delegation. Major UN-accredited media and the ICRC strengthened contacts during the year. Upon request, students and academics received briefings from the ICRC on IHL and humanitarian action.