



ICRC

ICRC Plan of Action 2006

Russian Federation

Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
THE ICRC IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION	2
SITUATION ANALYSIS	2
OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS FOR 2006	4
BUDGET 2006	6
NORTHERN CAUCASUS: HUMANITARIAN ACTION	7
PROTECTION ACTIVITIES	7
ASSISTANCE FOR RESIDENT POPULATION	9
ASSISTANCE FOR THE DISPLACED POPULATION	10
WATER, HYGIENE AND HOUSING FOR RESIDENT AND DISPLACED POPULATION	11
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO HEALTH STRUCTURES	12
ORTHOPAEDIC ASSISTANCE	13
MINE RISK EDUCATION FOR RESIDENTS	14
PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW	15
PROMOTION OF IHL WITH THE RUSSIAN AND INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES	15
PROMOTION OF IHL WITH THE ARMED AND SECURITY FORCES	16
PROMOTION OF IHL WITH CIVIL SOCIETY	17
CO-OPERATION WITH THE RUSSIAN RED CROSS	20
FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT	21

Introduction

The ICRC in the Russian Federation

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been working in the Russian Federation since 1992.

From its regional delegation in Moscow, the ICRC carries out a range of activities aimed at the integration of international humanitarian law (IHL) treaties into the national legislation as well as their teaching and promotion amongst the armed and security forces, universities, secondary schools and civil society. The Moscow delegation supports the implementation of these programmes in CIS countries.

In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC runs a major humanitarian operation comprising both protection and assistance programmes for the vulnerable populations affected by the conflict in Chechnya, as well as the promotion of IHL.

The ICRC supports the Russian Red Cross (RRC) and also implements a number of its programmes with this partner.

Situation Analysis

In the past years **the Russian Federation** achieved significant progress in the field of treaty ratification and integration of IHL into its national legislation. In 2005, technical problems and domestic constraints were often invoked to slow down the process. At the same time, Russian authorities actively participate to the design and adoption of the new treaties, such as the Third Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the Additional Emblem or the possible amendment of the International Criminal Court Statute in 2009.

In 2005, the resolution on the issue of the missing persons was adopted in the framework of the 3rd Interparliamentary Conference of the CIS countries. The CIS Interparliamentary Assembly also requested the ICRC to assist in the preparation of the draft model law on the missing persons.

The Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Interior continue to integrate IHL/HRL in the training of armed and security forces. Police and army officers attend specialized courses on a regular basis. Cadets from Russian military institutions demonstrate knowledge and competence at the International Competition for Military Academies at the International Institute of Humanitarian

Law in San Remo. Nevertheless significant progress remains to be made to fully integrate the knowledge of IHL at the level of field operations.

Russian universities show continued interest for IHL and actively participate in current debates about IHL during ICRC regional events and essay competitions. The ICRC increasingly works with an active network of Russian experts and partner organisations, such as the Russian Association of International Law, with whom a co-operation agreement was signed in 2003.

The Ministry of Education continues using the ICRC's manuals in secondary schools across all regions, allowing millions of pupils to read about and discuss the basic humanitarian principles. In 2005, the manuals were successfully introduced in five schools of Grozny, offering opportunities for an expansion of the programme in Chechen republic.

The security situation in **the northern Caucasus** remained tense in 2005.

The attack on Nalchik, the capital of **Kabardino-Balkaria**, in October 2005, resulting in a number of people dead, and followed by a series of arrests, created an atmosphere of unrest and fear among the civilian population in the republic.

In Daghestan, attacks on police forces and special operations continued throughout the year, causing numerous losses among the personnel as well as civilian casualties.

In Ingushetia, the situation has also remained volatile, with an increase of attacks in the second half of the year, targeting mostly the federal and local authorities.

In Chechnya, some developments improving the daily life of the population took place while parliamentary elections in November 2005 passed without major incidents.

However, security remained the overriding concern for the civilian population and hostilities continued. Arrests continued to take place and there were widespread public reports of disappearances.

Mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) still posed a problem for the civilian population as they went about their daily and seasonal activities.

The ICRC still has no news of its Grozny staff member, Usman Saidaliev, abducted by unidentified armed men at his home in Chechnya in August 2003.

Overview of Operations for 2006

Northern Caucasus: humanitarian action 2006

In 2006, the ICRC's large-scale operation in the northern Caucasus will continue to focus on assistance and protection activities. However, implementation of these programmes will depend on the security environment in the region.

The ICRC office in Nalchik co-ordinates humanitarian programmes carried out from the offices located in Nazran, Grozny, Khasavyurt, Makhachkala, Vladikavkaz and Stavropol. The ICRC expatriate team remains based in Nalchik, Nazran and Khasavyurt while missions to Chechnya will be carried out as conditions permit. In 2005, the expatriate staff was regularly present in Chechnya thanks to improved access and security arrangements. However, a great deal of responsibility remains placed on national staff.

The development of neutral and impartial humanitarian action remains a challenge in a context where the need for humanitarian assistance is still great. As a matter of priority in 2006, the ICRC will pursue discussions with the Russian authorities aimed at the resumption of visits – suspended since September 2004 – to people detained in connection with the conflict in Chechnya, in accordance with its standard procedures worldwide.

The ICRC also seeks to engage the authorities in a dialogue on missing persons and to promote respect for the civilian population in the northern Caucasus.

While the visits to detainees are suspended, the ICRC continues to establish and maintain links between detainees and their families. The Family Visit Programme allows two family members to visit their relatives in detention once a year, often in very remote locations. Since the start of the programme end of February 2005, 298 of families have applied for a visit. In some cases, the Family Visit Programme enables families to restore links with the next of kin after several years of disruption of contacts.

The ICRC's assistance operation in the northern Caucasus remains, in budgetary terms, one of its biggest worldwide. The organization has adopted a dual approach, which involves providing direct assistance to vulnerable households, on the one hand, and supporting public services and boosting families' productive and income-generating capacities, on the other hand. In 2006, the ICRC will carry on providing some 80,000 members of internally displaced (Ingushetia and Daghestan) and resident communities (Chechnya) with essential household items.

Through the microeconomic projects, in 2005 the ICRC supported over 80 households in starting small family business allowing them to generate stable income and decrease dependence on humanitarian assistance. As of 2006, microeconomic projects will be expanded to Ingushetia and Daghestan.

The ICRC also supports the repair of public infrastructure such as the water supply and sewerage systems in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan.

Reinforcing health services in the region is another priority, with the ICRC assisting up to 13 hospitals in Chechnya, one in Daghestan and one in Ingushetia, as well as the Grozny central blood bank. It further supports training for health workers, hospital doctors, and prosthetic technicians from the orthopaedic centre in Grozny.

The mine action programme helps civilian population in general, and children in particular, to avoid the dangers of mines and UXO in Chechnya.

Promotion of international humanitarian law 2006

In 2006 the ICRC will maintain the entire range of its prevention activities aiming at promoting IHL, humanitarian issues and fostering support for the organisation.

The ICRC's regional communication centre, based in Moscow, will continue to play an important role in coordinating and supporting long-term communication and IHL programme in the Russian Federation and other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States by supplying translations and publications and managing the ICRC's Russian-language website (www.icrc.org/rus).

The promotion of the ratification and national implementation of IHL treaties in CIS countries will continue in the framework of a co-operation agreement signed between the ICRC and the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly in 2004. In the Russian Federation, the ICRC will continue to co-operate with the competent authorities on the accession to IHL treaties and their incorporation into the national legislation.

Russian armed and security forces will be encouraged to further integrate IHL/HRL into training at all levels, with a special focus on training packages for troops being prepared for or engaged in the northern Caucasus, as well as to ensure that such rules are observed in practice.

IHL teaching in Russian universities will be supported with a series of regional events (Advanced IHL course, Moot-Court competition for the students of the faculties of law and journalism, Martens Readings) strengthened through co-operation with the Russian Association of International Law. Several local scientific centres will be identified among the higher educational institutions, to become focal points for IHL dissemination

related activities and develop expertise in addressing IHL issues.

In 2006, further support will be given to both professors and students in their research through the National IHL Library and the Information Centre opened on the premises of the ICRC's regional delegation in the RF.

While co-operation with the Ministry of Education on methodology and IHL training will continue, secondary school programme will be concentrated in 70 most motivated regions with a special focus on Chechnya.

The ICRC will also continue to target selected NGOs and think tanks with IHL and humanitarian issues and build contact with specialized media and publishers whose audiences include leaders and opinion-makers in Russia and the CIS.

Co-operation with the Russian Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations

Co-operation with the Russian Red Cross will focus on strengthening the National Society's operational response capacity in the northern Caucasus and supporting its tracing service and dissemination of IHL.

Coordination with other components of the Movement, UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations working in the northern Caucasus will remain an essential aspect of the ICRC's operation.

Budget 2006

In order to implement its programme in the Russian Federation the ICRC needs USD 25.8 million, including USD 22 million for the activities in the northern Caucasus.

Northern Caucasus: humanitarian action

Protection activities

Visiting people detained in relation with the conflict in Chechnya is one of the ICRC priorities in the Russian Federation. The ICRC suspended its visits to detainees in 2004 as it was not possible to follow the ICRC's standard criteria. The ICRC is discussing that matter with the competent authorities and remains hopeful that the visits could be resumed.

While the visits to detainees are currently suspended, the ICRC continues to establish and maintain links between detainees and their families, both through providing families with information on the whereabouts of their relatives in detention and through transmitting the Red Cross Messages. The Family Visit Programme allows two family members to visit their relatives in detention once a year, often in very remote locations.

Security remains the key concern for the civilian population in Chechnya and neighbouring republics. The ICRC is strengthening the dialogue with the relevant authorities on missing persons and promotes respect for civilian population in the northern Caucasus.

The ICRC protection work is performed on a confidential basis. The observations and recommendations made are presented and discussed with the relevant authorities only.

Objectives:

- The authorities take appropriate action to protect civilians and ensure respect for their rights under IHL and human rights law.
- The authorities ascertain the fate of persons unaccounted for and provide answers to the families. Relatives separated from their families in the Russian Federation or abroad are able to re-establish and maintain family links through the ICRC's tracing service.
- The authorities provide appropriate conditions of detention, take adequate measures to prevent abuses, and rectify them where they occur. Families of detainees are informed of the arrest or transfer of their relatives to places of detention and maintain regular contacts with them.

The ICRC plans to: **Detainees and Family Links**

- seek the renewal of the agreement with the Russian authorities allowing the ICRC to visit detainees;
- continue to re-establish and maintain links between the detainees and their families mainly through the exchange of Red Cross Messages;
- continue to facilitate family visits for detainees.

Civilian Population

- continue to monitor the situation of the civilian population as well as displaced persons in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan and submit confidential representations to the relevant authorities;
- restore contact between family members living outside of the northern Caucasus with relatives in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan, through the tracing services of the ICRC, in co-operation with the Russian Red Cross or another National Society.

Missing Persons

- continue to receive allegations of arrest or disappearance from families and urge the authorities concerned to investigate and provide answers to the families;
- strengthen the contacts with the official structures addressing the problem of missing persons and support them in training on collection and preservation of data as well as identification techniques.

Assistance for the resident population

In 2005, the ICRC carried out an assessment in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan in order to identify the economic needs of the vulnerable populations affected by the conflict and recommend specific ways to address them.

In Chechnya, ongoing violence and armed confrontations are preventing people from resuming normal lives. However, northern districts of the republic are less affected by the volatile security situation and economic conditions of the residents are better. While payment of state pensions, compensations and other benefits make a positive impact on the situation of the vulnerable categories of the population, unemployment remains very high across the republic, affecting in particular people living in urban centres. Overall social and economic conditions are poor and humanitarian assistance remains essential for large parts of the population.

In 2006, the ICRC will continue to distribute essential household items to the most vulnerable groups of the population in Chechnya. The households will get support in starting small family business that will help them to become self-sustainable and decrease dependence on humanitarian assistance.

Objective	The most vulnerable members of the population in Chechnya have their basic needs met, through support to family self-sustainable business and/or direct assistance.
-----------	---

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| The ICRC plans to: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• provide 49,000 of the most vulnerable people living in central districts in Chechnya, identified according to economic criteria, with essential household items on a quarterly basis (shoes, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, bed linen, towels, barrels, buckets, tarpaulins, sugar and oil for preserves);• provide 500 of the most vulnerable households in Chechnya with a grant to start a small business in order to get sufficient income to cover the household's basic needs;• provide 18,300 schoolchildren from the poorest families with school kits, autumn clothing sets and shoes before the start of the school year in September and winter jackets and boots before the winter;• support the Russian Red Cross home-care programme by supplying food parcels every two months and hygiene kits every six months for up to 1000 beneficiaries in Chechnya; provide food and hygiene parcels every six months to over 1,600 beneficiaries in other republics in the northern Caucasus;• maintain an emergency stock of tarpaulins, blankets, jerry cans and kitchen sets for 5,000 households to ensure rapid response to man-made or natural disasters. |
|--------------------|--|

Assistance for the displaced population

The assessment carried out by the ICRC in 2005, indicated that in recent years there has been some improvement in the situation of IDPs from Chechnya residing in Ingushetia and Daghestan, however overall social and economic conditions remained poor and employment opportunities were very limited. Considerable proportion of the displaced population in both Ingushetia and Daghestan are planning to settle in the republics and integrate in the host communities. The ICRC maintains the dialogue with the relevant authorities to advocate that any returns to Chechnya take place on a voluntary base and only if security and shelter options permit.

In 2006, the ICRC plans to assist some 18,000 most vulnerable IDPs from Chechnya in Ingushetia and nearly 8,700 IDPs from Chechnya in Daghestan. Many of the IDPs in both republics are largely dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Objective

The basic needs of IDPs from Chechnya currently living in Ingushetia and Daghestan are met, through support to family self-sustainable business and/or direct assistance.

The ICRC plans to:

- provide an average of **18,000 of the most vulnerable IDPs in Ingushetia and 8,700 IDPs in Daghestan**, with essential household items on a quarterly basis (shoes, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, bed linen, towels, barrels, buckets, tarpaulins, sugar and oil for preserves);
- provide **500 of the most vulnerable IDPs households** in Ingushetia and Daghestan with a grant to start a small business in order to get sufficient income to cover the household's basic needs;
- provide **9,800 schoolchildren from the poorest IDP families** in Ingushetia and Daghestan with school kits as well as autumn clothing sets and shoes before the start of the school year in September and winter jackets and boots in October;
- provide equipment and snacks to the **Russian Red Cross branch** in Ingushetia to run eight playrooms in temporary accommodation centres attended by three to six years old children of IDPs and vulnerable local population.

Water, hygiene and housing for resident and displaced population

In Chechnya, signs of recovery can be seen in Grozny and some other towns, however serious progress has yet to be achieved in rehabilitation of essential infrastructure. The habitat and shelter needs of the civilian population remain significant. Some 20,000 residents reside in temporary accommodation centres in major towns of Chechnya, where access to water and sanitary conditions are often poor.

In Grozny, local water authority "GrozVodokanal" needs support in carrying out the maintenance of and rehabilitation of the water and sewerage system. Water supply in other towns of Chechnya also requires improvement. Hospitals, schools, social institutions and collective centres are in need of rehabilitation.

IDPs residing in collective centres and in private accommodation in Ingushetia and Daghestan suffer from insufficient water supply and lack of infrastructure necessary for normal hygiene and sanitary standards of living.

Objective	Living conditions of residents and displaced population in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan meet basic standards through the improvement of water supply, sanitation and habitat.
The ICRC plans to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• in Grozny, improve water supply access and sewerage system for the population by offering technical and material support to the local water authority, GrozVodokanal, and maintaining and operating one water filling station and keeping back-up materials in stock for another filling station in the event of an emergency;• In Chechnya, maintain four public shower/laundry points; improve water supply, sanitation and living conditions in four collective centres housing IDPs or social institutions; distribute 400 stoves to various schools and institutions; improve access to water through technical and material support to ChechVodokanal and implementation of projects in collaboration with local authorities and communities;• in Chechnya, carry out renovation/repair work and structural improvements in four medical institutions, including rehabilitation of water supply, sewerage, electricity, roofing and structural elements of essential departments or services (operating theatres, treatment rooms, wards, laundry, kitchen, medical warehouse);• in Ingushetia, improve the water system in two villages where IDPs and residents live together; connect six IDP settlements to the main water network; offer limited technical and material support to the local water authority, Vodokanal;• support the Russian Red Cross branch in Ingushetia in improving water supply, sanitation and living conditions in two collective centres hosting IDPs from Chechnya and Prigorodny region;• in Daghestan, improve water supply, sanitation and living conditions in three settlements, hosting IDPs.

Medical assistance to health structures

Difficult socio-economic situation in the northern Caucasus affect the health system in the region and access to basic health care for the population. Although there are signs of partial recovery of some health institutions in Chechnya, the situation in the republic is further complicated by the consequences of the armed conflict and there is still a lack of medical materials and life-saving equipment in the hospitals to assure the provision of safe and effective emergency interventions. Based on the assessment carried out in the southern districts of Chechnya, in 2006 the ICRC will continue its medical assistance and support up to 13 hospitals on a regular basis.

Although in general, the health structures in Chechnya are equipped with the personnel, some important specialists in areas like psychotherapy, paediatrics are lacking and the staff also needs training, especially with modern medical equipment. Administrative and managerial skills of the medical personnel also need to be enhanced.

The rational approach, agreed on by the ICRC with the Ministry of Health of Chechnya, to ensure the safety of blood and blood products through the ICRC's support to the Central Blood Bank brought positive results. However, it remains a vital task to attract blood donors and increase the use of the Blood Bank services.

Objective

The infrastructure and equipment in ICRC-supported medical institutions in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Daghestan are improved so that they may provide a better standard of health care to all their patients.

The ICRC plans to:

- support the surgical, medical, obstetric/gynaecology, paediatric and outpatient departments/polyclinics of up to **13 referral facilities in Chechnya, one in Ingushetia and one in Daghestan**, providing them with monthly supplies of essential medicines and consumable items, and with key capital equipment as needed;
- contract a service company to regularly carry out the installation, **maintenance and repair** of donated equipment and train selected hospital staff to continue this service in the future;
- provide **diagnostic and laboratory equipment** to up to 4 hospitals and their polyclinics in Chechnya, and consumable diagnostic and laboratory items to up to 15 ICRC-supported hospitals; train 28 laboratory technicians;
- on monthly basis supply the **Grozny Blood Bank** with reagents, tests and blood bags;
- support **training in management** for up to 13 doctors representing management team of the hospitals supported by the ICRC in Chechnya;
- organize or support **training in war surgery and other areas of need** for up to 60 health professionals and surgeons from the northern Caucasus;
- maintain an ICRC **emergency medical stock** in the northern Caucasus for up to 500 wounded.

Orthopaedic assistance

The demand for physical rehabilitation services in Chechnya is considerable. Following hostilities over past ten years, many people were affected by conflict and suffered injuries and disabilities due to military operations, mines, unexploded ordnance and other explosions. The number of patients visiting the orthopaedic centre in Grozny has been permanently increasing. The centre currently has around 2,000 patients on its books and needs trained staff to be fully functional.

Objective	Physically disabled people in Chechnya have access without discrimination to sustainable qualitative physical rehabilitation services at the Grozny Orthopaedic Centre.
The ICRC plans to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• continue a 3-year training cycle for 6 orthopaedic technicians from Chechnya that started in September 2005 in St. Petersburg;• organise refresher courses for technicians who have already completed the course and are employed at the Grozny Orthopaedic Centre, as well as for the technicians from the neighbouring orthopaedic centres in the northern Caucasus;• provide wheel chairs and crutches to disabled people;• monitor the quality of services provided at the Grozny Orthopaedic Centre and assess its capacity and future needs;• coordinate activities between relevant actors working in the field of physical rehabilitation in Chechnya.

Mine risk education for residents

Communities in Chechnya are sharing information and spreading advice on mine accidents and paying more attention to mine-risk education. However, widespread mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) continue to kill and injure civilians. To avoid accidents, they must receive adequate information on the dangers of mines/UXO and how to adopt safe behaviour.

The lives and health of children are also in danger in the areas which are now mined and are not marked, while others are littered with UXO. Accidents involving children continue to occur, a major reason for which is the lack of safe play areas.

Objective

Mine-affected communities, with support from the authorities, run self-sustaining mine-risk education programmes, reducing the human suffering caused by mines and UXO. Children play free of risk in the 35 safe play areas constructed in mine-affected communities between 2005 and 2006.

The ICRC plans to:

- reach an agreement with local authorities and the local communities on the location, construction and maintenance of 20 safe play areas;
- in 20 communities, where safe play areas are constructed in 2006, develop a “safer village plan” with a structure for sharing mine information with the regional administration;
- supply sport and recreation equipment, also accessible to disabled children, to all 35 safe play areas, encouraging children living in or visiting any of the communities concerned to use the facilities;
- encourage teachers in the communities where safe play areas have been constructed to include the concept in their mine-risk education activities; involve children in producing mine-risk education signs for the safe play areas;
- produce an information bulletin for journalists and support mine-risk education initiatives of the media encouraging safe practices in mine-affected areas; relay messages of advice via mobile phones;
- teach children how to share mine-related information with other children through mine-risk education activities during the summer holidays; continue to use the *Rainbow* magazine as a vehicle for mine-awareness messages.

Promotion of International Humanitarian Law

Promotion of IHL with the Russian and international authorities

The CIS countries have made a good headway in ratifying IHL treaties and incorporating them into the national legislation. To promote the national implementation of IHL, the ICRC has worked closely with the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly since 1997 and signed the co-operation agreement in 2004. As a result, model law on the protection of victims of armed conflict was adopted, as well as the recommendations on the 1998 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the 1997 Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines. In 2004, the resolution encouraging the CIS states to adhere to the 2nd Protocol of 1999 to the 1954 Convention on Cultural Property and to implement its provisions in the national legislation, was adopted and forwarded to the CIS authorities. In 2005, the resolution on the issue of the missing persons was adopted as in the framework of the 3rd Interparliamentary Conference. The Assembly also requested the ICRC to assist in preparation of the draft model law on the missing persons.

Objective

The Russian Federation is party to all IHL treaties, and their provisions are implemented at the national level. The CIS Interparliamentary Assembly adopts model laws and recommendations in the field of IHL promotion and implementation. The authorities concerned and donors understand and support the ICRC's activities and mandate.

The ICRC plans to:

- **at CIS level**, organize IHL seminars and the regional conference addressing contemporary challenges to IHL in co-operation with the Interparliamentary Assembly; maintain contacts with state officials in charge of IHL implementation, with particular emphasis on model laws/recommendations on the issue of missing persons and the explosive remnants of war;
- **in the Russian Federation**, encourage the authorities concerned to: adopt new legislation to bring its penal code in line with the ICC Statute and to protect the emblem; withdraw reservations to the 1949 Geneva Conventions; ratify or accede to IHL instruments to which it is not yet party; and adopt suitable measures to address the issue of missing persons and the protection of cultural property;
- organize, facilitate and participate in relevant national events, including round-table discussions on the missing persons and customary rules of IHL;
- maintain contacts with and a flow of information on IHL and the ICRC's activities and mandate to Russian government bodies, federal and local authorities in the northern Caucasus, influential members of civil society, and the international community.

Promotion of IHL with the armed and security forces

Since the ICRC started its programme to promote IHL among the armed forces in 1994, significant progress has been achieved. The Russian Ministry of Defence adopted the Order No. 360 on measures to ensure respect for IHL by the armed forces and regulations requiring compliance with IHL provisions and their integration into manuals. In addition, the Ministry of Defence formed an interdepartmental working group on IHL integration. The Senezh IHL training centre has been set up and offers two-week courses for high-ranking officers six times a year.

The ICRC's co-operation programme with the Ministry of Interior is aimed at integrating international human rights law in professional policing concepts, into the training of the police and interior troops at all levels, large numbers of whom are deployed in the northern Caucasus. There have been some encouraging developments, such as the establishment of four centres in charge of devising programme on police activities and relations with the population, as well as the adoption of the Order No. 220 on measures to ensure respect for IHL by the interior troops.

Significant progress nevertheless remains to be made by the armed and security forces to implement achievements in terms of knowledge of IHL at the level of field operations.

Objective

IHL is integrated into all aspects of military training and is understood by all targeted members of the armed forces. International human rights law and the basic rules of IHL are included in professional policing concepts, into the training and doctrine of police and security forces. All levels of the armed and security forces know and facilitate the ICRC's operations.

The ICRC plans to:

- with the Ministry of Defence, to **integrate IHL into all aspects of military training**, with IHL becoming a part of syllabuses in targeted professional courses and integrated into combat fighting manuals; to support the interdepartmental working group on IHL integration; with the Ministry of Interior, to assist in the integration of international human rights law and the basic rules of IHL in professional policing concepts, into the **training of the police and interior troops**;
- pursue **train-the-trainer programme** with the Ministry of Defence (by organizing 6 standard and 2 decentralized Senezh courses, two Russian-speaking courses in San Remo, etc.), and with the Ministry of the Interior (by supporting 4 standard police courses, two CIS courses for police and Interior Troops, two Russian-speaking classes in San Remo, etc.);
- address future career officers in the armed forces and police/security forces by contributing actively to training in IHL/international human rights law and in **competitions**, such as the "General Skobelev" competition for officer cadet schools, the "Professional of the Future" competition for police cadets and the "To Serve and to Protect" competition for interior troop cadets;
- give training in IHL to troops preparing **for service in the northern Caucasus** or in peace-support operations abroad; train police and interior troops in international human rights law, and the basic rules of IHL in professional policing concepts.

Promotion of IHL with civil society

Media, think tanks and humanitarian organizations

While mass audience can be reached through the media, a selective audience of key actors can be found through think tanks, NGOs and international humanitarian organizations in the region. Improved contacts with both sectors can help to shape the debate on IHL and bring other humanitarian issues to the fore.

Objective

At the national and local levels, the media highlight IHL and humanitarian issues, portray the ICRC as a globally active, neutral and independent humanitarian organization working in conflict and regularly report on specific ICRC activities in the Russian Federation. Think tanks, NGOs and international humanitarian organizations are regularly updated on issues of ICRC concern and exchange information with the organization.

The ICRC plans to:

- organize press trips, press competitions, round tables, photo exhibitions on humanitarian issues, present research studies and reinforce the ICRC's expert presence in the media, thereby stimulating interest in humanitarian issues and raising the ICRC's profile as a humanitarian actor;
- diversify the media's perception of the ICRC by targeting selected outlets, publishing a quarterly newsletter and producing audiovisual tools to support the programme; promote the Russian-language website;
- regularly brief selected experts on humanitarian diplomacy and IHL issues and encourage inclusion of these topics in research and policy recommendations; seek analysis of the main trends in policy-making and perceptions of IHL and the ICRC from Russian think tanks;
- support selected NGOs in obtaining enhanced knowledge of IHL and coordinate operational activities with NGOs and international organizations active in the northern Caucasus.

Schools

The school programme to make young people in seven countries of the CIS aware of the basic principles of IHL has been a remarkable success in that it enjoys the support of the education authorities, and the majority of pupils and teachers in secondary schools are familiar with the ICRC-sponsored textbooks and use them regularly. With the programme now firmly established under the authorities' supervision, the ICRC's support will be gradually phased out by 2007.

The programme is most extensive in the Russian Federation, where it covers grades 5–11 and reaches about two million pupils every year. It has also been extended to specialized military classes. In September 2005, the programme was introduced in the pilot schools of Grozny and received support of the Ministry of Education of Chechnya and the teachers. In 2006, the programme will be extending to 15 more schools in Grozny. For the time being, teacher training remains the key activity.

Answering to a real need and a wish expressed by most of the regions in the Russian Federation, the ICRC is preparing support materials in electronic format that will be made available to schools on CDs.

Objective

In the Russian Federation, pupils in grades 5–8 are taught humanitarian principles on regular basis, and instruction in basic IHL rules remains compulsory in grades 9 and 11. The teaching of these subjects is improved.

The ICRC plans to:

- support the existing regional school programme coordinators; organize training seminars for teachers;
- strengthen relations with the education authorities to make sure that IHL teaching is maintained in the curricula with the introduction of new educational standards and taught as part of teacher training;
- promote the programme through extracurricular events and competitions; continue to provide expertise and supervise implementation and evaluation;
- improve teaching of IHL to students in cadet schools and military classes through specific training and regular visits;
- test and distribute the electronic version of the textbooks for grades 5 to 8; prepare the electronic version of the teacher's manual for the 9th grade;
- collaborate with the Ministry of Education and teachers in Chechnya to prepare 10 trainers for the school programme; distribute textbooks and teaching manuals in the 6th grade; hold training seminars for teachers from Chechnya.

Universities

The university programme, underway since 1995, has attained a major objective, as IHL is now included as an obligatory subject in the federal standard curriculum for law studies. The university programme focuses on some 60 key facilities and concentrates on enhancing the level of knowledge of IHL among academics and the quality of teaching and research. Relations with academic circles have strengthened, especially following a co-operation agreement to promote IHL and its implementation, signed in 2003 between the Russian Association of International Law (RAIL) and the ICRC. To support teaching processes there is a need for a teaching kit which includes IHL model courses and case studies.

Objective

Future leaders and decision-makers understand the relevance of IHL and work towards its implementation and respect. The academic world builds a tradition of IHL teaching and research in the faculties of law, international relations and journalism. A network of IHL experts is set up across the Russian Federation.

The ICRC plans to:

- organize regional IHL-related events, such as a round-table for state officials and academics and the "Martens Readings" conference;
- support teachers and lecturers in producing methodological materials and IHL manuals;
- encourage professors and students to prepare research articles and publications on the issues of contemporary IHL; promote among the academic circles the Study of Customary Rules of IHL and stimulate scientific debate;
- strengthen co-operation with RAIL; for students, organize a national essay competition, regional IHL courses and a moot court competition on IHL;
- identify several local scientific centres among the higher educational institutions, which could become the focal points of IHL dissemination and provide an opportunity to create the national tradition to address IHL issues;
- strengthen contacts with academic institutions in the northern Caucasus (hold information sessions at law and journalism faculties, organize small-scale events with ICRC's expert support, etc.) thus ensuring a better understanding of the ICRC's activities in the region;
- organize national IHL Library and the Information Centre on the premises of the ICRC's regional delegation in the RF to provide motivated professors and students with updated and thorough information in Russian, English and French on the issues of current IHL development and support their research work.

Co-operation with the Russian Red Cross

The Russian Red Cross (RRC) is an important National Society with a complex structure consisting of over 100 regional committees covering a vast territory. In addition to the difficulties posed by its complex structure, the RRC faces major fundraising problems, and the absence of a legal framework, with a law on its status still to be adopted.

At the RRC headquarters level, the ICRC works to strengthen the National Society's structure, its capacity to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, and its tracing service, which deals mainly with files related to the Second World War (some 40,000 cases every year).

In the northern Caucasus, the RRC remains the ICRC's main operational partner. The ICRC supports the RRC's organizational development in the region, in co-operation with the International Federation, and lends financial support to the branches' activities.

Objective

Based on a long-term development plan, the RRC branches in the northern Caucasus are strengthened and have the operational capacity to deliver emergency humanitarian assistance as needed. The RRC runs an effective tracing service, has strengthened a reliable national IHL committee and, at both the national and local levels, maintains respect for the Fundamental Principles in conducting its activities.

The ICRC plans to:

At RRC headquarters

- maintain a continuous dialogue between the RRC, the ICRC and the International Federation;
- financially support the RRC tracing centre, assist it in bringing the archiving system up to date and support its capacity building to react in emergency situations;
- support the RRC in developing a strategic plan to cover more of its own costs and develop ties with key national stakeholders;
- strengthen the capacity of the dissemination department/national IHL committee, particularly staff training in the branches, and continue with a project for IHL dissemination by youth volunteers in 13 regions;
- maintain some financial support for the RRC museum and the RRC magazine.

In the northern Caucasus

- maintain operational co-operation with the RRC in its home-care programme in 11 regions in the northern Caucasus and southern Russia, including Chechnya, reaching over 2,400 elderly people through more than 200 RRC nurses;
- support the RRC in: improving its first-aid assistance in Chechnya and Ingushetia by creating a pool of 20 first-aid instructors in each republic; providing psychological assistance in 14 regions (including Chechnya) to IDPs and residents; running 18 playrooms for IDP children in Ingushetia and Chechnya; maintaining a recreation centre for up to 1,600 teenagers in Ingushetia and opening a similar centre in Grozny; providing school meals three times a week to 500 children in the Novostroy district (Dagestan);
- help devise a training programme for staff and volunteers on the Movement and Fundamental Principles.

Financial requirement

NORTHERN CAUCASUS: HUMANITARIAN ACTION	20'495'000 USD
Food / Non-Food Assistance	9'608'000 USD
Medical / Orthopaedic Assistance	5'081'000 USD
Protection	1'871'000 USD
Water / Sanitation / Rehabilitation	2'329'000 USD
Promotion of IHL& ICRC activities	1'183'000 USD
Mine Risk Education	424'000 USD
PROMOTION OF IHL AND CO-OPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETY	5'355'000 USD
TOTAL	25'850'000 USD

USD = 1.315 CHF