


ANNUAL REPORT 2005



ICRC

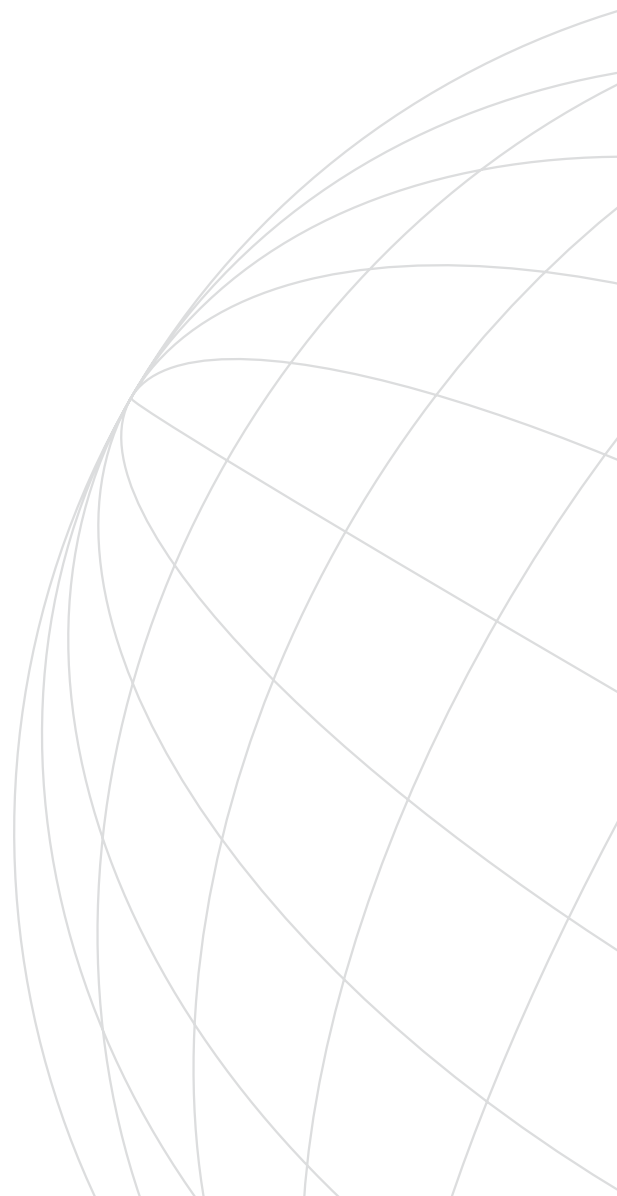


This report is primarily an account of the ICRC's work in the field and its activities to promote international humanitarian law. Mention is made of some of the negotiations entered into with a view to bringing protection and assistance to the victims of international and civil wars and internal disturbances and tension. Other negotiations are not mentioned, since the ICRC feels that any publicity would not be in the interests of the victims. Thus, this report cannot be regarded as covering all the institution's efforts worldwide to come to the aid of the victims of conflict.

Moreover, the length of the text devoted to a given country or situation is not necessarily proportional to the magnitude of the problems observed and tackled by the institution. Indeed, there are cases which are a source of grave humanitarian concern but on which the ICRC is not in a position to report because it has been denied permission to take action. By the same token, the description of operations in which the ICRC has great freedom of action takes up considerable space, regardless of the scale of the problems involved.

The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only and do not express an opinion on the part of the ICRC.

All figures in this report are in Swiss francs (CHF). In 2005, the average exchange rate was CHF 1.2374 to USD 1, and CHF 1.5475 to EUR 1.



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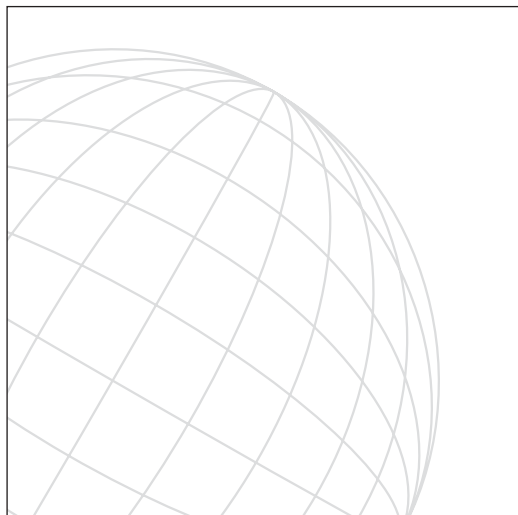


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ICRC

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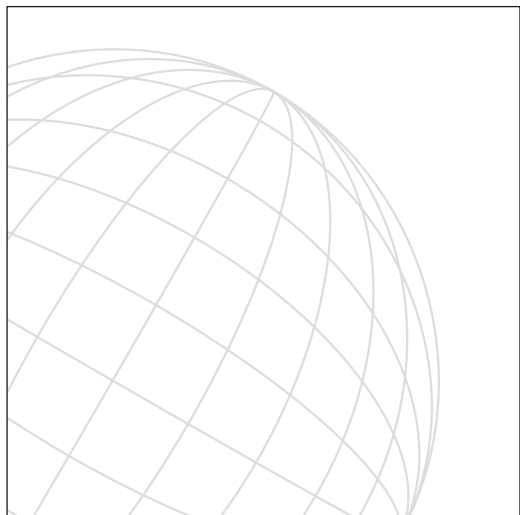
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abbreviations and definitions

A	Additional Protocol I	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 8 June 1977
	Additional Protocol II	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 8 June 1977
	Additional Protocol III	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), 8 December 2005
	1977 Additional Protocols	Additional Protocols I and II
	AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
C	CHF	Swiss francs
	Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, 10 October 1980
F	Fundamental Principles	Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, universality
G	1949 Geneva Conventions	Convention (I) for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field, 12 August 1949
		Convention (II) for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea, 12 August 1949
		Convention (III) relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 12 August 1949
		Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, 12 August 1949

H	Hague Convention on Cultural Property	Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, 14 May 1954
	HF	high frequency
	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
I	ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross, founded in 1863
	IDPs	internally displaced people
	International Federation	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, founded in 1919, works on the basis of the Fundamental Principles, carrying out relief operations in aid of the victims of natural disasters and health emergencies, poverty brought about by socio-economic crises, and refugees; it combines this with development work to strengthen the capacities of its member National Societies.
	IHL	international humanitarian law
	IOM	International Organization for Migration
M	Movement	The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement comprises the ICRC, the International Federation and the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. These are all independent bodies. Each has its own status and exercises no authority over the others.
N	National Society	The National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies embody the Movement's work and Fundamental Principles in about 180 countries. They act as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their own countries in the humanitarian field and provide a range of services, including disaster relief and health and social programmes. In times of conflict, National Societies assist the affected civilian population and, where appropriate, support the army medical services.
	NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
	NGO	non-governmental organization

O	Ottawa Convention	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction, 18 September 1997
	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, 25 May 2000
P	POWs	prisoners of war
R	RCMs	Red Cross messages
	Rome Statute	Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 17 July 1998
S	“Safer Access” approach	An approach developed by the ICRC to help National Societies better their response to the needs of conflict victims while enhancing the safety of their workers.
	San Remo	The International Institute of Humanitarian Law, in San Remo, Italy, is a non-governmental organization set up in 1970 to spread knowledge and promote the development of IHL. It specializes in organizing courses on IHL for military personnel from around the world.
	Seville Agreement	The Seville Agreement of 1997 provides a framework for effective cooperation and partnership between the members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
	Study on customary international humanitarian law	A 5,000-page text that is the outcome of eight years of research by ICRC legal staff and other experts who reviewed State practice in 47 countries and consulted international sources such as the United Nations and international tribunals.

U	UN	United Nations
	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
	UNHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
V	VHF	very high frequency
W	WFP	World Food Programme
	WHO	World Health Organization

message from the president

In 2005, the trends that I outlined in the ICRC's 2005 Headquarters Appeal held up throughout the year. Numerous conflicts and other situations of violence again inflicted a heavy toll, in particular on civilians, and local causes continued to interplay with more general factors. It remained as great a challenge as ever for the ICRC to discharge its mandate to provide protection and assistance to the victims.

As in previous years, the ICRC was present in conflict areas across the globe. Its 80 delegations and more than 150 sub-delegations and offices were staffed by more than 11,000 employees, backed up by around 800 headquarters employees. This widespread presence enabled the organization to establish or maintain direct contact with most of the parties involved in hostilities and to reach the victims, although in some contexts access was hindered by security considerations. In June, the ICRC finalized the review of its field security guidelines. While every effort was made to safeguard staff security, two ICRC employees were killed in 2005, one in Haiti and one in Iraq.

In 2005, the ICRC visited 528,000 people deprived of their freedom in 2,600 places of detention in 76 countries. Working with National Societies, it exchanged 959,000 Red Cross messages between family members separated by hostilities. It submitted countless representations relating to violations of IHL and discussed them with the authorities, civilian or military, governmental or rebel. An estimated 2,365,000 people benefited from ICRC-supported health-care facilities, 76,800 surgical interventions were performed in ICRC-supported hospitals and 138,000 disabled individuals received care at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres. The ICRC distributed food to more than 1 million people and emergency supplies such as tents, blankets, soap or cooking sets to close to 3 million individuals, while ICRC water, sanitation and construction work catered for the needs of more than 11 million people. At all times, the ICRC was particularly attentive to the specific needs and vulnerability of women and children.

2005 will be remembered by all as a year of major natural disasters in various parts of the world. The impact of the Asian tsunami affected almost a dozen countries. Niger suffered from drought while hurricanes repeatedly struck the Caribbean Islands, Central America and the Gulf coast of the United States. An earthquake devastated the Kashmir region, whose inhabitants had already suffered from conflicts and outbursts of violence for several decades. When such disasters occur, providing an effective response in the following hours and days is crucial for the survival of the population. The ICRC deployed its operations rapidly, in particular in sensitive areas affected by conflicts where it was already present. Following the South Asian earthquake, and working in close cooperation with the Pakistani authorities, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, the International Federation and other National Societies, the ICRC mounted a large-scale operation focused on the district of Muzaffarabad. In order to respond as effectively and promptly as possible to the urgent needs of the earthquake victims, it mobilized its largest ever helicopter operation and by the end of 2005 had provided some 212,000 people with food, shelter materials and essential household items, 160,000 of them more than once. Total assistance amounted to 5,541 tonnes of goods distributed in 29 remote areas of the hard-to-reach Neelum and Jhelum valleys. In addition, 18,000 people had been treated at the ICRC's Muzaffarabad field hospital and at ICRC/National Society emergency-response units dispensing basic health care.

On all five continents, armed conflicts, almost all of them non-international in character, inflicted a heavy toll on civilians in the form of killings, injuries, displacement, rape and sexual harassment, forced labour and recruitment, detention, and the destruction of property and means of survival. The collapse of State structures and basic services such as health, water and education added to the suffering. The positive developments in some former conflict areas were offset by deepening concern in others, primarily in Darfur in Western Sudan, Somalia, Northern Uganda and Iraq. Overcoming severe security constraints remained a major challenge in Iraq, where the ICRC concentrated on visiting detainees and started organizing family visits for them. Sudan, and in particular Darfur, was the ICRC's largest operation worldwide for the second consecutive year. The organization delivered an average 2,700 tonnes of food each month to 150,000 people in Darfur, a third of them internally displaced persons (IDPs). The bulk of the food aid was directed to vulnerable residents in remote rural areas in an attempt to avoid yet more people being displaced to overcrowded IDP camps. ICRC engineers supplied water to seven IDP camps and in urban areas, and repaired water-supply networks in four towns. The ICRC also upgraded and provided medical supplies and staff to four hospitals and 12 primary health-care clinics. Other new activities launched in 2005 included the deployment of a field surgical team that performed 370 operations, mainly on wounded people unable to reach medical structures, the vaccination of half a million camels and cattle and the distribution of agricultural kits to 153,000 people.

Attention focused in 2005 on the plight of IDPs, in aid of whom the ICRC carried out activities in more than 35 contexts worldwide, in many instances in cooperation with National Societies. The three biggest such operations were in Darfur, Uganda and Somalia. For instance, the ICRC provided various forms of assistance to around 350,000 IDPs in Somalia and

to over 580,000 in Northern Uganda. It sought to strike a balance between situations where IDPs were best assisted and protected through specific interventions, and others where its aid was part of more general efforts aimed at broader segments of the population. Whenever possible, the ICRC tried to prevent population displacements by assisting vulnerable resident groups and working to improve their protection. The main considerations underpinning ICRC programmes were to promote the self-reliance of affected communities, to ensure that existing coping mechanisms were preserved in order to avoid wider disparities between the various segments of the population, and to facilitate the IDPs' return home whenever possible.

In all crisis situations, coordination among humanitarian organizations and donor agencies is a responsibility each of us bears towards both the victims and the public, the aim being to respond as effectively as possible in the interest of the victims. The ICRC, convinced of the necessity and added value of its neutral and independent approach, remains committed to reality-based and action-oriented coordination both at headquarters and in the field, within the Movement, with United Nations agencies and with NGOs. By reality-based and action-oriented coordination, the ICRC understands that the work should be shared out according to each organization's skills and capacities, notably its ability to perform effectively and thereby ensure that all needs are met.

In March 2005, the ICRC published the study on customary international humanitarian law (IHL) on which experts had been working, under its auspices, since 1995. The study's main findings are that many customary rules are identical or similar to those found in 1977 Additional Protocol I and that a substantial number are also applicable to non-international armed conflicts. As almost all conflicts waged in 2005 were non-international in character, these findings are very important. Indeed, if respected and properly applied, IHL protects civilians, wounded combatants and all those caught up in the maelstrom of violence. The ICRC has organized launch events to disseminate and discuss the study's findings, which it will use in its day-to-day dialogue with and representations to the States and non-State actors involved in hostilities.

Ensuring that the protagonists in today's conflicts behave in a manner that is consistent with IHL, particularly in non-international armed conflicts, remains one of the most daunting challenges. For this reason, the organization has continued to work on measures aimed at enhancing compliance. In support of this process, the efforts of all States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions to ensure respect for IHL are as vital as ever. In 2005, the ICRC reviewed its policy regarding its action in the event of violations of IHL or of other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence. The revised policy confirms that the ICRC's preferred mode of action will remain that of making representations within the framework of a bilateral confidential dialogue with the authorities responsible for the violation. It also outlines the subsidiary measures that the ICRC reserves the right to take whenever bilateral confidential dialogue proves unsuccessful.

The end of the year saw the adoption by the States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions of Additional Protocol III establishing the red crystal as an additional emblem that States and National Societies may use. Devoid of any political, national or religious connotations whatsoever, the red crystal will first and foremost enable the Movement to become truly universal. The ICRC had spared no effort to attain this goal; it remains committed to bringing the process to completion, with the support of all States and National Societies, in June 2006 when the 29th International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference is to amend the Movement's Statutes.

Finally, the ICRC appointed a new vice-president, Mr Olivier Vodoz, to replace Mrs Anne Petitpierre as of 1 January 2006, and decided to renew Mr Angelo Gnaedinger's tenure as director-general for the years 2006 to 2010.

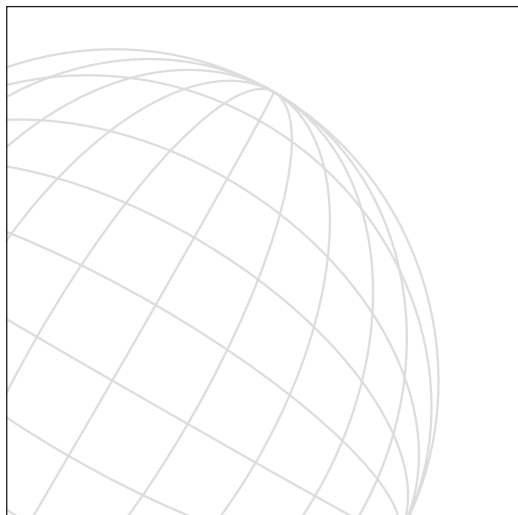


Jakob Kellenberger
President



HEADQUARTERS





ICRC governing and controlling bodies

The governing bodies of the ICRC, comprising the Assembly, the Assembly Council and the Presidency, have overall responsibility for institutional policy, strategy and decisions related to the development of international humanitarian law. These bodies oversee all the activities of the organization, including field and headquarters operations and the approval of objectives and budgets. They also monitor implementation by the Directorate of Assembly or Assembly Council decisions and are assisted in this task by a Control Commission and the internal and external auditors.

MEETINGS AND DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

The Assembly and the Assembly Council were regularly informed by the president and the director-general about the conduct of operations, questions relating to IHL, humanitarian diplomacy, cooperation within the Movement and with other humanitarian practitioners, external communications, and administration and finance. The Assembly and the Assembly Council held six and 12 meetings respectively in 2005.

In accordance with its statutory mandate and pursuant to the advice of its Control Commission, the Assembly reviewed and approved the financial accounts (April) and the Directorate's proposals for the 2006 objectives and budgets (November). It updated ICRC policy on two important issues, adopting a new concept for the security of field staff and adapting the doctrine on ICRC action in the event of violations of IHL or of other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence; the latter was subsequently published in the *International Review of the Red Cross*, Vol. 87, Number 858 (June 2005).

The Assembly, jointly with the Directorate, analyzed the pertinence of maintaining a conceptual distinction between country and regional delegations. It concluded that this was no longer justifiable since all delegations are called upon to carry out the full spectrum of activities within the ICRC mandate, from emergency relief and protection of persons deprived of their freedom to the promotion and implementation of IHL. The range and intensity of an ICRC delegation's activities is determined solely by the

needs of the people affected by an armed conflict or situation of violence and the parameters of such contexts.

The Assembly recognized two new National Societies: the Red Crescent Society of the Comoros (September) and the Red Cross Society of Timor-Leste (November), thus bringing to 183 the number of National Society members of the Movement. It also warmly welcomed the decision of the Diplomatic Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland in December to adopt Additional Protocol III introducing the red crystal emblem alongside existing ones. This positive result will pave the way for the Movement to become truly universal, thus resolving a longstanding question.

Members of the International Committee hold regular meetings with leaders of National Societies on the International Federation's Governing Board. At the 2005 meeting, organized by the ICRC on 29 April, discussions centred on the Movement's contribution to respect for diversity, the fight against discrimination and the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities. These meetings contributed to the preparations for the Council of Delegates, the biennial meeting of the Movement's components, which took place in Seoul in November. Mr J. Kellenberger, Mr J. Forster and Mr Y. Sandoz attended this Council, which was chaired by the ICRC president.

MISSIONS

Mr J. Kellenberger, president of the ICRC, conducted various missions for bilateral discussions with governments and to visit ICRC operations in the field. These missions included Washington (February and May), Jakarta and Banda Aceh (February), Luxembourg (March), Stockholm (April), Brussels (NATO, the European Commission and its Political and Security Commission (COPS)/April, June, November), Riyadh (May), New York (UN/May), London (May), Strasbourg (European Committee against Torture/May), Kampala (June), Madrid (July), Beijing (July), Islamabad and Muzaffarrabad (November) and Vienna (November).

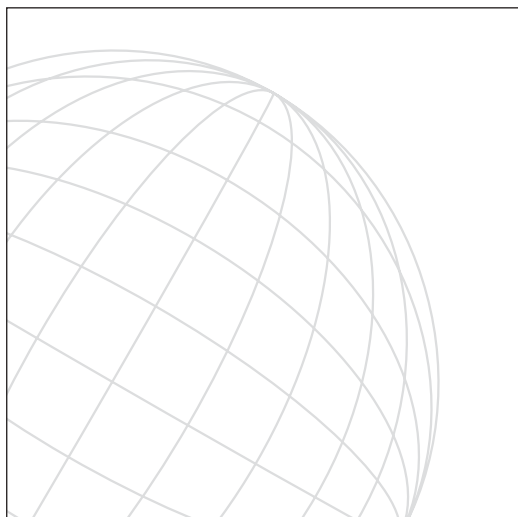
Mr Kellenberger also delivered speeches at various international meetings: the 61st session of the UN Commission on Human Rights (Geneva/March), the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (Brussels/April), the 3rd Conference of European Jurists (Geneva/September), the Alpbacher Health Symposium (Austria/September), the San Remo Round Table (September), and the Diplomatic Conference on the adoption of Additional Protocol III (Geneva/December).

Permanent Vice-President J. Forster went to Vientiane and Bangkok (April), Israel and the occupied and autonomous territories (May), Oslo (June), Ashgabat (June), New York (addressing the Economic and Social Council in July and the Security Council in December) and Zagreb, where he delivered a speech to the 6th Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention in November.

Mrs A. Petitpierre, Vice-President, delivered ICRC messages in Nairobi (Commonwealth IHL conference/July) and New York (UN General Assembly/November).

Other members of the International Committee also conducted missions to represent the ICRC or to deliver speeches at international or academic meetings:

- ▶ Mr J. Abt travelled to Japan (March);
- ▶ Mr P. Bernasconi travelled to Jakarta, Banda Aceh and Seoul (November);
- ▶ Mr J. de Courten went to Guernsey for the 60th anniversary of the island's liberation (May);
- ▶ Mr J. Moreillon was in Santander (May) and Madrid (May and November);
- ▶ Ms G. Nanchen travelled to New York (49th session of the Commission on Women, March);
- ▶ Mr Y. Sandoz and Mr D. Thürer addressed the 6th Bruges Colloquium (October);
- ▶ Mr J. Abt and Mr J. Moreillon both attended the San Remo Round Table (September).



directorate

The Directorate is the executive body of the ICRC. Its members are the director-general and the heads of the ICRC's five departments: Operations, International Law and Cooperation within the Movement, Communication, Human Resources, and Resources and Operational Support. The Directorate is responsible for defining and implementing the ICRC's general objectives and applying institutional strategy, as defined by the Assembly or the Assembly Council. The Directorate also ensures that the organization, particularly its administrative structure, runs smoothly and efficiently.

The members of the Directorate are appointed by the Assembly for four-year terms. The current Directorate took up its duties on 1 July 2002.

The environment in which the ICRC operates is increasingly complex, and it remains a major challenge for the organization to maintain its position as the benchmark organization for neutral and independent humanitarian action.

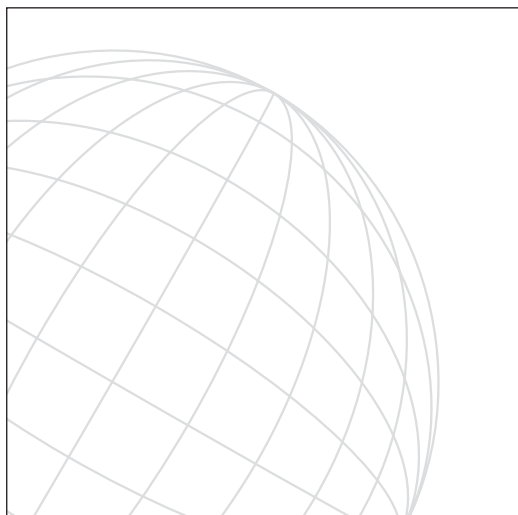
The implementation of the Programme of the Directorate for 2003–2006 entered its final phase in 2005, the penultimate year of the current Directorate's term of office. An interim progress report was compiled by the Office of the Director-General and submitted to the Assembly in April 2005.

The ICRC's four strategic objectives, outlined in the Programme of the Directorate for 2003–2006, continue to be:

- ▶ to stand resolutely by the victims of armed conflict, in an attitude of respect and empathy for their plight;
- ▶ to seek a comprehensive understanding of conflicts so as to be able to take the most appropriate operational decisions;
- ▶ to affirm the ICRC's identity through dialogue with the many organizations currently operating in the humanitarian sphere;
- ▶ to combine consistency, predictability and reliability with the ability to innovate and devise creative responses to new problems and events.

Major policy and management matters dealt with by the Directorate in 2005 within the framework of these objectives included:

- ▶ the development and promotion of the ICRC's approach to coordination with other humanitarian practitioners and within the Movement;
- ▶ the publication and promotion of the study on customary international humanitarian law;
- ▶ the process leading to the adoption of Additional Protocol III by the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions;
- ▶ the adoption and implementation of revised internal security guidelines;
- ▶ a review of the ICRC's protection and preventive-action policies;
- ▶ the implementation of the ICRC assistance policy adopted in 2004;
- ▶ the implementation of enhanced procedures for human resources management;
- ▶ an in-depth analysis of the services provided by ICRC headquarters;
- ▶ the adoption of an IT strategy and the restructuring of internal IT services;
- ▶ the establishment of the ICRC Corporate Support Group initially comprising seven major Swiss companies.



office of the director- general

The director-general chairs the Directorate and ensures that its decisions are implemented. He reports to the Presidency and the Assembly on the Directorate's objectives, decisions and activities, and on the results achieved. The Office of the Director-General directly supervises the unit responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation of ICRC activities; it also oversees efforts to promote gender equality and a number of key strategic projects.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In its endeavour to improve its humanitarian services for persons adversely affected by armed conflict, the ICRC continues to apply the performance management methodology, which facilitates management decisions, enhances lessons learnt and documents performance accountability.

Performance management centres on the key functions of planning, monitoring and evaluation, which enable the ICRC to:

- ▶ establish general and specific performance objectives and targets;
- ▶ link objectives to budgeting and accounting;
- ▶ monitor performance;
- ▶ carry out independent evaluations and reviews in order to boost operational performance, knowledge management and the process of learning from experience.

In 2005, the ICRC remained a full member of the Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) and continued to work with donors and NGOs on issues related to accountability and performance management for humanitarian activities.

Planning for Results

Planning for Results (PfR), the annual planning methodology first introduced in 1999, remained central to the ICRC's performance management in 2005. PfR was designed to identify explicit results-oriented objectives for ICRC operations formulated in terms of three parameters: target population, programme capacity and

geographic location. The methodology has evolved over the years to adapt to new emerging issues and actual field practice.

Monitoring and reporting on results

The introduction of a new internal reporting framework in 2005 ensured a more efficient response to the needs of internal and external users. The new reporting format for assistance programmes enhanced the coherence and reliability of figures relating to programme performance.

Evaluating results

In accordance with its work plan, and under the direct supervision of the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, the ICRC completed independent evaluations in 2005 of its cooperation programmes with the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society and its performance management status.

In addition, the ICRC pursued its evaluation of programmes related to the missing and their families in the Balkans, and launched an evaluation of economic security programmes in Ethiopia.

An institutional strategy for independent evaluations was drafted and submitted to the Directorate for approval.

RELATIONS WITH THE CORPORATE SECTOR

In 1999, the ICRC adopted a comprehensive strategy aimed at developing its relations with the business community. Implementation of the strategy was entrusted to a small coordination team within the Office of the Director-General in May 2000.

In 2005 the ICRC focused on three priorities. First, it established an innovative partnership with the private sector. Second, it continued to promote IHL in its relations with multinational companies operating in conflict-prone areas. Third, the private-sector coordination team worked to ensure its various responsibilities were mainstreamed into the relevant departments at headquarters and into the field delegations.

On 7 October 2005, the ICRC officially launched its Corporate Support Group, an innovative partnership with seven Swiss-based companies: ABB Ltd, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie, Roche, Swiss Re, Vontobel Group, Fondation Hans Wilsdorf and Zurich Financial Services. These firms have pledged to make substantial donations to the ICRC over the coming six years, in particular to support training for ICRC field delegates and emergency aid operations. The ICRC and its partner companies have further committed themselves to sharing their respective knowledge and expertise regarding activities such as risk assessment, information and communication technologies, human resource training and management and staff health policy.

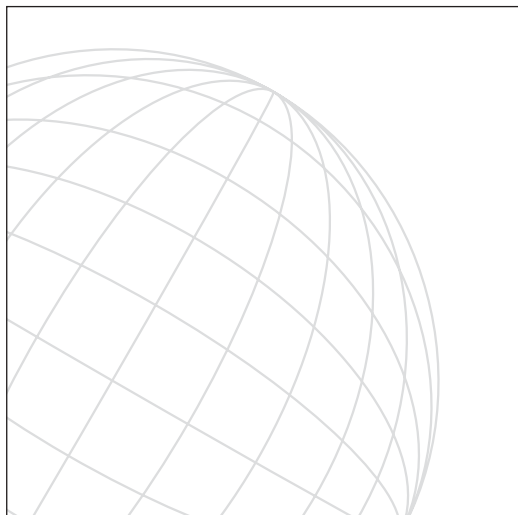
In 2005, the ICRC continued to lend its support to initiatives by governments and international organizations relating to the role of business in conflict. It provided input on IHL to the United Nations, the OECD Investment Committee and the World Bank International Finance Corporation.

Together with the International Federation, the ICRC ensured the adoption by the Council of Delegates of a set of guidelines on relations between private companies and the Movement's components, thus establishing a suitable framework for future partnerships governed by clear ethical rules.

GENDER EQUALITY

In 2005, the Directorate laid emphasis on promoting women to the position of head of field delegation, key posts in which women had been underrepresented in the organization's structure. The Human Resources Department focused on identifying female candidates for these positions and a number of appointments followed.

The redefined position of gender equality adviser to the Directorate was filled in autumn 2005. After reconfirming the validity of the ICRC's 2001 Equal Opportunities Plan of Action, the new adviser spent the final three months of the year reviewing the plan in order to strengthen coherence between those parts of it already implemented and others still pending. The plan comprises 16 measures addressing issues such as information and training, compatibility between private life and career and the promotion of female staff.



operations

The Department of Operations is responsible for the overall supervision of ICRC field activities worldwide. It supervises the drawing up of operational policies and guidelines, oversees the global analysis of key trends and events, and coordinates the conception, planning and budgeting of field activities carried out by ICRC delegations and missions in some 80 countries. It ensures that field activities are conducted coherently and professionally, in line with the ICRC's principles and policies, its code of ethics and staff security. It also ensures that adequate resources are allocated, in accordance with ICRC priorities, humanitarian needs as they arise and the budgetary framework.

DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS

The Department of Operations is divided into four large geographical zones (themselves divided into regions), two operational divisions (Assistance, and Central Tracing Agency and Protection) and two smaller units (Humanitarian Diplomacy, and Security and Stress). Headquarters staff with specialized knowledge and skills second the heads of the various regions and field delegations.

PROTECTION AND CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

IHL and other fundamental norms that protect individuals in situations of violence impose obligations on the authorities and parties to an armed conflict and guarantee the rights of civilians and other persons not, or no longer, participating directly in hostilities or violence. ICRC protection activities seek to ensure respect for these obligations and rights. They focus on preventing violations and abuse, and on putting an end to them when they occur. They also help alleviate the suffering caused by violations and abuse.

Protection work covers the following main domains:

- ▶ protecting civilians and other individuals not, or no longer, taking part in conflict or violence, notably persons or groups exposed to specific risks such as children, women, the elderly, the handicapped and displaced persons;

- ▶ protecting persons deprived of their freedom, particularly those detained in relation with armed conflicts or other situations of violence;
- ▶ re-establishing links between members of families who are separated from each other and unable to establish contact by themselves, with priority given to children separated from their parents;
- ▶ clarifying the fate of people missing in relation to armed conflicts or other situations of violence.

The ICRC engages in various types of activities in these domains, constantly adapting them to changes in protection needs and contexts. Protection activities include those aimed at:

- ▶ persuading and encouraging the authorities to fulfil their obligations, therefore preventing or alleviating the suffering of people affected by armed conflicts or other situations of violence;
- ▶ reinforcing the authorities' capability to fulfil their obligations;
- ▶ mobilizing other players able to assist the authorities;
- ▶ in exceptional cases, publicly raising concern and awareness.

The basic principles of ICRC protection activities are to work as closely as possible with people affected by conflict or violence, and to engage in constructive, confidential dialogue with all the authorities concerned and other stakeholders who can help prevent or put an end to abuses and violations.

Protection of the civilian population

The implementation and scope of protection activities depend on several factors, notably security conditions and the readiness of the authorities to enter into dialogue. The fact that the ICRC is able to develop protection activities and discuss sensitive issues with the authorities concerned does not necessarily mean that the desired results and impact will be achieved. In many contexts, the ICRC is aware of the need to continue or increase its protection activities, and develops innovative approaches to enhance respect for IHL and other fundamental norms devised to protect individuals in situations of violence.

In 2005, security concerns continued to restrict ICRC access in Afghanistan, Chechnya and Iraq, and made it impossible to address existing protection needs in other vast regions. Dialogue on the protection of civilians continued with the authorities and bearers of weapons in many countries such as Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Protection activities increased significantly in Sudan.

People deprived of their freedom

All people deprived of their freedom are vulnerable because they depend entirely on the detaining staff and authorities to meet their basic needs and ensure their physical protection. People arrested and detained in relation with situations of armed conflict or other situations of violence are more likely to be subjected to harsh conditions of detention or to ill-treatment than ordinary detainees.

The main objective of ICRC work for the protection of people deprived of their freedom is to prevent or put an end to summary executions, torture or other forms of ill-treatment, inadequate conditions of detention, the severing of contact between detainees and their families and disregard for fundamental judicial guarantees and procedural safeguards.

ICRC access to places of detention is not an end in itself. Rather, visits are a means of collecting first-hand information about the situation in such places. The ICRC monitors and assesses detainees' conditions of detention and treatment by sending trained staff to visit places of detention, talk with the authorities concerned, hold private interviews with detainees/prisoners and prepare an overall analysis of their findings. ICRC findings, assessments and related recommendations are discussed with the authorities at the appropriate levels. ICRC monitoring is a repeated process held to strict professional standards.

In countries affected by conflict, violence or longstanding severe economic difficulties, the detaining authorities may be unable to ensure conditions of detention that meet the basic needs of detainees held under their authority. The ICRC's response will vary, depending on the protection needs identified and the will and capability of the authorities to address them, from confidential reporting and recommendations to the relevant authorities on issues such as improving judicial procedures to a catalogue of activities, including material assistance, capacity building and training for penal staff, law-enforcement officers, the military and the judiciary, the mobilization of other players and, in exceptional circumstances, public communication of ICRC protection concerns.

In 2005, the ICRC had access to persons deprived of freedom in over 80 countries and made numerous reports and recommendations to improve often unsatisfactory conditions or treatment. It also continued its visits to people held in The Hague by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, in Arusha by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and in Freetown by the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Discussions with the highest authorities, particularly in Mauritania, Sudan and Tunisia, had positive outcomes in terms of access: by late 2005 activities for the protection of people deprived of their freedom had been initiated in these countries, or were about to begin.

There were fresh acts of transnational "terrorism" in 2005. Related policies of repression continued to challenge the ICRC's capacity to establish a constructive dialogue with the authorities responsible for compliance with IHL and other fundamental norms, as well as to promote respect for the relevant rules among specific groups/actors and to offer a humanitarian response to the needs of people affected by terrorist acts. The ICRC visited persons held in connection with acts of "terror" in several contexts, and continued to seek access to all persons detained in relation with this issue wherever they were held.

As part of its work in detention centres, the ICRC provided material assistance that improved living conditions for inmates. This included the repair or installation of water-supply and sanitation systems, and the provision of medical and hygiene supplies.

In countries such as Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guinea, Madagascar and Rwanda, the ICRC pursued its confidential dialogue with and its support for the national authorities in order to help them better meet their obligations towards detainees, particularly by providing them with structural support.

For various reasons, the ICRC put on hold or was unable to resume its visits to persons deprived of their freedom in countries such as Russia (for Chechnya), Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, but continued its efforts to resolve the problem with the authorities.

Restoring family links

Armed violence or natural disasters may lead to massive displacement of populations and the separation of families. To re-establish contact between dispersed family members or to reunite children with their families, the ICRC provides tracing services and networks for the exchange of family news. It pays particular attention and gives priority to children separated from their families and those demobilized from fighting forces, as they may encounter specific protection problems.

The worldwide network of National Societies reinforces the ICRC's operational capacity in this area. Having been assigned the lead role for tracing and restoring family links within the Movement, the ICRC acts as the Movement's technical adviser in this field and coordinator of its international response, even in situations of natural disaster occurring outside of armed conflicts or violence-prone areas.

In 2005, Africa remained the continent with the greatest need for assistance in restoring family links and tracing missing persons. This was particularly true for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and West Africa. In the latter region, resolving the issue of children separated from their families remained an ICRC priority.

The ICRC's tracing activities and efforts to help family members dispersed by natural disasters re-establish links reached an unprecedented level in 2005. This was attributable to the huge needs caused in this field by the Asian tsunami and the South Asia earthquake. The ICRC also provided timely support to the American Red Cross to help families and friends get in touch with loved ones in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina.

Missing persons and their families

In 2002, the ICRC launched a process to address the issue of people missing as a result of armed conflict or internal violence,

and the plight of their relatives. The aim was to review all methods of preventing disappearances, of clearing up cases of missing persons and of assisting their families, and ultimately to agree on common practices in this area and to raise the profile of this humanitarian issue on the international agenda. Following the International Conference of Governmental and Non-Governmental Experts (held in 2003), the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent adopted the Agenda for Humanitarian Action, which sets out clear objectives which the States and the Movement must endeavour to achieve between 2004 and 2007.

In 2005, the ICRC continued to develop and reinforce its activities in favour of missing persons and their families through the promotion of the relevant humanitarian rules, development of appropriate national law, cooperation with armed forces, exchange of family news, handling of human remains and support to the families of missing persons. It pursued its dialogue with the authorities in order to promote the establishment of mechanisms to clarify the fate of people missing in connection with armed conflicts or internal violence and to support their families. It also continued to provide support to/participate in existing mechanisms, particularly in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iran, Iraq and Timor-Leste.

Relations with other organizations and academic institutions

The ICRC participated in various round-tables and conferences on general protection issues. Within the UN framework, it followed in particular discussions on the protection of IDPs and participated in meetings on the new concept of clusters, including those devoted to the field of protection.

The ICRC attended several meetings and international conferences on detention issues and maintained contact with agencies involved in visiting detainees, such as UNHCHR, the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and several NGOs. The purpose of these contacts was to close gaps in protection work, prevent duplication of efforts and better identify the added value of each individual organization, in terms of its mandate, experience and specific nature.

ASSISTANCE

The Assistance Division provides strategic support and professional expertise in three areas of activity – health services, economic security and water and habitat – to operations in the field. It also devotes considerable effort to the vital area of staff development and management.

To maintain the quality of its services, the Assistance Division develops policies and guidelines while also helping to shape policy and strategy for the ICRC. It plays an active role in debates within the Movement and the wider humanitarian community, and with academic institutions, professional associations and other bodies involved in analysing and developing professional standards relevant to its fields of activity.

Operational support

In 2005, most of the ICRC's delegations and offices around the world carried out health, economic security, and water and habitat programmes. The biggest programmes were in Afghanistan,

the Caucasus, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous territories, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan (the southern part of the country and Darfur), Pakistan-administered Kashmir following the earthquake and, in the wake of the tsunami, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

Having mobilized considerable resources for its operations in Darfur and in the aftermath of the tsunami, the ICRC was able to launch a large-scale response to the October earthquake in southern Asia, sending experienced health, economic-security and water and habitat staff to the scene of the disaster within 36 hours and launching emergency assistance activities within days.

Health care

ICRC activities to promote health are designed to ensure that people affected by conflict or violence have access to basic preventive and curative health care that meets universally recognized standards. To this end, the ICRC assists local or regional health services, which it sometimes replaces on a strictly temporary basis.

In 2005, the ICRC provided regular support to hospitals admitting wounded patients – including people with mine injuries – and other surgical cases, and performed surgical operations. Support was also given to hospitals admitting medical cases and providing treatment in gynaecology/obstetrics and paediatrics in conflict-affected areas. In addition, the ICRC regularly assisted first-aid posts near combat zones.

In cooperation with partner National Societies, the ICRC ran community-based programmes in many countries, including Colombia, Sri Lanka and Sudan. It also provided regular support for health-care facilities.

Activities in the health-care sector were based on the 2004 ICRC Assistance Policy. Highlights comprised:

- ▶ the development and implementation of comprehensive hospital emergency care, including surgical, medical, paediatric and gynaecological/obstetric care, as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia, and in Pakistan-administered Kashmir in aid of people affected by the earthquake;
- ▶ strengthening the national hospital-management capacity in chronic conflict and post-crisis situations, such as in Afghanistan (Jalalabad Hospital) and Sudan (Juba Hospital);
- ▶ increasing the immunization capacity and backing immunization activities in conflict areas of Colombia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Sudan (Darfur);
- ▶ providing support for rape victims, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan (Darfur).

In the core field of health in places of detention, the ICRC concentrated on:

- ▶ providing support for an enhanced prison health system in Kyrgyzstan, Rwanda and the South Caucasus;
- ▶ furthering the tuberculosis control programme in prisons in the Caucasus (the programme is gradually being handed over to the authorities; TB drugs, for example, are no longer supplied by the ICRC);
- ▶ in accordance with established criteria, assisting people living with HIV/AIDS in African prisons, for instance in Burundi, Lesotho and Rwanda, in partnership with the relevant ministries of justice and health and with national NGOs;
- ▶ documenting and preventing ill-treatment in prisons.

In another health-related field, physical rehabilitation, the ICRC worked in aid of centres in 23 countries in 2005. Thanks to the organization's assistance, orthopaedic appliances (prostheses and orthotic devices) were supplied, and crutches and wheelchairs distributed. Most patients also received physiotherapy.

Water and habitat

The ICRC's water and habitat programmes provide basic services to groups of people affected by conflict or violence, ensuring they have access to water supplies, decent conditions of sanitation and adequate shelter; when necessary, health facilities are rehabilitated to improve access to health care. The services are provided throughout the different phases of a crisis, from the acute stage to the post-crisis phase.

In 2005, the ICRC constructed or repaired water and sanitation facilities in 37 countries. These projects, implemented by expatriate and national engineers and technicians, catered for the needs of some 11.2 million people worldwide. They ranged from making water safe to drink by setting up hand pumps and water-treatment systems to ensuring proper sewage disposal in towns and villages affected by armed conflict. They also included repairing and, in some cases, building health-care facilities and centres to house displaced people, and building or improving water and sanitation facilities in places of detention.

In Sudan, the ICRC focused on Darfur, where it maintained and developed access to water supplies and health facilities in rural and urban areas and IDP camps. In southern Sudan, while maintaining substantial support to the Juba Teaching Hospital, the ICRC handed its water project in Yirol over to the Swedish Red Cross.

To assist people in Indonesia and Sri Lanka affected by the tsunami, the ICRC concentrated on providing access to water, shelter and medical facilities in conflict-prone areas. The same approach applied in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, where many people affected by the earthquake benefited from the rehabilitation of rural and urban water schemes. Additionally, vulnerable households received shelter support in the form of sheets of corrugated iron and construction materials, and assistance in the form of a work force.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the ICRC continued to lend support to local water boards, thereby enabling people to have access to safe drinking water in the main urban centres of the northern and western regions of the country.

In Iraq, where the ICRC maintained its presence despite volatile security conditions, water and habitat engineers continued to help Iraqi water boards and the health authorities, operating emergency projects in water and sewage stations and health facilities.

The ICRC ran urban water-supply projects in Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo and Guinea. Major rural water and sanitation projects were continued throughout the year in Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Myanmar, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan. The ICRC provided emergency water supplies to IDPs and resident populations in Afghanistan, the northern Caucasus, the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Indonesia, the Palestinian occupied and autonomous territories, Liberia and

Sudan. It upgraded medical facilities at numerous locations in Afghanistan, Burundi, Chechnya, Guinea, Iraq, Liberia, Senegal, Somalia and Sudan.

In places of detention with no other means of providing detainees with acceptable living conditions, the ICRC carried out water and sanitation activities and repairs to water-supply and sanitation systems, chiefly in Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka.

Economic security

The ICRC's approach to economic security aims to ensure that households and communities can cover their basic material needs and maintain or restore sustainable livelihoods. This involves initiatives ranging from emergency distributions of food and essential household items to sustainable food-production programmes and micro-economic initiatives. Examples of the latter two include the maintenance/rehabilitation of irrigation perimeters, in-kind grants, small-scale community-based cash-for-work projects, and livestock management and support programmes.

In 2005, the ICRC carried out economic security work in 26 countries, providing internally displaced people, residents and – in exceptional circumstances – persons deprived of their freedom with food aid and essential household and hygiene items. Other people were assisted through sustainable food-production programmes or micro-economic initiatives. Up to 90 specialized expatriate staff were involved, in addition to nearly 700 national staff.

The ICRC supplied emergency food and/or essential household items to people affected by conflict and violence in Afghanistan, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Liberia, Nepal, the Palestinian occupied and autonomous territories, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe. In addition, at the beginning of 2005 groups of people affected by the tsunami in Indonesia and Sri Lanka continued to receive essential household items, and during the last quarter of 2005 people affected by the earthquake in Pakistan-administered Kashmir received emergency food and essential household items. Distributions of food and/or essential household items also continued in Georgia and Russia.

As a one-off, and because the detaining authorities were unable to respond in a timely manner to deteriorating situations, the ICRC provided food for inmates in some prisons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Madagascar. In Rwanda, the ICRC terminated the food-aid programme it had implemented in prisons for over 10 years in December 2005. Food was also distributed for patients in ICRC-assisted hospitals.

The ICRC carried out crop projects, veterinary and livestock support programmes and/or fishing projects in Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda. It maintained micro-economic initiatives, such as community-based cash-for-work and in-kind grants for farms and cottage industries in Georgia, Russia, Somalia and the Palestinian occupied and autonomous territories, and launched similar initiatives in Sri Lanka.

In early 2005, following the completion of all ICRC economic security programmes for IDPs from Kosovo, a team of external consultants reviewed the cash-assistance projects implemented in close cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs in Serbia

and Montenegro and the organization's micro-economic initiatives (farm and cottage industry grants, the micro-credit scheme and vocational training). Economic security programmes in Somalia were also reviewed, and slightly altered as a result.

Policies and key issues

The Assistance Division produced a number of guidelines and reference tools in its three areas of activity. These included:

- ▶ operational guidelines for the application of the ICRC Assistance Policy to economic security programmes;
- ▶ guidelines for basic health care;
- ▶ a protocol for the operation of mobile clinics;
- ▶ a course for prison doctors on CD-ROM and on the Internet;
- ▶ operational best practices for the management of human remains and information on the dead by non-specialists, for all armed forces and all humanitarian organizations;
- ▶ legal, ethical and practical guidelines relating to the use of DNA.

The guidelines and protocols were developed after a careful review of existing documents and other sources of information.

Human resources development

Throughout the year, the Assistance Division made a considerable effort to improve the quality and scope of training for its health, economic-security and water and habitat personnel. It organized specialized courses and workshops on issues such as economic security, basic health care, hospital management, emergency surgery in war-torn areas, assessment of water supply systems and water engineering. It allocated substantial resources to training and contributed its expertise to on-site courses for health-care personnel working in places of detention and to war-surgery seminars held around the world. In addition, Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) courses were organized in various parts of the world.

Contributions to the humanitarian debate

In 2005, as in previous years, the Assistance Division participated in workshops, forums and conferences attended by key humanitarian agencies such as specialized UN organizations, notably the WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization, WHO and UNHCR, and NGOs such as *Médecins Sans Frontières*, *Action Contre la Faim*, Oxfam, Handicap International and Physicians for Human Rights. It also maintained and developed a network of contacts with professional associations and academic institutions. The ICRC's expertise in specialized areas such as the rehabilitation of amputees, water and habitat engineering, war surgery, and health and medical ethics in prisons was frequently solicited in international conferences and workshops.

RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In multinational forums the ICRC promotes knowledge, understanding and – whenever appropriate – the development of IHL. It explains its position on issues of humanitarian concern and multiplies contacts to facilitate its operations in the field and raise awareness of the plight and needs of those affected by armed conflicts and violence. Above all, it strives to defend and promote impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian action, and to guard against the use of humanitarian activities as a tool for military or political ends.

To this purpose, the ICRC develops and maintains close relations with a wide range of organizations – including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies through its headquarters and its delegations, mainly in Addis Ababa, Brussels, Cairo, Kuala Lumpur, New York and Paris. The ICRC's Humanitarian Diplomacy Unit acts as a focal point for relations between the ICRC and UN bodies such as the General Assembly, the Security Council and the various UN humanitarian agencies. Similarly, it maintains regular contact with regional organizations, *inter alia* the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Council of Europe, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The ICRC also maintains regular exchanges with NGOs.

Raising issues of humanitarian concern in international forums

Throughout 2005, issues of humanitarian concern were high on the agendas of various UN bodies and international conferences, not only because of the major international crises that occurred, including the tsunami and the earthquake in South Asia, but also because it was the year in which the UN launched a large-scale reform of its humanitarian system.

The ICRC closely followed the UN reform process to keep abreast of developments relevant to its humanitarian activities, and to promote understanding of and support for its mandate and work, both generally and in relation with the UN's new humanitarian system. It attended the 60th session of the UN General Assembly in its capacity as an observer, and delivered statements on issues of humanitarian concern in the plenary and third committees. These included enhanced coordination of UN humanitarian and disaster-relief assistance, missing persons and their families, and enforced disappearances. The ICRC played a similar role at the Humanitarian Affairs Segment of the Economic and Social Council, where it made a statement on applying humanitarian principles in the aftermath of armed conflict. It also paid close attention to various issues taken up by the UN Security Council, to which it delivered a statement on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The ICRC also closely followed the 61st session of the Commission on Human Rights, which its president addressed and where its representatives made a statement on people missing in connection with armed conflict.

In Europe, the ICRC maintained regular contact with regional organizations such as the Council of Europe and the OSCE. Decisions regarding human rights, the rule of law, migration, small arms and light weapons, conflict prevention and detention conditions were closely followed. In 2005, the ICRC took part in the OSCE's 13th Ministerial Meeting, in its Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and in its Mediterranean Seminar. It also delivered a statement at a tripartite meeting in Strasbourg between the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the UN on the role that IHL, penal law and human rights law should play in the "fight against terrorism".

In Africa, the ICRC maintained regular contact with the AU and various regional economic communities. In 2005 it attended both the AU Summit, in Syrte, Libya, and the 6th meeting of the AU's African Committee of the Rights and Welfare of the Child, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

In Asia, the ICRC created a special position within its delegation in Kuala Lumpur to reinforce contacts with the region's multi-lateral organizations.

In Latin America, the ICRC closely followed the work of the OAS and of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM). It participated in the 35th General Assembly of the OAS and the fifth session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism. It also endeavoured to enhance its working relations with CARICOM. Throughout its interactions with these organizations, the ICRC focused on the application of IHL, international refugee law and human rights law to the fight against "terrorism" and the issue of people missing in connection with armed conflict.

In 2005 the ICRC continued to pursue closer links with the Muslim world. It participated in high-level meetings, including the 32nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Sana'a, Yemen, and the Council Session of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States, in Beirut. A number of workshops on the implementation of IHL were organized with the support of the Arab League.

The ICRC maintained contacts with parliamentarians from around the world. It attended the Inter-Parliamentary Union assemblies in Geneva and Manila, and participated in inter-parliamentary conferences in Brazzaville, Moscow and New York. It also took part in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. In all its dealings, the ICRC focused on the issue of people missing in connection with armed conflict. The ICRC was gratified by the Inter-Parliamentary Union's decision to further pursue discussions on this important issue in 2006 and to put it at the top of the agenda of its Assembly scheduled for October 2006.

Throughout 2005, the ICRC also kept abreast of numerous public discussions on issues relevant to its work, including migration, internal displacement, conflict prevention, peace-building and the strengthening of the humanitarian response capacity for forgotten emergencies. Accordingly, it attended international conferences on these issues in Geneva, New York and Rabat. It participated in the European Platform for Conflict Prevention and Transformation, in Bilbao, and the Global Conference on Conflict Prevention, in New York.

Enhancing cooperation and coordination between agencies

In recognition of the scale and complexity of needs arising from crises in 2005, the increasing number of relief organizations on the ground, the changing humanitarian environment and the changes resulting from the UN humanitarian reforms, the ICRC stepped up its consultation and coordination with other humanitarian agencies: members of the UN system, regional organizations and NGOs.

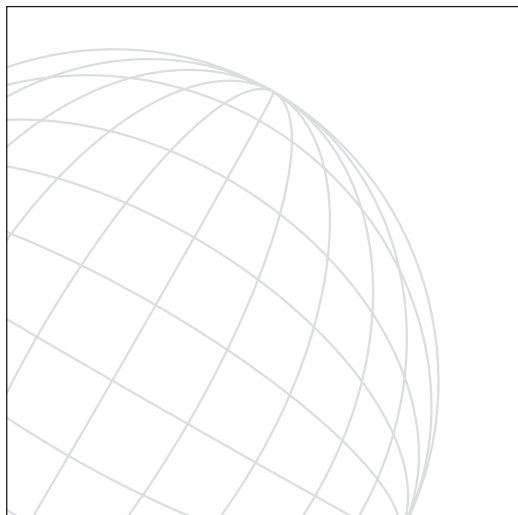
The ICRC actively participated in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) – the UN mechanism for coordinating the humanitarian activities of both UN and non-UN organizations – in which it is a standing invitee. In 2005, as in past years, the ICRC took an active part in the IASC's information meetings, working groups and principals meetings at headquarters. Its delegations participated in coordination meetings in the field and cooperated with UN staff to develop Common Humanitarian Action Plans in an effort to prevent duplication or gaps in relief aid. Throughout the year, the ICRC contributed extensively to the

work undertaken by IASC sub-bodies on subjects such as mental health and good humanitarian donorship. It also actively participated in a multitude of meetings and discussions on UN humanitarian reforms.

The ICRC maintained bilateral contacts with various UN and non-UN agencies. In 2005 it attended the 90th Session of the IOM Council and strengthened institutional relations with the WFP. It also enhanced relations with UNHCHR, both at the highest and working level and continued its dialogue with UNHCR and UNICEF. It planned high-level meetings with UNHCHR, UNHCR and UNICEF for 2006.

In 2005 bilateral contacts were maintained with some of the larger NGOs. The ICRC took part in the work of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response and maintained a close relationship with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, where it had observer status. The ICRC also attended the World Social Forum held in Brazil. Several high-level meetings have been planned with NGOs for 2006, among them major NGOs with which the ICRC has traditionally maintained close relations.

A close link was maintained with the Humanitarian Liaison Working Group, which brings together representatives of major donor countries in Geneva to foster dialogue with humanitarian agencies. In March, the ICRC participated in the fifth annual Montreux Donor Retreat organized by this working group.



international law and cooperation within the movement

The Department for International Law and Cooperation within the Movement seeks to reinforce and help implement the rules protecting victims of war, and the cohesion of action and policy within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It spearheads work to develop, explain and promote the provisions of IHL related to international and non-international armed conflicts, to promote cooperation between the Movement's components in the achievement of their humanitarian mission and to foster implementation of the Fundamental Principles. The Department also archives ICRC records for historical purposes, publishes a periodical and administers a Second World War tracing service.

TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION TO THE EMBLEM ISSUE: ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL III

The red cross and red crescent emblems are universally recognized symbols of protection and assistance for the victims of armed conflicts and natural disasters. These emblems unfortunately do not always enjoy the respect to which they are entitled as visible signs of the strict neutrality of humanitarian work. Moreover, certain States find it difficult to identify with one or the other.

The ICRC, together with the Standing Commission and the International Federation, has been actively involved in the process of seeking a comprehensive solution to this longstanding issue. In 2000, a draft third protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions introduced an additional emblem free of any political, religious or national connotations. The whole process stalled the same year, however, owing to events in the Middle East. The ICRC, together with the Movement, worked to maintain the focus on the need to find a global and comprehensive solution to the emblem issue, with the result that the Swiss Government, as the depositary of the Geneva Conventions, resumed consultations with the States party to the Geneva Conventions in early 2005.

In November 2005, the Council of Delegates, meeting in Seoul, adopted by consensus a resolution reaffirming its support for the process.

Following consultations with the States, and pursuant to the Movement's efforts to attain universality, a diplomatic conference convened by the Swiss Government in December 2005 resulted in the adoption of Additional Protocol III, which addresses solely the question of the additional emblem and its use.

POLICY AND COOPERATION WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

The mission of the Division for Policy and Cooperation within the Movement is to guide and support the ICRC in implementing its responsibilities towards the Movement's other components. In situations of conflict and internal strife, and in dealing with their direct results, the ICRC works closely with the National Societies and their International Federation to respond to humanitarian needs, in accordance with the Movement's Statutes and the Seville Agreement. This includes:

- a) coordinating activities in the field and forming operational partnerships with other components of the Movement, and providing guidance and support for National Society capacity-building activities (**Movement action**);
- b) providing support and advice to the National Societies in their efforts to apply the Fundamental Principles and the Movement's main policies, rules and regulations (**Movement principles and rules**);
- c) developing Movement policies and guidance documents for adoption by the Movement's statutory bodies, organizing meetings of such bodies and promoting implementation of the decisions and resolutions adopted by them (**Movement policy**).

The highlights of the Division's work in 2005 in the above areas are described below.

MOVEMENT ACTION

Support for Movement coordination in ICRC field operations

In 2005, the Division lent substantial support to the major Movement operations launched in the aftermath of the tsunami in Sri Lanka and Indonesia, the Darfur crisis and the earthquake in Pakistan. The involvement of many National Societies in response to the tsunami in Sri Lanka and Indonesia meant that new models had to be devised for Movement coordination, including structures and terms of reference for their functioning. In other operations, ICRC field delegations were helped to develop context-specific approaches and mechanisms for Movement coordination and to address the problems they encountered in interacting with National Societies or the International Federation.

The Division also made considerable efforts in 2005 to develop new methods, procedures and tools for managing operational partnerships with National Societies working internationally and conducted a pilot exercise to test them in places such as Sudan, Colombia and Sri Lanka. It further commissioned an external evaluation of the implementation of the Seville Agreement in transition situations (Sierra Leone, Serbia and Montenegro). The results were used to prepare supplementary measures to enhance implementation of the Seville Agreement (see *Movement policy* below).

Support for National Society capacity building

In this area, the Division focused on helping delegations to implement the “Safer Access” approach. It also laid emphasis on working with the Protection Division to design and launch a universal project to strengthen the Family News Network, which involves National Society tracing services, and on implementing a common approach for National Society dissemination activities in Asia.

In a joint effort to strengthen National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation continued to develop and carry out training courses for newly-appointed senior leaders of National Societies. The Leadership Development Programme’s content and methodology were revised and applied during two courses organized for 41 National Society leaders, focusing mainly on the international dimensions and responsibilities of a National Society in the framework of the Movement’s Fundamental Principles.

The Division also continued to provide backing for Basic Training Courses (BTCs) for National Society and International Federation staff seconded to emergency operations. Thirty-three BTCs were organized in 2005, compared to an average of 25 in previous years, an increase brought about chiefly by the tsunami and Pakistan earthquake operations.

MOVEMENT PRINCIPLES AND RULES

According to the Movement’s Statutes, the ICRC is responsible *inter alia* for recognizing National Societies and for ensuring proper use of the emblems and respect for the Fundamental Principles which, taken together, distinguish the Movement from other international networks such as the UN system and from NGOs. National Societies currently face a number of problems

relating to integrity, the result of growing threats to their independence; both their statutes and/or the domestic legislation regulating National Society relations with the State can play an important role in this respect.

In 2005, the Division applied a more systematic and analytical approach to promoting implementation of the Movement’s principles and rules and to documenting cases in which a National Society’s integrity was called into question (it listed all the action taken in such cases, established case-management sheets and participated in the International Federation Governing Board’s new working group on integrity). In addition, the Division, often acting jointly with its counterpart at the International Federation, took specific action in response to issues of National Society integrity of serious concern in five countries. It also helped draft the Policy on the Protection of Integrity adopted by the International Federation’s General Assembly in November 2005. The policy serves as the basis for continued coordination of ICRC and International Federation work on integrity issues and tools.

Furthermore, the Division intensified its work within the Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes, whose aim is to help National Societies to adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles by strengthening their legal base (statutes and national legislation regulating relations with authorities). In 2005, the Commission provided comments and recommendations to 40 National Societies on the text of their statutes, and certified that 39 had statutes that met minimum requirements. Many problems relating to National Society statutes are grounded in existing national legislation, and the Commission therefore also stepped up its work in this area, providing analysis and advice to 15 National Societies during the year.

Regarding recognition of new National Societies, the Division did the groundwork enabling the ICRC Assembly to determine that two additional National Societies (Comoros Red Crescent and Timor-Leste Red Cross) met the 10 conditions for recognition; they therefore became full-fledged components of the Movement and were subsequently admitted as members of the International Federation.

The Division also dealt with over 40 inquiries in 2005 about the proper use of the red cross and red crescent emblems, providing advice and recommendations to ICRC delegations, National Societies and private individuals.

Finally, a number of Special Notes to National Societies provided guidance on the use of military assets and logistic means by components of the Movement in the contexts of the Darfur, tsunami and Pakistan operations. The notes were sent to all National Societies.

MOVEMENT POLICY

The year was devoted to preparing the substance of and organizing the Council of Delegates together with the International Federation and the Republic of Korea National Red Cross, which hosted the event in November 2005 in Seoul. In terms of substance, the Division worked mainly on the following papers, which were subsequently formally adopted in Seoul as policy and guidance documents for the entire Movement:

- ▶ *Supplementary measures to enhance the implementation of the Seville Agreement.* The text of the supplementary measures focuses on ways to improve the organization of the international activities of the Movement's components and is the product of an ad hoc working group of representatives from National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC. It draws upon lessons learned and best practices established since the adoption of the Seville Agreement in 1997 and aims to provide additional guidance on effective cooperation as one Movement, particularly in large-scale emergencies.
- ▶ *Auxiliary role of National Societies.* As part of a wider initiative led by the International Federation, and in close consultation with a number of National Societies, the ICRC produced a study on National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field. The role of National Societies as auxiliaries to their governments is explicitly mentioned in the Movement's Statutes, yet there are varying interpretations of what the concept of "auxiliary" actually signifies. This study, distributed to all participants at the 2005 Council of Delegates, clarifies the concept of auxiliary in times of conflict and provides guidance to National Societies in their interaction with their governments, particularly regarding their role during military operations mandated by the UN, in situations of occupation, and when working abroad in areas where their own country's troops are deployed.
- ▶ *Guidance document on relations between Movement components and military bodies.* The purpose here is to guide the Movement when it coordinates its activities with military bodies, especially with respect to the Fundamental Principles. The document deals in particular with the questions of preserving the Movement's independence and maintaining a clear distinction between the respective roles of military bodies and humanitarian practitioners. It is the result of an intense process of consultation conducted in 2005 between the ICRC, the International Federation and a group of National Societies particularly concerned by the issue.
- ▶ *Movement policy for corporate sector partnerships.* The policy aims to provide guidelines for National Society relations and partnerships with the private sector that do not compromise the Society's obligation to adhere to the Fundamental Principles. It was produced jointly by the International Federation and the ICRC, in consultation with a large group of National Societies.
- ▶ *Promoting respect for diversity and non-discrimination.* The guidance document and guiding questions annexed to the Council of Delegates resolution on this point provide a general framework for applying key aspects of the Movement's principles of impartiality and unity. Movement components are called upon to use the guidance document when drawing up new programmes or reshaping existing strategies, in order to promote greater diversity within national Red Cross and Red Crescent organizations and to respond to all forms of adverse discrimination within civil society. The guidance document is the result of an intense process of consultation conducted since 2003 between the ICRC, the International Federation and a large group of National Societies.

The Division also coordinated the preparation of ICRC background documents and guiding questions for debates at the Council of Delegates on the main challenges to obtaining access to victims and vulnerable people, on the one hand, and to carrying out neutral and independent humanitarian action, on the other. The purpose of these discussions was to consult the National

Societies on the main issues to be raised with States in preparation for the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent scheduled for 2007. The National Societies expressed strong support for working as an independent Movement network that is clearly distinct from the other two main networks of humanitarian assistance, namely NGOs and the UN.

Further to the tasks above, the Division ensured adequate management or supervision of various Movement funds, medals and prizes, organized around 50 official visits of National Society leaders to ICRC headquarters, and represented the ICRC in various official and statutory meetings organized by other components of the Movement.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

The protection of war victims is largely dependent on respect for IHL. In accordance with the mandate conferred upon it by the international community, the ICRC strives to promote compliance with IHL and to contribute to its development.

In order to enhance its capacity to protect and assist the victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence, the ICRC concluded two new headquarters agreements, one with China, and the other with Trinidad and Tobago. This brought to 77 the number of such agreements, which confer various privileges and immunities enabling the ICRC and its staff to work in an entirely independent manner. In 11 other States, the organization's privileges and immunities are established by legislation or other arrangements.

The highlights of the Legal Division's work in 2005 are described below.

PROMOTING THE UNIVERSALITY OF IHL INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

If IHL is to be fully respected, it is of paramount importance that States adopt domestic legislation to implement its rules, in particular those relating to the repression of war crimes and to the use and protection of the red cross and red crescent emblems and other distinctive signs and signals.

Throughout the year, the ICRC, in particular the legal experts of its Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law based in Geneva and in the field, actively pursued its dialogue with national authorities worldwide in order to promote accession to IHL treaties and their national implementation in domestic law and practice. To this end, it continued to cooperate with international and regional organizations such as the Commonwealth, the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States, the Council of Europe and the European Union, and participated in or organized a number of national and regional conferences, seminars and workshops in order to promote the broadest possible consideration of subjects related to the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments.

Legal and technical advice was provided to governments in many countries seeking to develop domestic legislation, including Afghanistan, Benin, Colombia, the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Indonesia, Mexico, Niger, Peru, Serbia and Montenegro, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Yemen.

The ICRC continued to encourage and help States to establish national committees responsible for the implementation of IHL. Such committees are an effective means of promoting respect for the law by the States; they are made up of representatives of the various ministries and national bodies concerned, and specialists appointed for that purpose. In 2005, a national committee was set up in Burkina Faso, bringing the total number of such bodies to over 70. During the same period, the ICRC organized two regional meetings of national IHL committees: the Nairobi meeting, organized in conjunction with the Kenyan Government and the Commonwealth Secretariat, brought together representatives of national IHL committees within the Commonwealth; the meeting in Managua was attended by representatives of national IHL committees established throughout Central and South America.

Information on new national legislation and case law relating to IHL continued to be collected and incorporated into the Advisory Service's database of national legislation. The Advisory Service also released a new edition of the CD-ROM containing the full texts of IHL treaties, their status of ratification and examples of national implementation measures adopted by different States.

In 2005:

- ▶ One State (Timor-Leste) acceded to the 1977 Additional Protocols and one State (Qatar) acceded to Additional Protocol II.
- ▶ The ICRC organized several meetings of regional experts devoted to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, notably in Buenos Aires and in Warsaw, and lent support for the completion of national studies of the compatibility of domestic law and practice in various Eastern Europe countries. It also participated in the sixth Meeting of States party to the Convention and in the first Meeting of States party to the Convention's Second Protocol of 1999. In 2005, one State (Venezuela) acceded to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, three States (Canada, Estonia and Portugal) to its Protocol and 10 States to its Second Protocol (Belarus, Canada, Egypt, Estonia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iran, Luxemburg and Peru).
- ▶ Thirteen States acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ As part of its efforts to promote ratification and implementation of the Ottawa Convention, the ICRC participated in the meetings of the States parties held in Switzerland and Croatia and in national and regional events in Algeria, Georgia, Kenya and Libya, amongst other countries. Legal assistance was extended to some 16 States parties to help them develop national implementation measures. In December 2004, the First Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention adopted the Nairobi Action Plan, in which the States parties agreed to take 70 specific measures aimed at "the full and effective promotion and implementation of the Convention" between 2005 and 2009. In 2005, the ICRC actively encouraged the States parties to fulfil these commitments.

The ICRC also produced a brochure entitled *Caring for Landmine Victims* and participated in regional workshops in Africa and Central America organized by the Ottawa Convention's Standing Committee on Victim Assistance.

In addition, it was instrumental in promoting the development by the States parties of a coherent and transparent process for managing requests to extend mine-clearance deadlines, which will begin to expire in 2009.

In 2005, three States (Bhutan, Latvia and Vanuatu) acceded to the Ottawa Convention.

- ▶ Three States became party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, while several others acceded to the Convention's various Protocols (eight States to the revised Framework Convention; three States to Protocol I, five States to Amended Protocol II, two States to Protocol III and two States to Protocol IV; 13 States ratified Protocol V).

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Convention's adoption, the ICRC organized a number of national meetings (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lithuania, Serbia and Montenegro, Sri Lanka) to promote the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its five Protocols. The meetings focused in particular on the promotion of the 2003 Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V), which seeks to address the problems caused by unexploded and abandoned munitions. In particular, the ICRC produced a DVD explaining the nature of those problems and the obligations the States undertook on acceding to the Protocol.

The ICRC continued to play an active role in intergovernmental efforts to address the human costs of anti-vehicle mines and of cluster bombs and other sub-munitions. Work on these problems continued in the Group of Government Experts of States party to the Convention on Conventional Weapons. No decisions or proposals were adopted but there was substantial discussion on a number of important questions. At their annual meeting in November, the States Parties asked the experts to continue their work on these issues in 2006, when the Third Review Conference of the Convention will be convened.

- ▶ Three States (Dominican Republic, Kenya and Mexico) acceded to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The ICRC held and participated in various national and regional conferences and seminars organized under the auspices of or with the support of regional organizations such as the European Union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Organization of American States. In November, it attended the Fourth Assembly of States party to the Rome Statute, held in The Hague. It also helped draft model laws for the implementation of the Rome Statute by Commonwealth countries and by Arab-speaking States.

Furthermore, in line with the recommendations adopted at the 2003 International Conference of Governmental and non-Governmental Experts on the Missing and with the Agenda for Humanitarian Action adopted by the 28th International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference, the ICRC also started to prepare guidelines on drawing up national legislation to prevent persons from becoming unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict and to protect missing persons and their families.

REAFFIRMING, CLARIFYING AND DEVELOPING IHL

Throughout 2005, the Legal Division attended numerous conferences, seminars and courses and provided States, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and other interested persons and bodies with expertise on a variety of IHL topics. The primary aim of these activities was to promote IHL and stress the relevance of its provisions in contemporary armed conflicts, and to explain the specific role of the ICRC.

The ICRC worked in particular on the issues mentioned below. In addition, it dealt with a number of other topical matters, such as the protection of IDPs, the protection of women and children in armed conflict, the protection of journalists, peace-keeping and computer network attacks.

The Legal Division also provided legal advice on a daily basis to the ICRC's Department of Operations and to ICRC field delegations, notably regarding confidential representations to the parties to armed conflicts in cases where IHL was being violated, and also to remind the parties of their obligations under IHL in the event of hostilities.

Study on customary international humanitarian law

In 2005, the ICRC published the study on customary international humanitarian law commissioned by the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The study contains a list of rules found to be customary, a short commentary explaining the customary nature of the rule, and a summary of practice in the area of IHL compiled over several years of research. It is divided into six parts (principle of distinction; specific protection regimes; methods of warfare; weapons; treatment of civilians and persons *hors de combat*; implementation and enforcement). It was officially presented in Geneva on 17 March 2005 and launched at conferences in London, The Hague, Oslo, Washington, Montreal, Brussels and New Delhi. The study was also presented at a variety of national and international forums, academic conferences and internal meetings.

The study is the result of almost ten years of work. It is unique in that it represents the first global and thorough assessment of customary IHL. It has shown in particular that many rules that as treaty law only apply in international armed conflicts also apply in non-international armed conflicts as a matter of customary law. This should ultimately enhance the protection of the victims of such conflicts. The study will therefore be a useful tool for a variety of groups, including States, armed forces, academics, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and national and international tribunals.

Direct participation in hostilities

In October 2005, the Legal Division, together with the Hague-based TMC Asser Institute, held a third informal meeting of experts aimed at exploring the notion of "direct participation in hostilities under IHL". The need to clarify the status and treatment of civilians who have taken a direct part in hostilities pertains to all types of armed conflicts and has been specifically raised in the legal debates on the "war on terror". The aim of the process is to provide interpretive guidance on the notion of "direct participation".

Improving compliance with IHL

Although the international community has made noteworthy progress in taking preventive action and repressing violations of

IHL, there is no doubt that better compliance with IHL during armed conflicts remains a major challenge. In order to address this issue, the ICRC, in cooperation with other organizations, hosted five regional seminars in 2003 on improving compliance with IHL. The Legal Division was requested to conduct a study of mechanisms that could improve compliance with IHL in non-international armed conflicts by all parties to the conflict. The study was finalized in late 2005. In addition, the ICRC provided input for the European Union Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL, which were adopted in December 2005. The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide the European Union and its institutions and bodies with the operational means of promoting respect for IHL.

Air and missile warfare

The ICRC is an active contributor to the expert meetings on IHL and air and missile warfare sponsored by the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, which has launched an important initiative aimed at drafting a manual on air and missile warfare. Its legal experts participated actively in the third and fourth substantive meetings held in 2005 in Germany and Norway.

Private military and security companies

Recent years have witnessed an increase in the number of private military and security companies operating in situations of armed conflict, as well as a change in the nature of their activities, which are now increasingly close to the heart of military operations and which often put them in close proximity to persons protected by IHL. In view of this, the ICRC has engaged in dialogue with a number of these companies and with the States that hire them or in whose territory they are registered to remind all concerned of their obligations under IHL. Experts from the Legal Division also participated in various external events that addressed the legal issues raised by these companies.

Moreover, the ICRC cooperated closely with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs on the launch of an intergovernmental initiative on this topic in 2005. The initiative aims to contribute to an intergovernmental discussion of the issues raised by the use of private military and security companies, to reaffirm and clarify the existing obligations of States and such companies, and to study and develop options and regulatory models and other appropriate measures at the national and possibly regional or international levels.

IHL and human rights law

The ICRC continued throughout 2005 to contribute to the debates of the UN Human Rights Commission and of its Sub-commission.

In 2005, the ICRC took part in the final stages of negotiations leading to the adoption, by a working group of the UN Commission on Human Rights, of a draft international convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance that will be submitted to the Commission and later to the UN General Assembly for adoption. The ICRC was able to provide substantive input for the draft, suggesting a number of provisions on preventive protection (registration of detainees and notification of their families) and supporting the mention of the right of families to know the fate of their members.

The ICRC also participated in negotiations leading to the adoption by the Commission on Human Rights of the Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for

Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law.

During the 60th session of the UN General Assembly, the ICRC paid particular attention to legal developments, such as the ongoing negotiations in the Sixth Committee on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and the protocol to the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel. It also continued to take part in meetings of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Terrorism, which adopted a new European Convention on Terrorism, and took part as an observer in meetings of the Council of Europe's Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International law.

Finally, the Legal Division pursued efforts to clarify the interplay of IHL and human rights law in protecting victims of violence. In this context it developed a commentary on procedural principles and safeguards for internment/administrative detention in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

Biotechnology, weapons and humanity

The ICRC continued its efforts to promote awareness of the rules prohibiting poisoning and the deliberate spread of disease and the urgent need for vigilance to prevent the rapid developments in the life sciences from being misused to undermine those norms. Efforts focused on encouraging those working in the life sciences and industry to take practical steps to ensure that these rules are respected, such as adopting "codes of conduct" which would reflect the moral and legal responsibilities of "scientists" to prevent misuse of their knowledge and products for hostile purposes.

In 2005 the ICRC convened a round table in Moscow, in partnership with the Russian Academy of Sciences, and a regional round table in Kuala Lumpur. The event in Russia was attended by relevant national officials and scientists while the meeting in Malaysia brought together some 40 life science experts, government officials and academics from twelve countries in the region.

The Principles of Practice for life scientists and those who employ them, developed by the ICRC in cooperation with a range of scientific experts, were published in 2005 and used as a basis for discussion during the events described above; they were also presented to the Expert Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention convened to draw up codes of conduct for science and industry.

Small arms and light weapons

To enhance the protection of civilians during and after armed conflicts, the ICRC continued to promote measures aimed at achieving a long-term reduction in the availability of arms to violators of IHL and to prevent the misuse of weapons. It took part in the two final sessions of negotiations at the UN on a new international instrument to facilitate identification and tracing of illicit small arms. In July 2005, it also participated in the Biennial Meeting of States on the UN Programme of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons. It urged States to develop a global system of control to prevent the trade of illicit arms and international standards to regulate arms transfers. The ICRC continued to encourage States to include in national and international arms transfer policies and laws a requirement not to transfer weapons if they are likely to be used for serious violations of IHL. Within the context of the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports, the ICRC contributed to the development of

practical guidelines for assessing whether those seeking to acquire weapons will respect IHL.

ARCHIVES

In 2005, the Archives Division handled 2,600 requests from victims of past armed conflicts and their next-of-kin for official documents such as attestations of detention, mostly related to the Second World War but also concerning the First World War or conflicts that occurred after 1950.

The ICRC's *Rules governing access to the archives of the ICRC* stipulate that ICRC archives are subject to a protective embargo for a general period of 40 years and an extended period of 60 years. Hence, the 1951–1965 archives are the most recent records to be opened to the general public for consultation.

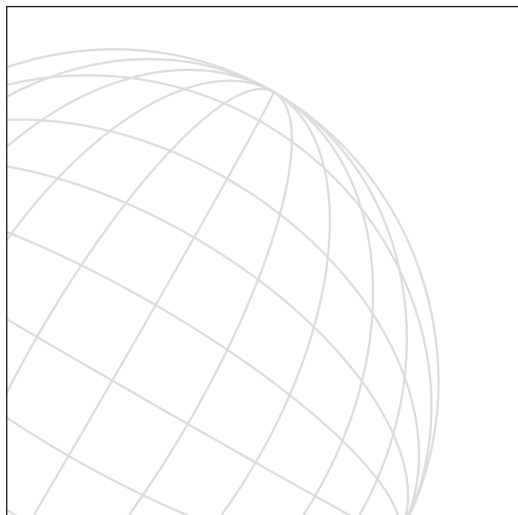
The ICRC is aware of the value of its archives for historical research and strives continuously to facilitate access to them and to improve its services. During the year, the Archives Division responded to some 850 requests for information on the ICRC's film and paper archives and received researchers in its reading room for the equivalent of 300 working days. In cooperation with Memoriav, the Division produced a DVD entitled *Humanitaire et Cinéma: films CICR des années 1920*, which was launched in April 2005 at the Nyon Film Festival *Visions du Réel*. It also responded to 1,200 internal requests from other ICRC units.

The purpose of the organization's historical research activities is to make its background more widely known. The primary objective set for 2005 was to continue writing up the history of the ICRC for the years 1945–1965. In addition to carrying out that task, members of the historical research team attended meetings of historians and published articles in scientific reviews.

Reports on all ICRC activities, registers of official decisions and legal and operational correspondence have been stored since 1863, the year in which the ICRC was founded. In 2005, the Division finalized an emergency plan to rescue the archives in case of disaster. It also prepared an extensive programme for restoring the archives of the First World War, which will be launched as a pilot project in 2006.

Between 2003 and 2005, the Archives Division created some 20,000 current files. In 2005 it secured an additional 150 linear metres of records transferred from headquarters units and delegations.

Progress was also made towards enhancing the ICRC's electronic records management system.



communication

The Communication Department seeks to ensure that an accurate image of the ICRC's mandate and activities is projected throughout the world and to promote more widespread respect for IHL. Particular emphasis is placed on ensuring that key messages of humanitarian concern are communicated to those who can help or hinder ICRC action, or influence the fate of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence. The aim is to strengthen the ICRC's ability to gain access to and help those most in need. The ICRC engages both in public communication, which aims to mobilize key stakeholders to act on pressing humanitarian issues, and preventive action, which aims to ensure that IHL is integrated into the doctrine, education and training of the armed forces and the curricula of schools and universities.

The ICRC recognizes the strategic importance of communication and the need to integrate it into all decision-making processes and activities, both at headquarters and in the field.

Throughout 2005, the ICRC continued to focus its efforts on those in a position to influence humanitarian action, whether positively or negatively, particularly weapon bearers and opinion leaders. Contact with such groups is essential to the organization's efforts to foster understanding of and respect for its role and the rights and needs of those affected by armed conflict, and to sustain public support for its work.

In 2005 the organization concentrated on communicating information on major humanitarian crises, such as the South Asia earthquake, and urging respect for the rules of law protecting people affected by armed conflicts, such as those in Sudan and Iraq. Additionally, it devoted much attention to explaining the ICRC's standard working procedures for visits to persons detained in relation to armed conflict, and to enhancing people's understanding of and respect for the organization's neutral, independent and purely humanitarian role. To reach key audiences, the organization used a multimedia approach, expanding its website and producing professional communication materials.

ARMED, SECURITY AND POLICE FORCES, AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC strives to ensure that the rank and file of armed, security and police forces know and apply IHL and human rights law in their daily practice, and that other weapon bearers respect IHL and support, or refrain from actively opposing, humanitarian action.

Throughout 2005, the ICRC consolidated its relations with the armed forces of various countries, and with NATO forces trained for overseas deployment. To enhance understanding of the ICRC's role and its operational procedures among US officers, the organization introduced a comprehensive dissemination programme that was implemented by a specialized delegate posted in Washington. To the same end, closer contacts were also established with the British and French armed forces. In addition, relations were further consolidated with military academies and institutes. The new interactive DVD for police forces, *To Serve and to Protect*, rapidly became the ICRC's main tool for teaching human rights law worldwide. It is now available in three languages, English, Russian and Spanish.

In 2005, the ICRC finalized two new publications, *Understanding arms carriers* and *Integrating the law*, which will be published in 2006. *Understanding arms carriers* is, as its name suggests, designed to give new ICRC delegates a better understanding of arms carriers. *Integrating the law* is designed to enhance officers' knowledge of IHL and human rights law and help them translate the rules into operational conduct.

The organization also drafted guidelines on relations with non-State actors in an effort to establish a dialogue with political and armed groups and to strengthen their acceptance of the ICRC and respect for IHL.

The San Remo Institute, especially its military department, continued to receive financial and technical assistance and advice from the ICRC. In 2005, some 130 military officers from over 50 countries received ICRC scholarships to attend nine military courses on IHL in San Remo.

The ICRC's delegates-general met with the various heads of the US Unified Combatant Commands as part of the organization's relations with the US armed forces. A meeting held in Norfolk (Virginia), in June 2005, between the ICRC's Director of Operations and the Commander of Central Command (CENTCOM) at the NATO Conference, was an important step. A second meeting was organized in November to discuss doctrinal and operational concerns.

The ICRC also took part in over 10 international military exercises in Europe and similar events elsewhere in the world. It attended NATO exercises in Turkey and Norway ("Allied Action"), the Netherlands ("Allied Warrior") and Thailand ("Cobra Gold"). The organization's aim was to ensure that the relevant IHL principles were included in the planning of military scenarios, to spread knowledge of its mandate and activities and to participate in role-playing during the exercises.

Implementation of the ICRC's project on missing persons, scheduled to run from 2003 to 2007, remained on course. Work continued on the implementation of best practices, such as providing the means of identification for members of armed forces, communication with family members and the proper handling of human remains. To collect information for the project, ICRC staff responsible for relations with local armed and security forces conducted a survey of the situation in 39 countries. Subsequently, the organization began producing an information kit to be used in its efforts to support the armed forces in preventing and/or resolving the problem of missing persons amongst their personnel and other groups.

The ICRC continued to help run and devise IHL and human rights training programmes for armed, security and police forces. These activities, conducted by 22 specialized ICRC delegates backed up by a multinational network of officer-instructors, raised training standards in over 100 countries.

RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA

The question of how to confront the threat of terrorism without unduly restricting the rights and dignity of individuals remained a matter of interest to the world's media. The detention of suspects at undisclosed locations, the transfer and detention of people ("rendition") outside identifiable legal processes, the torture and ill-treatment of detainees and access for terror suspects to due process featured prominently on the media and public agendas in many regions. The media focused particular attention on the US concerning these issues. The perceived actions of the US at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and other places of detention occasionally provoked strong reactions, as evidenced by the riots in Afghanistan following media reports of alleged mishandling of the Koran in Guantanamo Bay and the heated debate – particularly in Europe – regarding secret CIA detention sites.

Willingly or not, the ICRC was, and is, part of this debate by virtue of its activities and positions on humanitarian matters. Throughout 2005, the organization's pronouncements and actions concerning particular contexts had repercussions extending far beyond those contexts. Previously leaked confidential ICRC documents were regularly quoted and the ICRC was often presented as a key reference on detention issues. The most relevant new development was the media's attention – nearly two years

after an ICRC press release on this topic – to the organization's ambition to have access to all individuals held by the USA in relation to the "war on terror".

Broadly speaking, this provided an opportunity to explain the ICRC's working methods in places of detention and the difference the organization can make.

Events in the field and the continuing humanitarian problems in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and the Palestinian territories and Sudan continued to fuel public interest in the ICRC's activities and positions. Unusually, 2005 saw the ICRC respond to two natural disasters that occurred in areas where it was present because of armed conflicts. The organization promptly dispatched communication staff to emergency operations in Aceh, Indonesia and Sri Lanka following the Asian tsunami, and to Islamabad and Muzaffarabad following the devastating earthquake that struck Pakistan. Regular bulletins on ICRC activities were part of a wider Movement public communication effort that included many National Societies and the International Federation.

The Swiss government's resumption, in April 2005, of consultations with States on the possible convocation of a diplomatic conference to adopt a third Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions created a communication challenge peculiar to the Movement. The process, and its objective of creating an additional emblem alongside the red cross and red crescent, sparked public interest and confusion. The ICRC remained reactive in its public communication as the diplomatic and political process unfolded. It focused on support for the additional emblem as a means of strengthening humanitarian action and achieving greater universality for the Movement. The eventual adoption of Additional Protocol III in the early hours of 8 December 2005 will have communication implications for the ICRC for many years to come.

By establishing a regional communication post at its Kuwait delegation, the ICRC was able to strengthen links markedly with regional Arab media based in the Gulf region.

Using content gathered in the field, the organization regularly produced audio-visual, audio and photographic material and texts on a variety of themes and activities, distributed them to media and National Societies worldwide, and posted them on its website (www.icrc.org).

A well-attended meeting of ICRC and National Society media officers organized at the ICRC's headquarters illustrated the importance both sides attach to regular exchanges of information and coordination of activities. A positive feature of the meeting was the first-ever participation by the National Societies of Croatia, Poland, Qatar and Turkey. Noticeably, a growing number of National Societies are focusing on the Movement's international activities and IHL as a key part of their public identity.

The ICRC Press Unit, together with the Legal Division, continued to provide expert advice to journalists' organizations endeavouring to strengthen the protection of media professionals on dangerous assignments. In particular, the ICRC advised an international enquiry, initiated by the International News Safety Institute, on the issue.

DECISION-MAKERS AND OPINION-FORMERS

One of the aims of the Communication Department is to ensure that key decision-makers and opinion-leaders facilitate the activities of the ICRC because they perceive it as a credible, independent and effective humanitarian organization working closely with people affected by armed conflict worldwide, and because it is a source of knowledge about IHL and humanitarian issues. Another aim is to raise decision-makers' and opinion-leaders' awareness of the significance of IHL, and to encourage their active support for its implementation. Throughout 2005, efforts were made to raise awareness and create a deeper understanding of the ICRC and its work. The ICRC website was invaluable in this respect, providing a wealth of information on the organization's operations, IHL and other topics.

The ICRC Visitors' Service continued to raise awareness of the ICRC and IHL and to liaise with present and future decision-makers and opinion-leaders. In 2005, the Service received some 10,000 visitors from a wide range of backgrounds (diplomatic circles, international organizations and NGOs, armed forces, National Societies, media, universities and schools).

Academic circles

As present and future decision-makers and opinion-leaders, university professors and students are key stakeholders for the ICRC. The organization is increasingly capitalizing on the leverage that university professors have with decision-makers, relying on its contacts in academia to deliver key messages concerning the ICRC and IHL. In targeting university students, the ICRC endeavours to enhance their understanding of the practical relevance of IHL and their knowledge of its basic principles. The purpose is ultimately to prepare them to ensure implementation of and respect for IHL, influence the humanitarian debate, promote the development of existing law and to support ICRC activities in their professional lives. Accordingly, the organization promotes the integration of IHL into the curricula of leading universities around the world. All but five ICRC delegations had initiated programmes targeting academic circles by the end of 2005.

The ICRC continued to provide IHL training for university students and professors by organizing, financing and moderating national and regional courses and seminars. Acting often in partnership with National Societies and/or universities, it organized regional IHL courses for advanced students and junior faculty from Africa (English and French-speaking courses), the Arab world, the Balkans, Central Asia, member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Europe and North America (English and French-speaking courses), and South, South-East and East Asia. As in previous years, the ICRC provided expertise and financial or documentary support for a number of postgraduate programmes on IHL around the world.

It also encouraged the holding of moot-court competitions in IHL, since they offer students a unique opportunity, through a series of role-playing exercises, to test and build upon the theoretical knowledge they have acquired in the classroom. In addition to national competitions held in 10 different contexts, the ICRC and local partners organized regional moot courts in China (Hong Kong), Hungary, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Tanzania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine. The ICRC also supported international moot courts

set up by independent organizations, such as the Jean Pictet Competition.

As part of its cooperation with its university partners, the ICRC jointly organized an advanced seminar, "IHL in current conflicts", with the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research. The event provided an opportunity for mid-career professionals from UN, NGO, diplomatic, academic, media and military communities to acquire and refine the skills needed to use IHL as the basis for addressing humanitarian challenges. Together with the University Centre for International Humanitarian Law, the ICRC also organized an IHL training course for diplomats and NGO professionals.

Further progress was made towards adapting existing teaching tools and developing new ones to facilitate IHL instruction in universities. The French-language version of the comprehensive IHL casebook, *How does law protect in war?*, published in mid-2003 under the title *Un droit dans la guerre?*, was actively promoted in the French-speaking world. The second English edition of the casebook will be available in January 2006. This expanded text provides professors, practitioners and students with the most updated and comprehensive selection of documents on IHL available. ICRC delegations in the field were also active in developing context-specific course materials for academic circles.

Youth

ICRC communication activities for young people concentrate on those in educational institutions and those involved, or at risk of being involved, in armed conflicts or other situations of violence. The ICRC has launched two large-scale programmes for young people in formal education settings – the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme, and the secondary-school programme for CIS member countries. Through these programmes, the ICRC actively promotes the integration of IHL education at the secondary-school level. It is also involved in developing and promoting activities, such as "Raid Cross" (see "Other programmes and initiatives" below), outside the formal educational system. In certain contexts, the ICRC communicates with young people outside educational structures to facilitate ICRC operations and disseminate basic IHL rules. In 2005, it began studying the feasibility and utility of developing institution-wide strategies and tools to facilitate communication with these young people.

Exploring Humanitarian Law

In 2001 the ICRC introduced its Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) teaching module for secondary schools, in the belief that learning humanitarian norms is good preparation for responsible and informed adulthood. By promoting the teaching of the humanitarian principles applicable to armed conflict and other situations of violence, the programme also fosters social awareness among young people and an understanding of the rules that govern peaceful coexistence, in particular the respect that is due to life and human dignity, both in extreme situations and in our daily lives.

To make IHL an integral part of formal secondary education, the ICRC and National Society work in close cooperation with the educational authorities of the country concerned. At the end of 2005, the organization was implementing EHL pilot projects in 34 countries and considering them for realization in 65 other countries across the globe. Four regional programme advisers (covering Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa, Central, Eastern and Southern Europe and Asia) continued to

provide guidance to ICRC delegations, worked to ensure a coherent institutional approach to implementation in their regions, and promoted networking and the exchange of experiences among implementing partners. To ensure the programme's success, the ICRC worked with ministries of education and National Societies to consolidate it on the basis of identified best practices. It continued to provide academic, technical and financial assistance for translation, teacher training and materials. To foster the sharing of experience and build confidence, the organization held several regional and sub-regional meetings with educational authorities and the National Society personnel responsible for introducing the programme at country level. Moreover, the ICRC and the Red Cross European Union Office organized a meeting on EHL and EU Education Strategies for European National Societies involved in the programme's implementation in December 2005. The meeting offered National Societies a platform for discussion of the pledge they made at the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to promote the programme.

The progress achieved in 2005 demonstrated the educational value of the EHL programme and its strong universal resonance among young people and their teachers. Particular challenges were noted again in 2005 in relation to financial assistance, training for teachers and instructors, and other forms of support. With funding from the Government of the Netherlands, the ICRC has conceptualized and begun to develop an internet-based support structure that should meet the training needs of teachers, providing them with EHL-related news, information, teaching aids and distance-learning tools. The Virtual Campus will be launched in 2006.

Other programmes and initiatives

Continuing support was provided for the textbook-based secondary-school programme on IHL in CIS countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). By the end of 2005, IHL had been incorporated into the secondary-school curriculum in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, with varying degrees of binding force. With educational reforms under way in many of these contexts, the ICRC has closely monitored the process to ensure that IHL is covered in new education standards and manuals.

The ICRC exit strategy drafted in 2003 provides for the handover to the national educational authorities, by 2007, of full responsibility for the teaching of IHL. The challenge of the handover phase is to concentrate solely on activities likely to ensure that IHL education continues beyond 2007 independent of significant ICRC involvement.

In 2005, the ICRC helped develop and promote "Raid Cross", an outdoor IHL activity designed by the Belgian Red Cross-Communauté francophone and the French Red Cross to introduce scouts aged 12–18 to the basic principles of IHL through role-play. In April 2005, the ICRC signed an agreement on "Raid Cross" with the two National Societies, the World Organization of the Scout Movement and the International Federation. "Raid Cross" was successfully pilot-tested during the European Scout Jamboree in 2005. ICRC delegations have been requested to support National Societies in providing IHL training to "Raid Cross" game leaders and furnishing IHL-related documents.

PREVENTIVE MINE-ACTION OPERATIONS

The aim of the ICRC's preventive mine-action operations is to ensure that the Movement has the skills and capacity to reduce the incidence of death and injury and to limit the socio-economic impact caused by landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). To achieve this aim, the ICRC draws on a wide range of skills and capacities from within the Movement, capitalizing on local National Society networks wherever possible. Operations are adapted to each context, but normally include a flexible combination of incident data-gathering, mine-risk education and mine-risk reduction by providing alternative water and fuel sources, safe play areas for children, and the application of other practical measures. The ICRC also works to halt the use of anti-personnel mines and to encourage those responsible to cooperate in locating and clearing contaminated areas.

In 2005, the ICRC implemented preventive mine-action operations in 27 contexts, either directly or by providing National Societies with expert guidance, training and technical know-how. Three regional mine-action advisers were responsible for providing technical advice and backing for the planning and implementation of preventive mine-action operations (covering Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East and North Africa, Eastern and Western Europe).

In Iraq, the National Society continued its mine-risk education drive, whenever the security situation permitted, by distributing materials to heighten public awareness. In Afghanistan, where the ICRC has remained a key player, the organization carried on feeding data collected on mine and ERW incidents into the National Mine-Action Programme, while helping the National Society pursue its community-based mine-risk education activities. Concurrently, discussions were initiated to ensure a long-term role for the Afghan Red Crescent as part of the planned handover of mine action by the UN to the government in 2006. In Angola, the ICRC further developed the National Society's capabilities through training and other capacity-building work, ahead of its planned long-term role as an integrated element of the Angolan national mine action strategy. Existing preventive mine-action operations were further developed in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iran and the Russian Federation (Chechnya), with a particular focus on practical risk-reduction measures and capacity building. Sustained technical support was also given to the Red Cross Societies in Albania, Colombia, Jordan, India, Nepal, Kosovo, Myanmar, Nicaragua and Tajikistan, all of which implemented preventive programmes in 2005.

The ICRC pursued constructive dialogue with the main international mine-action organizations, such as the UN Mine Action Service, UNICEF, UNDP, international NGOs and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. It is participating in the review and updating of the International Mine Action Standards, and monitoring developments and outcomes from the Global Mine Impact Survey. In addition, it has installed and started to use the Information Management System for Mine Action, thus improving data compatibility with other mine-action players.

In 2005, the ICRC adopted a new preventive mine-action operations policy. Work has already begun to introduce the necessary tools, training, guidelines and general culture to ensure the policy's

successful and coherent implementation. This work will continue through 2007. The policy emphasizes a broad approach to dealing with the impact of mines and ERW, and seeks to use the full range of ICRC expertise in scenarios where the organization, in particular, can make a real difference. In situations where full-scale mine action is under way, the ICRC has clearly defined the action it will undertake to ensure that National Societies play an effective long-term role in combating the mine and ERW problem in their own countries as part of an integrated national plan.

COMMUNICATION RESEARCH, METHODOLOGY AND FIELD SUPPORT

The ICRC aims to ensure that its programmes are effective in preventing violations of IHL and in influencing those who decide the fate of people affected by war. In 2005, it began to draft a prevention policy which will serve as a comprehensive framework for its activities designed to prevent violations of IHL and other fundamental rules that protect people in situations of violence. To accomplish this task, the ICRC has identified general trends and challenges facing its preventive activities, and studied prevention policies in related domains. It has also analysed and updated relevant policies and guidelines, and taken stock of its prevention activities. An external consultant has furnished recommendations on monitoring and evaluation. The policy will draw upon the results of the ICRC's study, *Roots of Behaviour in War*. The study examines the behaviour of combatants in armed conflicts to determine whether the ICRC's preventive policies take sufficient account of the characteristics of weapon bearers. It concludes that:

- ▶ IHL must be treated as a legal and political matter, rather than a moral one, and its dissemination must focus more on norms than on their underlying values, because the idea that a combatant is morally autonomous is mistaken;
- ▶ greater respect for IHL is possible only if weapon bearers are properly trained, and if their conduct is regulated by strict orders and effective sanctions put in place to check the contravention of those orders;
- ▶ the ICRC must state very clearly why it seeks to promote IHL and prevent violations: to impart knowledge, modify attitudes or influence behaviour.

In 2005, the ICRC continued to promote the study, worked to incorporate lessons learnt into the training of its delegates and focused on maintaining a network of contacts within academic and humanitarian circles.

Headquarters support for communication in the field concentrated on reinforcing the delegations' capacity to deal with increasingly complex environments where communication is crucial to strengthening the ICRC's ability to operate. Regional meetings were held in each operational zone to take stock of emerging communication challenges and adapt existing strategies. A dozen priority delegations, such as Uganda, Haiti and Sudan, benefited from a support mission to improve the integration of communication into ICRC operations.

The yearly courses on "Communicating IHL and the Fundamental Principles", "Production Supervision", "Communication Management" and "Media Relations" were conducted for 40 ICRC communication staff. The Department also provided support to other institutional courses for new delegates and headquarters

staff, and offered media training for middle-management staff. A new media workshop was designed for senior-management staff at headquarters and will be held for the first time in 2006.

A survey of management and communication staff from headquarters and in the field highlighted the strategic role of communication in ICRC operations, and the wide range of skills required to run communication programmes. A course has been developed to give newly appointed communication staff the basic elements needed to analyse communication needs, to plan strategies that better respond to operational priorities and to combine the various communication approaches more effectively. The first course will be tested in 2006.

The monitoring of perceptions of the ICRC and humanitarian action has taken on particular relevance in many contexts where there is a risk that the organization's activities will be misunderstood. In 2005, the communication management course, including practical training on conducting surveys on perception, was conducted for communication staff in Africa. The course included a survey in Nairobi of how the ICRC's operations in the Horn of Africa were perceived. Thereafter, surveys were also conducted in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Nigeria. Similar surveys were carried out in Israel and Eastern Europe (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation) to better understand the positioning of the ICRC.

The frequent discrepancy between the ICRC's desired and perceived identity, in particular with regard to its protection mandate, has prompted delegations to pay renewed attention to operational communication, whose aim is to gain acceptance and security for ICRC operations and access to those affected by armed conflict and violence. The organization is working to gather experiences in operational communication to develop this activity further in 2006.

NATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

National Societies have a specific responsibility to promote IHL and its underlying principles in their respective countries in general, and among their members in particular. The Movement's Statutes require the ICRC to act as a catalyst and an adviser in this respect.

The ICRC, either directly from headquarters or through its delegations, supported National Societies by providing them with publications and audio-visual products, as well as courses on IHL and advice on the development of dissemination strategies.

Growing public interest in IHL and other humanitarian issues prompted the Movement's components to improve their activities in this area. In 2005, the ICRC continued to study ways in which it can best provide support to National Societies in this domain. In September 2005, the ICRC and the five Nordic National Societies formalized their strategic partnership in the field of communicating IHL and neutral and independent humanitarian action by concluding a memorandum of understanding.

LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICE

The Library and Research Service strives to promote knowledge of the ICRC, IHL, humanitarian activities and other issues of humanitarian concern by helping users inside and outside the ICRC find relevant information and documentation. To help the ICRC analyse its activities and develop its strategies, the Service provides comprehensive information on the contexts in which the organization operates and offers guidance on sources of information. In addition, it runs a reference desk and provides access to its collection of over 140,000 items (books, periodicals, photographs and videos) and external databases. Each year, the Service responds to over 3,000 requests from sources such as National Societies, NGOs, academics, government departments and the media for information on IHL-related issues and ICRC operational activities.

A systematic approach to tracking external trends and issues enabled the Library and Research Service to provide ICRC staff with pertinent and timely information throughout 2005. The Service played an essential role in providing context-specific information for delegates before their departure for the field, and in drawing their attention to services and information sources that they could have access to while on mission. It also maintained a daily press-monitoring service and alerted ICRC staff to new academic publications, reports and databases.

In 2005, the Service undertook a two-year programme to digitalize the ICRC's photograph collection. This is the first step in a project to launch a web version of the entire photograph catalogue in the coming years. The Service also cooperated more closely with four regional delegations to enhance its capacity to monitor issues from local and global perspectives.

PRODUCTION, WEB AND MARKETING

Developing, producing and promoting credible and consistent products and an ICRC image were priorities for the Production, Multimedia and Distribution Unit and the Marketing Unit in 2005.

The integrated, multimedia approach adopted in 2004 was implemented in 2005. As part of this approach, new corporate guidelines were distributed to all delegations and headquarters staff to improve recognition of ICRC communication products by target audiences. These guidelines also incorporate templates for field publications so that delegations can produce such publications more easily. The Production, Multimedia and Distribution Unit also produced several multimedia projects which enhanced awareness of ICRC operations and programmes worldwide. Efforts continued, in conjunction with an external stock-management partner, to streamline distribution of ICRC products in the most cost-effective manner possible.

Efforts also continued in 2005 to make www.icrc.org, the ICRC's institutional website, more responsive to both operational needs and public communication requirements. Functionalities were further improved with the launch of services such as the RSS feed (a system that makes it possible to deliver newly published press releases and other documents directly to people's desktops), while editorial content was developed to help strengthen the ICRC's positioning as a global and independent humanitarian organization. The Web3G project continued with the aim of fashioning

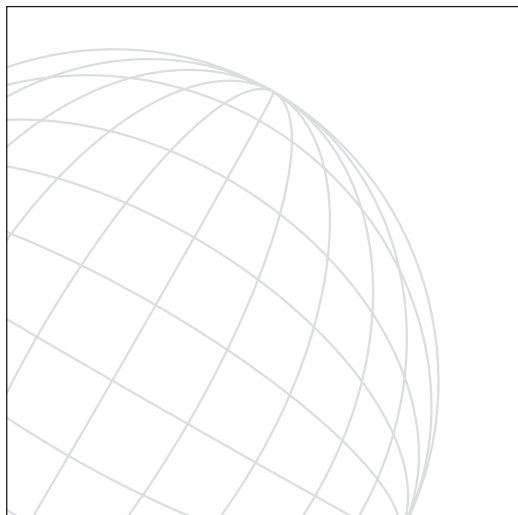
a website even more attuned to the demands of key target audiences such as opinion leaders and the general public. The relationship between the main institutional English and French sites and the other five language versions, managed through communication centres in delegations, remained strong. Global consultation of the website continued to rise during 2005, with traffic across sites increasing by more than 48% over 2004. The number of hits peaked at the beginning of the year in the wake of the Asian tsunami and in the autumn with hurricane Katrina and the South Asia earthquake.

As part of the ICRC's objective to raise awareness and influence attitudes on issues of importance to the organization, a research plan was developed by the Marketing Unit incorporating three separate large-scale studies. The first research initiative is designed to enable the ICRC to better identify its key target audiences at global and regional levels and to understand their communication needs. The second project is designed to measure perceptions of and attitudes towards humanitarian action, the humanitarian environment, the ICRC logo and the emblems. Both projects will be completed in 2006 and the results will be used to develop the ICRC's communication strategies. In addition, the ICRC participated for the second year in the annual Gallup Voice of the People omnibus survey, which measures the views of approximately 1 billion global citizens. This year, the survey focused on the ICRC's identity and attitudes towards neutral and independent humanitarian action. The research results provided an incisive view from global, regional and country-specific perspectives.

The ICRC produced a print and television advertisement focusing on detention, which will be released in 2006. The advertisement contributes to the global debate on detention, reinforcing the role of the Geneva Conventions and the need to abide by their rules.

MULTILINGUAL COMMUNICATION

In keeping with the universal dimension of its independent and humanitarian role, the ICRC communicates with a wide range of actors and audiences at local, regional and international levels. In order to optimize the impact of its communication, the ICRC focused in 2005 on ensuring the use of the appropriate wording and language for its various target audiences worldwide. Coherent and consistent use of appropriate terminology made an important contribution to the effectiveness of ICRC communication. The fact that the ICRC website exists in seven languages is evidence of this capacity.



human resources

The Human Resources Department is responsible for ensuring that the ICRC has a sufficient pool of trained staff to meet its operational needs worldwide. It recruits, trains and supervises the career development of staff. Its policies are geared towards raising professional standards, developing the particular skills required for humanitarian work and promoting and supporting the management of staff through its professional hierarchy. The Department strives to promote internal cohesion within the ICRC by encouraging staff to identify with the organization's visions and objectives. The ICRC is an equal opportunity employer.

The Human Resources Department recruits staff, plans their assignments and supervises their management and career development. In 2005, major crises like the tsunami and the earthquake in South Asia occasioned a considerable increase in the number of field posts. In November, 10,107 delegation employees (daily workers not included) and 1,628 expatriates were working in the field, an increase of 14% and 16%, respectively, over the previous year. Restructuring of the Department and improvements in its planning and skills-assessment processes enabled the ICRC to respond effectively to the crises.

MEETING FUTURE CHALLENGES

In response to staff expectations and the demands of an increasingly complex and unpredictable environment, the ICRC continued to implement RH2006, an ambitious programme set up in 2004 to restructure human-resource management and improve the development of staff skills and the management of assignments.

Thanks to the existence of a pool of personnel, the number of vacant field posts was kept to a rate of 1–2%. The number of people involved in managing newly hired expatriates was reduced to ensure greater flexibility. To better guide the careers of managers, the ICRC set up career assessment commissions designed to improve cooperation between the Department and the relevant managers. Another aim of RH2006 is to improve the management of delegation employees, who represent 80% of ICRC personnel, by providing them with greater opportunities to develop their skills.

To that end, the ICRC commissioned a large-scale survey of 9,000 delegation employees in 250 sites around the world. A plan of action based on the results will be implemented in 2006.

In 2005 the Department launched a project to replace its 12-year-old IT tool. An in-depth assessment of human-resource management processes was carried out to help select an IT system that meets the ICRC's specific needs. The new IT tool will be deployed in 2006.

BROADENING THE RECRUITMENT BASE

The ICRC remained a very attractive employer in 2005: staff turnover remained at around 9%, and the number of applications increased. As a result, the ICRC could afford to be more selective while broadening its recruitment base.

The number of newly hired staff remained stable at around 300 overall. In response to operational needs, however, the ICRC recruited 14% more delegates than in 2004, giving preference to applicants with knowledge of Arabic and Russian.

STAFF DIVERSITY

In keeping with the ICRC's policy of enhancing the international character of its staff, around 75% of newly recruited delegates came from countries other than Switzerland. Overall, the proportion of non-Swiss expatriates rose to 59%.

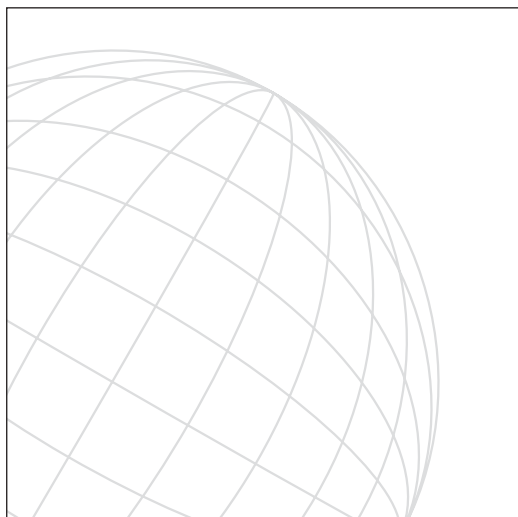
Sixty per cent of the delegates recruited in 2005 were women, as the ICRC continued to hire an increasing number of women delegates. However, women were still underrepresented among senior staff, although the proportion increased to 18%, up from 5% in 1995. A woman was appointed gender-equality adviser to the Directorate, while the promotion of women to senior staff positions was made a priority by the Operations and Human Resources Departments. In addition, 50% of those proposed for nomination to the post of head of delegation in 2005 and

reviewed by the Career Assessment Commission for Senior Staff were women.

TRAINING

In 2005, the ICRC decided to review its training policy and integrate skills development into the management of career paths by strengthening dialogue between personnel managers and trainers. Preparations got under way to launch a management course in 2006 to promote the professional development of managers and senior staff. Furthermore, over 250 managers attended in-house training courses covering such diverse topics as leadership, security and stress management, communication and presentation techniques.

The ICRC began reassessing its introductory training course in 2005 to adapt it to changes in the organization's operational environment. The course, intended for all newly recruited expatriates, was attended by 191 people in 2005, a third of them specialists. Over 350 other staff members took part in introductory courses in ICRC decentralized training units in Amman, Bogotá, Colombo and Nairobi.



resources and operational support

The Department of Resources and Operational Support provides support for field operations in terms of finance, administration, logistics and information systems. It is also responsible for raising and managing funds for the ICRC as a whole. It works closely with the Department of Operations to support field activities, while at the same time maintaining close contact with donors to convey to them the financial requirements of the ICRC. The Department conducts regular reviews to ensure that the support it provides to the field is in line with operational needs and verifies compliance by ICRC delegations with institutional procedures.

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

In 2005 the Department was mobilized to full capacity to respond to large-scale emergency operations in several regions affected by natural disaster. Lessons learnt from ICRC action in countries affected by the tsunami (Sri Lanka and Indonesia) were integrated into operations to help earthquake victims in Kashmir (Pakistan). Overall, operational support and resource management performed well under sometimes difficult environmental and logistical conditions. From October to December, logistical capacity was severely stretched; the adoption of a flexible approach and the mobilization of experienced staff from headquarters and from delegations in many countries enabled the ICRC to set up an operational infrastructure in Pakistan in a timely and effective manner.

Continuous improvements in donor reporting and management information and control remained at the heart of efforts to ensure transparent communication with donors and proper monitoring of the use of financial resources.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Financial management

The purpose of financial management is to provide the ICRC with reliable and cost-effective information, enabling it to make sound financial decisions.

In 2005, efforts focused on:

- ▶ further improving financial reporting to field delegations;
- ▶ implementing the 2006 simplified version of the cost-accounting model;
- ▶ further streamlining the financial-control framework and methodology and related responsibilities;
- ▶ centralizing the custodianship and administration of the ICRC's international investment portfolio in order to manage these assets more efficiently;
- ▶ deploying the budget and accounting software in all the delegations in early 2006;
- ▶ launching the process of creating a data warehouse for reporting purposes covering the entire institution.

Infrastructure management

The purpose of infrastructure management is to make sure the necessary office space is available and to ensure long-term maintenance of the entire infrastructure at a reasonable cost.

The first phase of the structural security upgrade at headquarters was completed in 2005; work will continue to that end in 2006.

The ICRC continued to suffer a shortage of working space, and plans were considered to build extensions.

Information delivery

The ongoing objective in this area is to optimize the speed of information delivery while maintaining reasonable cost levels.

In 2005 implementation of the new radio-communication tool and computerized information services related to radio-communication was completed.

FUNDING

All ICRC funding is coordinated by and channelled through the External Resources Division, which raises the funds needed by the ICRC to carry out its humanitarian activities while ensuring the organization's independent status. The ICRC seeks the widest possible range of predictable, sustained and flexible financial

support in order to meet its objectives. It guarantees that donor requirements are met appropriately.

Budgets

The initial budget appeals for 2005, launched by the ICRC in December 2004, totalled CHF 971.8 million. This was CHF 67.3 million higher than the preceding year's overall budget. The largest increase was in the Emergency Appeals for ICRC field operations, which amounted to CHF 819.7 million in 2005, compared with CHF 754.7 million in 2004, but the Headquarters Appeals also registered an increase, totalling CHF 152.1 million in 2005, compared with CHF 149.8 million in 2004.

In the course of the year, five budget extensions significantly increased the initial field budget in response to unforeseen events and substantial humanitarian needs following the tsunami in Sri Lanka (CHF 7.9 million in January and CHF 14.7 million in March) and Indonesia (CHF 17.6 million in January and CHF 12.2 million in March), and the earthquake in Pakistan (CHF 56.5 million in October). The final field budget for 2005 totalled CHF 928.6 million.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure amounted to CHF 958.7 million (including overheads), 147.6 million of which were allocated for headquarters and 811.1 million for field operations.

The implementation rate¹ for activities planned to meet the ICRC's objectives for the year was higher than in previous years, with expenditure reaching 91.2% of the overall final Emergency Appeals budget.

Contributions

A total of CHF 959.6 million was received in contributions in 2005. Funding sources and patterns varied from previous years because of the impact of natural disasters, which struck sensitive areas where the ICRC was previously active. The proportion of support from governments decreased to 72.7% (2004: 80.1%; 2003: 79.9%; 2002: 84.3%) and that from National Societies increased to 13.1% (2004: 5.2%; 2003: 6%; 2002: 7.1%). Funding received from the European Commission grew in terms of amount but decreased in proportion to 9.4% (2004: 10.3%; 2003: 8.8%; 2002: 5.1%), while contributions from various other public and private sources increased significantly in the amount and slightly increased in proportion to 4.8% (2005: 4.3%; 2003: 4.3%; 2002: 5%; 2001: 3%).

The United States remained the ICRC's largest donor. It accounted for 22.1% (CHF 211.8 million) of all contributions received and 23.7% (CHF 196.6 million) of funding for field operations. The United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and the British Red Cross extended their partnership agreement with the ICRC to cover the period up to September 2006. Under the agreement, the DFID made a non-earmarked contribution of £ 17.5 million to the ICRC for the period January to December 2005, raising the United Kingdom's total contribution to CHF 100.2 million. Switzerland was the third largest donor (CHF 92.9 million, including 70 million for the ICRC's headquarters budget). The European Commission consolidated its position as the ICRC's fourth largest donor (CHF 90.1 million). The Netherlands Government remained the fifth largest (CHF 64.8 million), and the Swedish Government was sixth (CHF 49.3 million).

The ICRC's operational flexibility was enhanced by the fact that a number of governments – including those of France, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States – provided advance information on the level of funding and either did not earmark their contributions or did so in a relatively broad fashion (mostly by region).

The ICRC's Donor Support Group (DSG) – made up of those governments contributing more than CHF 10 million in cash annually – comprised 16 members in 2005, namely the governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, and the European Commission. The 2005 meeting of the DSG was hosted by the Canadian Government.

Contributions in response to the Headquarters Appeal

A total of CHF 131.6 million was received in contributions for the headquarters budget: 122.2 million from 78 governments, 6.4 million from 82 National Societies and 2.9 million from a number of other private and public sources.

Contributions in response to the Emergency Appeals

In total, CHF 575.6 million were provided for ICRC field operations by 29 governments, 90.1 million by the European Commission, 118.9 million by 33 National Societies, 0.5 million by a variety of supranational and international organizations, and 43.6 million by public and private sources such as the Parthenon Trust, the Union of European Football Associations, Rotary International and Soroptimist International. The cash component of the donor response for field operations amounted to CHF 785.2 million (2004: 609 million; 2003: 731 million; 2002: 631.8 million). The in-kind component was CHF 24.8 million (2004: 9.7 million; 2003: 23.4 million; 2002: 19.4 million). Contributions in the form of services were equivalent to CHF 17.7 million (2004: 10.6 million; 2003: 17.8 million; 2002: 15.6 million). Contributions in assets were worth CHF 1.0 million (2004: 0.8 million; 2003: 1.5 million; 2002: 0.4 million).

Flexibility in funding

Specific donor requirements in terms of earmarking and reporting were generally the same in 2005 as in previous years.

To meet needs effectively, it is essential that the ICRC enjoy flexibility in the use of its funds and a degree of predictability in terms of individual donor requirements, particularly in relation to earmarking and reporting. Earmarking remained at the level of past years and, as in the past, was often accompanied by both rigorous project implementation timetables and stringently specific reporting conditions. Experience has shown, however, that there is a direct correlation between flexible funding policies and the ability of the ICRC to maintain its independence and operational flexibility.

In 2005, tightly earmarked cash contributions accounted for CHF 132.9 million or 14.5% of cash contributions (compared with CHF 115.6 million, or 15.7%, in 2004 and CHF 161.2 million, or 18.9%, in 2003).

At 25.3% (CHF 230.8 million) in 2005, the proportion of non-earmarked cash contributions ("core funding") made in response to the ICRC's Emergency and Headquarters Appeals was lower than in 2004 (31.5%) and 2003 (27.4%). Apart from certain

1) Implementation rate = field expenditure (in cash, kind and services) divided by final field budget (excluding contingency) then multiplied by 100.

private donations, the majority of non-earmarked funds for both the Emergency Appeals and the Mine Action Special Appeal came from six governments (Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom) and the canton of Geneva.

Cash contributions loosely earmarked for a given region, country or programme represented about 60.2% of the total (CHF 550.1 million). Of this amount, CHF 103.7 million represented broad, geographically earmarked funding received primarily from the United States (11.3% of total cash contributions).

In terms of earmarking by country, Sudan was the context most often specified by donors, representing 10.3% of all the contributions of this type.

The ICRC has drawn up guidelines to ensure greater uniformity and coherence in managing earmarked funds. These standards are designed to reduce the multiple financing and reporting constraints which can stifle the organization's ability to respond effectively to general donor requirements.

Predictability in funding

The ICRC's system of funding does not rely on set (statutory) contributions. Moreover, its programmes are implemented according to need and are not contingent on the level of contributions received or pledged. The organization relies on donors to provide the funding needed to achieve its objectives through the programmes it plans to implement in a given year. To minimize financial risks, the ICRC seeks, on the one hand, to be realistic in terms of its objectives and budgets and, on the other, to ensure a degree of predictability with respect to funding. Ideally, it needs funding commitments from donor countries spanning several years. It does in fact already have such agreements with some donors. The ICRC is aware that donor planning constraints and national budget and finance regulations do not easily allow donors to commit themselves over the medium term, as the ICRC would prefer. Nevertheless, it will continue to seek ways of achieving longer-term funding commitments. Clear indications from donors early in the year regarding the annual level of funding and the timing of their transfers would also facilitate financial planning and reduce risk.

Overall predictability of funding improved in 2005, in large part owing to arrangements made early in the year with the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and – in the case of the headquarters budget – Switzerland. The ICRC was thus able to plan early in terms of basic funding levels. Moreover, very prompt funding transfers linked to the tsunami operation resulted in a marked improvement in the ICRC's cash-flow situation as compared with previous years.

Diversity in the donor base

The wide range of activities carried out by the ICRC in response to natural disasters in areas where it was already present provided the organization with opportunities to diversify its donor base, particularly among National Societies and private donors. Elsewhere, despite continuous efforts to broaden its donor base, the ICRC remained concerned about the slow progress made towards enlarging the range of its main financial contributors. In view of its universal mandate and worldwide activities, the organization would like to be able to count on the broadest possible support. While the general data provided above would at first appear to indicate broad support in terms of the level and number

of sources, a closer look reveals that the ICRC is increasingly reliant on a relatively small number of key donors for the bulk of its funding.

Even taking into account the pooling factor of the tsunami crisis, 79 governments and the European Commission accounted for 82.1% of total ICRC funding in 2005. The top 10 governments contributed CHF 696.0 million, or 72.5% (2004: 78.5%; 2003: 71.2%; 2002: 76.5%), while the total contributions from the top five governments amounted to CHF 559.8 million, or 58.3% (2004: 61.3%; 2003: 58.1%; 2002: 62.6%) of the overall total of CHF 960.3 million. On the very positive side, contributions were received from 89 National Societies (2004: 71; 2003: 72; 2002: 83), with the top 10 accounting for 86.8% (2004: 82.4%, 2003: 78.2%; 2002: 69.8%) and the top five for 65.8% (2004: 65.7%; 2003: 56%; 2002: 45.3%) of the total of CHF 125.4 million in contributions received from National Societies, a remarkable increase compared to the CHF 33.6 million of 2004.

As for contributions received for field operations, 29 governments and the European Commission responded to the Emergency Appeals (2004: 32; 2003: 35; 2002: 29). Of these, the top five accounted for CHF 490.5 million, or 59.2% (2004: 61.9%; 2003: 56.3%; 2002: 61.4%) of the total of CHF 828.7 million. The top five National Society contributors accounted for CHF 80.3 million, or 67.5% (2004: 68.1%; 2003: 57.1%; 2002: 46.9%) of the CHF 118.9 million total amount received from 33 National Societies (2004: 32; 2003: 41; 2002: 37).

2005 was indeed an encouraging year, although it is clear that the ICRC must still strive to obtain additional funds from government and National Society donors. At the same time, it must seek to identify new budget lines and test them among current donors.

Reporting to donors

The ICRC kept donors informed of its activities through a variety of documents and publications. In December 2004, it launched its 2005 Emergency and Headquarters Appeals, which were followed in the course of the year by five budget-extension appeals.

It reported to donors on all its field operations by means of the mid-term report, which covers field operations in the first and second quarters. The third and fourth quarters are covered by the country reports contained in the present Annual Report. These reports discuss progress achieved for each target population in the light of the objectives set in the Emergency Appeals for 2005. Financial updates were similarly provided on a quarterly basis. In September the ICRC issued its Renewed Emergency Appeal, which presented the overall funding situation for field operations, including contributions received by that time.

Donors were further informed of the main developments in ICRC operations by means of 27 updates covering a wide range of operations and the special report on mine action in 2004.

The ICRC Donor Site, a password-protected extranet site on which all documents issued by the ICRC's External Resources Division are posted, continues to give donors immediate access to reports and other funding-related documents.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The main goal of the Information Systems Division is to align information and communication technology projects and services with the ICRC's strategic objectives in order to achieve maximum efficiency and optimize both investments and operating costs through the best possible allocation of human and financial resources.

In 2005, the ICRC took several initiatives to implement its information technology strategy. The Information Technology Steering Committee was created to coordinate communications overall between departments and divisions, and to ensure that the ICRC's information system offered the best possible support to the objectives of both individual departments and the ICRC at large. A complete reorganization of the Division was completed in 2005. Responsibility for a large section of the ICRC's information technology for core business management was entrusted to specialized companies with whom dedicated contracts were signed.

Security arrangements were reinforced to respond to future business requirements and the evolution of the communication platform. At the same time, large-scale technical projects were implemented with a new back-up strategy. These included a new tool for monitoring the evolution of system redundancy, the migration to the data storage area network, the secured development of wireless LAN technology and the integration of "light servers" for sub-delegations.

Numerous software applications were deployed in the field to upgrade management in the areas of human resources, logistics, water and habitat, budgets and ICRC vehicle control and maintenance.

At headquarters, a new application was introduced to improve management of key logistics centres. In addition, the ICRC's data warehouse was finalized and was expected to become totally operational early in 2006. Software maintenance was also upgraded.

Major strategic software applications continued to be analysed and developed to improve the management of human resources at headquarters, the "Donation to Distribution" process, the new field accounting model and assistance activities. Applications were also under development for a new "Content Management System" (CMS), including Internet and Intranet, as well as for an international transport management tool and an upgraded professional mail system.

A number of ambitious technical projects remained in the pipeline, including the development of a new field operating system server, a permanent worldwide IP connection and the migration of the Lotus Notes systems.

Information technology capacity and processes for emergency situations continued to be upgraded, drawing on lessons learnt from operations conducted after the tsunami, the south Asia earthquake and hurricane Katrina. The ICRC's Family Links website was widely used during the tsunami and Katrina crises.

Finally, procedures for hardware management and procurement were reviewed and restructured.

LOGISTICS

A network on a global scale

The ICRC runs a worldwide logistics network. With the range of services available – from air freight to vehicle workshops – the organization is able to maintain field operations and to take rapid and effective action in emergencies. In 2005 it operated 3,500 vehicles and trucks, three boats, 300 warehouses and over 20 aircraft.

During the year there were four major new logistical undertakings.

- ▶ In response to the tsunami crisis, the ICRC set up a combined air, sea and road operation to transport relief supplies to Indonesia's Aceh province from Medan, Lokseumawe, Jakarta, Surabaya and, supported by the Singapore Red Cross, from its logistics base in Singapore. A worldwide airlift was managed from Geneva with the support of the Nairobi Logistics Centre to transport relief supplies and a surgical hospital to Singapore, from where they were flown to Banda Aceh by two Norwegian Air Force aircraft seconded to the ICRC and based in Singapore.
- ▶ The ICRC mobilized extensive logistical and human resources to carry out substantial and complex distributions of food aid in remote areas of Darfur, Sudan.
- ▶ In response to the American Red Cross request for logistics support in the wake of hurricane Katrina, the ICRC provided two teams of logistics experts.
- ▶ The ICRC and the International Federation joined forces to provide an effective logistics response in support of Red Cross and Red Crescent operations in Pakistan following the earthquake there. The ICRC set up new logistics structures to provide support for its work in Azad Kashmir Province and the International Federation's operation in North West Frontier Province. Helicopter and road operations were managed from Islamabad, Abbottabad and Mansehra with the support of the Peshawar Logistics Centre. British and German military aircraft provided the ICRC with additional cargo capacity, enabling it to airlift 120 metric tonnes of relief supplies daily to remote villages.

In 2005, 50% of ICRC logistics staff was mobilized for emergency operations.

In order to minimize operational costs, the ICRC, together with the International Federation, invited new tenders worldwide for essential emergency items, thus ensuring high quality relief supplies and delivery standards. These tenders took all possible supply sources into consideration and resulted in significant unit-price savings. The ICRC also maintained technical and operational links during the year with other Movement components, conducting further studies on the use of emergency-response logistics units.

The development of logistics software fell behind schedule, but a new supply system was successfully deployed in Geneva and a new vehicle fleet management tool was being introduced in the field.

In 2005 the ICRC had about 140 expatriate logistics experts plus crews, drivers and convoy leaders working in some 30 relief operations; they were backed up by more than 2,000 national staff worldwide. Half of the expatriate staff came from countries other than Switzerland and many ICRC national staff volunteered for short missions to support large-scale emergency operations abroad. The development of specialist training in all logistics functions was completed, including a programme in the use of the

new logistics tools. The level of recruitment was maintained and higher standards were applied.

Working in harmony with partners

ICRC logistics operations in Indonesia and Pakistan were successfully supported by National Society Emergency Response Units integrated into ICRC structures.

The joint logistics structure set up in Pakistan was successful in providing support to the Movement's operation and avoiding duplication.

The new 2004 edition of the standard emergency-item catalogue, developed in conjunction with the International Federation, became available on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.icrc.org/emergency-items>. The catalogue's aim is to promote minimum specification standards for the Movement's operations.

The ICRC also strengthened its working relations with various agencies in the UN system. In responding to the complex emergencies in Darfur, Indonesia and Pakistan, all UN agencies followed the procedures set out by the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC). The ICRC maintained constant dialogue with the Centre on logistics issues, in particular those relating to air operations, security, fuel supplies and rates for transportation and warehousing. In Pakistan, the UNJLC and ICRC had a common heliport in Abbottabad. The advantages for both organizations were to ensure that logistics infrastructure was not unnecessarily duplicated, to maximize efficiency, and to coordinate approaches and promote information-sharing in the field and at headquarters.

ICRC logistics staff participated actively in the UNJLC Logistics Cluster Group and met regularly with other leading logistics players.

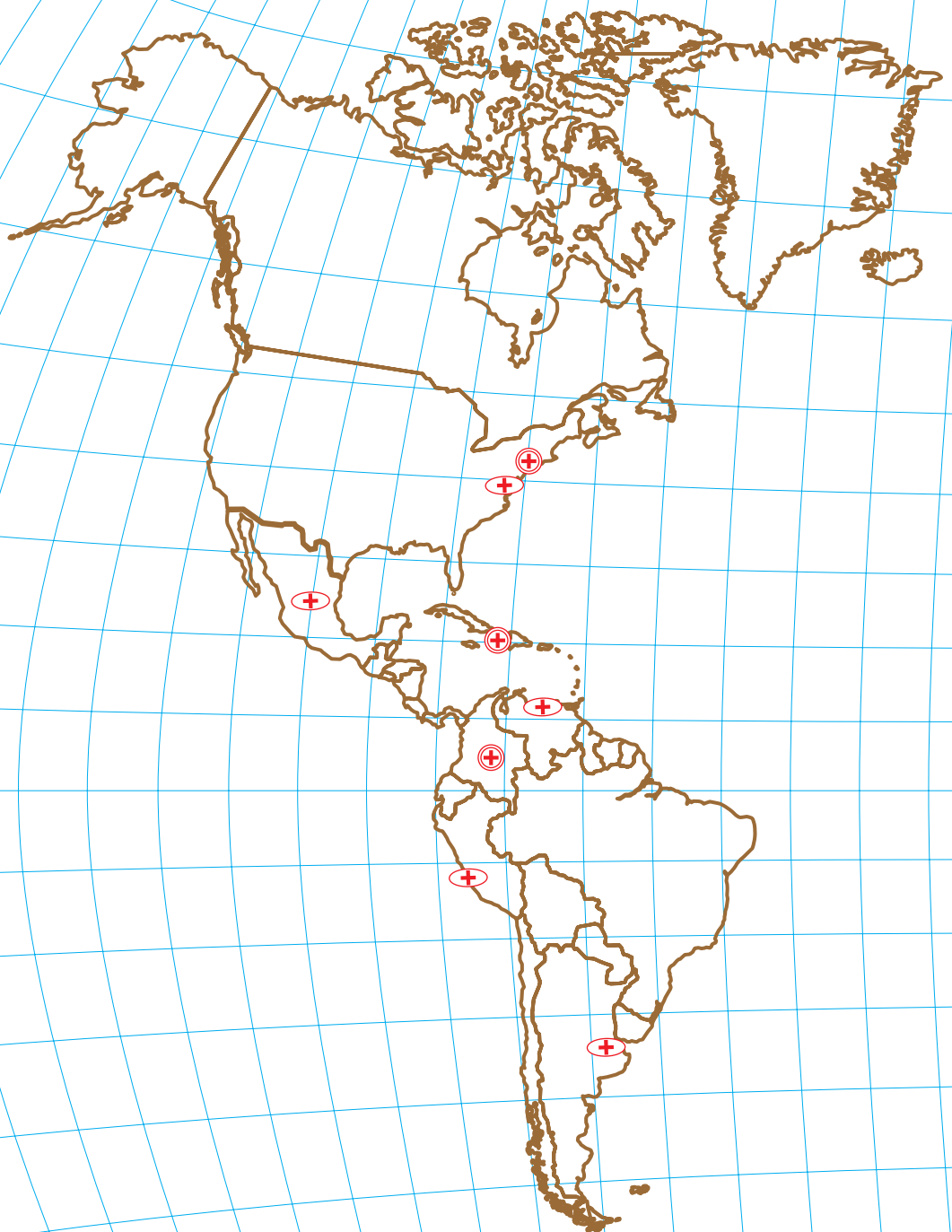
The new Certified Humanitarian Logistics Training programme was discussed and agreed at inter-agency level (WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, ICRC, *Médecins sans frontières*, Oxfam, Care, etc.) and readied for launch in 2006.





OPERATIONS





the ICRC around the world



	AFRICA
	ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
	EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS
	MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



ICRC headquarters



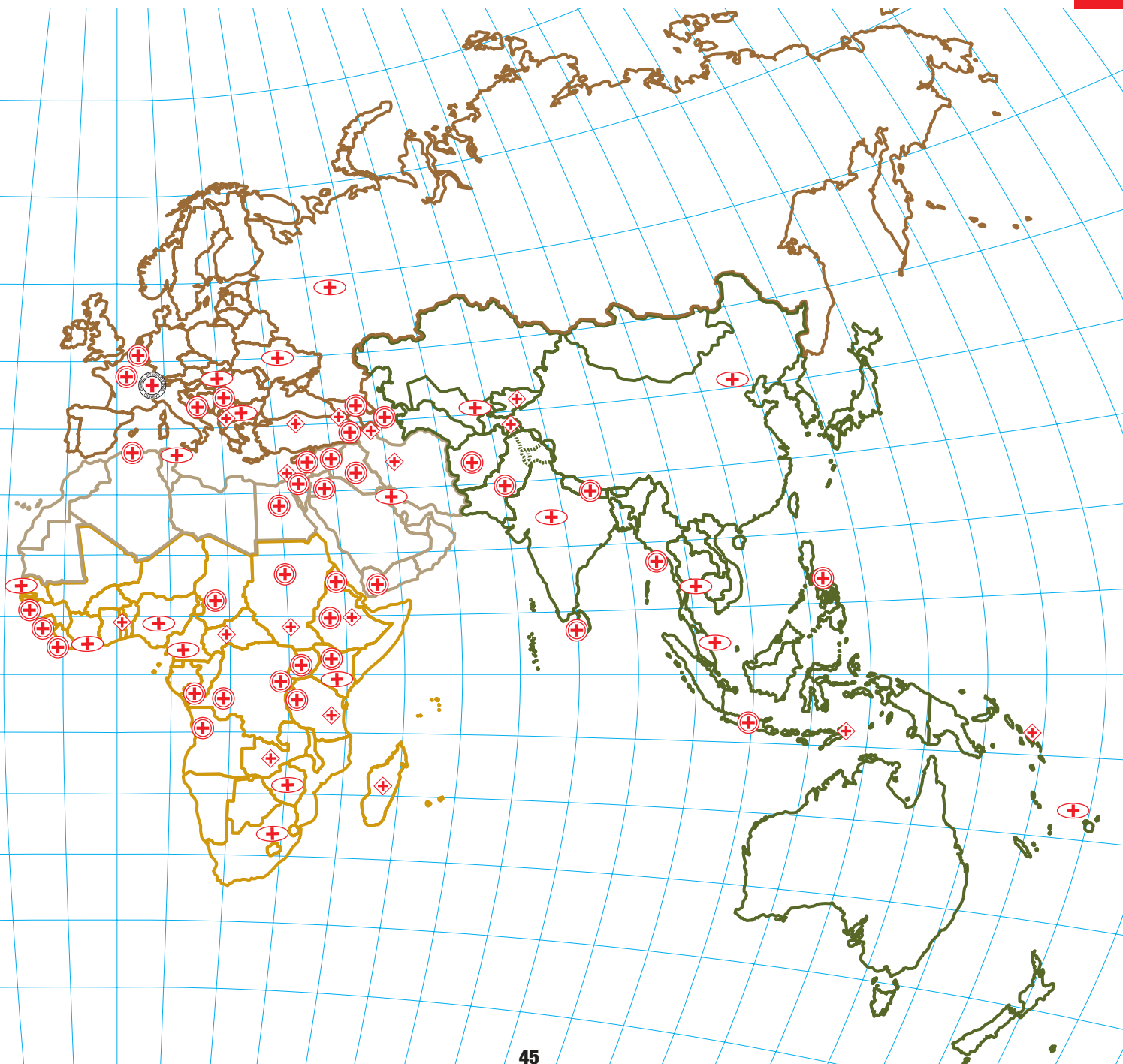
ICRC delegation

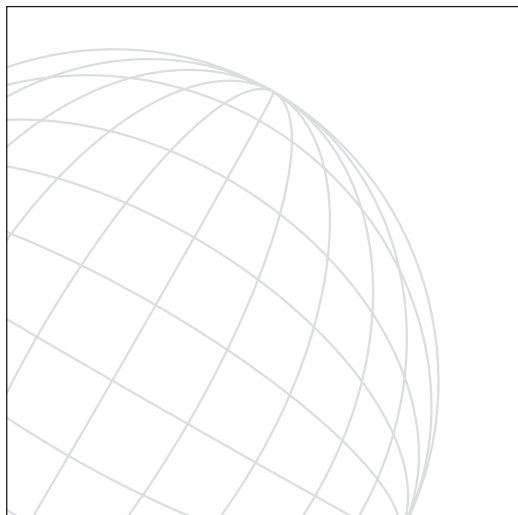


ICRC regional delegation



ICRC mission





operational highlights



Pierre Krähenbühl
Director of Operations

CONFLICT ENVIRONMENTS

2005 will be remembered primarily for a series of catastrophic natural disasters: the effects of the tsunami in parts of Asia, drought in Niger, hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the United States, tropical storm Stan in Central America and the earthquake in Pakistan and India, to name the most devastating.

It will also be recalled as a year that witnessed fewer active armed conflicts and a decline in the intensity of hostilities in several contexts, although appalling acts of violence persisted in places such as Iraq, Darfur, northern Uganda, Somalia and several other places. Closer scrutiny confirmed a shift in the nature of armed conflicts in general and of internal conflicts in particular. Most conflicts were again internal in character, and significantly different from those of the second half of the 20th century, which were mainly anti-colonial and national liberation struggles. They were also distinct from the nationality-driven upheavals that led to the disintegration of the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and from the conflicts in the Great Lakes region.

Many conflicts were characterized by an apparent crisis of legitimacy reflecting the inherent fragility of many of the States involved, and by the multiplicity of local players engaged in the hostilities and representing a broad range of grievances. They included so-called “classic” conflicts between a government and one or more rebel groups, with mainly local causes and effects, and others involving various opposition groups spurred by diverse motives and objectives stemming primarily from local issues which nevertheless had major regional and international implications and involvement.

In 2005, an ongoing confrontation of global dimensions between certain States and a highly decentralized and loosely connected range of non-State actors manifested itself in a number of deliberate acts of terror in various parts of the world. It also led to a combination of military/counter-terrorist operations and the introduction of anti-terrorist legislation in some countries. At the other end of the spectrum, highly localized forms of intercommunity feuds, often of a transnational nature, inflicted high levels of human suffering in some regions.

Economic factors continued to weigh heavily on conflict dynamics, with a range of State and private actors competing for access to markets and critical natural resources such as oil, while a variety of other players indulged in various forms of economic rapaciousness. The reality in many countries in the throes of or emerging from conflict was the weakness – in some cases the generalized collapse – of public services such as health care, water supply and social welfare, delaying recovery and making the transition from emergency to development strategies harder to achieve.

Globally, the evolution of armed violence was further affected by the widespread proliferation of weapons and by mass migration from rural to urban settings, resulting in sprawling urban centres in many developing countries. This also contributed to an increase in new forms of urban violence, often blurring the distinction between political violence and criminality.

More encouragingly, a number of conflict situations saw a marked improvement in terms of stabilization, containment or transition, often the result of international or regional peace-keeping or stabilization efforts. However, while effectively ending or freezing the period of active hostilities and addressing some of the population’s most pressing security needs, such large-scale operations severely stretched the resources of the international community. Furthermore, they tended to take place in contexts of great socio-economic instability marked by slow and often lengthy processes of demobilization, reintegration and reconciliation. This resulted in delayed development, persistent insecurity, rising criminality and lasting hardship for the populations concerned.

Experience showed that while current armed conflicts generally resulted in lower direct casualty rates than in previous decades, the number of indirect victims remained very high. Moreover, conflicts and situations of violence tended to last longer, while protracted transition periods often produced little concerted action to address the underlying causes of the conflict, making a renewal of hostilities possible in several contexts.

Many of the features of the armed conflicts described above have existed for some time, while others are more recent. In 2005, it was

the interconnection between many of these factors, both local and global, that complicated the analysis of specific situations and the formulation of appropriate responses. The overriding challenge was – and will remain – to address the multiple needs of populations affected by extremely diverse situations of conflict and violence, and to respond rapidly and effectively to new emergencies.

OPERATIONS

In 2005, the ICRC confirmed its worldwide reach and was operational in numerous conflict zones. Its 12,000 staff members continued to work in highly diversified environments, adapting to new challenges.

AFRICA

Among the most notable achievements during the year was an ambitious and multifaceted operation in Sudan, the single largest ICRC operation worldwide. Developments in Darfur vacillated between periods of cautious hope for a peace settlement to phases of escalating armed violence which had a severe impact on the local population. The ICRC focused on providing protection and assistance to resident populations most at risk in remote and isolated regions of Darfur. In spite of a deteriorating security environment, it was able to maintain a dialogue with all players and groups in the province and generally had satisfactory access to affected populations.

As a result of increased instability in neighbouring Chad, the ICRC reinforced its presence and capacity to respond to the emergency needs of those affected by deliberate attacks against their communities along the border with Sudan. It also increased its activities in Somalia, particularly in the field of medical and surgical support, in response to a marked upsurge of hostilities during the year.

Uganda again represented a demanding operational environment in which the ICRC maintained extensive programmes to assist people in IDP camps in northern Uganda and to visit places of detention across the country. ICRC staff in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was again confronted with the dramatic impact of hostilities between multiple groups fighting each other in several of the eastern provinces. The ICRC also took an active part in coordinated efforts to demobilize and reintegrate child-soldiers. Working with the National Society, it used its expertise and logistics capacity to play a vital role in the process of reuniting child soldiers with their families.

In Western Africa, the ICRC maintained and where needed reinforced its operational capacity in still divided and fragile Côte d'Ivoire. In neighbouring Liberia, it carried out a large-scale assistance programme to facilitate the return of IDPs and refugees in several destitute parts of the country.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The ICRC, alongside its Movement partners, mounted large-scale operations in response to two major natural disasters – the Asian tsunami that struck on 26 December 2004 and the earthquake that hit South Asia on 8 October 2005. It assumed the lead role

for the Movement's action in regions affected by conflict, or that were politically and militarily unstable. By the end of the year, the ICRC had essentially ended its involvement in the emergency phase in Indonesia and Sri Lanka. It began focusing on its traditional areas of activity in these contexts, while providing ongoing leadership and support in tsunami-related Movement coordination efforts.

In the case of Pakistan, the emergency phase was expected to last well into the spring of 2006, with a commitment by the ICRC to keep its complex human and logistics capacity in place to help people in Pakistan-administered Kashmir to remain, to the best extent possible, in their villages. The ICRC response to the impact of this disaster was rapid and effective, owing to the professionalism and expertise displayed by several National Societies and to efficient on-site coordination with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society and the International Federation.

Afghanistan remained one of the ICRC's largest operations in the region in 2005, with diverse activities covering visits to detainees held under Afghan or US authority, medical assistance to hospitals in several parts of the country and ongoing major activities in the physical rehabilitation field. The ICRC also provided support to the Afghanistan Red Crescent.

The ICRC's operational foothold in Myanmar was adversely affected by a declining engagement on the part of the authorities to respect ICRC access to places of detention and its standard working procedures during prison visits. These issues were raised at different levels with disappointing results. In Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, the ICRC was deeply concerned by the protracted interruption of visits to detainees and the persistent difficulties it encountered in trying to resolve differences in this regard with the authorities.

On a more positive note, the ICRC and the government of China successfully concluded their dialogue with a view to establishing an ICRC regional delegation in Beijing. An ICRC office was formally inaugurated in July 2005.

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

The situations in Colombia and Haiti remained the main areas of concern for the ICRC in this part of the world. The ICRC continued to provide extensive assistance to victims of the conflict in the former and internal violence in the latter.

The issue of US detention remained a topic of widespread attention and debate. ICRC visits to detainees at the Guantanamo Naval Base continued, with improvements noted in the integration of ICRC recommendations. However, differences of view persisted regarding the legal framework applicable to these detainees.

In the Russian Federation, ongoing dialogue with the authorities resulted in improved ICRC access to the Chechen Republic in the course of 2005, including to southern regions that had not been visited for prolonged periods. However, the ICRC remained deeply concerned that discussions aimed at resolving differences on the important issue of access to detainees and places of detention and standard ICRC working procedures during such visits failed to achieve any measurable progress.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

2005 was again a tragic year for the people of Iraq, who were subjected to extreme and appalling levels of violence and brutality. To maintain a credible and effective operation in such a volatile environment was a major challenge for the organization. In January 2005, an Iraqi staff member was brutally killed, compelling the ICRC to review its operational approach in Iraq once again, as it did after the tragic losses of 2003. The ICRC was able to pursue visits to detainees in three locations under US authority, in a limited number – owing to security constraints – of places under Iraqi authority and in several locations under the responsibility of the Kurdish regional authorities. The ICRC was also able to respond to several emergency situations, such as the crisis in Tal-Afar in northern Iraq, where it provided basic relief supplies to the Iraqi Red Crescent for distribution to thousands of people displaced by the hostilities.

In Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, ICRC activities in the field of detention and family visits proceeded, as did monitoring activities and assistance projects in response, for instance, to the impact of the construction of the West Bank barrier on the Palestinian population.

New agreements on access to places of detention were reached with the authorities in Tunisia and Mauritania.

One of the most moving and remarkable events from a humanitarian perspective was the repatriation by the ICRC of the last of the Moroccan prisoners after their release by the Polisario Front.

THEMATIC CHALLENGES

Acceptance by all actors, proximity to the victims of armed conflict and the security of its staff remained central to the ICRC's ability to operate. From a security point of view, 2005 was again a difficult year with the loss of two colleagues, one Iraqi and one Haitian. The ICRC was also still without news of two of its staff members, one who went missing in South Africa in 2001 and one who has been unaccounted for in Chechnya since 2003.

The risk of rejection by certain parties who challenge the legitimacy of humanitarian action, and the danger that humanitarian action would be used by others to their own ends, was ever present. Faced with this problem, the ICRC strived to demonstrate the specific necessity and advantages of its neutral and independent approach through its operational strategies and the impact of its work on the ground. Progress was made in efforts to deepen dialogue with the Muslim world, primarily with civil society representatives, religious circles and radical groups.

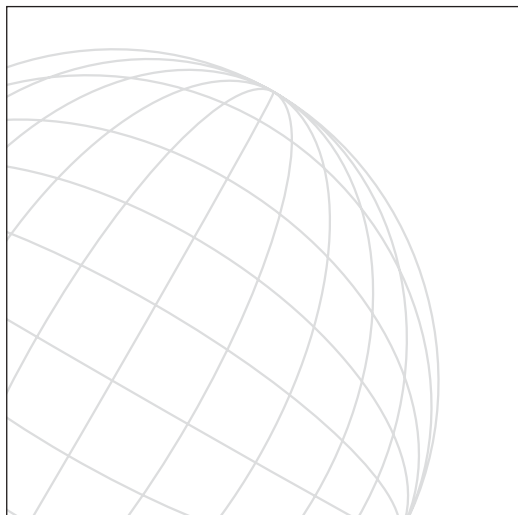
The ICRC pursued efforts to promote and demonstrate the relevance of IHL in contemporary forms of armed conflict. More critically, it sought to ensure respect for IHL by the parties engaged in armed conflict.

It also broadened its capacity to respond more effectively to the specific needs of women and girls. A multidisciplinary response to the problem of sexual violence, combining medical treatment, community-based counselling and protection and preventive measures for victims, was introduced in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Other programmes focusing on the specific needs

of women were implemented in, among other places, Algeria, Burundi, Liberia, Sudan and Yemen.

The year was also marked by substantive debate on the future of the humanitarian sector, in particular in the context of the UN reform process. The ICRC opted for active engagement in the consultative phase, specifically within the framework of the Humanitarian Response Review and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee principals meetings and working groups.

The ICRC saw a number of benefits in efforts to improve the UN humanitarian response capacity. It nevertheless also opted for a strong affirmation of its own identity and a reassertion of the distinct benefits of its specific neutral and independent operational approach. At the same time, it formulated a proactive and reality-based set of guidelines on humanitarian coordination, both institutionally and in the field.



ICRC operations in 2005: a few facts and figures

PRESENCE

The **80** ICRC delegations and missions were distributed as follows throughout the world:

▶ Africa	28
▶ Asia and the Pacific	17
▶ Europe and the Americas	24
▶ Middle East/North Africa	11

PERSONNEL

The average number of ICRC staff in 2005 was as follows:

▶ Headquarters:	783
Field: expatriates	1,490
Expatriates	1,219
National staff on temporary mission	43
National Society staff	228
Field: national staff ⁽¹⁾	9,964
▶ Field: total	11,454 ⁽²⁾
Final total	12,237

(1) 10,007 (including national staff on temporary mission).

(2) This figure does not include an average of 4,075 daily workers hired by the ICRC in the field.

FINANCE

▶ ICRC expenditure in 2005

Headquarters	CHF 147.6 million	USD 119.3 million	EUR 95.4 million
Field	CHF 811.1 million	USD 655.5 million	EUR 524.1 million

The sub-total comes to CHF 958.7 million, from which field overheads (CHF 48.0 million) must be deducted in order to reach the final total.

Final total:	CHF 910.7 million	USD 736.0 million	EUR 588.5 million
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▶ 10 largest operations in 2005 in terms of expenditure

1 Sudan	CHF 129.8 million	USD 104.9 million	EUR 83.9 million
2 Pakistan	CHF 59.7 million	USD 48.3 million	EUR 38.6 million
3 Afghanistan	CHF 40.5 million	USD 32.7 million	EUR 26.2 million
4 Israel and the Palestinian Occupied and Autonomous Territories	CHF 37.9 million	USD 30.6 million	EUR 24.5 million
5 Indonesia	CHF 36.8 million	USD 29.7 million	EUR 23.8 million
6 Moscow regional delegation	CHF 30.7 million	USD 24.8 million	EUR 19.8 million
7 Liberia	CHF 30.2 million	USD 24.4 million	EUR 19.5 million
8 Democratic Republic of the Congo	CHF 29.6 million	USD 23.9 million	EUR 19.1 million
9 Sri Lanka	CHF 27.7 million	USD 22.4 million	EUR 17.9 million
10 Ethiopia	CHF 25.0 million	USD 20.2 million	EUR 16.2 million

Exchange rates: USD 1.00 = CHF 1.2374; EUR 1.00 = CHF 1.5475

VISITS TO DETAINEES

ICRC delegates visited 528,611 detainees (46,288 of whom were monitored individually) held in 2,594 places of detention in 76 countries. Of this number, 25,831 detainees were registered and visited for the first time in 2005. A total of 28,159 detention attestations were issued.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

The ICRC collected and distributed **959,475 Red Cross messages**, thus enabling members of families separated as a result of conflict, disturbances or tensions to exchange news.

It established the **whereabouts of 6,381 people** for whom tracing requests had been filed by their families.

The ICRC also helped **1,650 people to rejoin their families**. It issued **travel documents** that enabled **6,785 people** to return to their home countries or to settle in a host country.

ASSISTANCE

In 2005, **49** of the ICRC's **80** delegations and missions ran assistance programmes. The bulk of the work was carried out in Afghanistan, the Caucasus, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Israel and the Palestinian Occupied and Autonomous Territories, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan (the southern part of the country and Darfur), Pakistan-administered Kashmir, following the earthquake and, in the wake of the tsunami, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES

In 2005, the ICRC purchased or received as contributions in kind the following assistance supplies:

▶ Food items	55,500 tonnes	CHF	34.5 million
▶ Seed	4,150 tonnes	CHF	4.5 million
▶ Essential household items	16,700 tonnes	CHF	59.0 million
	<i>1,270,000 blankets</i>		
	<i>12,000 tents</i>		
	<i>306,000 tarpaulins</i>		
	<i>219,000 kitchen sets</i>		
	<i>226,000 hygiene kits</i>		
	<i>1,000 tonnes of clothing</i>		
▶ Medical and physical rehabilitation items		CHF	27.0 million
▶ Water and habitat items		CHF	18.0 million
		TOTAL	CHF 143.0 million
			USD 115.6 million
			EUR 92.4 million

ECONOMIC SECURITY

During the year, ICRC activities to ensure economic security directly benefited households and communities in **26 countries** worldwide. More than **1,105,000 internally displaced people, returnees, residents** (in general people living in rural areas and/or areas which are difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure) and **people deprived of their freedom** received aid in the form of **food, 2,870,000 in the form of essential household and hygiene items** and **2,642,000 through sustainable food-production programmes or micro-economic initiatives**. These included various response mechanisms ranging from the rehabilitation of traditional irrigation systems to small-scale community-based cash-for-work and livestock-management/support projects.

WATER AND HABITAT

In 2005, the ICRC's Water and Habitat Unit was involved in water, sanitation and construction work in **37 countries**. These projects catered for the needs of some **11.2 million people** worldwide (internally displaced people, returnees, residents – in general people living in rural areas and/or areas which are difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure – and people deprived of their freedom). They were implemented by a team of **90 expatriate engineers** and **720 local engineers and technicians**.

HEALTH-CARE SERVICES

During the year, the ICRC regularly supported **99 hospitals** and **179 other health-care facilities** around the world. Community health programmes were implemented in **12 countries**, in many cases with National Society participation. An estimated **2,365,000 people** benefited from ICRC-supported health-care facilities.

More than **6,300 weapon-wounded** and **77,400 non-weapon-wounded** were admitted to ICRC-supported hospitals in **18 countries** where more than **76,800 surgical interventions** were performed. The ICRC regularly supported **15 first-aid posts** located near combat zones, which provided emergency treatment, mainly for war-wounded.

CARE FOR THE DISABLED

The ICRC's Physical Rehabilitation Unit provided support to **69 centres** in **23 countries**, enabling **137,931 patients** to receive services. A total of **20,559 were rehabilitated with prostheses** and **25,877 with orthoses**. In addition, **1,979 wheelchairs** and **19,445 pairs of crutches** were distributed, most of them locally manufactured. Training of local staff was a priority to improve sustainable services for patients.

ICRC COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The aim of the ICRC's cooperation with National Societies is to promote greater efficiency and effectiveness in the Movement's activities. The ICRC carries out its operations for the benefit of persons affected by conflict or internal strife in partnership with National Societies. It also contributes to the strengthening of the programme capacity of National Societies in specific fields.

On the one hand, in 2005, a total of 34 National Societies of countries affected by armed conflict or internal strife participated in **Operational Partnerships** with the ICRC. In all, **27 National Societies** participated in **ICRC assistance programmes**, **27 in tracing and protection activities** and **25 in programmes to promote and spread knowledge of IHL and the Fundamental Principles**.

In the 10 countries where the ICRC is running its largest operations, **7 different National Societies** working internationally were involved in the **implementation of ICRC objectives in 27 projects**.

On the other hand, the ICRC spent **CHF 66 million** to assist National Societies in building and strengthening their capacity to carry out activities in the following areas:

- ▶ **141 National Societies** in their work to promote and spread knowledge of **IHL and the Fundamental Principles**;
- ▶ **119 National Societies** in their work to restore **family links**;
- ▶ **105 National Societies** in their **preparedness for health and relief assistance** during conflict;
- ▶ **20 National Societies** in implementing **community awareness programmes for mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW)**.

COMMUNICATION

The Communication Department's overall aim is to strengthen the ICRC's ability to carry out its activities and promote respect for international humanitarian law (IHL). Communicating information in relation to major humanitarian crises was a priority for the Communication Department in 2005, with activities based on a multimedia approach.

Numerous seminars on IHL were held worldwide throughout the year for armed and security forces, other weapon bearers and police forces. The ICRC participated in **15 military exercises** in Europe and similar events elsewhere in the world. These activities were carried out by **23 specialized delegates** supported by a multinational network of officer instructors.

In 2005, the Media Relations Unit in Geneva issued **76 press releases**, **98 news items**, **53 information bulletins**, **105 briefing and information notes**, and organized **16 press conferences**.

The Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) teaching module, launched in 2001, was tested in the classrooms of some **34 countries** during the year.

Throughout the year, the ICRC provided advice and supported **programmes related to mines and ERW in 27 countries**.

The Library and Research Service responded to some **3,000 requests** from National Societies, NGOs, academics, government departments and the media. The Production, Multimedia and Distribution Unit distributed worldwide more than **3,260 films** and **608,000 copies of 900 different publications**, and approximately **6 million page views** were registered on the ICRC website. The Visitor's Service at ICRC headquarters received nearly **10,000 people**.



Children often become separated from their families during times of conflict. The ICRC searches for the relatives of such children and, where appropriate, will reunite them with their families.

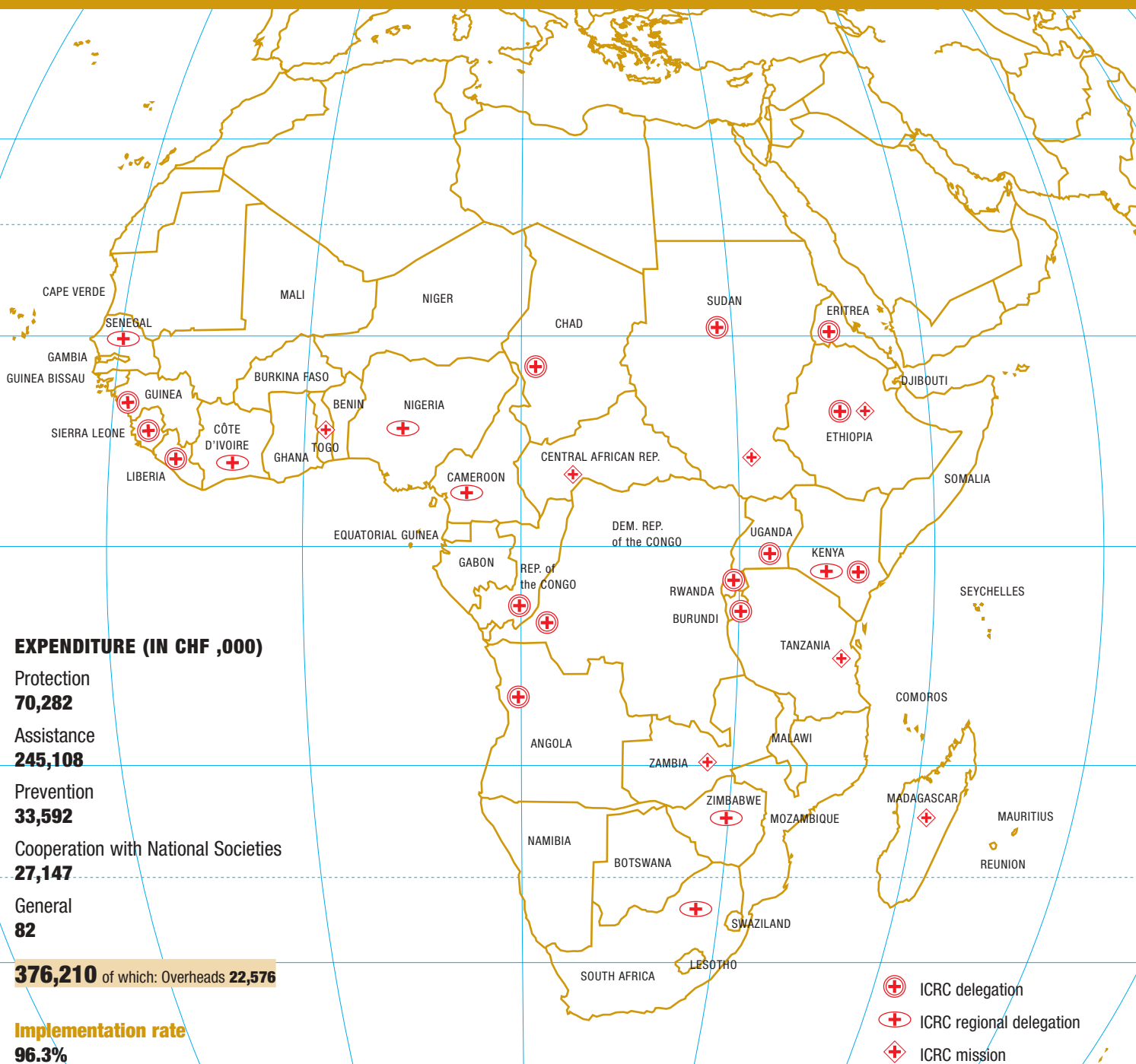
DELEGATIONS

Angola
Burundi
Chad
Congo, Democratic Republic of
Congo
Eritrea
Ethiopia
African Union
Guinea
Liberia
Rwanda
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Sudan
Uganda

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Abidjan
Abuja
Dakar
Harare
Nairobi
Pretoria
Yaoundé

AFRICA



Africa retained its strategic importance in 2005 but was unable to hold much sway in international politics. Many of its countries continued to suffer economic, political and diplomatic isolation. The greater portion of the world's conflicts occurred on the continent. Their heavy burden on the population was made worse by a succession of other problems: political instability; corruption; poor governance and weak political structures; uneven distribution of natural resources; the resort to arms as a means of survival; ethnic and/or religious tension; inexistent or crumbling public services; steadily declining GNP; the adverse impact of globalization; harsh climate; population growth rates exceeding economic growth; the HIV/AIDS pandemic; and insufficient emergency and development aid. Against this backdrop, the few gains made, such as economic growth in some countries, seemed woefully inadequate to counterbalance the problems.

The Horn of Africa

In the Horn, the conditions for a genuine and lasting peace remained elusive. Three historic peace processes under way in the region produced mixed results: implementation of the momentous north-south peace agreement in Sudan proceeded, keenly watched by UN and African Union peacekeepers; the Somali National Reconciliation Conference ushered in a shaky transitional federal government in Somalia; while the Algiers Peace Agreement ending the international conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia faltered. The enduring conflict in Darfur cast a shadow on the transition to peace in southern Sudan and affected the entire country and, for that matter, Chad, host to some 200,000 Sudanese refugees. However, other localized conflicts showed signs of subsiding in southern Sudan and in border regions, chiefly near Eritrea and Uganda. In Ethiopia, where a number of low-intensity conflicts persisted, the internal strife in Gambella risked affecting the regions bordering Sudan. Further south, the presence of the rebel Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army in the Sudanese region of Equatoria remained a security threat for civilians.

Sudan continued to be the ICRC's largest operation, with eight sub-delegations and offices in Darfur alone. The ICRC worked throughout Darfur until November, when a series of security incidents involving ICRC and Movement personnel compelled it to restrict its movements in western Darfur. Assisting residents of rural and remote parts of Darfur remained a priority for the organization because the international aid

effort was focused on urban IDP camps. When necessary, however, the ICRC stepped in to assist IDPs in camps. It established a highly successful mobile surgical field team to treat wounded civilians and fighters and supported rural health care and services for amputees, but reduced assistance to hospitals, which enjoyed the support of other actors. The organization redoubled its efforts to secure respect for civilians' rights and worked to ensure safe access for its staff to conflict victims. It documented alleged IHL violations and took them up with the parties involved. It extended tracing and RCM services in Darfur and sought to improve them countrywide for families dispersed by conflict. The ICRC intensified negotiations with the authorities on obtaining access to all detainees. In southern Sudan, it started to adapt its operation in light of the transition, transferring its set-up and activities, previously overseen by its Lokichokio sub-delegation across the border in Kenya, to Juba.

In Chad, the ICRC worked to meet the needs occasioned by the conflict in Darfur and internal tensions. It closely watched the security situation, shared information with other organizations and followed up allegations of abuses against civilians. In coordination with UN agencies, NGOs and the Chadian Red Cross, the ICRC played the lead role in helping Sudanese refugees locate relatives at home and elsewhere and exchange news with them. ICRC assistance programmes in eastern Chad targeted vulnerable residents along the border with Sudan and in rural areas who were not receiving international aid. The ICRC evacuated the war-wounded from rural areas to urban medical facilities, provided supplies to rural health centres, sustained a limb-fitting and physiotherapy centre, improved access to water in four towns and distributed relief to families affected by cross-border attacks. In the deteriorating security environment in eastern Chad, only a handful of organizations, including the ICRC, operated along the volatile border with Sudan. The ICRC carried on visiting security detainees and helping improve detention conditions.

In war-torn Somalia, the ICRC increased its field presence and reached most parts of the country. Still a key provider of emergency aid for victims of conflict and natural disaster in central and southern Somalia, the ICRC stretched its capacities to the limit to deliver relief goods to over 400,000 people. The frequency and intensity of armed clashes pushed up the number of war-wounded patients treated at

the 26 ICRC-supported facilities. The need to scale up its emergency operations prompted the organization to adjust its overall priorities, meaning that it realized slightly fewer projects than planned to improve the livelihood of farmers and nomads. Thousands of Somalis uprooted by conflict or economic necessity used the tracing and RCM network to restore or maintain contact with relatives.

In Ethiopia, the organization worked countrywide, extending its presence to monitor the situation in more areas. Intense fighting in Gambella and persistent tensions along the Oromia-Somali Regional State (SRS) border meant that the number of beneficiaries of ICRC emergency and medical support exceeded the organization's plans. Although security and other constraints hampered some of its activities, the ICRC forged ahead in implementing programmes to preserve livelihoods in the SRS and Afar regions. It continued to monitor detention conditions in prisons and police stations countrywide, and secured access to some of the detainees held in connection with post-election unrest. It made considerable structural improvements in 21 prisons and extended technical support to penal and judicial reforms. The ICRC took up with the authorities any remaining cases of POWs and encouraged them to respond to requests from families for news of relatives missing as a result of the 1998–2000 armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. It helped relatives separated by the closed border to exchange RCMs, facilitated the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Eritrea and Ethiopia and reunited willing children, the elderly and infirm with family across the border. Sudanese refugees in western Ethiopia also benefited from tracing and RCM services.

In Eritrea, the ICRC focused on supporting people still affected by the international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. Working in and near the Transitional Security Zone (TSZ), the organization stood poised to document any alleged IHL violations against the population and to respond to the effects of any rise in tensions. The ICRC continued to visit detainees of Ethiopian origin and the few remaining POWs who had declined repatriation in 2002. It monitored the situation of Ethiopian civilians in Eritrea, to ensure respect for their rights regarding their living conditions and repatriation. The ICRC assisted in the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Ethiopia and Eritrea, enabled relatives to communicate through tracing and RCM services and reunited

children and other vulnerable people with family across the closed border. The ICRC was the chief provider of water, shelter and material support to IDPs in camps and helped returnees resettle. It continued to help upgrade residents' access to water in and around the TSZ.

In Kenya, the ICRC intensified its activities, including emergency aid to IDPs fleeing clashes in the north and refugees escaping fighting in Somalia, and projects to improve economic security and ease tensions in northern Kenya and the coastal Lamu district.

ICRC tracing and RCM services enabled thousands of refugees in Tanzania, Kenya and Djibouti to locate relatives and exchange news with them.

In the Zanzibar archipelago, a new office, opened in August, enabled the ICRC to consolidate its activities in response to election-related unrest. The organization visited detainees and delivered medical supplies to hospitals treating people injured during clashes.

West Africa

West Africa had remained free of open warfare since 2004, chiefly because of some 30,000 UN and other peace-keepers stationed in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire. Even so, incidents occurring throughout 2005 attested to the need for the ICRC to keep an eye on developments in countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria and Togo, where economic and political crises and religious and ethnic tensions made for an explosive mix. In addition, in the Central African Republic, the rising number of clashes in the north between armed groups and government troops forced some 15,000 people to flee into southern Chad.

The ICRC increased its presence in sensitive regions of Côte d'Ivoire, conducting protection activities for conflict-weary populations, supporting essential services, such as water supply to 1.6 million people and health-care delivery in the north, enhancing economic security for vulnerable people, including several thousand IDPs, and adapting its operations to civilians' changing or increasing needs. It continued to visit individuals detained in government- and Forces Nouvelles-held territories in connection with the conflict. The ICRC continued to coordinate and finance the activities of the Ivorian Red Cross to alleviate civilian suffering caused by conflict.

In Liberia, the ICRC's priority was to provide protection and assistance to the significant numbers of refugees returning spontaneously to the country and the even larger numbers of IDPs returning to their places of origin. It provided agricultural tools and other material assistance, repaired or built health-care facilities and water and sanitation systems and stepped up emergency assistance to returnees. It also provided medical supplies and on-the-job staff training to the health facilities it had rehabilitated. Considerable emphasis was placed on restoring contact between family members dispersed by the conflict, particularly reuniting children with relatives. The ICRC regularly visited the ever-increasing number of places of detention throughout the country to monitor conditions of detention and provide assistance as required.

The ICRC continued to address the needs of Sierra Leonean children separated from their families and still in Guinea. It ensured the cross-border restoration of family links for children, while gaining greater understanding of child-protection issues regionwide. The repatriation of Liberian ex-fighters, interned in Sierra Leone since their surrender in 2002–03, demonstrated how the practical application of IHL can help stabilize the sub-region. The ICRC played a significant role as a technical adviser to the two countries' authorities, monitored the treatment and living conditions of the internees and oversaw their voluntary repatriation. Also in Sierra Leone, the ICRC prepared to contribute to judicial reforms. It maintained visits to detention facilities, including that of the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

The Great Lakes Region

In the Great Lakes region, the populations of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda were still bearing the brunt of internal armed conflicts. Intense diplomatic efforts prevented the conflict in the DRC from assuming national proportions anew. Meanwhile, Rwanda continued to heal the wounds caused by internal conflict and genocide, while in the Republic of the Congo, the conflict remained deadlocked.

In Burundi, the end of the transition period was marked by relatively peaceful elections. However, the second part of the year was tarnished by the resumption of hostilities against government forces by the last remaining armed group, the National Liberation Forces. The large number of weapons in circulation added to the threat to the country's stability. Incidents of

violence were localized, however, and the ICRC managed to reach most parts of the country. It worked with urban and rural water authorities to supply thousands of people with clean water. The organization also continued to work with the National Programme of Reproductive Health to improve health care, focusing on safe childbirth and care and the treatment of victims of sexual violence. Living conditions in prisons and places of temporary detention were improved through the ICRC's health-care, sanitation and water projects.

In the DRC, 25 million voters were registered and, in the first democratic poll since independence, the electorate overwhelmingly supported a new constitution which was a prerequisite for parliamentary and presidential elections, postponed until 2006. Although these developments suggested a move towards stability, the eastern part of the country remained beset by violent incidents. The United Nations Organization Mission in the DRC supported attempts by the national army to suppress the Ituri militias and armed groups from other countries such as Rwanda operating in North and South Kivu. The ICRC continued its activities in this potentially hazardous environment to improve the population's living conditions and completed engineering projects which supplied over 1 million people with safe water. It also provided material support to victims of the conflict and conducted agricultural and fish-farming programmes. The steps forward in the transition process encouraged the organization to begin planning the handover of water, farming and health projects to the local authorities and development organizations.

In the Republic of the Congo, the situation in the Pool region was no longer a crisis in humanitarian terms. Even so, an environment of uncertainty reigned. Consequently, reconstruction and economic recovery remained painfully slow, and few international humanitarian organizations stayed to fill the gap. The ICRC maintained a presence in Pool, where its assistance programmes offered it proximity to the population, to get a clear understanding of their security concerns and living conditions and to impress upon the authorities the need to meet their obligations to the population.

In Uganda, the peace process faltered, leading to further military operations against the Lord's Resistance Army in the north, protracting the conflict that began nearly two decades ago and forcing an estimated 1.5 million people to remain in squalid IDP camps. Inadequate water and sanitation

facilities, combined with a precarious nutritional and medical situation, encouraged the rapid spread of life-threatening diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and dysentery in the camps. Attacks on humanitarian workers late in 2005 prompted the ICRC to restrict the scope of its operations temporarily. Nevertheless, it completed water and sanitation projects that benefited hundreds of thousands of IDPs. It also extended material support to over 400,000 people, helped around half a million people to grow their own food and propped up health-care facilities.

Rwanda enjoyed stability, completed its transition and focused on trying people suspected of involvement in the 1994 genocide. Some 9,000 *gacaca* courts, based on the concept of a traditional council, began trying suspects. The ICRC tailored its operations to reflect the country's successful completion of the transition period. It ended its 10-year-long practice of individually monitoring detainees suspected of participating in the genocide. It also completed a three-year plan to phase out its supply of food to prisons, since the authorities proved both willing and able to assume this responsibility. Projects to monitor the detainees' nutritional status and improve health care, water and sanitation facilities in Rwanda's prisons remained on course.

Southern Africa

Southern Africa remained a model of stability on the continent. Angola continued to recover from the upheaval of the 27-year civil war which ended three years previously. The ICRC concentrated on providing a quality tracing service and assisting landmine victims. The region's inhabitants did not, however, escape hardship caused by poverty, unemployment and high rates of HIV/AIDS infection. Zimbabwe's worsening political and socio-economic problems caused particular concern among the international community. The fall-out from spiralling inflation and high unemployment was compounded by the government's moves to eradicate the informal business sector and unregistered buildings. The UN estimated that 700,000 people were left homeless, without an income or both in the operations.

Conclusion

In summary, the scope of ICRC operations in Africa changed little in 2005. Nevertheless, adjustments were made to mirror the reality on the ground in individual contexts. These included: the creation of additional or new ICRC structures to optimize operations in Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad and Burkina Faso; and the organization's response to the violence triggered by the death of Togolese President Eyadema and the April elections in Togo. True to predictions, the lion's share of ICRC activities was concentrated in the Horn of Africa.



angola

The ICRC has been present in Angola since the start of the conflict in 1975 that devastated the country's infrastructure and economy and left the population dependent on aid. Relative normality has returned since the 2002 Luena peace agreement, although mines remain a major problem. The ICRC continues to support three State-run limb-fitting centres, urging the authorities to increase their involvement. It cooperates with the Angola Red Cross in raising awareness of landmine risks. The two organizations also jointly operate a tracing network to enable family members separated by the conflict to re-establish contact. In addition, the delegation supports the Sao Tome and Principe Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	6,137
Assistance	3,744
Prevention	1,936
Cooperation with National Societies	799
General	2

► **12,618**

of which: Overheads 770

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98.7%
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PERSONNEL

26 expatriates
216 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- collected and delivered tens of thousands of RCMs;
- helped reunite 190 unaccompanied children with their families;
- visited 23 detainees in Cabinda province;
- rehabilitated 89 spring catchments providing clean water for 79,426 villagers;
- supported 3 physical rehabilitation centres, which treated 916 landmine victims.

CONTEXT

Angola was still recovering from the political, economic and social consequences of the 27-year civil war that had raged since independence and that formally ended with the signature of the Luena peace agreement in April 2002. It remained one of the world's most mine-affected countries, with civilians continuing to be maimed or killed daily by these and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). The casualty rate and the contamination by mines of large tracts of land, rendering them off-limits to the population, continued to hinder development and reconstruction efforts.

Democratic elections had yet to take place, but President José Eduardo dos Santos announced that they would be held in 2006. In August, parliament approved a revised version of the electoral law, and an electoral commission, dominated by the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), was sworn in. However, pundits were doubtful that the necessary reforms and the registration of voters would be completed in time for an election in 2006.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) submitted draft laws to parliament on the disarmament of civilians and the demobilization of the Civil Defence Organization, a militia armed by the MPLA before the 1992 elections. The debate on these laws was due to continue into 2006.

The Council of Ministers drew up a law regulating political parties' access to the

media before and during the electoral campaign. This legislation was put before parliament at the end of 2005 for discussion.

Around 100,000 former UNITA fighters awaited reintegration into society and financial support. In May, the World Bank and the government signed a series of agreements with national and international NGOs on projects to assist 24,000 ex-fighters, through vocational training or support for subsistence farming.

The government pursued a policy of taking out bilateral loans for the reconstruction of Angola's infrastructure. In May, China signed agreements to lend Angola 1 billion US dollars towards improving the country's health, education, electricity, water and road systems. Also in May, Brazil signed an agreement to lend Angola 580 million US dollars. In October, the Angolan government announced that Chinese private companies were willing to invest up to 8 billion US dollars in addition to Beijing's loan of 2 billion US dollars granted in March 2004.

Relations between the Angolan government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) further soured when Luanda rejected the IMF's proposals on how to rebuild the country's economy, preferring to come up with its own economic policies. Angolan officials would rather concentrate on raising funds from private investors than from donor governments.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	23
Detainees visited and monitored individually	23
Number of visits carried out	8
Number of places of detention visited	4
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	24,055
RCMs distributed	25,875
People reunited with their families	102
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	3,120
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	463
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	20,575
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	119
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	102
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	346

CIVILIANS		
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	76,926
WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
Patients receiving services	Patients	7,680
Prostheses delivered	Pieces	1,262
Orthoses delivered	Pieces	136

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to focus on maintaining a quality tracing service for people who had no other means of re-establishing or keeping in contact with their families in Angola or abroad as a result of the past conflict. The ICRC and the Angola Red Cross remained the only organizations to provide tracing and reunification services for children separated from their families.

Assisting landmine victims and mine-risk education were also key activities for the ICRC. It provided substantial aid to the government in the form of prosthetic/orthotic equipment and training schemes. It also participated, along with other humanitarian organizations, in a working group to discuss how to help the National Intersectoral Commission for Demining and Humanitarian Assistance to Mine Victims (CNIDAH) build a professional mine-risk training team. The aim of the group of trainers, to be set up by the end of 2006, was to develop training curricula for the police, local NGOs and civil society. The Angola Red Cross was put in charge of mine-risk education training, in accordance with the national mine action strategy for Angola for 2006–11. Other proposals discussed in the working group included methods to inform returnees of the risk of landmines and the creation of an information-gathering structure on the location of landmines. In tandem with the Angola Red Cross, the ICRC conducted a number of mine-risk sessions for returnees.

As part of its protection work, the ICRC continued to ensure that the treatment and living conditions of detainees in Cabinda province complied with international standards. It visited places of detention and recommended improvements where necessary. The RCM service was made available to the detainees visited.

The ICRC provided financial and technical support to the Angola Red Cross in its reform process, with a view to giving impetus to the National Society's humanitarian activities.

In spite of the delegation's efforts, the authorities made no progress in integrating IHL into national legislation or military training.

In light of the progressive return to peace in Angola, the ICRC continued to scale down its operations in the country, shutting two regional offices and reducing the number of expatriate staff by almost a third.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The armed forces (FAA) maintained a substantial presence in the province of Cabinda. A few villages complained about the ongoing restrictions imposed by the FAA on civilian movements, which prevented people from hunting in the forest or cultivating their fields.

The ICRC kept up a constructive dialogue with the highest military authorities in the

province. The civilian population reported that on several occasions the ICRC's presence in the field had had a favourable effect on the behaviour of FAA units. To familiarize the population with the ICRC's mandate, the delegation maintained regular contact with the main representatives of civil society – the Church and traditional authorities – in Cabinda.

Protecting foreign ex-fighters

As in previous years, the ICRC monitored the situation of some 400 former Congolese and Rwandan fighters (and some 350 of their dependants) who were awaiting repatriation or the regularization of their situation by the authorities. Regular contacts were maintained with the former fighters' leaders and the highest Angolan authorities. The Angolan government was engaged in a dialogue with the Congolese and Rwandan authorities in order to find a solution to the problem.

Restoring family links

Unaccompanied children continued to be reunited with their families thanks to a tracing network run jointly by the ICRC and the Angola Red Cross. Tracing operations, building on experience gained in previous years, gathered momentum, and the number of family reunifications tripled in the second part of the year compared with the first half. Family reunifications were carried out in cooperation with the Angola Red Cross and in some cases with the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration. Training aimed at further boosting the tracing capacities of the Angola Red Cross was

intensified at both national and provincial levels.

As part of its tracing activities, the ICRC issued the fourth edition of the *Red Cross Gazette*, listing 18,393 people searching for or being sought by relatives, including 323 unaccompanied children looking for their parents and 1,288 being sought by their families. The *Red Cross Gazette* was distributed throughout Angola's 18 provinces, as well as to relevant National Societies abroad, and met with considerable interest from the public, political stakeholders and traditional leaders.

- ▶ 24,019 RCMs collected from and 25,873 delivered to civilians
- ▶ 463 people located at their families' request
- ▶ 119 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers registered
- ▶ 168 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families, 102 directly by the ICRC
- ▶ tracing continued for 20,575 persons, including 1,526 minors at the time of their disappearance and the relatives of 346 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers registered by the ICRC

Reducing ERW incidents

Mines and other ERW continued to maim and kill local residents and to restrict their access to work and services. Under plans drawn up by provincial authorities at the beginning of 2005, mine action aimed to address both community and development priorities. The ICRC supported the Angola Red Cross's efforts to ensure that community needs were reported and acted upon. These projects included workshops for radio journalists on how to broadcast mine-prevention information throughout the year and the development of a form to record the needs of landmine survivors and their families.

The National Society worked with the CNIDAH liaison officers in the provinces of Bié and Benguela to develop an information sheet and guidelines on the reporting of information on mines to the police. In the province of Benguela, Red Cross volunteers working with the police reported the discovery of 142 ERW to demining organizations for follow-up.

Concentrating on the needs of groups at risk, including refugees returning to Angola, the Angola Red Cross worked with

traditional leaders from mine-affected communities to organize focus group discussions. Following the discussions, participants shared ideas on what they could do to reduce the risk of further mine accidents. The Angola Red Cross supported these initiatives by providing paint for the community to mark paths and information boards for schools and churches. By the beginning of the rainy season, children had prepared 15 such information boards.

Aware of the need for a long-term but targeted mine-risk education programme, the National Society worked with provincial radio stations, a medium increasingly accessible to the rural population, thereby providing a valuable means to inform farmers, hunters and others of the dangers of mines. Programmes included information on how to avoid being injured by a mine.

Improving water and habitat

The ICRC continued to rehabilitate, maintain or construct spring catchments in rural areas. It rehabilitated 89 spring catchments in 42 villages and trained water committees in using and maintaining these facilities. It also promoted good hygiene practices among the local population. After the projects had been completed, the ICRC returned to the areas that had benefited from the programme and noted a decrease in the number of people infected by water-borne diseases.

- ▶ 76,926 people benefited from 89 water projects
- ▶ 68 water committees (204 people) trained in spring maintenance
- ▶ 4 latrines built to prevent water contamination

After three years of peace and transition towards development, the ICRC, decided to phase out its spring rehabilitation programme in the Planalto region by the end of 2005. The objective was to hand over the project to an institution capable of maintaining existing springs and willing to continue to construct and rehabilitate water sources, especially in rural areas where water-borne diseases contributed to a high rate of child mortality. Several organizations expressed an interest in the ICRC programme but, owing to a lack of funding, none of them were able to put forward a definite offer. The delegation sent a report on the proposed handover to all potential donors in Angola.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Protecting the well-being of detainees

ICRC delegates conducted five visits to municipal and provincial prisons in Cabinda. They met the authorities to discuss detention conditions and the treatment of inmates. Detention officials agreed to allow family visits and detainees' access to the RCM service. The authorities committed themselves to setting up the regular distribution of hygiene items. Following discussions with military officials, the ICRC was granted permission to visit military detention facilities to check if civilians were being detained temporarily.

- ▶ 23 detainees visited and monitored individually, including 18 newly registered monitored individually during 8 visits to 4 places of detention
- ▶ 36 RCMs collected from and 2 delivered to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

Long-term care for the physically disabled

Mined roads and a lack of public transportation limited the number of injured people that could benefit from physical rehabilitation services, which did not therefore work to full capacity. According to government figures, there were at least 105,000 physically disabled people in Angola, of whom only around 3,000 had received medical care. Roughly 75% or 79,000 of Angola's disabled were victims of landmines. The study found that the highest percentage of disabled lived in Benguela, Bié, Huambo and Kuanza Sul provinces.

Ten State-run physical rehabilitation centres provided prosthetic and orthotic services (three in Luanda and one each in Benguela, Negage, Huambo, Kuito, Lubango, Luena and Menongue). The authorities received material and technical assistance from various organizations such as the ICRC, the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation and the German technical cooperation agency, GTZ. GTZ opened another centre in Kuanza Sul in September 2005.

The authorities, still lacking technical expertise and adequate financial resources, were not in a position to take over full running of the physical rehabilitation centres. That meant that the contribution of international organizations was essential for the survival of the centres.

The ICRC continued to support State limb-fitting centres in Huambo, Kuito and Luanda. It renovated buildings and provided machinery, tools, components and raw materials to make orthopaedic appliances. It provided staff with on-the-job technical and management training. The delegation ceased topping up staff salaries at the end of June.

As part of its handover strategy, the ICRC stopped reimbursing patients' transportation costs and instead donated vehicles to the physical rehabilitation centres. In addition, it reduced from two to one the number of expatriate prosthetic/orthotic technicians who had been helping at two centres in Kuito and Huambo. In September, two Angolan technicians resumed work at these centres after completing an ICRC-sponsored one-year course in orthotics in Tanzania.

ICRC expatriate prosthetic/orthotic technicians participated in several working groups to draw up a national physical rehabilitation policy. Discussions included technical procedures for the manufacture of prosthetic/orthotic devices, training and logistics.

The delegation held meetings to discuss how to use the Angola Red Cross network to locate patients in rural areas, taking the above-mentioned national policy into account.

- 3 physical rehabilitation centres supported
- 7,680 patients received services at the ICRC-supported facilities
- 428 new patients fitted with prostheses and 77 with orthoses
- 1,262 prostheses (1,053 for mine victims), 136 orthoses (13 for mine victims), 4,984 crutches and 56 wheelchairs delivered
- in 25 years of ICRC support, more than 31,000 prostheses, 36,500 pairs of crutches, 930 wheelchairs and 600 orthoses provided at the Luanda, Huambo and Kuito centres

AUTHORITIES

With the political establishment focused on the elections and various economic agreements, little attention was paid to the ratification of IHL treaties. Nonetheless, the government continued to discuss accession to six IHL treaties aimed at protecting the population in the event of armed conflict. The ICRC, which offered its services to help speed up the process, set particular store by

the adoption of national legislation implementing the Ottawa Convention.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

To encourage the integration of IHL into military training, the ICRC offered to help draw up a comprehensive IHL instruction programme. It also proposed holding train-the-trainer courses in the event that the Angolan authorities did integrate IHL into military instruction. The ICRC held information sessions on IHL/human rights standards and humanitarian principles for the armed forces.

- 2,900 military personnel attended 95 sessions on IHL and the ICRC's activities

CIVIL SOCIETY

To gain support for its activities, the ICRC nurtured contacts with various media organizations. It regularly sent out a newsletter to the national and regional media, resulting in extensive coverage of the launch of the *Red Cross Gazette* (see *Civilians*). The media also frequently referred to the ICRC and its activities. Despite the end of the war and the decrease in humanitarian activities, the international media were still interested in covering ICRC activities.

The ICRC held regular information sessions on IHL in a number of provinces for community, political and religious leaders, as well as for traditional authorities, teachers and NGO representatives.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Developing the National Society's capacity

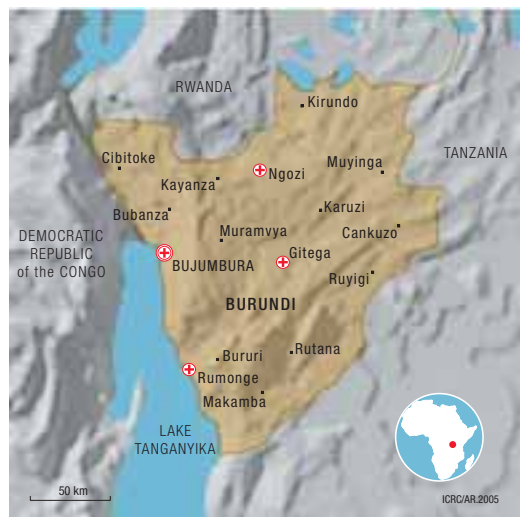
In March, as part of its internal reform process, the Angola Red Cross held a national council attended by 18 newly elected provincial presidents. At the top of the agenda was the National Society's reform process and the organization of a general assembly. Both the ICRC and the International Federation took part in the meeting and insisted that it was imperative for the National Society to implement financial reforms, to draw up a medium-term strategy and to revise its statutes. Three committees were set up in an effort to make headway in these areas.

However, the process came to a virtual standstill during the second half of 2005, mainly because of a power vacuum and an apparent lack of motivation in the upper echelons of the National Society. A second national council, which met in November in order to prepare for the general assembly, failed to approve a number of documents, including financial reports for the past four years, the revised statutes and a national development plan.

Restoring family links

The ICRC worked with the National Society to restructure the tracing network and increase its efficiency. The ICRC concentrated on training local Red Cross coordinators and volunteers. Delegates and their field officers ran training courses every two months.

To enhance the National Society's tracing activities, the ICRC trained and sponsored an assistant to the Angola Red Cross's national tracing coordinator, as well as two volunteers based at the National Society's headquarters.



⊕ ICRC delegation ⊕ ICRC sub-delegation

burundi

For 37 years until 1999, the ICRC monitored the situation in Burundi and took action on an ad hoc basis. Since then, it has been continuously present in the country, focusing on helping people to overcome the worst consequences of conflict. It works with the prison authorities to ensure that detainees receive better treatment and have access to health care and safe water. It improves health care for victims of sexual violence and pregnant women and rehabilitates water and sanitation systems for vulnerable groups. It reunites unaccompanied children with their families and restores family links. The ICRC supports training in IHL for the armed and security forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,912
Assistance	5,199
Prevention	836
Cooperation with National Societies	311
General	-

► **8,258**

of which: Overheads 504

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89.5%
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PERSONNEL

22 expatriates
137 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ conducted more than 250 visits to over 120 places of detention holding more than 9,700 detainees and contributed to improvements in the treatment and health of inmates;
- ▶ helped separated family members re-establish and maintain contact through the RCM service and reunited unaccompanied children with their families;
- ▶ ensured access to safe water for around 90,000 people in both urban and rural areas;
- ▶ trained traditional birth attendants and community workers active in the prevention of sexual violence and ensured that a number of victims of sexual violence received appropriate care and treatment from existing health facilities;
- ▶ gave instruction in IHL to members of the integrated forces on the basis of agreements reached with the National Defence Force and the National Police;
- ▶ after a countrywide evaluation carried out with the Ministry of Education, adapted the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

CONTEXT

In spite of some outbreaks of violence, Burundi completed its transition period with the first democratic elections since the conflict began in 1993. The constitution was approved by 90% of the electorate in a vote in February, which was followed later in the year by parliamentary and presidential elections. The former armed group, the Conseil National pour la Défense de la Démocratie-Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie (CNDD-FDD), won a landslide victory in June, and its leader, Pierre Nkurunziza, sole candidate in the presidential elections, was voted in as president in August. Turnout was high, and the polls triggered few violent incidents. The new government began its term in office by launching a number of popular initiatives, such as anti-corruption measures and a drive for free education.

The second part of the year was marred by an escalation of violence between government forces and the last remaining armed group, the National Liberation Forces (FNL). The FNL, led by Agathon Rwasa, was mainly active in the Bujumbura Rural and Bubanza provinces. Peace moves appeared to be making headway in May, when both sides agreed to begin negotiations on a definitive end to hostilities. The ceasefire, however, was never respected and fighting resumed. Many civilians left their homes to escape looting, incidents of summary justice and levies of local taxes. The hostilities led to a marked increase in the number of arrests of FNL fighters and suspected collaborators.

In November, government forces captured a member of the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda, found in the company of FNL fighters. The incident highlighted possible ties between the region's armed groups. Burundi therefore joined the so-called tripartite agreement concluded by Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda with the aim of putting an end to the activities of these armed groups.

The authorities faced other destabilizing factors besides the FNL. A large number of weapons remained in circulation and officials had yet to find a way to enforce a presidential decree calling for the disarmament of the civilian population. Ambushes, theft, armed robbery, murder and rape were commonplace, and the recourse on occasion to popular justice suggested that official law-enforcement structures were not functioning properly.

The United Nations Operation in Burundi, which had been set up in 2004 to support the transition process, announced that, at the request of the newly elected government, it was to scale down its activities in 2006.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	9,764	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	747	Food	Beneficiaries	8,750
Number of visits carried out	256	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	13,955
Number of places of detention visited	123	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	90,000
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	3,144			
RCMs distributed	3,609			
People reunited with their families	9			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	233			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	72			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	75			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	31			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	9			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	62			

ICRC ACTION

The generally improved security situation enabled the ICRC to access most parts of the country, although some constraints remained.

Years of conflict had restricted water supplies, and IDPs and returning refugees had swelled the population in some areas, putting a strain on already overstretched systems. The ICRC therefore worked with urban and rural water authorities to supply thousands of people with safe water. Five rural projects were completed, while two urban and four rural projects were still in progress.

In 2005, no new agricultural projects were launched. Owing to the long-term follow-up needed to make such projects viable, the ICRC chose instead to focus on consolidating existing schemes.

The delegation worked with the National Programme of Reproductive Health to improve health care. The emphasis was on safe childbirth, the care and treatment of victims of sexual violence, and community work aimed at preventing this abuse.

The ICRC kept stocks at the ready in order to provide protection and assistance in the event of a new humanitarian emergency.

With the prospect of peace prompting more refugees to return to Burundi, finding the families of the remaining 230 unaccompanied children in the camps became even more pressing. The ICRC continued to work

to restore and maintain family contacts through the RCM network and, when possible, reunited children with their families. The RCM network was extended to Burundian refugees in Tanzania to enable them to correspond with family members in Burundi.

The ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees and worked with the prison administration to improve these where necessary. The delegation coordinated limited assistance programmes for inmates and provided support to the authorities in enhancing prison management.

In a bid to protect civilians from violations of IHL during armed clashes, the ICRC took advantage of the peace to increase knowledge and application of the law by the authorities and the armed forces. It lobbied to have IHL included as a compulsory subject in military training schools. It continued to support the teaching of IHL in universities and to consolidate implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in State secondary schools.

The ICRC lent its expertise in the restructuring of the Burundi Red Cross. It also worked with other partners in the Movement to help the National Society respond to emergencies and meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of society.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

In areas where clashes occurred, the civilian population continued to be subjected to violations of IHL, allegedly committed by the FNL, the army and the new police force. The ICRC continued to remind them of their obligations under IHL and to monitor their treatment of the civilian population, making representations where necessary.

Restoring family links

The ICRC continued to offer its RCM service to enable Burundian refugees and other nationals who had taken refuge in Burundi to re-establish contact with their families. Refugees in camps in Tanzania were able to communicate with family members in Burundi for the first time since 1993. In October, following a feasibility study, the RCM service was extended to cover the entire country with the exception of a few areas which were off-limits owing to security concerns.

Refugees from the DRC who had fled to Burundi continued to have access to the RCM service to keep in touch with relatives back home. Small tracing posts were set up in two camps to help volunteers better organize the RCM service and facilitate the follow-up of unaccompanied children. The ICRC coordinated with UNHCR, Germany's State development agency (GTZ) and the national committee for the return and reintegration of IDPs and refugees, the CNRS, to ensure that children being sent home received an assistance package and repatriation documents. In addition, the ICRC

and the International Rescue Committee worked together to monitor the children's reintegration into the community.

The ICRC produced a series of radio broadcasts aimed at helping to identify unaccompanied children who were separated from their families at a young age and were thus unable to give precise details as to their relatives' whereabouts.

- ▶ 3,542 RCMs distributed and 3,092 RCMs collected from civilians
- ▶ 72 people located at their families' request
- ▶ 31 unaccompanied/separated children registered; the cases of 62 unaccompanied/separated children were still being handled at the end of 2005
- ▶ 9 people reunited with their families, including 9 unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ tracing continues for 75 persons, including for 24 people who were minors at the time of their disappearance

Providing pregnant women and victims of sexual violence with access to care

The ICRC, in collaboration with the National Programme of Reproductive Health, ran a "women and violence" programme to provide victims of sexual violence in the northern districts of Bujumbura with appropriate medical and psychological care. Medical staff also received training in mother and child health care. The ICRC launched an identical programme in Bururi – a rural region near conflict areas. A manual on caring for victims of sexual violence, developed by the ICRC in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, was distributed to health workers and used as a teaching aid for paramedical courses.

- ▶ 56 traditional birth attendants trained in north Bujumbura, 60 traditional health attendants and 5 health centre workers trained in Bururi province
- ▶ 500 boxes of information cards on the problem of sexual violence printed and distributed

Ensuring clean water for residents and IDPs

The ICRC, working closely with the Regideso urban water and electricity board, completed a project supplying clean water to 22,000 people in Kayanza and continued with the construction of a drinking-water system in Rumonge which, when completed, would provide more than 15 litres per person per day. In the meantime, the ICRC maintained two temporary facilities supplying 6,000 people. Feasibility studies

for rehabilitation and development projects in Mabanda and Gatumba were conducted.

The ICRC also worked with Burundi's rural water board, the DGHERR, to repair essential infrastructure damaged in the conflict. Five projects were completed in 2005 and four were still in progress at the end of the year. The delegation followed up each project with a training scheme for local committees in charge of maintaining the installations once completed.

- ▶ water systems completed in Busiga, Itaba (supplying a health centre and a 600-pupil school), Rwisabi, Ryansoro and Showe; 75,000 civilians were supplied with clean water

Construction of drinking water systems was under way in Bugendana, Marangara and Buyengero to supply, while inhabitants were set to benefit from a pumping station being built at Mwumba. In total more than 200,000 people will benefit from ongoing water projects.

Economic assistance to residents and IDPs

The ICRC limited the number of new initiatives in order to focus better on existing schemes after an in-depth assessment revealed that the population lacked the training and infrastructure to ensure the longevity of the ICRC projects launched in 2004 to boost household incomes in Gitega, Kayanza and Ngozi provinces. The only new project begun in 2005 was the renovation of the Burundi Red Cross reception centre for street children in Gitega.

The delegation equipped three mills with motors and provided training and supervision to ensure the facilities would be well maintained. Two mills were handed over to the local authorities and the community began operating the third with no outside assistance. Three seed production centres set up by the ICRC in 2004 and provided with technical and material support throughout 2005 were also able to operate independently by the end of the year.

The ICRC continued to develop two marshland projects initiated in 2004 that had so far increased the surface area of cultivable land in Mwumba and Buraza by 20–25%. An agricultural engineer was hired to give advice on rice farming in Mwumba and the project was turned over to the local community. The ICRC carried out more work on the Buraza marsh and trained farmers in irrigation and maintenance of the reclaimed cropland.

The ICRC maintained an emergency supply of non-food items for 1,000 families for immediate distribution in case fighting resumed.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Ensuring adequate standards of detention

A number of FNL fighters and members were arrested throughout Burundi in the second half of the year. The ICRC visited and registered these detainees in places of temporary detention and monitored them until they were either released or transferred to prison. When necessary, the delegation made representations to the authorities regarding the living conditions and treatment of detainees both in places of temporary detention and prisons.

Cooperation with the Direction Générale des Affaires Pénitentiaires (DGAP) progressed well. The ICRC financed two events: a coordination meeting attended by all actors in the prison sector and the annual seminar for prison directors.

- ▶ 9,764 people visited, including 711 newly registered and 747 monitored individually (including 13 women and 80 minors) during 256 visits to 123 places of detention
- ▶ 67 RCMs delivered to and 52 collected from detainees

Health care for detainees

The ICRC continued to support health care at Burundi's six largest prisons, holding a total of 7,850 detainees, or 80% of the prison population. The delegation:

- ▶ stocked prison dispensaries with medicines to treat prevalent diseases;
- ▶ held a seminar attended by prison medical staff and directors, mainly to foster coordination between officials responsible for health care in places of detention, but also to discuss the ICRC's plans for its continuing support to prison health programmes;
- ▶ made contact with Burundi's National Council for HIV/AIDS and several local organizations conducting AIDS programmes to make sure detainees were included on their lists of target populations;
- ▶ contacted groups working on disease prevention to arrange for the distribution of mosquito nets to reduce the number of cases of malaria, the most prevalent disease in prisons.

Improving hygiene in prisons

The ICRC worked to improve hygiene conditions and provide clean water in prisons. To this end, it supplied jerrycans, soap and cleaning materials, plus plastic sheeting for bedding. It also teamed up with the DGAP to conduct a pest-control programme and made recommendations for much-needed repairs.

- 15,000 detainees provided with clean water
- renovation of Rumonge Prison's water supply completed and its kitchen rebuilt
- water delivered to Mpimba Prison, Burundi's largest, in an area of town with frequent water supply problems
- new ovens installed in the kitchens of Rutana and Bururi prisons
- Gitega Prison renovated (toilets installed in cells, guttering repaired and kitchen chimneys provided)
- a monthly soap ration provided to each detainee

WOUNDED AND SICK

A complete surgical kit to treat 100 war-wounded (including anaesthetic equipment and all the necessary surgical tools) was stored at the delegation in Bujumbura. It could be dispatched to anywhere in the country in a matter of hours. The ICRC could also rush additional supplies from Nairobi at short notice, if necessary.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC systematically met representatives of the political authorities at national, provincial and communal levels to keep them informed of humanitarian issues and its operations in Burundi.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Integration of IHL into the training and doctrine of the armed forces

In March, the chief of general staff of the National Defence Force (FDN) agreed an action plan to train army personnel in IHL during 2005. In addition, the ICRC:

- organized 4 IHL training sessions with the FDN for 80 officers and IHL dissemination sessions for 1,000 army personnel;
- continued to support a team of 5 officers in finalizing the regulations for the armed forces, which included integrating IHL into all levels of military instruction;

- sponsored 3 FDN officers to attend an IHL course in San Remo.

Integration of IHL into the training and doctrine of the armed forces

In order to make sure the police and detention authorities understood its mandate, its procedures for visiting detention facilities and IHL, the ICRC:

- held awareness sessions on the ICRC's mandate and detention activities, attended by more than 3,000 officers of the National Police;
- conducted a training module using its *To serve and to protect* pack for 100 commanders of the former police corps enlisted in the National Police;
- ran a ten-day train-the-trainer course for 24 police officers with command responsibilities.

Safety guarantees from armed opposition forces

With the exception of the FNL, all members of former armed movements were either demobilized, in the process of being disbanded, or incorporated into the FDN or the National Police. The delegation had discussions with the FNL to obtain the necessary guarantees for ICRC personnel to work safely in Bujumbura Rural province.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL and the ICRC among the media

The ICRC explained its role and the principles of IHL at meetings attended by humanitarian organizations and human rights groups. Frequent media coverage helped raise the public's awareness of the ICRC and reinforced its image as a neutral and impartial organization and the main reference on humanitarian matters and IHL.

Teaching of IHL in secondary schools

The ICRC helped monitor the quality of teaching of its Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme, which was included in the secondary-school curriculum for the 2004–05 academic year.

Teams made up of ICRC and Ministry of Education officials toured four secondary schools in various parts of Burundi. As a result of the visits, the ICRC changed strategy to concentrate on encouraging the teaching of the EHL programme in State schools instead of widening its scope to include private institutions and children

not attending school. Recommendations of the evaluation included raising awareness of the programme among educational authorities, drawing up a specialized teaching guide and the training of additional teachers.

- an information day on EHL attended by 48 education officials
- 22 EHL teaching packs handed out to 18 provincial directors and to 4 regional teaching inspectors

Promoting IHL at university level

Five private universities had made IHL a compulsory subject in their law degree, while the University of Burundi had included it as an optional module.

- 2 junior lecturers sponsored to attend the second pan-African course on IHL in Yaoundé, Cameroon (see *Yaoundé*)
- 6 IHL sessions held for 600 students
- IHL library set up in 6 private universities

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Burundi Red Cross, with the support of the ICRC and the International Federation, had been working towards restructuring and the holding of elections, at first at the local level. This process culminated in a general assembly on 7 and 8 May. To assist the National Society, the ICRC financed radio and television spots, as well as the organization of dissemination sessions. General assembly participants re-elected the president and elected a new national committee and executive board. The ICRC, the International Federation and the German and Spanish Red Cross Societies attended the meeting. A committee in charge of revising the statutes was set up.

Movement partners had been working with the Burundi Red Cross on a strategic plan to develop its skills and activities. The ICRC helped train new staff members and provided financial and technical support for the creation of the National Society's dissemination and disaster-preparedness departments. Also with the support of the Movement, the National Society began some small-scale projects, including the collection and distribution of food for vulnerable families and refresher first-aid courses.



chad

The ICRC has been operating in Chad since 1978. Since January 2005, a priority has been to meet needs in eastern Chad arising from the conflict in the neighbouring Darfur region of Sudan. Activities focus on restoring family links for Sudanese refugees, protecting and assisting people internally displaced, detained or otherwise affected by the Darfur conflict or internal armed violence, and supporting treatment for the war-wounded and amputees. Countrywide, the ICRC visits detainees, promotes IHL and supports the Red Cross of Chad.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,239
Assistance	2,660
Prevention	1,068
Cooperation with National Societies	153
General	2

► **7,122**

of which: Overheads 431

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	99.9%
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PERSONNEL

15	expatriates
57	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- delivered over 5,000 RCMs to Sudanese refugees who had fled from Darfur to eastern Chad, and collected some 9,500 RCMs for delivery to their families;
- followed up the cases of around 600 Sudanese child refugees separated from their parents and reunited 14 with their families;
- in eastern Chad, delivered food and/or household goods to more than 6,000 IDPs and residents affected by cross-border attacks from Sudan and was repairing and maintaining water systems in 4 towns (total population: 132,000);
- evacuated over 30 war-wounded from rural areas of eastern Chad to urban medical facilities and supported a physical rehabilitation centre in N'Djamena that treated more than 1,800 disabled people;
- visited some 2,000 detainees in 35 places of detention and followed the individual cases of more than 200 security detainees;
- with Chadian armed forces' approval, stepped up IHL promotion among troops and police stationed in eastern Chad.

CONTEXT

Political tensions rose in Chad. On 6 June, Chadian voters backed changes to the constitution to allow presidents to stand for a third term. In the run-up to the referendum, opposition parties questioned the voter registration process and called for a boycott of the poll. In late 2005, a number of opposition groups took up arms and attacked military positions and police stations in main towns, primarily in eastern Chad. A presidential election was scheduled for 2006.

At the same time, the three-year-old conflict in the neighbouring Sudanese region of Darfur continued to have considerable repercussions for Chad. More Chadian troops were stationed along the border with Sudan. A contingent of French troops and a small number of African Union monitors were also in the region. The Sudanese refugee population stabilized at around 200,000. The majority of refugees were living in 12 UNHCR-run camps away from the border. Along the border and in rural areas outside the vicinity of the camps, Chadian residents faced growing security problems. Armed groups carried out raids, including cross-border incursions from Sudan, killing and wounding civilians and stealing cattle and other goods. The frequency of these raids increased in the last two months of 2005 as government forces were redeployed along the eastern border in the light of attacks by Chadian armed opposition groups. The deterioration in the security situation reignited tensions between Chad and Sudan.

Thanks to a good harvest in 2005, the volatile security situation did not trigger widespread food shortages in eastern Chad. However, some communities hosting families displaced by cross-border attacks did not have enough food to go around.

In the far north, armed remnants of the Movement for Democracy and Justice in Chad lingered in the Tibesti region.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	2,116	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	228	Food	Beneficiaries	6,256
Number of visits carried out	63	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	4,352
Number of places of detention visited	35	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	132,000
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs collected	9,514	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,824
RCMs distributed	5,088	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	186
People reunited with their families	15	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	196
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	614			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	294			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	440			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	598			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	14			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	559			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC focused its resources in Chad on meeting needs in the east arising from the conflict in Darfur and, during the last few months of 2005, from internal tensions.

Working closely with UN agencies, NGOs and the Chadian Red Cross, the ICRC was the lead organization responsible for restoring family links for Sudanese refugees. It maintained the tracing and RCM services in all 12 Sudanese refugee camps in eastern Chad, as well as for refugees sheltering just inside the border with Sudan. The priority was to locate child refugees and put them back in contact with their parents through RCMs.

As most international aid in eastern Chad was directed to the refugee camps and nearby communities, ICRC assistance targeted vulnerable residents along the border with Sudan and in rural areas. The delegation improved access to water in four towns and delivered food and household supplies to families whose livelihoods were threatened by cross-border attacks. It also carried out an assessment of economic security in eastern Chad, which revealed that the harvest was sufficient to meet needs in 2005, except in communities where an influx of IDPs had exhausted local resources. As the security situation deteriorated, the ICRC was one of the few organizations left operating in the volatile border area. It monitored the situation closely and shared information with other organizations about any movements of populations inland and their needs. It also reminded the military

and civil authorities of their responsibility to protect and assist civilians in the event of armed violence.

To complement the international support for hospitals and health centres around the Sudanese refugee camps, the ICRC evacuated war-wounded from rural areas to urban medical facilities and provided supplies to rural health centres. The limb-fitting and physiotherapy centre in N'Djamena, one of only two such centres in Chad, continued to receive ICRC support, especially to treat patients whose disabilities resulted from armed violence, including mines, which were a problem in the north.

As in past years, the ICRC visited security detainees in places of detention country-wide and provided small-scale assistance to improve prison infrastructure and sanitation conditions.

The delegation also moved ahead with various programmes to spread knowledge of IHL, targeting the government, the armed forces and academic institutions. The ICRC significantly stepped up IHL promotion among troops and police stationed in eastern Chad and, for the first time, gave presentations on IHL and the ICRC to the Republican Guard.

To ensure the maximum impact of humanitarian aid, the ICRC played a key role in coordinating the activities of Movement partners working in Chad – the Chadian Red Cross, the International Federation and the French and Spanish Red Cross Societies.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The ICRC closely monitored the situation in eastern Chad and made several oral representations to remind the civil and military authorities of their obligation to protect civilians from the effects of armed violence.

Restoring family links

The ICRC, in coordination with UN agencies and NGOs, was the lead agency responsible for restoring family links for the Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad. The delegation, with the help of the refugees and Chadian Red Cross volunteers, offered the tracing and RCM services in all 12 refugee camps.

The ICRC's priority was to put child refugees back in touch with their parents through RCMs and, where possible, reunite the families. The ICRC, UNHCR and UNICEF signed an agreement on procedures to coordinate information about such child refugees. To help find their parents, the ICRC put up posters in the Sudanese refugee camps in Chad, as well as in Darfur and Khartoum, displaying the photos of 200 child refugees. The campaign raised awareness of the tracing network and brought in some information about parents sought, as well as new tracing enquiries. In some camps, however, ICRC delegates encountered problems registering child refugees. Because of strong clan ties, many of these children were cared for by foster families, some of whom felt that registration implied that the children were not being properly cared for.

At the instigation of the ICRC, UNHCR was working with its implementing partners and the Chadian authorities to set up a system to register any deaths of Sudanese refugees and inform the families.

- ▶ 5,044 RCMs delivered and 9,442 RCMs collected for delivery
- ▶ 598 child refugees separated from their parents registered and, at 31 December 2005, the cases of 559 such children being followed up
- ▶ 15 people, including 14 children, reunited with their families
- ▶ 294 people located at their families' request
- ▶ 440 requests to trace relatives, including 69 children, pending

Alleviating water shortages

In eastern Chad, the ICRC, as budgeted, worked with local authorities and water committees to repair water systems in the border towns of Adré and Tiné, as well as in the town of Iriba, which was near four refugee camps. In cooperation with the national water board, it also boosted the capacity of Abéché's water system by 40% so that the network could cope with the influx of refugees and aid workers into the regional centre. The ICRC followed up with maintenance and further repairs to the systems, while providing training or other support, as needed, to the authorities and water committees. ICRC delegates also made several field trips in the second half of 2005 to assess the availability of water in villages in rural border areas affected by the deteriorating security situation, especially in the Dar Sila area where IDPs were living. As a result, several rural water projects were set to start in early 2006.

- ▶ 4 urban water systems repaired, serving some 132,000 people

Monitoring economic security

In mid-2005, the ICRC carried out a three-month assessment of the economic security of the resident population in eastern Chad, which included the state of livestock. The survey indicated that, following a good rainy season and an above average harvest, the population in eastern Chad had sufficient food stocks to cover their needs for some months. The ICRC continued to monitor the situation, ready to alert the authorities and aid organizations to any needs and to help meet those needs, within its capacity.

Providing emergency aid

As one of the few organizations operating in the increasingly volatile border region of eastern Chad, the ICRC took a lead role

in coordinating aid for people internally displaced by cross-border raids or internal violence. In May, the delegation provided tarpaulins and jerrycans to IDPs who had fled their eight border villages following cross-border attacks and taken refuge in Koloy, a village south-east of Adré. As the IDPs did not return to their villages for fear of being attacked again, the ICRC, in coordination with WFP, followed up in September with a distribution of food rations for two months to the IDPs and host community. The food aid aimed to ensure that the beneficiaries could plant the seeds that had been provided by other organizations, rather than have to sell or consume them to survive until the harvest in late October or early November.

- ▶ 4,352 IDPs provided with essential household items
- ▶ 4,352 IDPs and 1,904 residents provided with 220 tonnes of food aid

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC regularly visited detention facilities under the authority of the Office of the President and the Ministries of Justice, Defence and Public Security. It monitored detention conditions and followed the individual cases of 228 security detainees, 210 of them registered in 2005. Following authorization by the Ministry of Justice in February, the ICRC began notifying UNHCR of any refugees being held in connection with ordinary crimes.

During detention visits, the ICRC delivered 44 RCMs to detainees and collected 72 messages to pass on to their families. Where necessary, delegates distributed basic supplies, such as soap, mats, plates, cups and water containers, to contribute to the general health and welfare of the inmates. The ICRC also built showers and latrines in Abéché and Iriba prisons, repaired the water reservoir in Abéché prison and organized medical care for inmates in prisons in Adré and N'Djamena.

After the visits, the ICRC informed the authorities, in confidence, of its findings and recommendations. During some detention visits, ICRC delegates were accompanied by the director of the national prison administration so that recommendations could be discussed on the spot.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the war-wounded

The number of war-wounded in Chad remained relatively low during 2005 and hospitals and health clinics in eastern Chad were generally well supported by UN agencies and NGOs. The ICRC, therefore, limited its activities to stepping in where needed, primarily along the border with Sudan, to ensure that people wounded during cross-border attacks or internal armed violence received adequate medical treatment.

In eastern Chad, the ICRC:

- ▶ evacuated 33 war-wounded from rural areas to urban medical facilities;
- ▶ provided 2 health centres with dressing kits and stretchers to cope with an influx of casualties;
- ▶ as a neutral intermediary, organized treatment at the Military Teaching Hospital in N'Djamena, including covering the medical costs, for 8 Sudanese war-wounded who crossed into eastern Chad.

Providing services for amputees

The ICRC financed the fitting of some 100 war amputees at the Kabalye physical rehabilitation centre (CARK) in N'Djamena. CARK was one of only two such centres in Chad and was run by the NGO Secours Catholique et Développement (SECADEV). The ICRC also continued to provide the centre with materials, training and supervision to ensure good quality treatment for disabled people, especially mine victims and those wounded during armed violence. In November, a CARK technician made a field trip to eastern Chad, financed by the ICRC, to assess the demand for physical rehabilitation services there. During 2005, the delegation also helped SECADEV develop relations with potential donors to finance activities not supported by the ICRC.

- ▶ 1,824 patients given physical rehabilitation services, including 184 amputees
- ▶ 97 new patients fitted with prostheses and 106 with orthoses
- ▶ 186 prostheses (95 for mine victims), 196 orthoses (13 for mine victims) and 644 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

Chad had ratified many of the main IHL treaties but had not yet implemented their provisions. During 2005, two domestic laws which the ICRC had helped draft were submitted to the cabinet for approval, one on the protection of the emblem and the other implementing the Ottawa Convention. The ICRC also organized a round-table in September on the status of IHL implementation in Chad, which drew an audience of more than 250 representatives of government ministries, parliament, the armed forces, the judiciary, the academic community and the media (see also *Civil Society*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, recruits of the Chadian armed forces received IHL training, while an IHL reference centre set up by the Ministry of Defence in 2002 coordinated IHL instruction at the country's 12 armed forces training centres. During 2005, the ICRC received blanket authorization from the Chadian armed forces' chief of general staff to hold sessions on IHL for military and security personnel stationed in eastern Chad. With the green light from the authorities, the ICRC also started in July to provide information on IHL and the ICRC to the Republican Guard.

During 2005, the ICRC:

- held a two-day refresher course for 30 armed forces IHL instructors;
- provided information on IHL and the ICRC to 250 Republican Guard personnel, 200 armed forces officers and 70 police personnel, including officers, stationed in eastern Chad, 40 non-commissioned army officers and 500 members of the police force at training centres or in field units, and 23 Chadian armed forces officers joining the UN peace-keeping mission in Burundi;
- provided funds and technical input to assist the IHL reference centre in producing an IHL instructor's handbook for the armed forces.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC regularly updated journalists on its humanitarian concerns and the pertinence of IHL to current events in the region. As a result, various local media ran stories on the delegation's activities in eastern Chad, which drew public attention to the plight of the refugees and residents affected by the conflict in Darfur or by internal tensions. The delegation also held a one-day session on IHL in December for journalists from eleven print and electronic media outlets.

The ICRC continued to work with Chadian academic institutions to integrate IHL into their curricula. The long-term aim was to build a base of knowledge of and support for IHL among the country's future leaders. With ICRC support, the civil service college introduced a 30-hour course on IHL, taught by its own lecturers. N'Djamena University had already integrated IHL into its law degree and the new university in Abéché planned to do the same. To support these initiatives, the ICRC chaired a round-table discussion on IHL in September with five law lecturers from the college and two universities. More than 250 people from government, judicial, academic and media circles attended the event.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Red Cross of Chad and the International Federation were jointly running two Sudanese refugee camps in eastern Chad, as implementing partners of UNHCR. As a result, some of the National Society's capacity-building programmes supported by the ICRC could not be fully implemented. During 2005, the Chadian Red Cross, with ICRC support, mobilized first-aiders during the referendum. In addition, a plan of action was being drawn up to reinforce the National Society's tracing and communication activities and provide training in the "Safer Access" approach.

The ICRC also played a key role in organizing regular meetings in the field and in N'Djamena between Movement partners working in Chad (the ICRC, the Chadian Red Cross, the International Federation and the French and Spanish Red Cross Societies) in order to coordinate humanitarian objectives and activities.



democratic republic of the congo

The ICRC opened a permanent delegation in Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in 1978. It promotes respect for the basic rules of IHL and human rights law by the authorities in their treatment of civilians and detainees. It ensures that displaced people and residents affected by armed conflict and violence have the means to survive and become self-sufficient and that the wounded and sick receive adequate health care. It works to restore contact between separated family members – where necessary and possible reuniting children with their families – and supports the development of the National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	8,441
Assistance	14,960
Prevention	3,145
Cooperation with National Societies	3,087
General	-

► **29,632**

of which: Overheads **1,809**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	99.9%
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PERSONNEL

48 expatriates
486 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- ensured that the basic needs of hundreds of thousands of civilians were met by completing water-supply projects, distributing essential household items and supporting health centres and hospitals;
- strengthened the capacities of State water and agricultural services by ensuring their active participation in and ownership of programmes intended for handover to development organizations;
- launched and consolidated a project to aid victims of sexual violence in South Kivu;
- visited and monitored security detainees both in prisons and in places of temporary detention;
- helped restore family links through its RCM network and organized family reunifications for unaccompanied children, including those demobilized from armed groups and forces;
- held numerous IHL familiarization sessions for army officers, troops and former members of armed groups, and for police and security officers.

CONTEXT

The authorities overcame huge logistical problems to register more than 25 million voters, holding a constitutional referendum in December, the first such vote in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) since independence. The overwhelming vote in favour of the constitution paved the way for parliamentary and presidential elections. The polls were postponed until 2006, however, after parliament extended the transition process begun in July 2003. This was the second and final extension of the process allowed under the Sun City peace accords.

The United Nations Organization Mission in the DRC (MONUC) was extended until after the elections, with the majority of its peace-keepers deployed in the eastern part of the country, a region still plagued by violence. Following the killing of 11 peace-keepers in the Ituri district during 2005 and pressure from the international community, MONUC began giving logistical support to the national army (FARDC) in military operations against the Ituri militias and foreign rebel groups operating in North and South Kivu.

The Rwandan armed opposition group based in eastern DRC, the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda, appeared to split after attending peace talks in Rome in March. One faction had expressed its intention to return voluntarily to Rwanda under the auspices of MONUC's demobilization programme, but the plan was abandoned after military operations against hardliners

in the Kivu provinces pushed members of the group deeper into the country.

Armed clashes, including operations by the FARDC against Mai Mai groups refusing integration, affected many residents in the east, especially in Katanga, North Kivu and Province Orientale. The population was often subjected to violations of IHL – looting, rape and the burning of villages. As a result, many people remained reliant on aid organizations to meet their most basic needs. The threat of epidemics and starvation, which had killed hundreds of thousands between 1997 and 2003, was contained but not eliminated.

Security forces and public sector workers remained unpaid, and widespread corruption discouraged donors who preferred to wait until the end of the transition before committing resources. A gap, therefore, remained between the provision of humanitarian aid and the planning and launching of development programmes.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	6,119	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	599	Food	Beneficiaries	14,893
Number of visits carried out	180	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	52,944
Number of places of detention visited	40	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	117,567
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	1,067,148
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Health</i>		
RCMs collected	164,018	Health centres supported	Structures	4
RCMs distributed	154,616	Consultations	Patients	11,852
People reunited with their families	914	Immunizations	Activities	5,274
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	985	Hospitals supported	Structures	5
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	572	Admissions	Patients	17,277
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	960	Operations	Operations performed	3,941
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	1,378	Patients receiving services	Patients	834
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	914	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	648
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	953	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	226
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	47			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC, aiming for better relations with the transitional authorities and more effective coordination of its activities, merged the management of its eastern and western operations, which had been administrated separately since 1998.

In light of the extension of the transitional phase, coupled with the continuing conflict in numerous areas, the ICRC maintained its presence in the field to assess and respond to the needs of the local population and to be ready, in the event the security situation further deteriorated, to deal with any crises requiring a humanitarian response. The delegation conducted two missions in the south and west of Ituri district to assess the possibility of resuming activities suspended in 2001 after six of its staff members were killed in the region. In 2005, the ICRC concentrated its operations in the volatile North and South Kivu provinces and the Tanganyika district in Katanga province and, to a slightly lesser extent, in the rest of Katanga, Maniema and Province Orientale.

The delegation liaised with the authorities about its plan to phase out water, farming and health projects and hand over these programmes to local authorities and development organizations. Health centres previously supported by the ICRC in Equateur and Province Orientale were handed over to local authorities or NGOs. The ICRC, however, did continue activities to improve the population's living conditions and

completed 13 water-supply projects. It also ran agricultural and fish-farming programmes. The delegation once again distributed essential household items to thousands of people directly affected by conflict.

As sexual violence had unfortunately become commonplace in the unsettled eastern part of the country, the ICRC launched a pilot project to provide medical and psychological support to victims and developed strategies aimed at tackling the causes and effects of sexual violence.

The tracing network in the DRC remained the world's largest. The ICRC concentrated on offering the RCM service to families who had still had no news of their relatives or who had no other means of keeping in touch. Tracing requests from neighbouring countries were accepted for the first time, and the number of people who were located outnumbered those who were not.

The ICRC encouraged the authorities to push ahead with the demobilization of children formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups and offered its tracing network to locate their families and ease reunification with them.

The delegation continued to remind the authorities of their obligations under IHL and to explain its role and mandate to opinion-makers in the country. It monitored the conditions of approximately two-thirds of the DRC's prison population.

The ICRC continued to provide the Red Cross Society of the DRC with material, technical and financial support.

CIVILIANS

Protecting the civilian population

The FARDC and MONUC stepped up their operations against foreign rebels and Congolese armed groups and militias. In the wake of the resulting armed clashes, the civilian population was often subjected to various forms of harassment, the most common being sexual violence, looting, arbitrary detention and murder.

The ICRC continued to monitor and document such incidents and made 15 formal representations to the parties involved. It provided material assistance to people displaced by the fighting, but only when it was clear that the distributions would not attract further looting.

The project launched in South Kivu addressing the psychological and medical needs of victims of sexual violence was stepped up. Various forms of prevention activities were developed and the delegation met military commanders to propose the development of communication activities aimed at reducing the incidence of rape.

► 219 victims of sexual violence treated in ICRC-supported health centres, of whom 26 cases within 3 days of being assaulted

- ▶ a play explaining rape victims' medical and psychological needs performed for almost 2,000 people
- ▶ 119 people trained to provide counselling to victims of sexual violence

Restoring family links

In spite of improved communication services, especially mobile phone networks covering urban areas, a significant proportion of the population continued to rely on the RCM network. The ICRC only offered the RCM service to people who had no other means of contacting their relatives and, as a result, the number of RCMs decreased slightly.

The delegation continued to reunite unaccompanied children with their families and provided material and financial assistance to centres caring for minors. The results of an evaluation of the ICRC programme for unaccompanied minors in the Great Lakes region showed that the service was still relevant and that a significant number of children, mainly of Congolese and Rwandan origin, were still seeking their families, even after many years of separation.

The ICRC cooperated with the National Demobilization and Reintegration Commission and international child-protection agencies to put children formerly associated with armed groups back in contact with and, where appropriate, reunite them with their families. In the second half of the year, there was a drop in the number of children registered, as the demobilization of armed forces, factions and groups in the DRC progressed more slowly than expected. Logistic problems and the lack of effective reintegration programmes for minors hampered attempts to monitor the phenomenon of children returning to armed forces or groups after demobilization.

- ▶ 151,407 RCMs collected from and 144,976 RCMs delivered to civilians
- ▶ 676 unaccompanied/separated children and 702 demobilized child soldiers registered by the ICRC and/or the National Society
- ▶ 491 unaccompanied/separated children and 423 demobilized child soldiers registered reunited with their families by the ICRC and/or the National Society
- ▶ cases of 731 unaccompanied/separated children and 222 demobilized child soldiers registered by the ICRC were still being handled
- ▶ 985 new tracing requests opened, 572 resolved and 960 pending

Ensuring safe water for residents

The ICRC continued to work on large- and medium-scale projects with the rural and urban water boards, the Service National d'Hydraulique Rurale and the REGIDESO, thereby boosting their capacities.

- ▶ water-supply schemes and sanitation systems completed, benefiting 1,067,148 people including: 8 major urban projects in Goma, Kalemie, Malemba N'Kulu, Moba and Ubundu and 10 drinking-water systems in rural areas
- ▶ 4 water projects under way in Kindu, Kongolo, Moba and Punia

Enhancing basic health care

A survey of ICRC-assisted primary-health-care services found that many people were not able to afford medical care. The delegation therefore developed a system of subsidizing health centres, linking the level of funding with the quality of service provided to patients.

The ICRC completed a hygiene-education programme in Malemba N'Kulu to help control prevalent diseases, particularly cholera and malaria. The programme trained community health workers and promoted the use of impregnated mosquito nets, clean water and latrines, and waste management.

The ICRC resumed support to Matchumbi health centre after suspending it in 2004 because of insecurity. It further assisted three health centres in South Kivu and renovated and enlarged the health centre in Sange. Local authorities and development NGOs took over support to 11 health centres in Equateur and Province Orientale previously assisted by the ICRC.

In 4 ICRC-supported health facilities with a catchment population of some 28,000 people:

- ▶ 1 health centre, with a catchment population of 10,000, rehabilitated and extended
- ▶ 1 hospital out-patient clinic and 2 health centres provided with specialized kits to treat victims of sexual violence as well as training and follow-up
- ▶ health-awareness sessions conducted for some 6,000 people
- ▶ 5,000 mosquito nets donated to local health authorities

Providing economic support

Reaching rural populations subjected to frequent alleged violations of IHL remained difficult owing to security considerations and the lack of infrastructure. The ICRC

distributed essential household items such as blankets, cooking equipment, jerrycans, clothing and soap to victims of such violations. It endeavoured to ensure the safety of beneficiaries and staff during distributions. However, security and access problems meant that the ICRC could only supply half the number of people it had planned to assist in 2005.

The ICRC continued its seed and tool project, handing out improved staple crop varieties in targeted areas and funding local farmers' associations. On a smaller scale, it launched a fish farming project in August. The ICRC encouraged the involvement of relevant State services in these projects, supporting their initiatives and strengthening their technical capacities.

- ▶ 49,060 people provided with essential household items and 14,400 people with food rations
- ▶ 116,050 people benefited from agricultural supplies and micro-economic initiatives; basic seed-analysis equipment donated to Maniema seed laboratory
- ▶ 4 key National Aquaculture Service staff participated in a one-week training course in fish farming in Butare (Rwanda)

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Ensuring adequate conditions for detainees

The delegation continued to monitor the living conditions and treatment of detainees and spoke individually with security detainees. In general, ICRC delegates were unhindered when visiting places of detention. The ICRC offered its RCM service so that detainees could contact their families. Where necessary, it reminded the authorities of their obligation to respect detainees' judicial guarantees. In addition, it reported its findings and made recommendations to the authorities if detainees lacked sufficient food, medical care or clean water.

Living conditions in many prisons remained unsatisfactory, and malnutrition, though varying in severity, continued to affect around 30% of the inmates visited. The ICRC's regular representations to the authorities had limited effect.

Prison authorities, deprived of even a nominal budget, relied on regular but insufficient food donations from various charitable or religious organizations. Consequently, the ICRC regularly distributed food rations

to a number of prisons and provided severely malnourished inmates with high-calorie therapeutic feeding. The ICRC's kitchen-garden programmes in two prisons in Lubumbashi improved the inmates' diet. The delegation supplied seven prisons with medicine and disinfectant every three months.

The ICRC undertook a major water and sanitation rehabilitation project in Goma prison. It also carried out small-scale water and sanitation work in three other prisons it regularly visited in Katanga.

- 6,119 people visited, including 175 newly registered and 599 monitored individually, during 181 visits to 40 places of detention
- 12,611 RCMs collected from and 9,640 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 3,884 detainees given a monthly soap ration and a one-off distribution of blankets, jerrycans, buckets and basins
- 493 detainees received monthly food rations
- 1,517 detainees assisted through kitchen garden programmes

WOUNDED AND SICK

The conflict, internal violence and occasional incidents involving mines or other explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to claim victims. Hospitals, particularly in rural areas, lacked the materials, medicines and often the skills to perform emergency surgery.

The ICRC cooperated with three physical rehabilitation centres, in Kinshasa and Mbuji Mayi, to ensure that war amputees and other physically disabled people received quality medical treatment. In December, the ICRC began support to a fourth centre in Goma.

The ICRC supported hospitals in Lemera and Panzi (South Kivu) and Pinga (North Kivu), providing regular supplies of medicine and medical and hygiene materials. It suspended aid to Uvira hospital, however, as it was suffering management problems. In December, the hospital agreed to consult an ICRC hospital administrator in order to improve the quality of medical services. Owing to an upsurge in fighting, the ICRC began supporting Mubumbano hospital in South Kivu.

The ICRC continued to accept requests to airlift war-wounded in Katanga to appropriate medical facilities. Hospitals in Goma (North Kivu), Kaziba (South Kivu) and

Kisangani (Province Orientale) received ad hoc assistance from the ICRC in order to cope with an increase of war-wounded following military activity in Ituri and North and South Kivu.

A surgeon from Panzi hospital was sent to a training course in Addis Ababa to improve the quality of surgical interventions for women suffering from fistulae, which are often the result of sexual violence.

- in 5 ICRC-supported hospitals, 17,277 patients admitted (including 55 weapon wounded), 11,852 consultations conducted, 3,941 operations performed
- 3 ICRC war-surgery seminars attended by 135 surgeons and physicians
- 1 hospital, with a catchment population of 15,000, provided with a drinking-water system

In 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation facilities:

- 834 patients received services
- 583 new patients fitted with prostheses and 218 with orthoses
- 648 prostheses (125 for mine victims), 226 orthoses (34 for mine victims), 861 crutches and 6 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Promoting adherence to IHL treaties

The ICRC continued to urge the authorities to accede to all IHL treaties and in particular the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its protocols. It also encouraged the DRC authorities to adopt a new law to protect the red cross emblem.

The ICRC organized a conference on arms and IHL attended by a number of national experts. At the close of the event, recommendations were drawn up for the adoption and ratification of international treaties pertaining to the illegal trafficking of small arms, antipersonnel mines and chemical and biological weapons.

The ICRC encouraged the DRC to attend the Diplomatic Conference on Additional Protocol III relating to the adoption of a third emblem. It also obtained support from the DRC for the inclusion of IHL in the African Union's projects concerning displaced persons and the right of return.

- 35 experts attended a workshop on arms and IHL

Raising awareness of the ICRC's mandate

The ICRC continued to hold information sessions for national and local authorities throughout the country. The delegation also maintained contact with other influential officials, such as ambassadors and representatives of international organizations, in particular MONUC.

- 1 workshop held for around 100 civil servants at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 8 information sessions addressing 374 people held for provincial and local authorities in Katanga, Province Orientale, Maniema and North and South Kivu

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Promoting IHL among weapon bearers

The ICRC pursued efforts to promote the systematic integration of IHL into the training of the new armed forces of the DRC, building on the momentum begun by a directive to this effect issued by the Ministry of Defence. It cooperated with the command and general staff colleges and participated in training courses for future battalion and brigade commanders. The ICRC also conducted regular information sessions on IHL for MONUC officers and Congolese army and police officers.

- 580 military instructors at army integration camps briefed on IHL
- 664 senior officers, 5,342 officers and troops, 80 Mai Mai fighters and 1,731 police and security officers briefed on IHL
- 1 information session on IHL/ICRC organized for 35 officers of MONUC's operational headquarters in Kisangani
- 50 South African MONUC officers briefed on IHL during predeployment training

CIVIL SOCIETY

Informing the media, academia and the general public

The ICRC continued to work with the media, regularly issuing press releases, organizing workshops on IHL and the ICRC and accompanying journalists to the field to observe the organization's activities.

The delegation maintained working relations with NGOs involved in development projects. It kept contact with academic circles, holding numerous information sessions attended by lecturers and students.

- ▶ 54 information sessions held for over 2,000 civilians
- ▶ 12 press releases distributed, 3 newsletters issued and 25 radio/television spots aired
- ▶ 1 workshop organized for 22 journalists in Province Orientale
- ▶ 10 information sessions held in 3 universities for 454 students
- ▶ 1 IHL lecturer sponsored to attend the pan-African course on IHL in Yaoundé (Cameroon)
- ▶ 3 information sessions organized for 213 judges

Supporting micro-projects and conflict preparedness

The ICRC financed 17 National Society micro-projects for vulnerable people and trained staff to manage the projects efficiently. It donated first-aid material and provided training for the creation of a nationwide emergency plan, which was put into practice on Independence Day and during the constitutional referendum.

- ▶ 17 National Society micro-projects funded in 9 provinces, benefiting 22,616 persons
- ▶ 45 training sessions organized for over 1,000 Red Cross volunteers
- ▶ 29 information sessions on the Red Cross and the Fundamental Principles financed, attended by more than 2,000 people in 6 provinces

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Supporting capacity building

The ICRC signed a cooperation agreement drawn up at a meeting organized by the Red Cross Society of the DRC and attended by numerous participating National Societies either active in the country or willing to develop programmes there.

- ▶ 8 National Society headquarters staff salaries paid; English lessons for 9 general secretariat staff sponsored; 39 trips by senior National Society staff to monitor training and activities and to promote the National Society's statutes and regulations funded
- ▶ annual general meetings of 10 provincial committees' financially supported; the transport costs paid for 11 provincial presidents to attend the central committee's annual general meeting
- ▶ 6 local Red Cross offices constructed or renovated
- ▶ motorbikes and boats donated to 5 provincial and district committees

Restoring family links

The ICRC enhanced the National Society's tracing activities by organizing training sessions. It paid monthly stipends to 364 Red Cross volunteers for collecting and distributing RCMs. The delegation donated a motorbike and office supplies to the National Society.



Congo

The ICRC has worked in the Republic of the Congo since 1994, first through the Kinshasa regional delegation and since 1998 as a separate delegation. It promotes respect for IHL and human rights law by the authorities in their treatment of civilians and detainees and encourages the inclusion of IHL in the instruction of the armed forces, police and *gendarmérie*. The ICRC also provides civilians affected by the conflict with agricultural tools and seeds, improves water, sanitation and health-care facilities and restores contact between separated relatives, where necessary reuniting children with their families. It also helps strengthen the operational capacity of the Congolese Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,028
Assistance	4,602
Prevention	1,402
Cooperation with National Societies	419
General	-

► **7,451**

of which: Overheads 454

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82.0%
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PERSONNEL

15 expatriates
127 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued to provide protection to civilians in sensitive areas of the Pool region (an estimated 120,000 people) through its presence and assistance programmes;
- working closely with the authorities, improved access to safe drinking water for some 66,000 people in Pool;
- provided material and training support to 10 integrated health centres (serving 65,000 people) in Pool; completed repairs on 5 centres, began work on 5 others;
- provided some 55,000 people in Pool with agricultural and essential household items, mosaic-resistant cassava cuttings and breeding fish;
- gave lectures on its mandate and IHL to some 300 government officials, 2,600 army personnel, 1,450 police and security personnel and some 200 armed elements of the National Resistance Council;
- started a gradual withdrawal from Pool by closing its office in Dolisie and announcing the closure of a sub-office in the region in 2006, while focusing more on other activities and encouraging the authorities to assume their rightful role in meeting the population's needs.

CONTEXT

The Republic of the Congo remained in a period of transition characterized by relative stability and calm, with robberies and other criminal activity still taking place in Pool. President Sassou-Nguesso unexpectedly pardoned his political archrival, Bernard Kolélas, an emblematic figure in Congolese politics who had been sentenced to death *in absentia*, who subsequently returned from exile.

In May, the opposition National Resistance Council began a unilateral "Operation restore order and security" in Pool, which included the regular presence of the movement's leader, Reverend Ntumi, in the region and helped restore some semblance of calm and security. However, the proliferation of small arms, compounded by the frustrations of arms carriers, posed a constant threat. The Ninja militias were perceived to be committing robberies and other acts of violence with impunity. They were becoming increasingly impatient with delays in the promised far-ranging State investment in the region and the allocation of benefits to which they felt entitled. The expulsion of the military wing of the Ninjas from Brazzaville in October exacerbated their resentment, leading to an increase in robberies and other forms of violence and exposing the National Resistance Council's limitations in controlling all its armed elements.

In December, the International Monetary Fund postponed its decision to give Congo access to its Heavily Indebted Poor Countries programme, a reflection of its doubts about the government's determination to revise the management of State revenues. The postponement of further debt relief made additional budget allocations to the social and public welfare sectors unlikely.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	794	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	53	Food	Beneficiaries	1,334
Number of visits carried out	63	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	38,065
Number of places of detention visited	23	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	55,221
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	66,052
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	5,000
RCMs collected	1,629	<i>Health</i>		
RCMs distributed	2,259	Health centres supported	Structures	10
People reunited with their families	9	Consultations	Patients	50,260
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Activities	14,230
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	53	WOUNDED AND SICK		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	42	Hospital supported	Structure	1
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	31			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	11			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	9			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	20			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	8			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	6			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC maintained a permanent presence in the Pool region, with expatriate and national staff operating from offices in Kinkala, Mindouli and Kindamba. Although the ICRC considered the situation in Pool to be no longer a crisis in humanitarian terms, the absence of a political settlement to the conflict, the number of arms still circulating and delays in setting up a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme continued to create an environment of uncertainty. Consequently, reconstruction and economic recovery remained painfully slow, and few international humanitarian organizations were around to fill the gap.

Assistance programmes, conceived and implemented as part of a protection strategy, allowed the ICRC to remain close to the population in sensitive areas and to get a clear understanding of their security concerns and living conditions. From this vantage point, the organization remained poised to respond promptly in the event the situation worsened and to provide civilians with assistance and protection. Concurrently, the organization sought to impress upon the political authorities and decision-makers the need to meet their obligations to the population.

The ICRC concentrated its activities in the region where the humanitarian situation remained a concern. It continued to

address civilians' lingering needs occasioned by previous conflicts, by the government's limited involvement in restoring local public infrastructure and services and by political uncertainty. Through its assistance programmes, the organization ensured better access of an estimated 120,000 people, including IDPs who had returned to their places of origin, to essential services such as basic health care, safe drinking water, food and economic security.

The ICRC regularly visited detainees, particularly those held for State security reasons, to monitor their treatment and living conditions. It provided advisory services to the authorities on the implementation of IHL and adherence to relevant international treaties. To spread knowledge of IHL and improve compliance with it, the ICRC carried on supporting the teaching of this body of law among armed forces, security and law-enforcement forces, other weapon bearers, academic circles and the media.

The ICRC pursued contacts with arms carriers, both on the government and opposition sides, to secure understanding and acceptance of its mandate and working methods at all times. Its efforts helped ensure the safety of ICRC field operations and staff. Nonetheless, a few minor security incidents did occur.

The ICRC kept up regular contact with the Congolese Red Cross and the International

Federation and continued to implement a few projects with the National Society.

Working relations were maintained with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other organizations providing humanitarian aid or engaged in development work in Pool.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

Civilians in Pool remained vulnerable to extortion, looting, theft and intimidation by arms carriers. Security conditions improved following the launch in May of Reverend Ntumi's initiative to reinforce security and order in Pool but deteriorated significantly after the expulsion of armed Ninja elements from Brazzaville in October.

The proliferation of small arms and the presence of arms carriers continued to create an insecure environment, which translated into hardship for civilians, particularly the vulnerable, who remained cut off from basic services and markets in Brazzaville.

In response, the ICRC focused on remaining close to the population in sensitive areas to gain a better understanding of the security situation and living conditions. It maintained a dialogue with all parties at various levels and with arms carriers on their obligations to the civilian population, including civilians' right of access to basic

services and humanitarian aid. The organization developed and implemented assistance programmes in sensitive areas as a part of a protection-driven strategy.

Restoring family links and family reunification

The ICRC monitored 36 unaccompanied children from Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help them restore links with their families and, with the consent of all concerned, to reunite them with their families. With the exception of three cases, the children's families were located and they were able to correspond through RCMs. Bearing in mind the children's best interests, the ICRC discussed the possibility of family reunification with the children whose families had been located.

- 11 new unaccompanied children registered
- 16 unaccompanied, separated children reunited with their families (9 by the ICRC)

Some cases were closed for failing to fulfill ICRC criteria – mainly because the minors concerned were already living with direct family members in Congo and thus considered to be separated from their families but not unaccompanied, or because they had turned adult and did not wish to be reunited with their relatives.

Regular contact with UNHCR facilitated the exchange of information and enabled the two organizations to complement each other through activities related to their respective mandates. The ICRC concentrated on unaccompanied minors and referred children separated from their families to UNHCR.

Together with the UNHCR and refugee representatives, the ICRC continued to put refugees back in touch with family through the RCM network. In remote areas without public communication, RCMs enabled civilians to maintain contact with relatives abroad.

- 1,562 RCMs collected from and 2,217 RCMs delivered to civilians, including refugees
- individuals arrested in relation to armed confrontations in October located and/or contact restored with their loved ones
- 8 travel documents delivered

Although the majority of former IDPs returned to their places of origin in 2004, a number of concerns still needed addressing:

the plight of returnees who were having to rebuild their lives and the difficulties facing communities affected by the lack of reconstruction compounded by the burden of absorbing returnees. The unstable security environment in Pool militated against sustainable long-term rebuilding. There were few, poorly implemented economic-recovery programmes.

The ICRC maintained a presence in Pool, improving access to essential services, notably the supply of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.

Ensuring a safe water supply

The ICRC provided structural support to water-supply systems and encouraged the authorities to take action and allocate sufficient funds to improve water supply. It intensified contacts with the relevant authorities and sought to consolidate their cooperation and to define a common approach to sustaining water-supply projects in Pool. However, the authorities' expression of intention did not always translate into action.

Assessments carried out in Pool in early 2005 enabled the ICRC to identify where improvements in water supply were needed. These included taking into account security constraints that hindered the population's access to potable water. The ICRC then defined its priorities based on the magnitude of the needs and protection considerations. In spite of logistic and staff constraints, the ICRC undertook several projects, involving the relevant authorities to ensure their durability.

- 14 water-supply projects (some 66,000 beneficiaries) initiated/completed in 5 districts
- upkeep of 20 water points handed over to a vocational centre in Pool, following the closure of the ICRC office in Dolisie in May
- 6 vocational-centre workers trained and supplied with repair/maintenance materials
- Mossendjo water-treatment plant in Nyari (some 15,000 beneficiaries) renovated and inaugurated
- two-week course organized for 20 staff operating 9 water-treatment plants rehabilitated by the ICRC since 1998
- emergency stock of potable water maintained to supply new IDPs if necessary

Improving civilians' health care and living conditions

The ICRC continued to support integrated health centres in sensitive areas of Pool. It launched a hygiene-promotion programme to involve the communities concerned in water projects, thereby building a sense of ownership of projects. It also established village committees to manage the water projects.

- 5 integrated health centres rehabilitated/constructed; construction begun on 5 others

Assisting residents and returnees

In May, the ICRC concluded the distribution of essential household and agricultural items to residents and returnees in the Mindouli district of Pool. It carried out two assessments in remote parts north-west of Kimba, leading to a decision to assist destitute communities in these areas (e.g. Mindouli and Kimba districts).

Enhancing food and economic security

The ICRC played a leading role in the implementation of a programme undertaken jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Fishing, the Food and Agriculture Organization and WFP to combat the mosaic disease in cassava plants, a nationwide problem. The ICRC, alongside ministry representatives acting mostly on their own initiative, continued efforts to tackle the disease that affected cassava production throughout Congo. Over 1,300 members of 95 associations attended information sessions on the disease and ways of combating it by using healthy cassava cuttings and improved methods of cultivation. The results were mixed, partly because of a severe shortage of virus-resistant cassava varieties.

- 5 local cassava varieties multiplied in 3 districts; 225,500 healthy cuttings, together with basic agricultural tools, distributed to associations; beneficiaries monitored in implementing joint ICRC/Ministry of Agriculture recommendations
- 6 plots planted with 12 local/improved cuttings to help identify virus-resistant varieties
- household items and vegetable kits for use in market gardening distributed to 94 farmers' associations; 1,102 vegetable-seed kits, 628 machetes, 628 hoes and 1,864 brochures containing farming recommendations distributed to the same beneficiaries

The fishing rehabilitation project was implemented successfully with a local fisheries specialist, who contributed materials to and shared his expertise and experience with 30 associations with over 3,100 members.

The ICRC donated breeding fish to associations in remote areas. It distributed tools and fishing materials to 30 associations, thereby helping revive micro-economic activities halted by conflict. Some 64% of purchased fish initially survived both the transport and their release into newly rehabilitated ponds.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued visiting detainees held in temporary and permanent detention places under the jurisdiction of the Defence or Justice Ministries or the police in Brazzaville or Pointe Noire. It registered detainees accused of endangering State security in order to provide them with protection and monitor them until their release.

- ▶ 794 people visited (53 monitored individually; 48 registered for the first time) during 63 visits made to 23 detention places
- ▶ 67 RCMs collected from detainees and 42 RCMs from their relatives delivered to them

The ICRC encouraged the authorities to comply with minimum international standards for the treatment of detainees, including by making recommendations for improvements to their living conditions. It provided structural support to strengthen and supplement the authorities' efforts in this regard.

- ▶ 2 market-gardening projects established in prisons
- ▶ a round-table on hygiene in detention places organized for representatives of 13 police stations
- ▶ repairs to water-supply and sanitation facilities begun in 12 police stations; similar work in 5 police stations completed

WOUNDED AND SICK

ICRC activities in Pool included remaining close to civilians to offer them better protection and improve access to basic health care. While maintaining direct support to certain integrated health centres, the ICRC continued to concentrate on providing structural support to the regional and central health authorities, in order to reinforce their capacities to cover the population's health needs. However, despite their pledges to do so, the authorities followed up with little specific action.

- ▶ 10 integrated health centres (providing preventive and curative health care to 65,000 people monthly in 4 districts) supported with drugs, dressing materials, furniture and stationery; petrol supplied to 5 centres with cold storage; health personnel supervised and trained
- ▶ the Extended Programme on Immunization and national polio vaccination campaign supported
- ▶ seminars held for 3 village health committees in Mindouli district
- ▶ an emergency kit maintained to cover the basic health needs of 10,000 IDPs for three months
- ▶ drugs and surgical material provided for the treatment of 30 war-wounded at a military hospital in Brazzaville; 2 wounded arms carriers evacuated to hospital
- ▶ emergency medical/surgical stock maintained for the treatment of 150 war-wounded

AUTHORITIES

A meeting on progress in the implementation of IHL was held in Brazzaville for 21 legal advisers of relevant ministries to raise awareness of the need to set up a national IHL committee. A seminar was also organized to raise senators' awareness of their responsibility to push for the national implementation of treaties already ratified by Congo.

The ICRC held information sessions on its work in four districts of Pool for some 220 officials and public servants and traditional leaders. It also expanded its network of contacts among regional economic communities, international organizations, NGOs and various government ministries.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

To promote knowledge of and compliance with IHL among all arms bearers, the ICRC:

- ▶ held a first-ever IHL train-the-trainer seminar for members of the Republican Guard and Directorate of Presidential Security in May; sponsored the participation of 2 colonels responsible for training in these units and the Defence Ministry's training adviser in courses in San Remo; drew up a schedule with the Republican Guard for sessions on IHL and the ICRC;
- ▶ conducted dissemination sessions on its mission, activities and IHL for some 3,350 rank and file of the armed forces, particularly in training centres and special units;
- ▶ helped create a permanent committee and sub-committees to supervise the dissemination of IHL in the armed, security and police forces;
- ▶ helped the permanent committee organize training for 28 army trainers;
- ▶ conducted several dissemination sessions on the ICRC, IHL and humanitarian principles for 1,456 rookie *gendarmes*/NCOs/officers, police officers and members of special security units;
- ▶ organized 4 workshops on human rights and humanitarian principles for 76 high-ranking police and security officers;
- ▶ conducted 10 sessions on its mandate and activities and IHL for 207 Ninjas in Pool.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC maintained constructive relations with the media, which reported regularly on its work in Congo. Activities involving the media included:

- ▶ a press conference on IHL in Brazzaville, attended by 34 journalists;
- ▶ press releases sent out to 42 media outlets, which used them extensively in reporting on ICRC activities;
- ▶ a workshop on IHL and the ICRC attended by 28 participants from the media;
- ▶ a documentary film on ICRC activities in the Congo, shot and broadcast by 2 television stations and used in dissemination sessions;
- ▶ 3 interviews given to local media to explain the ICRC's presence in the Congo and to present its activities.

An agreement was signed with the Education Ministry on the launch of the first phase of the pilot project of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) school programme. A series of events – including the selection of three schools in Pool for the pilot project, the selection of a steering committee to coordinate the project, the organization of a workshop on EHL for committee members and the integration of the programme into certain courses and the training of 38 teachers working in the three schools – culminated in an EHL course for around 800 schoolchildren. A comic book developed by the ICRC, *Battle in the village*, was used to supplement the EHL programme.

The ICRC revived ties with the Université libre du Congo, the country's only private university. This brought the number of institutions of higher education teaching IHL to three, including the National School of Administration and Magistracy and the Marien Ngouabi University. All three institutions had a trained IHL lecturer.

- 2 international law lecturers sponsored to attend the pan-African IHL course in Yaoundé
- a competition organized to select 4 student representatives to participate in a moot-court competition in Dakar and their travel to Dakar financed
- a round-table on IHL organized mainly for law lecturers at 3 academic institutions

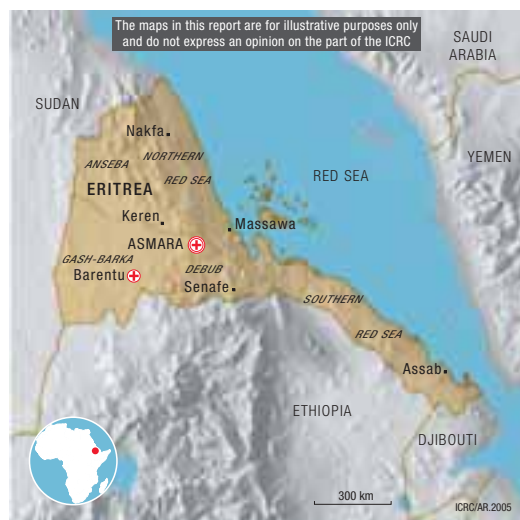
RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The year saw the launch of a pilot project on the collection and distribution of RCMs with the Pointe-Noire branch of the Congolese Red Cross, and the handover of ICRC tracing activities to the National Society. The ICRC regularly monitored and supported the work of the project coordinator and four volunteers. The pilot project was considered a success.

- 272 RCMs handed over to the Pointe-Noire branch of the Red Cross for distribution to refugees and 148 RCMs collected by the branch
- 1 tracing coordinator and 12 volunteers trained

The ICRC and the Congolese Red Cross jointly organized activities to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May. The activities, which successfully profiled the National Society, brought the two partners closer together and enhanced public knowledge of the Movement, included:

- sessions on the Movement and Fundamental Principles, attended by over 160 Red Cross volunteers;
- a presentation on first-aid principles for 120 first-aid workers;
- a session for Red Cross staff and volunteers on the promotion of IHL;
- 3 workshops for 75 volunteers on the transmission and prevention of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS;
- repairs to the headquarters of a Red Cross branch and preparations to repair another.



eritrea

The ICRC opened a delegation in Eritrea in 1998 in the context of the international armed conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea and is responding to the needs remaining from the two-year war. It protects and assists the population displaced, detained or otherwise affected by the conflict, ensuring compliance with IHL in respect of any persons still protected by the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions. The ICRC also promotes IHL within the government, armed forces and civil society and supports the development of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,902
Assistance	4,864
Prevention	326
Cooperation with National Societies	527
General	4

► **7,624**

of which: Overheads 465

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94.2%
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PERSONNEL

13	expatriates
79	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- was the main organization providing water, shelter and essential household items to some 46,500 IDPs in 21 camps;
- provided a water supply and essential household items to some 19,500 IDPs who returned home, and helped another 2,000 returnees rebuild their homes;
- in former war zones, improved access to water for some 35,600 residents and helped over 4,000 households preserve their livelihoods by treating some 77,000 livestock against parasites and paying for tractor-ploughing services;
- together with the Eritrean Red Cross, distributed around 11,700 RCMs on behalf of relatives still separated by the two-year international armed conflict, assisted in the voluntary repatriation of over 800 civilians to Ethiopia and reunited 34 children with family across the closed border;
- visited 51 detention facilities to monitor the treatment and living conditions of detainees of Ethiopian origin, including POWs who had declined repatriation, and provided funds to some 3,000 residents of the Ethiopian community to meet Eritrean administrative requirements;
- together with the Defence Ministry, trained 27 armed forces officers as IHL instructors.

CONTEXT

The physical demarcation of the Eritrea-Ethiopia border remained on hold for the third consecutive year. The UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) continued to monitor the buffer zone between the two countries, known as the Temporary Security Zone or TSZ.

In February 2005, the first significant number of IDPs returned home. As part of a government-assisted programme, more than 19,000 people displaced by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Ethiopia left their IDP camp and went back to their villages of origin along the border. Some 46,500 displaced people remained in camps in or near the TSZ. In November, the regional authorities announced that another 21,000 IDPs would return home in early 2006.

As in the past four years, over half of the Eritrean population relied on food aid. After five years of meagre rainfall, 2005 saw a return to normal rainy seasons, and harvests improved. However, the effects of the stalled border process and the suspension of cross-border trade with Ethiopia continued to hamper economic development. In and near the TSZ, farmers also had to contend with the risk of mines in their fields and pastures, dilapidated or war-damaged infrastructure and the presence of thousands of IDPs competing for scant resources.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	259	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	259	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	66,845
Number of visits carried out	107	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	16,447
Number of places of detention visited	51	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	56,342
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	2,000
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	11,468			
RCMs distributed	12,025			
People reunited with their families	41			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	279			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	94			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	382			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	61			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	34			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	23			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	61			

ICRC ACTION

In accordance with its accepted role in Eritrea, the ICRC focused on meeting the needs of people still affected by the international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

As in past years, ICRC delegates working in and near the TSZ stood ready to document any alleged incidents of violence against the population and to provide aid in the event that a rise in tensions affected civilians.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees of Ethiopian origin and the few remaining POWs who had declined repatriation in 2002. It also monitored the situation of the Ethiopian civilian community in Eritrea. The aim was to ensure that the rights of these populations regarding their living conditions and repatriation were respected, in accordance with humanitarian norms and, where applicable, the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions.

There was a significant rise in the number of residents of Ethiopian origin who received ICRC financial support to cover Eritrean administrative requirements. Working with the Eritrean Red Cross, the ICRC assisted in the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Ethiopia and Eritrea, ran the tracing and RCM services so that relatives could communicate across the closed border, and reunited children and other vulnerable people with family across the border. Delegates also followed up with

the authorities requests from families for news of relatives still missing in relation to the war.

The ICRC was the main organization providing water, shelter and essential household items to IDPs in camps. In coordination with the government and UNDP, it also ensured that IDPs who returned home or resettled voluntarily had the same basic assistance to facilitate their return.

To help struggling residents living in and near the TSZ, the ICRC worked with the Eritrean authorities to improve access to water, especially in rural areas. It also introduced agricultural and veterinary projects to help farmers improve their economic situation.

The ICRC held IHL courses for the military as part of a programme initiated in 2004 to integrate the subject into all armed forces training. Delegates also gave presentations on IHL to the local authorities in and near the TSZ, new UNMEE staff, personnel in detention facilities and university students.

With a substantial level of ICRC support, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea continued to reinforce its tracing and RCM network and relief and dissemination programmes. The ambulance service also made progress towards its long-term goal of becoming self-supporting.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

While working in and near the TSZ, ICRC delegates took every opportunity to raise awareness of IHL in discussions with civilians, the authorities, the Eritrean armed forces and UNMEE. The organization was ready to adapt its activities in the event of a change in the situation along the border and to document any alleged incidents of violence against civilians and make representations to the parties concerned.

The ICRC also monitored the situation of civilians of Ethiopian origin still living in Eritrea and made any necessary representations on their behalf to the authorities. During the year, more than 6,000 members of the Ethiopian community sought the ICRC's advice or assistance. A total of 3,302 of them received ICRC financial assistance, a significant rise compared with 2004. The majority needed funds to obtain or renew their residence permits, and the rest to complete clearance procedures prior to voluntary repatriation. Many of the beneficiaries were financially worse off in 2005 because family or friends were no longer in a position to support them.

Repatriation

The ICRC, with local Red Cross support, assisted in the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Ethiopia and Eritrea, providing transport and basic supplies for the trip and short stay in a transit camp. It also retrieved and forwarded official documents so that

these people could continue their studies or apply for work.

- ▶ 848 civilians voluntarily repatriated from Eritrea to Ethiopia and 182 from Ethiopia to Eritrea
- ▶ 16 documents forwarded from Eritrea

Restoring family links

Telecommunication and postal services had not yet been re-established between Eritrea and Ethiopia and the border remained closed. This meant that thousands of people still relied on the tracing and RCM network to send family news to relatives across the border. When requested, the ICRC also reunited children, the elderly and infirm with relatives across the border.

- ▶ 11,777 RCMs delivered in Eritrea and 11,195 collected
- ▶ 41 people, including 34 children, in Eritrea reunited with family in Ethiopia, and 55, including 29 children, in Ethiopia reunited with family in Eritrea
- ▶ 94 people located at their families' request
- ▶ 382 requests to trace relatives, including 119 children, pending

In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC continued to advocate that the Eritrean and Ethiopian authorities establish mechanisms to provide families with news about relatives still unaccounted for in connection with the 1998–2000 war. In the meantime, many families approached the ICRC. In March, the organization presented the Eritrean and Ethiopian authorities respectively with the names of 200 such people of Ethiopian origin and 153 of Eritrean origin whom it could not trace.

Assisting IDPs and returning families

As in past years, the ICRC was the main organization providing shelter, water and essential household items to IDPs living in 21 camps in or near the TSZ; the government and WFP were responsible for food distributions. The majority of IDPs were women and children who had been in the camps for three to six years. Many IDPs could not return home until the border was pegged out and mines cleared.

Based on its assessment of needs in the camps in late 2004, the ICRC began tailoring distributions more closely to the situation in each camp. This led to a decrease in the quantity of goods provided (blankets, kitchenware, jerrycans, mosquito nets and soap). Plans to introduce longer-lasting shelter materials were put on hold when

the government announced in November that some 21,000 IDPs were scheduled to return home in early 2006.

In February, some 5,000 families (around 19,500 people) living in Adi Kesh IDP camp in Gash Barka voluntarily returned to their villages of origin near the border with Ethiopia in a government-organized programme. In coordination with the authorities and UNDP, the ICRC ensured that the returning families had access to water and received soap, kitchenware, jerrycans, tarpaulins and rope. It also made an arrangement with the Eritrean Red Cross to build around 2,000 fuel-saving ovens in the Shilalo resettlement area. The ovens slowed down deforestation and reduced the amount of time and energy women had to spend collecting wood.

The ICRC also constructed water points elsewhere in Gash Barka and Debub that served both IDPs and returning families. In addition, it helped families who had returned to the Senafe and Tserona regions of Debub to build or rebuild their homes, providing materials, on-site supervision and in some cases cash to hire skilled workers.

- ▶ 17,640 IDP families (66,220 people) in camps or returning home received essential household items
- ▶ 2,000 returnees assisted in building/rebuilding homes
- ▶ 20,725 IDPs benefited from the construction of 3 solar-powered water-distribution systems in IDP camps and the installation of 2 temporary water systems and construction of 10 solar-powered permanent water points in villages

Assisting border residents

Much of the infrastructure in the border region, including water services, had been damaged or destroyed by past conflicts. The ICRC, in cooperation with the Eritrean water board, initiated projects to provide an adequate supply of clean water in 25 resident communities in Debub. Each community requested and participated in its project. To ensure that the water supply was sustainable, water-storage facilities were built alongside the new water points and community water committees were set up and trained to maintain the systems. Working with a British and a Swiss university, the ICRC also held a course in Asmara for the Eritrean water board on the use of satellite images to identify new sources of groundwater.

- ▶ 35,617 residents benefited from the construction of 10 water points, 10 water-storage facilities and 12 solar-powered water-distribution systems and the rehabilitation of 4 wells

Prior to the war with Ethiopia, the southern border region of Eritrea was one of the more agriculturally productive areas of the country. Resident and returning families now faced a number of obstacles to making a living from agriculture. Labour was in short supply, so fields often lay fallow, and goods and services to tend fields and livestock were either not available or, for some families, too expensive. To address these problems, the delegation introduced two new initiatives. In Debub, around 2,000 families received vouchers that paid for a tractor to plough their fields ahead of the two planting periods. In Gash Barka, ICRC teams treated 77,676 sheep, goats, cattle, donkeys and camels against parasites. The livestock belonged to just over 2,000 resident and recently returned families in five villages. In a sample survey conducted later, all the animals tested were still parasite free.

- ▶ 16,447 people (4,351 households) benefited from agricultural and veterinary assistance

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

POWs

In 2002, Eritrea released and repatriated the last POWs of Ethiopian origin regularly visited by the ICRC. In accordance with the Third Geneva Convention, the ICRC continued to visit the few remaining POWs who had declined repatriation in order to monitor their situation until a permanent solution was found regarding their status. Delegates also offered the POWs the tracing and RCM services so that they could keep in contact with their families and provided them with blankets. Discussions were ongoing with the authorities concerning other individual POW cases still pending.

Visiting civilian detainees

The ICRC visited detention facilities country-wide, following up the cases of detainees of Ethiopian origin to ensure that their rights were being respected in accordance with international humanitarian norms and, where applicable, the Fourth Geneva Convention. The findings and recommendations were presented, in confidence, to the authorities. Inmates could use the tracing and RCM services and, where necessary, received blankets, clothing, shoes

and hygiene kits to contribute to their health and welfare. During the visits, ICRC delegates briefed 160 police officers on the basic principles of IHL and the organization's rationale and standard procedures for detention visits.

- 259 detainees followed up individually (19 of them women and 14 minors), including 146 newly registered, in 51 places of detention during 107 visits
- 248 RCMs delivered to detainees and 273 collected for delivery to their families
- 625 inmates received essential items

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC continued discussions with the Eritrean authorities on the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. The organization advocated, in particular, the integration of the provisions of the 1949 Geneva Conventions into Eritrea's domestic law and the ratification of the 1977 Additional Protocols.

The ICRC regularly met senior UNMEE officials and representatives of the diplomatic community and UN agencies to update them on ICRC field operations and discuss humanitarian issues. It also briefed 65 newly deployed UNMEE staff on the basic principles of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In 2004, the Eritrean armed forces agreed in principle to integrate IHL into all their training programmes. At a round-table with the ICRC in February 2005, the Ministry of Defence again acknowledged the importance of IHL training for the military, expressed its appreciation for the ICRC's IHL courses in 2004 and said that the armed forces had subsequently held introductory talks on IHL for recruits. In a new initiative, the ICRC was helping the armed forces to obtain and distribute identification tags to personnel.

- 27 officers trained as IHL instructors
- 25 officers attended an introductory IHL course
- with ICRC sponsorship, 2 colonels took part in an IHL course in San Remo
- the Defence Ministry and Sawa military college received standard sets of IHL reference materials

- 3,000 copies in Tigrinya of the ICRC's *Essentials of the law of war* and 20,000 copies of *Behaviour in combat* produced for use as teaching tools

CIVIL SOCIETY

Past efforts by the ICRC to interest the Eritrean media in IHL and the organization's related activities had been unsuccessful. The ICRC, therefore, distributed IHL promotional material directly to opinion-makers and the general public and provided public libraries with relevant publications.

ICRC efforts to promote the teaching of IHL at the University of Asmara were limited, as the establishment had not accepted any new students since 2003. Delegates gave presentations on IHL to 145 students of journalism, political science and law and responded to requests from students from various institutes of higher education for information and publications on IHL.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC and the Red Cross Society of Eritrea worked together to distribute RCMs and relief items and organize voluntary repatriations for civilians. The ICRC provided the Red Cross with a variety of support, from funds and supplies to training and expertise, to strengthen its tracing, relief and communication programmes.

Restoring family links

With ICRC support, the Eritrean Red Cross continued to collect and distribute the majority of the RCMs in Eritrea, handling some 20,000 messages in 2005.

To reinforce the RCM and tracing network, the ICRC:

- provided on-the-job coaching for Red Cross staff, 60 volunteers and 120 community members designated as focal points for people wanting information about the network;
- took part in courses to train new volunteers and community focal points;
- helped produce official tracing guidelines and a leaflet for the general public on the services;
- together with Red Cross headquarters and branches, evaluated the tracing network and held a one-day meeting to discuss ways to increase the network's efficiency.

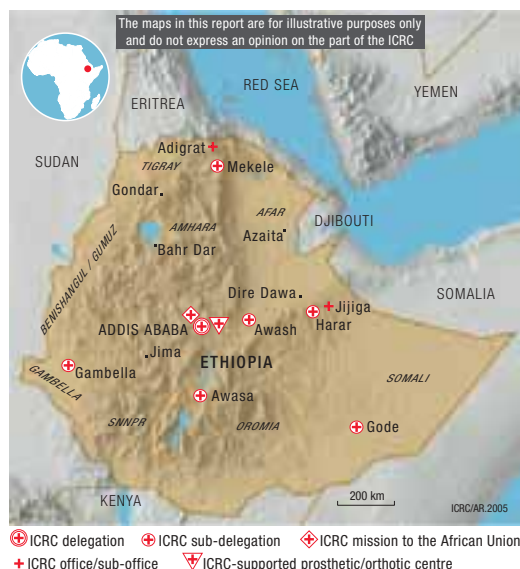
Responding to emergencies

The ICRC helped cover the running costs of the Red Cross ambulance service, which transported around 24,500 people to hospitals and clinics countrywide in 2005. In a positive step towards making the service self-supporting, some regional municipalities began contributing to the costs.

With ICRC support, the Eritrean Red Cross trained 25 volunteers as first-aid instructors and 28 staff and volunteers received training in disaster management. The participants went on to hold first-aid and relief-management training for another 120 volunteers in all branches. The ICRC also provided identification vests for the 300 volunteers of all 20 Red Cross action teams. During 2005, the Eritrean Red Cross held first-aid courses for 125 police personnel and 470 members of the general public, including industrial workers, transport drivers and students.

Promoting IHL and the Movement

During 2005, the Eritrean Red Cross gave talks on IHL and the Movement to more than 27,000 people countrywide, including government officials, business leaders, students and teachers. To assist the Red Cross in developing its communication skills, the ICRC took part in courses for 25 dissemination trainers and helped to produce and distribute a quarterly newsletter and stage various promotional events.



ethiopia

The ICRC has been continuously present in Ethiopia since 1977. Its priority is to protect and assist people detained, displaced or otherwise affected by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Eritrea or by internal violence or disturbances, often compounded by natural disasters. The ICRC provides emergency aid but also implements medium-term assistance projects to preserve the livelihoods of vulnerable communities in violence-prone regions. It also supports physical rehabilitation services. The ICRC visits security detainees, restores family links, particularly for relatives separated by the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border and for Sudanese refugees, promotes IHL and supports the Ethiopian Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	6,361
Assistance	14,641
Prevention	2,432
Cooperation with National Societies	1,562
General	-

► **24,997**

of which: Overheads 1,514

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.2%
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PERSONNEL

69 expatriates
382 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- monitored the individual cases of more than 3,000 security detainees in some 280 detention facilities countrywide and completed projects to improve living conditions in 21 prisons;
- delivered, together with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, emergency food aid and relief goods to tens of thousands of IDPs and improved access to water for some 83,500 vulnerable residents;
- in response to post-election unrest, provided medical supplies to treat over 400 wounded, trained Ethiopian medical staff in casualty management, boosted support to the Red Cross Society ambulance service and gained access to some of the people arrested;
- introduced training for the armed forces in IHL and internal security operations and conducted workshops on human rights standards and good policing for some 1,000 regional police and special forces;
- working with the Ethiopian Red Cross, delivered more than 26,000 RCMs, including in all 5 Sudanese refugee camps;
- supported 6 physical rehabilitation centres, which treated over 10,000 patients, and contributed funds or teaching staff to upgrade the skills of 43 prosthetic/orthotic personnel.

CONTEXT

Ethiopia's general elections held on 15 May heightened political tensions. In early August, the National Electoral Board declared a parliamentary majority for the incumbent Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, with opposition parties making gains. Amid accusations of voting irregularities, short-lived but violent street protests broke out in early June and again in early November in Addis Ababa and some regional towns, mainly in Oromia and the Somali Regional State (SRS). Scores of people were killed and hundreds injured in clashes between security forces and demonstrators, and there were mass arrests.

As in past years, low-level conflict between government forces and armed opposition groups continued in the SRS. Gambella was the scene of renewed fighting in early and late 2005, springing from a mix of ethnic and political grievances. The SRS and Afar remained prone to small-scale intercommunal clashes, and ethnic tensions persisted along the Oromia-SRS border following the border changes voted on in the 2004 referendum.

Good rainy seasons in most parts of the country led to an above-average harvest, but one in eight Ethiopians still depended on aid. In pockets where the rains had failed, there were concerns over the likelihood of severe food shortages in 2006.

The physical demarcation of the Eritrea-Ethiopia border remained on hold for the third consecutive year. The UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) continued to monitor the buffer zone between the two countries.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	68,565	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,160	Food	Beneficiaries	62,950
Number of visits carried out	452	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	196,177
Number of places of detention visited	282	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	210,445
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	98,310
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	10,950
RCMs collected	30,394	WOUNDED AND SICK		
RCMs distributed	26,418	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
People reunited with their families	62	Patients receiving services	Patients	10,193
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Prostheses delivered	Pieces	1,804
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	566	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	2,517
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	243			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	1,442			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	318			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	36			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	602			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	31			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	901			

ICRC ACTION

Ethiopia remained one of the ICRC's largest operations in 2005.

The ICRC was able to work countrywide and even extended its presence to monitor the situation in more areas where tensions existed. This was possible because of its well-established network of sub-delegations and offices, its cooperation with the Ethiopian Red Cross and solid contacts fostered over time with the authorities, forces of law and order and civil society leaders.

In general, the delegation carried out its programmes as foreseen in its 2005 emergency appeal.

The ICRC delivered relief goods and medical supplies to more victims of internal violence than planned because of the intensity of fighting in Gambella and persistent tensions along the Oromia-SRS border.

The delegation made good progress in implementing its medium-term assistance programmes aimed at preserving community livelihoods in the violence-prone SRS and Afar regions. A major achievement was the training of 56 community health workers and midwives who, by the end of 2005, were covering the entire Afar district of Boromodaitu. Water projects fell behind schedule in the SRS because of security constraints and in Afar because of logistic problems.

The ICRC continued to monitor detention conditions in prisons and police stations countrywide and reported its findings and recommendations, in confidence, to the authorities. Delegates were granted access to some, but not all, of the detainees held in connection with the June and November post-election unrest. The organization also built or upgraded vital infrastructure in 21 prisons and contributed its expertise to Ethiopia's internationally funded penal and judicial reform process.

In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC followed up with the authorities any remaining cases of POWs, as well as requests from families for news of relatives still missing in relation to the 1998–2000 international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. It delivered RCMs sent between relatives separated by the closed border, assisted in the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Eritrea and Ethiopia and, at their request, reunited children, the elderly and infirm with family across the border. In war-damaged Tigray, it gave communities the materials and expertise to improve their water facilities.

Tracing and RCM services were also offered in all five Sudanese refugee camps in western Ethiopia. At the end of 2005, the ICRC was handling the cases of some 570 child refugees who were separated from their parents and was working to put the families back in touch through RCMs.

The ICRC marked its 26th year of supporting Ethiopia's physical rehabilitation services. Given the World Bank-funded project for this sector, the ICRC adapted its approach. It provided less direct funding, while emphasizing structured training and on-the-job supervision.

IHL promotion remained a priority, with the focus on the armed forces, police and universities and colleges. The ICRC introduced specialized workshops for the military on IHL and internal security operations. In the field, it focused on training in IHL and human rights law for police and special forces stationed in violence-prone areas. The ICRC decided to discontinue its Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools after an evaluation showed that the programme had not taken root.

The ICRC provided the Ethiopian Red Cross with substantial support to strengthen its ambulance service and first-aid, tracing and dissemination programmes. During the post-election unrest, extra funds were given to the ambulance and first-aid services, whose efficient response saved lives.

CIVILIANS

ICRC delegates monitored violence-prone regions, documented alleged problems faced by communities and, where necessary, made representations to the parties concerned. Teams in the field also took every opportunity to promote IHL in discussions with the local authorities, law enforcers and community leaders.

Food and relief goods for IDPs

The ICRC distributed relief goods to more victims of internal violence than planned in 2005 because of the intensity of fighting in Gambella early in the year and persistent tensions after the 2004 Oromia-SRS border changes. Displaced families received, as needed, food, seeds, farm tools and essential household items such as tarpaulins, blankets and kitchenware.

The largest relief operation was in Gambella, where sporadic violence since late 2003 had driven tens of thousands of people from their homes. In May, during the main planting period, the ICRC delivered seeds and tools, as well as food to last until the harvest, to some 54,000 IDPs (9,000 families) who had begun to sell their assets, mainly livestock, to survive.

The ICRC also distributed emergency supplies to more than 20,000 people uprooted by the SRS-Oromia border tensions and to families who fled internal violence or floods in the SRS and Afar.

- ▶ 62,950 IDPs provided with food
- ▶ 43,123 IDPs received essential household items
- ▶ 67,900 IDPs provided with 102.3 tonnes of seed and 41,970 farm implements

Ensuring medical aid

The ICRC worked to ensure that people wounded during internal violence received emergency treatment and that displaced families had access to free medical and health care. Because of the election-related unrest, more emergency supplies than planned were delivered to medical facilities in 2005 to treat casualties. During the June and November violence, five hospitals in Addis Ababa received enough ICRC supplies to treat some 400 wounded. After the June unrest, the ICRC held a two-day workshop on casualty management for 42 medical staff in Addis Ababa. This initiative helped save lives during the November unrest.

During the Oromia-SRS border tensions, the ICRC evacuated 13 casualties, provided five referral centres with medical and

surgical supplies and ensured two health clinics had the means to extend their services to 8,000 IDPs.

- ▶ medical/surgical supplies delivered to treat some 700 war-wounded

Preserving community livelihoods

The ICRC continued to develop medium-term assistance programmes designed to help local communities in violence-prone areas improve their livelihoods and avoid long-term dependence on aid. The organization used an integrated approach, combining health, water, agricultural and veterinary projects.

In 2004, the ICRC initiated a five-year integrated assistance programme in Boromodaitu district (population 44,000) in southern Afar. By the end of 2005, with ICRC support, 56 local people had been trained (33 in 2005 and 23 in 2004) during six-month courses as community health workers (29 men) or midwives (27 women) and were working in all 15 sub-districts. In addition, the ICRC organized two one-week refresher courses for the health workers and midwives trained in 2004. To further improve public health standards, the delegation delivered water-purification filters to eight sub-districts and helped establish health committees and hygiene-awareness sessions in seven sub-districts. To boost food production and income, the ICRC provided three farming associations with an irrigation system and training to develop cash crops (fruit trees and vegetables) on 13.6 hectares. It was also training 30 people as animal health workers, who would cover all 15 sub-districts. In a pilot project, a community of 2,400 people received seeds and tools to cultivate maize on 50 hectares to use as animal fodder. In the only setback in 2005, water projects fell behind schedule because the delegation was obliged to build a new road and bridge across the Awash river to transport materials; the ICRC built three wells, two sub-surface reservoirs and two rainwater containers.

In the SRS, the ICRC extended its integrated assistance programmes to more areas where tensions existed, but security constraints slowed overall progress. The delegation built nine water points and, as a pilot project, constructed a system to collect, filter and store surface water for both drinking and crop irrigation. To boost crop yields and income in the Gode region, the ICRC delivered fruit-tree saplings, farm tools and irrigation pipes, benefiting around 79,650 people. It also held five-day veterinary courses throughout the SRS to train

nomadic herders to identify and treat livestock diseases.

In Gambella, the ICRC initiated small-scale projects to help communities rebuild their lives and livelihoods after the disturbances. It repaired 10 hand pumps and delivered fishing gear and mosquito nets, accompanied by malaria-awareness sessions, to needy families.

In the drought-prone East Hararghe region in Oromia and in war-damaged Tigray, the ICRC focused on improving community access to water. In East Hararghe, it built 6 water points, a solar-powered pumping station and 280 latrines, and trained and equipped 70 people to maintain hand pumps. In Tigray, the communities themselves built 11 water points, with the ICRC providing the materials and expertise.

- ▶ 142,545 residents benefited from agricultural and micro-economic projects, including the delivery of 30.4 tonnes of seed, 4,744 farm tools, 2,710 kits of fishing gear and 12,203 fruit-tree saplings
- ▶ 83,550 residents benefited from water and sanitation projects
- ▶ 153,054 residents provided with essential household items, mainly mosquito nets

Restoring family links

Telecommunication and postal services had not yet been re-established across the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border. This meant that thousands of people still relied on the tracing and RCM network to exchange news with relatives across the border. When requested, the ICRC also reunited children, the elderly and infirm with relatives across the border.

For relatives separated by the 1998–2000 Eritrea-Ethiopia conflict:

- ▶ 20,310 RCMs delivered in Ethiopia and 18,996 collected;
- ▶ 55 people, including 29 children, in Ethiopia reunited with family in Eritrea, and 41 people, including 34 children, in Eritrea reunited with family in Ethiopia;
- ▶ 65 people located at their families' request;
- ▶ 316 requests to trace relatives, including 73 children, pending.

Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia and relatives scattered by internal violence also used the tracing and RCM services. Despite the Sudanese peace settlement signed in January 2005, few Sudanese refugees

returned home, and the refugee population remained at around 80,000. The ICRC's priority was to identify and register children separated from their parents and restore contact through RCMs. Security constraints in Gambella, where three of the five refugee camps were located, as well as restrictions on movement within southern Sudan, delayed the exchange of messages.

For refugees and dispersed Ethiopian families:

- 5,744 RCMs delivered, including 182 to children separated from their parents, and 10,771 collected;
- 7 children reunited with their families;
- at year end, 574 cases of unaccompanied/separated children being handled;
- 178 people located at their families' request;
- 1,126 requests to trace relatives, including 143 children, pending.

In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC continued to advocate that the Ethiopian and Eritrean authorities establish mechanisms to provide families with news about relatives still unaccounted for in connection with the 1998–2000 war. In the meantime, many families approached the ICRC. In March, the organization presented the Ethiopian and Eritrean authorities respectively with the names of 153 such people of Eritrean origin and 200 of Ethiopian origin whom it could not trace.

Repatriation

The delegation, together with the Ethiopian Red Cross, assisted in the voluntary repatriation of civilians to Eritrea and Ethiopia, providing transport and basic supplies for the trip and short stay in a transit camp. It also retrieved and forwarded official documents so that these people could continue their studies or apply for work. Compared with past years, there were fewer requests for repatriation to Eritrea. This was partly owing to a 2004 Ethiopian law that helped regularize the status of people of Eritrean origin living in Ethiopia.

The ICRC also monitored the living conditions of people of Eritrean origin living in Ethiopia and, where necessary, made representations on their behalf to the authorities.

- 182 civilians voluntarily repatriated from Ethiopia to Eritrea and 848 from Eritrea to Ethiopia
- 58 documents forwarded from Ethiopia

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visits to detainees

When election-related unrest broke out in June and again in November, the ICRC immediately contacted the authorities, formally requesting access to all detainees held in connection with the violence. The organization was granted access to some, but not all, of the people being held. It visited these detainees, monitored their treatment and living conditions and reported its findings, in confidence, to the authorities.

- 7,319 enquiries registered with the ICRC by families searching for news of relatives allegedly arrested in connection with election-related unrest, of which 4,207 resolved

Throughout 2005, the ICRC visited detention facilities, mainly prisons and police stations, countrywide and followed the individual cases of more than 3,000 detainees held in connection with the 1991 change of government or for other reasons of State security. The organization regularly informed the authorities confidentially of its findings and recommendations. It submitted two in-depth reports on detention conditions in SRS and Oromia police stations and in prisons in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State (SNNPS). In addition, workshops on detention conditions were held for prison directors and local authorities in most regions.

The ICRC also monitored respect for detainees' pre-trial and trial rights. As part of this process, delegates conducted over 300 interviews in 25 detention facilities with detainees held in connection with the 1991 change of government. The ICRC discussed the findings with the authorities and was preparing a full report for them.

During detention visits, the ICRC offered inmates the RCM service so that they could exchange news with relatives and distributed hygiene and recreational items to contribute to their health and welfare. It also helped build or upgrade prison water and sanitation facilities, kitchens and separate blocks for women.

- 68,565 detainees visited, 3,160 of them monitored individually (1,254 newly registered), including 282 minors, during 452 visits to 282 places of detention
- 14,760 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects and 10,950 from habitat projects in 21 prisons

- 30 prisons received medical assistance
- 364 RCMs delivered to detainees and 627 collected for distribution to relatives

POWs

In 2002, Ethiopia released and repatriated the last POWs of Eritrean origin regularly visited by the ICRC. In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC followed up with the authorities a small number of POW cases still pending.

Supporting prison reform

The ICRC contributed its expertise to the internationally funded process to reform Ethiopia's judicial and penal systems. It submitted two reports on prison-staff structure and discussed the recommendations with the federal prison commissioner and Federal Affairs Ministry. The organization also participated as an observer in the donors' coordination meetings and discussed issues in bilateral meetings with the donors and the Ethiopian authorities.

WOUNDED AND SICK

There were an estimated 360,000 disabled people in Ethiopia, 22,000 of them war veterans.

During 2005, the ICRC provided training, materials, supervision and funds to six physical rehabilitation centres (Addis Ababa, Arba Minch, Dessie, Harar, Mekele and the new Asela centre). In total, 10,193 patients received treatment at the centres, 2,297 of them amputees. With World Bank funding since 2002, Ethiopia was upgrading its physical rehabilitation services, focusing to date on building new facilities. The ICRC, therefore, started to reduce its direct funding to centres and emphasized training and supervision – the lack of skilled staff was a perennial problem.

Twenty students graduated in January from Ethiopia's first prosthetic/orthotic diploma course, a two-and-a-half-year programme taught by the ICRC, funded by the World Bank and co-organized with Ethiopia's Labour and Social Affairs Ministry. The graduates returned to work, with ongoing ICRC back-up. Another 19 staff from various centres graduated in November from a six-month ICRC course, qualifying as assistant technicians. The delegation also sponsored four Ethiopians on advanced courses at the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists. With these initiatives, Ethiopia was developing a solid base of skilled personnel in this sector.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC renewed contact with government legal advisers, offering its assistance in incorporating key IHL provisions into domestic law. However, as 2005 was an election year, IHL implementation was not a government priority.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL training for armed forces

With ICRC support since 1991, the Ethiopian air force had incorporated IHL into its training, using its own instructors, and the army was in the process of doing the same.

- ▶ 50 new armed forces instructors trained to teach IHL
- ▶ in a new initiative, 2 workshops held for military personnel on IHL and internal security operations
- ▶ Defence University College assisted in designing IHL curricula and provided with reference materials
- ▶ 19 armed forces members sponsored to take part in IHL events abroad
- ▶ over 1,000 Ethiopian peace-keepers leaving for Burundi and Liberia and UNMEE staff briefed on IHL and international human rights law
- ▶ armed forces assisted in producing draft standing orders on the introduction of identification tags for military personnel
- ▶ introductory IHL talks held for military field units countrywide

Police and security forces

The ICRC, together with six Ethiopian police instructors, focused on providing training in international human rights law and good policing for local police, special forces and, for the first time, civilian militia stationed in violence-prone areas.

- ▶ some 1,800 police, special forces personnel and civilian-militia members attended 21 two-day workshops in Afar, Gambella, Harar, Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, Benishangul-Gumuz and the SNNPS
- ▶ introductory presentations held for local police and militia groups countrywide

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL in rural areas and through the media

In violence-prone areas, ICRC delegates regularly gave talks on the basic principles of IHL to community elders and traditional leaders with influence on public opinion. The organization also distributed three new IHL leaflets, specially designed for the Afar, Gambella and SRS regions, where the majority of people were illiterate.

The ICRC fostered its contacts with the media, providing press releases, briefings and interviews to draw attention to IHL and the organization's related activities. It also held two IHL presentations for 73 local journalists in Oromia and Amhara.

IHL for tomorrow's leaders

The ICRC encouraged institutes of higher learning to offer IHL courses and supported them in so doing. It provided IHL reference materials and gave introductory talks to students at the five law faculties that offered elective IHL courses (the universities of Addis Ababa, Mekele and Bahir Dar, the Civil Service College and Unity University College). In addition, under ICRC sponsorship, Alemaya University's new IHL lecturer and the law faculty's deputy dean participated in an IHL course abroad, and three law students from Addis Ababa University took part in the ICRC's annual IHL moot-court competition in Tanzania.

The ICRC decided to discontinue its Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools. An extensive evaluation in 2005 showed that, after four years, the programme had not taken root.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Ethiopian Red Cross and the ICRC continued to work together to deliver emergency aid, run the tracing and RCM network and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles countrywide. The ICRC provided the National Society with substantial support to develop these activities, particularly in violence-prone regions. To strengthen the overall structure of the Ethiopian Red Cross, the delegation also provided funds to cover the running costs of 14 branches, including salaries, and the construction of premises for the Bale branch in Oromia.

Emergency and assistance programmes

The ICRC's long-term provision of vehicles, funds, training and materials to upgrade the Ethiopian Red Cross ambulance service contributed to the National Society's highly efficient response during the post-election unrest, which saved lives.

In 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ provided 59 branches with first-aid materials and the Addis Ababa branch with extra funds to respond to post-election unrest;
- ▶ equipped 88 ambulances with VHF radios and financially supported the ambulance service countrywide;
- ▶ helped organize refresher courses for 1,036 ambulance attendants and 33 first-aid coordinators and a conflict-preparedness workshop for all branches in Tigray;
- ▶ replenished the National Society's stock of relief goods to cover 2,000 families.

Restoring family links

With ICRC financial and technical support, the National Society's tracing network continued to improve.

- ▶ 22 tracing officers from 14 branches trained as tracing instructors, who then trained 40 volunteers
- ▶ a draft tracing manual produced

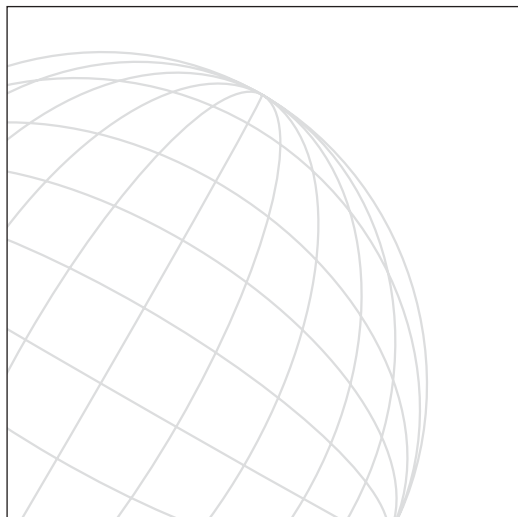
IHL and the Fundamental Principles

With the support of ICRC funds, materials, equipment and expertise:

- ▶ 24 branches, assisted by 4 regional offices, held talks on IHL and the Fundamental Principles for local authorities and community leaders;
- ▶ 30 disseminators attended a training workshop;
- ▶ 58 dissemination programmes were aired on radio and television.

Mine action

With ICRC financial support, the Ethiopian Red Cross assisted 30 mine victims in Tigray in attending school and 100 in starting small businesses.



african union

The aim of the ICRC's permanent mission to the African Union (AU) is to gain a broad insight into multilateral African politics and humanitarian issues and to build strong relations with African governments and intergovernmental organizations and NGOs represented at the AU. The ICRC works with the AU and its member States to draw attention to humanitarian issues, promote greater recognition and much wider implementation of IHL throughout Africa and raise awareness of the ICRC's role and activities.

The ICRC's official observer status to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), granted in 1992, has continued under the AU, the OAU's successor.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

see Ethiopia

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

see Ethiopia

PERSONNEL

see Ethiopia

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- maintained regular contact with the AU Commission, particularly the peace and security, political affairs and social affairs directorates, to share analyses of humanitarian issues in conflict and post-conflict situations, spread knowledge of IHL and offer expertise in integrating IHL into the relevant AU policies and programmes, especially the establishment of African standby peace-keeping forces;
- in a decision adopted by the AU summit, was cited as a consultant on AU policies related to IDPs, refugees and returnees, and was subsequently made a full member of the revived AU Coordination Committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees and IDPs;
- gave a presentation at a meeting of the AU Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child on the protection afforded children by IHL in time of armed conflict, and highlighted the plight of civilians in the Darfur region of Sudan during a donors' meeting convened by the AU;
- promoted much wider implementation of IHL by African countries during working meetings with AU-accredited African ambassadors and bilateral discussions with high-ranking officials of the African Parliamentary Union;
- fostered contacts with African regional economic communities, submitting a draft cooperation agreement to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development;
- maintained contact with UN agencies and international organizations working with the AU to ensure a coordinated approach to humanitarian diplomacy.

CONTEXT

African leaders at the two AU summits in 2005 pledged to step up efforts to end armed conflict and political instability on the continent, stressing that peace was a prerequisite for prosperity. In assuming the role of peace-maker, the AU faced its biggest challenge in Sudan, where it had deployed more than 6,000 troops and monitors in the troubled region of Darfur and was mediating between the Sudanese government and opposition groups to end the three-year-old conflict.

At the AU summit in January in Abuja, Nigeria, member States adopted a non-aggression pact, to be backed up by pan-African cooperation in the fields of defence and security. In line with this and previous resolutions, the AU moved ahead with plans to establish a standby peace-keeping force. At the same time, it was working with African regional economic communities to create regional brigades which the AU Peace and Security Council could call on to help restore and maintain security on the continent. In May, the Council mandated the Djibouti-based Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to deploy peace-keepers in Somalia. However, deployment was being reconsidered, given the internal situation in Somalia.

Good governance was another theme that remained high on the AU's agenda. By year-end, 23 African countries had agreed to the African Peer Review Mechanism, whereby States monitored each other's progress towards political and economic reform. The AU had launched this initiative in 2004 as part of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, known as NEPAD, an anti-poverty blueprint promoting good political and economic practices.

The AU also continued to work to finalize its structure. In 2005, it launched the Economic, Social and Cultural Council, an advisory body comprising African experts from civil society, and took the decision to merge the African Court of Justice and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC was represented at the AU by a full-time head of mission and a deputy.

Throughout 2005, the ICRC's permanent mission to the AU pursued its efforts to gain a broad insight into multilateral African politics, draw attention to humanitarian issues and spread knowledge of IHL and the ICRC's related mandate and activities among AU staff and representatives of member States, focusing on the need to protect and assist civilians in time of armed conflict. It worked to ensure that AU policies and programmes featured IHL, where relevant, and encouraged the AU to draw on the ICRC's specific expertise in matters pertaining to IHL.

To this end, the ICRC fostered its relations with AU bodies, particularly the Commission and its directorates of peace and security, political affairs and social affairs, the Peace and Security Council and the Permanent Representatives Committee (AU-accredited ambassadors). It participated in various AU meetings and was made a full member of the Coordination Committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees and IDPs.

Through its network of delegations in Africa, the ICRC developed its contacts with African regional economic communities, which were seen by the AU as pillars for promoting peace and political and economic security on the continent. It consolidated its working relations with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), submitted a draft cooperation agreement to IGAD and maintained a dialogue with the Southern African Development Community and the Economic Community of Central African States.

The ICRC maintained close contact with the African Parliamentary Union (APU). It focused on assisting the Union in implementing its mechanism to evaluate the progress of its member States in ratifying IHL treaties and incorporating their provisions into domestic law.

The ICRC was also in regular contact in Addis Ababa with UN agencies and international organizations which were represented at the AU in order to coordinate humanitarian diplomacy on issues of common interest.

AUTHORITIES

Protecting and assisting IDPs and returnees

In an important development for the ICRC, the organization was promoted from the status of observer to full member of the AU Coordination Committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees and IDPs. This followed a decision adopted by the AU Executive Council, with ICRC input, at the AU summit in January. The decision urged member States to comply with IHL and requested the AU Commission to revive the coordination committee, set up by the OAU in 1968, and work closely with the ICRC and UNHCR to develop and implement policies on behalf of these vulnerable populations. As a result, the committee held its 26th ordinary session in Addis Ababa in May. At a bilateral meeting, the ICRC and the committee's president discussed the organization's support in drawing up a protocol on the rights and living conditions of IDPs and returnees, in accordance with IHL.

A workshop on child victims of conflict

To focus attention on the plight of children caught up in armed conflict, the ICRC helped organize a two-day workshop (16–17 June) in Addis Ababa as part of the 6th meeting of the AU Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Various NGOs, many of them African, attended the workshop, which was on the general theme "Protecting orphans and vulnerable children", and tied in with the Day of the African Child on 16 June. During the workshop, the ICRC gave a presentation, expressing its particular concern about the recruitment of child soldiers and children who went missing or became separated from their families during armed conflict. It explained its activities to protect and assist such children and stressed the protection afforded them by IHL. The organization also covered the costs of two of the workshop participants – a member of the UK-based NGO Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, which took part in the ICRC's presentation, and a Liberian Red Cross member.

The crisis in Darfur

Drawing on its extensive field experience in Darfur, the ICRC attended and distributed a press release at a donors' conference in Addis Ababa on 26 May, convened by the AU Mission in Sudan for Darfur and co-chaired by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. The press release highlighted the food shortages in rural Darfur, the climate of insecurity, the weakening local economy

and the growing dependence on aid. The ICRC's AU mission also facilitated contact during the year between the AU and the ICRC's delegation in Sudan.

Spreading knowledge of IHL

During 2005, the ICRC met both the AU peace and security commissioner and director. Discussions focused on humanitarian issues facing African countries in conflict or post-conflict situations and cooperation in the promotion of IHL, particularly the integration of IHL into training programmes for AU standby peace-keeping forces. The ICRC also had working meetings for the same purpose with representatives of the AU peace and security, political affairs and social affairs directorates and provided them, as well as the AU Peace and Security Council and the AU Permanent Representatives Committee, with regular updates on ICRC field activities and publications on developments in IHL.

At the same time, the ICRC had several meetings with a small group of AU-accredited ambassadors. Discussions centred on ways of implementing recommendations agreed in May 2004 at a brainstorming session, hosted by the AU and ICRC, on the theme "Strategies to ensure compliance with IHL by actors in internal armed conflicts in Africa". The participants put forward specific measures to promote the integration of IHL into AU member States' legislation, armed forces training and the curricula of academic institutions. The ICRC also held a briefing in November on IHL, the ICRC and the organization's relations with the AU for junior diplomats from South Africa.

African Parliamentary Union

The ICRC reaffirmed its willingness to help the APU follow up its Niamey and Cotonou declarations, adopted in 2002 and 2004 respectively. The declarations formally committed the APU to ensuring that, with ICRC support, its member States acceded to IHL treaties and incorporated their provisions into domestic law. Ahead of the APU's annual conference, the ICRC met separately with the Union's secretary-general and the president of the Executive Council. The ICRC was informed that an APU committee, comprising 11 member States, had been set up to review the status of IHL implementation in member countries and would meet for the first time in early 2006. The ICRC again shared its recommendations with the APU's secretariat on the role and function of the review committee and the support that the ICRC could offer. The ICRC also attended, as an

observer, the APU's Annual Conference and 47th session of the Executive Committee, held on 26–30 November in Brazzaville, the Republic of the Congo. In a written report to the Executive Committee, the APU's secretary-general requested member States to inform the APU of any progress made in the implementation of the Naimey and Cotonou declarations.

Developing relations with regional economic communities

The ICRC's permanent mission to the AU continued to develop its relations with Africa's regional economic communities, liaising closely with ICRC delegations in the countries where the bodies were based. Of particular interest to the ICRC was the fact that the AU considered that these communities should play a key role in the establishment of an AU standby peace-keeping force and in formulating and carrying out AU policies on conflict prevention, management and resolution. The ICRC submitted a draft cooperation agreement to IGAD, based on the agreement signed in 2003 with ECOWAS. The aim was to share analyses of humanitarian concerns, promote the wider application of IHL in Africa and offer the ICRC's expertise in that body of law. The ICRC also maintained contact, initiated in 2004, with IGAD's Addis Ababa-based Conflict and Early Warning and Response Mechanism centre. It updated the centre on its activities and developments in IHL and discussed shared concerns and future cooperation.



guinea

The ICRC has been extensively involved in protection activities in Guinea since 2002, particularly restoring family links, visiting detainees and advising the penal authorities. At the same time, it promotes IHL among the armed and security forces, political authorities, media and the public. It cooperates with the Red Cross Society of Guinea to strengthen its capacity to respond to emergencies and restore family links. The ICRC has worked in Guinea since 1970, initially through its regional delegations. Its operational delegation was opened in Conakry in 2001.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,905
Assistance	2,401
Prevention	1,711
Cooperation with National Societies	1,290
General	-

► **9,308**

of which: Overheads 568

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	99.2%
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PERSONNEL

29 expatriates
160 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- reunited 167 children with their families; collected 7,659 RCMs and delivered 7,233 RCMs;
- concluded its three-year rural water-supply programme, which saw the construction of 90 wells and water points in border villages most affected by population movements;
- worked with the Guinean Red Cross to start training 90 volunteers responsible for raising community awareness of hygiene and safe-water management in 85 border villages;
- donated a mobile laboratory to the Guinean water board and completed the rehabilitation of the Yalenzou water-treatment plant serving N'Zérékoré town;
- visited 2,971 detainees, including 459 monitored individually, and registered 416 new detainees during 226 visits to 62 detention places;
- established contact with, and conducted information sessions for, representatives of the Ministry of the National Islamic League and religious and traditional leaders; organized 10 sessions on the ICRC, for 115 religious leaders.

CONTEXT

President Lansana Conté escaped an attempt on his life at the beginning of 2005. He appointed a new prime minister, who sought to improve Guinea's image on the international stage by liberalizing its airwaves, reviving dialogue with the opposition and authorizing multiparty politics. This prompted donors and the international community to re-engage with Guinea after years of strained relations caused by the government's lack of progress on reforms. In municipal elections held in December, the president's party won in 31 of the 38 districts, an indication that the opposition's impact was minimal. The year saw the purging of the military, signalled by the announcement that several thousand personnel, including two generals, would be sent into retirement.

Guinea's economic situation worsened, and the stabilization of basic commodity prices at year's end did little to ease the hardship of most people, who continued to depend on subsistence agriculture or small-scale trade. Basic services such as water and electricity, practically non-existent beyond the capital, became scarcer even in Conakry as State and parastatal companies found themselves unable to provide any services. Dilapidated health and education facilities, too, received little attention as the government faced yet another year with diminished donor support and remained unable to meet the people's basic needs.

Notwithstanding an overall calming of the conflicts in the region, clashes between two ethnic groups in Guinée Forestière, the attempt on President Conté's life and other violent incidents served as a reminder of the volatile situation in Guinea. One of the clashes – between two ethnic groups in the town of N'Zérékoré – had to be quashed by security forces. The clashes left about ten people injured and led to the arrest of nearly 200.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	2,971	<i>Water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	459	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)		
Number of visits carried out	226	Beneficiaries		280,474
Number of places of detention visited	62	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	19,100
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	7,659			
RCMs distributed	7,233			
People reunited with their families	172			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	168			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	37			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	234			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	211			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	167			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	618			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	174			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	15			

ICRC ACTION

Many Liberians were reluctant to go home before the elections in their country. This slowed down the return process. Accordingly, throughout 2005, the ICRC concentrated on assisting Liberian refugees, particularly children separated from their families. It remained a principal actor in restoring family links and helping reunite children and vulnerable people with their families.

Several agencies coordinated their efforts to find the best solutions for the last group of Sierra Leonean children still separated from their families. The ICRC focused on securing greater protection for registered children seeking their families. This meant interceding on their behalf and, whenever possible, referring them to an agency able to provide them with support. By the end of 2005, a much-delayed UNICEF-funded programme to follow up Guinean children associated with fighting forces and already reunited with their families by the ICRC finally got off the ground.

The end of 2005 saw the conclusion of the ICRC water and sanitation programmes. Spanning the years since the attacks in Guinée Forestière, the programmes built 90 safe water points for rural Guineans and restored water-treatment plants in the three main towns affected by insecurity and population displacements. The part of the programmes aimed at raising communities' awareness of hygiene and proper

water management, undertaken jointly with the Guinean Red Cross, was set to continue in 2006.

The ICRC continued visiting all detention in places under the jurisdiction of the Ministries of Justice and Security. It monitored closely the situation in these places, paying particular attention to judicial guarantees, the treatment of detainees and detention conditions. Following the visits, it presented its observations and gave advice to the prison and judicial authorities. It provided material and structural support to the prison system, carrying out therapeutic feeding, water-supply and sanitation programmes as an emergency measure to bridge the gap left by a State prison system unable to cater adequately to detainees' needs. The organization also facilitated interministerial dialogue to help improve the treatment and living conditions of detainees.

The ICRC strengthened its contacts and relations with opposition, religious and traditional leaders to explain its mandate and promote its activities in Guinea. Meetings with the leaders enabled the organization to gain a better understanding of the groups they represented, their role in society and their perceptions of the Red Cross. Discussions with the army chief of staff helped revitalize a joint ICRC/Guinean military IHL training programme.

In 2005, the ICRC consolidated its already strong commitment to building the capacity of the Guinean Red Cross. The International Federation's deployment of a representative to Guinea around July made it possible to resume tripartite cooperation, suspended since the Federation's departure from Guinea in 2004. Increased ICRC involvement in coordinating Movement operations in Guinea led to the launch of a project to co-finance the construction of a national headquarters for the Guinean Red Cross.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The ICRC maintained its dialogue with the local, regional and national authorities, security and police forces, the judiciary and civil society. The purpose was to keep abreast of any developments in the humanitarian situation, notably a spillover into Guinea of the instability in neighbouring countries. The ICRC continued to bring to the authorities' attention its concerns about violations of rules protecting the dignity and integrity of individuals.

To better detect and respond to civilians' problems arising from mass influxes of refugees, violations of IHL or similar situations, the ICRC compiled information on villages along Guinea's borders with Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The data should help determine the villages most at risk, the resources available locally to resolve related

problems, and the kind of support that would be needed urgently (in terms of food, water, sanitation, etc.) in the event of a crisis.

- ▶ 2 emergency water-treatment kits pre-positioned in Kissidougou and N'Zérékoré to supply 10,000 people with 5 litres of water daily for three months
- ▶ emergency stock of household items for 4,000 families (20,000 people) maintained in Conakry and ICRC sub-delegations to respond to needs occasioned by internal and/or sub-regional tensions

Restoring family links

For years, refugees in Guinea lacked the means to locate and maintain contact with family members separated from them by conflict. The RCM network, run by the ICRC in cooperation with the Guinean Red Cross, continued to assist civilians affected by conflict, particularly refugees, to re-establish family links.

With the consolidation of peace, many refugees had gradually returned to their home countries or found alternative channels of communication. This had eased the ICRC's caseload, enabling it to focus its services on those still with no other means of communication (unaccompanied children, children separated from their parents and accompanied by a vulnerable family member or other caregiver, and vulnerable adults).

In 2005, the ICRC identified, registered and regularly monitored new cases falling within its criteria, but exercised extra caution because it had recently noted that many of those originally believed to be unaccompanied children or otherwise falling within ICRC criteria were in fact accompanied and thus far less vulnerable than initially believed. This reduced the number of cases deserving close attention and prompted the ICRC to close some of them.

The ICRC regularly revisited children searching for their relatives or awaiting family reunification and offered them the opportunity to correspond with their parents. The children's number gradually dropped owing to family reunifications carried out by the ICRC and other organizations and to ongoing repatriation. To keep track of those who opted for repatriation, the ICRC was present at the departure of UNHCR convoys and verified their safe arrival back home.

- ▶ 6,923 RCMs collected from and 6,834 RCMs delivered to civilians
- ▶ 37 persons located; 234 tracing cases still being processed (117 regarding women and 109 minors at the time of disappearance)
- ▶ 211 new cases of unaccompanied children and children separated from their parents registered in and outside camps
- ▶ 666 registered people, including Liberians, Sierra Leoneans and Ivorians monitored
- ▶ 167 children (unaccompanied/separated or demobilized) registered in Guinea reunited with their relatives in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone
- ▶ repatriation by UNHCR and follow up by the ICRC of 129 unaccompanied children to Liberia and 26 to Sierra Leone
- ▶ 594 cases of unaccompanied/separated children and 24 of demobilized children still being processed

Assisting children separated from their families

The living conditions of registered unaccompanied children remaining in refugee camps deteriorated for various reasons. A reduction in food assistance and services (such as secondary education and health care), along with the repatriation of foster families, left children with limited material assistance, adult supervision and care, and increased their risk of exploitation.

Regular visits to the children enabled the ICRC to assess their situation. On many occasions, and with the children's prior consent, the ICRC interceded with other organizations to assist them. It continued to seek out organizations in a position to offer ad hoc specialized assistance to people it had registered outside refugee camps. Particular efforts were devoted to three categories of children separated from their families.

Female field officers were hired to improve the organization's access to girls in difficulty and to assess the needs of 22 ICRC-registered girls, particularly pregnant ones and underage mothers.

As part of the effort to support children formerly associated with fighting forces in the sub-region, Guinean children were reunited with their families and regularly visited thereafter, pending the arrival of other child-protection agencies capable of providing the necessary follow-up. By the end of 2005, a local organization

funded by UNICEF had been selected to help reintegrate 23 such children and 115 other children at risk of recruitment into their communities.

To assist Sierra Leonean children whose families had yet to be located despite years of tracing efforts, the ICRC cooperated with UNICEF, UNHCR and the International Rescue Committee to seek durable solutions. These included repatriation and proposals to the Guinean authorities to integrate the children into local communities.

Improving civilians' living conditions and access to water

In the rural Guinée Forestière region, the ICRC continued implementing its water and sanitation programmes, constructing and restoring 30 wells in 85 villages and fitting them with hand pumps. This raised the number of wells constructed by the organization to 90, serving some 70,000 people. Together with the Guinean Red Cross, the ICRC launched a health education programme in each of the villages to help sustain and manage the wells.

In urban areas, the project for the restoration of the N'Zérékoré water-treatment and pumping station, undertaken in collaboration with the Guinean water board, neared completion, with 95% of the work accomplished by the end of 2005.

- ▶ access to water and sanitation improved for a total of 280,000 people
- ▶ houses constructed/rebuilt for 19,100 people

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Safeguarding detainees' welfare

The ICRC continued to visit regularly detainees held in 32 permanent places of detention under the authority of the Justice Ministry. It regularly visited major police and *gendarmerie* posts in Conakry, while it conducted such visits elsewhere in the country as needed. Access to these temporary places of detention improved following dissemination sessions conducted by the ICRC at central and local levels.

The ICRC continued to monitor closely the case of Ivorians detained after they sought refuge in Guinea. Representations were made to various authorities to remind them of their obligations to respect the principle of *non-refoulement*. The ICRC proposed practical ways of dealing with the issue.

- 2,971 detainees visited during 226 visits to 62 detention places; 459 detainees, including 43 minors and 22 women, monitored individually
- 736 RCMs collected from and 399 RCMs delivered to detainees

A constructive dialogue with the Justice Ministry, in particular the prison administration, centred on detainees' access to health care and food, respect for judicial guarantees and the optimal allocation and use of resources. The ICRC made written and oral representations to prosecutors, judges and the chief of police, notably with regard to basic judicial guarantees, in particular where the detention of minors aged under 13 was concerned. In addition it organized a workshop on judicial guarantees attended by staff of the central prison in Conakry and stakeholders from the judicial sector.

Repeated ICRC representations helped persuade the authorities to reallocate resources according to needs in various prisons and to decide on a new prison food-supply system. In late 2005, the ICRC organized a round-table with representatives of various ministries, during which steps were taken to implement the new system of supplying food to detainees. The ICRC continued supporting the prison administration and closely monitoring food supply to facilitate prison reform.

Implementation of the protocol agreement on health in detention places, signed by the Justice and Health Ministries in 2004, remained slow. Noted progress included the appointment of medical personnel to monitor prisons and the allocation of a small budget for medicines for detainees countrywide.

Following a national survey, five prisons were selected as priorities for rehabilitation. The work enhanced access to potable water and improved sanitary installations and the living environment (lighting, ventilation, partial roof repairs and fumigation).

- some 450 detainees supported through therapeutic feeding programmes carried out in 10 detention places
- some 300 detainees in 11 prisons treated for scabies by the ICRC/authorities; health programme established for the entire prison population in these prisons
- with the authorities, first-aid kits distributed to prisons
- mass deworming programmes conducted in 3 detention places

- 3 water and sanitation projects successfully implemented with the prison authorities, 2 others neared completion; access to water and sanitation improved for 474 inmates
- support given for the creation of committees comprising detainees and prison personnel to improve hygiene in 8 prisons, and training in basic hygiene and upkeep of repaired facilities provided
- buckets, brooms and soap distributed to all permanent detention places
- distribution of prison registers initiated

WOUNDED AND SICK

An emergency stock of medical supplies for the treatment of 100 hospitalized war-wounded and first-aid kits to treat 600 people were positioned in Conakry and in ICRC sub-delegations as a contingency measure in the event of emergencies.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC launched an initiative to support the creation of an IHL committee and maintained contact with an interministerial committee tasked with combating the proliferation of light weapons.

- 2 high-ranking government officials sponsored to attend the Economic Community of West African States/ICRC IHL seminar in Abuja (see *Abuja*)

A series of round-tables enabled the ICRC to consolidate its relations with the regional authorities and culminated in plans to promote IHL, protect the emblem and improve detention conditions.

- information sessions organized for local and national authorities countrywide on the ICRC's mandate and activities

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC and the country's army chief of staff organized a round-table that assembled 28 high-ranking officers, opening a dialogue with the military hierarchy and prompting the adoption of an action plan that articulated the forces' responsibilities in integrating IHL and the support the ICRC could bring to the process. Efforts to familiarize the armed and security forces with the ICRC and IHL took into account the organization's operational needs, notably access to detainees.

- 1 high-ranking military officer sponsored to attend an IHL course in San Remo
- information sessions organized for 1,980 soldiers, officers and elite troops; information sessions/a round-table on the ICRC and detention held for 36 security officers in N'Zérékoré and Conakry
- 4 seminars on IHL/human rights law organized for 150 high-ranking police officials
- training seminar held for 30 police officers

CIVIL SOCIETY

ICRC efforts to acquaint the public with its mandate, activities and IHL reached hundreds of people countrywide. The organization strengthened relations with the media, which reported widely on humanitarian activities, and maintained contacts with local and regional organizations, including the Mano River Women's Peace Network.

- a trip organized for international journalists covering reunification of children with their families in Guinea and Liberia
- a round-table and other sessions on the ICRC organized for members of the Ministry of the National Islamic League, 14 NGOs and Guinean youth associations
- an information stand mounted at the "Forum Social Africain" held in Conakry in December

The ICRC and Guinea's three main universities organized an IHL competition. The ICRC sponsored the best four of the 150 contestants to represent Guinea in a regional moot-court competition held in Dakar in August.

- IHL module integrated into Kankan University's curriculum
- an IHL session held for 35 college lecturers
- 2 professors sponsored to attend the pan-African IHL course in Yaoundé (see *Yaoundé*)

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Coordination of Movement activities and tracing services

Lack of financial and human resources and insufficient support from other Movement partners constrained the National Society's efforts to address humanitarian needs. Until July, the ICRC was the only Movement partner present in the country and supporting the National Society. The International Federation assisted the National Society's cholera-prevention programme.

ICRC support included:

- ▶ assisting in the evaluation of the National Society's tracing services and the production of a tracing manual and field guide for early-response and first-aid teams;
- ▶ the monthly follow-up and training of committees active in tracing along volatile borders;
- ▶ the training of 340 committee members and 26 directors;
- ▶ donating bicycles and office supplies to the National Society.

Responding to emergencies and promoting IHL and the Movement

The ICRC continued strengthening the National Society's capacities to respond to emergencies and promote the Fundamental Principles, and helped it revise its contingency plan to enhance emergency preparedness.

- ▶ the "Safer Access" approach presented to 60 National Society leaders; 780 Red Cross members and 180 members of early-response teams trained; first-aid trainers' workshop conducted for 16 team leaders
- ▶ 90 volunteer community workers trained to manage the sanitation facilities and 90 wells constructed by the ICRC
- ▶ support provided for the construction of 2 National Society branch offices
- ▶ 5 dissemination workshops held for 114 National Society leaders; the "Safer Access" framework used to emphasize the importance of activities such as IHL dissemination on the safety of Movement partners
- ▶ IHL workshops organized for 39 trainers and communicators
- ▶ 26 local committees assisted in celebrating World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May
- ▶ production of the National Society's quarterly newsletter and promotional materials supported

- ▶ the Red Cross school programme introduced in 7 schools, raising the number of participating schools to 92; a Red Cross course conducted for 62 lecturers from teacher training institutions and 180 primary- and secondary-school teachers; conferences organized to familiarize 350 parents, teachers and students with the programme; 50 programme committee members trained
- ▶ the national interministerial committee on misuse of the emblem decentralized
- ▶ National Society representatives briefed ahead of the 28th International Conference in Seoul; the National Society's participation in the conference funded



liberia

Following the spread of intense fighting early in 2003, which ended with a peace agreement in August, the ICRC stepped up its operations in Liberia. With large numbers of people returning home to their destroyed villages, needs remain great. In 2005, ICRC assistance and protection activities concentrated on returnees (former IDPs and refugees) and residents, the wounded and sick, detainees, and children separated from their families. The ICRC supports the Liberian Red Cross Society and promotes IHL among all armed forces present in Liberia. The ICRC has worked in Liberia since 1970, initially through its regional delegations. Its operational delegation in Monrovia was opened in 1990.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	6,031
Assistance	21,429
Prevention	747
Cooperation with National Societies	1,952
General	16

► **30,174**

of which: Overheads **1,822**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92.2%
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PERSONNEL

46 expatriates
306 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- reunited 71 Liberian refugee and displaced children, including those formerly associated with fighting forces, with their parents in Liberia; continued monitoring 142 children, including those formerly associated with fighting forces;
- collected 33,136 RCMs, including 438 from children separated from their families; together with the Liberian Red Cross, distributed 26,630 RCMs, including 329 to children;
- visited 548 detainees in 33 places of detention; facilitated the return of almost 400 Liberian ex-fighters interned in Sierra Leone;
- assisted over 430,000 people by distributing seeds to 75,000 families, tools to 85,000 families and essential household items to 24,000 families;
- revived 6 primary-health-care facilities by renovating and equipping them, and continued to support 5 existing facilities in Lofa, Grand Kru, Grand Bassa and Montserrado counties; rebuilt 3 facilities in Lofa and built/repared 468 wells/682 latrines in Monrovia and 6 counties;
- organized sessions on the Movement for over 2,000 police recruits and promoted respect for international standards governing the treatment of detainees.

CONTEXT

All actors in Liberia – the UN, the National Transitional Government (NTG) and civil society, etc. – devoted 2005 to organizing the presidential elections in October, which recorded a high turnout of the 1.3 million registered voters. The international community and its observers declared the elections and the presidential run-off in November largely a success. The elections proved to be a stiff contest, with Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf emerging the victor over George Weah. The swearing in of the new president was planned for January 2006.

All military factions were disbanded and some 107,000 fighters disarmed and demobilized – three times more than expected. Nevertheless, the rehabilitation and reintegration process made a slow start. With relatively few programmes to equip them with useful skills, many ex-combatants were left disillusioned and disgruntled, making them a potentially serious security threat. Some 15,000 troops from the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) helped maintain peace and stability in the country.

By the end of 2005, some 50% of Liberian refugees had returned from Sierra Leone and Guinea, and well over 80% of the estimated 300,000 IDPs had left the camps where they were staying. Unfortunately, the vast majority could only make it home after the onset of the rainy season when it was too late to plant crops, making it difficult for them to start rebuilding their lives.

Homes had been destroyed during the conflict, and agricultural land had become

overgrown after years of lying fallow. Public services such as health care, schools, water supply and sanitation were rundown or inexistent. Refugees and IDPs returned to their areas of origin with very little, and in some regions, their return rekindled ethnic animosities and land and property disputes.

The International Civilian Police (CIVPOL) made progress in creating and training a new police force. However, the restructuring and training of the new armed forces were delayed by lack of funding, and the planned strength of the force was reduced from 4,000 to 2,000. Judicial reforms remained at the embryonic stage.

The NTG was particularly notorious for corruption. Reluctant to disburse funds pledged for the country's reconstruction and in an effort to rein in corruption, the donor community signed an agreement with the NTG, binding also on future governments, providing for the placement of international experts in key government institutions to provide checks and balances.

Liberia continued to depend substantially on imports and foreign aid. With the UN sanctions on diamonds and timber extended for 12 months and the commercial agricultural sector all but collapsed, little was produced locally, and unemployment was high.

The fragile situation in neighbouring Côte d'Ivoire affected areas along the border between the two countries, with reports emerging of the recruitment of fighters, including children, by Ivorian armed groups.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	548	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Number of visits carried out	62	Food	Beneficiaries	36,119
Number of places of detention visited	33	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	143,898
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	432,029
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	4,750
RCMs collected	33,136	Health		
RCMs distributed	26,630	Health centres supported	Structures	11
People reunited with their families	71	Consultations	Patients	99,242
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Activities	69,360
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	123	WOUNDED AND SICK		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	36	Hospitals supported	Structures	2
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	256	Admissions	Patients	1,296
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Operations	Operations performed	312
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	76			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	71			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	142			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	25			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC's priority was to provide protection and assistance to the significant numbers of refugees returning spontaneously to Liberia and the even larger numbers of IDPs returning to their places of origin. It provided agricultural tools and other material assistance and repaired or built health-care facilities and water and sanitation systems to help the people in areas that had absorbed the most returnees, mainly Lofa and Nimba counties, to rebuild their lives. The organization extended similar support to other areas, such as the south-east, which had been affected by prolonged conflict but had received little external assistance. To cater to the needs of returnees in these areas, the ICRC stepped up emergency assistance to them. It also provided the health facilities it had rehabilitated with medical supplies and on-the-job staff training.

Considerable emphasis was placed on restoring contact between family members dispersed by the conflict, particularly reuniting children with relatives. The ICRC initiated programmes tailored to meet the needs of individual children separated from their families, including those formerly associated with fighting forces.

The ICRC regularly visited the ever-increasing number of places of detention throughout the country to monitor conditions of detention and provide assistance as required. It also continued to promote IHL, human rights law and the ICRC's role and mandate among foreign military

contingents, the newly trained Liberian police force and the fledgling judiciary.

Lack of Liberian health staff, the remoteness of certain areas and delays in the restructuring of the Liberian armed forces hampered the implementation of certain ICRC objectives. Moreover, willing as they were to cooperate with the ICRC, the authorities had limited capacity to act.

Mainly alone in implementing assistance programmes in many parts of Liberia, the ICRC was concerned that less humanitarian aid than needed or expected had been forthcoming. Its uninterrupted presence and activities in the Liberian hinterland confirmed the ICRC as a major actor within the humanitarian and international community. It pursued regular discussion and coordination with other agencies present in Liberia.

The ICRC remained the Movement's lead agency in Liberia and continued to support the Liberian Red Cross's tracing, communication, first-aid and emergency-response programmes.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians and restoring family links

The few armed elements still present were confined to isolated parts of the country. The diminishing threat from these quarters was counterbalanced by a marked increase in violent criminality, often involving firearms and mob violence in parts of Monrovia.

Areas rich in natural resources, including rubber plantations and gold and diamond mines, attracted former fighters who continued to pose a threat to local security. The alleged recruitment of children in areas adjacent to the Ivorian border was another cause of concern.

Through its considerable tracing and assistance programmes, the ICRC reinforced its presence in communities throughout Liberia and was thus in a position to monitor closely vulnerable population groups.

Thousands of families dispersed by conflict continued to rely on RCMs to re-establish and maintain contact with relatives in and around Liberia.

The ICRC began implementing some of the recommendations of a 2004 external evaluation of its programme to trace the relatives of Liberian children separated from their families. At the end of 2005, the ICRC was monitoring over 713 such children living in the West African sub-region. About 44% had yet to re-establish links with their families.

- 71 refugee and displaced Liberian children reunited with family in Liberia; 55 new cases of unaccompanied/separated children and 21 of demobilized children registered
- 33,136 RCMs collected (438 from children separated from their families) and 26,630 RCMs delivered (329 to children)
- 123 tracing requests collected from Liberian parents and children outside the sub-region; 36 solved positively and 256 (including 133 women and 165 minors at the time of disappearance) still being processed at the end of 2005
- all children previously reunited with their families regularly monitored to ensure their effective reintegration

The ICRC launched a sub-regional poster campaign, featuring 371 unaccompanied minors from four countries, drawing much-needed attention to the lingering plight of children separated from their families.

Helping IDPs and returnees cope with their circumstances

By late 2005, well over half of the nearly 600,000 Liberians in IDP and refugee camps had returned to their places of origin. The launch in March of the UN-supported process to accelerate the return of IDPs considerably increased the numbers returning to their homes. By the end of 2005, a mere 50,000 people were estimated to have remained in IDP camps and over 200,000 in refugee camps.

International NGOs and other government partners provided preventive and primary health care in the camps. The ICRC continued to run a clinic in Blamacee Camp for IDPs in Montserrado County until the end of 2005, when all the families in the camp had received resettlement entitlements. It also helped the community take over and run the facility as a clinic for the resident population.

- some 10,000 consultations performed in ICRC clinic, and 63 patients referred to Monrovia hospitals
- 249 health-education sessions organized for the community

The ICRC maintained latrines, wells and bathhouses and disposed of solid waste in five camps housing 60,000 people. With the closure of two camps in June and the steady return of IDPs to their places of origin, the number of people assisted dropped to 20,000. In tandem with these projects, the ICRC and the Liberian Red Cross carried out activities to promote hygiene.

In regions receiving returnees, the ICRC provided residents and returnees with tools, seeds and household items.

- tools distributed to some 85,000 households, 1,400 tonnes of rice seed and vegetable seeds distributed to 75,000 families, vegetable-seed kits distributed to 6,000 families
- 150 tonnes of food distributed as seed-protection rations for 30,000 individuals
- some 24,000 essential household items (kitchen sets, sleeping mats, tarpaulins, clothes, buckets) distributed to returnees

Small-scale ICRC-run agricultural projects benefited approximately 800 individuals. These included kitchen-garden projects teaching vulnerable women how to produce vegetables for income generation, and a project aimed at multiplying improved rice-seed varieties.

Kitchen-garden projects in Lofa and Nimba counties, involving over 120 children, were among the very few vocational training programmes for children, including those formerly associated with fighting forces, outside Monrovia. These programmes provided valuable lessons for bigger reintegration programmes initiated at the end of 2005 for the same target group.

Through a pilot shelter project, using the food-for-work approach, over 250 traditional houses were constructed for vulnerable returnees in Lofa and Nimba counties.

The ICRC maintained support to the Liberian Red Cross Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation programme in Monrovia. The object of the programme was to provide schooling, vocational training and psychological support to 150 children affected by conflict, thus facilitating their return to a normal life.

Health care, water and sanitation for conflict-weary civilians

Just as rural communities had begun to recover from the effects of conflict, the return of large numbers of former IDPs threatened to overstretch already meagre resources. Essential services such as water supply and basic sanitation remained inadequate, leaving rural populations dependent on the limited health services provided by humanitarian agencies.

International NGOs began expanding primary health care and reviving clinics and health centres. Some counties, however,

continued to struggle without external assistance. With hospitals functioning in only five counties, the ICRC referred patients to secondary health-care facilities in Monrovia and transferred emergency cases directly to them.

The ICRC maintained its primary-health-care activities in Voinjama District of Lofa County, remained the sole international actor supporting the health sector in Grand Kru County and launched a new project in Kolahun District.

The refresher training programme for traditional midwives continued in Lofa County, and a similar one was launched in Grand Kru County. The programme concentrated on antenatal care, babies' nutrition, and hygiene, while raising awareness of and providing guidance on the management of cases involving sexual violence. The courses were attended by 95 traditional midwives in Lofa and 102 in Grand Kru.

In Voinjama District, the Voinjama health centre became the main medical facility, with a doctor appointed by the Health Ministry and a basic laboratory. The health centre performed 38,679 consultations. Three additional clinics provided basic preventive and curative health care in the district.

In Kolahun District, the ICRC renovated and furnished two clinics and a health centre in preparation for reopening in early 2006.

In Grand Kru County, five facilities were upgraded and provided with medical supplies, and Health Ministry staff received incentives. A health centre was equipped with a basic laboratory.

- some 90,000 consultations given at ICRC-supported primary-health-care facilities (an average of 11 centres) covering an estimated population of 189,000 people

The ICRC continued to improve water supply and sanitation conditions for underserved communities and institutions in six counties and in Monrovia and its environs. Altogether, 341,920 people benefited from the organization's water and sanitation programmes, including 4,750 who benefited from those completed in 2005.

- 337 wells and 376 latrines constructed or rehabilitated in places anticipating huge numbers of returnees, chiefly Lofa, Grand Gedeh, Bong, River Gee, Maryland and River Cess counties

- ▶ 131 wells and 303 latrines constructed in swampy and/or overpopulated communities in Monrovia and its environs, including in 10 orphanages

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Safeguarding the welfare of detainees

Years of war in Liberia had caused the collapse of national law and order institutions, particularly the correctional and judicial systems, as evidenced by congested places of detention and a surge in the number of cases awaiting trial. With the gradual rise in the number of detainees countrywide throughout 2005, an increasing number of places of detention resumed operations.

The ICRC had unfettered access to all official places of detention and visited detainees regularly. It extended its activities to all the 33 newly identified or established places of detention. It collected 44 RCMs from detainees and distributed 10 RCMs to them, thereby enabling them to re-establish contact with their families.

In 2005, the ICRC successfully monitored compliance with the conditions of the repatriation of 387 Liberian internees held in Sierra Leone since 2003 and of their reintegration into their communities (see also *Sierra Leone*).

The ICRC encouraged the authorities to assume their rightful role in improving detention conditions and supported them in doing so.

- ▶ separate latrines and bathhouses constructed for male and female detainees in 3 prisons; a similar project under way in another prison

WOUNDED AND SICK

Bringing health care closer to the people

Greater Monrovia had several private and public hospitals. Seven counties had functional secondary hospitals. People from other counties, however, had to travel long distances or even seek care from neighbouring countries.

The ICRC continued supporting the Stephen A. Tolbert Memorial Hospital in Grand Bassa County until December 2005, when it was handed over to the Mittal Steel Company. The very busy 30-bed general hospital provided outpatient and

preventive services, surgical, medical, paediatric and obstetric care for emergency and semi-elective patients, and received patients from River Cess County.

Stephen A. Tolbert Memorial Hospital

- ▶ some 32,000 outpatient consultations given; over 950 patients admitted; 312 operations performed
- ▶ a generator, monthly fuel supplies, medical and other supplies and incentives for 70 staff provided
- ▶ seminars held monthly to build the capacity of the management team and the quality of nursing care

Lack of human resources hampered the ICRC's plans to revamp the Rally Time Hospital in Grand Cess County, and the facility functioned as a health centre with a basic laboratory.

Rally Time Hospital

- ▶ medical supplies donated, and financial incentives provided to staff
- ▶ some 9,000 outpatient consultations carried out; over 300 patients admitted

AUTHORITIES

Promoting IHL and its implementation

The ICRC maintained its dialogue with the international and national authorities, attending coordination meetings and briefing representatives of the government, UNMIL and the UN, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and NGOs on its role and activities. Its efforts included:

- ▶ regular contact with the Foreign and Justice ministries, sponsoring 2 ministry representatives to attend an ECOWAS/ICRC course in Abuja on IHL implementation;
- ▶ contact with a professor of international law at Liberia University to discuss an IHL study;
- ▶ 3 IHL sessions/workshops on IHL and the ICRC for 152 local and community leaders/representatives of the Independent Human Rights Commission;
- ▶ publication of news releases on the website of the UN Humanitarian Information Centre for Liberia.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Raising awareness of IHL and humanitarian principles among the armed and security forces

The formation and training by UNMIL/CIVPOL of the new police force progressed well, exceeding the initial target of training 1,800 officers. The ICRC:

- ▶ organized 67 sessions on its mandate and activities, for 2,016 recruits;
- ▶ regularly met CIVPOL instructors and the management of the police academy.

The Defence Ministry, supported by the US government and UNMIL, dismantled the 15,000-strong army, demobilizing over 12,000 troops. The ICRC:

- ▶ maintained contact with the ministry;
- ▶ established contact with DynCorp, a private security firm restructuring/training the armed forces;
- ▶ maintained a dialogue with the UNMIL military hierarchy and troops;
- ▶ organized 18 sessions on IHL, the ICRC and the UN Secretary-General's bulletin on observance by UN forces of IHL for 1,260 UN military observers and the UNMIL command.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Familiarizing the public with IHL

The ICRC continued to foster relations with the local and international media. Humanitarian issues that caught the media's interest included an exhibition marking 20 years of the ICRC's water and sanitation programmes, as well as child-protection, tracing and economic-security activities.

- ▶ 2 trips organized for international journalists to witness the reunification of refugee/displaced Liberian children with their families in Liberia
- ▶ 6th tracing campaign launched with the media
- ▶ testing of the educational comic book, *Battle of the villages*, successfully completed in 9 schools

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Strengthening the National Society's legal, doctrinal and structural base

The ICRC, the Liberian Red Cross and the International Federation organized six workshops on governance for 14 Red Cross chapters, attended by 201 participants. The National Society's newly adopted first-aid training policy helped to put in place an effective contingency plan ahead of the general and run-off elections.

With support from the ICRC, the president and the secretary general of the National Society attended the Council of Delegates in Seoul in November.

The Liberian Red Cross produced a draft of internal regulations on the use of the emblem by its staff and volunteers and a draft petition to the National Transitional Legislative Assembly for the enactment of an emblem law. It submitted them both to the authorities for review.

Supporting Liberian Red Cross activities

The ICRC continued to support the National Society's tracing network, with 209 volunteers operating in 159 locations. The two partners produced and distributed a handbook for all tracing officers and volunteers active in the country.

- 180 tracing volunteers trained
- 2 courses conducted for 21 tracing officers

ICRC efforts to strengthen the National Society's capacity to promote IHL, the Fundamental Principles and respect for the emblem included:

- sessions for 2,000 National Society staff/volunteers;
- a training module on IHL promotion;
- the donation of 15 television sets, generators and video recorders;
- the donation of 30 flip charts for use in dissemination;
- help with the printing of 4,000 brochures/calendars;
- help in establishing 60 Red Cross youth clubs in primary schools;
- information sessions for 236 tracing volunteers/media personnel/students;
- 2 refresher trainers' courses for dissemination officers.

ICRC support to the Liberian Red Cross in assisting people affected by conflict remained on course. Within the scope of a

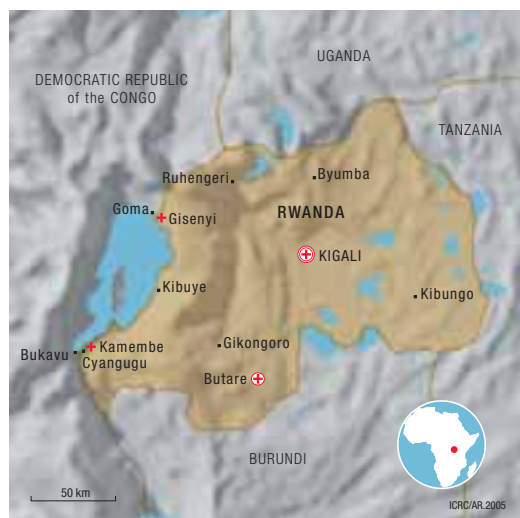
national contingency plan, trained Red Cross volunteers ran first-aid posts in major cities during the general elections.

The National Society signed a contract to deliver a first-aid course for 500 Firestone Rubber Company workers and trained 20 UNICEF staff.

National Society activities supported by the ICRC included:

- first-aid training for 400 volunteers;
- distribution of 32,060 kg of seeds/seedlings to 3,985 families and 1,761 agricultural tools to 934 families;
- the creation of 10 community committees to manage constructed/rehabilitated water wells; the training and equipping of 20 people to maintain community water pumps;
- analysis and treatment of over 200 water sources; the installation of 300 chlorination pots in open wells;
- distribution of material assistance to 474 families;
- the supply of starter kits to 145 children from the Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation programme.

Movement partners continued to observe security rules updated by the ICRC and held meetings on issues of common concern. Additionally, guidelines for internal and external communication were established.



rwanda

The ICRC opened a delegation in Rwanda in 1990. Its current activities focus on visiting the tens of thousands of detainees held in central prisons. It also regularly visits people held in places of temporary detention such as police stations and military facilities. It helps to reunite children with the families from whom they became separated during the exodus of 1994 or the mass repatriations in 1996–97. The ICRC works with the authorities to incorporate IHL into domestic legislation and into school and university curricula. It also supports the development of the Rwandan Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,373
Assistance	8,960
Prevention	888
Cooperation with National Societies	668
General	-

► **13,890**

of which: Overheads 848

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89.8%
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PERSONNEL

28 expatriates
195 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- following a gradual phase-out, ended food deliveries to prisons and handed over this responsibility to the government after 11 years of providing the service;
- conducted health, hygiene and water projects in prisons and drew up a national plan for the prevention of and response to HIV/AIDS infection in places of detention;
- regularly visited detainees in all places of detention, paying particular attention to detainees' diet, and conveyed its findings to prison authorities;
- assisted the Ministry of Internal Security in carrying out an assessment of the current situation and needs of the National Prisons Service;
- completed water-distribution projects benefiting more than 172,000 people in both rural and urban areas;
- supported the integration of IHL and of international human rights standards and humanitarian principles into army and police training respectively, and further developed its network of partners in civil society for the promotion of IHL.

CONTEXT

Following a two-year process of institutional and legislative reforms marking an end to the transition period, the authorities turned their attention to the reform of the judicial system. Considerable challenges lay ahead with respect to bringing to justice people suspected of involvement in the 1994 genocide. Some 9,000 *gacaca* courts, based on the concept of a traditional tribal council, were set up throughout the country and started collecting information and hearing testimonies. More than 700,000 genocide suspects were expected to appear before these courts in the next few years.

Gacaca courts in 118 jurisdictions began work in March, and by the end of the year, more than 4,000 people had been brought before them. The trials did not lead to a rise in the prison population. Rather, following the release of around 23,000 inmates in July, the total number of detainees had decreased. Those released included detainees who had confessed to taking part in the genocide but were not ringleaders, those whose case files against them lacked sufficient evidence to warrant a conviction and those who had spent more time in detention than they would have served if convicted. Nevertheless, approximately 70,000 inmates, including around 11,000 ordinary criminals, remained behind bars.

In the Declaration of Rome issued in March, the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR), the armed opposition group based in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), denounced the genocide for the first time and said it would disarm and return to Rwanda providing its forces were given guarantees of their reintegration into Rwandan society under international supervision. The Rwandan government responded by reiterating its willingness to welcome the ex-fighters home and to help them settle back into society. The FDLR's announcement, however, had not led to significant disarmament and repatriation by the end of the year.

On the international scene, Rwanda decided to boost the size of its contingent taking part in the African Union's peace-keeping mission in Darfur, Sudan.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	92,965	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	722	Food	Beneficiaries	64,160
Number of visits carried out	244	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	100,102
Number of places of detention visited	103	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	2,352
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	172,479
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	19,885
RCMs collected	5,837	WOUNDED AND SICK		
RCMs distributed	6,606	Hospital supported	Structure	1
People reunited with their families	53			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	145			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	47			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	93			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	102			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	53			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	699			

ICRC ACTION

Rwanda's stability and the government's commitment to the country's development prompted the ICRC to continue to phase out its assistance programmes. Instead, more emphasis was placed on helping bolster the capacities of local institutions.

All micro-projects for widows' associations drew to a close during the first quarter of 2005. An assessment of their impact showed that the ICRC's input had helped beneficiary associations keep their projects going.

In light of the authorities' willingness to take responsibility for supplying food to prisons and the inclusion of the additional expense in the 2006 State budget, the ICRC stopped providing rations to the last three prisons it was still thus assisting. Over the three previous years, the delegation had gradually reduced the supply of food, with the State meeting 85% of the prison population's nutritional needs in 2005. The ICRC systematically monitored the nutritional status of the detainees and carried out much-needed health, water and hygiene projects in prisons. Delegates conducted regular visits to detainees held in police stations and military-run places of detention.

The ICRC delegation became increasingly involved in the prison administration's reform process. It completed a preliminary assessment of the prison service and submitted the study to the Ministry of Internal Security. The authorities were to use the report to find ways of reinforcing the prison

administration. Six major water projects, two of them supplying central prisons as well as the general population, were completed and handed over to the authorities for management and maintenance.

For planning and fundraising purposes, the Rwandan Red Cross organized two partnership meetings attended by other National Societies, the International Federation, the ICRC and prospective donors.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

The ICRC, in cooperation with the Rwandan Red Cross, offered the RCM service to people separated from their families. It also continued to provide tracing and RCM services in Mutobo camp for fighters demobilized and repatriated to Rwanda by the United Nations Mission in the DRC.

In addition, the ICRC worked with the National Society to reunite children with their relatives. To check on how such children were faring, the ICRC conducted a survey of recently reunited families. Despite the difficulties arising from the increasingly long time spent apart and the economic problems at home, the overwhelming majority of children and their families who took part in the survey were satisfied with the reunification.

- 5,229 RCMs collected from and 5,987 RCMs delivered to civilians

- 47 people located at their families' request
- in cooperation with the National Society, 50 unaccompanied/separated children and 52 demobilized child soldiers registered
- 52 unaccompanied/separated children and 1 demobilized child soldier reunited with their families
- 699 cases of children separated from their families under investigation at the end of 2005

Improving access to water for residents

The ICRC continued to repair or build water systems in partnership with the government, water boards and local communities to ensure an adequate supply of clean water for the population. It completed the Kinyinya-Remera project to harness seven springs and construct six outlet pipes and a gravity-fed water system in the Nsinda-Nyarukombe region and handed them over to the national water board or the Electrogaz electricity company.

Also completed were the Gikongoro-Karaba project which involved the development of 11 springs, and the Kabarondo pump system. In Nyanza, the ICRC rehabilitated 31 springs and built 19 reservoirs and 6 outlet pipes.

The delegation supported the water boards and communities in the Mudasmwa district in the management of the area's water network, thereby increasing the output of 28 sources. It trained local officials in the

management of water installations. Similar support was given in the Gihogwe, Karaba, Nsinda-Nyarukombe and Nyanza districts.

- ▶ water systems completed benefiting 172,479 people

Assisting women and children

As part of the reorientation of its assistance programmes, the ICRC discontinued micro-projects aiding 24 women's associations. It continued to visit the groups to gauge the effectiveness of the support and provided technical back-up and seeds, tools and goats.

- ▶ 24 ICRC-supported agricultural micro-projects launched in 2004–05 assessed; 110 of 550 micro-projects supported by the ICRC between 1996 and 2003 surveyed and 80% found to be still in existence
- ▶ 4,148 unaccompanied children supplied with 130 tonnes of food and 2 tonnes of soap
- ▶ school fees paid for 1,002 orphans

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Protecting detainees

The ICRC continued to monitor the treatment of detainees and their living conditions, nutritional status, health, access to medical care and length of time awaiting trial. It made a number of representations to the authorities regarding the conditions it found in prisons and places of temporary detention under the authority of the police and the army. The ICRC offered the RCM service to newly imprisoned detainees.

The delegation completed a report on the prison service and submitted it to the authorities. The report was intended for use by Rwandan officials when considering prison reforms.

In order to improve detention conditions for minors, the ICRC cooperated with the authorities to build separate blocks for detainees under 18 years of age. The delegation also provided minors with textbooks and stationery for schooling organized in prisons.

- ▶ 92,965 people visited including 382 newly registered and 722 monitored individually (in accordance with the prevailing situation, the ICRC ended its 10-year long practice of monitoring every detainee suspected of participating in the genocide) during 244 visits to 103 places of detention

- ▶ 608 RCMs collected from and 619 distributed to detainees
- ▶ 229 minors in prisons provided with school supplies
- ▶ blocks for minors completed in 2 prisons

Ensuring detainees' access to medical care

The ICRC continued to collect epidemiological data in prisons, to suggest procedures to enable staff to respond quickly to outbreaks of disease, and to recommend the hospitalization of sick detainees. The delegation supplied 50% of the medicines needed, down from 70% the previous year.

HIV/AIDS-prevention projects in the prisons took hold more rapidly than foreseen. The ICRC's training and awareness projects in five central prisons, jointly organized with the Society for Women and AIDS in Africa, were completed in 2005. Other NGOs that had followed the ICRC's lead and begun working in five other central prisons also finished their schemes. The ICRC took an active role in drawing up a national plan for HIV/AIDS prevention and response in Rwanda's prisons. The plan was to be finalized at the beginning of 2006.

Access to clean water for detainees

The supply of clean water to central prisons remained problematic, and the amount was often largely below the recommended minimum of 15 litres per person per day. The ICRC therefore continued to support water-supply projects contributing to an increase of available water to 12 litres per person a day, up from 7 litres in 2004.

Adequate hygiene and sanitation for detainees

The ICRC improved sanitation in two large prisons, where it also worked with the authorities to install biogas systems (the production of energy through gas produced by waste matter). The kitchens in several prisons were either upgraded or repaired, and inmates' living conditions were further enhanced by a number of small-scale renovation projects.

In order to promote hygiene conditions in prisons, the ICRC supplied detainees with chlorine and soap and sanitary towels for women.

Pest-control campaigns were undertaken in six prisons. Throughout the year, however, the ICRC checked that cleaning and hygiene programmes were regularly carried out in the prisons and that the authorities

had supplied the necessary materials for that purpose.

- ▶ access to clean water and sanitation improved for 88,879 detainees
- ▶ 95,954 detainees provided with essential household items

Monitoring nutrition in prisons

As foreseen in the *Emergency Appeals 2005*, the ICRC discontinued its supply of food to prisons at the end of the year, following a gradual phase-out over three years. Early in 2005, it handed over responsibility for supplying food to inmates in five prisons to the authorities. Throughout the year, however, it continued to supply 15% of the food needs of Rwanda's prison population, making its final delivery in December. The authorities provided sufficient food to make up the difference. The ICRC measured the body mass index of detainees in all 16 central prisons and informed the authorities of the results, pointing out where improvements could still be made.

The ICRC also provided three central prisons with technical support, seeds, tools and fertilizers to help them develop agricultural production.

- ▶ 60,012 detainees in central prisons supplied with 2,690 tonnes of food
- ▶ 1,350 detainees worked in ICRC-supported prison farms

WOUNDED AND SICK

There was no influx of war-wounded during the year and accordingly there was no assistance in this sphere besides ad hoc support to Butare hospital.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC intensified its networking with the various State bodies concerned with the enforcement of IHL, namely the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Justice and specialized parliamentary commissions. Members of parliament took into account the delegation's proposals in the drafting of a law on prison reform. The legal department of the Ministry of Defence also requested the ICRC's advice in the drafting of a proposed law on the implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Promoting IHL in army training

The ICRC continued to work with the Rwandan Defence Force (RDF) to integrate IHL into military doctrine, training and operations. A high point of this activity in 2005 was the ICRC/RDF cooperation on the organization of the first ever IHL competition for East African military.

- 21 participants from 6 countries attended the joint ICRC/RDF regional IHL competition
- 2 army officers sponsored to attend a two-week IHL course in San Remo
- 40 non-commissioned officers attended a one-week IHL instructors' course supported by the ICRC
- 85 officers and 1,960 troops briefed on IHL and on the humanitarian situation in Darfur ahead of a peace-keeping mission

Promoting human rights standards/humanitarian principles in police training

The ICRC supported the national police force in its efforts to include human rights law in police training.

- 24 police officers attended a two-week awareness session on IHL
- 72 police officers and 275 local defence forces attended 3 information sessions on ICRC detention visits and respect for detainees

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting the ICRC's image

The ICRC pursued efforts to increase awareness among journalists of its mandate and IHL. During the year, the delegation invited the media to attend events highlighting the ICRC's activities, such as the launch of a new radio programme broadcasting the names of children separated from their families, the inauguration of drinking-water systems, and the IHL competition for the military.

The delegation's briefings and press releases prompted media coverage on various issues, including general IHL topics, but also the humanitarian situation in Darfur and the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law.

The ICRC strengthened contacts and assisted national associations, commissions and NGOs that include IHL dissemination in their mission, by providing them with

information, training opportunities and reference material.

Promoting Exploring Humanitarian Law in secondary schools

The ICRC continued to support preparations to include the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in the new six-year civic-education curriculum for secondary-school pupils. Implementation was behind schedule and would not begin until a teacher-training manual and timetable in both French and English were completed and distributed.

Promoting IHL in universities

In order to complement training in IHL, the ICRC sponsored two lecturers from private universities to attend pan-African IHL courses in Yaoundé (Cameroon) and Pretoria (South Africa). It also held a round-table discussion, attended by five IHL lecturers and four assistant lecturers from three universities, on the teaching of IHL and the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law.

The ICRC regularly provided documentation and advice to students writing their theses on IHL-related topics. It also maintained contacts with lecturers from other faculties with a link to IHL, such as political science and journalism.

- 3 students from the National University of Rwanda sponsored to participate in the regional moot-court competition in Arusha, Tanzania (see *Nairobi*)

- RCM distribution given technical support by ICRC field officers; 321 volunteers given RCM training, bringing the network's coverage up to 70% of the country

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Early in 2005, the ICRC and the Rwandan Red Cross signed three cooperation agreements concerning the development and strengthening of the National Society's capacities in the fields of dissemination and communication, tracing and disaster preparedness.

- 5 training workshops on IHL dissemination skills held, attended by 70 National Society volunteers
- the capacities of 4 provincial emergency teams reinforced
- courses in first-aid and basic management of refugee camps held for 80 National Society volunteers
- National Society's emergency stocks topped up
- tracing activities in Byumba and Gikongoro assessed and shortcomings corrected



ICRC delegation ICRC sub-delegation

sierra leone

Since the end of the war in 2002, the ICRC has readjusted its operations in Sierra Leone. Its protection priorities remain ensuring the welfare of Sierra Leonean and Liberian children separated from their families and monitoring the conditions of detention of internees/detainees. The ICRC provides the authorities with substantial technical support in promoting respect for IHL and its integration into national legislation. The organization has maintained a continuous presence in Sierra Leone since 1991.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,483
Assistance	1,239
Prevention	679
Cooperation with National Societies	1,325
General	14

► **6,740**

of which: Overheads 411

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97.9%
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PERSONNEL

14 expatriates
130 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- reunited 90 children with their families in Sierra Leone, transferred 53 to Liberia for family reunification, monitored 181 children following family reunification and launched a sub-regional tracing poster campaign;
- with the National Society, collected 7,068 RCMs and delivered 6,780;
- helped the Sierra Leonean and Liberian authorities repatriate 387 Liberian ex-fighters interned in Sierra Leone;
- made 29 visits to 16 detention facilities, including that of the Special Court for Sierra Leone;
- gave briefings on IHL for 6 brigades, 200 recruits and officers due to take part in peace-support operations and worked with government officials to advance the implementation of IHL; organized sports events and IHL workshops for 540 youths and ex-combatants and a first moot-court competition for students;
- helped the National Society establish branches in the Kailahun and Pujehun districts and open a new centre for the rehabilitation of children affected by conflict.

CONTEXT

The rebuilding of State institutions and the tackling of poverty made slow progress. Efforts to decentralize and devolve power to enhance State accountability and bring government closer to the people achieved few tangible results. At the same time, the government showed little commitment to fighting endemic corruption. The international donor community, meanwhile, tired of the slow pace in meeting conditions for its continued support, as evidenced by its reluctance during a donor conference in November to go beyond existing funding commitments for the government's poverty-reduction strategy.

Nonetheless, the shift towards poverty reduction took hold, leaving Sierra Leone caught between the end of emergency funding and the arrival of development aid. Most relief agencies had departed or reduced their activities, leading to a decline in humanitarian assistance to residents and refugees. In the absence of government programmes and reforms, the work of major development agencies had little impact, notably at community level. The population's basic needs, including for health services, safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, remained unmet. Sierra Leone ranked second last in the UN's Human Development Index, attracted little foreign investment and struggled to recover economically.

Preparations for presidential elections in 2007 gathered steam, splitting the ruling party over the choice of a presidential candidate. Disgruntled by various issues, students and trade unions became increasingly

vocal. Even so, apart from banditry, there were no serious security problems, most weapons having been collected.

The UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) left at the end of 2005, to be replaced by an integrated UN mission focused on building the capacity of State institutions and on promoting good governance. UNAMSIL's departure left the fledgling national security apparatus single-handedly responsible for safeguarding national security.

Most Sierra Leonean refugees returned home, but many remained in urban centres in the hope of finding employment and for lack of public infrastructure and basic services in rural areas. Those who returned to their places of origin received little support to rebuild their lives. Floods in the south-east destroyed or damaged over 1,000 houses and public infrastructure.

All counties in Liberia were declared safe for return, but although assistance to Liberian refugees in the eight camps in south-eastern Sierra Leone dwindled, the number of refugees repatriated fell far short of expectations.

The crisis over Yenga, an area in eastern Sierra Leone occupied by the Guinean armed forces, continued to defy efforts to find a solution. Sierra Leone and Guinea consented to a border demarcation, but the agreed withdrawal of Guinean forces did not materialize. ICRC monitoring indicated that this political issue had minimal implications in humanitarian terms.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	2,482	<i>Water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	497	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems		
Number of visits carried out	29	(completed projects)	Beneficiaries	39,300
Number of places of detention visited	16	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	400
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	7,068			
RCMs distributed	6,780			
People reunited with their families	90			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	173			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	97			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	320			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	141			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	90			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	308			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	52			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	6			

ICRC ACTION

The repatriation of Liberian ex-fighters, interned in Sierra Leone since their surrender in 2002–03, marked the end of a unique and successful experience for West Africa in how the practical application of IHL can help stabilize the sub-region. Working closely with the authorities in both countries, the ICRC played a significant role as a technical adviser throughout the process by monitoring the internees' living conditions and providing material support to the internment facilities, interviewing the internees to ensure that their return was voluntary and overseeing the actual repatriation.

In preparation for its contribution to the justice sector reform being undertaken by the government with the support of the UK Department For International Development (DFID), the ICRC began an in-depth assessment of the penal system. It continued regular visits to detention facilities and kept up its dialogue with the authorities. The ICRC also carried on monitoring conditions in the detention facility of the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Particular efforts were made to create an environment and conditions conducive to the national implementation of IHL treaties ratified by Sierra Leone. To this end, the ICRC supported the establishment of a national IHL committee, enhanced national expertise in IHL in academia, government and the armed forces and promoted the

incorporation of IHL principles into the armed forces' training, doctrine and operations. The organization was regularly invited to participate in IHL-related events organized by State and other actors.

Through advocacy and intensified tracing efforts, the ICRC carried on addressing the needs of Sierra Leonean children separated from their parents and still in Guinea. With the separation from their families growing longer, support from NGOs waning, and tracing of the families of some children as yet unsuccessful, pressure mounted to find alternative, permanent solutions. The ICRC worked with other actors to resolve some of the difficult and longstanding cases, while persisting in its tracing efforts.

The last of the ICRC's direct assistance programmes in Sierra Leone involved constructing shelters for households headed by women and building wells and latrines in selected communities, chiefly in areas bordering Liberia which had borne the brunt of the conflict but seen little rehabilitation later.

The ICRC pursued its cooperation with its partners in the Movement to strengthen the National Society's programme-management capacity.

CIVILIANS

Tracing and reuniting members of dispersed families

More than three years since the end of the conflict in Sierra Leone, few refugees remained abroad. They included some 400 vulnerable adults and children in camps and communities in neighbouring Guinea, most of whom had lost contact with their families during the conflict. In Sierra Leone itself, a number of people whose families were scattered by the conflict still did not know the whereabouts of their loved ones.

Although the prolonged separation of Sierra Leonean families had complicated tracing activities, the ICRC and the National Society made considerable progress in restoring family links. Although priority was given to locating the families of Sierra Leonean children still in Guinea, tracing requests for or from Sierra Leoneans overseas increased steadily. To expedite the processing of complicated tracing cases, the delegation coordinated its activities with other ICRC delegations in the region, used posters, photo-tracing and radio campaigns and recruited additional staff. It also continued to register and trace children separated from their families within Sierra Leone and, where possible, to reunite them.

Once reunited with their families, the children received material assistance and funds for the purchase of school uniforms, regardless of whether they had lived in

Guinea or Sierra Leone during the period of separation. The ICRC notified the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs and child-protection agencies ahead of family reunifications to facilitate the follow-up of the children.

Coordination with other organizations involved in child welfare

The ICRC began implementing the recommendations of a 2004 external evaluation of the family reunification programme. The ICRC and Save the Children agreed on measures and worked together to help reintegrate children, including those formerly associated with fighting forces, into their families, for instance through greater community involvement in monitoring the children. In its tracing activities, the ICRC liaised with several agencies at the district and national levels. It continued supporting UNICEF in coordinating the overall approach to assisting children reunited with their families in Sierra Leone. It reached agreements with the International Rescue Committee in Guinea on sharing data to optimize tracing efforts for Sierra Leonean children still in Guinea, and with the Christian Children's Fund in Sierra Leone on information sharing and the coordination of activities. Improved collaboration with the two organizations resulted in an increase in the number of children re-establishing contact with their families.

The ICRC continued referring to other organizations children who encountered problems after reunification with their families. Having switched from emergency to development activities, however, most organizations extended little support, sometimes leaving the ICRC to intervene single-handedly.

As one of the lead agencies for child protection in Sierra Leone, the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding in November with the government, UNHCR and UNICEF and its implementing partners regulating the repatriation of children separated from their families and wishing to return to Sierra Leone. The agreement sought to establish satisfactory care arrangements and durable solutions in Sierra Leone.

Cooperation with the National Society in tracing activities involved the joint launch of a sub-regional tracing poster campaign displaying 371 photos of children from the sub-region, joint handling of tracing case-loads and the sharing of ICRC expertise and assistance in delivering services in remote areas. The need to expand the tracing network and capacities in such areas

became increasingly clear. Red Cross staff and volunteers continued to receive training in processing tracing requests. The production of the new tracing training manual, developed in cooperation with the British Red Cross, neared completion. Tracing staff received training on how to use the manual.

Restoring family links

- ▶ 6,396 RCMs between vulnerable people/children and their families collected and 6,377 delivered
- ▶ 126 unaccompanied/separated children and 48 demobilized children reunited with their families, of whom 61 and 29 respectively, by the ICRC
- ▶ 86 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 247 cases still being processed by the end of 2005
- ▶ 55 Sierra Leonean children who had been abducted by or associated with fighting forces registered; 61 cases still being processed by the end of 2005
- ▶ follow-up visits made to 181 children reunited with their families in Sierra Leone
- ▶ 173 new persons sought by their families registered (96 women and 86 minors at the time of disappearance); 46 located and 320 (174 women and 144 minors at the time of disappearance) still being processed by the end of 2005

Support to Liberian refugees

By the end of 2005, over 40,000 Liberian refugees remained in camps in Sierra Leone. Although assistance to the refugees was dwindling, the minimal services available to them in Sierra Leone were far better than those awaiting them in Liberia. The security situation in the camps had improved, and the armed forces and the local population no longer posed a threat to the refugees. Even so, the dire economic situation made very young girls and boys without strong family ties amongst the refugee population vulnerable to abuse. Discussions were initiated with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, UNHCR, Caritas and the Christian Children's Fund to resolve the remaining cases of Liberian children without family contact.

The departure of NGOs from refugee camps and the reduction of assistance, including food rations for Liberian refugees, had ramifications for children separated from their families. Particularly at risk were those formerly associated with fighting forces, girls and underage mothers. Accordingly, the ICRC stepped up its presence in the camps to monitor protection issues, working closely with UNHCR in Kenema. The ICRC provided hygiene items and baby-care

kits to ease the girls' and underage mothers' economic hardship and improve their health. The ICRC also screened UNHCR convoys repatriating refugees to Liberia to identify children separated from their families so that they could be followed up in Liberia.

Helping residents of remote, conflict-weary regions rebuild their lives

As the country struggled with its economic recovery, indigent members of remote communities in areas most ravaged by the conflict barely had the means for survival. Reconstruction of even the most basic structure was beyond the reach of most individuals and often of the community.

An ICRC programme mobilized some of the poorest communities in south-eastern Sierra Leone, provided households headed by women with basic housing, built and repaired wells and constructed communal latrines. It also made safe drinking water and sanitation facilities accessible to the communities and discussed hygiene issues with them.

The programme, which benefited 39,300 people, revived some traditional community support structures. Indeed, the communities supplied all the labour, whilst the ICRC provided the expertise and locally unavailable materials, including cement, hand pumps, nails, corrugated iron sheets, doors and windows. The ICRC also provided on-the-job training and basic tools to carpentry apprentices and pump technicians selected from the communities.

Communities in Pujehun, Kailahun and Kenema, together with the ICRC:

- ▶ constructed 400 houses for households headed by women;
- ▶ constructed/rehabilitated 30 wells and provided all communities with pump maintenance and repair equipment;
- ▶ constructed 175 latrines of the 300 initially planned (the programme was halted for lack of interest/community involvement).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Safeguarding the welfare of internees

The Mapeh and Mafanta camps, set up by the Sierra Leonean government between 2002 and 2003, held 387 Liberian ex-fighters. The ICRC continued to monitor the treatment and living conditions of the internees and participated in the government's biweekly internment task force to share its findings and make recommendations. It also attended as an observer discussions between the governments of Sierra Leone and Liberia on the repatriation of the internees. The ICRC provided legal support and advice to the two countries in drawing up a memorandum of understanding that led to the internees' release and repatriation in 2005.

Prior to the repatriation, the ICRC spoke regularly to the 387 internees in private to ensure respect for the applicable provisions of IHL, *inter alia*, those governing the principle of non-refoulement. In April, the ICRC monitored their repatriation and handover to the Liberian authorities. UNHCR notified the ICRC of the presence in refugee camps of 166 relatives of internees, to help coordinate repatriation to Liberia and preserve family unity.

Safeguarding the welfare of detainees

The penal system fared no better than other State institutions following years of conflict. The prison authorities struggled to maintain basic standards for the prison population. The problem was compounded by an overstretched judiciary, with detainees on remand and awaiting trial filling up the 13 district prisons and the central prison. The authorities launched a five-year programme, funded by DFID, to reform the justice sector, including the prison system.

The ICRC reinforced the programme by going beyond its usual monitoring of detention conditions to support the penal administration. The results of a comprehensive assessment of the penal system begun in 2005 were to be the basis for an ICRC/government action plan to improve the country's prison system in 2006.

An agreement was reached with the Interior Ministry to allow information-sharing between the ICRC and DFID to support the overall programme of reforms in the justice sector.

ICRC visits to detainees/internees

- over 2,000 detainees visited, including those detained in connection with conflict, during 29 visits made to 16 detention facilities, including that of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Mapeh and Mafanta camps; 497 detainees/internees monitored individually
- 672 RCMs collected from and 403 delivered to detainees
- ad hoc medical and material assistance provided to detainees

AUTHORITIES

Promoting IHL and the work of the Movement

The cabinet approved an Antipersonnel Mines Act and submitted it to parliament, while the Foreign Ministry drafted an act on the creation of an IHL committee. The ICRC:

- organized 2 workshops on IHL and its implementation for 72 key national/district officials;
- conducted a session for members of parliament on IHL/Red Cross activities;
- with the National Society, organized IHL sessions for 204 local officials.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Enhancing awareness of IHL among the armed and police forces

The ICRC provided the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) with technical advice in the production of an instructor's manual to speed up the training of IHL instructors. In addition, the ICRC:

- gave a lecture on IHL for 20 RSLAF officers preparing to undertake peace-support operations;
- supported 2 officers previously sponsored to attend an IHL course in San Remo in organizing IHL lectures at the military academy;
- gave briefings on its activities/IHL for 8 RSLAF battalions/brigades and over 200 soldiers/recruits.

The ICRC continued to familiarize UNAMSIL contingents with its mandate and activities, including through:

- 4 briefings on the UN Secretary-General's Bulletin on observance by UN forces of IHL;

- participation in a UNAMSIL human rights seminar for police commanders/RSLAF/Office for National Security.

The ICRC established contact with police representatives to forge closer collaboration on IHL/human rights training in 2006.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Familiarizing the public with IHL and the Red Cross

The media accurately covered ICRC activities and helped promote IHL by publishing numerous ICRC press releases. ICRC efforts involving the media included:

- a joint ICRC/National Society radio discussion programme broadcast on 6 radio stations;
- regular appearances as a guest in topical talk shows on Radio UNAMSIL;
- a press briefing organized for journalists from Kenema district to highlight present and past ICRC activities, later broadcast locally.

Supported by the National Society, the ICRC organized three first-aid training and IHL sessions for 180 ex-combatants in three districts. It also organized 4 workshops on the Fundamental Principles for 540 youths/former combatants.

Acquainting young people with IHL and humanitarian principles

The ICRC organized the first ever moot-court competition for students in Sierra Leone. The event, held at the Special Court for Sierra Leone, raised unprecedented public interest in IHL. The ICRC enabled the winning team to participate in the pan-African moot-court competition in Arusha, Tanzania. The ICRC:

- selected lecturers to create a network of IHL experts and maintained contact with the key academic staff of 5 institutions; initiated efforts to provide universities with a module for teaching IHL;
- organized 2 sessions on the ICRC/IHL for over 400 college students.

Following discussions with the Education Ministry, the ICRC decided that the time was not yet ripe for the implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in the school curriculum.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Building the National Society's capacity to fulfil its statutory role

Financial and management problems forced the National Society to suspend some of its activities, reducing its productivity. Supported by the International Federation and the ICRC, it began serious efforts to restructure and streamline its internal procedures. The ICRC also supported the National Society in consolidating its RCM services countrywide.

In 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ helped the National Society recruit/train 39 communication/tracing volunteers;
- ▶ organized workshops for all communication/tracing volunteers to introduce them to materials developed jointly by the National Society, the ICRC and the British Red Cross;
- ▶ supported the National Society-run Kenema transit centre for children heading for family reunification;
- ▶ organized a national youth camp for Red Cross volunteers in Pujehun district.

The ICRC supported the National Society in promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles, *inter alia*, by:

- ▶ facilitating the launch in Freetown of the ICRC-funded book, *History of the Sierra Leone Red Cross, 1991–2002*, on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May;
- ▶ maintaining support to the National Society's national radio programme, "Red Cross na Salone," and taking part in joint radio discussion programmes on the Fundamental Principles, the Movement and the emblem;
- ▶ providing funding/technical support for staff/volunteer training;
- ▶ supporting the National Society's IHL promotion activities in schools/communities;
- ▶ organizing 2 regional workshops for 39 communication/tracing volunteers;
- ▶ organizing a workshop on the Movement for Red Cross district chairmen in Kenema;
- ▶ supporting the National Society's participation in the setting up of a national IHL committee.

The ICRC continued to fund the National Society's community-based programmes to help people traumatized by war reintegrate into society. Thus the ICRC:

- ▶ funded vocational training/basic education for 600 children in 4 Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation Centres; enabled the National Society to recruit/train staff for the new centre;
- ▶ supported 100 amputees through vocational training/livestock projects;
- ▶ constructed 5 wells/latrines in communities.



⊕ (ICRC delegation in Nairobi) ⊕ SRCS/ICRC hospital

somalia

The ICRC has maintained a presence in Somalia since 1982, basing its delegation in Nairobi since 1994. It focuses on providing emergency aid to people directly affected by armed conflict and runs an extensive first-aid, medical and basic health-care programme to treat the wounded and sick in all parts of the country. It also carries out small-scale water, agricultural and cash-for-work projects with a medium-term outlook, designed to restore or improve the livelihoods of communities weakened by crises. It works closely with and supports the development of the Somali Red Crescent Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	328
Assistance	22,595
Prevention	553
Cooperation with National Societies	1,059
General	7

► **24,542**

of which: Overheads **1,456**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	104.5%
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PERSONNEL

16	expatriates
31	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- supported 2 surgical referral hospitals that admitted more than 4,000 inpatients, 5 first-aid posts that treated nearly 6,000 casualties and 19 Somali Red Crescent health-care posts that performed over 117,600 consultations;
- delivered essential household items to more than 350,000 people displaced by armed violence and/or natural disaster, seeds and tools to some 120,000 IDPs and construction materials to over 70,000 to help them rebuild their homes;
- completed agricultural projects to help over 315,000 vulnerable residents boost their food production and income and improved access to water for 250,000 people and their livestock;
- provided the Somali Red Crescent with substantial support to assist victims of conflict and natural disaster and reinforced the coordination of activities of Movement partners working in Somalia;
- together with the Somali Red Crescent, helped thousands of uprooted Somalis worldwide to re-establish and maintain contact with their relatives through the tracing and RCM services, including via the Missing Persons radio programme and the ICRC's family-links website;
- initiated IHL presentations for Somali institutes of higher learning.

CONTEXT

The 14th Somali peace process, begun in Kenya in October 2002, faced major challenges in setting up the country's first functioning government since 1991.

The Somali transitional federal government, formed in October 2004, officially relocated to Somalia from Nairobi in June 2005 but had yet to establish a countrywide administration by the end of the year.

Tensions were high and the security situation in Somalia remained volatile throughout 2005. In central and southern regions, there were several localized armed confrontations between factions over the control of key areas and towns and frequent clan clashes, mainly over water and pasture. Hundreds of civilians were killed or wounded in the crossfire and thousands of families driven from their homes.

Somalis also continued to face a host of other obstacles to their daily survival as a direct result of the cumulative effects of 14 years of armed conflict and lawlessness. Poverty was endemic, and poverty-driven crime, especially looting and hold-ups, increased. Existing infrastructure was dilapidated, and basic services such as clean water and health care were poor to non-existent in the countryside. Around 80% of the population depended for their livelihood on agriculture and livestock breeding. Farmers and herders were hit during 2005 by a prolonged drought in pockets of southern and central Somalia. In addition, flash floods along the two main rivers wiped out harvests and displaced communities. By the end of the year, there were serious concerns that the country would face severe food shortages in 2006.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
RCMs collected	5,478	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	350,801
RCMs distributed	11,621	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	506,004
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	250,000
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	797	<i>Health</i>		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	101	Health centres supported	Structures	19
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	906	Consultations	Patients	117,662
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		WOUNDED AND SICK		
People to whom travel documents were issued	102	Hospitals supported	Structures	2
		Admissions	Patients	4,295
		Operations	Operations performed	4,482

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC remained a key provider of emergency aid for victims of conflict and natural disaster in central and southern Somalia. In 2005, the delegation stretched its operational capacities to the limit, delivering relief goods to more than 350,000 people. The number and intensity of armed clashes during 2005 also led to a substantial number of war-wounded patients being treated at ICRC-supported facilities (2 referral hospitals in Mogadishu, plus 5 first-aid posts and 19 health-care posts located in clash-prone regions).

Because the delegation had to scale up its emergency operations, it was forced to adjust its overall priorities. This meant that it carried out slightly fewer than planned short- and medium-term projects (285 in total) designed to help farmers and nomads preserve their threatened livelihoods. Two-thirds of these projects involved the construction or rehabilitation of drinking-water points and irrigation systems that would boost crop production and protect farmland from floods. Just under one-third of the projects were cash-for-work, whereby poorer community members were paid for their labour on a local project, thus temporarily increasing their purchasing power. To improve project implementation and sustainability, the ICRC became more involved in building the capacities of Somali contractors and consultants.

Thousands of Somalis uprooted by conflict or economic necessity were able to restore or maintain contact with close relatives through the tracing and RCM network. The network included the ICRC-supported Missing Persons radio programme, broadcast by the BBC Somali Service, and the family-links section of the ICRC website.

Given the political uncertainty and volatile security situation, ICRC efforts to spread knowledge of IHL were limited mainly to influential sectors of civil society, with the focus on the media and academic circles.

The ICRC continued to provide the Somali Red Crescent with a substantial level of financial, material and technical support to help victims of conflict and natural disaster. The National Society's knowledge of local conditions and assistance in carrying out medical, relief and protection programmes helped the ICRC work effectively and safely in Somalia. As lead agency of the Movement in Somalia, the ICRC also convened regular meetings to coordinate the activities of Movement partners working in Somalia and, within its capacity, offered them support in the fields of logistics and security. To further maximize the impact of humanitarian activities, the ICRC retained its observer status on the Nairobi-based Somalia Aid Coordination Body, comprising donors, UN agencies and NGOs.

Despite the volatile security situation in Somalia throughout 2005, the ICRC managed to increase its field presence and had consistent access to most of the country. This was in large part because of the organization's adapted operational set-up, in place since 1994, with the Somalia delegation operating from Nairobi. Expatriate personnel were responsible for overall strategy and management and made frequent but short field trips to Somalia. ICRC Somali staff oversaw security, logistics and programme implementation within the country.

CIVILIANS

Providing emergency aid

More beneficiaries than planned received ICRC relief goods in 2005 because of the rise in the number and intensity of armed clashes, combined with flash floods in May and pockets of drought. Central and southern Somalia were worst affected. Displaced families relied primarily on their clan affiliations for support, but the host communities often had few resources to spare.

The ICRC provided around 38,200 of the worst-off families uprooted by armed violence with, as needed, tarpaulins for shelter, blankets, clothing, kitchenware and jerrycans. Households with access to arable land received seeds and farm implements. Families able to return to their villages were given materials and tools to rebuild their homes.

When the Juba and Shebele rivers flooded in the May rainy season, the delegation also delivered tarpaulins, blankets and seeds to some 20,100 families who had had to abandon their homes. Those able to return received construction materials.

In January, the ICRC completed a one-off distribution of food, begun in December 2004, to around 10,000 drought-stricken pastoralist households in Puntland, Mudug and Galgudud to tide them over until the harvest reached the markets in April. ICRC evaluations showed that the severe malnutrition rate among the children of the beneficiaries had dropped from 30% in October 2004 to less than 5% by the end of May 2005. This food-aid operation had been included in the ICRC's 2004 budget and beneficiary figures.

- ▶ 350,801 IDPs received essential household items

- 119,820 IDPs received seeds and tools
- 70,980 IDPs returning home received construction materials

Boosting food security

After 14 years without a functioning government in Somalia, poverty was endemic for a host of reasons, including chronic security problems, crumbling public infrastructure, no public services – with the poor unable to afford the private alternatives – limited labour opportunities, few export markets and the departure of skilled Somalis to work abroad. A good rainy season at the end of 2004 ensured that most Somalis had enough food for the first half of 2005. However, a prolonged drought in some areas combined with flash floods in 2005 raised concerns about serious food shortages looming in 2006.

To mitigate the effects of armed violence and natural disaster, the ICRC provided vulnerable communities in central and southern Somalia with the means to boost their food production and income. The delegation completed slightly fewer projects than planned because it had had to scale up its emergency aid programme.

The ICRC carried out small-scale cash-for-work projects in 89 food-insecure communities. In total, 8,872 families (53,232 people) benefited from these projects, whereby needy families received cash in return for their labour rehabilitating rainwater catchments. This enabled the families to buy up to 60% more food for a two-month period and gave the communities a facility that aided long-term productivity.

In Lower Shabele, the ICRC built 48 sluice gates along the Shebele River. This allowed around 5,760 families (34,560 people) with small farms to regulate the irrigation of their crops and protect their 4,860 hectares of farmland from flash floods during the rainy season. Before the start of the rainy seasons in April and September, the delegation also distributed a total of 370,000 empty sand bags to 150 riverside communities (16,010 households or 96,060 people) in Gedo, Hiran, Middle and Lower Juba and Middle and Lower Shabele to use as protection against floods.

In Hiran and Middle and Lower Juba, the ICRC modernized farming techniques by providing three fixed and two mobile irrigation pumps to 600 families (3,600 people) who were practising rain-fed agriculture on small farms, while 40 riverside communities (3,120 people) received smaller mobile

pumps to increase the amount of irrigated land under cultivation.

To help out farmers whose crops had been hit by drought or floods, the ICRC delivered staple crop seeds to around 16,200 riverside families (97,200 people). Each household received enough seed (10–15 kg) to cultivate about one hectare, which would cover 30–50% of their annual cereal consumption. In addition, some 10,200 households (61,200 people) received seeds to grow vegetables to vary their diet or to sell for extra income.

In a new initiative, the ICRC gave 10 wooden boats to 30 families (180 people) in Lower Shabele who earned an income from fishing. Their boats had been swept away by the December 2004 tsunami that travelled across the Indian Ocean to the shores of East Africa.

- 315,024 people benefited from agricultural and micro-economic projects

Providing clean water

In the absence of a functioning government, most Somali communities lacked the resources to maintain existing water points. The chronic lack of water affected the health of people and livestock and triggered clan clashes over water and pasture. The ICRC continued to build or repair water points throughout central and southern Somalia and Puntland to ensure that farming and nomadic families and their livestock had access to clean water within a reasonable distance. Where boreholes were drilled, the communities contributed by supplying the pump. To ensure that the water points were sustainable, the ICRC trained 24 Somali commercial contractors and consultants in the maintenance and repair of boreholes.

- 48 wells, 11 boreholes and 11 rainwater catchments built or repaired, and 8,000 bags of cement delivered to repair *berkad* (traditional sub-surface reservoirs)
- 250,000 people benefited from water projects

Providing health care

In the absence of a public health service, primary health care was provided by the private sector, the Somali Red Crescent, international organizations and NGOs, with varying levels of community support.

The ICRC supported a total of 19 Somali Red Crescent health-care posts that offered free first aid and curative care to a combined population of around 200,000 residents and IDPs. The posts were located in conflict-affected areas not covered by the private sector or other organizations. The ICRC provided the posts with supplies, including dressing materials to be used mainly to treat the war-wounded, assisted in staff training and on-the-job supervision and contributed to the running costs, including salaries, of the majority of the posts. UNICEF supported the mother-and-child-care activities in the posts. The two ICRC-supported health posts that closed during 2004 because of security constraints could not be reopened during 2005 for the same reason.

- 19 ICRC-supported health-care posts gave 117,662 consultations and dressed 20,716 wounds

Combating cholera

Given its high population density and inadequate water and sanitation facilities, Mogadishu had in the past suffered an average of two cholera outbreaks a year. To stem the spread of the disease, the ICRC, together with WHO, UNICEF and NGOs, chlorinated 326 wells in 2005 and trained Somali Red Crescent personnel to monitor suspect wells. It also provided four Mogadishu radio stations with cholera-prevention spots that were broadcast regularly for one month. These initiatives contributed to the absence of a cholera outbreak in the capital during 2005. This meant that the five ICRC-supported Somali Red Crescent centres that dispensed oral rehydration salts did not have to reopen during the year.

Restoring family links

Thousands of Somalis uprooted by the instability in their country continued to locate and exchange news with their relatives at home and abroad through the tracing and RCM network, run by the ICRC and the Somali Red Crescent. Somalis worldwide could also have the names of relatives sought read out on the ICRC-supported Missing Persons radio programme, a 15-minute show broadcast six times a week on the BBC's shortwave Somali Service. In addition, they could click on www.familylinks.icrc.org and read the names of people sought through the radio programme over the last six months or tracing requests registered by the Somali Red Crescent.

Somali refugees surveyed in Kenya said that they were generally satisfied with the tracing and RCM services, but cited two problems – the slow delivery of messages and a lack of return messages from some areas of Somalia. The ICRC, Kenyan Red Cross and Somali Red Crescent were working together to address these issues.

- ▶ 11,621 RCMs delivered in Somalia and 5,478 collected
- ▶ 101 people located at the request of their relatives
- ▶ 906 requests to trace relatives, including 463 children, pending
- ▶ 6,654 names of people sought broadcast by the BBC and 3,623 registered on the ICRC's website
- ▶ 102 travel documents issued to Somali refugees accepted by third countries for resettlement

WOUNDED AND SICK

Supporting hospitals

With the collapse of the State health service, the few remaining hospitals in Somalia struggled to cope with the constant flow of war-wounded and other trauma patients. Most international aid was directed towards primary health care, leaving the ICRC as one of only a handful of organizations supporting medical and surgical treatment.

The ICRC continued to support Keysaney Hospital in Mogadishu North, run by the Somali Red Crescent, and the community-run Medina Hospital in Mogadishu South. These were the main referral hospitals for war-wounded patients throughout central and southern Somalia. The ICRC provided the hospitals with staff salaries, medical supplies, equipment, training and on-the-job supervision. The hospitals covered about 15% of their running costs through community support, which was gradually increasing, and a cost-sharing scheme was introduced by the ICRC. In 2005, the ICRC initiated a physiotherapy training programme, and in December a physiotherapy unit serving both hospitals opened in Medina Hospital, which improved the management of trauma cases. The organization also trained and supervised staff on building and generator maintenance, according to standard ICRC guidelines.

- ▶ 2 surgical hospitals supported
- ▶ 4,295 inpatients treated, including 1,599 war-wounded, 4,482 operations performed and 9,612 outpatient consultations given at ICRC-supported hospitals

First aid for the war-wounded

In the countryside, the war-wounded often suffered unnecessary complications or died because there was no hospital nearby or they could not afford treatment.

The ICRC continued to support four regional first-aid posts and helped set up a new post in December 2005. The posts were located inside existing medical facilities situated in clash-prone areas (Baidoa Hospital in Bay region, Brawa Hospital in Lower Shabele, the new post in Ceel Dhere Hospital in Galgudud and the Somali Red Crescent health posts of Dusamareb in Galgudud and Jilib in Middle Juba). Staff received the training and supplies to administer first aid and stabilize serious trauma patients for referral to hospitals.

- ▶ 5,991 trauma patients treated at 5 ICRC-supported first-aid posts

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

UNDP held a two-month training programme in Uganda on the establishment of a future national Somali police force, attended by 65 former Somali army generals and police officers selected by the Somali transitional federal government. As part of the programme, the ICRC in Uganda gave a presentation on IHL, using Somali-language teaching aids provided by the ICRC's Somalia delegation.

In Somaliland and Puntland, the ICRC continued discussions with the authorities on setting up IHL training programmes for their respective security forces.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC continued to approach influential sectors of Somali civil society to raise public awareness of IHL, drawing parallels with *biri-ma-geydada* (spared from the spear), the traditional Somali code of conduct governing warfare. Spreading knowledge of IHL also broadened public support for the ICRC's related mandate and activities, thus helping to ensure that ICRC delegates had safe access to victims of conflict.

- ▶ teachers and administrators of 10 Mogadishu secondary schools trained to teach IHL to pupils, using specially designed ICRC textbooks and manuals

- ▶ 85 students attended IHL workshops at Mogadishu University, Puntland State University and East Africa University (Puntland)
- ▶ 20 local journalists attended an IHL presentation
- ▶ foreign correspondents in Nairobi regularly briefed on IHL and ICRC activities in Somalia
- ▶ to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, a play, attended by 400 people, staged in Mogadishu by the ICRC and Somali Red Crescent on the history of IHL, the Movement and the emblem
- ▶ IHL programmes broadcast on 5 local radio stations to complement World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day events held throughout Somalia

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC support since 1982, the Somali Red Crescent Society was the only Somali institution present and active countrywide. It was the ICRC's main partner in the medical field, the distribution of relief goods, tracing and the delivery and collection of RCMs and the promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles. The ICRC covered the salaries and expenses of core National Society staff and the running costs of the Nairobi office, 2 field coordination offices and all 19 branches. It also organized training for National Society personnel and provided materials, equipment and logistic back-up.

In 2004, the Somali Red Crescent revived and expanded its executive committee, a positive step in preserving the National Society's unity and defining national goals and strategies. The committee, with ICRC support, met in June and November 2005.

Emergency aid

Somali Red Crescent volunteers administered first aid and met other essential needs of Somalis affected by the tsunami in late December 2004. On behalf of the National Society, the ICRC attended the East Africa regional and local meetings held to coordinate the tsunami response and recovery programmes.

Tracing and IHL promotion

During 2005, the 19 Somali Red Crescent branches gave presentations on IHL and the Fundamental Principles to just over 24,000 people, with the focus on elders and religious leaders, the business community, security personnel, women's and youth groups and teachers and students.

To support the National Society's dissemination and tracing programmes in 2005, the ICRC:

- helped organize 3 regional workshops on tracing, the "Safer Access" approach and dissemination for volunteers and relevant staff from 11 branches;
- made joint field trips with the National Society to 5 branches to coach and supervise their personnel;
- assisted in producing and distributing 3,000 newsletters and creating a brochure to publicize the tracing and RCM network.

Movement coordination

The Movement partners active in Somalia – the Somali Red Crescent, the ICRC, the International Federation and the German and Norwegian Red Cross Societies – met regularly to coordinate their activities and support for the National Society. In November, the American Red Cross announced its intention to support Movement programmes in Somalia and joined the meetings. Within its capacity, the ICRC also assisted the International Federation and partner National Societies with logistics and security issues.



sudan

In Sudan, the ICRC's priority is to ensure that people directly affected by armed conflict are protected in accordance with IHL, receive emergency aid, medical care and basic assistance to preserve their livelihoods, and can re-establish family links. It supports the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and provides leadership for other Movement partners working in Sudan. The ICRC opened an office in Khartoum in 1978. In 1984, it initiated operations in the context of the conflict between government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army and is now adapting its programmes to the transition to peace. Since late 2003, it has been responding to needs arising from the hostilities in Darfur.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	12,090
Assistance	108,517
Prevention	5,741
Cooperation with National Societies	3,395
General	38

► **129,781**

of which: Overheads 7,619

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	99.6%
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PERSONNEL

190 expatriates
1,940 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- in Darfur: delivered food aid to an average of 150,000 people per month; distributed relief goods to some 360,000 people; improved access to clean water for some 1.5 million people by rehabilitating rural water points and repairing and maintaining water-distribution networks in towns and IDP camps; provided 332,000 residents with seeds and tools; and vaccinated 500,000 livestock against disease;
- set up a mobile surgical field team that operated on some 360 war-wounded in Darfur, and supported 4 hospitals that admitted over 24,000 patients and 8 limb-fitting facilities that treated some 1,800 patients across Sudan;
- documented allegations of IHL violations in Darfur, appealed to the authorities and armed groups to protect civilians and halt IHL abuses, and stepped up the promotion of IHL at grassroots level, reaching some 10,700 weapon bearers, local authorities and community leaders;
- facilitated the release of nearly 500 detainees held by the SPLM/A or parties to the Darfur conflict, and delivered over 31,000 RCMs sent between family members separated by conflict;
- restructured its operation in southern Sudan to adapt to the transition period;
- developed its partnership with and support for the Sudanese Red Crescent and 13 partner National Societies working in Sudan.

CONTEXT

On 9 January 2005, the Sudanese government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) signed a comprehensive peace agreement, ending 21 years of internal armed conflict. In line with the accord, Sudan adopted a new interim constitution, formed a national unity government and set up a separate SPLM/A administration in the south. Donors pledged some 4.5 billion US dollars for reconstruction, while the UN deployed around 4,000 peace-keepers in southern Sudan. The region was generally calm during 2005, but remained prone to tribal clashes. Equatoria was destabilized by the presence of the Lord's Resistance Army, a Ugandan opposition group, and tensions persisted in the transitional border areas (Abyei, Blue Nile and Nuba mountain regions), where armed groups had vied for control for years.

After two decades of conflict, poverty was widespread in southern Sudan and there was little infrastructure. Only a fraction of the estimated 4.5 million people displaced by the conflict returned home in 2005.

In Sudan's western state of Darfur, the security situation deteriorated, despite the deployment of more than 6,000 African Union peace-keepers in the region and ongoing international pressure and mediation to resolve the three-year-old conflict. Clashes pitting government troops and allied militias against the opposition Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) were sporadic and of a lower intensity than in 2004. However, the conflict fuelled

age-old ethnic tensions. Splinter groups and numerous small but well-armed local militias sprung up. Lawlessness was widespread. Violations of IHL affected the whole population. Villagers were afraid to venture out to tend their fields, fetch water, go to market or seek medical care. Nomads' traditional migration routes were blocked and rustlers stole their livestock. The economy was stifled. Food was in short supply. Close to 2 million displaced people were living in urban areas, mainly in crowded camps, or as refugees in eastern Chad, dependent on aid. As conditions worsened, rivalries intensified. After a series of security incidents, many aid agencies had to decrease or abandon their activities.

In eastern Sudan, there were sporadic clashes between government forces and the opposition Eastern Front.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	269	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	269	Food	Beneficiaries	346,410
Number of visits carried out	17	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	410,013
Number of places of detention visited	9	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	536,265
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	667,000
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health		
RCMs collected	30,134	Health centres supported	Structures	13
RCMs distributed	31,254	Consultations	Patients	161,709
People reunited with their families	6	Immunizations	Activities	247,101
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	559	Hospitals supported	Structures	4
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	425	Admissions	Patients	24,026
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	1,805	Operations	Operations performed	8,619
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Physical rehabilitation		
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	146	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,810
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	5	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	1,197
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	338	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	1,207
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	635			

ICRC ACTION

In 2005, Sudan was the ICRC's largest operation for the second consecutive year.

In Darfur, the delegation adapted its activities to the urgency and scale of needs, constantly monitoring the situation from its base of four sub-delegations and four offices. It was able to work throughout the volatile region during most of the year. From November, after a series of security incidents involving ICRC, Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel, the ICRC restricted its movements in West Darfur.

As in 2004, the ICRC focused in Darfur on assisting residents in rural and remote areas as a complement to the large international aid effort in urban IDP camps. The aim was to help residents be self-sufficient, so that they would not be forced to move to urban centres for aid. A survey conducted in mid-October showed that, in all three Darfur regions, the majority of ICRC beneficiaries remained in their villages and were able to sustain their livelihoods. The delegation also provided assistance in IDP camps when needs could not be covered by other agencies.

To treat the war-wounded in Darfur, the ICRC set up a highly successful mobile surgical field team that operated on scores of civilians and fighters in remote areas. The delegation continued to support rural health care, as well as services for amputees, but scaled back its assistance to hospitals in Darfur because this sector was covered by other actors.

The ICRC reinforced its efforts to ensure that the rights of civilians in Darfur were respected, in accordance with IHL, and that its own staff continued to have safe access to conflict victims. Alleged violations of IHL were documented and taken up with the parties involved. Delegates also promoted IHL among government forces, other armed groups and local leaders.

At the national level, negotiations were stepped up with the Sudanese government, aimed at obtaining authorization to visit all detainees in the country.

Tracing and RCM services were expanded in Darfur and evaluated countrywide to better meet the needs of families uprooted by conflict.

In southern Sudan, the ICRC was adapting its operation to the transition period. Juba became the hub of the ICRC's set-up and integrated activities previously overseen by the Lokichokio sub-delegation across the border in Kenya. It was agreed that in June 2006 the ICRC would pull out of its hospital and physical rehabilitation centre in Lokichokio, which treated patients evacuated from southern Sudan. At the same time, the delegation took steps to ensure that the same treatment would be available in the south.

The ICRC continued to provide the Sudanese Red Crescent, its partner in the field, with substantial support to help vulnerable populations in conflict-affected

regions. To maximize the impact of aid, the ICRC also facilitated coordination within the Movement and coordinated its activities with those of the UN and other agencies working in the field.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians in Darfur

The ICRC remained deeply concerned about the lack of respect for IHL shown by all parties to the conflict in Darfur. It made frequent appeals to all sides to assume their responsibilities to protect civilians, their property and public infrastructure from attack and to ensure that people could move freely. ICRC delegates documented alleged violations of IHL, made confidential oral and written representations to the relevant parties and monitored their response.

Delivering food and relief goods

By the end of 2005, some 2 million people were receiving international food aid in Darfur.

In coordination with WFP, the ICRC delivered food rations (a total of 33,000 tonnes in 2005) in rural Darfur to an average of 150,000 people per month. Food distributions to residents started in April and finished in November, while IDP beneficiaries received rations throughout the year. Many of the resident communities receiving food aid were up to a six-hour drive from the nearest town. Most of the IDP beneficiaries lived in the towns of Gereida (South

Darfur) and Seleia (West Darfur) or in camps nearby. Because of the poor harvest in 2004, the ICRC decided in March to distribute 25% more food than planned during the remainder of 2005. Delegates regularly monitored economic security in 18 key locations in Darfur and adapted distributions accordingly. For example, therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres were set up for around 1,400 malnourished children in Gereida IDP camp. Between June and mid-July, the ICRC airlifted, rather than trucked, food aid into Darfur from Khartoum because some main roads had become dangerous or would be impassable during the rainy season.

As budgeted, some 360,000 people (60,000 households) affected by conflict in Darfur received essential household supplies, from tarpaulins, clothing and shoes to kitchenware, water containers and soap.

Together with the Sudanese Red Crescent, the ICRC also delivered household supplies to some 50,000 people in southern and eastern Sudan affected by clashes, long-term instability or natural disasters.

- ▶ in Darfur, 346,410 people (286,410 residents and 60,000 IDPs) provided with food
- ▶ overall 410,013 people (211,413 residents and 198,600 IDPs) provided with essential household items

Preserving livelihoods

To complement food aid in Darfur, the ICRC delivered around 305,000 tonnes of staple- and cash-crop seeds and 92,700 farm tools to some 66,250 families (332,450 people) who had relatively secure access to farmland. A survey in October showed that the amount of land under cultivation in ICRC-assisted areas had increased by 60 to 90% compared with 2004. However, the 2005 harvest would still not match pre-conflict levels, mainly because of the deterioration in the security situation, which prevented people from harvesting their crops.

Planned projects to boost livestock production were adapted to meet the most urgent needs. The ICRC vaccinated 500,000 cattle, goats and camels in rural North Darfur, using government-provided vaccines. The animals had not been inoculated for three years. Around 50,000 of the cattle treated belonged to women who were struggling alone to support their families. In response to local demand, the ICRC and the authorities also organized basic veterinary training for 140 community animal-health workers in all three Darfur regions.

In southern Sudan, some 5,000 conflict-affected families (around 30,000 people) living south of Malakal near the Sobat river received fishing gear to improve their diet and boost income.

- ▶ 536,265 people, over 500,000 of them in Darfur, benefited from agriculture assistance and micro-economic projects

Providing clean water

In Darfur, the ICRC ensured a supply of clean water in nine IDP camps (240,000 people); during 2005 work in five of the camps was handed over to NGOs.

At the same time, ICRC engineers worked together with the water authorities throughout Darfur to build or repair and maintain rural water points and urban networks serving some 1.3 million residents in government- and opposition-held regions. Improving access to clean water meant that communities faced significantly fewer health risks and women could fetch water closer to home, thus limiting the risk of being attacked or harassed.

- ▶ in Darfur, 7 town water networks renovated/repared, 459 hand pumps, 67 wells and 53 water yards (water-selling points with mechanical pumps) built/repared in rural areas and water systems maintained in 9 IDP camps
- ▶ 1.3 million residents in Darfur (825,000 in rural areas and 480,000 in urban areas) benefited from completed (500,000 beneficiaries) or ongoing (805,000 beneficiaries) water projects
- ▶ 244,000 IDPs in camps in Darfur benefited from completed (167,000 beneficiaries) or ongoing (77,000 beneficiaries) water/sanitation projects

In southern Sudan, the ICRC maintained an emergency stock of supplies to restore access to water for up to 15,000 people. In early 2005, the delegation completed the construction of a water-treatment and -distribution system for the teaching hospital (440 beds) in Malakal, where IDPs had fled to during fighting in 2004.

Ensuring primary health care

In Darfur, the ICRC rehabilitated and provided staff and medical supplies to eight primary-health-care facilities (a catchment population of 120,000). Three of the clinics were handed over to NGOs or the Health Ministry during 2005. The clinic in Gereida was run in partnership with the British and Australian Red Cross Societies and the one in Seleia with the Canadian Red Cross Society.

The ICRC also took over routine immunization programmes in Darfur in no-go areas for the Health Ministry. For example, ICRC teams vaccinated some 49,000 children against measles in the opposition-held region of Jebel Marra in West Darfur.

In southern Sudan, the organization completed the handover of its primary-health-care programme, initiated in 1998. The Norwegian, Swedish and Swiss Red Cross Societies took over the project in Yirol (four facilities), while the community assumed responsibility for the clinic in Chelkou.

- ▶ 13 health-care facilities supported (catchment population: 320,000)
- ▶ 247,101 vaccinations, 150,245 curative consultations and 11,464 ante and post-natal consultations carried out by ICRC-supported health-care facilities

Restoring family links

The ICRC, together with the Sudanese Red Crescent, continued to deliver and collect RCMs sent between Sudanese family members separated by conflict. The tracing and RCM network was expanded in Darfur to 19 tracing posts. A priority was to put children and parents back in contact through RCMs and, if possible, reunite the families. In a new initiative, the ICRC ran a three-month poster campaign in Darfur, Khartoum and Sudanese refugee camps in Chad and Kenya, displaying photos of 220 child refugees who were separated from their parents. The campaign boosted awareness of the network and brought in some information about parents sought, as well as new tracing enquiries.

- ▶ 30,473 RCMs delivered and 29,475 RCMs collected
- ▶ 425 people located at their families' request
- ▶ 6 people, including 5 children, reunited with their families
- ▶ 1,805 requests to trace relatives, including 959 children and 557 women, pending
- ▶ at 31 December 2005, 338 cases of children separated from their parents being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC stepped up negotiations with the Sudanese authorities, renewing its request for official authorization to visit all detainees according to standard ICRC procedures. The government indicated that it would, in principle, be willing to sign such an agreement, which the ICRC then drew up and submitted to the authorities.

In line with the comprehensive peace agreement, the ICRC played a neutral role in facilitating the release and transfer to government authorities of detainees held by the SPLM/A in southern and eastern Sudan. In addition, the majority of the detainees, as well as some released by the SPLM/A without ICRC involvement, received ICRC financial aid to return home. The organization continued to follow up any remaining cases of SPLM/A-held detainees that it had registered during the 21-year conflict.

The ICRC also facilitated the release and transfer home from Eritrea to eastern Sudan of three members of Sudan's Red Sea state parliament abducted by the opposition Eastern Front on 24 May. The Eastern Front also signed a memorandum of understanding authorizing ICRC detention visits.

In Darfur, the ICRC and the SLM/A signed an agreement in September authorizing ICRC detention visits. An agreement had already been signed in December 2004 with the SLM/A and JEM that defined each party's role and responsibilities in the release and transfer of detainees.

- release and transfer of 468 SPLM/A-held detainees, 21 SLM/A-held detainees and 4 detainees held by Darfur militias facilitated
- 629 former SPLM/A detainees provided with financial assistance to return home
- 138 SPLM/A-held detainees visited and monitored individually in 4 places of detention during 4 visits
- in Darfur, 131 SLM/A-held detainees (119 newly registered) visited and monitored individually in 5 places of detention during 13 visits
- 140 allegations of arrest related to the Darfur conflict registered and followed up
- 781 RCMs delivered to detainees and 659 RCMs collected

WOUNDED AND SICK

Southern Sudan

The ICRC still ran its Kenya-based hospital (500 beds) in Lokichokio, set up in 1986 primarily to treat the war-wounded evacuated from southern Sudan. For the third year, the hospital offered a programme to treat vesico-vaginal fistula, operating on 37 Sudanese women. It was agreed that the ICRC would pull out of the hospital in June 2006, while ensuring that equivalent services were available in southern Sudan. Meetings were held with Kenya's Health Ministry and the African Medical and Research Foundation to determine their

interest in taking over the hospital. The hospital's last training programme for Sudanese students started in June, with 24 participants. Since the programme's launch in 1989, 360 Sudanese had graduated and returned to work in Sudan as prosthetic-orthotic technicians or assistants to physiotherapists, nurses, anaesthetists and laboratory technicians.

In southern Sudan, the ICRC continued to provide the government-run Juba Teaching Hospital (500 beds) with ICRC surgeons and medical staff, as well as medicines, training and salaries or incentives for local staff, meals for patients and help with building maintenance. The ICRC's planned refurbishment of Yirol hospital was cancelled, as the county was to receive international donor aid.

- at the ICRC's Lokichokio Hospital, 4,203 patients admitted (526 war-wounded, 1,390 surgical cases, 1,038 medical patients, 276 obstetric/gynaecological cases and 973 paediatric patients), 3,270 operations performed and 1,332 outpatient consultations given
- at the ICRC-supported Juba Teaching Hospital, 15,854 patients admitted (90 war-wounded, 2,527 surgical cases, 3,189 medical patients, 2,921 obstetric/gynaecological cases and 7,127 paediatric patients), 4,553 operations performed and 18,490 outpatient consultations given

Darfur

The ICRC began 2005 with surgical teams working in Kutum and Zalingei district hospitals, two of five hospitals in Darfur upgraded by the ICRC since 2004. However, a low number of surgical admissions in rural Kutum and the assignment of Health Ministry staff in Zalingei led to the ICRC's withdrawal from Kutum hospital in March and Zalingei in May. Both hospitals received a three-month stock of medical supplies.

While hospitals in Darfur received substantial international support, access to medical care was still a problem in rural and opposition-controlled areas. In April, the ICRC established a mobile surgical field team (a surgeon, anaesthetist and two nurses) that could respond within hours to emergencies across Darfur. The team was based in Nyala (South Darfur) and treated civilians and combatants alike.

- 575 patients treated, including 360 war-wounded operated on, some more than once, by the field surgical team during 30 deployments

- 3,969 patients admitted, including 47 war-wounded, 796 operations performed and 5,030 outpatient consultations given at Kutum and Zalingei hospitals while supported by the ICRC

In November, the ICRC held a two-day seminar on war surgery in Khartoum for some 200 Sudanese surgeons and doctors. The training was organized together with the Sudanese Health Ministry, Medical Association and Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons. The ICRC also gave first-aid courses in the field in Darfur to 460 civilians and combatants.

Treating disabled people

The ICRC continued to provide Sudan's National Authority for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NAPO) with staff, funds, materials, training and supervision for its Khartoum physical rehabilitation centre and five satellite workshops in Damazin, Dongola, Kadugli, Kassala and Nyala. NAPO became increasingly self-sufficient and was in a position to pay for staff salaries and materials in some workshops in 2006.

To reinforce the Nyala workshop in Darfur, the ICRC, with German Red Cross funding, built a 12-bed dormitory for patients, ensured transport, accommodation and fitting for 170 patients and oversaw staff training and the production of mobility devices.

The ICRC's physical rehabilitation centre in Lokichokio, Kenya, continued to evacuate and treat some 90% of prosthetic/orthotic patients from southern Sudan. It was agreed that the ICRC would pull out of the centre in June 2006. To boost physical rehabilitation services within southern Sudan, the ICRC provided funds and technical supervision to Juba workshop, run by the NGO, Nile Assistance for the Disabled. It also flew a dozen patients from Wau and Malakal to NAPO's Khartoum centre.

Training was key to the expansion of prosthetic/orthotic services in Sudan. With the ICRC providing either funds or teachers, 12 Sudanese students started a three-year, on-the-job prosthetic/orthotic diploma course in Khartoum, three were enrolled at the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists and 19 NAPO staff were upgrading their skills.

- 8 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres or workshops treated 1,810 patients, including 1,030 amputees, and produced 1,197 prostheses (130 for mine victims), 1,207 orthoses, 2,934 crutches and 17 wheelchairs

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC welcomed the government of Sudan's announcement in 2005 that it intended to ratify the 1977 Additional Protocols. The organization worked closely with Sudan's inter-ministerial IHL committee, providing technical and legal advice on the integration of IHL into national legislation. It also sponsored committee members and relevant government officials to take part in IHL courses abroad.

In the field, ICRC delegates held presentations and workshops on IHL for members of state and local governments countrywide.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC stepped up IHL training for all armed groups in Darfur and had frequent contact with both the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) and the UN Mission in Sudan. The organization also initiated IHL training for the Joint Integrated Units. As defined in the comprehensive peace agreement, the units made up a unified force of around 40,000 Sudanese army and SPLM/A troops. Another encouraging development was the signing in March of an agreement with the Sudanese police and national security forces on the integration of IHL and human rights standards into their training programmes.

The ICRC:

- ▶ held 7 IHL seminars for some 200 SLA and JEM commanders and gave introductory talks in the field to armed groups in Darfur;
- ▶ organized 6 IHL programmes for Sudanese armed forces instructors and legal advisers and sponsored the deputy chief of staff to take part in an IHL seminar abroad;
- ▶ conducted a one-day IHL training session for 34 commanders of the Khartoum brigade of the Joint Integrated Units;
- ▶ trained AMIS personnel as IHL instructors and gave presentations to peace-keepers;
- ▶ gave IHL talks during induction courses for UN military observers;
- ▶ conducted an IHL seminar for Eastern Front members;
- ▶ held 7 seminars on IHL and human rights standards for 150 senior police and national security officers and gave introductory talks to local police countrywide.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC significantly increased its grass-roots dissemination of IHL, giving over 60 seminars, workshops and introductory presentations to local community leaders, journalists and other influential civil society groups in Darfur and the rest of Sudan. It also sponsored two high-profile Sudanese journalists to attend an ICRC seminar in Dubai on IHL and the media.

Through the Sudanese and international media, the ICRC consistently advocated that parties to the conflict in Darfur assume their responsibilities in preventing violations of IHL and providing a secure environment for civilians. It stressed that the climate of insecurity severely restricted the movement of civilians, which in turn stifled the economy, creating food shortages and a growing dependency on aid.

The ICRC continued to help Sudanese universities adapt their curricula to incorporate IHL. It supplied teaching materials and publications and gave 15 lectures on IHL to university law students.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society, with its 21 branches, worked with the ICRC, partner National Societies and UN agencies and NGOs to meet the needs of vulnerable populations, especially in Darfur. The ICRC continued to provide a variety of support to help the National Society build up its skills and activities, focusing on branches in volatile regions.

Restoring family links

The ICRC supported the National Society in establishing a countrywide tracing and RCM network, focusing on locating children separated from their parents during conflict and putting the families back in touch through RCMs. The ICRC:

- ▶ contributed financially to cover the salaries of 25 National Society tracing personnel and incentives for some 100 volunteers;
- ▶ helped organize 9 tracing workshops for more than 180 volunteers;
- ▶ donated 4 motorcycles to Darfur branches.

Reinforcing emergency response

The ICRC funded the running costs of 10 key Sudanese Red Crescent branches and nine units that provided emergency aid and assistance to conflict victims. It also

donated four vehicles and relief items to key branches, as well as transport, fuel, drivers and first-aid materials to maintain 24-hour services during demonstrations following the death of SPLM/A leader John Garang. To boost skills, the ICRC and National Society worked together to train 240 National Society first-aid instructors, introduce the "Safer Access" approach to 200 staff and volunteers and hold workshops for 80 personnel on the evaluation of economic security and project implementation.

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

The Sudanese Red Crescent held sessions to raise awareness of IHL and the Fundamental Principles among its own personnel and the general public, targeting secondary-school students. To support this programme, the ICRC contributed funds to cover the salaries of 12 Sudanese Red Crescent dissemination staff and to produce promotional materials, and helped stage events to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

Movement coordination

The ICRC met regularly with the International Federation and Sudanese Red Crescent to discuss the development of the National Society. The ICRC highlighted the need for the National Society to obtain an agreement with the Sudanese government to work in all areas of southern Sudan.

The ICRC continued to support partner National Societies working in Sudan. Movement partners active in Darfur met weekly to share information and coordinate their activities, and the ICRC assisted them, as needed, with logistics, security management and communication.



uganda

The ICRC has been active in Uganda since 1979. The organization suspended the activities of its sub-delegations following the killing of six ICRC staff members in April 2001 in neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo. It maintained a reduced expatriate presence in Kampala, concentrating on support to the Uganda Red Cross Society.

Since early 2004, in response to increasing needs in northern and eastern Uganda, the ICRC has gradually resumed field activities, focusing on protecting and assisting victims of internal armed conflict and visiting people detained for security reasons. It continues to request that the authorities shed further light on the killings of its staff.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,531
Assistance	13,583
Prevention	1,063
Cooperation with National Societies	1,998
General	-

► **18,175**

of which: Overheads **1,109**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88.3%
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PERSONNEL

21 expatriates
143 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- distributed essential household items to nearly 410,000 IDPs, provided seeds, tools and micro-economic projects to around 541,200 IDPs, supplied around 248,700 IDPs with clean water and supported 7 health centres, which treated nearly 54,600 people;
- strove to protect vulnerable groups in more than 75 camps housing IDPs and worked without armed escort to gain access to every such camp in the northern Acholi region;
- coordinated its operations in conflict areas with those of the Uganda Red Cross Society and other humanitarian actors;
- visited 242 detainees in 46 places of detention and, when necessary, made representations to the authorities to improve inmates' living conditions;
- delivered 5,195 RCMs to and collected 9,614 RCMs from civilians and detainees;
- signed memoranda of understanding with Uganda's army and police forces with a view to incorporating IHL and human rights law into their training and operations.

CONTEXT

A fragile peace process launched in late 2004 stalled early in 2005, leading to a resumption of military operations against the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the north and prolonging a conflict that had begun nearly 20 years before. The LRA suffered a number of setbacks, including the conclusion of a comprehensive peace agreement in Sudan, effectively isolating the group in southern Sudan. Defections of its members under an amnesty law and armed clashes with the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) also took their toll on the LRA, which split into smaller groups and branched out into the West Nile Bank in southern Sudan and into the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Diarrhoea, respiratory diseases, malaria and skin infections were rife in the IDP camps, and outbreaks of cholera and dysentery were a constant threat. The UN estimated that approximately 1.5 million people had fled their homes as a result of the conflict and were unlikely to return before peace was restored.

The LRA's apparent decision towards the end of the year to target humanitarian workers in southern Sudan and northern Uganda was a major cause of concern for humanitarian agencies. Five humanitarian workers and one tour operator were killed in attacks, which took place shortly after the International Criminal Court's decision to issue warrants for the arrest of LRA leaders. This development was especially worrying for humanitarian organizations such as the ICRC that operated without armed escorts.

On the domestic political scene, the country geared up for legislative and presidential elections due to take place in February 2006. President Yoweri Museveni, who was running for a third term in office after 20 years in power, drew criticism for allegedly interfering with the democratic process following the arrest of his main rival Kizza Besigye in early November. Besigye, who had recently returned to Uganda from self-imposed exile in South Africa, was detained for more than a month on charges of treason and rape. Following the controversy over Besigye's arrest, a number of donor countries reduced their financial contributions by a total of 70 million US dollars.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	242	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	242	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	409,857
Number of visits carried out	159	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	541,184
Number of places of detention visited	46	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	248,710
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Health</i>		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported	Structures	7
RCMs collected	9,614	Consultations	Patients	53,552
RCMs distributed	5,195	Immunizations	Activities	35,644
People reunited with their families	2	WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Hospitals supported	Structures	6
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	25	Admissions	Patients	103,921
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	12	Operations	Operations performed	12,111
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	20			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	6			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	2			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	17			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	10			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	31			

ICRC ACTION

In view of the faltering peace process and the continuation of hostilities, the ICRC maintained its assistance and protection activities for IDPs in northern Uganda. It established itself as a leading humanitarian actor in Gulu, Kitgum and Pader, the three districts in northern Uganda most affected by the conflict and where humanitarian needs were greatest. The organization concentrated on assisting IDPs in camps far from district capitals, aiming to improve their living conditions by providing safe water, sanitation facilities, farming tools, essential household items and health care.

The scope of ICRC operations had to be reviewed following the attacks allegedly carried out by the LRA on humanitarian workers late in 2005. To protect its staff, the delegation limited its field movements to areas deemed safe around its Gulu and Kitgum sub-delegations. The sub-delegation in Pader, however, had to suspend all but life-saving operations. The restrictions were partially lifted at the end of 2005. The ICRC could not secure direct and regular contact with the LRA, in spite of intensifying its efforts following the killings. The safety of its workers in the field thus depended on information collected before venturing into the field as well as on former LRA fighters' perception of the Movement's activities. The lack of sustained contact with the LRA remained a major obstacle to ensuring staff security.

One of the main tasks facing the ICRC was to foster efficient coordination between an increasing number of organizations working in similar fields. It regularly took part in meetings of the UN's Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other coordination forums. In addition, the ICRC and the Uganda Red Cross Society continued to liaise on the division of labour in the north and the east of the country, based on their respective mandates. In 2004, the government approved an official policy towards IDPs, which was launched officially in February 2005. The guidelines gave the National Society a special role as an auxiliary to the government in efforts to assist IDPs.

The ICRC had access to almost all places of detention and re-established and strengthened its working relationship with the authorities.

The delegation also built up a close working relationship with the armed and police forces in order to foster increased respect for IHL and human rights law. To strengthen training in IHL, the ICRC signed two memoranda of understanding, one with the UPDF and the other with the Uganda Police Force, whereby the forces would help organize and finance IHL courses.

ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger visited Kampala and met President Museveni in June. He took the opportunity to reiterate the ICRC's determination to get to the

bottom of the killings of six of its staff members in the DRC's Ituri province in 2001.

CIVILIANS

Improving access to water and sanitation facilities for IDPs

Insufficient clean water was available for drinking, hygiene and food preparation in IDP camps in northern Uganda, and this, added to inadequate sanitation facilities, continued to pose a health threat. The volume of water available in some camps in Kitgum and Pader districts could be as little as 5 litres per person, per day. The ICRC team's efforts to increase the supply by rehabilitating existing water points, drilling new boreholes and improving sanitation facilities were hampered by a number of constraints, in particular the worsening security situation.

In order to improve hygiene in the camps, the ICRC offered technical support and materials to help the community build latrines. It also worked with the Uganda Red Cross Society to include hygiene and maintenance of water and sanitation installations in its activities to raise awareness of health issues in communities.

- ▶ 248,710 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Improving the living conditions of IDPs

IDPs living in crowded camps numbered approximately 1.5 million, according to the UN. They were unable to cultivate most of their land and thus relied on humanitarian assistance to survive. IDPs supported by the ICRC received kits of essential household items including jerrycans, cooking equipment, soap and blankets. It also provided emergency assistance to IDP households whose shelter and food supplies were destroyed in fires during the dry season, distributing essential household items and tarpaulins, as well as food provided by WFP.

Once the IDPs' essential needs were covered, the ICRC focused on encouraging them to cultivate their own food on land adjoining the camps. It supplied households with seeds, hoes, rakes and jerrycans for the two planting seasons in February and in July and August. The first staple crop was harvested in August 2005. An ICRC evaluation found that its seed distribution in 2004 had significantly improved the beneficiaries' diet and income.

An ICRC-supported pilot project to help the most vulnerable households earn an income was launched in Akwang camp. Participants in the scheme chose to raise small livestock such as rabbits, guinea fowl and ducks. As breeding rates were disappointing, the delegation learnt that in future a more comprehensive follow-up service was required.

The ICRC distributed soap to the most vulnerable families in six camps to help them reduce their household expenditure, while giving them a possible source of revenue through selling the soap.

- 409,857 people received essential household items
- 541,184 people benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives

Improving the health of IDPs

Overcrowding, lack of clean water and poor sanitation, combined with the longstanding inadequacy of local health facilities, meant that health conditions were critical in the IDP camps. The ICRC teamed up with the Uganda Red Cross Society, international humanitarian organizations, the Ministry of Health and local health authorities to tackle the problem.

The ICRC supported existing health facilities, trained health workers and strengthened community-based health activities

to ensure that around 300,000 IDPs in more than 15 camps had access to essential health care. It increased its support for a national immunization campaign, which included polio and measles vaccination drives, deworming programmes, vitamin A distribution and malaria-control projects. The delegation monitored the quality of projects by systematically analysing data collected from health facilities and communities.

According to the Ministry of Health, malaria killed tens of thousands of children every year in Uganda, making the disease the primary cause of death for minors. In an attempt to lower infection rates, the ICRC distributed 40,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets in some 15 IDP camps.

Cholera was endemic in Pabbo camp, owing to insufficient clean water and poor sanitation. The ICRC, in partnership with the Uganda Red Cross Society, held hygiene awareness sessions. The number of cholera cases in the camp dropped significantly in 2005.

- 4,345 ante and post-natal consultations conducted, 35,644 vaccinations given and 49,207 curative consultations carried out in 7 ICRC-supported health centres
- 39,053 children between 1 and 14 years of age in 6 camps in Kitgum district and 10,715 children in 6 camps in Pader district given deworming treatment
- 60 health workers in 15 health centres across the 3 districts trained in how to prescribe basic medicines and administer primary health care
- 4,400 households in Gulu, 23,475 in Kitgum and 8,725 in Pader given insecticide-treated mosquito nets
- 1 health centre serving 19,566 people in Labuje camp, Kitgum district, built and equipped

Restoring family links for formerly abducted children

Civilians, and children in particular, remained the principal victims of the conflict in Uganda. UNICEF estimated that more than 20,000 children, mainly aged between 10 and 15, had reportedly been abducted by armed groups since the conflict broke out in 1987. Most of these children were still missing.

The ICRC attended debriefing sessions of former abductees in an attempt to deepen its understanding of the abduction phenomenon, as well as to check that they were not mistreated either during their surrender or in the UPDF's custody. The

ICRC liaised with other agencies dealing with abduction cases. It provided children who were to return home with reintegration kits to help the family cope with an additional member of the household.

The ICRC continued to provide the Uganda Red Cross Society with technical and financial support in running the RCM service.

- 3,933 RCMs delivered to and 7,695 collected from civilians
- 12 people located at their families' request
- 6 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers registered
- 2 unaccompanied/separated children reunited with their families
- at year end, 20 requests to trace relatives pending
- the cases of 17 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers still pending at the end of 2005

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC visited security detainees held in military barracks, police stations and central and local prisons to assess their treatment and living conditions and respect for their judicial guarantees. It took the opportunity to discuss its findings in confidence with the authorities and to advocate better access for the ICRC to detainees and notification of the arrest of people on security charges.

To complement the detaining authorities' efforts, the ICRC distributed blankets, jerrycans, cooking pans, soap and recreational items in a number of places of detention. It also provided four prisons with seeds, tools and agricultural training to improve the inmates' diet.

The ICRC continued to offer detainees the use of its RCM network to keep in touch with their families. It also enabled family members to visit their detained relatives and paid transport costs and supplied assistance kits to detainees upon release to facilitate their return to their families.

The ICRC and the Ugandan prison service signed a memorandum of understanding to assess jointly the state of 10 central prison buildings, including the water supply and sanitation facilities. The delegation consulted with other organizations involved in detention activities to gain a better understanding of their work and,

to avoid overlap, to encourage coordination whenever possible without breaching confidentiality.

- ▶ 242 people visited and monitored individually, including 106 newly registered, during 159 visits to 46 places of detention
- ▶ 1,262 RCMs distributed to and 1,919 RCMs collected from detainees
- ▶ 939 detainees benefited from ICRC-supported family visits

WOUNDED AND SICK

Government hospitals, receiving only very limited State funding, suffered from a shortage of supplies, qualified staff and building maintenance. Overcrowding in hospitals also put pressure on the quality of health care provided. In an attempt to improve six such health facilities, the ICRC provided ad hoc medical supplies and equipment, training and on-the-job supervision and carried out repairs to buildings.

The number of patients admitted to ICRC-supported hospitals for the treatment of injuries sustained because of the conflict dropped significantly in 2005 in comparison with 2003 and 2004. Internal medicine, maternity and paediatric cases accounted for the bulk of admissions. The ICRC shifted its focus accordingly from supporting the provision of war surgery to supporting the provision of general medical care.

- ▶ 6 hospitals supported
- ▶ 103,921 inpatients treated in ICRC-supported hospitals, including 582 war-wounded, 10 of them mine victims, and 12,111 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 363,532 outpatient consultations given in ICRC-supported hospitals
- ▶ 51 doctors and medical staff at Gulu and Kitgum government hospitals trained in surgical procedures by an ICRC surgeon
- ▶ around 200 medical evacuations carried out from IDP camps to hospitals
- ▶ beds and mattresses donated to Gulu government hospital's psychiatric ward

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC continued to provide the government with advice and technical assistance in matters relating to IHL and to encourage it to set up a national IHL committee. It strengthened relations with the treaties department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and maintained contact with bodies involved in incorporating international treaties into domestic legislation. The delegation provided information on IHL to a parliamentary body working on incorporating the Ottawa Convention into Ugandan law.

- ▶ debate on the ICRC's mandate and IHL attended by 22 Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials
- ▶ an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended an ICRC meeting of national IHL committees in Pretoria (see *Pretoria*)

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC conducted regular visits to IDP camps in Acholiland and documented allegations of IHL violations by government soldiers and conveyed its concerns to the UPDF regarding the alleged abuses. The ICRC was unable to build a sustained working contact with the LRA.

Promoting IHL among armed forces

The delegation endeavoured to raise awareness among military personnel of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities. In September, the ICRC and the Ministry of Defence signed a memorandum of understanding to launch a three-year IHL training programme in 2006.

The UPDF's training department created an IHL office that liaised with the ICRC throughout 2005. Delegates held IHL sessions and workshops in training schools, field and intelligence units and local defence forces.

Lack of contact with the LRA thwarted efforts to develop dissemination activities for the armed group.

- ▶ dissemination sessions conducted for more than 10,000 soldiers from all levels of the army and local defence forces
- ▶ 2 high-ranking officers sponsored to attend an IHL course in San Remo
- ▶ 3 junior officers participated in an IHL competition in Rwanda (see *Rwanda*)

Promoting human rights standards and humanitarian principles among police forces

The ICRC strengthened contacts with the head of the police force's training programme. It held dissemination sessions in Kampala and in the field on the ICRC's mandate and activities. The ICRC and the Ministry of Internal Affairs signed an agreement to draw up a three-year programme aimed at integrating human rights standards and humanitarian principles into police conduct and training.

- ▶ dissemination sessions conducted for nearly 1,000 police officers
- ▶ the head of the police training unit sponsored to attend an IHL course in San Remo

CIVIL SOCIETY

Traditional leaders

In November, the delegation met 22 traditional leaders in northern Uganda to discuss the security situation and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

The media

The ICRC consolidated its relations with the media and held two workshops to explain its mandate and activities to editors-in-chief of the print media. The organization regularly appeared in broadcast and print media news.

- ▶ radio announcement produced promoting ICRC access to victims

Academic circles

Of the universities the ICRC approached, only the Uganda Christian University in Mukono showed commitment to encouraging the study of IHL, introducing an optional IHL course for final-year law students. The ICRC regularly met university staff and donated an IHL library.

- ▶ 2 lecturers from Mukono University attended an IHL course in Pretoria (see *Pretoria*)
- ▶ 1 student team from Mukono University participated in the IHL moot-court competition in Arusha, Tanzania (see *Nairobi*)
- ▶ 3 sessions on IHL conducted for 145 students at Mukono University

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Uganda Red Cross Society, with its valuable experience and knowledge of local conditions, remained a key partner in all fields of ICRC activity, thanks to increasingly strong coordination and cooperation at all levels. The ICRC continued to provide a high level of technical and financial support to the National Society in the areas of emergency preparedness, communication, promotion of IHL and tracing in northern Uganda.

The National Society shifted the focus of its operation in northern Uganda from relief distributions to basic health care, hygiene and sanitation programmes, while maintaining a reduced distribution of essential household items for the most vulnerable families.

The ICRC and the National Society developed operational procedures based on the “Safer Access” approach for staff working in situations of armed conflict, internal tension and other emergencies.

- plan of action for dissemination activities jointly drawn up with the National Society
- financial and technical support provided for the training of 5 National Society dissemination officers and 23 National Society tracing assistants and volunteers
- IHL and ICRC dissemination materials jointly produced with the National Society



ICRC regional delegation ICRC sub-delegation ICRC office

abidjan

Since the outbreak of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire in September 2002, the ICRC's regional delegation in Abidjan has focused on maintaining and expanding its operational capacity to protect and assist people affected by the crisis, visiting places of detention and monitoring the situation throughout the country. The ICRC closely coordinates its activities with the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire. In the countries covered by the regional delegation, established in 1992, the ICRC supports the authorities in implementing IHL and raises awareness among the armed and security forces of the need to respect that law. It supports the institutional development of the region's National Societies.

COVERING

Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,774
Assistance	8,124
Prevention	2,529
Cooperation with National Societies	1,717
General	-

► **16,143**

of which: Overheads 978

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105.1%
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PERSONNEL

39 expatriates
163 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- made some 250 visits to detention places throughout Côte d'Ivoire;
- provided water-treatment plants with 450 tonnes of chemicals, technical support and spare parts to sustain water supply to 1.6 million people in northern Côte d'Ivoire; made emergency interventions in Korhogo and Katiola to rectify water shortages;
- in cooperation with the Ivorian Red Cross, assisted people displaced by the conflict and intercommunal violence in western and central Côte d'Ivoire;
- reunited 19 children with their families; collected 5,904 RCMs and delivered 6,379 RCMs in the region;
- organized 66 IHL dissemination sessions for members of the armed and security forces, Forces Nouvelles, militias and youth groups and ONUCI instructors;
- supported Togolese Red Cross volunteers and staff in evacuating 899 people wounded in Lomé and elsewhere during clashes triggered by President Gnassingbe Eyadema's death.

CONTEXT

Despite mediation by Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, the disarmament process in Côte d'Ivoire was derailed by disputes among signatories to the Linas-Marcoussis peace agreement.

Presidential elections, scheduled for the end of October, did not take place. Meanwhile, the UN Security Council extended President Laurent Gbagbo's mandate for another year and asked for the appointment of a prime minister able to get a firm grip on the political situation and to lead the country out of the crisis. After lengthy negotiations, a new prime minister was appointed on 4 December.

The country remained split in two, the south controlled by forces loyal to President Gbagbo and the north held by the Forces Nouvelles. A demilitarized buffer area, the Zone de confiance, separated the two regions. Some 6,000 troops of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI) and 4,000 French troops (Force Licorne) stayed on in the country to patrol the buffer zone.

In the north – still devoid of State administration – and the west, where violence prevailed, civilians' access to vital services, including education, medical care, water supply and trade, was greatly reduced, worsening an already difficult situation. The year saw an increase in banditry, notably in Abidjan, and several violent incidents, including two major attacks in February

and May in Lougoualé and Duekoué, in western Côte d'Ivoire. The attacks left more than a hundred people dead.

With no end to the conflict in sight and the economic situation worsening, civilians in Côte d'Ivoire were becoming increasingly dependent on external aid.

The death of Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema on 5 February and the election of his son Faure Gnassingbe as his successor on 24 April plunged Togo into violent clashes between the government's opponents and security forces. Several hundred people were wounded, while there were conflicting reports on the number of fatalities. In the violence that greeted the announcement of Faure Gnassingbe's election victory, some 10,000 people were displaced, some 39,000 fled to Benin and Ghana, crops were destroyed and houses razed. The situation was calm at the end the year. The other countries covered by the regional delegation remained stable.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²		
Detainees visited	9,677	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	812	Food	Beneficiaries	9,476
Number of visits carried out	256	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	28,892
Number of places of detention visited	97	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	1,564
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	1,600,000
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	4,000
RCMs collected	5,904			
RCMs distributed	6,379			
People reunited with their families	19			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	144			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	63			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	112			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	90			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	19			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	162			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	22			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	22			

1. Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso

2. Côte d'Ivoire and Togo

ICRC ACTION

In view of the volatile situation in Côte d'Ivoire, the ICRC increased its presence in sensitive regions. This enabled it to remain flexible in order to adapt its operations to civilians' changing or increasing needs. It was thus able to evacuate, treat and shelter people wounded or otherwise affected by massacres in Duekoué and violence in Lougoualé.

In conflict-prone regions, the ICRC carried out protection activities for conflict-weary populations, supported essential services such as water supply and health care in the north and boosted the economic security of vulnerable people, including several thousand IDPs. It continued to visit individuals detained in government- and Forces Nouvelles-held territories in connection with the conflict. The ICRC managed its activities in Côte d'Ivoire out of its regional delegation in Abidjan and through its existing sub-delegations and office in Bouaké, Korhogo and Man and the newly inaugurated sub-delegation in Gagnoa.

Following the violent events of November 2004, during which the Red Cross encountered difficulties in reaching people who needed assistance in Abidjan, the ICRC intensified its dialogue with youth activists in southern Côte d'Ivoire.

The ICRC continued to strengthen the capacities of the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire, notably to provide emergency aid to civilians affected by conflict. It also coordinated and financed the activities of volunteers and staff through the National Society's 44 branches.

Together with the Ivorian Red Cross and the national IHL committee, the ICRC revived efforts to promote the adoption by parliament of a law on the emblem.

In Togo, the ICRC stepped up its presence following violent events triggered by the death of President Eyadema and the April elections. It supported the Togolese Red Cross in assisting the numerous wounded and 2,000 displaced people. The organization also helped Togolese refugees – including children separated from their families – who had fled into Benin, to re-establish family links. It began negotiations with the Togolese government to gain access to places of detention in Togo. However, no agreement to this effect had been reached by the end of the year.

CIVILIANS

The continuing crisis, disputes over land rights, and insecurity in the west arising from the proliferation of weapons, meant that the volatility in Côte d'Ivoire was likely to persist for some time. Other problems

facing civilians in the north included poor access to basic services because of the absence of State administration.

Helping protect civilians

In Côte d'Ivoire, the ICRC collected allegations of IHL and human rights violations against civilians by weapon bearers and made representations to the relevant leaders. It consolidated its contacts with the armed forces, the Forces Nouvelles, Force Licorne, ONUCI, militias and traditional hunters to raise their awareness of their responsibility to protect civilians from the effects of conflict and to facilitate the ICRC's access to people in need.

Catering to civilians' health needs

In 2005, the ICRC, together with the Ivorian Red Cross, responded to the intercommunal violence by providing first aid, evacuating the wounded to medical facilities and facilitating the removal of the remains of those killed in the violence.

The ICRC brought health care closer to the people in the north of Côte d'Ivoire, gradually handing over the 86 health centres it supported to a programme run by UNICEF and the European Union. The four-month handover ended in March 2005 without disrupting the delivery of health services.

A health-post project delegated to the French Red Cross in Man was suspended in February for security reasons, but resumed in March.

- ▶ medical supplies from the central pharmacy in Abidjan delivered to 7 hospitals in Forces Nouvelles-held territory
- ▶ basic drugs donated to a Catholic mission in Duekoué for the treatment of 6,000 IDPs for one month
- ▶ 56 community health-care workers given basic training, 29 health posts revived, a four-month supply of drugs distributed to health posts

Water and sanitation

The ICRC continued its programme to prevent further deterioration in the urban water-supply system in Côte d'Ivoire, and maintained water supply to 1.6 million people in 80 urban centres in the north of the country.

- ▶ 957 tonnes of water-treatment chemicals delivered for use in 70 water-treatment plants
- ▶ 146 shuttle runs organized between a central workshop and some 60 outlying water-treatment stations to support the Ivorian water board in repairing pumps and electrical-mechanical equipment
- ▶ 2 rounds of bacteriological water-quality tests carried out at 121 sample points in the north-west; a mobile laboratory and other equipment purchased to support daily water-quality control
- ▶ 41 pumping stations provided with assorted equipment to prevent interruptions in water supply; 25 tool boxes purchased to facilitate major repairs in water supply systems; authorities' awareness raised on need to enhance management of the systems
- ▶ the ICRC's capacity to ensure emergency water supply in urban areas reinforced; 3 mobile pumping, treatment and distribution systems built for emergency water supply to 100,000 people in Korhogo; 29 million litres of water supplied to people during drought
- ▶ 13 communal wells repaired/equipped with pumps in Gagnoa
- ▶ temporary shelters set up for 3,000 IDPs in the Duekoué area; potable water-supply system reinforced

Enhancing civilians' economic security

Ethnic and intercommunal clashes in eastern and western Côte d'Ivoire forced thousands of people to flee their homes in 2004 and 2005. Security concerns considerably restricted the movement of civilians, causing them severe hardships. The ICRC concentrated on assisting those in remote places cut off from basic services.

- ▶ some 8,000 people provided with food, 28,892 with material assistance (including 3,715 in Togo) and 1,564 with agricultural support
- ▶ 44,485 bars of soap, 3,054 buckets, 12,170 mats, 11,193 pieces of cloth, 2,808 kitchen sets, 276 hoes, 532 tarpaulins, 225 shovels, 16,000 sq. m of shelter material distributed
- ▶ 9,000 kg of rice, 1,500 litres of oil, 3,000 kg of beans and 112 kg of salt distributed in Troqui
- ▶ vulnerable people in 14 institutions given monthly assistance comprising 161 tonnes of rice, 2 tonnes of salt, 27 tonnes of oil, 55 tonnes of beans, 9,245 kg of soap and 1 tonne of corn-soya blend; a small-scale rice-production project implemented
- ▶ IDPs in Togo given material assistance

Helping families re-establish and maintain family ties

Population movements persisted within Côte d'Ivoire and towards neighbouring countries. The number of Burkinans returning home between September 2002 and December 2005 was estimated at 320,000. The fluid situation in Côte d'Ivoire compounded the fragility of the returnees' circumstances. Ghana, meanwhile, had a refugee population of some 50,000, including Liberians, Sierra Leoneans, Togolese and Rwandans. Often, refugees and IDPs, including children separated from their parents, depended on the ICRC and National Societies to help them restore and maintain contact with their families.

The ICRC processed requests from National Societies worldwide to trace people in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana who had been separated from their families by conflict. Its RCM network helped families, notably in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire, dispersed by conflict in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, re-establish family links.

As part of the regional programme to trace the families of children separated from their parents, the ICRC monitored Liberian children in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. It also monitored Ivorian children in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, including those formerly associated with fighting forces. The object was to help them re-establish contact and, where possible, reunite them with their families.

- ▶ 4,612 RCMs collected (including 172 from children separated from their families) and 5,651 RCMs (including 174 from children separated from their families) delivered in the region

- ▶ a pilot project launched to help Burkinans who fled Côte d'Ivoire in 2002 re-establish family links; RCMs collected and tracing training organized for Red Cross volunteers in Burkina Faso
- ▶ in the region, 90 children, including those associated with fighting forces, registered; the cases of 162 children were pending at the end of 2005; 71 Liberian and Ivorian children, including those formerly associated with fighting forces, repatriated/reunited with their families in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, 19 of them by the ICRC
- ▶ 144 persons sought by their families registered (63 women and 61 who were minors at the time of their disappearance), 63 cases solved and 112 still pending at the end of 2005 (45 women and 46 who were minors at the time of their disappearance)

At the request of the Forces Nouvelles, the ICRC provided it with material and technical support in identifying and handling the remains of fighters killed during the events of February 2005 in Lougoulé. The purpose was to ensure that families were duly informed of the fate of their loved ones.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Helping safeguard the welfare of detainees

The ICRC visited military personnel and civilians detained in relation to the Ivorian conflict in various temporary detention facilities, military camps and prisons. Detention conditions were monitored throughout the region and varied from country to country.

In government-controlled areas of Côte d'Ivoire, the ICRC had access to ordinary detainees and people held in connection with the conflict. To alleviate the situation noted in six prisons, the ICRC carried out a three-month emergency nutritional programme. The programme, which benefited nearly 1,500 inmates, concentrated on therapeutic feeding for those who were severely malnourished and supplementary food for the rest. Concurrently, the organization initiated projects to improve water and sanitation in places of detention. It also provided ad hoc medical assistance and hygiene products.

The ICRC made written and oral representations to the local and central authorities concerning observations made during visits

to places of detention. The emergency nutritional programme facilitated discussions between the ICRC and the authorities, including the director of the penal authority, on a variety of issues.

In Forces Nouvelles-controlled areas, the ICRC was concerned about detention conditions, the absence of a functioning judicial system and the consequent lack of judicial guarantees. It raised these issues on several occasions with the detaining authorities and the Forces Nouvelles leadership.

- in government-controlled areas of Côte d'Ivoire: 8,865 detainees visited, of whom 361 monitored individually (4 women and 13 minors); 315 newly registered, 96 visits carried out to 39 places of detention (1 military prison, 21 places of temporary detention and 17 civilian prisons)
- in Force Nouvelles-held areas of Côte d'Ivoire: 717 detainees visited, of whom 356 monitored individually (3 women and 13 minors); 331 newly registered, 157 visits carried out to 55 places of detention (8 military camps, 39 places of temporary detention and 8 civilian prisons)
- in the Zone de confiance area (Force Licorne and ONUCI): 93 detainees visited, of whom 93 followed individually; 93 newly registered, during 2 visits carried out to 2 military camps
- in Burkina Faso: 2 people held in connection with the attempted coup in 2003 visited during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- nearly 1,300 RCMs collected in detention places throughout Côte d'Ivoire and over 700 RCMs delivered
- funding provided to a religious association to continue assisting detainees in Côte d'Ivoire's Bouaké prison; medical supplies donated to Bouaké and Korhogo prisons; ad hoc donations of hygiene products distributed in detention places

In Togo, the ICRC met the head of State and certain ministers as part of efforts to reach an agreement on access to detainees.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Outbreaks of violence in Côte d'Ivoire left a few hundred people wounded. In Togo, violence related to the death and succession of the president also caused casualties.

- in Côte d'Ivoire, material/financial support given to the National Society to provide first aid to and evacuate over 200 war-wounded to Daloa hospital; first-aid kits donated to Duekoué and Daloa hospitals to cater for 200 war-wounded
- in Togo, a surgical kit donated to Lomé's Tokoin hospital to treat 100 war-wounded; dressings for 1,000 war-wounded supplied to the Togolese Red Cross and various health facilities
- a seminar on war surgery organized in Côte d'Ivoire for 21 Ivorian surgeons
- ahead of the aborted presidential elections in Côte d'Ivoire, 3 Ivorian Red Cross branches provided with first-aid material for the treatment of 500 war-wounded; first-aid material for the treatment of 100 war-wounded pre-positioned in 3 ICRC sub-delegations; transport/communication means pre-positioned in strategic places
- 13 health-care facilities assessed in areas affected by violence in Togo
- an introductory first-aid and IHL programme conducted in conjunction with the Ivorian Red Cross for some 5,000 weapon bearers; a similar programme implemented in Abidjan for militias and youth groups

AUTHORITIES

Some of the region's countries were not yet party to vital IHL treaties, nor had they incorporated the treaties' provisions into national legislation.

- Ivorian IHL committee's activities supported, including the drafting of a bill on the emblem; a symposium on the emblem/ IHL organized for the authorities, parliamentarians and corporations; organizing of a seminar for regional/local leaders on IHL and the protection of people affected by conflict supported
- creation of an IHL committee in Burkina Faso supported; a seminar on the repression of IHL violations organized for the authorities
- Benin's completion of a bill on the repression of IHL violations supported

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The region's defence, security and police forces had made progress in incorporating IHL into their training and command structures but still needed to translate IHL rules into orders and procedures. To this end, the ICRC:

- helped the Ivorian army compile IHL training manuals; funded the training of an army officer in San Remo; organized sessions on IHL, the ICRC and its operations in 4 armed and security force training institutions;
- pursued negotiations with the Ivorian police authorities on training in human rights/ humanitarian principles for the *gendarmérie*;
- conducted sessions on its mandate and activities and IHL for 6,500 militia members, ONUCI battalions and Forces Nouvelles members;
- organized a session on humanitarian principles and ICRC/Red Cross activities for 1,200 Togolese army recruits; held a course for 20 Togolese IHL instructors; supported 2 San Remo-trained officers in organizing an IHL course for army personnel;
- organized/helped organize an IHL trainers' course and a workshop on the review of the Burkinan military justice code for 46 participants, including Burkinan military personnel;
- discussed IHL training with the Ghanaian military leadership and the judge advocate-general;
- gave 2 presentations on civil-military cooperation in peace-support operations to officers from the Economic Community of West African States at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In Côte d'Ivoire, the ICRC familiarized several thousand members of the public with its mandate and activities and IHL by:

- publishing articles on the Movement/IHL in the media, broadcasting programmes, including a musical show "Man, a remedy for man" and launching a campaign on the emblem;
- supporting art work on the theme of IHL produced by street children in 2004.

In Togo, a public and media campaign was organized to explain to the public the ICRC's mandate and activities.

The ICRC signed agreements on IHL promotion with television channels in Togo, Burkina Faso and Benin.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) secondary-school programme progressed.

- ▶ basic humanitarian values introduced into the curricula of 6 secondary schools; 400 EHL coordinators/teachers trained; an EHL pilot project carried out in 8 schools and subsequently evaluated
- ▶ sessions on humanitarian values organized for out-of-school youths

The ICRC continued assisting Ivorian universities and colleges by giving lectures, sponsorship and other support.

- ▶ 7 university lecturers from 4 of the region's countries attended the pan-African IHL course in Yaoundé, Cameroon (see *Yaoundé*); 16 students from the region participated in a moot-court competition in Dakar, Senegal
- ▶ over 180 Burkinan students briefed on IHL and the Movement; 2 IHL libraries donated to Burkinan educational institutions
- ▶ the leadership of the Federation of Students and School Pupils of Côte d'Ivoire briefed on IHL and the Movement

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies faced numerous constraints that made it difficult for them to improve their capacities to carry out their activities efficiently and autonomously.

Côte d'Ivoire

The training of first-aid volunteers and staff remained a vital component of ICRC support to the Ivorian Red Cross.

- ▶ 6 first-aid brigades trained, material (164 first-aid kits, 954 Red Cross vests, 60 red cross flags, 3 vehicles, 3 HF radios and other radio communication equipment) and medical supplies donated to 48 brigades
- ▶ 80 heads of brigades and radio operators trained in the management of emergency situations; 90 buckets, 270 mats, 270 blankets, 880 bars of soap, 530 pieces of cloth, 180 tarpaulins, bandages and tents donated
- ▶ financial and other material support provided

Togo

The Togolese Red Cross, supported by the ICRC, responded to the outbreak of post-election violence by evacuating or assisting 899 wounded people.

- ▶ first-aid kits and other emergency material donated to 42 branches, and 1,205 first-aid workers mobilized
- ▶ extra-budgetary funding provided for the purchase, installation and/or repair of 4 National Society HF stations; 10 radio operators trained; medical equipment donated
- ▶ 30 stretchers, 9 first-aid kits and medical supplies distributed to 4 public health/medical facilities
- ▶ fuel provided and an ambulance repaired
- ▶ 500 Red Cross vests/stickers donated
- ▶ completion and launch of contingency plan supported

Burkina Faso

- ▶ 135 first-aid volunteers trained
- ▶ emergency measures for presidential elections supported, including setting up emergency plan and mobilizing 500 first-aiders

Restoring family links

- ▶ 62 Ivorian/Burkinan Red Cross volunteers and 3 regional tracing coordinators trained; 17 motorcycles, scooters or bicycles and 30 Red Cross vests donated to the 2 National Societies

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

Côte d'Ivoire

The ICRC worked to enhance knowledge of the Movement, IHL and security guidelines among National Society staff and volunteers.

- ▶ revision of the Ivorian Red Cross statutes completed with ICRC help
- ▶ IHL sessions held for over 400 volunteers
- ▶ 25 dissemination officers, trainers and coordinators of EHL clubs trained
- ▶ session of the National Society's governing board organized with ICRC support
- ▶ IHL workshop held for 20 senior/managerial staff and 20 radio-show hosts
- ▶ events to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day organized

Elsewhere

- ▶ workshops on the Fundamental Principles held for Burkinan and Togolese Red Cross volunteers
- ▶ 38 Burkinan Red Cross staff briefed on the Movement; 6 dissemination staff trained; 9 workshops on humanitarian values held for the public

Cooperation with the Movement

The ICRC worked with other components of the Movement to enhance the capacities of the region's National Societies. With the International Federation, it helped four of the region's National Societies respond to the crisis in Togo.



abuja

The ICRC works to enhance the Nigerian Red Cross Society's capacity to respond to emergencies country-wide. It supports the National Society's tracing activities, the Alternative to Violence Project designed to curb communal violence, and a programme to improve hygiene and sanitation in prisons. Working with the authorities, the armed forces, the police and civil society, the ICRC promotes IHL and its national implementation. It also cooperates with the National Society to raise awareness of the Red Cross. Active in Nigeria during the Biafran war (1966–70), the ICRC established a regional delegation in Lagos in 1988 and relocated to Abuja in 2003.

COVERING
Nigeria

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	767
Assistance	34
Prevention	1,144
Cooperation with National Societies	2,226
General	-

► **4,171**

of which: Overheads 255

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93.5%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
42	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- signed a memorandum of understanding with the Nigerian police force to include IHL systematically in police training; conducted a number of courses on IHL and the ICRC for police officers;
- held a train-the-trainer course on IHL for military instructors and gave presentations on the ICRC and IHL for thousands of soldiers and army officers;
- co-organized with ECOWAS a seminar on IHL implementation in West Africa attended by officials from 13 member States;
- provided the Nigerian Red Cross Society with financial, technical and material support;
- built up a network of key contacts among national and local authorities, religious groups and traditional leaders.

CONTEXT

Virtually all political parties in Nigeria, especially the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP), were undergoing internal crises. At the state level, some governors were engaged in a tussle with patrons who had sponsored them in the hope of benefiting from lucrative state contracts and appointments. At the national level, retired military men vied with civilian politicians for control of the PDP. The PDP persisted with its so-called "internal cleansing" process, with a number of senior officials facing charges of money-laundering and corruption.

The PDP membership-renewal exercise and party primaries hinted at the problems that could arise during general elections scheduled for 2007. There were reportedly widespread irregularities and cases of violence, and some states produced more than one leader of a political party.

There was much speculation on whether President Olusegun Obasanjo would have the constitution amended in order to be able to run for a third term in 2007. Many pundits believed the president's willingness to do so was at the root of friction between him and the vice-president, Atiku Abubakar, who had ambitions for the presidency.

Meanwhile, the Niger Delta zone remained largely peaceful, partly owing to the federal government's clampdown on the leaders of the three most prominent militia groups in the country, who were charged with treason. However, the area remained dogged by interethnic rivalry and uneasy relations between oil-producing companies and local

people, who were disgruntled about what they saw as inadequate benefits for them from the companies' activities.

On the economic front, Nigeria continued to climb its way gradually out of debt by keeping to its debt-relief agreement with the Paris Club. The Paris Club agreed to knock 18 billion US dollars off Nigeria's debt of 30.4 billion. The country paid arrears of 6.4 billion US dollars, leaving 8 billion outstanding.

Finding shelter remained a problem for many residents of the capital Abuja, as the Federal Capital Development Authority, in a bid to restore the city's master plan, destroyed houses and shops that had not been registered. In addition, many civil servants were made homeless by the government's policy of selling off State-owned properties. The State employees were evicted when government housing grants promised to them failed to materialize, rendering them unable to afford to buy their own homes.

Resolution of a dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon over the Bakassi Peninsula made slow progress. The Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission agreed to continue the field assessment of the border.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ¹		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Water and habitat</i>		
RCMs collected	742	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	1,088
RCMs distributed	641			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	17			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	3			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	27			

1. Nigeria

ICRC ACTION

In Nigeria, the ICRC continued to focus on preventive activities, humanitarian diplomacy and strengthening the capacity of the Nigerian Red Cross Society. It kept up its dialogue with the political authorities and civil society in order to gain a good understanding of the complex realities of Nigeria, to promote awareness and implementation of IHL, to exchange information on issues of humanitarian concern and to anticipate crises.

The ICRC worked in close cooperation with the Nigerian Red Cross Society to provide protection and assistance to people affected by intercommunal clashes, urban riots and political violence. Cooperation included organizing workshops on conflict preparedness, maintaining stocks of non-food and medical supplies in the National Society's six zones countrywide and training Red Cross volunteers and staff in IHL and the Fundamental Principles. The ICRC also carried on supporting the National Society's tracing and prison sanitation programmes and its Alternative to Violence Project (AVP). The AVP consisted of interactive workshops for inciters, perpetrators and victims of violence in violence-prone states.

The ICRC endeavoured to increase understanding and acceptance of the Red Cross mandate and activities and to promote IHL. The roles of the ICRC and the National Societies within the Movement were explained to selected audiences to gain safe access for the Red Cross to people affected by internal disturbances and to encourage weapon bearers to comply with IHL and human rights law.

The ICRC developed a network of key contacts among the national and local authorities, prison officials, traditional rulers and opinion-leaders. It also established contacts with Muslim and Christian religious groups and leaders as part of its broader global effort to promote mutual understanding.

Through dialogue with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the ICRC sought to smooth the way for its operations and advocacy of IHL in the West African region. It also briefed Nigerian troops departing for UN or African Union (AU) peace-support missions.

CIVILIANS

Through the Nigerian Red Cross Society, the ICRC continued assisting civilians affected by internal violence. While delays in recruiting a National Society tracing officer in the first half of the year affected the functioning of the tracing service, the ICRC still enabled civilians in the Oru refugee camp to restore family links. The new National Society tracing officer, appointed in May, visited the Oru refugee camp for Liberians and three tracing posts but before year's end did not fully take over activities aimed at restoring family links. Meanwhile, the ICRC provided the official with training and financial support.

- ▶ 641 RCMs delivered to and 742 RCMs collected from civilians
- ▶ tracing in progress for 27 people, including 11 people who were minors at the time of disappearance

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

By consolidating its relations with Nigeria's human rights organizations, the ICRC established a clear picture of the type of service offered by these organizations, as well as creating a reliable local and national information network. The ICRC also met two key organizations involved in prison matters – the British Council and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

The regional delegation maintained contact with the Nigerian Prison Service, and the

joint ICRC/Nigerian Red Cross Society prison sanitation programme was well known and respected by State prison authorities. Nonetheless, there was still a need to bolster the federal authorities' knowledge of the ICRC.

In five prisons, 1,088 detainees benefited from the ICRC's water and sanitation projects, which included the construction of pit latrines and water systems.

WOUNDED AND SICK

The ICRC acted through the Nigerian Red Cross Society to assist the wounded and sick affected by internal disturbances or intercommunal violence by reinforcing its emergency preparedness (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

AUTHORITIES

Encouraging IHL ratification and implementation in the sub-region

With ECOWAS assuming responsibility for setting up the West African Brigade of the African Standby Force, the ICRC focused attention on peace-support operations. It held regular meetings with ECOWAS representatives to discuss IHL training for Standby Brigades, a West African code of conduct for armed and security forces, and problems in the region, such as the crisis in Togo and violence in Côte d'Ivoire.

A seminar on IHL implementation in West Africa, co-organized with ECOWAS, was attended by senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice of 13 countries.

Encouraging IHL ratification and implementation in Nigeria

A party to most IHL treaties, Nigeria still needed to accede to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and the

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also had to incorporate the treaties already ratified into national law.

Although the national authorities had the will to push ahead with IHL implementation, progress was slow. The ICRC pursued a dialogue with officials in the Justice Ministry who could be instrumental in getting bills drafted and voted on by parliament. It prepared a draft of the revised Geneva Conventions Act, which was being reviewed by the Nigerian Red Cross Society's legal committee with the ICRC's technical support.

Together with the National Society, the ICRC organized several meetings with the authorities to discuss the new emblem.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Nigerian armed forces

The military continued to play a prominent role in Nigerian society, the sub-region and beyond, taking part in UN and AU peace-support missions in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Sudan and elsewhere. Besides, the army remained a strong feature of the domestic political scene, acting as a stabilizing force and supporting the police in maintaining internal peace and security.

Over the years, the ICRC had developed a strong working relationship with the Nigerian armed forces. It concentrated on building relations with the military command and on boosting the armed forces' autonomy in IHL training. The delegation was regularly invited to present its mandate and activities to key training institutions.

Although at the policy level there was a general acknowledgement of the importance of IHL in military training, implementation of IHL needed improving. The regular rotation of officers in and out of training establishments made it difficult to maintain a pool of IHL resource personnel and, therefore, undermined teaching of IHL.

- a meeting held with the new chief of training at Defence Ministry headquarters; train-the-trainer course organized for 27 instructors
- together with the Nigerian Red Cross Society, 15 dissemination sessions conducted for 1,600 officers
- 4,200 peace-keepers briefed on IHL

Nigerian police force

The ICRC and the Ministry of Police Affairs signed a memorandum of understanding to include human rights/IHL systematically in police training and operations.

- 1 seminar organized for 22 top police officers
- 2 train-the-trainer courses on human rights/IHL attended by 31 police instructors
- together with the Nigerian Red Cross, presentations given on the National Society's role during internal disturbances, attended by 350 police officers

CIVIL SOCIETY

A new ICRC media officer, appointed in November, continued efforts to strengthen relations with Nigeria's media, which showed great interest in ICRC activities. The ICRC maintained contact with religious groups and organizations to keep track of the various trends in Nigeria.

- an information magazine developed with the Nigerian Red Cross Society; various publications produced and distributed
- with the National Society, a survey conducted of Nigerians' perceptions of Red Cross activities

The ICRC carried out an assessment of IHL instruction in the law faculties of the 10 Nigerian universities that taught the subject and identified universities and research institutes where it would like to promote the teaching of IHL. It also established contacts with academics in Islamic studies, who showed openness towards and interest in IHL and the ICRC.

- 3 lecturers sponsored to attend the 5th annual All African IHL Course in Pretoria, South Africa (see *Pretoria*)
- 3 students financed to participate in a moot-court competition organized by the ICRC in Arusha, Tanzania (see *Nairobi*)
- 20 IHL professors given advice and teaching material

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Planned ICRC activities to support the National Society encountered delays owing to the late hiring of key staff. Among other things, this meant postponing the handover to the National Society of full responsibility for tracing activities in the Oru refugee camp, scheduled for the end of 2005.

In spite of a late start, the National Society's prison sanitation programme was almost completed by the end of the year, with distributions of sanitation material made to around 70 prisons throughout the country and an ICRC-assisted evaluation of four projects was carried out.

Drawing lessons from difficulties experienced since the launch of the AVP in 2002, the ICRC redefined the roles and responsibilities of the various categories of National Society staff and volunteers involved in the project. The clubs, which formed the basis of the AVP, aimed to encourage volunteering for the National Society through the organization of events such as first-aid workshops.

To support the activities of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, particularly its emergency preparedness, the ICRC:

- organized 2 first-aid refresher courses for 60 National Society staff;
- assisted the National Society in conducting 3 first-aid courses for 77 emergency-team leaders; donated first-aid kits, medical supplies, 1 vehicle and 5 high-frequency radios;
- helped pay the salaries of key National Society staff;
- worked with the International Federation to harmonize Movement activities in the sub-region;
- supported, jointly with the International Federation, a two-day seminar on the Movement attended by 13 new National Society board members; supported a two-day workshop on the Movement organized by the National Society for 25 staff; sponsored 2 courses on the Movement for first-aid team leaders and trainers;
- donated essential household items, blankets and plastic sheeting towards the National Society's emergency stock;
- supported the ongoing review of the National Society's statutes.



dakar

The Dakar regional delegation focuses on promoting IHL among the armed forces and other weapon bearers and on encouraging its implementation by the authorities throughout the region. It also supports the activities of the National Societies, assists people affected by violence, such as displaced persons in need and returnees in Casamance, and visits detainees of ICRC concern, providing them with material aid where necessary. Opened in 1991, the Dakar regional delegation initially covered Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and Gambia, later extending its responsibilities to include Mali (1993) and Niger (1994).

COVERING

Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Cape Verde

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	250
Assistance	1,615
Prevention	1,305
Cooperation with National Societies	1,011
General	-

► **4,182**

of which: Overheads 255

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	113.0%
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PERSONNEL

6	expatriates
45	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued providing support in the form of human resources, training and equipment to health-care facilities in the Casamance region of Senegal;
- completed water projects in Casamance involving the construction/repair of 40 wells and concluded the construction of health-care facilities;
- resumed prison visits in Gambia after a three-year hiatus; visited 23 prisons in Niger, 7 for the first time;
- strengthened the capacities of the region's National Societies to prepare for emergencies, draw up contingency plans and implement programmes to raise awareness of epidemics;
- promoted the implementation of IHL by the countries in the region and supported the incorporation of IHL into university and school curricula;
- continued supporting the integration of IHL into the training and operations of the region's armed forces and familiarized some 2,500 military and security personnel in Senegal with IHL.

CONTEXT

The region became increasingly preoccupied with elections, as presidential and legislative elections loomed in Gambia, Mali and Senegal. Social tension and economic gloom remained a common feature of most of the countries covered by the delegation.

In Senegal, former prime minister Idrissa Seck, President Abdoulaye Wade's heir apparent, was jailed, allegedly for threatening State security. Meanwhile, no progress was made in the peace process in Casamance, chiefly because leaders of the Mouvement des Forces Démocratiques de la Casamance (MFDC) could not agree on holding discussions with the government. Armed groups were back in action, disrupting the calm that had returned to Casamance and that had prompted the return of IDPs and refugees to the region. Even so, thousands of refugees returned to the region, many arriving in their villages only to find them razed, with their houses, schools and health centres in ruins and farmland overrun by forest.

Lack of resources hampered government efforts to provide social services in Casamance, while insecurity made it difficult for humanitarian actors to assist civilians affected by the conflict. Access to safe water was a major problem. The insecurity was disastrous for the local economy, *inter alia*, disrupting agricultural production, the region's major revenue earner, and preventing the development of modern farming techniques. With the prospect of peace, however, the region saw some signs of economic recovery.

In Gambia, efforts to stamp out corruption continued, with high-profile arrests of government, police and High Court officials and the dismissal of five ministers. On the political scene, opposition parties formed a coalition to present a united front in the 2006 elections.

In Guinea-Bissau, the economic and social situation remained grim, with widespread poverty, and unemployment hovering around 60%. The country depended on assistance, not always forthcoming, from the international donor community. A successful electoral process, which culminated in the election of President João Bernardo Vieira, helped defuse an otherwise volatile situation.

There was much bustle in Mali, amid growing disillusionment with the administration, as opposition parties regrouped ahead of the presidential elections scheduled for 2007.

In Niger, around 1 million people continued to endure famine brought about by severe drought. The imposition of a 19% VAT on basic commodities sparked off a social crisis that paralysed the country for weeks and resulted in arrests. With civil society and the opposition mobilized against the VAT measure, the government relented. Insecurity and intercommunal conflicts lingered in regions of both Niger and Mali.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²		
Detainees visited	4,387	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	136	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	2,174
Number of visits carried out	29	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)		
Number of places of detention visited	29		Beneficiaries	12,685
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	63			
RCMs distributed	130			

1. Gambia, Niger and Senegal

2. Niger and Senegal

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to build up its network of contacts and to monitor political, social and security developments in the region. Frequently consulted on humanitarian issues, the organization noted that awareness of IHL was becoming increasingly valued. Cooperation with traditional partners – government authorities, armed and security forces, NGOs, international organizations and academic circles – stayed on course.

The ICRC resumed prison visits in Gambia and continued supporting the authorities of some of the region's countries in ensuring that the treatment of detainees and their conditions of detention conformed to international norms.

In Casamance, the ICRC persisted with its integrated community assistance programmes to improve access to water, sanitation facilities and health care for civilians affected by conflict and to enhance their economic security. The programmes' goals were to give beneficiaries a chance to rebuild their lives and to create an environment conducive to renewed peace. While the government, MFDC and the beneficiaries supported and appreciated the efforts of the ICRC, the security situation in regions where it operated remained a concern. The ICRC carried on lobbying other humanitarian organizations to ensure an adequate response to the needs of the people of Casamance.

In Niger, given that many other organizations were involved in providing famine relief, the ICRC's response to the drought's effects was restricted to ensuring that its projects, notably in prisons, were not adversely affected.

The need to strengthen partnerships with the region's National Societies was evident, particularly in tracing activities, emergency preparedness and the promotion of IHL.

CIVILIANS

Refugees from Casamance, especially those in Gambia, began returning home and started rebuilding their houses and other village infrastructure damaged during the conflict. However, there was little tangible action to back up pledges made to support them in rebuilding their lives after years of conflict. Insufficient water supply remained a major hindrance to the recovery process. The national water board still had no access to certain areas, and with the flight of civilians during the conflict, wells had been neglected for years. Particularly susceptible to the hardship, including limited access to health care, were young children, pregnant women and the elderly. Malaria remained a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Senegal.

In Casamance, the ICRC pursued its three-pronged approach – improving health care, economic security and access to safe water – to encourage displaced people to return to their places of origin.

Health care

The ICRC maintained its partnership with the Senegalese Red Cross in supporting the anti-malaria programme initiated in 2004. Carried out by 25 teams comprising 57 community workers acting in conjunction with eight health posts, the programme sought to make communities more aware of malaria, its prevention and treatment. The ICRC made mosquito nets impregnated with insecticides available at preferential prices for pregnant women and children under five at 18 outlets serving an estimated 35,000 people. It conducted a survey on knowledge, attitudes and practices concerning malaria among mothers/carers of children under five to assess the impact of the programme. The findings indicated that the programme had considerably increased the target population's awareness of the benefits of mosquito nets in controlling the spread of malaria.

The ICRC and the Senegalese Red Cross also continued to support 37 community workers responsible for relaying information on malaria prevention and treatment in 17 villages in Bignona and Sédhiou districts.

- messages on malaria prevention and treatment relayed to some 21,000 people in 34 villages
- mosquito nets impregnated with insecticide donated to Kabadio community
- material donated to the Extended Programme on Immunization in the areas of Djondji and Diocadou

The ICRC helped improve health-care services by restoring Djondji health post and rebuilding the adjoining maternity ward. By the end of May, the facilities were already receiving patients and able to handle baby deliveries even during the night, thanks to the installation of a solar-powered lighting system. The facilities also received medical supplies and equipment, an incinerator and a potable water storage system.

By the end of 2005, the ICRC had completed the construction of health-care posts/maternity wards in Diocadou, Katak Karone, Tendine and Sitoukene villages. Red Cross volunteers contributed to the effort, as did local communities, which provided masons, carpenters and labourers. Whenever technical expertise was required, the ICRC approached private construction companies in Ziguinchor. The health posts were to cater to the needs of 12,000 people once health-care workers had been trained. Furthermore, the ICRC:

- donated funds to Djondji community for the training of a matron at the district hospital;
- provided food to a trainee community health worker from Diocadou during an internship at Djibidione health post; provided 20 health workers in 10 health

posts in Djibidione with food when they participated in monthly information sessions;

- ▶ donated medical books to 9 health posts and provided material support to the head nurse at Djibidione health post to ensure monthly supervision of Djondji and Diocadou health posts until a nurse could be deployed to each of these posts.

Economic security

To enhance economic security, the ICRC supported communities' efforts to revive market gardening by providing 22 women's gardening associations (2,174 beneficiaries) with wire fencing, seed kits and gardening tools, including watering cans, basins and weighing scales. It regularly monitored the associations' progress, providing them with technical support in the planning, organization and management of their market gardens.

Access to water

In December 2005, the ICRC completed its programme, initiated in 2004, to repair/construct 40 wells for 10,915 beneficiaries in 17 villages. This huge water-supply programme comprised 20 wells fitted with pulleys for market gardening and 20 community wells equipped with water pumps. The organization made it possible for the national water board to access the villages where security was a concern to install the water pumps. Proximity to health-care facilities was a factor in determining where to construct the wells.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Helping protect detainees

The ICRC continued its prison visits in Niger, where it monitored detainees registered in 2003 and 2004, most of whom were held in relation to mutinies in the Diffa and Niamey garrisons in 2002. In May, a military tribunal created in 2003 began hearing the cases of military detainees.

- ▶ 3,833 detainees visited, 120 of whom monitored individually during 23 visits to 23 detention facilities, including 7 visited for the first time

In Guinea-Bissau, where 10 military personnel were arrested in May following former president Kumba Yala's brief occupation of the presidential palace, the ICRC monitored the situation closely, particularly with regard to the detainees' judicial guarantees. All the detainees were released during the year.

Renewed dialogue with the Gambian authorities enabled the ICRC to obtain access to detainees. Likewise, the organization began efforts to help enhance the functioning of the judicial system.

- ▶ 552 detainees visited, 14 monitored individually during 3 visits to 3 places of detention

In Senegal, two detainees were visited by the ICRC.

Assisting detainees

In Niger, the ICRC installed showers and sanitation blocks and constructed wells to serve 770 inmates in five detention places. To help the penal authorities improve living conditions in prisons, the organization rehabilitated health-care facilities in four prison establishments. In one establishment, it constructed a well fitted with a pump. It also continued to seek alternative solutions to water problems affecting prisons.

- ▶ 5 reservoirs, each with a capacity of 3,000 litres, distributed to 4 prisons in Niger
- ▶ items including wheelbarrows, soap, bleach, brooms, pitchforks, rakes, buckets, tumblers, gum boots, gloves, shovels and mosquito nets distributed to 17 prisons in Niger
- ▶ ad hoc material and medical assistance provided to prisons in Gambia

AUTHORITIES

National authorities

The ICRC intensified its contacts with the authorities to impress upon them the importance of incorporating IHL into national legislation. Accordingly, the organization:

- ▶ helped the authorities prepare a draft on the emblem law (Niger);
- ▶ donated 500 samples of alternative symbols to the Health Ministry in Niger to help combat misuse of the emblem;
- ▶ organized workshops for government/National Society officials on the draft emblem law (Niger) and penal reforms (Gambia, Senegal);
- ▶ organized workshops/information sessions in Mali and Niger to familiarize local authorities with IHL, the Movement and its activities and continued to monitor developments along borders in the sub-region;
- ▶ conducted IHL/human rights awareness sessions for members of the military, police and prison guards (Gambia)

The Senegalese parliament voted to adopt a bill on the emblem.

Regional and international organizations

The ICRC participated in the activities of and maintained contact with regional and international organizations. This included:

- ▶ holding discussions with the African Union's commission on protection of civilians during armed conflicts;
- ▶ participating in activities/meetings organized by the UN Office in West Africa, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Senegal) and a regional consultation on violence against children (Mali);
- ▶ familiarizing 40 parliamentarians of the West African Economic and Monetary Union with IHL and the ICRC (Guinea-Bissau);
- ▶ sponsoring government representatives from 5 countries to attend an ICRC/ECOWAS seminar in Abuja (see *Abuja*);
- ▶ helping representatives of 4 countries of the region attend a seminar on protection organized in Dakar for human rights NGOs;
- ▶ participating in the proceedings of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights based in Gambia;
- ▶ making contact with UN agencies in Mali concerning potential refugees from Côte d'Ivoire.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Promoting IHL among the armed and security forces

Lack of personnel and other constraints hampered the efforts of the armed and security forces to achieve autonomy in teaching and implementing IHL. The ICRC continued to support the forces in achieving their goals.

- ▶ 2 military officers (Mali, Senegal) sponsored to attend an IHL course in San Remo
- ▶ in 4 countries, sessions on IHL and the ICRC conducted for 2,850 security and military personnel, including 1,000 troops departing for peace-keeping operations in the sub-region
- ▶ 4,500 copies of the *Soldier's handbook* printed and donated (Senegal)

CIVIL SOCIETY

Enhancing public knowledge of IHL

As vectors of information, the media were an important audience for the ICRC, as were NGOs, particularly those involved in human rights activities. The ICRC, therefore:

- maintained contacts with national and international media in the region, *inter alia*, to inform them of issues of humanitarian concern and to keep track of developments;
- organized information sessions on IHL, the ICRC and the Movement for journalists in Guinea-Bissau; local journalists, then, created an association to support the Red Cross, “Journalistes amis de la Croix-Rouge”;
- organized an IHL seminar in Dakar for representatives of human rights associations and academics from Niger; helped 4 students from Niger to participate in a regional moot-court competition organized in Dakar in conjunction with the Senegalese High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Promotion of Peace;
- in Mali, arranged a televised debate on the Fundamental Principles to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May; ICRC operations worldwide and IHL covered frequently by the media;
- initiated talks with Muslim leaders and associations to better understand their point of view and their perceptions of the Red Cross (Senegal).

Familiarizing young people with IHL and humanitarian principles

Despite a lack of resources, interest in IHL grew steadily in universities as evidenced by its incorporation into a law programme of Dakar University. The ICRC maintained contacts with this and two universities in Mali and Niger.

- IHL libraries/publications donated to universities (Mali, Niger)
- 40 university students participated in a moot-court competition in Niger; students from 9 countries participated in the first regional moot-court competition in Dakar
- 6 IHL sessions organized at Dakar University; a documentation centre opened, facilitating Internet access for IHL students/researchers; 40 hours of IHL instruction provided at the university's Human Rights and Peace Institute
- awareness sessions on IHL and Red Cross activities organized in Niger for 42 participants from an academic institution

- 3 lecturers from 3 countries sponsored to attend the 2nd pan-African IHL course (see *Yaoundé*)

In Senegal, a committee comprising representatives of the Education Ministry, the Senegalese Red Cross and the ICRC was set up to test the Exploring Humanitarian Law secondary-school programme during the 2005–06 school year.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Tracing capacities and emergency preparedness

The region's National Societies continued to require assistance in strengthening their capacities. Although tracing represented a small fraction of National Societies' activities, the ICRC's presence in the region facilitated the development of their tracing knowledge and capacities.

- 4 National Societies (Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger) supported in training 199 first-aid workers
- 2 National Societies (Senegal, Cape Verde) provided with first-aid equipment; headquarters constructed for a branch of the Senegalese Red Cross; equipment provided to 3 branches in Guinea-Bissau
- structural support enabled 4 National Societies (Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger) to improve their programme management
- integration of a tracing module in training for first-aid workers under way; 55 first-aid workers trained in tracing (Mali, Senegal)
- the ICRC assumed the lead role in tracing (Mali); an assessment of 4 National Societies' (Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Senegal) tracing capacities started; the Gambian Red Cross supported in collecting RCMs from/delivering RCMs to prisons
- the Gambian Red Cross supported in distributing books to detainees
- 5 training sessions organized by 3 National Societies (Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger) for 125 first-aid workers
- 4 committees of 3 National Societies (Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger) supported in building their headquarters
- with the International Federation, workshops organized for 2 National Societies (Mali, Niger) on good governance and management

The Fundamental Principles

The region's National Societies organized activities around the themes of human dignity and combating HIV/AIDS.

- National Societies enabled to participate in the Council of Delegates in Seoul
- Mali Red Cross's novel idea of using a publicity caravan to familiarize the public with IHL supported
- production of 2 National Societies' (Mali, Niger) newsletters supported
- the first phase of a programme on promoting intercultural humanitarian values completed (Casamance)



harare

The Harare regional delegation has existed in its current form since 1981, although the ICRC has been present in some of the countries covered for much longer. Nowadays, it focuses on protecting and assisting civilians and visiting people deprived of their freedom in connection with political tensions. The delegation helps family members separated by armed conflict restore contact. It familiarizes the authorities, the armed and security forces and the general public with IHL, human rights law and the ICRC's mandate and helps the region's National Societies develop their operational capacities.

COVERING

Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,794
Assistance	925
Prevention	880
Cooperation with National Societies	536
General	-

► **4,135**

of which: Overheads 252

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	72.9%
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PERSONNEL

10	expatriates
45	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- in Zimbabwe, regularly supported 6 hospitals and provided 14 others with basic medical supplies;
- registered civilians left homeless as a result of internal violence in Zimbabwe and reported several cases to the authorities at local and provincial levels;
- delivered, in cooperation with the region's National Societies, thousands of RCMs between refugees and their families; registered several vulnerable people with a view to reuniting them, if appropriate, with relatives;
- raised awareness of IHL among young people taking part in Zimbabwe's national youth service training programme, as well as among army and police officers;
- briefed high-level officials in Zimbabwe on the ICRC's approach and working methods, particularly with regard to its detention-related activities;
- visited 167 security detainees in Botswana, Namibia and Zambia and, when necessary, made representations to the relevant authorities on their behalf.

CONTEXT

Zimbabwe continued throughout the year to face serious political and socio-economic challenges, such as triple-digit inflation, high unemployment, shortages of essential items and a drop in household earning capacity. In addition, a combination of factors, including drought, affected the 2005 harvest and led to a lack of food. The WFP provided food aid to 2 million people in November and planned to increase its food distributions to more than 3 million Zimbabweans through feeding programmes for vulnerable groups.

In a polarized political climate, general elections took place in March with fewer clashes than in previous polls and were won by the ruling ZANU-PF party. Critics of ZANU-PF said the non-violent nature of the poll was attributable to the government's heavy-handed policies, which included passing legislation banning public gatherings and limiting the freedom of the press.

Following its landslide electoral victory, ZANU-PF amended the constitution and reinstated the Senate. Elections for this body were held in November, and the ruling party again won the majority of seats.

In May, the Zimbabwean government launched a first operation against the informal business sector by preventing petty traders from working. The campaign was followed soon afterwards by a move to demolish buildings that had not been registered. In a report on the humanitarian consequences of "Operation Murambatsvina",

the UN estimated that 700,000 people had lost their homes, their livelihoods or both. In an attempt to provide decent and affordable accommodation to those affected, the government launched "Operation Garikai". Owing, however, to irreconcilable differences between the government and humanitarian organizations working in Zimbabwe, both national and international, the initiative stalled and the new homes remained unbuilt.

The government continued with its programme of land reform, evicting more farmers. Getting access to evicted families remained a problem, especially for international humanitarian organizations.

Namibia remained politically stable and free from armed conflict. In March, a new president, government and parliament were sworn in. The incoming president, Hifikepunye Pohamba, began his term with attempts to tackle corruption and poverty.

November was marked by the discovery of mass graves, thought to be linked to Namibia's struggle for independence from South Africa, which ended in 1990. It was feared the find could upset the national reconciliation process. The exhumations, allegedly conducted by non-specialists such as police, army and construction officials, drew criticism from Namibian human rights organizations for not being carried out professionally.

Zambia's economic performance was on the upturn owing to the reduction of the

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		WOUNDED AND SICK ²		
Detainees visited	141	Hospitals supported	Structures	6
Detainees visited and monitored individually	141			
Number of visits carried out	14			
Number of places of detention visited	11			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	26,381			
RCMs distributed	19,235			
People reunited with their families	12			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	10			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	4			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	226			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	20			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	11			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	126			

1. Botswana, Namibia and Zambia

2. Zimbabwe

country's debt and increased production in the mining sector. Nevertheless, it was not spared a host of problems endemic to the region, including drought. The president declared the food shortage a national disaster. WFP agreed to provide 65 million US dollars worth of food aid.

Several countries in the region, notably Botswana, Namibia and Zambia hosted refugees who had fled conflict or sporadic outbreaks of violence in their home countries. The repatriation of Angolan refugees, as well as of other groups of refugees including Namibians in Botswana, lost momentum in 2005 owing to the refugees' reluctance to return to their poverty-stricken countries of origin.

ICRC ACTION

In Zimbabwe, the ICRC regularly assessed the situation of hundreds of victims of internal violence, including ex-farm workers affected by eviction notices served on farmers under the government's agrarian reform programme. Where necessary, the ICRC distributed essential household items and food to the workers and their families on an ad hoc basis and drew the authorities' attention to their plight. The delegation also assessed health facilities in three provinces and provided a number of hospitals with basic medical supplies and blankets. It continued to nurture contacts with authorities and civil society leaders throughout Zimbabwe.

The ICRC teamed up with the region's National Societies (mostly in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia) and with refugee volunteers to collect and distribute thousands of RCMs between refugees and detainees of concern to the ICRC and their families.

Protection activities were conducted in prisons in Botswana, Namibia and Zambia, where a number of security detainees were being held in relation to the 1999 uprising in the Caprivi Strip. In Zambia, the ICRC maintained its dialogue with the authorities and the international community in order to improve detention conditions.

The ICRC continued to encourage the region's armed and security forces to inte-

grate IHL into their training and operations and, partly in cooperation with National Societies, to train police forces in human rights standards and humanitarian principles. It further helped finance the National Societies' tracing and dissemination programmes.

CIVILIANS

Protecting people affected by internal violence

In Zimbabwe, the ICRC undertook several field missions to monitor the situation of people affected by internal violence. A number of civilians were displaced after their homes were burned down in clashes. The ICRC documented these cases and, whenever possible, notified the authorities in order to prevent further acts of this kind. Where necessary, it distributed essential household items and food to those rendered homeless. In November, hundreds of families mainly comprising widows and orphans in Harare received a one-off distribution of much-needed food and non-food items.

In coordination with the health authorities, the ICRC visited hospitals and clinics to assess their capacity to care for the sick and people wounded during internal violence. Following a survey conducted in 2004, the ICRC decided to support hospitals in three of Zimbabwe's provinces. Medical kits and blankets were distributed to the facilities, which like all hospitals in Zimbabwe were suffering from a severe lack of resources and

personnel. People injured in post-election violence were treated in ICRC-supported hospitals.

- ▶ 622 families received food and essential household items
- ▶ 6 hospitals regularly supported and 14 hospitals supported on an ad hoc basis
- ▶ 74 health facilities assessed

Restoring family links

Working with the National Societies and refugee volunteers, the ICRC conveyed thousands of RCMs between refugees in the region and family members. In Zambia, the ICRC encountered some difficulty in providing an RCM service to newly arrived refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who preferred to live outside camps, making it harder to reach them.

In Namibia, the delegation held a series of discussions with the Namibia Red Cross to plan the handover of conflict- and refugee-related tracing activities to the National Society by the beginning of 2006.

- ▶ 18,941 RCMs delivered and 26,096 collected
- ▶ 10 new tracing requests registered
- ▶ 20 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers registered
- ▶ 12 people reunited with their families, including 11 unaccompanied/separated children/demobilized child soldiers
- ▶ tracing continues for 226 people

The ICRC registered 21 children separated from their parents and living in refugee camps, bringing to 103 the number of such cases being followed up by the ICRC. Of these children, the majority of whom were Angolans, 17 were reunited with their families. The delegation also monitored the treatment of children living in temporary homes.

The delegation registered 34 vulnerable adults with the aim of reuniting them with relatives, bringing to 38 the number such cases being followed up by the ICRC.

Alerting Angolan returnees to mine risks

In 2005, the ICRC pursued its programme to alert Angolan refugees to the danger of mines in their home regions. The sessions, aimed at Angolans in Namibian refugee camps planning to move back home, were also attended by refugees not intending an immediate return to Angola. Refugees trained as mine-risk instructors had accumulated enough skills to be able to hold sessions virtually autonomously.

- ▶ around 3,000 Angolan refugees, including 426 returnees, attended mine-risk education classes

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Ensuring adequate conditions of detention

In Zambia, the ICRC continued to monitor prison conditions and encouraged the authorities to make any necessary improvements, providing guidelines on treatment and living and hygiene standards for detainees. It briefed international community and civil society representatives on prison conditions.

In Botswana and Namibia, the ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees arrested in connection with an armed uprising in the Caprivi Strip in 1999. The delegation made representations to the authorities relating to lengthy trial proceedings, lack of clarification of detainees' legal status and detention far from home. The inmates continued to benefit from ad hoc ICRC assistance, which included clothing, toiletries and recreational items.

In Botswana, as the ordinary postal service was working efficiently, the ICRC replaced its RCM service for detainees with distributions of letter-writing materials, including stamps.

In August and September, the ICRC arranged for 400 family members living in the Caprivi Strip to visit 132 security detainees held in two Namibian prisons.

In Zimbabwe, the delegation held meetings with high-level officials to discuss issues related to detention.

- ▶ In Botswana, 5 visits to 5 places of detention
- ▶ In Namibia, 3 visits to 2 places of detention (131 detainees monitored individually)
- ▶ In Zambia, 6 visits to 4 places of detention (10 detainees monitored individually)
- ▶ 29 RCMs delivered to and 157 collected from detainees in Botswana; 235 RCMs delivered to and 107 collected from detainees in Namibia; 30 RCMs delivered to and 21 collected from detainees in Zambia

AUTHORITIES

Increasing understanding of and support for the Movement

The ICRC continued to meet high-level officials in the region to explain its mandate and to develop a working relationship with the authorities. During the year, the ICRC:

- ▶ held dissemination sessions on the ICRC and IHL for more than 100 civil servants and future military attachés;
- ▶ produced and circulated a six-monthly newsletter on IHL-related topics and a fact sheet on ICRC activities in the region.

Ensuring ratification and implementation of major IHL treaties

The ICRC held a meeting in Botswana with representatives of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to discuss the status of ratification and implementation of IHL instruments in all its member countries.

In Zimbabwe, the National Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law showed interest in ratification of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The ICRC offered its expertise and support to the process.

In August, Botswana's presidential office convened an interdepartmental meeting to discuss setting up an IHL committee. The ICRC offered its support and advice and, to that end, held a workshop on IHL implementation in September, attended by potential members of the committee.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Integrating IHL into military training

- ▶ IHL courses held in Zimbabwe for 141 officers from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia and representatives of Zimbabwe's army, prison services and police force
- ▶ an IHL course held for 20 army instructors in Zambia
- ▶ 30 officers assigned to an SADC peace-keeping mission in Sudan briefed on IHL; the ICRC discussed with the SADC the integration of IHL into the training of troops to be deployed in peace-keeping operations

Promoting human rights standards and humanitarian principles among police forces

The regional delegation worked to raise awareness of IHL among the region's police forces and to promote the integration of pertinent international human rights standards and humanitarian principles into their training.

- 205 police officers from all districts of Zimbabwe briefed on IHL, Red Cross activities and humanitarian and human rights principles
- 40 senior police officers in Zambia introduced to IHL and the Movement

CIVIL SOCIETY

Relations with the media and other key stakeholders

The ICRC built contacts with and provided information to the national and international media, universities and NGOs in the region to raise awareness of humanitarian issues, the organization's mandate and the relevance of IHL.

Promoting the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme

In Zimbabwe, the ICRC's efforts to initiate a test phase of its Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools suffered a setback owing to changes within the Ministry of Education and to the situation in general. The delegation therefore decided to put the programme on hold and concentrate on the promotion of IHL among the young people participating in Zimbabwe's national youth service training programme. It was officially granted access to the programme's camps where it conducted a number of IHL sessions.

Promoting the study of IHL in law faculties

In Zambia, the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding with the national university's law faculty on the inclusion of IHL as a mandatory subject in the curriculum and presented the department with an IHL library. The delegation also worked with the National Institute of Public Administration and the Institute of Diplomatic Studies and equipped them with IHL libraries.

In Zimbabwe, a lecturer who participated in the 2004 pan-African course on IHL in Pretoria drafted an IHL course intended for inclusion in the State university's law curriculum.

- 14 IHL presentations given for 4,400 young people participating in the Zimbabwe national youth service training programme
- a team from the University of Zimbabwe sponsored to take part in the ICRC's 5th moot-court competition in Tanzania in November
- 2 Zambian lecturers attended the 2005 pan-African course on IHL in Pretoria

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

General support to the National Societies

In 2005, the ICRC:

- helped fund the Botswana Red Cross Society's annual general meeting, which saw the election of a new president;
- contributed to the salaries of communication officers working for the National Societies of Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia;
- participated in the meeting of the Southern Africa Partnership of Red Cross Societies in Johannesburg;
- sponsored the participation of Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's legal adviser in a two-day meeting of legal advisers in Geneva;
- participated in the Mozambique Red Cross Society's annual partnership meeting;
- contributed to the travel expenses of 1 delegate from each of the region's National Societies attending the Council of Delegates in Seoul;
- supported the dissemination activities of the Red Cross Societies of Malawi and Zimbabwe, partly by financing and helping organize several field trips for their dissemination officers;
- continued to contribute to the cost of publications such as information brochures, newsletters and calendars.

Ensuring effective tracing services

The National Societies took part in RCM and tracing activities, for which the ICRC contributed to the running costs, including payment of salaries and mission expenses, and provided technical support in the form of a new tracing handbook, equipment and training in high-frequency radio operation. Also in 2005, the ICRC:

- helped the Namibia Red Cross hold a session on tracing in situations of conflict or natural disaster as part of an ICRC-supported regional training workshop for disaster-response teams attended by 10 of the region's National Societies;

- trained a newly appointed tracing coordinator and staff of the Botswana Red Cross Society;
- took over tracing for social cases in Namibia, a traditional National Society activity, following the resignation of the tracing coordinator and postponed the planned handover of conflict- and refugee-related activities to the National Society.

Enhancing disaster preparedness and response

To help National Societies improve their disaster preparedness and response capacities, in 2005 the ICRC:

- overhauled the radio networks of the Zambia and Zimbabwe Red Cross Societies.



nairobi

The ICRC's regional delegation in Nairobi was set up in 1974 and has a dual purpose: first, to promote IHL and carry out operations in the three countries covered, namely restoring family links for refugees, protecting and assisting people injured, displaced or otherwise affected by internal armed clashes or unrest, visiting detainees falling within its mandate, and supporting the development of the National Societies; and second, to provide relief supplies and other support services for ICRC operations in neighbouring countries of the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, as well as further afield.

COVERING
Djibouti, Kenya, Tanzania

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	2,587
Assistance	3,336
Prevention	2,106
Cooperation with National Societies	1,145
General	-

► **9,174**

of which: Overheads 560

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	113.3%
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PERSONNEL

33 expatriates
381 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- opened an office in the Zanzibar archipelago and, in relation to election unrest there, visited people detained, transferred the wounded to hospital and provided hospitals with medical supplies;
- delivered, together with the Kenyan Red Cross, food and essential household items, as needed, to more than 26,000 IDPs and refugees affected by clan clashes in north-eastern Kenya and the neighbouring Gedo region of Somalia, and provided 5 medical facilities with supplies to treat the wounded;
- carried out water, agricultural and habitat projects to ease community tensions over scarce resources in north-western Kenya and Kenya's Lamu coastal district;
- delivered some 28,800 RCMs sent by relatives to refugees in the region and reunited 39 child refugees with their parents;
- organized the first East Africa competition on IHL for armed forces (teams from 6 countries took part) and a three-day meeting on IHL implementation, attended by representatives from 30 Commonwealth countries;
- through its Nairobi-based Logistics Centre and Regional Training Unit, delivered relief supplies and provided specialist staff to support ICRC delegations worldwide in assisting conflict victims.

CONTEXT

Owing to instability in neighbouring countries, Kenya, Tanzania and Djibouti together hosted around 1 million refugees, some 800,000 of them sheltering in Tanzania. UNHCR reported that during 2005 it carried out the voluntary repatriation of around 58,000 Burundian refugees and 280 Congolese refugees from Tanzania. There were no major moves to return home among the 72,000 Sudanese refugees in Kenya, despite Sudan's north-south peace accord signed in January 2005.

As stable States, Djibouti, Kenya and Tanzania continued to play an important diplomatic role in the region. Kenya hosted peace talks on Sudan and Somalia and was the regional base of a large number of humanitarian organizations. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) had its headquarters in Djibouti and became increasingly involved, together with the African Union and other African regional bodies, in maintaining peace and security in the region. Tanzania continued to play a role in Burundi's peace process and hosted the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

On the domestic front, political tensions rose in Kenya as voters rejected a new constitution in a referendum held on 21 November. Some campaigning was marred by violence. After the vote, President Mwai Kibaki suspended parliament and appointed a new cabinet, while opposition groups called for early elections. As in past years, the more remote and arid parts of Kenya remained prone to intercommunal

clashes, usually over water and pasture. Failed rains in Kenya led to a drought in some areas, with the north especially hard hit. In late 2005, President Kibaki declared the drought a national disaster and appealed for international aid to feed some 2.5 million people. Parts of Tanzania and Djibouti were also affected by drought.

In Tanzania, general elections triggered unrest in the Zanzibar archipelago. Clashes involving security forces and supporters of the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) and the main opposition Civic United Front (CUF) resulted in dozens of casualties and scores of arrests. The CCM won the presidential election and retained a parliamentary majority.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²		
Detainees visited		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	76	Food	Beneficiaries	10,320
Number of visits carried out	17	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	26,160
Number of places of detention visited	4	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	18,000
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	19,950
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	2,150
RCMs collected	49,754	WOUNDED AND SICK ³		
RCMs distributed	28,792	Hospitals supported	Structures	2
People reunited with their families	39			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	143			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	109			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	1,191			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	40			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	39			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	1,006			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	46			

1. Djibouti and Tanzania

2. All figures include Kenya; Djibouti is included in the habitat figures and Tanzania is included in both the water/sanitation and habitat figures.

3. Tanzania only

ICRC ACTION

The Nairobi regional delegation stepped up its activities in 2005 in response to clan clashes in northern Kenya and election-related unrest in the Zanzibar archipelago.

The ICRC opened an office in the Zanzibar archipelago on 17 August in order to be able to respond rapidly and effectively to needs arising from any election-related violence. During 2005, it visited detainees held in connection with election unrest and distributed medical supplies to hospitals to treat people injured during the clashes. It also broadened its contacts with the local authorities, police and security forces, community leaders and the media to raise awareness of IHL and international human rights law.

In Kenya, the ICRC and Kenyan Red Cross worked together to deliver emergency aid to people internally displaced by clan clashes in the north of the country and to refugees fleeing fighting in neighbouring Somalia. At the same time, the delegation carried out medium-term projects to improve economic security and thus ease community tensions in both northern Kenya and the southern coastal district of Lamu. In December in Nairobi, the ICRC publicly launched its comprehensive regional livestock study on current and future trends in animal and plant production in East Africa. The organization was

already using the study to guide its projects to improve economic security in the region.

The ICRC reinforced the tracing and RCM services in all three countries, enabling thousands of refugees to locate and exchange news with relatives left behind. The priority remained to reunite child refugees with their parents, wherever possible.

The delegation built on its longstanding programmes to promote IHL. It focused on assisting governments in implementing the provisions of IHL treaties, helping the armed forces consolidate their IHL training and supporting academic institutions in developing IHL courses.

The three National Societies continued to receive a wide range of ICRC support to strengthen their relief, first-aid, tracing and communication programmes. This support over the years contributed to the efficient response of the Kenyan Red Cross in aiding victims of ethnic clashes and of the Tanzanian Red Cross in providing first-aid services during election unrest on the islands.

In parallel, the ICRC's Nairobi Logistics Centre procured and delivered relief supplies to ICRC delegations in Africa and beyond, using the most efficient and cost-effective means. For example, ten charter flights from Nairobi delivered emergency supplies and personnel to Pakistan at the

start of the earthquake relief operation. At the same time, the Nairobi Regional Training Unit developed and coordinated ICRC strategy and provided delegations with specialist advice, training and field support. During 2005, the unit also held two courses in Mombasa to update the knowledge and skills of pilots who flew aircraft contracted by the ICRC for its delegations worldwide. In addition, it was instrumental in setting up the ICRC's second regional training unit in Africa, based in Dakar, Senegal.

CIVILIANS

Providing emergency aid

Scores of civilians were killed or injured and thousands forced to flee their homes during sporadic clan clashes in 2005 in Kenya's north-eastern district of Mandera, bordering Somalia. Mandera's meagre resources were further stretched by the arrival in April of some 10,000 refugees fleeing fighting in the neighbouring Gedo region of Somalia. Between February and August, the ICRC, together with the Kenyan Red Cross, delivered medical supplies to one hospital and four health centres to treat the wounded and sick and provided the worst-off IDPs and refugees with a one-month ration of food and essential household items (blankets, kitchenware, tarpaulins, mats, buckets, jerrycans, soap and clothing). The ICRC stepped in to

assist the refugees because the relevant agencies were not in a position to do so. The delegation also delivered surgical supplies to two local hospitals to treat people wounded in clan clashes in mid-July in Marsabit district, bordering Ethiopia.

- ▶ 26,160 IDPs and refugees provided with essential household items
- ▶ 10,320 IDPs and refugees provided with a one-month food ration

Easing community tensions in Kenya

The ICRC began in mid-2004 to carry out small-scale assistance projects to improve economic security and thus ease ethnic tensions in a remote and underdeveloped area (250 sq km with a population of 20,000) at the boundary of the Turkana and West Pokot districts in north-western Kenya, bordering Uganda. The region was prone to drought, and there were frequent clashes over water, pasture and livestock. During 2005, the ICRC delivered seeds and tools to farmers in March, ahead of the rainy season, and provided livestock owners with vouchers to vaccinate their herds against disease. It also constructed two village primary schools, built a kitchen for another primary school and dug or rehabilitated three wells. At the same time, ICRC delegates documented alleged abuses against civilians and interacted with the authorities and civil society leaders to raise awareness of humanitarian principles and civilians' right to protection.

In Lamu, the last coastal district before the Somali border, poor access to clean water had been a source of tension for some time within the Swahili community. The ICRC began working with the Kenyan Red Cross in mid-2004 to improve the water supply. During 2005, the organization rehabilitated the water systems of Ndaou and Siyu village dispensaries and Siyu secondary school, which served some 5,000 people, including 430 students. It also surveyed the water facilities (242 reservoirs and 260 wells) on Pate and Ndaou islands (population of 20,000) and held a workshop with 34 local leaders to plan water projects for 2006.

Since 1999, the ICRC and the local population in Kenya's north-western district of Lokichokio had been working together to carry out small-scale projects to improve community infrastructure and access to water. Cattle rustling was common in this semi-arid region. During 2005, the ICRC installed a wind and solar pump in Lopiding village, which supplied water for drinking and crop irrigation, and was building a school in Songot and a maternity ward for

the health centre run by the NGO African Inland Church.

The ICRC's Sudan delegation had also been running a hospital in Lokichokio since 1987, primarily to treat Sudanese patients evacuated from southern Sudan, but also Kenyans who needed emergency surgery. Following the January 2005 north-south peace accord in Sudan, the ICRC planned to pull out of the hospital in June 2006. Discussions were ongoing with the Kenyan Health Ministry and the African Medical and Research Foundation to determine their interest in taking over the hospital.

- ▶ 18,000 people benefited from the delivery of 6.5 tonnes of seed, 1,000 farm implements and vouchers to vaccinate some 60,000 animals against disease
- ▶ 7,000 people benefited from water/sanitation projects
- ▶ 1,450 people benefited from habitat projects

Improving public health

After cholera hit several villages in Zanzibar (Pemba and Unguja islands) in 1999, the ICRC and the Tanzanian Red Cross began working together to improve water and sanitation facilities, primarily in remote villages and schools. During 2005, 21 projects were completed, mainly the construction of wells and latrines. Special attention was paid to ensuring equal support for CCM- and CUF-dominated areas in Unguja. The ICRC, together with the Zanzibari water authorities, also trained local caretakers to maintain the facilities on 23 project sites.

- ▶ 12,950 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

The ICRC cancelled a planned project to upgrade the water network in the overcrowded PK12 suburb of Djibouti town. Increased donor interest in development projects in Djibouti in 2005 made the ICRC's input unnecessary. Instead, it assessed sanitation conditions in the Balbela suburb of Djibouti town, with a view to supporting a health project of the International Federation and the Djibouti Red Crescent in 2006.

Restoring family links

The ICRC ran the tracing and RCM network for refugees in Tanzania and Djibouti, and the Kenyan Red Cross, assisted by the ICRC, offered the services in Kenya. The network was available in Tanzania in all 12 refugee camps along the western border and in Burundian and Somali settlements, in Djibouti in all three refugee camps (Aour

Aoussa camp closed in October) and in Kenya in the Kakuma and Dadaab camps, which hosted mainly Sudanese and Somali refugees, respectively. The ICRC extended the tracing network so that refugees in Tanzania were able to locate and exchange news with relatives in all provinces of Burundi, with the exception of a few areas that were off-limits owing to security concerns. Somali refugees could also have the names of relatives sought broadcast on the BBC's Somali Missing Persons radio programme, sponsored by the ICRC. In addition to the tracing and RCM services, the regional delegation provided travel documents to refugees accepted for resettlement in third countries.

In consultation with child-protection agencies, the ICRC's priority was to restore contact between child refugees and their parents through RCMs and reunite the families, where feasible, i.e. where the situation in the home country allowed and when it was in the child's best interest. This mainly concerned Burundian and Congolese children in camps in Tanzania and Sudanese children in Kakuma camp in Kenya. There were no reunifications between Sudanese child refugees and their parents during 2005, mainly because the children wanted to finish their studies before returning to Sudan. The ICRC and UNHCR regularly shared information on child refugees separated from their parents. When such children were registered for voluntary repatriation by UNHCR, the ICRC followed up their cases with their families in their home countries. In Tanzania, the ICRC established new guidelines concerning cases of child refugees and shared the information with the relevant NGOs.

- ▶ 18,698 RCMs delivered and 31,606 RCMs collected in Tanzania; 9,267 RCMs delivered and 17,490 RCMs collected in Kenya; and 597 RCMs delivered and 600 RCMs collected in Djibouti
- ▶ 36 children in Tanzania and 3 in Kenya reunited with their families
- ▶ 108 people in Kenya and 1 in Tanzania located at their families' request
- ▶ 1,159 requests to trace relatives, including 123 children, pending in Kenya, and 32 requests, 19 related to minors, pending in Tanzania
- ▶ at 31 December 2005, 794 cases in Kenya of children separated from their parents and 212 cases in Tanzania being handled
- ▶ in Kenya, ICRC travel documents issued to 46 people

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

During 2005, the ICRC had discussions with the authorities in Djibouti, Kenya and Tanzania regarding access to all detainees falling within its mandate.

With the authorization of the Zanzibari authorities, the ICRC visited Kilimani prison on Unguja island and Wete prison on Pemba island to monitor the treatment and living conditions of detainees held in connection with election unrest. As in past years, delegates also visited detainees held in the UN detention facility in Arusha, Tanzania, under the authority of the ICTR, and in Gabode prison, Djibouti's only civilian detention facility. After the visits, the ICRC reported its findings and recommendations, in confidence, to the authorities.

During visits, detainees were offered the tracing and RCM services to contact relatives. To maintain basic hygiene standards in Gabode prison, the ICRC provided soap and cleaning agents each month and replaced wood-burning cookers with kerosene stoves which are cheaper and less damaging to the local environment.

- in Tanzania, 74 detainees (52 of them newly registered) visited and monitored individually during 5 visits to 3 places of detention
- in Djibouti, 333 detainees visited, 2 of them monitored individually, during 12 visits to 1 place of detention
- 215 RCMs delivered to detainees in Tanzania and 56 RCMs collected for delivery to relatives, and 15 RCMs delivered to detainees in Djibouti and 2 RCMs collected

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the wounded

To treat people injured during election unrest, the ICRC delivered medical supplies to four public hospitals, one private clinic, the police and Kilimani prison in the Zanzibar archipelago. It had positioned the supplies on the islands in late 2004 for this purpose and replenished stocks during 2005. The ICRC also held a five-day seminar in July on war surgery and casualty management, attended by 25 medics from five main hospitals on the islands.

On the Tanzanian mainland, the ICRC organized medical treatment for two refugees who were suffering from long-term health problems related to their war injuries.

Treating amputees

The ICRC arranged for one war veteran in Djibouti to be fitted with a new prosthesis at an ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre in Ethiopia. This service was provided at the request of the Defence Ministry, who had asked the ICRC to take over the provision of treatment for 23 war amputees when Handicap International left Djibouti in 1992. The ICRC was considering supporting Djibouti's Peltier Hospital as a more sustainable and cost-effective way to treat the amputees.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC maintained relations with the authorities in all three countries covered by the regional delegation, focusing discussions on the integration of IHL into national law and on humanitarian issues related to refugees, the unrest in the Zanzibar archipelago and clan clashes in Kenya.

The organization welcomed Kenya's ratification on 15 March of the Rome Statute. It helped Kenya's national IHL committee to draft domestic laws incorporating the provisions of this treaty and of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Ottawa Convention.

The ICRC also organized a three-day meeting in Nairobi in July, hosted by Kenya, at which Commonwealth countries discussed effective measures to promote and implement IHL. The event drew 65 representatives from 30 countries that had national IHL committees or were interested in establishing one.

In the second half of 2005, IHL implementation in Kenya was put on hold as the government prepared for November's referendum on a new constitution. Similarly in Tanzania, as 2005 was an election year, the establishment of an IHL committee was not a government priority.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC gave numerous presentations on IHL and international human rights law to support the teaching of these subjects to the armed, security and police forces in Kenya and Tanzania, both in the field and at various training establishments. It also worked closely with Kenya's Peace Support Training Centre, which trains peace-keepers from around the world, to integrate IHL into its curriculum.

Given the political tensions in the Zanzibar archipelago, the ICRC held three tailor-made seminars, covering IHL, humanitarian standards and internal security operations, for key officers of Tanzania's police force and senior commanders of the Zanzibari security forces. It also gave introductory talks on the same subjects to all senior police officers on Unguja island.

The delegation's other priority in 2005 was the organization of East Africa's first regional military competition on IHL, hosted in Kigali, Rwanda, by the Military Academy of Nyakinama. Over four days in December, three-member teams representing the armed forces of Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda and Uganda sat tests to gauge their knowledge of IHL and its practical application. Kenya won the competition and the right to represent East Africa at the international competition in San Remo in April 2006. The event took place at a time when the African Union was creating regional, standby peace-keeping brigades.

CIVIL SOCIETY

To spread knowledge of IHL, the ICRC broadened its network of media contacts, continued to assist academic institutions in teaching IHL and held more IHL courses for policy-makers and aid workers.

Stepping up IHL promotion in Zanzibar

As political tensions rose in the Zanzibar archipelago, the ICRC took several initiatives to raise public awareness of IHL on the islands. It conducted a one-day workshop on IHL for local journalists and discussed the subject with religious leaders and the business community. It also held an IHL essay competition for pupils, based on the ICRC's comic book *Battle of the Villages*, which was serialized in the *Zanzibar Leo*, the State-run daily newspaper.

IHL in academic institutions

In 2005, the ICRC:

- held a round-table for lecturers from 8 Kenyan, Tanzanian and Ugandan universities on ways to improve and standardize IHL teaching;
- sponsored 3 university lecturers to participate in an IHL course abroad;
- organized, with the ICTR, the annual six-day international moot-court competition on IHL in Arusha, Tanzania, won by Nairobi University's law faculty (13 university teams competed, representing Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria,

Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe);

- ▶ held IHL essay competitions for students at 8 universities in Kenya and for journalism students at Dar es Salaam University;
- ▶ supported a pilot project to introduce the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into Djibouti's secondary schools.

IHL for aid workers

As in past years, the ICRC organized two week-long IHL courses, held in Arusha, Tanzania, for policy-makers and management-level humanitarian personnel, drawing 32 participants. It also initiated a specialized course on IHL and humanitarian protection activities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Reinforcing the Kenyan Red Cross

The Kenya Red Cross Society was the country's national coordinator for emergency humanitarian operations and also the ICRC's main partner in delivering relief goods, carrying out assistance projects and running the tracing and RCM network. The ICRC provided the National Society with funds, materials and technical support to reinforce these activities and the promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles, with the focus on branches in clash-prone areas. During 2005, the Kenyan Red Cross delivered relief goods to victims of clan clashes

in various regions, in coordination with the ICRC, and stepped up its first-aid and IHL-promotion programmes in violence-prone areas. The tracing network continued to improve but lacked staff, a problem which was to be addressed in early 2006.

Strengthening Tanzanian Red Cross emergency-response skills

The Tanzanian Red Cross reacted rapidly and effectively to help victims of election-related unrest in the Zanzibar archipelago, administering first aid and evacuating the wounded to hospital. As preparation, the ICRC and National Society had worked throughout 2004 to build up the emergency-response skills of the island branches. During 2005, the ICRC helped organize four more sessions on disaster management and the "Safer Access" approach, donated additional first-aid supplies and stretchers and, during unrest, provided the National Society with logistics back-up.

The ICRC also provided funds to hold four seminars on the promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles for National Society personnel in mainland branches.

Rebuilding the Djibouti Red Crescent

With Movement support over the last two years, the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti had set up disaster-response and dissemination units and restructured its six branches. However, the National Society was not yet operational. During 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ provided financial support to cover the salaries of the National Society's disaster-response, dissemination and finance officers;
- ▶ assisted 3 branches in electing committees ahead of the National Society's planned general assembly in 2006;
- ▶ helped the National Society conduct the first training session for volunteers on tracing, organize dissemination training at branch level and plan an IHL-promotion programme for 2006.



pretoria

The Pretoria regional delegation has existed in its present form for a decade. It keeps a close eye on the domestic situation in the countries covered and helps refugees and asylum seekers restore family links severed by conflict. It promotes ratification of IHL treaties and their national implementation and encourages the incorporation of IHL into military and police training and into secondary-school and university curricula. The ICRC supports the region's National Societies, in cooperation with the International Federation. The ICRC visits detainees in Madagascar, the Comoros and Lesotho.

COVERING

Union of Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	646
Assistance	653
Prevention	1,727
Cooperation with National Societies	1,199
General	-

► **4,225**

of which: Overheads 258

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88.4%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
42	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- monitored the situation in Madagascar's prisons and signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Justice regarding support for the prison administration;
- visited detainees in Lesotho and obtained a simplified procedure for the release of terminally ill detainees;
- maintained tracing and RCM services to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers in South Africa did not lose contact with their families and provided travel documents to those accepted for resettlement in third countries;
- obtained the green light from the South African parliament for the country's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and from the authorities in Swaziland for the creation of a national IHL committee;
- negotiated with South Africa's Ministry of Education for the introduction of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools with a violence problem, as well as in establishments for juvenile delinquents;
- recognized the Comoros Red Crescent, which thus became the 183rd member of the Movement.

CONTEXT

The political situation in South Africa remained relatively stable in spite of the sacking of the deputy president, Jacob Zuma, in June. He was charged with corruption shortly after his dismissal and later in the year with rape. The Zuma scandal increased friction within the tripartite alliance composed of the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the South African Communist Party. The main challenges facing the country were drought, housing, land reform, unemployment and HIV/AIDS. The government increased spending on social welfare, police and teacher salaries and peace-keeping operations.

Lesotho remained politically stable, despite the ongoing recession. The textile sector, the country's main source of revenue, remained the hardest-hit industry, and a high level of unemployment in the country led to an increase in crime. The UN estimated that around 30% of the population were living with HIV/AIDS.

The political situation in Swaziland threatened to destabilize the country. Sporadic attacks on government buildings in rural areas and on members of parliament's houses continued. The new constitution had not yet been adopted and the ban on political parties remained. The country continued to suffer from drought, and in November the deputy prime minister declared it a national disaster. The slump in the textile industry fuelled spiralling unemployment, and high HIV/AIDS infection rates remained a major problem.

The Comoros continued to be beset by political tensions and economic difficulties. The adoption of legislation on the government's sharing of power with the islands did not deter an attempt to overthrow the Anjouan government, after which several suspects were detained. A hike in the price of oil sparked violent protests, and the eruption of the Karthala volcano temporarily polluted drinking water supplies.

In Mauritius, July's elections, which took place without a hitch, were won by the opposition's Social Alliance coalition. The new government announced a series of measures aimed at bolstering the economy and reducing unemployment levels.

The Seychelles remained stable, but the political arena was increasingly dominated by the presidential elections set to take place in 2006. The acute lack of foreign currency resulted in a dearth of commodities. Officials discussed devaluing the country's currency to give the lacklustre economy a boost.

The political situation in Madagascar was stable, and the government's strategies to reduce poverty retained the confidence of the international community. The majority of the population, however, continued to live in poverty. A rice shortage in the first three months of 2005, soaring consumer-goods prices and frequent electricity cuts further increased hardship.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	12,781
Detainees visited and monitored individually	72
Number of visits carried out	37
Number of places of detention visited	23
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	328
RCMs distributed	542
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	4
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	3
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	26
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	163

1. Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar

ICRC ACTION

In Madagascar, the ICRC monitored detainees in prisons and made representations to the authorities on a regular basis, focusing especially on malnutrition and overcrowding. It also distributed much-needed items to detainees. Furthermore, it promoted more efficient coordination between various humanitarian organizations working in Madagascan prisons to alleviate the hardships suffered by inmates and, to that end, created a working group. In March, the authorities officially approved a headquarters agreement establishing the ICRC's mission in Madagascar.

The ICRC carried out three visits to Lesotho's central prison and stepped up its contacts with the authorities to urge them to dedicate resources to tackling the HIV/AIDS problem in places of detention. Its efforts resulted in a simplification of the release procedure for terminally ill patients.

The Pretoria delegation maintained the tracing and RCM services to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers in South Africa did not lose contact with their families and, upon request, provided travel documents to those accepted for resettlement in third countries. The ICRC and the South African Red Cross Society adopted a more structured approach in their cooperation aimed at helping asylum seekers keep in touch with their relatives. The delegation's support in this area included training four of the National Society's tracing officers.

The countries of the region were encouraged to ratify the full complement of IHL instruments and to adopt national implementing

legislation. The delegation helped South African officials draft laws to implement IHL. Parliament gave the green light to the government to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In South Africa, some progress was made towards setting up a national IHL committee. In Swaziland, the authorities approved the creation of a national IHL committee.

The ICRC met high-level officials in the Comoros, Lesotho, Mauritius and the Seychelles, who all expressed their support for the ICRC and its activities.

Promotion of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme for secondary schools bore fruit in Mauritius, the Seychelles and South Africa. The ICRC maintained contact with 11 universities in South Africa and 4 universities elsewhere in the region with the aim of encouraging IHL instruction in those institutions.

CIVILIANS

The delegation continued to offer the tracing and RCM services to refugees and asylum seekers in South Africa wishing to restore or maintain links with their families in conflict-affected countries. It also provided travel documents to a number of people eligible for resettlement in third countries. The ICRC kept in regular contact with other humanitarian organizations working with refugees and, through this medium, heard of several tracing cases which it then followed up.

The ICRC visited a refugee camp in North West Province housing around 6,000 Angolan

refugees, which was scheduled for demolition by the South African government. It distributed and collected RCMs and handed out copies of the Angolan delegation's *Red Cross Gazette*, which listed people searching for or being sought by relatives. The delegation also urged community leaders to encourage refugees to re-establish and maintain contact with their relatives back home.

In March, the delegation sent a team to Swaziland to assess the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society's activities to restore family links and to train the National Society staff member in charge of tracing. While in Swaziland, delegates carried out a mission to assess refugees' living conditions and briefed the Department of Home Affairs and Caritas, which oversaw the management of the Malinza refugee camp, on the ICRC's family-links and tracing activities.

- ▶ 237 RCMs collected from and 521 RCMs delivered to civilians in the region
- ▶ 3 people located at their families' request
- ▶ tracing under way for 26 people, including for 4 who were minors at the time of disappearance
- ▶ 163 ICRC travel documents issued

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC made regular visits to prisons in Madagascar, Lesotho and the Comoros to monitor conditions and encouraged the authorities to make improvements where necessary.

In Madagascar, the ICRC mission regularly met the minister of justice and the president's aides to discuss detention conditions, including the lack of food in many facilities, and to promote changes in the penal system. In addition, it signed an agreement with the ministry to work together over the following three years to improve nutrition and hygiene in places of detention. The mission, in cooperation with the prison authorities, drew up a plan to improve inmates' access to basic health services in Madagascan prisons. Other ICRC efforts to develop the health care of detainees included the training of prison nurses on how to diagnose malnutrition and the provision of medical equipment to nine detention centres. It trained an engineer working for the detaining authorities on the rehabilitation of sanitation installations, water points and kitchens. The ICRC also implemented projects in two prisons to improve hygiene conditions. In addition, an ICRC agronomist helped the authorities draw up a three-year programme to encourage the reopening of prison farms.

In Lesotho, the ICRC carried out three visits to the Maseru Central Prison and distributed soap to detainees. It briefed Lesotho's authorities on the need for specific projects to tackle the problem of HIV/AIDS in places of detention. The measures suggested included HIV/AIDS-awareness sessions, access to treatment and the release of the terminally ill. Following the briefing, the authorities took some of the proposed steps, such as distributing condoms and simplifying the procedures for releasing terminally ill detainees. The ICRC met staff of embassies, UN agencies, NGOs and the Lesotho Red Cross Society to discuss the problem of HIV/AIDS in Lesotho, with a particular emphasis on places of detention. It signed memoranda of understanding on the launch of HIV/AIDS projects with local NGOs, including the Lesotho Planned Parenthood Association.

In the Comoros, the authorities arrested five people and detained four of them in connection with February's failed attempt to overthrow the local government of the island of Anjouan. The ICRC visited and registered the four detainees. Following a

second failed attempt in May, three other people were arrested by Anjouan's authorities, and the ICRC also visited and registered them. The authorities notified the delegation of the release of the four people detained earlier.

The ICRC set up a group to enable NGOs and other institutions working in the prisons to coordinate their activities and to discuss the situation with prison authorities. It also assisted the European Union's support mission and the Madagascan Ministry of Justice in reducing the number of detainees in preventive detention.

- in Madagascar, 11,800 detainees visited, including 12 newly registered and 44 monitored individually
- in Madagascar, 91 RCMs collected from and 20 RCMs delivered to detainees
- in Lesotho, 952 detainees visited, including 2 newly registered and 21 monitored individually
- in the Comoros, 29 detainees visited, including 7 newly registered and 7 monitored individually; 1 RCM delivered

AUTHORITIES

The process of ratification and national implementation of IHL instruments was at different stages in the countries covered by the Pretoria delegation. Progress in this area included:

- the South African parliament's go-ahead for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- Lesotho's parliamentary decision to incorporate the Chemical Weapons Convention into national law and its steps taken towards implementing the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the Ottawa Convention and the Rome Statute;
- the drawing up by the Seychelles of draft implementing legislation for the Rome Statute, the Chemical Weapons Convention and amendments to the Geneva Conventions Act.

Furthermore, the ICRC:

- held the 5th annual regional IHL seminar, attended by representatives from 15 countries and co-hosted by the South African authorities;
- organized a meeting of Commonwealth national IHL committees in Nairobi (see *Nairobi*), attended by representatives from Lesotho, Mauritius, the Seychelles, South Africa and Swaziland;

- discussed with the South African authorities incorporating the Geneva Conventions and recognition of the National Society into domestic legislation; worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs towards setting up a national IHL committee;
- met Lesotho's national IHL committee;
- in Mauritius, helped the national IHL committee continue work on drawing up implementing legislation for the Rome Statute;
- in Madagascar, helped the authorities plan the creation of a national IHL committee;
- in Swaziland, offered to support government efforts to set up a national IHL committee;
- met members of the Comoros' national IHL committee to gauge its progress, which was hampered by limited resources and the run-up to the 2006 elections;
- organized missions to Lesotho, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Swaziland and the Comoros to promote awareness of the ICRC; met a number of high-level officials of governments and some representing a host of bodies, including the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, diplomatic missions, the UN, the European Union, NGOs working in the region and the Indian Ocean Commission.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In South Africa, which had issued a ministerial directive incorporating IHL into military training in 2003, the ICRC continued to advise the armed forces on integrating the subject into the conduct of operations. The issue was all the more pressing because South Africa was participating in many peace-keeping missions.

- 750 South African peace-keepers and 24 disarmament monitors attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC
- 160 army instructors and 40 senior officers briefed on the ICRC
- IHL library donated to the South African National War College, and training material provided for IHL courses run by the army
- 1 course for 20 medical officers on war surgery held at the military health training school

In Lesotho, a new police head requested the ICRC's assistance in adding IHL/human rights law to training.

In Swaziland, the police authorities said the training timetable was too full and postponed planned ICRC training activities.

The Madagascan authorities issued a directive integrating IHL into the training of the armed forces.

- ▶ 1 Madagascan official in charge of integrating IHL into military training sponsored to attend a course in San Remo; 30 senior army officers attended an IHL course; soldiers leaving for a peace-keeping mission in Sudan participated in an IHL seminar

- ▶ the 5th pan-African IHL course was attended by 34 participants from 17 countries; the 8th Health Emergencies in Large Populations (HELP) course was attended by 25 people from 12 countries;
- ▶ ICRC publications on IHL were regularly donated to university contacts;
- ▶ a team of students from universities in the Indian Ocean islands sponsored to attend the 2005 Jean Pictet IHL moot-court competition; 2 South African teams participated in a moot-court competition in Arusha, Tanzania.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL and the ICRC among the media

- ▶ in South Africa, the ICRC distributed a newsletter and issued press releases on ICRC activities;
- ▶ the ICRC supported the Tshwane University of Technology's move to include IHL in its journalism courses;
- ▶ the delegation nurtured contacts with South African think-tanks and journalists from Lesotho and Swaziland.

Promoting the EHL programme

- ▶ elements of EHL were included in the South African Ministry of Education's "Values and Human Rights in the Curriculum" project, now launched in all 9 provinces; around 800 teachers attended EHL information sessions; the introduction of EHL in schools for young offenders, as well as in schools with a drug and crime problem, was discussed with the Ministry of Education;
- ▶ the introduction of EHL in schools in the Comoros fell behind schedule owing to frequent teacher strikes;
- ▶ in Mauritius, the authorities agreed to introduce the EHL programme in secondary schools;
- ▶ in the Seychelles, the education authorities began integrating EHL into secondary-school curricula and teacher-training courses.

Promoting IHL in further education courses

- ▶ contact was maintained with 11 universities in South Africa, as well as with universities in the Comoros, Lesotho, Mauritius and Swaziland where IHL was taught;
- ▶ lectures were delivered on the ICRC and IHL at universities in South Africa, Lesotho and Mauritius;

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The tsunami that hit the Indian Ocean region prompted the region's National Societies to improve their capacities to respond to man-made and natural disasters. The Comoros Red Crescent also dealt with the aftermath of the eruption of the Karthala volcano.

The ICRC:

- ▶ recognized the Comoros Red Crescent, which thus became the 183rd member of the Movement;
- ▶ trained 150 emergency-response team members and provided first-aid equipment; helped draw up a plan to establish stocks of first-aid equipment, especially in the Comoros and the Seychelles;
- ▶ organized a cooperation workshop in Pretoria, attended by every National Society in the region;
- ▶ trained tracing officers from several National Societies;
- ▶ helped the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross organize a presentation on IHL and the Movement for police officers selected to serve in UN peace-keeping missions;
- ▶ supported the National Societies' dissemination activities by helping pay salaries and supplying training and information literature;
- ▶ worked to convince the Madagascan government to enable the National Society to function in accordance with the Movement's Fundamental Principles;
- ▶ continued to cooperate with the International Federation in order to harmonize the Movement's activities in the region.



yaoundé

The ICRC set up its Yaoundé regional delegation in 1992 but has been working in the region since 1972, when it signed a headquarters agreement with the authorities in Cameroon. It monitors the domestic situation in the countries covered; visits security detainees; restores family links for refugees; and in the Central African Republic, rehabilitates water systems neglected or damaged during long-term political instability. Throughout the region, it pursues longstanding programmes to spread knowledge of IHL among the authorities, armed forces and academic institutions and supports the development of the National Societies.

COVERING

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	703
Assistance	1,025
Prevention	1,374
Cooperation with National Societies	768
General	-

► **3,871**

of which: Overheads **236**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	83.8%
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PERSONNEL

9 expatriates
32 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- submitted to the president of Equatorial Guinea a detailed confidential report on detention conditions in the country and took part in an interministerial round-table, chaired by the deputy prime minister, to discuss the report's findings and recommendations;
- in the CAR, completed the rehabilitation of water-treatment plants in 8 urban centres serving 1 million people and initiated a community-based rural water and sanitation programme in 2 remote south-eastern provinces, benefiting some 20,000 people;
- organized a two-week pan-African IHL course in Yaoundé, attended by lecturers and legal experts from 14 francophone African countries, to consolidate and spread the teaching of IHL in academic institutions;
- maintained the tracing and RCM services to enable refugees, detainees and any family members separated by internal violence to communicate with relatives;
- continued to assist the armed forces in the region in integrating IHL into their training and conducted the first sessions on IHL for ECCAS military observers;
- assisted the Central African and Gabonese Red Cross Societies in mobilizing first-aiders during presidential elections.

CONTEXT

While a number of events in 2005 had the potential to improve stability in the region, the countries covered by the ICRC Yaoundé regional delegation remained prone to political and social unrest.

In the Central African Republic (CAR), the incumbent leader, General Francois Bozizé, who seized power by force in March 2003, was elected president after two rounds of voting in March and May, which took place amid relative calm. President Bozizé appointed Elie Doté as prime minister. The government faced major challenges. Prolonged internal conflict had left the economy and public infrastructure in ruins. The CAR armed forces lacked the resources to maintain security countrywide, despite the assistance of the Multinational Force of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (FOMUC) and a small contingent of French troops, as well as the revival of security cooperation with Cameroon and Chad. Crime was rampant in some areas. In the north, armed groups became increasingly active, clashing with the military and attacking civilians. This triggered the flight of some 15,000 people (UNHCR figure) into neighbouring Chad and the temporary displacement of several thousand other people along the border with Cameroon.

In Cameroon, efforts to rein in public spending and improve governance to qualify for international debt relief resulted in an increase in the cost of living, which sparked off sporadic public-sector strikes and student unrest. The banned secessionist movement, the Southern Cameroon

National Council, also staged demonstrations, which led to the temporary arrest of some of its supporters.

In Equatorial Guinea, arrests of people in connection with offences against national security continued in 2005. The oil-rich economy benefited from the hike in the price of crude oil, but the living conditions of the general population did not improve significantly.

Gabon's economy also benefited from rising oil prices, but a large proportion of the population remained poor and the country witnessed some social unrest. In November, President Ali Omar Bongo, who had been in power for 37 years, was re-elected for another seven-year term.

As part of a regional peace-keeping initiative, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) was in the process of establishing a standby military brigade, in line with a decision taken by the organization in October 2003. During 2005, ECCAS appeared to take over responsibility from the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) as the main regional body mandated to preserve peace and security.

Although UN mediation was ongoing, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea had not yet settled their longstanding dispute over the oil-rich island of Mbanié, nor had Nigeria transferred the disputed Bakassi peninsula to Cameroon in accordance with the 2002 ruling by the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²	
Detainees visited	5,353	Water and habitat	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	200	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries
Number of visits carried out	58		
Number of places of detention visited	26		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			
RCMs collected	755		
RCMs distributed	534		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	16		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	13		
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	12		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	8		

1. Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea

2. The CAR only

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC monitored developments in the region closely and was ready to respond to any urgent needs arising from armed conflict or internal disturbances. For this purpose, it maintained an emergency stock of medical supplies and essential household items, some of which was distributed to flood victims in Bangui in the CAR. The ICRC also received the green light from the authorities to open an office in early 2006 in Bata in Equatorial Guinea, giving the organization a broader and more balanced presence in the region.

The ICRC completed its three-year project with the CAR national water board (SODECA) to rehabilitate the water systems in eight urban centres. The facilities had fallen into disrepair because of long-term political instability. At the same time, the ICRC initiated a community-based programme to improve access to water and raise public health standards in two remote south-eastern CAR provinces.

The delegation continued to visit detention facilities in the region, monitoring the treatment and living conditions of security detainees and informing the authorities, in confidence, of its findings and recommendations.

The tracing and RCM services were maintained in the region to enable refugees, detainees and any family members separated by internal violence to communicate with relatives.

An ongoing priority in the countries covered by the regional delegation was the

promotion of IHL, targeting the governments, armed forces, academic institutions and the regional authorities, CEMAC and ECCAS. During 2005, the ICRC conducted its first training sessions for ECCAS military observers, who would be part of the planned regional peace-keeping brigade. It also organized a two-week pan-African IHL course, drawing lecturers and legal experts from 14 African countries.

In coordination with the International Federation and partner National Societies working in the region, the ICRC continued to support the Red Cross Societies in the four countries covered in developing their structures and activities.

To ensure effective coordination of humanitarian activities, the ICRC stayed in regular contact with the aid organizations working in related fields, notably UNHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The security situation remained precarious in the CAR, especially in the north (see *Context*). The ICRC continued to monitor the situation and to foster a dialogue with the authorities and armed forces on the need to protect civilians from the effects of armed violence, in accordance with the relevant laws and humanitarian norms.

Emergency preparedness

As in past years, the ICRC maintained a stock of emergency supplies to be ready to meet the needs of up to 500 families affected by armed violence. Following floods in

Bangui in August, some of this material was distributed to needy homeless families, under the overall coordination of the Central African Red Cross Society.

Providing clean water

The ICRC completed its project, initiated in 2003, to upgrade water-treatment plants in Bangui and seven other urban centres (Bambari, Berberati, Bossangoa, Bouar, Bozoum, Carnot and Ndele), thus restoring a supply of clean drinking water to around 1 million people. The plants had been in a state of disrepair after prolonged political instability and the fighting and looting that preceded the overthrow of the government in March 2003. The ICRC repaired the buildings, provided the necessary materials and equipment and trained SODECA personnel to maintain the plants. During 2004 and 2005, the organization also provided SODECA with piping, clamps and training to repair leaks in the water-distribution network of the eight towns. Despite these initiatives, the plants still occasionally broke down or the water supply was limited because of a lack of fuel to power the stations, combined with persistent structural problems within SODECA. It was not possible to extend Bangui's water-distribution network into poorer neighbourhoods, as planned, because SODECA failed to repair the leaks in the main network. The ICRC planned to continue to organize training to improve the skills and efficiency of SODECA staff so that the water board could eventually build the extension.

Following assessments, the ICRC also initiated a community-based water and sanitation programme in rural areas of the south-eastern provinces of Basse Koto and

Mbomou. These provinces had the highest population density in the CAR and had been cut off from the rest of the country during the 15 months of instability that preceded the overthrow of the government in March 2003. Religious missions and the CAR Red Cross were the only organizations still present in the area. Using the WHO-developed Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) guidelines, the ICRC, together with the water and health authorities, trained 21 CAR Red Cross personnel to mobilize communities to improve their water points, sanitation facilities and hygiene practices. The volunteers started work in more than 40 districts or villages. By year end, nine villages with a functioning health centre had proposed projects to the ICRC, sites for eight boreholes had been selected, and the communities had gathered locally available construction materials.

- water-treatment plants in 8 urban centres rehabilitated, serving 1 million people
- a rural water and sanitation programme initiated, benefiting some 20,000 people

Restoring family links

The ICRC continued to provide tracing and RCM services, enabling refugees in the region to locate and exchange news with relatives left behind. This primarily concerned refugees in the CAR from Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, most of whom were living in urban centres or in Mboki and Molangui camps respectively. In Cameroon, the ICRC located the parents of two child refugees and was preparing to reunite the families in their home countries of the CAR and Rwanda.

- 324 RCMs delivered and 506 RCMs collected in the CAR, 123 and 185 in Cameroon and 1 and 2 in Equatorial Guinea
- in Cameroon, 13 people located at their families' request

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC regularly visited detention facilities in Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea, monitoring the treatment and living conditions of security detainees and the health and welfare of the general prison population. During detention visits, the ICRC offered detainees the RCM service so that they could communicate with their families and distributed, as needed, medical supplies, soap, cleaning agents, mosquito nets and clothing. It also upgraded the

water-supply systems and toilets and showers in three detention facilities in Bangui. After visits to detainees, the ICRC reported its findings and recommendations, in confidence, to the authorities concerned.

In Equatorial Guinea, the ICRC submitted a confidential written report on 14 April to the president, detailing its findings and recommendations based on regular visits to 17 detention facilities between October 2002 and February 2005. Copies of this report and four others were distributed to the minister of foreign affairs and representatives of the defence, justice and security ministries. The ICRC discussed the report individually with the president and ministry officials, then in November took part in an interministerial round-table, chaired by the deputy prime minister, to discuss measures to implement the report's recommendations.

In Cameroon, the ICRC gave presentations on its mandate and standard procedures for detention visits during courses held in January and May for some 560 trainee civil servants at the National School of Penal Administration in Buéa. It also took part in a three-day workshop in Douala, organized by UNHCHR, during which senior personnel of the penal administrations of eight ECCAS countries discussed solutions to longstanding detention issues in the region.

- 5,353 detainees visited, including 200 monitored individually (83 of them newly registered), in 26 detention facilities during 58 visits in Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea
- 157 RCMs delivered to detainees and 29 RCMs collected for delivery to their families
- 273 inmates in the CAR benefited from water and sanitation projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

As in past years, the ICRC positioned medical supplies in Bangui to distribute to hospitals in the event of an influx of war-wounded. There was no need to distribute the stocks during 2005. However, supplies nearing their expiry date were donated for immediate use to two hospitals in Bangui, and the emergency stock was replenished.

AUTHORITIES

The countries of the region had ratified a number of main IHL treaties but had not yet incorporated many of their key provisions into domestic law. To support the implementation process, the ICRC:

- held sessions on IHL implementation in Gabon for some 30 members of parliament and in the CAR for 14 government legal advisers;
- in Cameroon, helped draft a decree to establish a national committee on the implementation of IHL and provided technical expertise to officials working towards the ratification of various IHL treaties;
- provided expertise on the incorporation of sanctions against grave breaches of IHL into the penal codes of the CAR and Gabon, which were being revised, and on the implementation of the Rome Statute, ratified by both countries in 1998.

The ICRC also developed contacts initiated in 2004 with CEMAC and ECCAS, regional bodies mandated to preserve peace and security in the region. Discussions covered a variety of humanitarian issues, as well as IHL training for the future ECCAS regional standby brigade.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In Cameroon, IHL had been integrated into armed forces doctrine but was not yet part of all training programmes. To support armed forces IHL training in Cameroon, the ICRC:

- conducted a one-week course on IHL and peace-keeping operations for 26 Cameroonian officers and a two-day session in Yaoundé on the same topic for 12 ECCAS military observers from Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon;
- sponsored a high-ranking officer to participate in an IHL course in San Remo;
- provided 18 military training centres with IHL flip charts for use as teaching aids;
- gave 5 presentations on IHL and the ICRC to 125 officers at the French-supported Awaé centre, which trained police and security forces from African francophone countries.

The restructured CAR armed forces had begun integrating IHL into training, in line with a standing order issued by the army chief of staff in 2004. A FOMUC contingent was also helping maintain law and order in the country. To support IHL training in the CAR in 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ conducted a one-week IHL course for 15 armed forces instructors and sponsored an instructor to participate in an IHL seminar in San Remo;
- ▶ provided materials to assist in producing a military IHL instruction manual;
- ▶ gave introductory IHL presentations to 40 *gendarmierie* officers, 144 republican guard and *gendarmierie* recruits and 180 FOMUC personnel.

In Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, defence officials reacted favourably to the ICRC's offer to renew cooperation and develop IHL training in 2006. As part of this process, the ICRC held a one-week IHL course in Gabon for 20 military and *gendarmierie* instructors.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Supporting IHL teaching

The ICRC continued to support the efforts of academic institutions in the region to teach IHL so that young people, as future leaders and decision-makers, understood and supported that body of law. In March, the ICRC organized its second pan-African course on IHL, held over two weeks in Yaoundé for 24 lecturers and legal advisers from 14 African countries, including Cameroon, the CAR and Gabon. The course aimed to deepen the knowledge and teaching skills of IHL lecturers and provide other teachers with the tools to initiate IHL courses.

With ongoing ICRC material and technical support, four out of five of Cameroon's State university law faculties taught IHL, the latest addition being the University of Dschang, which set up an IHL course in 2005. In the CAR, the University of Bangui and the civil service college taught IHL and were planning to expand their programmes. In Gabon, the ICRC initiated talks with the civil service college on the introduction of IHL, and the two lecturers who attended the pan-African course received IHL teaching materials.

The ICRC also met representatives of Cameroon's Ministry of Secondary Education to discuss the introduction of the Exploring

Humanitarian Law programme in the State secondary-school curriculum, which was being revised. It was agreed that the ICRC would organize an introductory presentation on the programme for senior ministry officials in early 2006.

Promoting IHL through the media

The ICRC kept in regular contact with media in the region, issuing press releases and distributing a newsletter to raise public awareness of humanitarian principles and the plight of victims of conflict in Africa. It also gave talks and organized workshops on IHL for 14 journalists from the CAR and 50 from Cameroon.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC provided a combination of funds, materials, equipment and training to help the National Societies in the region to strengthen their emergency-response and tracing activities and skills in promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

During 2005, the Central African Red Cross Society was gradually rebuilding its infrastructure and resuming activities. The Red Cross Societies of Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea remained active on several fronts, responding to emergencies and, in the case of Equatorial Guinea, carrying out community water and sanitation projects. The Gabonese Red Cross Society showed signs of emerging from internal problems. It elected a new president and national committee in October and, with ICRC material support, stationed some 300 first-aiders at polling stations countrywide in November.

During 2005, with ICRC support, the CAR Red Cross:

- ▶ assisted several thousand flood victims in Bangui;
- ▶ stationed some 200 first-aiders at polling stations in violence-prone regions;
- ▶ was rebuilding its headquarters in Bangui, damaged during the March 2003 overthrow of the government;
- ▶ together with the Cameroonian Red Cross, established a contingency plan of action to respond to needs in the event of violence along their shared border and organized emergency-response training for some 700 volunteers.

The Cameroon Red Cross Society:

- ▶ delivered and collected RCMs for refugees;
- ▶ administered first aid to victims of unrest or natural disaster;
- ▶ trained 42 branch communication officers, maintained a new website and produced newsletters and radio programmes.

The Equatorial Guinea Red Cross Society:

- ▶ ran community water and sanitation projects, benefiting some 1,000 people;
- ▶ provided first-aid services at the scene of a plane crash in Malabo;
- ▶ produced radio programmes.



DELEGATIONS

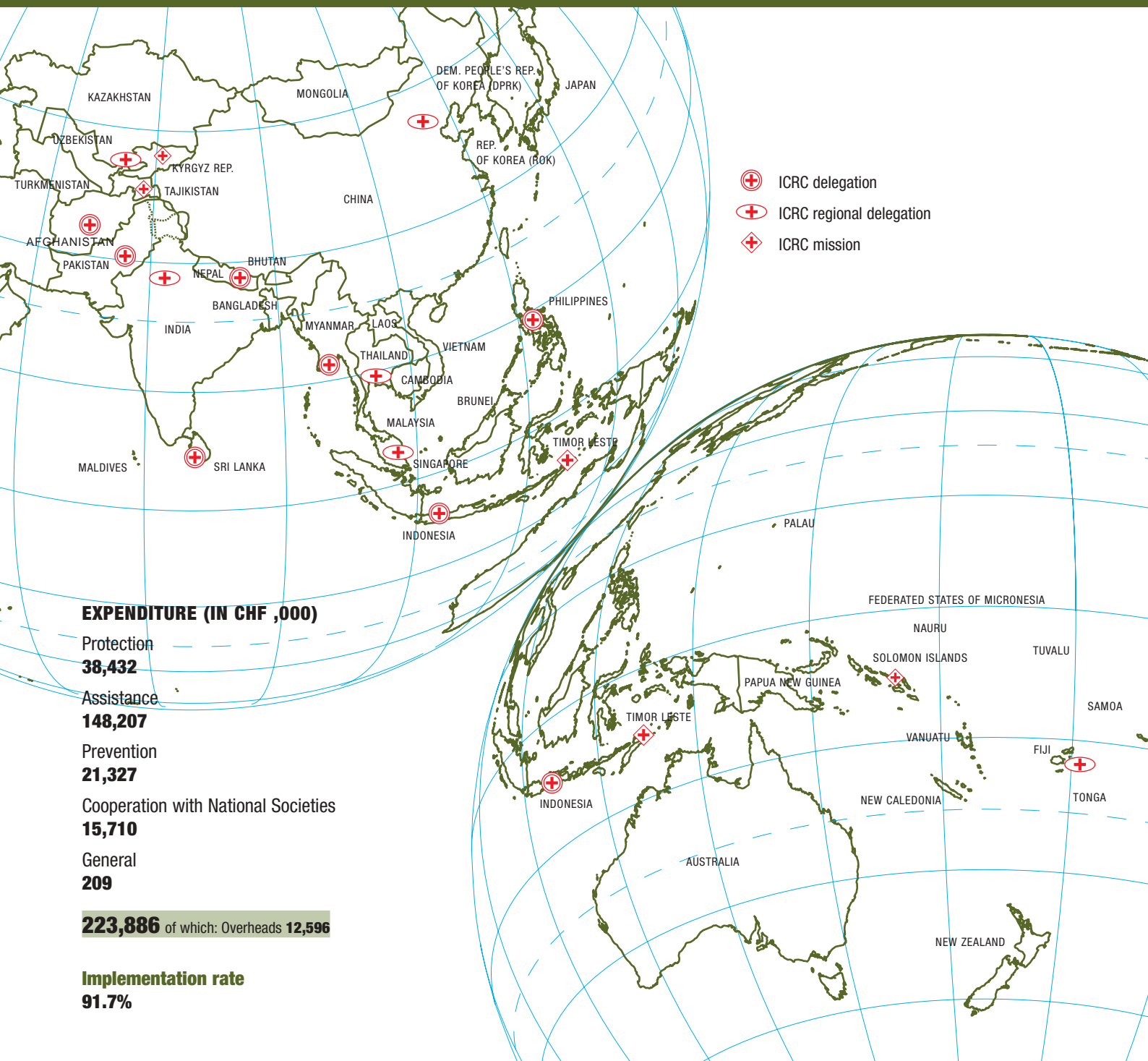
Afghanistan
Indonesia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Sri Lanka

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Bangkok
Beijing
Kuala Lumpur
New Delhi
Suva
Tashkent

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The year 2005 saw the ICRC mount two large-scale assistance operations to help tens of thousands of victims of natural disasters in conflict and post-conflict areas of Asia.



While large areas of the continent benefited from the growing prosperity of Asia's leading economies in 2005, millions of Asians struggled to survive and rebuild families, communities, homes and economies devastated by natural disaster. In coastal areas of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and other countries in or on the Indian Ocean, survivors strove to overcome the destruction wrought by the tsunami that hit just days before the beginning of 2005. Then, in October 2005, millions more lost family or homes when towns and villages in the vast mountainous areas of northern Pakistan and India were flattened by a severe earthquake. In Aceh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan-administered Kashmir, the effects of these disasters added to the poverty and damage to infrastructure already caused by prolonged conflict.

These disasters were severe blows in the otherwise steady but dynamic evolution of Asian politics and economics. Prospects improved for many millions of people as large areas of the continent experienced economic growth. As China and India integrated further into the global economy and made rapid technological progress, trade relations helped cut across geographical and ideological barriers to reinforce stability. At the same time, such rapid growth intensified the competition for energy resources and global markets, affecting both internal politics and foreign relations in resource-rich countries such as the Central Asian States, Myanmar and Indonesia. Fast economic growth also accentuated income disparities, encouraging large-scale migration within and between countries.

These and other economic, social and political factors shaped the continent's complex and changing strategic environment. Organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) strengthened regional cooperation. The inter-Korean dialogue resumed, and China played a key role in confronting the issue of nuclear build-up on the peninsula. Exchanges between China and Taiwan increased, albeit without significant progress towards a resolution of the stand-off over Taiwan's status. Japan debated the role of its Self-Defense Forces and kept its lead in international development and emergency relief. Confidence-building measures and the composite dialogue on Kashmir brought India and Pakistan closer, reducing regional and international anxiety over the risk of a nuclear confrontation. Global and regional efforts to combat "terrorism", whether

through military and security operations or through law enforcement at regional or national level, still had an influence on internal tensions or conflicts and relations between States.

Prospects for an end to the conflict in Aceh improved substantially with the signing by the Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement of a memorandum of understanding in Helsinki in August and the subsequent deployment of international monitors.

Progress was tenuous in other areas struggling to emerge from long-standing conflicts. Parliamentary elections in September officially marked the end of Afghanistan's political transition, as outlined in the Bonn Accord, but armed conflict heated up in the south and east, and poor security seriously hampered reconstruction across large areas. The ceasefire held in Sri Lanka, but political tensions mounted and internal violence escalated as the peace progress stagnated.

Other conflicts on the continent dragged on. In Nepal, clashes between the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist and the government escalated, and a "royal coup" in February 2005 seriously affected human rights and the overall political situation in the country. The major political parties and the Maoists agreed for the first time to cooperate on the political level to oppose the monarchy. While official statistics reported a drop in deaths in Jammu and Kashmir, violence there still took a heavy toll on civilians. Insurgencies continued in Myanmar and the Philippines.

Attacks and other disturbances threatened stability in a number of other Asian countries. Violence escalated in southern Thailand, and in Pakistan, there were more armed confrontations in Waziristan and Baluchistan. "Terrorist" acts caused suffering among civilians in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The ICRC continued its operations to protect and assist victims of conflict in Asia. Its activities in tracing, health, assistance and economic security often relied on close cooperation with the host-country National Society, most notably in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines; alongside, the ICRC continued to help Asian National Societies develop their capacities in these areas, as well as in communication and the promotion of IHL. As inter-Korean Red Cross talks had not yet found a long-term solution for restoring contact between family members separated for over 50 years, the ICRC reiterated its willingness to work with the National Societies on the peninsula towards that end.

Internationally active National Societies (including those from the region, particularly Australia and Japan) made an important contribution to the ICRC's operations, either working in partnership on particular projects or donating staff and materials. This support proved especially key to the ICRC's emergency relief operations.

The ICRC's delegations in Nepal and the Philippines benefited from widespread confidence in the organization's neutrality and independence, which enabled them to work safely and effectively to reach more civilians, detainees and wounded or sick people and address their problems more effectively. In Sri Lanka, where it also enjoyed good access and acceptance by all parties, the ICRC expanded its conflict-related activities as tensions escalated, making sure that it was ready to respond if the ceasefire broke down. An increased presence in southern Thailand also allowed the ICRC to react better to problems developing there.

In Afghanistan, where it was unsafe to travel in large parts of the country, field operations were seriously constrained by security conditions. Still able to operate in major cities, the ICRC visited most detainees/internees, helping the authorities improve their treatment and conditions. It also supported health facilities and enhanced water supply in urban areas. In India, it continued to visit detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

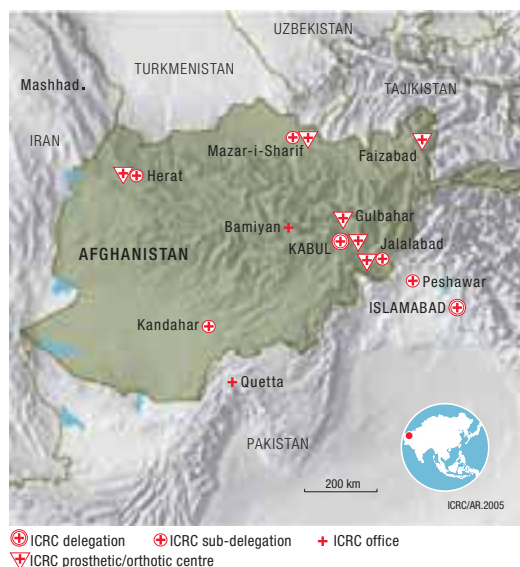
In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, either government restrictions or a difficulty establishing dialogue with some parties limited the reach of the ICRC's activities for detainees and/or civilians. The ICRC endeavoured to overcome these constraints, but in Myanmar, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, its dialogue with the authorities was still in a stalemate at the end of the year.

In these countries, as in many of Asia's emerging powers, IHL was not well rooted as a standard for responding to humanitarian problems. The ICRC pursued a broad strategy to develop dialogue with the officials, institutions, groups and forces that influenced policy and opinion in Asia. Opening a regional delegation for East Asia

in Beijing during the year was an important step in this direction. Established on the basis of a headquarters agreement signed during the year, the regional delegation took over responsibility for activities in China, the DPRK, the Republic of Korea and Mongolia (all previously managed by the Bangkok regional delegation). This made it easier to expand support for physical rehabilitation services in China and the DPRK. In its relations with Japan, the ICRC entered a new phase of dialogue with key ministries and developed its relations and activities with the Self-Defense Forces and civil society.

Around the continent, the ICRC continued to work at the national level with authorities, armed forces, academic circles and media to promote adherence to and compliance with IHL. Its Regional Resource Centre in Kuala Lumpur expanded and further developed the technical services and professional expertise that it provided to support and coordinate these efforts in East and South-East Asia. The ICRC also worked through multilateral forums such as ASEAN, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the SCO, the Pacific Forum and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization to build regional momentum for enforcing IHL. At conferences held in New Delhi, Beijing and Kuala Lumpur, the ICRC introduced its recent study on customary international humanitarian law. During meetings with the presidents of China, Indonesia and Pakistan, the ICRC president highlighted humanitarian issues and garnered support for the ICRC's activities.

Already working in Aceh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan-administered Kashmir in connection with conflicts there, the ICRC reacted immediately when these areas were hit by massive natural disasters. Drawing on the resources of its own global network of operations, as well as those of key internationally active National Societies, it quickly expanded the staff and logistic networks that it had in place and mounted extensive relief operations. It worked closely with host Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and coordinated with the authorities and the many other national and international organizations in place to improve shelter, water, hygiene, nutrition or medical services for hundreds of thousands of disaster victims and to restore family contacts. Knowledge of conflict-related issues and risks, together with the good working relations and trust established with the different parties to the conflict, enabled the organization to effectively monitor security and provide guidance to different components of the Movement participating in disaster relief in these areas, whether as part of ICRC operations or independently. The ICRC also played a key role in other Movement coordination mechanisms designed to ensure coherence of approach and avoid duplication or gaps in coverage. By mid-year, the post-tsunami emergency phase was over and the ICRC, though retaining its role in coordination, turned over most of its relief operations to other actors so it could again concentrate on issues related to conflict. In Kashmir, the ICRC prepared itself to make the transition from emergency assistance to rehabilitation when winter was over. The costs of these two disaster relief operations were covered through large budget extensions.



afghanistan

Having assisted victims of the Afghan conflict for six years in Pakistan, the ICRC opened a delegation in Kabul in 1987. Its current operations focus on: protecting detainees and helping them keep in contact with their families; assisting the disabled; supporting hospital care; improving water and sanitation services; promoting accession to and implementation of IHL treaties and compliance with IHL by military forces; and strengthening the Afghan Red Crescent Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	4,941
Assistance	29,034
Prevention	2,905
Cooperation with National Societies	3,607
General	-

► **40,487**

of which: Overheads **2,471**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92.9%
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PERSONNEL

57 expatriates
1,141 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- visited and monitored individually 2,289 security detainees or internees held by US or Afghan authorities and helped the detainees keep in contact with their families;
- assessed all 33 provincial prisons to identify priorities for rehabilitation and reconstruction, reported its findings to the Ministry of Justice and made the report available to potential donors to mobilize their support for the effort;
- supported the National Society in developing its activities and strengthening its institutional base;
- ran physical rehabilitation services around the country, upgraded water supply and promoted hygiene for over 220,000 people living in major cities and supported key hospitals that admitted over 46,000 patients;
- advised the Afghan National Army on its plan for integrating IHL into the regular training of Afghan troops;
- provided staff, materials and vehicles for the ICRC's earthquake relief in Pakistan.

CONTEXT

Parliamentary elections in September marked the end of the political process laid out in the Bonn Accord. The new parliament met for the first time on 19 December.

Prior to the inauguration of parliament, President Karzai signed a long-term strategic security partnership with the United States, calling a *loya jirga* (grand council) to ratify the agreement.

To help stabilize the country, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) expanded to cover new areas in the west of Afghanistan, with plans to extend to the south in 2006. The Afghan National Army continued to grow, reaching almost 30,000 soldiers, with units deployed throughout the country.

The first phase of the disarmament and demobilization process ended officially on 30 June, with more than 58,000 fighters reportedly disarmed. The next phase, called the Disarmament of Illegal Armed Groups, started midyear and targeted an estimated 80,000 weapon bearers.

Although there was the usual lull in violence over the winter, attacks and clashes started up again in the spring. Occurring in many areas but particularly in the south and east, the violence often targeted the government or international forces. It intensified as the year progressed, claiming some 1,500 lives in all – by far the highest casualty rate since the fall of the Taliban regime in late 2001. Kidnapping was a serious threat, and suicide attacks, previously

uncommon, increased drastically and occurred in most of the country's major cities. Political and factional rivalries, discontent among former fighters, and the drugs trade fuelled the violence.

In May, following reports of abuse of the Koran at the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, 16 protesters were killed in anti-Western riots in Jalalabad. Insecurity further restricted access to many areas of the country, particularly in the south and east, and limited the reach and effectiveness of the government.

While contributing to flooding, mudslides and avalanches, heavy snow and rain refilled aquifers depleted earlier by drought, which led to a good harvest.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	8,711	<i>Water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2,289	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	223,987
Number of visits carried out	203	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	948
Number of places of detention visited	74	WOUNDED AND SICK		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Hospitals supported	Structures	8
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Admissions	Patients	46,166
RCMs collected	8,078	Operations	Operations performed	19,740
RCMs distributed	8,819	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Patients receiving services	Patients	55,877
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	206	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	4,511
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	131	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	9,462
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	169			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	3			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	39			

ICRC ACTION

The protection of detainees and internees remained the ICRC's first priority, and the organization continued its visits to detainees held both by Afghan and US authorities. While scaling back assistance activities as government and international programmes developed, the ICRC maintained substantial assistance programmes in 2005: its prosthetic/orthotic centres provided physical rehabilitation services to nearly 56,000 amputees and other disabled people, and its work on city water supply and sanitation improved health conditions in neighbourhoods housing hundreds of thousands of people. The ICRC also supported hospitals not yet covered by government schemes. As government coverage of hospitals increased, it scaled back its hospital assistance, handing three of the hospitals it was supporting over to the Ministry of Public Health.

ICRC activities focused largely on cities, which remained accessible throughout the year. Staff movements were seriously restricted in rural areas, especially in the south and the east of the country, where all but Kandahar and Jalalabad remained off-limits to both national and expatriate staff. ICRC property was damaged in riots in Jalalabad, and much of the expatriate staff there was temporarily withdrawn until October.

The ICRC supported the Afghan National Army in drawing up a national plan to conduct its own IHL training. The plan was formalized by ministerial order at the end of November and was due to begin implementation in 2006. The ICRC kept up contacts with government ministries to

encourage Afghanistan to accede to the 1977 Additional Protocols and offered its technical assistance in so doing.

Aiming to re-establish itself as one of the country's main humanitarian actors, the Afghan Red Crescent embarked on a process of reform at both institutional and operational levels. Both the ICRC and the International Federation backed this initiative and provided the National Society with technical and financial support.

Following the earthquake in Kashmir in October, the ICRC in Afghanistan gave substantial support to earthquake relief in Pakistan. Expatriate and national staff, vehicles and relief goods dispatched by the delegation reached Pakistan-administered Kashmir within days of the earthquake.

CIVILIANS

Protection of the civilian population

Few allegations of violations of IHL were reported to the ICRC by the population in 2005. However, without access to much of the south and east, the ICRC was unable to monitor first hand the impact on civilians of ongoing military operations in these areas.

Disaster relief

By drawing on its emergency stocks of food and basic items such as blankets, tarpaulins and jerrycans, the ICRC provided material and logistical support to Afghan Red Crescent/International Federation operations for the victims of flooding and other natural disasters.

Restoring family links

Working closely with the Afghan Red Crescent, the ICRC continued to help family members separated by conflict to maintain links through the exchange of RCMs, mostly between internees/detainees and their families. It also helped families trace relatives with whom they had lost contact.

- ▶ 6,221 RCMs delivered to and 4,466 collected from civilians
- ▶ 131 people located for their families; tracing cases opened for 206 people
- ▶ 169 tracing cases pending

Reducing the impact of mines

Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) affected thousands of communities and killed or maimed an average of over two people a day. Attacks on deminers slowed mine clearance in some areas.

Some 200 ICRC and Afghan Red Crescent staff members and community volunteers combined mine-risk education with data collection, providing the UN with about 95% of the information it received on mine casualties. By reporting contaminated sites directly to UN Area Mine Action Centres, the HALO Trust, the Danish Demining Group, Handicap International and other demining agencies, they also helped prioritize clearance. The ICRC analysed the information gleaned from the data in order to identify trends, and shared its findings with others involved in mine action. There were 13% fewer incidents recorded than in 2004, but the data collected from the south and east was not complete.

ICRC/Afghan Red Crescent mine-risk education was conducted in the northern,

central and eastern provinces and focused on rural communities, women and truck and bus drivers. In Jalalabad, Kabul, Mazar-i-Sharif and Herat, the mine-action programme trained 206 community health workers from other organizations, as well as its own staff.

- 209 areas suspected of mine contamination reported to deminers
- 801 mine/ERW incidents recorded: 93% involved civilians and 44% involved children, 50% caused by unexploded ordnance
- over 311,000 people, more than half children, attended mine-risk education sessions held in some 4,000 locations

Upgrading water supply and sanitation

Although the government and international donors had extensive plans for developing city water-supply systems, poor security and a shortage of skilled labour hampered implementation. By 2005, half of the planned projects had not been financed, and many city-dwellers still relied on shallow wells. Rising water tables filled old wells that had run dry during the drought, but the water was often contaminated. Under an agreement with the Ministry of Urban Development, the ICRC worked with the water boards in Kabul, Mazar-i-Sharif, Herat, Jalalabad and Kandahar to improve water supply in areas not covered by larger city water schemes. Such programmes concentrated on the shantytowns often inhabited by returnees and other disadvantaged groups. A survey of neighbourhoods targeted confirmed the need for better water quality and health practices: 60% of those surveyed drank contaminated water and nearly 25% walked more than 100 metres to collect water; although diarrhoea was common, 40% did not know how to prevent it and even fewer knew how to treat it.

The ICRC drilled 100 wells and equipped them with hand pumps, improved networks and municipal water schemes and conducted sessions to promote better hygiene. In most cities, residents helped dig ditches for the pipes to be laid in their neighbourhoods. Some projects were delayed by logistic or security problems, but by the end of the year work was in progress on projects expected to improve water supply for over 414,000 people. These included projects in 10 villages around Bamyan which improved the supply of water for both domestic and agricultural use.

- 224,057 people had water supply/sanitation improved by projects completed

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Internees in US custody

The ICRC made regular visits to internees held by the United States in Kandahar and at the Bagram Air Base; both facilities were enlarged early in the year, although the one in Kandahar was closed in July. In accordance with its standard procedures, the ICRC assessed the treatment and conditions of the internees both in locations visited and, via interviews, in the firebases where some internees were held before arriving there. The ICRC relayed its findings, observations and recommendations to the US authorities, including to the US embassy and the commander-in-chief of the Coalition Forces in Afghanistan.

The United States released 686 internees, and the ICRC was present for their handover to the Afghan government. The ICRC repatriated 3 released internees. It continued to urge the US authorities to notify the ICRC of all arrests and to encourage them to establish a legal framework for all persons in their custody.

- 1,132 internees visited, including 1,067 monitored individually (including 31 minors; 595 newly registered) in 15 visits to 2 places of detention
- 471 internees monitored individually still in custody by end of 2005, including 20 minors
- 1,852 RCMs delivered to and 2,086 collected from internees

Detainees in Afghan custody

The planned prison rehabilitation programme progressed very slowly, and Afghan prisons continued to fill. The ICRC followed security detainees individually, assessing their treatment and conditions and helping them keep in touch with their families via the RCM network. Once they were released, the delegation covered the cost of their transport home. Because of their special vulnerability, the ICRC also monitored foreigners, women and minors individually. At the request of foreign detainees, the ICRC notified their countries of origin of their detention and helped them to travel home after their release.

To improve the overall conditions in the prisons it visited, the ICRC upgraded water and sanitation facilities and distributed hygiene articles and winter clothes. These improvements benefited all inmates.

In order to establish priorities for prison rehabilitation and reconstruction and

mobilize donor support for the effort, the ICRC drafted a technical assessment report, making recommendations for upgrading facilities in all 33 provincial prisons in Afghanistan. It also held seminars in Kabul, Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif for senior officials of the Ministries of Justice and Public Health and the Attorney-General's Office, as well as for directors and health staff of provincial prisons. The seminars encouraged cooperation between the departments and ministries involved in detention and enhanced expertise on the treatment of detainees, prison hygiene and health care and vocational and educational activities for inmates.

- 7,579 detainees visited, including 1,222 monitored individually (including 703 newly registered, 8 women and 47 minors) in 188 visits to 72 places of detention
- 746 RCMs delivered to and 1,526 collected from detainees
- 1,635 detainees benefited from improvements to prison water supply or sanitation facilities in 15 places of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

Supporting hospital services

By the end of 2005, people living in some of the poorest areas of the country still had no access to primary-health-care services, and donors backing the Basic Package of Health Services were looking for NGOs to extend coverage in underserved districts. The Essential Package of Hospital Services, the national plan for provision of secondary health care, was adopted during the year. Having supported major Afghan medical facilities for over a decade, the ICRC took part in the Hospital Management Task Force and made substantial contributions to the development of the plan.

The ICRC continued to provide medical and other supplies, blood-bank and laboratory equipment, fuel and, as needed, staff incentives to enable some key hospitals to deliver much-needed services. The ICRC handed the hospitals it supported in Ghazni, Taloqan and Kabul over to the Ministry of Public Health during the year; its support to hospitals in Shiberghan, Jalalabad (Public Health Hospital-1) and Kandahar (Mir Wais) continued all year. In Jalalabad, the ICRC started repairs to the hospital and organized a comprehensive staff training programme. Slowed by the withdrawal of expatriate staff after the riots

in May, the training was stepped up upon their return in October.

The ICRC also gave ad hoc support to other hospitals around the country and supplied medicines and medical materials to help the Ministry of Public Health fight a cholera outbreak in summer. It conducted a seminar on war surgery in Jalalabad and one emergency room training course for Ministry of Public Health doctors in Kabul. It also improved first-aid treatment for weapon-wounded victims in the south and east by giving technical support to the International Federation/Afghan Red Crescent community-based first-aid programme.

In ICRC-supported health facilities:

- ▶ 30,741 surgical patients admitted, including 2,241 weapon-wounded (250 by mines)
- ▶ 19,740 surgical operations performed and some 12,900 blood transfusions given
- ▶ 15,425 other patients admitted (4,473 medical, 2,657 obstetric/gynaecological, 8,295 paediatric)
- ▶ 207,318 outpatient consultations given

Rehabilitation of the disabled

Extensive contamination by mines and ERW, high rates of polio and other factors have left tens of thousands of Afghans disabled. By 2005, the government had not yet begun to provide the rehabilitation services enabling them to lead active lives and avoid being a burden on their families and communities. Some areas of the south and east had no rehabilitation services, and facilities serving the rest of the country were run by international organizations or NGOs which coordinated closely and reported to the Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Martyrs and the Disabled.

Having played the leading role in the provision of rehabilitation services in Afghanistan for over 15 years, by 2005 the ICRC had fitted some 80% of all the prostheses and orthoses worn in the country. In addition to fitting appliances and providing physiotherapy, the ICRC's six centres around the country organized schooling and offered vocational training, micro-credit schemes or job placement to help patients reintegrate into society. The centres themselves employed more than 500 disabled people.

The ICRC also supplied raw materials and parts to four centres run by other organizations: International Assistance Mission (Maimana), Swedish Committee for

Afghanistan (Taloqan and Ghazni) and Handicap International Belgium (Kandahar). It also trained 33 prosthetic/orthotic technicians in four locations and gave on-the-job training at the centres.

Specialized teams working from the centres made home visits to people with spinal-cord injuries, providing medical care/equipment, physiotherapy and counselling. The ICRC also supported the only centre specializing in the treatment of cerebral palsy, which it set up at the Indira Gandhi Hospital, the main paediatric facility in Kabul.

- ▶ 55,877 patients provided with physical rehabilitation services (including 16,130 amputees)
- ▶ 1,066 new patients fitted with prostheses and 4,680 with orthoses
- ▶ 4,511 prostheses (3,186 for mine victims) and 9,462 orthoses (32 for mine victims) delivered
- ▶ 927 wheelchairs and over 11,063 crutches/canes delivered
- ▶ 5,779 appliances repaired
- ▶ 3,200 patients with spinal-cord injuries and 1,789 with cerebral palsy given therapy and care
- ▶ 2,691 people benefited from education, vocational training, micro-credits or job placement
- ▶ some 1,500 components delivered to non-ICRC workshops

AUTHORITIES

With accession to the 1977 Additional Protocols under consideration by the government, the ICRC met key officials and, to facilitate the process, translated the Geneva Conventions into Dari and Pashto.

The ICRC frequently met high-level officials to discuss the practical application of IHL in policy development and implementation, especially regarding detainees. Attentive to the need to stay neutral and independent, it coordinated with advisory groups set up to support the government in areas pertaining to IHL. Through its sub-delegations, the ICRC kept up a dialogue with provincial authorities and international organizations working at regional level.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

By the end of the year, the Afghan National Army had 48 commissioned battalions and three training institutes. Because of the need to shorten training for quick deployment,

some troops had not yet received instruction in IHL. The army continued to develop its IHL instruction and to integrate it into its training programmes, making good progress over the year. Following a seminar for 33 senior officers in June, the army set up an expert panel, which developed a curriculum approved in November, signed by the Minister of Defence and introduced in military training institutions and field units. IHL training activities conducted with support from the ICRC included:

- ▶ a four-day workshop for 18 officers;
- ▶ sessions for over 400 officers in training facilities and over 500 soldiers in the field;
- ▶ follow-up of instructors in field units;
- ▶ translation of IHL teaching materials into Dari and Pashto;
- ▶ sponsorship of 3 officers attending an IHL course in San Remo.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Over 2,000 international and national NGOs and UN bodies were working in Afghanistan. Military provincial reconstruction teams were also involved in humanitarian projects. The Afghan media continued to grow and develop.

To promote its principles and explain its approach, the ICRC relied largely on direct contact with the public through its programmes. It organized information sessions in Kabul, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar and Mazar-i-Sharif for over 700 community leaders, elders and religious figures, as well as for 132 journalists and over 1,800 students and teachers.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Society restructuring

With the appointment of a new president in January, the Afghan Red Crescent Society embarked on wide-ranging reforms, which included:

- ▶ re-introducing countrywide membership;
- ▶ formally distinguishing between management and governance by appointing a secretary-general;
- ▶ restructuring headquarters and drafting a new constitution.

The ICRC and the International Federation gave financial and technical support for these initiatives.

Support to Afghan Red Crescent programmes

The ICRC conducted “Safer Access” workshops in several Red Crescent branches. It also provided technical, financial and/or material support to the National Society’s activities including:

- 59 food-for-work projects benefiting almost 26,000 families: designed to help communities affected by insecurity, these involved repairs to essential infrastructure such as canals while providing temporary income (rations);
- 587 vocational training projects for over 1,200 trainees: vocational training in tailoring, bicycle or radio repair and carpentry involved almost 600 trainers; trainees received basic tools at the end of the course;
- maintenance of the RCM network and promotion of the Fundamental Principles and IHL;
- joint Afghan Red Crescent/International Federation emergency relief operations;
- mine action (see *Civilians*).



Indonesia

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979. Throughout the archipelago, it works closely with the Indonesian Red Cross Society to protect and assist victims of violence, especially displaced and resident populations whose livelihoods or family contacts have been disrupted. The ICRC continues to visit detainees held in connection with non-international armed conflict and internal disturbances, and works to broaden understanding and acceptance of IHL. It promotes IHL implementation, supports its inclusion in training programmes for armed forces and police personnel and develops activities with universities to promote the study of IHL. The ICRC also participates in coordination of the Movement's response to the Asian tsunami.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	4,581
Assistance	28,976
Prevention	1,657
Cooperation with National Societies	1,594
General	-

► **36,808**

of which: Overheads **1,907**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94.7%
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PERSONNEL

56 expatriates
231 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- in cooperation with the National Society, launched an extensive programme to alleviate the suffering of some 300,000 people affected by the tsunami of 26 December 2004;
- conducted visits to places of detention under the responsibility of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, as well as to those under police authority throughout the country, and was quickly able to resume such visits in the tsunami-stricken province of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam; through visits to them in their homes, monitored 1,800 Free Aceh Movement (GAM) detainees released in accordance with the memorandum of understanding of 15 August between the government and GAM;
- following the signature of the memorandum of understanding between the government and GAM, assessed conflict-related needs and started relief distributions to IDPs, returnees and residents;
- began pre-deployment sessions on IHL and international human rights law for police troops sent to conflict-prone areas.

CONTEXT

The year 2005 was dominated by the aftermath of the devastating tsunami of 26 December 2004 and the subsequent large-scale national and international assistance operations. The year began with large numbers of foreign military personnel, scores of NGOs and many National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies present in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) province focusing exclusively on alleviating the plight of people affected by the catastrophe. By May, the tsunami response had entered its reconstruction phase, which was expected to last for at least five years.

The year also saw the parties to the prolonged conflict in NAD engage in peace talks, mediated by former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari and the Crisis Management Initiative. This resulted, on 15 August, in the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). The memorandum specified several steps to be taken by the parties, including the surrender of weapons by GAM and the withdrawal of government troops that had been drafted into NAD from other provinces. Within days, Asian and European monitors were deployed under the banner of the Aceh Monitoring Mission. The release by the government of the majority of GAM detainees took place at the end of August, in accordance with the agreement.

In Papua, the situation regarding special autonomy remained ambiguous. At the end of October, the Papua People's Council was created, paving the way for gubernatorial elections in 2006.

Despite a substantial security set-up in Maluku and in Central and West Sulawesi, regular security incidents were reported. Central Sulawesi in particular experienced numerous murders and bomb attacks. Bali was once again the target of acts of "terrorism", as three suicide bombers struck in public places on 1 October.

The terms of reference of the Commission of Truth and Friendship, set up jointly by Timor-Leste and Indonesia, were signed by the respective governments on 9 March. The commission started work in August.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	21,933	<i>Economic Security, Water and Habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2,007	Food	Beneficiaries	36,383
Number of visits carried out	153	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	264,539
Number of places of detention visited	78	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	122,659
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	40,988
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	845
RCMs collected	825	<i>Health</i>		
RCMs distributed	728	Health centres supported	Structures	10
People reunited with their families	19	Consultations	Patients	33,114
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Activities	30,984
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	62	WOUNDED AND SICK		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	30	Hospital supported	Structure	1
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	116	Admissions	Patients	820
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Operations	Operations performed	676
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	48			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	22			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	5			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	42			

ICRC ACTION

Present in NAD province before the tsunami, the ICRC, together with the Indonesian Red Cross, was able to launch an immediate response. Until May, the ICRC provided tsunami-related emergency relief in NAD, distributing essential household items, hygiene articles or food rations to people displaced by the disaster. An ICRC/Indonesian Red Cross 100-bed referral field hospital, provided by the Norwegian Red Cross, treated both inpatients and outpatients until its closure in May. The ICRC cleaned wells and built latrines and donated tonnes of chemicals to the water boards to ensure safe water for survivors. Furthermore, people seeking news of their relatives caught up in the tsunami were able to use the ICRC family-links service to try and locate them. The National Society was a key partner in all the above activities.

As a member of the Movement Coordination Framework – a concept regulating the activities of Movement components in tsunami-stricken areas – the ICRC was actively involved in monitoring the security situation and issuing security guidelines for Movement.

The initial budget for the ICRC's operations in Indonesia in 2005 was CHF 9.0 million, but this was increased to CHF 38.9 million to cover unplanned activities for tsunami victims. The ICRC reactivated its office in Lhokseumawe in January, occupying premises and warehouses in disuse since 2001.

The number of ICRC expatriate staff in NAD rose temporarily from 2 to over 100, but by the end of May this had dropped back down to about 20 delegates.

While pursuing its tsunami-response activities, the ICRC approached the authorities in NAD with the objective of resuming its traditional activities relating to the conflict there. Six weeks after the disaster, the organization was able to begin visits again to civil prisons and police stations. In the rest of the country, detention-related activities continued uninterrupted.

In February, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger paid an official visit to Indonesia, planned before the tsunami, during which he met a number of high-level contacts, including the President of Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, with whom he discussed a number of issues of humanitarian concern.

The ICRC continued to broaden and consolidate its network of contacts within political, military and academic circles, holding several events to promote implementation of IHL. The army conducted an evaluation of the level of integration of IHL into its doctrine, teaching and training, for which the ICRC provided financial support and expert guidance. The ICRC also discussed the integration of IHL into air force training and continued to support the navy in finalizing the inclusion of IHL in its training programmes. The ICRC was able to carry on its pre-deployment

dissemination sessions on IHL for army troops arriving in NAD and Papua. The first pre-deployment dissemination sessions for members of the police's mobile brigade took place following the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the unit.

Following the signing of the memorandum of understanding between GAM and the government on 15 August, the ICRC had full access to conflict-affected areas in NAD and focused on conflict-related needs. By the end of the year, it had carried out several needs assessments in NAD, having reinforced its set-up to be in a position to increase the number and the quality of the assessments. Based on the results, the ICRC began its first relief distributions to returnees and residents affected by the conflict at the end of December.

As in previous years, the Indonesian Red Cross remained an invaluable partner for the ICRC and was a key player in the tsunami emergency response in NAD.

CIVILIANS

Tsunami relief

Present in NAD province before the tsunami, the ICRC, together with the Indonesian Red Cross, was able to launch an immediate emergency relief operation. They distributed essential items to families throughout the province and supplied tents to various camps for IDPs. At the very beginning, and for a short time, food rations (rice, cooking

oil, noodles, sardines, sugar, salt and biscuits) were handed out to IDPs and National Society volunteers pending the establishment of supply lines by other humanitarian agencies. The ICRC provided the National Society with materials for the evacuation of dead bodies.

Following assessments, the ICRC distributed community clean-up kits and reconstruction kits to help the population clear their villages of debris. Assessments carried out along the northern coast identified the need for smaller kits for individual families as they started moving back to their communities. Consequently, the ICRC adapted its approach and, together with the National Society, distributed kits to families scattered along the north-eastern coast.

- ▶ 264,539 IDPs provided with essential household items and hygiene kits
- ▶ 36,383 people given food rations
- ▶ 2,400 families in IDP camps housed in ICRC tents
- ▶ 120,000 people benefited from clean-up and reconstruction kits

In addition, the ICRC conducted a programme in villages of the greater Banda Aceh area and along the northern coastline to provide sufficient safe water to people who had been displaced by the tsunami but were returning home.

- ▶ 3,260 wells cleaned, rehabilitated or newly constructed
- ▶ 5 boreholes drilled or rehabilitated and equipped with pumps
- ▶ 4 pipe networks rehabilitated
- ▶ 667 latrines and 42 communal washrooms constructed
- ▶ 1,014 septic tanks emptied
- ▶ 154 tonnes of water-treatment chemicals supplied to water boards of Banda Aceh and Lhokseumawe
- ▶ 37.9 million litres of clean drinking water trucked to those in need

Assisting conflict-affected communities

Following the signing of the memorandum of understanding between GAM and the Indonesian government in August, the ICRC gained full access to conflict-affected areas in NAD and focused on the needs of people affected by the conflict. From September to December, 75 assessments were carried out in 71 villages of 24 sub-districts of the province. The first findings indicated the need to rehabilitate community infrastructure, improve water and sanitation conditions and boost households' production capacities. In parallel, some 150 households were given essential

household items, and 110 households received 60 sets of agricultural tools.

During the last quarter of the year, a geographic information system database was designed and deployed, collating all the information collected during assessments in NAD and facilitating analysis of that information.

The ICRC sub-delegation in Jayapura, Papua province, gave essential household items to returnees from Papua New Guinea. In response to the poor living conditions in Marauke, Papua, water tanks and taps were set up for permanent water distribution, and 10 latrines and a septic tank were rehabilitated to serve 310 returnees from Papua New Guinea.

Restoring family links

The tsunami created a substantial need for the ICRC family-links service: people were displaced, dead bodies had been buried without identification, and communications in parts of NAD were disrupted for several months. All this made it very difficult for survivors of the tsunami and their families in the province, the rest of Indonesia and abroad to re-establish contact and to find out what had happened to their relatives.

The ICRC launched a special website (www.familylinks.icrc.org) for people caught up in the tsunami to let others know that they were alive or to post the name of a person being sought. The ICRC and the Indonesian Red Cross also sent out mobile teams to collect such information and then displayed printed lists of names in key public places and in the media. In addition, the National Society and the ICRC made satellite or mobile phones available so that people could call their family members nationally and abroad.

While the delegation focused on restoring family links in NAD, ICRC teams also assessed tracing needs in West Timor and Maluku, as well as maintaining the exchange of RCMs between families in West Timor and relatives in Timor-Leste.

- ▶ over 25,000 "Person sought" and 18,500 "I am alive" forms registered on the family-links website and nearly 26,500 names publicized in the media
- ▶ over 2,600 telephone calls made by survivors to family members in Indonesia or abroad
- ▶ family links restored successfully in more than 3,800 cases
- ▶ 48 unaccompanied children registered by the ICRC; 22 reunited with their families under ICRC auspices

- ▶ 245 RCMs collected from and 368 delivered to civilians all over Indonesia

The delegation also approached the Indonesian authorities about sharing information they might have on the fate or whereabouts of missing East Timorese.

Protecting civilians

In NAD, the ICRC continued pre-deployment IHL dissemination sessions for army troops and familiarized several high-ranking military and police commanders with the basic rules of IHL and the protection due to civilians. The commanders authorized the ICRC to carry out field visits and assessments, which also looked into protection issues.

In Papua, delegates continued to monitor the consequences for civilians of the security incidents that took place in the highlands in autumn 2004. They also assessed the security conditions of former refugees who had recently returned from Papua New Guinea.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Although in late 2004 the ICRC had been able to resume visits to detainees under the responsibility of the police and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights in NAD, further visits planned for early 2005 had to be abandoned as the tsunami had seriously disrupted the provincial administrative set-up. In addition, five prisons and a police station were washed away, with the loss of some 300 lives. In February, however, visits to detainees resumed, and the ICRC was able to conduct visits to all those held in affected districts, submitting written reports on its findings to the detaining authorities.

As many detainees visited by the ICRC had family members in tsunami-affected areas, re-establishing family links via the tracing and RCM services became a priority. The delegation continued to organize family visits for detainees from NAD, Ambon and Papua transferred outside their home provinces.

The agreement between the government and GAM led to the release of most GAM detainees held in NAD and other parts of the country: in all, about 1,800 detainees were freed. The ICRC conducted follow-up visits to the detention facilities concerned and visited the released detainees in their homes. It continued collecting allegations of arrest and began discussions with the

authorities and GAM aimed at clarifying the whereabouts of a number of people.

Visits to detainees in Java, Papua, Bali and North Sumatra continued and were extended to new areas in Maluku and Sulawesi.

- 21,933 detainees visited during 153 visits to 78 places of detention, of whom 1,474 newly registered and 2,007 followed up individually
- 39 detainees received ICRC-funded visits from family members
- 360 RCMs delivered to detainees and 580 collected from them
- access to water increased or sanitation improved for 2,330 detainees in 13 detention facilities in NAD, Bali and Papua; scabies treatment administered to inmates of 2 prisons and surgical operations funded for 2 detainees in Papua

WOUNDED AND SICK

NAD province lost much of its health personnel as a result of the tsunami. Some died in the disaster, while others had to abandon their homes and were only able to return to work after their own family matters had been sorted out. Moreover, many health facilities were destroyed or damaged, including the Banda Aceh referral hospital, and the province's health system seriously disrupted, which also affected the supply lines to health centres not directly affected by the tsunami. In response to this situation and to alleviate the pressure on the health system, the ICRC started supplying first-aid consumables to National Society branches and provided assistance to various hospitals in Banda Aceh. The ICRC also supplied health facilities in Lhokseumawe with medical equipment, medicines and consumables until mid-April.

In cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC set up a field hospital, donated by the Norwegian Red Cross, in Banda Aceh in mid-January. Until its closure in mid-May, the hospital treated some 10,000 outpatients and 820 inpatients. To begin with, the majority of patients were directly related to the catastrophe. Later on, the hospital's surgical and medical services also treated a wide range of other illnesses, taking some of the burden off government facilities and allowing them to re-establish their services and gradually take on more patients. After its closure, the field hospital was donated to the Ministry of Health to be used in the event of disasters in any part of the country. Ministry of Health staff were given

a two-week training course on how to redeploy the hospital in case of need.

Protection of and respect for the medical mission remained high on the ICRC's agenda, especially in regions that continued to see sporadic upsurges in violence. With the National Society, the ICRC conducted two seminars on medical ethics in Central Sulawesi attended by more than 300 participants, including health professionals, army and police representatives and religious and political leaders.

AUTHORITIES

In December 2004, the government had decided to introduce the repression of war crimes in the civil and military criminal codes. In 2005, the ICRC supported a study of existing criminal law. The results were discussed during a workshop in which 70 representatives of the government, universities and NGOs proposed ways to modify the law. The ICRC organized a first technical meeting with experts from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights to begin the drafting process.

Furthermore, the ICRC:

- offered legal advice for and participated in several technical workshops on a new draft law on the emblem;
- with 6 lecturers from 3 law faculties, initiated a study on current legislation regarding the rights of the families of missing persons;
- sponsored the participation of ministerial representatives in IHL-related events abroad, including a course in San Remo.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces

The ICRC assisted the legal department of the army in assessing the level of integration of IHL into its doctrine, training and operations. The results were presented to 370 army commanders and follow-up discussed.

The ICRC also continued its cooperation with the air force and navy, assisting the latter in integrating IHL into its training, including command-post and field-training exercises.

In addition, the ICRC:

- organized 2 train-the-trainer courses for 100 legal advisers from the army and air force;

- conducted an IHL course for 60 navy officers and another to introduce 250 senior air force officers to IHL;
- sponsored workshops at all regional headquarters to promote the army's new technical guide to incorporating IHL into training exercises;
- sponsored the participation of 4 army officers in IHL courses in San Remo;
- gave 17 presentations on IHL and the respective mandates and activities of the ICRC and National Society to 8,600 soldiers prior to their deployment in NAD and Papua provinces.

Police

The ICRC focused its efforts on promoting international human rights law and IHL among members of the police's mobile brigade – a unit directly confronted with situations of violence. After an initial assessment workshop with 20 senior officers from headquarters, the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding with the brigade. A steering committee and working group were created to develop new training materials.

- 5 presentations on basic IHL and human rights law given to some 1,600 troops prior to their deployment in violence-prone areas

Other armed groups

Regular contact was maintained with former GAM representatives in order to discuss various humanitarian issues.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC tsunami response was broadly reported on in the print and broadcast media. This enabled the ICRC to promote some of its activities and in particular the family-links programme.

- presentations on IHL and the ICRC given to 220 journalists, representatives of NGOs, Muslim organizations and human rights lawyers throughout the country

Future decision-makers

Since the late 1990s, the ICRC had provided extensive training to law lecturers in about 111 universities. By 2005, 28 law faculties and one sharia faculty in 19 cities were offering IHL as a separate subject in their curricula, and 14 had introduced elements of IHL into their undergraduate courses. In March, the ICRC organized a conference on IHL for 60 deans of law faculties and provided them with literature on IHL and human rights law. It also met the deans of

the social and political science faculties of two universities to discuss integrating IHL into their curricula.

In addition, the ICRC:

- ▶ organized an IHL course for 47 university lecturers from the faculties of law, social science and communication and sponsored the participation of 3 political science lecturers in the ICRC's first South-East Asian teaching session in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*);
- ▶ ran a training session for 4 students attending the ICRC's 3rd regional moot-court competition in Hong Kong and, in cooperation with 2 major Indonesian universities, organized 2 moot-court competitions in Sumatra province for 230 students;
- ▶ gave a presentation on IHL and Islamic law to 120 students of an Islamic higher-education establishment and, in cooperation with an Islamic university, organized a seminar on the same subject for 75 people;
- ▶ supported the publication in Bahasa Indonesia of an annual collection of articles on topical IHL issues.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The focus of the Indonesian Red Cross shifted almost entirely towards meeting the humanitarian needs arising from the tsunami of 26 December and an earthquake which occurred on Nias Island on 28 March. The ICRC increased its financing of the operational costs of the National Society's NAD chapter and its 19 branches.

In the aftermath of the tsunami, National Society volunteers evacuated tens of thousands of bodies and provided more than 150,000 IDPs with shelter materials, essential household items, emergency health care and safe water. They were also instrumental in the rapid development and maintenance of the tracing network, which enabled family members to restore contact with one another after the disaster.

The much-depleted National Society began a comprehensive recruitment and training programme designed to restore its capacity.

The Indonesian Red Cross, the ICRC and the International Federation signed a memorandum of understanding with the government's Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Agency, reaffirming the Movement's commitment to help meet the humanitarian needs of the people of NAD province and Nias Island. The memorandum clearly defined the specific roles of the different components of the Movement, especially the ICRC's protection activities related to the conflict.

- ▶ 4 general sessions, 1 train-the-trainer session and 5 field exercises conducted to train 92 volunteers from 41 Red Cross branches to work in conflict-prone areas
- ▶ a series of three-day seminars on the "Safer Access" approach carried out for 100 National Society volunteers



myanmar

The ICRC began working in Myanmar in 1986, providing physical rehabilitation for mine victims and other disabled people. Since 1999, delegates have regularly visited detainees and monitored the situation of civilians in conflict areas. Where weakened infrastructure, isolation and the security situation have made the population particularly vulnerable, the ICRC meets basic health, water and sanitation needs in villages deemed a priority in protection terms, assists hospitals in treating the wounded and seeks dialogue with government authorities on the protection of civilians. The ICRC also raises awareness and promotes the teaching of IHL and works in coordination with the International Federation to enhance the effectiveness of the National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	6,098
Assistance	6,082
Prevention	1,518
Cooperation with National Societies	752
General	-

► **14,449**

of which: Overheads 882

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85.7%
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PERSONNEL

54 expatriates
278 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- assessed the treatment and living conditions of detainees in 55 places of detention and labour camps and enabled them to exchange RCMs with, and receive visits from, family members;
- supported the prison authorities' efforts to improve inmates' health care, sanitation and material conditions; distributed soap and essential drugs to all detention places; implemented several projects to improve infrastructure in 3 major prisons; welcomed the inclusion of the prison system in the national programme to combat tuberculosis;
- carried out field missions in Shan, Mon and Kayin states and Thanintharyi division to assess the security and living conditions of the civilian population and, working closely with the residents, carried out health, water and sanitation projects;
- rehabilitated and provided supplies to hospitals in conflict-affected areas and continued to support all prosthetic/orthotic facilities in Myanmar, including a new centre in Shan state; referred 800 destitute amputees from remote areas to physical rehabilitation centres through the ICRC/National Society outreach programme; initiated a mine-risk education programme in Kayin state;
- promoted knowledge of its mandate, IHL and the Fundamental Principles and supported the capacity building of the National Society to deliver effective humanitarian services.

CONTEXT

The dismissal of the prime minister and dismantling of the Military Intelligence apparatus in late 2004 brought about significant structural and policy changes within the ruling State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). The SPDC nevertheless reiterated its commitment to a seven-point road map towards national reconciliation and democracy, and reconvened the National Convention in February, which was expected to lay the foundations of the future constitution. Citing a need to focus on national reconciliation, the government announced it would waive its turn to chair the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2006.

The civilian population continued to be affected by the tense situation, particularly in Shan, Kayah, and Kayin states along the border with Thailand. The humanitarian situation in all border areas remained of serious concern, with continued insecurity, internal displacement, precarious socio-economic conditions and lack of access to essential services.

The SPDC implemented a new policy with regard to its cooperation with international humanitarian actors, imposing restrictions and conditions on their movements in most parts of the country. The difficulties met by international humanitarian and other actors in engaging in a policy-level dialogue with the government were further compounded by the transferral of the administrative capital to Pyimana, a remote location in central Myanmar, which began in November.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	50,694	<i>Water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,181	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	7,900
Number of visits carried out	64	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	2,250
Number of places of detention visited	55	<i>Health</i>		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	Structures	6
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Immunizations	Activities	4,044
RCMs collected	10,762	WOUNDED AND SICK		
RCMs distributed	9,119	Hospitals supported	Structures	3
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Admissions	Patients	25
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	43	Operations	Operations performed	6
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	31	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	17	Patients receiving services	Patients	3,612
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Prostheses delivered	Pieces	2,181
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	27	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	193
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	172			

ICRC ACTION

Despite restrictions imposed on its movements, the ICRC carried out its planned activities to protect people deprived of their freedom and civilians living in areas affected by armed conflict. Activities for people deprived of their freedom continued to combine the individual monitoring of security detainees and other vulnerable people with efforts to generate structural change in the prison system for the benefit of all detainees. The ICRC maintained its confidential dialogue with the prison authorities regarding its findings during prison visits and continued to provide training and technical support to stimulate and complement the Prison Department's own efforts. A positive step by the Ministry of Health was the decision to include prisons in the national tuberculosis programme. The distribution of RCMs and the family-visits programme ensured much-needed links between the detainees and their families. Towards the end of the year, ICRC detention teams faced increasing difficulties in conducting detention visits: the authorities had begun to challenge some of its standard working procedures from mid-2005. As a result, the ICRC was unable to visit detention facilities in December.

Access to civilians most affected by the conflict was hampered by restrictions imposed on the ICRC's movements. Nevertheless, ICRC teams managed to carry out some protection work, support health services, complete an immunization programme, implement water and sanitation projects and initiate mine-risk education. The bulk of these activities took place in Kayin state.

The ICRC continued to successfully support programmes providing physical rehabilitation services to mine victims, amputees and the war-wounded. Significant assistance was provided to all prosthetic/orthotic facilities in Myanmar through technician training and the supply of specialized equipment and prosthetic components. The ICRC coordinated and funded the prosthetic outreach programme of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, which complemented these efforts by referring amputees from remote areas to these facilities. The ICRC also covered the cost of treating vulnerable civilians with conflict-related injuries in hospitals visited by delegates. War-surgery seminars were held for military and civilian surgeons.

The ICRC pursued efforts to promote knowledge of its mandate, IHL and the Fundamental Principles through dissemination sessions for public servants, military personnel and civil society. Senior government officials, including military personnel, participated in IHL events and teaching sessions abroad and enrolled in a distance-learning postgraduate diploma in IHL sponsored by the ICRC.

The ICRC continued to build the capacities of the National Society not only in the field of dissemination, but also in tracing, conflict preparedness, referral of amputees and mine-risk education.

CIVILIANS

Despite increased restrictions on access to conflict-affected areas, ICRC protection and assistance teams carried out 120 field missions in Shan, Mon and Kayin states and Thanintharyi division to assess the security and living conditions of the civilian population. At central level, the ICRC made successful representations regarding a few individual protection cases.

In August, an ICRC team was able to visit the Myawaddy transit camp (Kayin state) to assess the living conditions of illegal Myanmar migrant workers expelled from Thailand.

- ▶ 4,133 RCMs collected from and 4,304 delivered to civilians
- ▶ 43 tracing requests received; 31 people located; 17 cases still being processed
- ▶ 9 demobilized child soldiers registered; 27 cases still being processed

Reducing mine injuries

The ICRC initiated a mine-risk education programme in Kayin state. The first phase of the programme focused on data collection and analysis of the scale of the problem so as to understand the patterns of risk-taking behaviour and identify the population most at risk. The next step would be to use this information to design an effective strategy to reduce the number of mine incidents in the future. Emphasis was placed on dissemination to improve civilians' understanding of the programme. For this purpose, the delegation created educational material, such as posters and leaflets conveying safety messages.

The National Society agreed to integrate safety briefings related to the risk of mines and explosive remnants of war into its community-based first-aid training sessions. The delegation conducted such sessions for first-aid trainers in Kayin and Kayah states, two areas with a high prevalence of mine incidents.

Improving access to safe water

Four stream-catchment facilities were built in southern Shan state and in a remote northern area of Kayin state. In addition, the ICRC set up committees in the villages and trained them in the maintenance of existing water facilities. As part of the same programme, the ICRC supported projects to improve conditions in four schools in Shan and Kayin states. Wood and corrugated iron sheeting was given to villagers, who then performed the work themselves. At the same time, the ICRC constructed a block of three to four latrines in each school.

The ICRC organized a hygiene-promotion workshop at a high school in northern Kayin state. This was an opportunity to teach better hygiene and to inform a wider community audience about the ICRC's mandate, activities and objectives. Unfortunately, owing to movement restrictions from July onwards, this was the only school at which the ICRC could arrange this kind of session.

During the second half of the year, six water points were set up in areas of southern Kayin state affected by the persisting instability, where no other international agency had access. The ICRC also trained the villagers and provided them with material for the construction of well-reinforcement rings, enabling them to build their own protected wells.

- 7,900 people benefited from improved water and sanitation facilities
- 2,250 people benefited from an improved habitat

Disease prevention and treatment

Two rounds of immunizations were conducted in 16 villages in southern Shan state, completing the four planned visits to the area, which was out of the reach of government health services because of insecurity. More than 75% of children under five were given three doses of the diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine, and 39 health-education sessions were conducted.

- 1,043 vaccine doses given to women of childbearing age
- 3,001 vaccine doses given to children under 5

In addition, the ICRC supported an emergency vaccination programme of the Ministry of Health in several townships in Kayin state close to the Thai border. It enabled vaccination teams from two rural health centres to buy ice to cool the vaccines, monitored the temperature and covered all transport costs.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit places of detention and labour camps under the authority of the Prison Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Following its visits, the ICRC submitted confidential reports, summarizing its findings and recommendations. The organization was able to follow up these reports in monthly meetings with Prison Department officials. Whenever necessary, the ICRC drew attention to the needs of particularly vulnerable detainees, such as security detainees, minors, those claiming foreign citizenship, the sick and the elderly.

The ICRC enabled detainees to restore and maintain contact with their next of kin and ran a programme to enable particularly vulnerable detainees to receive monthly visits from family members.

ICRC detention teams faced increasing difficulties towards the end of the year in conducting detention visits: the authorities had begun to challenge some of its standard working procedures from mid-2005. As a result, the ICRC was unable to visit detention facilities in December.

- 64 visits made to 50,694 detainees, including 1,261 newly registered and 3,181 monitored individually (197 women and 563 minors) in 55 places of detention
- 968 detainees received ICRC-funded visits from family members
- 6,629 RCMs collected from and 5,815 delivered to detainees

Supporting the authorities in improving conditions

The ICRC supported the prison authorities' efforts to improve health care, sanitation and material conditions in detention facilities. It provided 50% of the necessary essential medicines, basic equipment and 50% of soap requirements and participated in a joint working group convened monthly, comprising medical officers from the Prison Department and Ministry of Health officials. The working group mobilized public-health actors and advocated changes in the prison health-care system.

During a meeting in March, the director-general of prisons and the head of the government's national tuberculosis programme committed themselves to including prisons in the programme in an effort to combat the epidemic. The ICRC, under the umbrella of the working group, then developed educational material specifically designed for prisons, emphasizing early diagnosis and prompt treatment.

To improve living conditions for detainees, the ICRC:

- completed projects in 2 prisons to improve the quantity and quality of the water supply: both the ICRC and the Prison Department contributed resources to the projects;
- completed several infrastructure projects in 3 major prisons, including one to separate minors from adult detainees: the young detainees benefited from improved sanitation, classrooms, a small dispensary and a covered area in which to eat;
- rehabilitated a dispensary in the female wing of one of the central prisons, and in another prison enlarged the section of the female wing that accommodated mothers and their infants.

Training

The Prison Department continued to invite the ICRC to give lectures to prison staff attending internal training courses. Six such sessions enabled more than 200 prison staff to become better acquainted with the ICRC's working methods and internationally recognized prison standards. Furthermore, the ICRC sponsored for the first time the participation of officials of the Myanmar Prison Department in the annual Asian Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrators, held in the Republic of Korea in September.

WOUNDED AND SICK

ICRC health teams visited hospitals in accessible areas along the border with Thailand where insecurity and armed conflict continued. The organization covered the cost of treating people with war-related injuries.

On two visits to Myanmar, the ICRC's chief surgeon organized war-surgery seminars for 90 military and civilian surgeons, with emphasis on amputation techniques, and gave presentations on war surgery at an annual military medical conference. He also operated on injured patients alongside Myanmar surgeons and gave lectures to medical staff. After his visits, the ICRC

donated surgical and amputation instruments to two of the hospitals in which he had worked.

The ICRC kept up its support to hospitals rehabilitated in 2004, with the aim of ensuring the sustainability of its assistance projects through maintenance and the continuous training of local staff. The training sessions included instruction in waste-management in order to decrease the risk of contamination within the hospital and in the surrounding community.

The ICRC also rehabilitated five health structures with inpatient facilities (16 to 25 beds each) in Kayin and Shan states. It improved the water supply, sanitation, electricity supply and operating facilities and donated surgical materials.

- ▶ 3 hospitals supported
- ▶ 6 health facilities supported
- ▶ surgery costs of 12 war-wounded patients covered

Physical rehabilitation

In conjunction with the National Society, the ICRC continued to run the Hpa-an physical rehabilitation centre. In addition, it supported the other six prosthetic/orthotic facilities in the country, run by the Ministries of Health and Defence. The ICRC either supplemented the wages of the staff or provided incentives based on productivity.

In Shan state, the Ministry of Defence inaugurated a new prosthetic unit at Aung Ban No. 2 military hospital. The ICRC decided to support the unit to help meet the needs of amputees in north-eastern Myanmar. It secured the agreement of the Ministry's medical services for the facility to admit civilian patients with war-related injuries for prosthetic fittings.

The ICRC and the National Society continued to run an outreach programme to identify, transport and accommodate vulnerable amputees, particularly those in remote border areas, and to provide them with free physical rehabilitation services at ICRC-supported centres.

The ICRC continued to subsidize the training of three Myanmar technicians at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics. Furthermore, it organized a two-day seminar in Yangon, bringing together the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Health and the National Society, with the aim of stimulating interaction between them and eventually creating a technical coordinating body for physical rehabilitation.

- ▶ 7 centres supported or run directly by the ICRC
- ▶ 3,612 patients received services at the centres (including 3,246 amputees)
- ▶ 1,129 new patients fitted with prostheses and 125 with orthoses
- ▶ 2,181 prostheses (1,532 for mine victims), 193 orthoses and 2,544 crutches delivered
- ▶ 800 patients benefited from the outreach prosthetic programme

AUTHORITIES

Following the changes within the ruling SPDC in late 2004, exchanges with the authorities were predominantly concerned with establishing new relationships and ensuring the continuity of existing activities and openings for dialogue.

For the first time, the ICRC was able to brief the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Supreme Court on its legal advisory service and was invited to submit a model Geneva Conventions Act to the government for consideration.

- ▶ 4 representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Education attended the South Asian Teaching Session on IHL and Refugee Law, held in India (see *New Delhi*)
- ▶ 15 government officials from the same ministries and the Supreme Court started a one-year distance-learning postgraduate diploma in IHL from the University of Law in Hyderabad, India
- ▶ the director of the legal division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the launch of the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law in New Delhi (see *New Delhi*)

Contact was maintained with leaders of Karen and Karenni opposition groups in Thailand on issues pertaining to the ICRC's role and IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC held dissemination sessions at field level and sent two high-ranking officers on an IHL course in San Remo. This was the first time the government had accepted such an invitation since 2001.

Regular contact was maintained with representatives of insurgent groups in Thailand and with several armed ceasefire groups present in areas where the ICRC carried out activities for civilians. This contact aimed to secure respect for the ICRC's standard working methods and for the security of its teams during field activities and facilitated discussions on IHL-related matters, such as the protection of civilians living in the areas where the groups were operating.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Two national newspapers occasionally reported on ICRC and Movement activities in different parts of the world. The delegation produced fact sheets and brochures in the Burmese, Karen and Shan languages and translated films and publications into these languages to increase awareness of the ICRC's activities, principles and history among the general public.

Contacts were developed with various community and religious leaders, in particular in conflict-affected areas where the ICRC was operating, in order to assess the humanitarian situation and to raise awareness of the scope and limits of ICRC action.

Law studies in Myanmar, including in military academies, were coordinated by the Yangon University law department, with which the ICRC had regular contact. IHL was taught in the final year of undergraduate studies in law and was also a compulsory component of postgraduate studies in international law. The ICRC held a two-day workshop on IHL teaching methodology for 30 university lecturers and tutors from university law and international relations departments.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Myanmar Red Cross Society covered the entire country with a network of branches in all 17 states and divisions and in all 326 townships. While there were no paid staff in any of these branches, the National Society could count on some 300,000 volunteers.

The National Society remained an important operational partner for the ICRC, in particular in the collection and distribution of RCMs and the referral of vulnerable amputees from remote areas to ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres.

Through material and financial support and technical assistance for training sessions, the ICRC, in close collaboration with the International Federation, supported the National Society's efforts to build its capacities in the areas of conflict preparedness, tracing, dissemination and mine-risk education.

The ICRC:

- financially supported 5 eleven-day courses on community-based first aid for 175 volunteers, and 4 six-day courses on disaster assessment and response for 210 volunteers; provided first-aid teaching kits to 25 township branches;
- following a series of bomb blasts in Yangon, conducted first-aid training for the National Society on mass-casualty management;
- trained 900 volunteers during 15 field visits;
- financed 10 three-day dissemination training courses at township level in 6 different states for 265 volunteers and police officers.



nepal

The ICRC initially worked in Nepal out of its regional delegation in New Delhi, opening a delegation in Kathmandu in 2001. Its primary aim in Nepal is to protect and assist people affected by the struggle between the government and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist. It does so by serving as a neutral intermediary between the parties, visiting detainees, strengthening compliance with IHL and improving care of the wounded. It works closely with the Nepal Red Cross Society to assist conflict-affected populations, including displaced people, and to maintain family links.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	4,983
Assistance	2,013
Prevention	1,068
Cooperation with National Societies	1,188
General	-

► **9,252**

of which: Overheads 565

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94.1%
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PERSONNEL

39 expatriates
89 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- visited people held by the government in detention facilities around the country, registering 1,492 detainees and improving water quality in 18 prisons; also registered 116 people held by the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist and facilitated the release/handover of 99 people captured by the Maoist movement;
- monitored the conditions of civilians in conflict-affected areas and made numerous representations to remind both parties of their obligation under IHL to protect civilians;
- rehabilitated the water-supply systems in 17 villages in the Mid-Western Region;
- in cooperation with the Nepal Red Cross Society, provided relief supplies for nearly 8,700 victims of conflict (including displaced people and families whose breadwinners had died, disappeared or been detained);
- with the help of Red Cross volunteers, relayed more than 3,000 RCMs, mainly between detainees and their families.

CONTEXT

On 1 February 2005, His Majesty King Gyanendra dismissed the government and declared a state of emergency. Several hundred party activists were arrested, and the media was restricted. India, the United Kingdom and the United States suspended military aid, and several development agencies cut off support to the government. King Gyanendra lifted the state of emergency after three months, but continued to exercise executive authority and kept some restrictions in place. During the year, the High Commissioner for Human Rights opened offices in Nepal and began to monitor human rights there.

The Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) called many general strikes (*bandhs*), and there were frequent clashes between government and Maoist forces, especially in western areas. In some places, "village defence committees" were established. In February, in the Kapilbastu district, these vigilante groups were implicated in rampages which ended in the deaths of 30 people. There were attacks on government buildings and acts of retaliation in areas of the east that had not previously been affected by such violence. In response, new army outposts were set up in the Terai, the fertile plain bordering India.

In June, a civilian bus was blown up in Madi/Chitwan, killing and wounding many civilian passengers. Maoist leader Chairman Prachanda apologised for the incident and promised an inquiry, later announcing that those responsible had been detained. However, within a few days of the attack,

another attack took place on a civilian bus in Kavrepalanchok, killing and injuring both soldiers and civilians.

On 3 September, the CPN-M unilaterally declared a three-month ceasefire, and later extended it for another month. During this period, it concluded a 12-point understanding with an alliance of seven political parties, which included a call for the election of a constituent assembly, under international supervision. The CPN-M and the political parties agreed to work to end what they called autocratic monarchy, to accept the result of multiparty elections and to boycott the elections in 2006 and early 2007. The palace did not reciprocate the ceasefire and refused to discuss it. The parties responded by organizing protests in the capital and in the districts.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	8,456	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2,426	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	8,694
Number of visits carried out	408	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	2,909
Number of places of detention visited	247	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	52
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Hospitals supported	Structures	7
RCMs collected	1,670	Admissions	Patients	327
RCMs distributed	1,429	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Patients receiving services	Patients	1,010
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	907	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	131
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	838	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	13
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	792			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	21			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	1			
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	41			

ICRC ACTION

Protection activities remained the focus of ICRC operations in Nepal. The organization's 13 field teams worked out of offices in Kathmandu, Nepalganj and Biratnagar; they travelled in all parts of the country and had few problems with security. Making long trips over rough terrain, often on foot, multidisciplinary teams maintained a steady presence in the isolated regions where people were most affected by the conflict. They monitored civilian safety and wellbeing, assessing security conditions, the local economy, and access to clean water and health care. On the basis of their findings, they contacted the authorities and leaders of both sides to urge them to take measures to protect civilians and ensure adequate living conditions. If needed, they also initiated assistance activities. Often implemented in cooperation with the Nepalese Red Cross Society, this assistance helped improve medical care and rehabilitation for the war-wounded, upgrade water supply in remote villages and provide basic necessities to families affected by the conflict.

Both the government and the CPN-M accepted the ICRC's neutrality and role and showed willingness to engage in discussion on concerns raised by the organization and to answer some of the questions posed in its reports.

The ICRC visited people detained in connection with the conflict in jails, police stations and military facilities. The visits went smoothly in jails and police stations run by the Home Ministry. In contrast, ICRC teams encountered problems during visits

to camps and barracks under the authority of the Royal Nepalese Army (RNA). In April, the ICRC suspended its visits to these military facilities. The RNA and the ICRC then created a high-level working group to serve as a forum to discuss solutions to the problems. By the end of the year, the working group had taken measures to address some of the issues raised by the ICRC, and the ICRC hoped that its visits to detainees in army custody could soon be resumed on a sounder basis.

The ICRC met members of the CPN-M leadership at district and regional levels and submitted reports on the conduct of hostilities and the obligation to respect and protect civilians and detainees. It also visited and registered some of the people in the CPN-M's custody and facilitated releases of detainees when they occurred. However, it had difficulty establishing the high-level and sustained dialogue needed to conduct visits or address issues of civilian protection more systematically.

The ICRC and the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal established a sustained dialogue in order to coordinate their activities in the areas of shared concern.

CIVILIANS

Threats to civilian security and livelihood

The Informal Sector Service Centre reported about 1,000 deaths related to the conflict in 2005, a lower figure than in 2004. As in previous years, most of those killed were

civilians; some were caught in crossfire, others targeted. In areas that were contested (in the countryside outside the headquarters of the districts most affected), civilians were trapped between the demands of the opposing sides, frequently forced to cooperate by one and then punished for collaboration by the other. Summary executions and other violations of IHL were commonplace, and many people remained unaccounted for. Several attacks in the Mid-Western Region hit electricity distribution centres, causing power cuts. Trade and travel (including for the temporary labour migration on which many impoverished families relied) were threatened by restrictions on movement imposed by both sides, as well as by violence on the roads. General strikes often interrupted economic and other activities.

ICRC teams travelled to areas in which these problems were reported, collecting allegations of violations of IHL and assessing the impact of the conflict on civilian activity. After discussing the information gathered with those concerned at the local level, it analysed trends and reported them to both parties, making recommendations to address them. Although the rate of incidents reported decreased in the last quarter of the year, even during the period of the ceasefire they were still frequent and serious.

Families displaced or otherwise affected by the conflict

In general, it was still difficult to distinguish those fleeing violence from wage-earners seeking temporary work in India or more wealthy districts of Nepal. In Banke, Surkhet and Dailekh (Mid-Western Region), there

were camps where several hundred displaced families stayed, but often civilians fled when hostilities flared up and returned home when it seemed safe again. After violence broke out in Kapilbastu (Western Region), thousands were reported to have fled, at least temporarily, to India. During the unilateral ceasefire, no new displacements were registered.

Working with the Nepalese Red Cross, the ICRC distributed essential household items to families affected by the conflict. These included displaced people and families who had lost property or whose breadwinners had been killed, disabled or detained. Beneficiaries included 484 families affected by violence in Kapilbastu.

- 8,694 people affected by conflict received essential household items

Recruitment of minors

In some areas, particularly in Taplejung district (Eastern Region), school-age children were abducted or recruited in connection with CPN-M activities. Those subsequently captured and released by the government often encountered threats to their safety when they returned to their villages, and the government had no reintegration programme for them. The ICRC continued to work closely with NGOs caring for children until they could return home safely. It transferred 17 newly released children to shelters in Kathmandu, helping them keep in touch with their families by means of RCMs and arranging for relatives to visit them. It also checked on released children after they had returned to their villages, to make sure that they were safe.

Degradation of water and sanitation facilities in isolated villages

Villagers in areas no longer reached by government services usually did not know how to maintain their water-supply systems, and even if they did, they were often unable to travel to and from the district headquarters to obtain the supplies or spare parts needed.

In an assessment of the water supply in the mountainous district of Jumla (Mid-Western Region), one of the areas worst affected by the conflict, the ICRC found broken pipes and leaking tanks in the systems supplying water in 13 villages. In collaboration with the local Red Cross chapter, the delegation began a project to upgrade the water schemes. Red Cross volunteers were trained and they began to transport materials (such as pipes, cement, fittings and tools) to the villages, train local caretakers and supervise repairs. The road network in the area was so poor

that materials had to be transported first by helicopter and then carried for a day or two by mules and porters. Communities voluntarily dug the trenches and laid pipes. Many more villages applied for such repairs, but because of the harsh weather, the ICRC was only able to begin in four more villages before the end of the year. By that time, it had begun projects aiming to improve the water supply for over 10,000 people. It had also conducted technical assessments and consulted the CPN-M and villagers to plan for a further expansion of the programme, particularly in the Taplejung district (Eastern Region).

Tracing missing persons

Many people remained unaccounted for in connection with the armed conflict. The lack of systematic notification of arrests left many families wondering if their arrested relatives were still alive. The ICRC collected allegations of arrest from families, cross-checked them with records of detainees it had visited and then submitted the names of those who were not found to the authorities/leadership concerned. Lists of such people were submitted at various levels of the RNA and the CPN-M. The Human Rights Cell of the RNA provided answers on the whereabouts of some of the missing persons whose names the ICRC had reported as part of the dialogue with the RNA established through the working group (see *People deprived of their freedom*). They also gave notification of persons arrested, which allowed the ICRC to inform the families. The CPN-M provided few answers concerning people who had gone missing or were alleged to have been arrested.

- 907 cases of people sought by their families newly registered, of which 93 are women and 53 were minors at the time of their disappearance
- 838 cases solved and 792 cases still being handled by the end of 2005, of which 69 are women and 72 were minors at the time of their disappearance
- 726 RCMs collected and 931 distributed to civilians

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in government custody

The ICRC continued to visit people arrested in connection with the conflict and held in jails and police stations. These included some 200 people arrested by the Nepal Police and the Armed Police Force (APF) during the state of emergency, among them several prominent activists and political

leaders. The ICRC followed its standard working procedures when visiting these and most other detainees held by the Home Ministry in jails and police stations.

The ICRC visited detainees in 20 jails located around the country. Most were overcrowded, and the ICRC worked with the penitentiary authorities to make technical assessments and upgrade facilities in 18 jails by improving water supply and access, latrines, showers and kitchen equipment. This enhanced health conditions for all the inmates of these jails, not just those that the ICRC visited individually. The ICRC met the Prison Management Department to gain a broader perspective of the problems in prisons and the challenges facing the authorities and worked with them to find constructive short- and long-term solutions.

In the first months of the year, the ICRC visited detainees held by the RNA. While visiting army facilities, it regularly encountered problems that left it unable to work effectively. These problems were discussed in a meeting with King Gyanendra and the army chief of staff in March. In April, the ICRC suspended visits to army facilities. A joint working group was set up with the RNA to discuss the ICRC's concerns and find practical solutions that would permit the ICRC to resume visits on a sounder basis. By the end of the year, the working group had taken some measures to improve notification of arrest and detention, and the delegation hoped that its visits to detainees in army custody could soon be resumed.

- 8,298 detainees visited, of whom 2,309 followed individually (including 253 women and 161 minors; 1,492 newly registered)
- 391 visits carried out to 232 places of detention
- 942 RCMs collected from and 497 delivered to detainees
- the families of 72 detainees received help to visit their detained relatives
- over 2,900 detainees benefited from improved water and sanitation facilities

People held by the CPN-M

The ICRC registered and visited people detained by the CPN-M. The CPN-M released a total of 99 people, and the ICRC mediated their handover to the government and ensured their safe passage home in long journeys by foot, car and/or aircraft.

- 158 detainees visited, of whom 117 followed individually (including 4 women and 2 minors; 116 newly registered)

- 17 visits carried out to 15 places of detention
- 2 RCMs collected from detainees and 1 delivered to a detainee

WOUNDED AND SICK

Medical care for the war-wounded

In 2005, the ICRC followed cases of war-wounded patients in hospitals in Nepal. To improve the quality of their care, it donated medical supplies to seven hospitals treating the war-wounded, gave bed-side teaching on the care of the war-wounded, conducted emergency first-aid training for paramedical staff in the field and participated in two related professional conferences. It also made care more accessible and affordable for 235 war-wounded patients by covering the cost of their transport to medical facilities or of medical expenses that were not otherwise reimbursed.

Rehabilitation for the disabled

In a programme that began in 2004 in Pokhara, the ICRC continued to help the Green Pastures Hospital further develop its rehabilitation services for amputees. As part of an outreach programme, branches of the Nepal Red Cross Society registered amputees in 41 districts. People injured in the conflict accounted for 17% of those registered. To avoid disrupting the centre's cost-recovery mechanisms, the ICRC revised its policy of providing all prostheses free of charge: it continued to reimburse the full cost of fitting amputees wounded in the conflict, but for others it based its reimbursement on financial need.

- 953 people received rehabilitation services, of whom 258 amputees
- 123 new patients fitted with prostheses and 13 with orthoses
- 131 prostheses, 13 orthoses and 57 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC's efforts to encourage the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments were slowed down by changes in the government. Legal officers from the Ministry of Law and Justice attended the regional IHL teaching session organized by the ICRC, the UNHCR and India University in Bangalore, and two senior government officials participated in the regional conference to launch the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law in New Delhi (see *New Delhi*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Army

The Royal Nepalese Army had issued a directive in 2004 that IHL be included in all formal training. In 2005, the ICRC worked with the new director of military training to identify the steps and approaches needed for implementation and to garner the top-level support needed for the process. They made plans to work together to develop IHL manuals and materials, and the RNA considered the formation of an IHL training cell within its Human Rights Cell. The ICRC taught the basics of IHL to nearly 4,400 soldiers in 40 presentations held in barracks, and gave a three-day course on IHL at the RNA Command and Staff College at Shivapuri.

Police forces

In 2005, personnel from the Nepal Police and the Armed Police Force were deployed to combat the Maoist insurgency under the operational command of the RNA. Recognizing the need for a solid grounding in their obligations under IHL and human rights law, both forces progressed in integrating the subjects into their standard training programmes, but they were constrained by a shortage of qualified instructors and a lack of teaching tools. The ICRC trained IHL/human rights law instructors from the Nepal Police, and conducted IHL courses for personnel from both forces.

The People's Liberation Army

Although the People's Liberation Army (PLA) indicated an interest in learning more about IHL/human rights law, the ICRC had difficulty maintaining the direct contact with its leadership needed for the planning and organization of a formal and systematic programme of instruction. Delegates did, however, meet PLA groups in the field and organized sessions with them on IHL and human rights when they had the chance.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC helped the Kathmandu School of Law develop a one-year postgraduate course on IHL/human rights law and conflict management, donated a collection of IHL books to the law library and conducted a one-day training seminar on IHL for teachers and students. It also cooperated with the School of Law to organize an IHL moot-court competition at national level, and then sponsored the winning team's participation in the regional competition in New Delhi.

The ICRC cooperated with the Nepal Bar Association to organize IHL courses around the country for over 300 lawyers. It also worked with the Federation of Nepalese Journalists to introduce IHL to the media and made presentations on the subject to nearly 200 representatives of non-government and human rights organizations.

The delegation issued press releases and produced publications and radio spots to inform the public about humanitarian issues and ICRC activities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Strengthening neutrality and independence

Since the onset of the conflict, attacks on Nepalese Red Cross staff, volunteers and property have limited the National Society's ability to work in the areas most affected by fighting. The Nepalese Red Cross worked closely with the ICRC to raise its membership's awareness of the conflict's implications for the National Society's image and effectiveness, and attacks decreased in 2005. With advice and support from the ICRC, the National Society continued its efforts to reinforce a growing confidence in its neutrality and independence: these included adopting a Conflict Preparedness and Response Policy, adapting its Code of Conduct to the conflict environment and distributing identity cards.

First-aid training

The National Society, with ICRC support, trained some 500 volunteers to help it better respond to the needs of communities affected by the conflict. Volunteers administered first aid in over 2,000 cases.

Family links and IHL promotion

With support from the ICRC, Red Cross branches distributed RCMs in all 75 districts of the country. Promotion by the National Society of IHL and the Fundamental Principles reached some 11,000 people in 35 districts. The ICRC trained 15 dissemination officers and gave presentations on IHL to Red Cross volunteers.

Mine action

With technical and financial assistance from the ICRC, Nepalese Red Cross youth volunteers conducted mine-risk education for more than 4,200 people, mostly students.



pakistan

The ICRC began working in Pakistan in 1981 to assist victims of conflict in Afghanistan. Now focusing on the situation within Pakistan, its activities include: visiting detainees transferred from Afghanistan or the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, and seeking access to other security detainees; improving care of the war-wounded and the disabled; promoting compliance with IHL among military forces; fostering a dialogue with the authorities, Islamic scholars and the media on issues related to IHL; and helping the Pakistan Red Crescent Society improve its capacity to respond to conflict. The ICRC also assists earthquake victims in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	2,420
Assistance	55,192
Prevention	1,254
Cooperation with National Societies	836
General	35

► **59,737**

of which: Overheads **3,137**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	96.3%
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PERSONNEL

51 expatriates
179 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- launched a major operation to deliver over 6,000 tonnes of relief, distributing essential goods to over 371,000 people in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and corrugated sheeting for shelter to 35,000; also provided hospital and primary-health-care services to thousands of people affected by the disaster;
- continued to visit detainees transferred to Pakistan from Afghanistan and the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station and discussed the ICRC's detention-related activities in Pakistan with the country's highest authorities;
- helped families living in isolated areas of Pakistan learn the fate of relatives who had died in Afghanistan in 2001;
- facilitated access to rehabilitation services for disabled people living in isolated areas of North-West Frontier Province, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Baluchistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir;
- engaged in dialogue with academic and Islamic circles, gave lectures on IHL to students of leading religious institutes (*madaris*) and worked towards an agreement with the International Islamic University in Islamabad on introducing IHL in its curriculum.

CONTEXT

Relations between Pakistan and India evolved during the year as a “composite dialogue” developed at different levels in a variety of domains. Both governments agreed on confidence-building measures to facilitate economic exchange and other forms of “people-to-people” contact between Indians and Pakistanis, reopening long-closed roads, railways and sea routes and revising banking policies. A hotline was set up to enable the two nuclear neighbours to notify each other of missile tests, and both India and Pakistan pledged to take measures facilitating prisoner release. The ceasefire declared at the end of 2003 held all year, leaving areas near the Line of Control (LoC) free of the crossfire that had long compromised security and trade there.

In efforts to combat acts of terrorism, Pakistan conducted military and security operations to hunt out militant outfits around the country. In the wake of the London suicide bombings in July, 700 people were arrested. Military operations targeting foreign fighters, initiated in 2004, continued in South Waziristan, but were scaled back after February when the government signed the Sararogha peace pact with tribal leaders. In the second half of the year, government forces conducted similar operations against foreign elements in North Waziristan, sometimes facing stiff local resistance.

In Baluchistan, government forces clashed with groups demanding autonomy and redistribution of revenues from the exploitation of the province's natural resources. Clashes were most intense around Dera Bugti, the site of Pakistan's largest gas reserves.

In several areas, sectarian tensions triggered attacks on mosques and shrines.

On 8 October, the most severe earthquake ever to hit Pakistan devastated large areas in the north, killing tens of thousands of people and leaving nearly 3.5 million homeless. Entire villages were flattened, and water and electricity networks, roads, schools and health facilities suffered massive damage. After the earthquake, Pakistan and India permitted small-scale cross-border movements and the transport of humanitarian aid through check posts along the LoC.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	319	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	272	Food	Beneficiaries	218,949
Number of visits carried out	15	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	371,065
Number of places of detention visited	4	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	13,400
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	35,784
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Health</i>		
RCMs collected	914	Health centres supported	Structures	5
RCMs distributed	1,032	Consultations	Patients	16,143
People reunited with their families	4	Immunizations	Activities	5,206
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	374	Hospitals supported	Structures	13
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	29	Admissions	Patients	952
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	365	Operations	Operations performed	700
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	150	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,897
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	4	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	301
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	84	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	437
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	10			

ICRC ACTION

Throughout the year, the ICRC continued its activities for people affected by conflict. It visited detainees who had been transferred to Pakistan from Afghanistan or the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, where they had been held in connection with the 2001 conflict in Afghanistan. After their release, the delegation checked on their well-being at home. Through a dialogue with the authorities, which included a meeting in October between its president and President Musharraf, the ICRC sought access to other categories of security detainees.

Although it had no direct access to the areas in Waziristan where military operations were under way, the ICRC helped cover the medical costs of people injured there in fighting and transferred elsewhere for medical care. In other areas along the Afghan border, it improved refugees' access to physical rehabilitation services, delivered RCMs and helped families confirm the fate of relatives who had been killed in Afghanistan in 2001.

The ICRC monitored the conditions of people who had been affected by pre-ceasefire crossfire at the LoC, maintaining small-scale assistance to displaced persons, returnees and amputees. It closely followed developments in Baluchistan.

From its logistic base in Peshawar, the delegation also supported ICRC operations in Afghanistan. Aircraft based there kept up

regular flights transporting Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and other humanitarian workers to and from major cities in Afghanistan.

With a delegation in Islamabad, an office in Muzaffarabad and a logistic centre in Peshawar already in place, the ICRC was able to react quickly when the earthquake struck in northern Pakistan in October. In less than a week, it had begun distributing relief, evacuating the wounded and helping survivors contact their families. On 21 October, it opened a 100-bed field hospital in Muzaffarabad. It also set up basic health units in areas cut off by road damage. The ICRC and the International Federation established a joint logistic hub in Islamabad and Mansehra and agreed on the division of responsibilities: the ICRC coordinated operations in affected areas of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, while the International Federation covered those in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP). Mobilizing experienced staff, materials and vehicles from delegations in the region and beyond, as well as from a number of internationally active National Societies, the ICRC rapidly built up relief deliveries and medical care in the Neelum and Jhelum valleys. Under the harsh weather conditions, it took as many as 10 helicopters and some 200 vehicles to cover this large and rugged area. The ICRC worked with the Pakistani Red Crescent to distribute the relief, and coordinated with other agencies involved both at ground level and in Islamabad. The ICRC was designated by the Pakistani authorities as lead agency among

the organizations registering unaccompanied children.

CIVILIANS

Assisting the displaced

To escape the sporadic crossfire at the LoC, several thousand people had sought shelter in valleys in the Northern Areas (Skardu) and Pakistan-administered Kashmir (Muzaffarabad) between 1999 and 2003. Many returned to their villages in 2004 after the ceasefire improved security there, but some could not go home because their villages had been destroyed, contaminated by mines or cordoned off as military zones. The ICRC improved the water supply for some 400 IDPs still in camps and helped them approach the authorities about other needs.

Tracing the missing and helping maintain family links

The ICRC continued to help Afghan refugees maintain contacts with family members via the tracing and RCM network and issued travel documents for refugees travelling to countries that had granted them asylum. Most of the RCMs relayed were between detainees held in Guantanamo Bay, Pakistan or Afghanistan and their families. Refugees living in camps near the border had already found other ways of communicating with family members in Afghanistan, so few used the RCM network for that purpose. In 2005, the ICRC informed 38 families in Pakistan of the fate of their relatives who died in fighting in Afghanistan in 2001.

The ICRC and the Pakistani Red Crescent also worked together to help earthquake survivors contact relatives. To begin with, field teams provided a phone service in remote villages when carrying out needs assessments; they soon began relaying messages and helping locate relatives of people who had been evacuated or had migrated to urban areas. A website was set up to record the names of people seeking or being sought by their relatives.

The Pakistani Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education designated the ICRC as the lead agency for registering unaccompanied children in order to find and reunite them with their families.

- ▶ 898 RCMs collected from civilians and 980 distributed to them
- ▶ 374 new cases opened of people sought by their relatives, of whom 99 were women and 113 were minors
- ▶ 29 people sought by their families were located; 365 cases were still pending at the end of 2005
- ▶ 150 unaccompanied children registered; 65 reunited with their relatives and 84 cases still pending at the end of the year
- ▶ 1,884 phone calls were made by earthquake survivors to relatives
- ▶ 722 names recorded on the ICRC family-links website to re-establish family links after earthquake

Assisting earthquake survivors

In coordination with the authorities and humanitarian organizations present, the ICRC initially planned to assist 150,000 earthquake survivors. When the extent of the disaster became clear, it extended its assistance programme, which focused on areas around the Neelum and Jhelum valleys in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. Half of the people who received ICRC relief lived in places that could only be reached by helicopter. Because they took up less room in helicopters and could be used with materials salvaged from destroyed houses to create better winter shelter, the ICRC chose to provide tarpaulins rather than tents, delivering them along with blankets as a first priority. It then distributed half-rations of rice, pulses, ghee, sugar, salt and tea, as well as clothing, jerrycans and kitchen sets. When it became clear that more materials were needed to provide sufficient shelter in winter, the ICRC airlifted corrugated iron sheeting, ropes, nails and tools for people living at altitudes above 1,200 metres, and hired carpenters to build shelters for people such as widows, the elderly, or the disabled who could not do the

work themselves. The ICRC also repaired water systems in urban centres and in towns or villages where it had set up basic health care units.

- ▶ distributed over 6,000 tonnes of assistance, providing essential goods to over 317,000 people, food to nearly 219,000 and corrugated sheeting to over 35,000
- ▶ 13,400 people had their water supply improved by projects completed, and projects were ongoing for 6,000 more

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

At the end of 2004, 500 people previously held in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay were repatriated and put in preventive detention in Pakistan for security screening. The ICRC had free access to them and was able to carry out visits in accordance with its standard procedures. Following the release of more than 200 of the detainees, ICRC field staff checked on their well-being at home and provided them when necessary with assistance or help in getting medical care. It also visited those kept in custody in jails in the Punjab and NWFP, distributing some assistance. The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the detaining authorities in order to gain access to other categories of security detainees.

- ▶ 319 people visited (272 monitored individually, none newly registered) during 15 visits to 4 places of detention
- ▶ 16 RCMs collected from detainees and 52 distributed to them
- ▶ 229 released detainees checked on at home; 112 of them assisted

WOUNDED AND SICK

Medical services for the war-wounded

The ICRC continued to reimburse the costs of medical care and transport for people injured in fighting, assisting 288 patients treated in surgical facilities in Peshawar or Quetta. It also reimbursed the costs of medical treatment of Afghan refugees in the camps it visited and of the detainees who had been released (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

As it was unable to assess medical facilities in areas of Waziristan where military operations were under way, the ICRC made plans to assist two hospitals in Bannu and Tank that served as first relay stations for patients injured in clashes in North and South Waziristan.

Medical services for earthquake survivors

With the support of the Norwegian, Finnish, German and Japanese Red Cross Societies, the ICRC started evacuating the wounded within days of the earthquake and deployed first-aid/triage teams in areas where there were many injured people. On 21 October, it opened a general referral field hospital in Muzaffarabad, and soon increased the hospital's capacity from 100 to 130 beds to accommodate an influx of patients, mostly women and children. It also set up basic health care units in Muzaffarabad, Pattika and Chinari to supply services no longer available because health facilities had been destroyed. Initially, the units mostly treated earthquake injuries but soon shifted to providing standard primary health care, such as immunization, maternity care and hygiene promotion, and organizing outreach activities in nearby villages. The ICRC also set up a mother and child health unit in Cham (Jhelum valley).

- ▶ 700 people given urgent care via medical evacuations
- ▶ 1,245 people treated by temporary first-aid/triage teams
- ▶ over 750 patients admitted to the ICRC field hospital and 700 operations performed
- ▶ 15,547 curative (about half to women) and 596 maternal consultations, and 5,206 immunizations given in basic health units

Rehabilitation for the disabled

In isolated areas bordering Afghanistan and India, the ICRC helped improve access to rehabilitation services for disabled people who could neither reach centres that were located in cities nor pay for their services. In Baluchistan, it helped one hospital reorganize and upgrade its rehabilitation services. Owing to security constraints, it had to postpone plans to set up mobile units to serve Afghan refugees living in camps near the border, but it did fit 12 disabled people in one camp with orthopaedic appliances during a trial visit. In NWFP, the ICRC transported 384 people to the ICRC-run rehabilitation centre in Jalalabad (Afghanistan). Those who could not cross the border were referred to the rehabilitation centre of the Peshawar Institute of Prosthetic and Orthotic Services (PIPOS), which the ICRC reimbursed for the services provided. Late in the year, the ICRC also began providing PIPOS with materials, components and the basic equipment needed to adopt polypropylene technology. In Pakistan-administered Kashmir, the ICRC began making referrals to the Fauji Foundation Artificial Limb

Centre in Rawalpindi just before the earthquake hit. It restarted the activity in December and began training staff there in polypropylene technology.

The authorities estimated that over 1,000 survivors had been disabled as a result of the earthquake. The ICRC included earthquake victims in the referral criteria of the above-mentioned programmes and began plans to set up a new rehabilitation facility in Muzaffarabad.

- 3 physical rehabilitation facilities supported
- 1,897 patients (399 amputees) treated at ICRC-supported facilities
- 211 new patients fitted with prostheses, 374 fitted with orthoses
- 301 prostheses (216 for mine/ERW victims) and 437 orthoses (24 for mine victims) delivered
- 235 crutches and 41 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

To serve as a basis for prioritizing measures for implementing IHL, the ICRC commissioned the Pakistan Research Society of International Law (RSIL) to conduct a study comparing national legislation with the requirements of IHL treaties. The study was completed in 2005. While the official launch was postponed because of the earthquake, the RSIL, with ICRC support, organized a workshop to present its findings to officials of key ministries and departments, who showed a keen interest in drafting a Geneva Conventions Act. The ICRC also enabled representatives of key government bodies to attend IHL events abroad such as the regional launch of the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law (see *New Delhi*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Pakistani armed forces progressed in their programme to integrate IHL into the doctrine, teaching and training of all three branches. The ICRC trained IHL instructors and gave technical support to the three forces for drawing up a plan of action for 2005. The delegation also gave presentations on IHL for Frontier Corps troops deployed in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas. The relationship developed with the armed forces through these activities facilitated the close coordination with the military that helped ensure smooth functioning of the earthquake relief effort.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In order to foster exchange on the relationship between IHL and Islamic law, the delegation gave lectures on IHL-related topics in five religious schools. It also briefed journalists on its activities and issues related to IHL, and organized a presentation on IHL for the national Human Rights Commission.

The ICRC worked to enhance IHL study in universities. It held a training course at the Higher Education Commission to qualify more lecturers to teach IHL, and selected and trained another team for the Jean Pictet international moot-court competition. Karachi University began offering a course on IHL, and the ICRC supplied it with reference materials for its library.

The delegation maintained regular contact with representatives of the national and international media, giving interviews and issuing press releases. Following the earthquake, it highlighted the Movement's activities in Pakistan-administered Kashmir through extensive networking with journalists and community leaders.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Earthquake relief

After the earthquake, the Pakistani Red Crescent concentrated on assisting survivors. The ICRC supported its earthquake relief activities in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, and the International Federation supported them in NWFP. The National Society sent professional staff from the Punjab and recruited many volunteers, including some who had earlier been trained through ICRC-supported first-aid programmes. Red Crescent staff and volunteers participated in the distribution of more than half of the ICRC's earthquake relief, and the ICRC provided logistical facilities for Pakistani Red Crescent distributions.

The Movement response to the earthquake helped over a million survivors. ICRC and International Federation operations in affected areas were conducted with emergency response units and staff from over 10 National Societies; in addition, many other National Societies operated relief activities independently. In December, the Pakistani Red Crescent organized a meeting for all Movement components active in the country.

First aid and ambulance services

The Pakistani Red Crescent often deployed ambulances and first-aid workers at events around the country, and its ambulances responded to several bombings and riots. The ICRC, which had previously donated several ambulances, helped fund 55 first-aid training courses for over 1,500 participants around the country. It also agreed to support the National Society in a branch-development programme in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Restoring family links and promoting IHL

The ICRC helped fund National Society publications and programmes promoting the Fundamental Principles. It worked closely with the National Society to maintain the RCM network and helped fund its tracing department. After the earthquake, joint ICRC/Pakistani Red Crescent teams visited hospitals, camps for those displaced by the earthquake and villages in affected regions, helping survivors contact or trace relatives (see also *Civilians*).



philippines

In the Philippines, where the ICRC has been working since 1982, the delegation assists and protects civilians displaced or otherwise affected by armed clashes between the government and insurgent groups, primarily on the southern island of Mindanao. It acts as a neutral intermediary between opposing forces in humanitarian matters, visits security detainees and works with the Philippine National Red Cross, through its network of regional chapters and local branches, to assist displaced people and promote compliance with IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,642
Assistance	384
Prevention	746
Cooperation with National Societies	311
General	-

► **3,082**

of which: Overheads 188

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97.9%
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PERSONNEL

8	expatriates
61	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- increased its presence in conflict-prone areas, including Luzon and Visayas, in order to further develop its contacts and dialogue with the parties to the conflict, to monitor the situation of the civilian population and to improve its response to the needs of victims;
- conducted missions to Sulu (off-limits to the ICRC for several years for security reasons); with the National Society, provided 8,700 displaced families with food and essential household items; reminded the parties of their obligation to respect IHL and protect civilians;
- visited some 69,000 detainees, following up 593 individually and, with the National Society, enabling 210 to receive visits from family members; carried out urgent, small-scale improvements to prison infrastructure and provided medical assistance to detainees in emergency cases;
- continued activities to raise awareness of and respect for IHL among the authorities, armed forces, various armed groups and certain sectors of civil society;
- strengthened its dialogue and cooperation with the National Society at headquarters and during joint activities with chapters located in conflict areas, reinforcing the National Society's capacity to respond to emergency situations.

CONTEXT

Popular support for President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was reported to have declined significantly since her contested election in June 2004. In spite of some improvements in the macro-economic situation, the country remained heavily in debt and dependent on the remittances of its huge pool of overseas labourers. The political climate remained polarized throughout the year.

Despite the reconstitution of a peace panel with the National Democratic Front (NDF) in early 2005, there was still no sign of a solution to the armed conflict between the government and the opposition group. The New People's Army (NPA) – the armed wing of the NDF – was reported to have heightened its attacks, especially in Mindanao, Luzon and Visayas. The end of the year saw an increase in tensions.

In February, indiscriminate bombings in public places in Manila and in two key cities in Mindanao left 8 people dead and over 150 wounded.

The security situation remained tense in Mindanao's province of Sulu throughout the year, with sporadic fighting between the government armed forces and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), as well as the Abu Sayyaf Group. More than 200 fighters from each side were reported killed and thousands of civilians were displaced.

There were developments in the peace negotiations between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) during several rounds of talks held under the auspices of Malaysia and supported by the international community. The most contentious issues of governance and ancestral domain, however, remained to be settled, and further clashes between the two sides were reported.

In August, elections for the 15-year-old Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, covering five provinces, took place without violence, though observers reported voting irregularities.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	67,212	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	593	Food	Beneficiaries	56,543
Number of visits carried out	212	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	42,239
Number of places of detention visited	110	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	3,278
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Hospital supported	Structure	1
RCMs collected	8	Admissions	Patients	77
RCMs distributed	15	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
		Patients receiving services	Patients	16
		Prostheses delivered	Pieces	16

ICRC ACTION

To enable better coverage of the country in 2005, both in the south (Mindanao) and the north (Luzon and Visayas), the ICRC increased the number of delegates and national staff in the Philippines. It maintained and extended its network of government and non-governmental contacts in those regions through regular field missions to monitor the situation of the civilian population. For the first time in several years, the ICRC conducted missions to the island of Sulu, previously off-limits for security reasons, where violent clashes erupted in February and November.

The ICRC assessed the needs of thousands of displaced people in Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago. With the support of the National Society, it provided them with food and non-food assistance while ensuring proper coordination with the authorities and other humanitarian organizations. People wounded as a result of the armed conflict were assisted by the ICRC medical team directly or had the cost of their treatment elsewhere covered by the ICRC.

The ICRC developed a more operational working relationship with the Philippine National Red Cross. It held meetings to improve coordination and boost emergency-response capacities in conflict situations with the 28 National Society chapters in Mindanao.

Throughout the year, ICRC delegates carried out visits to detainees, including foreign nationals, held in connection with insurgency, secession or the global "fight against terrorism", as well as to military personnel detained in connection with the 2003 Oakwood mutiny. Delegates assessed the treatment of detainees and their conditions of detention. Vulnerable groups such as women, minors, the elderly and the sick,

including mentally ill inmates, received special attention. Where necessary, the ICRC made small-scale ad hoc improvements to prison infrastructure, such as increasing ventilation and installing bunk beds, in an attempt to alleviate the effects of severe overcrowding.

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with the armed forces and police both in the field and at headquarters and carried out activities to promote the further integration of IHL (or international human rights law in the case of the police) into training and operations. The ICRC also conducted a dissemination event for members of armed opposition groups and entered into dialogue regarding further such events in the future.

Together with the National Society and the national IHL committee, the ICRC continued to encourage the judicial and political authorities within congress, administration and departments of the government to coordinate efforts to further the national implementation of IHL instruments.

The delegation also continued to promote awareness of IHL among future decision-makers through contact with universities.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

A large proportion of the civilian population, including indigenous peoples, in rural areas of the Philippines continued to live in proximity to fighting between insurgents and security forces. The ICRC made several oral and written representations regarding alleged IHL violations to the parties responsible at local level and at the highest levels of command. In February, the delegation issued a public statement in relation to the conflict that had erupted

in Sulu, reminding all parties involved of their obligations and responsibilities under IHL. Similar statements were regularly repeated orally to various contacts and through local radio broadcasts in areas affected by clashes.

The ICRC's involvement in following up cases of missing persons was mainly concentrated in the provinces of Samar and Visayas. During various meetings and dissemination sessions, the ICRC also stressed that minors should not participate in armed conflict.

With ICRC support, the Philippine National Red Cross continued to organize basic dissemination sessions at village level with a view to reaching all actors that could have an impact on the humanitarian situation, including members of armed opposition groups. The work of the National Society complemented the ICRC's more targeted dissemination programme for armed and security forces and other weapon bearers (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

- 2 RCMs collected from and 9 distributed to civilians

Assisting the displaced

During the year, the ICRC and the National Society assisted vulnerable civilians displaced by armed conflict, providing food, essential household items and hygiene goods according to need.

The ICRC conducted four missions to the island of Sulu, following clashes between the government armed forces, the MNLF and the Abu Sayyaf Group. It provided material and technical support to the National Society in responding to the needs of IDPs; it also reminded the parties of their obligation to respect IHL and protect civilians in situations of armed conflict and during relief operations.

- some 57,000 IDPs (over 11,400 families) given food, essential household items or hygiene articles, 43,500 of whom (8,700 families) in Sulu

The difficult living conditions and the health situation of IDPs lodging either in centres or with relatives were among the concerns addressed by the ICRC. It began assessing IDP centres in Sulu and Cotabato, with a view to improving the water and sanitation infrastructure, rehabilitating local water networks, installing water tanks and generally improving water flow and quality.

Access to medical care was regularly monitored, and specific medical cases were referred to health facilities, with the treatment paid for by the ICRC.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC carried on its visits to detainees held in facilities under the responsibility of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, the provincial authorities and the Bureau of Corrections. Access to inmates held by the armed forces was, however, limited to the detention facilities in Metro Manila.

The ICRC, through the National Society, continued to facilitate family visits to detainees by covering the travel costs of close relatives.

- 212 visits carried out to 67,212 detainees, including 593 monitored individually, in 110 places of detention
- 223 detainees received family visits thanks to the assistance of the ICRC
- 6 RCMs collected from detainees and 6 delivered to them

The ICRC also kept track of members of the armed forces who fell into the hands of insurgent groups and reiterated to the chief of staff of the armed forces its offer of services as a neutral intermediary to follow up the fate of the captured soldiers.

Improving living conditions for inmates

The ICRC held regular operational meetings with the authorities to address the main shortcomings in conditions of detention and to propose solutions. It undertook emergency projects in several jails to improve either the ventilation system, waste-disposal system or access to water or to construct additional bunk beds. Furthermore, 25,831 inmates received

more than 10 tonnes of soap for personal hygiene. In specific situations, the ICRC assisted wounded or sick detainees by facilitating and paying the cost of their medical treatment, including surgical operations and the fitting of prostheses.

Further to representations by the delegation to the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology and to the city mayor regarding the overcrowding in Antipolo City Jail in Manila, an area adjacent to the prison was fenced off to create additional space both indoors and outdoors. ICRC medical staff administered scabies treatment and assessed health conditions in the prison in general. After data collection and analysis, the ICRC made recommendations to improve the inmates' nutritional status and, in a few cases, provided direct assistance. It planned to continue monitoring the detainees in 2006.

On 14 March, an escape attempt by inmates of the Metro Manila District Jail led to a confrontation which resulted in the deaths of 28 people. The ICRC provided dressing materials and medicines to 12 wounded detainees. Subsequently, it carried out a medical assessment and submitted its findings and recommendations to the authorities.

WOUNDED AND SICK

In Mindanao, the ICRC regularly provided medical assistance to victims of clashes, indiscriminate attacks or explosive devices. It sought to work increasingly with a number of specialized government agencies and health centres to make them more systematically involved in providing medical assistance, physical rehabilitation and psychological support to these victims.

During the year, the ICRC:

- covered the cost of treating 77 wounded people who required at least one major surgical procedure;
- covered the cost of delivering 16 prostheses and 24 crutches and walking sticks to amputees;
- provided equipment and supplies to medical facilities treating ICRC beneficiaries in the most vulnerable provinces of Mindanao;
- supplied selected medical facilities in Sulu regularly treating the war-wounded with materials and equipment.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC maintained its wide range of high-quality contacts with the national authorities, including the executive, judicial and legislative branches of government and the Office of the Presidential Advisor on the Peace Process. Links were also maintained with the secretariats of the Joint Monitoring Committee, the Joint Coordinating Committee of the Cessation of Hostilities, and the International Monitoring Group, stationed in Mindanao under Malaysian military command.

The government took further steps towards ratification of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its first protocol and of the 1977 Additional Protocol I.

The ICRC continued to work closely with the national IHL committee, which comprised both government and non-government members and was chaired by the Philippine National Red Cross. Ratification of the Rome Statute remained firmly on the committee's agenda, as did consideration of the various options for legislation governing the use of the emblem.

The committee organized a national consultative conference in November, which brought together over 150 representatives of the government, armed forces, civil society and the National Society. The conference urged the priority passage of IHL-related laws still pending in congress. In addition, the committee and the ICRC encouraged congress and various government departments to resume discussions on the adoption of a comprehensive IHL bill. A draft law on the repression of war crimes was forwarded to a technical working group, created by the Committee on Justice, for further study.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces

The ICRC had had well-established cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for many years, and when conflict broke out in Sulu in February, the AFP renewed its commitment to comply with IHL. In 2005, the ICRC worked to strengthen its relations with the AFP in the field. The ICRC organized a three-day IHL seminar for 20 key divisional training officers and operational commanders from the army, navy and air force units at the Southern Command. Training materials were also provided for use in the units' field training exercises.

During the year, the ICRC:

- gave IHL instruction to 175 officers taking part in the training course of the Command and General Staff College;
- enabled AFP officers to participate in an IHL course in San Remo;
- provided financial support for the AFP to produce additional copies of core printed and electronic materials on IHL;
- distributed 15 key ICRC publications to the command structures and training institutions of all three forces.

Police

The ICRC pursued its protection-related dialogue with police units in conflict-prone areas and gave field dissemination sessions on the mandates and activities of the ICRC and the National Society. It stepped up contacts with police authorities at national level and with the two institutions that shared responsibility for training police staff in international human rights law relevant to policing.

In addition, the ICRC organized:

- a five-day basic awareness course for 75 members of the regional and provincial mobile groups from throughout the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao;
- a two-day awareness-raising and needs-assessment workshop for 20 senior officers at police headquarters.

Armed groups

Establishing and maintaining a dialogue with members of armed opposition groups remained fundamental to ensuring the protection of civilians caught up in armed clashes, as well as the security and access of ICRC and the Philippine National Red

Cross staff. With ICRC support, the National Society continued to organize basic dissemination sessions at village level (see *Civilians*).

In addition, the ICRC:

- conducted an IHL awareness session for 65 members of the MILF;
- on the island of Sulu, opened a dialogue with the MNLF faction and received requests for support for training in IHL;
- where possible, sought dialogue in the field with the NPA.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The delegation continued to develop closer cooperation with, and organize briefing sessions for, NGOs and selected segments of civil society to improve understanding of and support for ICRC activities. Events included a one-day IHL seminar for 80 representatives of academia, NGOs, the media, diplomatic missions and government institutions.

The ICRC conducted the fifth and final training course in a series on IHL for 25 university lecturers in Luzon. In September, a first ever national moot-court competition was organized with the participation of eight teams from various law schools. The ICRC also sponsored the participation of two teams from the University of the Philippines in the regional IHL moot-court competition held in Hong Kong and one team in the Jean Pictet competition in France.

Editing of the *Asia-Pacific Yearbook on IHL* was under way in preparation for its publication in 2006 by the law centre of the University of the Philippines.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Philippine National Red Cross was an important partner for the ICRC in meeting the needs of people affected by conflict. The ICRC supported maintenance of the vehicle fleet in eight chapters and donated a four-wheel-drive vehicle to the Sulu chapter.

Progress was made in introducing the "Safer Access" approach in the training sessions and the preparedness measures adopted by regional disaster-response teams. A basic life-support first-aid training seminar was organized for Red Cross volunteers in Sulu.

Prior to 2005, the ICRC and Philippine National Red Cross had jointly implemented a village-level dissemination programme. In 2005, the ICRC continued to support the activity financially and technically, but it was carried out solely by the National Society.

The National Society continued to implement the ICRC programme enabling people to visit their detained relatives through 44 of its 93 chapters.

With ICRC support, the National Society continued to chair the national IHL committee.



sri lanka

The ICRC has worked in Sri Lanka since 1989. Operations currently focus on: protecting civilians from violations of IHL, including the recruitment of minors by armed groups; ensuring the safe passage of civilians into and out of the Vanni; visiting detainees; supporting military training in IHL; improving primary health care, water supply and economic security in isolated conflict-affected communities in the north and east; and helping the parties resolve the issue of missing persons. In the north and east, the ICRC also coordinates the Red Cross and Red Crescent response to the tsunami.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	6,126
Assistance	18,288
Prevention	1,426
Cooperation with National Societies	1,847
General	6

► **27,693**

of which: Overheads **1,470**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	83.1%
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PERSONNEL

73 expatriates
434 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- provided medicines and medical supplies and reinforced staff to help maintain hospital services disrupted by the tsunami;
- in transit camps for tsunami victims, delivered household necessities to almost 139,000 people, provided plastic sheeting and tents, improved water supply and helped survivors restore contact with their families;
- repaired wells, gave basic health care and provided fishing gear, seeds, fertilizers and tools to help villagers in isolated areas recover from the effects of conflict and/or the tsunami;
- visited detainees in prisons and police stations and continued to seek access to all security detainees in the LTTE's hands;
- worked to obtain the release of minors recruited by armed groups and followed up on other reported violations of IHL;
- kept up a full-time presence at crossing points, fostering economic and other types of exchange by facilitating the passage of civilians and goods into, out of or through the Vanni.

CONTEXT

Hit by the tsunami just days before the year began, Sri Lanka struggled throughout 2005 to recover from the worst natural disaster in its history. The tsunami devastated the island's eastern and southern coastal areas, killing more than 35,000 people and leaving half a million homeless. Most of the damage was in areas of the north and east where the population had not yet recovered from the destruction and isolation caused by years of conflict between the government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Large-scale emergency assistance helped keep survivors alive, provide temporary shelter and food and avoid the epidemics that often come in the wake of such a large-scale disaster. By mid-year, aid had begun shifting towards rehabilitation and reconstruction, and at year end the displaced had moved to semi-permanent housing, schools had started again, and there were still resources available to fund ongoing reconstruction.

The effectiveness of the emergency response did not, however, revive the peace process. Although the government and the LTTE cooperated to get aid through to survivors in the initial stages of the emergency, the effort to set up a joint mechanism for the distribution of assistance in the north and east met stiff political opposition and was finally abandoned. The number of ceasefire violations and political assassinations increased dramatically as the year went on. In response to the assassination of the Minister of Foreign Affairs in August, the government imposed emergency regulations for the first time since the 2002 ceasefire

agreement had been in effect. As a reaction to the assassination, the European Union imposed a travel ban on all LTTE representatives to its member countries. Tension between the LTTE and a breakaway faction led by the former LTTE military commander, Karuna, persisted, leading to more violence in the east of the country.

In November, Mahinda Rajapakse was elected president on a platform that questioned the peace process. In December, military personnel were killed and hundreds of civilians were hurt, intimidated or displaced in what were the worst ceasefire violations since the agreement went into effect. This brought the conflict's death toll for the year up to 380 people, with some 600 more wounded.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	22,430	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	435	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	138,941
Number of visits carried out	275	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	35,931
Number of places of detention visited	87	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	141,808
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	6,500
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Health</i>		
RCMs collected	62	Health centres supported	Structures	20
RCMs distributed	43	Consultations	Patients	38,627
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	200	Hospital supported	Structure	1
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	92	Admissions	Patients	3,333
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	6,128	Operations	Operations performed	546
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	12			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	106			

ICRC ACTION

When the tsunami struck, the ICRC responded immediately. Working closely with the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society and internationally active National Societies, it provided survivors in the north and east with health care, water and shelter and helped them contact their families. These activities were coordinated with the government, local authorities and other international organizations involved in tsunami relief. The ICRC coordinated some 20 Movement components working in the areas affected by the conflict (north and east), while the International Federation coordinated those working in the rest of the island. To cover the costs of the tsunami response, the ICRC extended its budget for the operation from CHF 10.7 to 33.3 million.

When the emergency was over, the ICRC turned most of its tsunami operations over to Movement partners. By mid-year, it had shifted its focus back to its ongoing activities in favour of victims of conflict, even though it retained its coordination role until the end of the year.

As violent incidents and arrests increased, the ICRC stepped up its visits to prisons and police stations and intensified its follow-up of allegations of IHL violations. It continued to request that the LTTE release recruited minors and grant the ICRC access to all security detainees in its hands. After compiling data on over 10,000 people who went missing during the conflict in the 1990s, the delegation prepared a report to seek clarification of their fate and offer recommendations for preventing further disappearances.

To help communities in the north and east recover from the effects of isolation related to conflict, the ICRC distributed seeds and tools to communities that, while far enough inland not to be directly hit, had still been hurt by the tsunami's impact on trade with coastal areas. It also helped maintain safe water supply in isolated areas that water authorities had difficulty covering, and worked with four partner National Societies to help the Sri Lankan Red Cross develop primary health services in several impoverished areas with poor access to medical care.

The delegation continued to support lawmakers' and military forces' efforts to meet their obligations under IHL. It organized a workshop on practical aspects of the implementation of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, to which Sri Lanka had acceded in 2004. The Sri Lankan army completed a five-year programme for developing its IHL training. Having given the programme financial, technical and material support, the ICRC carried out an evaluation to identify what follow-up would help sustain the training.

As the violence escalated, the ICRC made sure it had the staff, stocks and logistic capacities to respond to any new emergencies.

CIVILIANS

Civilian security and freedom of movement

In 2005, there was a marked increase in conflict-related violence, mostly in the north and east. Incidents usually targeted members of the security forces, LTTE cadres and members of the Karuna faction or

other Tamil parties, but they also often affected civilians. The recruitment of minors continued through the year. The ICRC gathered allegations of such IHL violations and transmitted information and recommendations to the authorities or groups concerned. It also systematically approached the LTTE to ask for the release of minors reported recruited, with special attention to cases under 15 years old; if release was granted, it requested a certificate to ensure the child's freedom of movement and security.

Both parties requested that the ICRC keep up its full-time presence at crossing points, facilitating passage to and from the Vanni. Opening hours were extended to allow relief goods to reach tsunami victims. Remaining steady in spite of increasing tension in the north and east, this traffic was vital to reviving the trade and other activities that helped residents in these areas recover from years of isolation created by the conflict. The ICRC's presence facilitated:

- over 8.3 million crossings by individuals;
- over 205,000 crossings by vehicles with cargo.

Although the number of vehicle crossings registered was lower than the previous year, this was because in 2005 only vehicles with cargo were counted.

The missing

After the government and LTTE had asked the ICRC to look into the matter during the fourth round of peace talks at Bangkok in January 2003, the delegation began a long process of visiting families to update and verify the data it had collected on people reported missing during over a decade of

conflict. This work was finished, and in 2005 the data collected was consolidated and analysed, providing the basis for two separate reports that the ICRC prepared for submission to the parties in 2006. Altogether listing some 10,000 missing civilians and combatants missing in action and reporting the circumstances of their disappearance and the actions the ICRC had taken on their behalf, the report requested clarification of their fate, identified ways to strengthen legislation and forensic practices and outlined other measures that could either prevent further disappearances or help surviving families cope.

In December, the ICRC organized two workshops to train army and police personnel in the recovery and treatment of human remains. It also opened new tracing requests on behalf of families looking for people who had disappeared recently and presented them to the authorities concerned.

- 200 new people sought by their families registered; 92 people located
- families sought 6,128 relatives via tracing cases still pending by end of 2005

Restoring family links

In the wake of the tsunami, the ICRC worked with the Sri Lankan Red Cross and a number of internationally active National Societies to help survivors contact families via satellite phones and a website, visiting some 340 camps to offer these services to thousands of tsunami victims. The Sri Lankan Red Cross subsequently took over unresolved cases related to the tsunami, and the ICRC returned its focus to problems related to the conflict. In December, the National Society began a long-term tracing cooperation project, supported by the ICRC and the American Red Cross and intended to strengthen its tracing activities following natural disasters or in other non-conflict situations.

- 19 RCMs collected from civilians and 34 distributed to them
- 1,087 names of people alive or missing and searched by their families posted on the "Family Links" website
- Over 1,700 survivors made use of satellite phones to contact their relatives, mainly abroad
- Mail kits (envelopes, stamps, paper and pens) distributed to some 2,400 families in the North of the country

Primary health care in isolated villages

The ICRC worked in partnership with National Societies to help the Sri Lankan Red Cross develop community-based primary health care in isolated areas of the north and east. In the Vanni, the Canadian Red Cross maintained its support to Red Cross health centres providing basic health services for a population of some 90,000 people. The programme expanded its activities in hygiene promotion. In Batticaloa, the Norwegian Red Cross trained community health promoters and community health volunteers to work in 10 villages and made plans to add 10 more. At the end of the year, volunteers were still in training in the Swedish Red Cross project covering 12 villages in Trincomalee and in the Danish Red Cross project on islands off the Jaffna peninsula.

In the wake of the tsunami, staff and volunteers of these programmes were deployed in transit camps, where they administered first aid and promoted hygiene. The ICRC also supported a Sri Lankan Red Cross mobile health team in Trincomalee that provided curative and preventive services for a population of some 25,000 people during the emergency.

- over 100,000 tsunami survivors in camps had living conditions improved through ICRC health promotion
- 4,063 patients (more than 50% of them women) treated by the mobile health team in Trincomalee
- 34,564 consultations given in 19 Red Cross health centres in the Vanni

Better water quality in the north and east

The ICRC continued to help the National Water and Sewage Development Board (NWSDB) maintain a safe water supply in the north and east. In an area where wells often dried out in the hot season and where the system for the repair of hand pumps could not cover all areas, displacement and contamination caused by the tsunami created new problems in water supply. The ICRC concentrated first on providing water and improving sanitation in shelters for over 30,000 tsunami victims in transit camps. By mid-year, its engineering staff had resumed work in rural areas affected by conflict. This involved monitoring well-water quality, building or repairing water points and training caretakers in basic maintenance. In addition, the ICRC provided the NWSDB with technical support to identify new sites for post-tsunami reconstruction and provided input on

national policy on well maintenance. In the east, the ICRC also carried out a survey of 100 hand pumps that it had built in previous years, to help determine the best way to offer further support to the NWSDB.

- 141,808 people had water quality improved
- 215 water points built/maintained and water quality monitored in 1,600 wells in the north and east; 60 wells rehabilitated and 15 water-distribution systems built in transit camps

Enhancing economic security

Homeless tsunami victims were sheltered in public buildings, often schools, then later transferred to transit camps. The government and the WFP provided them with food. The ICRC distributed tents and/or essential items such as tarpaulins, jerrycans, clothes, bedding materials, hygiene items and kitchenware. It also helped improve the livelihoods of people in 20 villages that were located in areas affected by conflict and either hit by the tsunami or suffering from its economic effects.

The ICRC also pre-positioned emergency stocks of essential household items in case of further emergencies.

- over 140,000 tsunami victims received tents and/or essential household goods
- nearly 36,000 people affected by the conflict and the tsunami benefited from agricultural or microeconomic initiatives such as distribution of seeds, fertilizers, gardening tools, or fishing equipment

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held by the government

Emergency regulations imposed in August increased the period of time people could be held in temporary places of detention. In visits to both prisons and police stations, the ICRC monitored the treatment and conditions of nearly 300 people detained by the government in connection with the conflict. It also helped pay the transport costs of relatives coming to visit them. As the mail service in prisons worked relatively well, there was little need for RCMs.

To help the authorities improve overall conditions and deal with the effects of overcrowding, the ICRC continued to visit all prisons in the country. It also supplied recreational items (indoor/outdoor games,

books, educational material) for 8,500 inmates of government-run prisons.

- 22,105 detainees visited, of whom 328 followed individually (including 18 women and 14 minors; 223 newly registered)
- 199 visits carried out to 66 places of detention
- 21 RCMs collected from detainees and 6 delivered to detainees
- the families of 124 detainees received help in covering the cost of transport to visit their detained relatives

Detainees held by the LTTE

The ICRC made regular visits to police stations and some prisons where detainees were held by the LTTE for common crimes. The LTTE had not yet authorized the ICRC to visit people detained for reasons of security. The only exception was the case of three Sri Lankan police officers held by the LTTE in Kilinochchi, for whom the ICRC organized the first visit of family members from Colombo.

The ICRC approached the Karuna faction in order to gain access to detainees in its hands. In November, it visited a detainee it had been seeking pursuant to a tracing request. Upon her release, the ICRC helped reunite her with her family.

- 325 detainees held by the LTTE visited of whom 107 followed individually (including 12 women and 6 minors; 63 newly registered)
- 76 visits carried out to 21 places of detention run by the LTTE
- 22 RCMs collected from detainees and 3 delivered to detainees
- the families of 14 detainees received help in covering the cost of transport to visit their detained relatives

WOUNDED AND SICK

Support for hospital services

In the first half of the year, the ICRC helped re-establish health services in the north and east that had been disrupted by the damage and chaos caused by the tsunami. This included providing tents for temporary health facilities, as well as improving water supply and sanitation, repairing buildings and generators, and medicines and materials for various health centres. For the hospital in Puthukkudiyirippu, in the Vanni, the ICRC, together with the German Red Cross, provided staff to help restore hospital services in which:

- 3,333 inpatients were treated;
- 36,385 outpatient consultations were made.

By mid-year, the ICRC had handed this support over to the German and Canadian Red Cross Societies. A workshop on war surgery, initially planned for autumn, was postponed until 2006.

AUTHORITIES

In 2004, Sri Lanka acceded to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols II, III and IV. In September 2005, the ICRC and the national IHL committee co-hosted a two-day workshop on the national implementation of these instruments. The workshop was attended by representatives of the armed forces and police and the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation.

The ICRC sponsored a Sri Lankan delegation comprising representatives of the three ministries concerned to participate in a meeting of national IHL committees from the Commonwealth (see *Nairobi*). It also enabled a second delegation to attend the Asian launch of the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law (see *New Delhi*) and began plans to follow it up with a national event.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces

In the final year of its five-year plan to integrate IHL into training and teaching, the Sri Lanka Army (SLA) was reaching hundreds of officers and thousands of rank and file through IHL training that it conducted independently both in the field and in its training establishments. It also trained its own IHL trainers and distributed the IHL training manual that it had produced. In July and August, a joint ICRC/SLA evaluation found that while there were minor points for improvement, army IHL training programmes were running well and officers and ranks understood and accepted IHL.

The ICRC continued to encourage the air force and navy to develop similar training programmes. It gave lectures on IHL to officers at the headquarters of both services and conducted three IHL seminars at an air force training facility in Trincomalee and two basic IHL courses for navy officers at training schools in Trincomalee and Punawa.

The ICRC gave briefings on IHL to Sri Lankan troops preparing to leave for Haiti on a peace-keeping mission and to officers deployed in the north and east. Overall, the ICRC addressed 1,252 officers of all three armed services on issues related to the ICRC's mandate and the basic tenets of IHL. In addition, it sponsored one senior officer from each service to participate in an IHL course in San Remo.

Police and security forces

The ICRC worked with the Special Task Force, the paramilitary unit of the police, to acquaint 26 instructors with human rights and humanitarian principles. In Vavuniya and Ampara, it briefed police officers on basic human rights principles.

LTTE

The ICRC made a presentation on IHL to the military wing of the LTTE in Batticaloa and Ampara and continued to explore possibilities for extending such activities.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The tsunami response was a focus of communication to the public during the year; it was conducted in accordance with a joint communication strategy formulated, under the ICRC's lead, by the Movement steering platform (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

The ICRC continued to encourage instruction and research in IHL at university level. With the University of Colombo, it co-organized the first national IHL moot-court competition. It sent the winning team to the first regional Henry Dunant moot-court competition in New Delhi, and sponsored the participation of three of the university's law lecturers in the 7th Annual South Asia Teaching Session on IHL in Bangalore (see *New Delhi*). The ICRC also gave IHL presentations to law students.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC worked closely with the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society in a number of programmes for victims of conflict and natural disaster, and the ICRC and the International Federation jointly supported the National Society's development. The ICRC funded and/or gave technical or material support to a number of the National Society's programmes, notably:

- ▶ first aid services at the crossing point into the Vanni at Omanthai;
- ▶ training in hygiene promotion for community-based health programmes (see *Civilians*);
- ▶ promotion of the Movement and IHL;
- ▶ family links (see *Civilians*).

Responding to the tsunami was a major challenge for the Sri Lankan Red Cross, and a number of its activities planned before the disaster had to be postponed.

Movement action

In an unprecedented influx of international support, more than 70 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies contributed to the Movement response to the tsunami. The Movement took on projects in both emergency relief and recovery, giving priority to the reconstruction of houses, health facilities and water schemes.

To ensure the coherence of a response of such scope and complexity, all of the Movement components involved set up a coordination framework which included a steering platform, a task force for overseeing implementation, and committees to deal with technical issues in different fields. Of the 20 National Societies with tsunami-relief operations in the country, 16 worked in the north and east. For issues of security, communication and contacts with the authorities, the ICRC assumed the lead role for Movement activities in the north and east.



ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office
ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

bangkok

Since first establishing a presence in Bangkok in 1979 to support its operation in Cambodia, the ICRC has worked to promote the ratification and implementation of humanitarian treaties and the integration of IHL into military training in all the countries covered. It strives to raise awareness of issues of humanitarian concern among all sectors of society and supports the National Societies of the region in developing their dissemination and tracing activities. The ICRC continues to visit detainees of concern in Thailand and Cambodia and to work towards protecting vulnerable population groups. The ICRC prosthetic/orthotic project in Cambodia contributes to meeting the need for affordable, good-quality prostheses.

COVERING

Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,373
Assistance	2,783
Prevention	1,325
Cooperation with National Societies	768
General	25

► **6,273**

of which: Overheads 383

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	96.7%
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PERSONNEL

18 expatriates
54 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued to visit detainees in Thailand and Cambodia;
- visited vulnerable resettled minority communities in Laos; with the National Society, constructed gravity-fed water systems and latrines in 4 resettlement villages;
- continued efforts to promote IHL in the region; held one-day seminars on the subject in Laos and Vietnam, and made progress in integrating IHL into the training of the armed forces of the same two countries, as well as into the training of the Thai security forces;
- began producing prostheses and orthoses at the Kompong Speu physical rehabilitation centre, Cambodia, which the ICRC had taken over and renovated in 2004, and welcomed the increase in financial support for the centre from the Cambodian Ministry of Health;
- continued to monitor the situation in the southern provinces of Thailand and expanded its network of contacts to raise their awareness of the organization, its mandate and activities.

CONTEXT

Violence persisted in the southern, mainly Muslim, provinces of Thailand. Bombings, shootings and armed clashes between militants and security forces had reportedly caused at least 496 deaths by the end of the year, with a further 993 people wounded. Victims of the conflict in the border areas of Myanmar continued to spill over into Thailand. No progress was reported in relation to a potential ceasefire between the Karen National Union and the government of Myanmar.

In Cambodia, the political, social and economic situation remained strained. Arrests of opposition activists increased.

Vietnam continued to integrate further into the international community and aimed to obtain a seat as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. The country's Central Highlands region attracted more development and the situation there eased. A limited number of people from minority groups returned to Vietnam from Cambodia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		WOUNDED AND SICK ²		
Detainees visited	6,318	Physical rehabilitation		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	299	Patients receiving services	Patients	7,846
Number of visits carried out	48	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	1,970
Number of places of detention visited	21	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	1,285
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications				
RCMs collected	190			
RCMs distributed	120			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	69			

1. Cambodia and Thailand
2. Cambodia only

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China reached an agreement on the opening of a regional delegation in Beijing to cover China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and Mongolia. From July onwards, therefore, the Bangkok delegation covered Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam only.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held in Cambodia and Thailand to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention and report confidentially to the authorities on its findings. It also improved living and sanitation conditions for detainees in five prisons in Cambodia.

The ICRC pursued protection activities for civilians, monitoring the treatment of minority groups in Laos and improving their living conditions. It also kept in contact with armed opposition groups from Myanmar present in the Thai border area to ensure respect for IHL and to obtain the necessary security guarantees for ICRC operations.

To raise awareness of its protection mandate and activities and the basic rules of IHL, the ICRC organized several events for the general public in southern Thailand, including religious leaders, university lecturers and students, as well as for Myanmar NGOs in exile in the northern border regions of Thailand.

As a major player in the provision of physical rehabilitation services in the region, the ICRC continued supporting two centres and a component factory in Cambodia. It also continued to cover the cost of treating war-wounded patients from Myanmar in Thai hospitals.

As in past years, the ICRC worked with the region's armed forces towards the integration of IHL into their doctrine and training programmes. The Lao Ministry of Defence approved a plan of action for army training in IHL and the country's first ever course for IHL instructors took place. In addition, the ICRC initiated discussions on implementation of a new IHL training plan for the Vietnam People's Army. In Thailand, a first training session took place for high-ranking officers from the security forces.

ICRC programmes aimed at strengthening the capacities of the National Societies, particularly in the areas of dissemination and tracing, continued. The ICRC reinforced cooperation with the Lao Red Cross on assistance projects for vulnerable population groups.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

The ICRC maintained its tracing and RCM services to enable civilians in the region to restore and maintain contact with their relatives. In Thailand, the services facilitated contact between refugees from Myanmar living mainly in camps along the border and their relatives back home.

The ICRC delegation issued travel documents to individuals of various nationalities, enabling them to leave their host country legally.

Following the tsunami in the Indian Ocean in December 2004, the Thai authorities approached the ICRC regarding tracing matters. The ICRC met officials of various ministries to give advice. The Thai authorities then assumed full responsibility for all tracing and identification matters, working in close cooperation with foreign forensic

teams and experts. People searching for news of relatives were able to consult the ICRC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org).

- ▶ 81 RCMs collected from and 68 delivered to civilians
- ▶ 77 tracing requests received from the Cambodian Red Cross for cross-checking
- ▶ 69 travel documents issued

Protecting and assisting vulnerable civilians

In southern Thailand, the ICRC had built up a network of contacts with leaders, opinion-makers and educational and religious authorities and continued to enhance their understanding of the organization's protection mandate and activities (see *Civil Society*).

While delivering RCMs collected from detainees and organizing prison visits for the relatives of detainees, the ICRC reinforced contacts with the civilian population in areas most affected by violence.

In Thailand, the ICRC was also in regular contact with representatives of Myanmar opposition groups and various local and international organizations to help it monitor the situation of Myanmar refugees living in Thailand.

The ICRC continued to monitor the treatment and living conditions of vulnerable minorities throughout the region. In Laos, the ICRC and the Lao Red Cross carried out an assessment mission to nine resettlement villages and carried out water projects in four of the villages. Later in the year, the ICRC and National Society provided material assistance to another group of 159 people.

- 4 gravity-fed water systems constructed and 323 household latrines built benefiting 300 households (2,800 people) in 4 villages; 20 National Society volunteers from 10 villages trained in first aid and hygiene promotion
- blankets, mats, stoves and fishing and farming implements distributed to 159 people, and school uniforms and notebooks handed out to the 75 children among them

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Thailand, the ICRC visited places of detention under the responsibility of the Department of Corrections. A first summary of the ICRC's findings and its recommendations regarding conditions of detention were submitted in writing to the management of the Department of Corrections in August.

The ICRC established contacts with the police force at national and regional levels to discuss access to detainees in police custody.

- 179 detainees monitored individually during 30 visits to 11 places of detention in Thailand, including 106 newly registered
- 51 RCMs distributed to and 108 collected from detainees
- 81 close relatives enabled to visit 28 security detainees originally from the southernmost provinces and being held at prisons both in the south and in Bangkok

In Cambodia, the ICRC visited all places of detention under the authority of the Prison Department.

- 6,139 detainees visited during 18 visits to 10 places of detention in Cambodia, including 120 monitored individually (1 newly registered)

During visits, the multidisciplinary team found that the rainwater collecting tanks installed by the ICRC in one of the prisons in 2004 had solved the water problems in that particular facility. The team worked to improve further the living conditions in certain of the places it visited. Five prisons housing a total of 3,939 detainees benefited from improved water supply and sanitation conditions. Work included:

- installing 400 household water filters on the cell walls to maximize the sleeping area and ensure free access to drinkable water;

- creating a water-distribution network connected to existing reservoirs in one prison and a rainwater collecting system in another;
- water trucking;
- providing tools, wheelbarrows and garbage cans, jerrycans, brooms, mats, soap, gloves, buckets, hoes and shovels;
- treating 1,350 inmates for scabies.

WOUNDED AND SICK

As part of its programme to finance the medical treatment of war-wounded patients from Myanmar in Thai hospitals, the ICRC continued to cooperate with international and local medical organizations working along the Thai-Myanmar border.

- 88 people (including 60 victims of landmines) given financial assistance for medical care

Physical rehabilitation

Cambodia

According to official estimates, there were some 60,000 disabled people in Cambodia, among them 36,000 mine victims. The ICRC continued to support the regional physical rehabilitation centre in Battambang and to manage and partially fund the manufacture of prosthetic/orthotic components at the national component factory in Phnom Penh. Production of appliances began at the Kompong Speu regional physical rehabilitation centre, which the ICRC took over and renovated in 2004.

- 2 centres and 1 component factory supported
- 7,846 patients received services at the 2 centres
- 910 new patients fitted with prostheses and 735 with orthoses
- 1,970 prostheses (1,760 for mine victims), 1,285 orthoses (59 for mine victims), 2,459 crutches and 501 wheelchairs delivered
- 10,460 prosthetic/orthotic components and 9,590 crutches manufactured at the factory

The ICRC prosthetic/orthotic team carried out 22 outreach field trips of three to five days each from Battambang and 34 one-day trips from Kompong Speu to assess the needs of amputees who found it difficult to travel. During the trips, the team:

- assessed the condition and needs of 4,132 patients;

- repaired 2,251 prostheses and 243 wheelchairs on location;
- delivered 415 pairs of crutches and 219 wheelchairs;
- arranged appointments for 907 amputees to have their artificial limbs replaced at the Battambang or Kompong Speu centres.

In a new memorandum of understanding signed in December, the Ministry of Health agreed to increase its financial input for the projects.

Vietnam

There were an estimated 75,000 amputees in Vietnam. Between 1989 and 1995, the ICRC helped the government set up production of prosthetic/orthotic components at the Ho Chi Minh City rehabilitation centre. The ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled (SFD) took over this support in 1995, becoming the largest provider of prostheses in Vietnam (see the SFD Annual Report at www.icrc.org).

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the authorities of the respective countries to help accelerate accession to IHL treaties and their implementation at domestic level.

In Laos, the translation of the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols I and II into the national language was completed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition, a one-day seminar was organized by the ministry, the Lao Red Cross Society and the ICRC to address issues of IHL and international human rights law, national implementation and humanitarian action. It was attended by high-ranking public servants from various ministries.

In Vietnam, the compendium of Vietnamese translations of the main IHL treaties – prepared by the Ho Chi Minh political academy with the support of the Swiss embassy and the technical support of the ICRC – was completed and launched during a one-day seminar on IHL implementation.

In Thailand, discussions took place with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding legal issues related to accession to 1977 Additional Protocol I, which the Thai authorities were working towards.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Promoting IHL among the armed forces

In Cambodia, a structured and monitored IHL training programme was carried out autonomously by the training directorate of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces. During the year, 83 one-day IHL sessions were held by IHL instructors in the six military regions at brigade, battalion and company level, reaching some 4,000 officers. The ICRC provided the training directorate with a new batch of 12,000 basic IHL reference booklets for the IHL module of a one-day training course.

The Lao Ministry of Defence approved a plan of action for integrating IHL into the training of the Lao People's Army. As part of the plan, the translation and production of the basic IHL legal texts and 4,000 reference documents were completed and the first ever workshop for Laotian IHL instructors was organized. The event was coordinated and organized closely with two Laotian officers, whom the ICRC had sponsored to participate in a course at the San Remo institute.

In Thailand, the ICRC made a formal visit to Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy to finalize a cooperation agreement. It also maintained contact with the Supreme Command, which invited the organization to give a presentation at an IHL seminar held in March. The ICRC was once again invited to participate in the joint Thai-US Cobra Gold training exercise.

Efforts to relaunch joint activities with the Vietnam People's Army met with a favourable response. The ICRC renewed contacts with the army's Civil Affairs Department and began discussions on implementation of a new plan of action for training.

Police

The ICRC organized a dissemination session for 14 commanding officers from all the southern provinces at the headquarters of the Royal Thai Police in April on respect for basic humanitarian principles and human rights while conducting police operations in situations of internal disturbances. A first training session for 20 high-ranking officers from the Thai security forces was jointly organized with the Ministry of Defence to introduce the ICRC DVD *To Serve and To Protect*.

Armed groups

Leaders of armed opposition groups from Myanmar based in Thailand were briefed periodically on ICRC activities and the need to respect IHL. They provided the ICRC with the necessary security guarantees so that it could continue its activities in the area.

CIVIL SOCIETY

IHL was not considered a priority by the governments in the region, their concerns being focused more on economic and commercial matters. The ICRC, therefore, increased its contacts with specialized institutes, opinion-makers and political leaders to familiarize them with humanitarian issues.

In 2005, three dissemination sessions were conducted for 103 members of Islamic councils, imams, representatives of the government and Thai Red Cross volunteers. An IHL seminar was held for 17 representatives of different lawyers' associations. Furthermore, the ICRC held several dissemination sessions on its protection mandate and activities and the basic rules of IHL for the general public in Thailand. It also held four dissemination sessions on the ICRC for about 100 members of Myanmar NGOs in exile in Thailand and international organizations involved in the Myanmar context.

The ICRC pursued efforts to have IHL permanently integrated into the curricula of targeted academic institutions. To this end, it:

- sent 7 people to the first South-East Asian teaching session in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*) and organized a second session in Bangkok for 18 law lecturers from the 4 countries covered by the delegation;
- with a Thai university, organized an IHL event for 20 lecturers and students.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC maintained regular contact with the International Federation at various levels in Bangkok to harmonize activities and ensure the two organizations used a similar approach when working with the National Societies.

Tracing

After the tsunami, the ICRC and the Thai Red Cross Society agreed to cooperate to improve the National Society's tracing capacity. In May, the ICRC held a two-hour tracing seminar for some 25 heads and

deputy heads of various National Society departments.

In Cambodia, the ICRC carried out a field visit to monitor the functioning of the National Society's tracing service in the provinces and participated in its yearly tracing training workshop, which was attended by 29 tracing officers.

The delegation's tracing delegate spent one week at the tracing service of the Vietnamese Red Cross and visited Ho Chi Minh branch to give advice on how to improve its tracing services.

IHL promotion

The ICRC continued to provide technical and financial support and training to increase the National Societies' capacities to promote the Fundamental Principles and the basic rules of IHL. The Viet Nam Red Cross assisted the ICRC in reactivating IHL promotion within the Vietnam People's Army.

Representatives of the Thai Red Cross and the Thai Ministry of Education took part in the ICRC's regional training seminar on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*).



beijing

The ICRC opened its Beijing regional delegation in September 2005. As of 1987, it covered the region from Hong Kong and, for the past eight years, from Bangkok. The delegation fosters support among governments, experts and National Societies for ICRC activities in the region and worldwide. It continues to promote the ratification and implementation of humanitarian treaties and the integration of IHL into military training. It also promotes IHL among civil society, in particular academic institutions. It supports the National Societies of the region in developing their dissemination and tracing activities. ICRC/National Society prosthetic/orthotic projects in China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea contribute to meeting the need for affordable, good-quality prostheses.

COVERING

China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Mongolia

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	28
Assistance	3,132
Prevention	1,433
Cooperation with National Societies	824
General	3

► **5,420**

of which: Overheads 331

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94.3%
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PERSONNEL

14 expatriates
15 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- opened a regional delegation in Beijing after the signing, by its president, of a headquarters agreement with the minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of China;
- with the Red Cross Society of China, expanded the physical rehabilitation project based in Kunming, Yunnan province, by setting up an prosthetic/orthotic repair workshop in a mine-affected region bordering Vietnam;
- in the DPRK, with the Ministry of Defence and the National Society, continued to provide technical support for the establishment of a prosthetic/orthotic centre in the Rakrang district of Pyongyang for military and civilian amputees;
- strengthened relations with academic circles in the countries covered by the delegation, which included co-organizing a regional moot-court competition at Hong Kong University;
- conducted IHL courses for the armed forces of the region, as well as for diplomats from the DPRK Foreign Ministry;
- worked towards including the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in school curricula in China and Mongolia; welcomed the decision by the Mongolian Ministry of Education to do so nationwide.

CONTEXT

East Asia enjoyed peace in 2005 and witnessed speedy development, predominantly in terms of trade and economics, which contributed to its growing importance worldwide. Nevertheless, unresolved conflicts and recurrent controversies still posed a threat to the region's future stability.

The nuclear programme of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was the object of intense six-party talks which, by the end of the year, had not reached a solution. Families on the Korean peninsula continued to suffer the consequences of the 1950–53 Korean war, in particular long-term separation of family members, and efforts to address their plight were modest.

Although exchanges between the China mainland and Taiwan increased and there were significant developments, no mutually agreed steps were taken to resolve the stand-off over Taiwan's status.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

WOUNDED AND SICK¹

Physical rehabilitation

Patients receiving services	Patients	923
Prostheses delivered	Pieces	876
Orthoses delivered	Pieces	12

1. China and the DPRK

ICRC ACTION

Following extensive consultations, which began in 2002, the ICRC and the Chinese government reached an agreement on the opening of a regional delegation in Beijing to cover China, the DPRK, Mongolia and the Republic of Korea (ROK). ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger met with China's President Hu Jintao and signed a headquarters agreement on 20 July 2005 with the minister of foreign affairs.

The ICRC continued to play an important role in the provision of physical rehabilitation in the DPRK and China. In cooperation with the National Societies concerned, the ICRC assisted and supported two centres in the DPRK and one in China, and opened an prosthetic/orthotic repair workshop near China's border with Vietnam. The ICRC also held consultations with the DPRK Red Cross and the Ministry of Defence on setting up a surgical annex to the Rakrang physical rehabilitation centre in Pyongyang.

In order to stimulate interest in integrating IHL into university studies, the ICRC co-organized and supported IHL competitions in China, including in Hong Kong. It also continued working with the region's armed forces towards the integration of IHL into their training programmes. The Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme was implemented in a number of secondary schools in China. In Mongolia, the Education Ministry took the decision to integrate EHL into the school curriculum nationwide.

The ICRC continued to carry out programmes aimed at strengthening the capacities of the National Societies, particularly in the field of dissemination.

CIVILIANS

More than 100,000 Korean families were separated by the 1950–53 Korean war. Although the inter-Korean dialogue and family meetings, including new video-link conferences, resumed in 2005 after a

year-long break, little progress was made in alleviating the plight of the affected families. The ICRC reiterated its commitment to working with the Red Cross Societies of the two countries towards finding a solution to the problem.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Physical rehabilitation

China

According to official estimates, there were some 280,000 disabled people in China's border province of Yunnan. The Yunnan Provincial Red Cross had identified 1,080 destitute amputees in Wenshan and Honghe prefectures in need of physical rehabilitation services.

Since the opening of the centre in Kunming, Yunnan, in 2004, the ICRC had produced artificial limbs and provided regular on-the-job training for the staff.

In 2005, in cooperation with the Red Cross Society of China, a repair workshop was opened in Malipo, Wenshan prefecture, and the creation of a second repair workshop in Honghe prefecture was under negotiation with the Chinese Disabled People's Federation.

Kunming centre

- ▶ 374 patients received services (all amputees)
- ▶ 368 new patients fitted with prostheses
- ▶ 381 prostheses (95 for mine victims) and 2 orthoses delivered
- ▶ 29 crutches and 5 wheelchairs delivered

DPRK

In the DPRK, there were approximately 36,000 amputees, according to official figures. The ICRC continued to conduct training sessions in prosthetics, physiotherapy and English for staff at the Songrim Orthopaedic Centre and at the Rakrang centre of the Ministry of Defence in Pyongyang.

The ICRC finished installing machinery in the newly constructed building of the Rakrang centre; the prosthetic/orthotic and physiotherapy sections of the centre were inaugurated in October.

Songrim centre

- ▶ 549 patients received services (including 469 amputees)
- ▶ 345 new patients fitted with prostheses and 8 with orthoses
- ▶ 495 prostheses (10 for mine victims) and 10 orthoses delivered
- ▶ 1,347 crutches and 84 wheelchairs delivered

Rakrang centre

- ▶ hands-on training given to 8 technicians and 3 assistants
- ▶ 5 technicians (3 from the Ministry of Defence and 2 from the Ministry of Public Health) sponsored to attend a three-year course at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics in Phnom Penh

Limb amputation and stump revision

The head of the surgical department at ICRC headquarters in Geneva carried out an assessment mission to Pyongyang. As a result, plans were made to build a surgical annex to the Rakrang centre.

The current state of medical and surgical services in the DPRK was also assessed, and the ICRC supplied operating tables and scalytic lamps to four hospitals, in accordance with the agreement signed with the Ministry of Public Health and the DPRK Red Cross in 2004.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the authorities of the respective countries to help accelerate accession to the relevant IHL treaties and their national implementation and to promote greater awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities.

- an IHL seminar held for diplomats of the DPRK Foreign Ministry in Pyongyang
- 6 government representatives (3 from China, 1 from the ROK and 2 from Mongolia) attended the ICRC's Asia-Pacific round-table on preventing hostile use of the life sciences, held in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*)
- 7 representatives from the region (3 from China, 3 from the ROK and 2 from Mongolia) took part in a conference on the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law, held in India (see *New Delhi*)

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC raised awareness of humanitarian action and promoted IHL training among the armed forces of the region through ad hoc presentations, pre-deployment briefings, seminars, train-the-trainer courses and technical assistance.

Discussions with the deputy chief of staff led to a new agreement on support for the IHL training programme of the armed forces in Mongolia and increased involvement by the ICRC in UN pre-deployment briefings and exercises.

- a two-day refresher course held for 18 Mongolian IHL instructors
- 2 seminars held for a total of 250 officers from military academies in Shanghai and Xi'an, China, on the protection of POWs and on the ICRC's detention-related activities; train-the-trainer events conducted for 24 IHL instructors in Taipei
- briefings on IHL and the ICRC given to senior officers from the ROK army
- a first pre-deployment briefing conducted for a ROK contingent leaving for a peace-support operation in Iraq
- 240 Mongolian peace-keepers bound for Sierra Leone briefed on IHL and the ICRC

CIVIL SOCIETY

Secondary schools

In Mongolia, the pilot phase of the ICRC's EHL programme began in five secondary schools in four provinces and was monitored in cooperation with the Mongolian Red Cross. The Ministry of Education confirmed its decision to integrate EHL into Mongolia's school curriculum nationwide, and a draft translation of the modules was produced.

In China, the Education Ministry and the National Society expressed interest in implementing the EHL programme. In cooperation with the Chinese Red Cross, the first two training seminars were held on use of the programme's teaching materials. In December, an evaluation was carried out in several of the secondary schools where the programme was being tested.

- 11 Red Cross and education officials from the region (8 from China, including 2 from Hong Kong, and 3 from Mongolia) attended a regional EHL workshop in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*)

Academic circles

IHL continued to be perceived to be the domain of specialized institutes, and decision-makers and opinion-leaders remained largely unfamiliar with its rules. The ICRC, therefore, tried to promote the integration of IHL into university disciplines other than law and to extend its network of contacts.

The ICRC commissioned a survey on IHL teaching in Chinese universities to obtain a clearer picture of the extent to and manner in which IHL was offered in academic courses, and thus be in a position to further promote and support the integration of IHL into academic curricula.

- an IHL moot-court competition held at Xiamen University, China
- 28 students from the countries covered took part in a regional moot-court competition in Hong Kong; 20 academics took part as judges and coaches
- 8 academics from universities and other institutions of the region (2 from Beijing, 2 from Pyongyang and 1 from Seoul, 1 from Taipei and 2 from Ulan Bator) attended the first ICRC South-East Asian teaching session held in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur*)

Media

The ICRC maintained contact with media throughout the region, and continued to develop its website in Chinese, which went on line in 2003 to provide up-to-date information on its activities and IHL developments. The delegation also continued to produce IHL publications in national languages and reinforced the department in charge of translation and revision of IHL-related documents and publications in the languages of the countries covered by the delegation.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Through training sessions, the ICRC supported the efforts of all of the region's National Societies to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, both internally to staff and among the region's authorities, civil society and armed forces. The National Societies continued to produce dissemination materials with ICRC support.

In the ROK, the regional delegation further strengthened its cooperation with the National Society and its humanitarian law institute. The ICRC supported the National Society in organizing a seminar to mark its 100th anniversary. Representatives of leading universities, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the military took part.

In China, a national seminar brought together for the first time all dissemination coordinators, one from each of the 31 provincial branches.

Following a two-month assessment mission to China and Mongolia, conducted in October and November, the ICRC decided to make cooperation with these National Societies a priority in 2006, reinforcing contact and working closely with them, mainly in the fields of dissemination and restoring family links.



ICRC regional delegation

kuala lumpur

The ICRC began working in Malaysia in 1972 and opened a regional delegation in Kuala Lumpur in 2001. In the countries covered, the ICRC endeavours to involve government representatives, leaders, experts and National Societies in reflection on humanitarian issues and to gain their support for its activities. It encourages the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties and the incorporation of IHL into military training and academic curricula.

The delegation hosts the ICRC's Regional Resource Centre, which supports delegations in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific in promoting IHL and strengthening support for the ICRC's humanitarian action.

COVERING

Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Japan, Singapore

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	226
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,625
Cooperation with National Societies	215
General	140

► **2,206**

of which: Overheads 135

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	107.2%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
16	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- responded to the tsunami of 26 December 2004 by expanding its RCM and tracing services to enable the Acehnese community in Malaysia to restore contact with their relatives in Indonesia and by working with the Singapore Red Cross Society and the Singaporean government to set up a logistics centre in Singapore;
- welcomed the integration of IHL into the courses of the Malaysian army's Staff and Command College and the decision by the navy to do the same for all its courses;
- continued to raise awareness and promote the implementation of IHL among the authorities, armed forces and civil society of the region;
- continued to support the efforts of ICRC delegations in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific to improve understanding and implementation of IHL by expanding the media and production skills of the Regional Resource Centre.

CONTEXT

The earthquake and tsunami of 26 December 2004 in the Bay of Bengal had a significant impact on the countries of the region, including Malaysia, whose northern coastline suffered loss of life and destruction of property. All the countries covered by the ICRC's Kuala Lumpur regional delegation, except Brunei, dispatched military contingents to Aceh to respond to the emergency.

Concerns over the threat of "terrorism" persisted. During regional meetings and conferences, representatives of various think-tanks and certain ministries repeatedly underscored the need for a better understanding of such threats and, most importantly, their prevention.

ICRC ACTION

Owing to the delegation's proximity to the area affected by the tsunami of December 2004, it was involved in a number of unplanned tsunami-related operational activities. This included expanding its programme to restore contact between Acehese in Malaysia and their relatives back in Aceh.

The delegation also facilitated the setting-up of a logistics coordination centre in Singapore, in cooperation with the government of Singapore and the National Society. The centre coordinated logistics during the early emergency phase of the tsunami response and closed in February 2005.

The regional delegation continued to pursue efforts to raise awareness of and compliance with IHL, maintaining a dialogue with the region's authorities on accession to and implementation of IHL instruments.

As part of ongoing efforts to support the region's armed forces in incorporating IHL into their doctrine and training, the ICRC continued to implement programmes with the Self Defence Force of Japan and the armed forces of Malaysia and Singapore. In 2005, the Malaysian army integrated IHL instruction into the curricula of its Staff and Command College; the navy took the decision to include IHL in all its courses in 2006.

In the countries covered by the delegation, the ICRC used the media as a means of reaching leaders, think-tanks, higher-education establishments, NGOs and the general public to raise their awareness of issues relating to IHL. The delegation maintained and extended its media network in Malaysia through individual meetings and interviews, media briefings and seminars. A similar process started with the Singaporean and Japanese media.

The ICRC significantly increased efforts to promote IHL in academic circles as a way of reaching future decision-makers and opinion-leaders. The Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, which aims to introduce secondary-school students to humanitarian principles, continued to advance. In Malaysia, the programme entered the final phase before its takeover by the education authorities.

The Regional Resource Centre, established in 2003, continued to support the efforts of ICRC delegations in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific to improve understanding and implementation of IHL in the region. After broadening its scope in 2004,

including in its staff a delegate responsible for the promotion of IHL in universities, the centre saw an increase in its media and production capacity to provide additional services to the delegations of the greater Asia region in 2005. At the end of the year, a delegate in charge of contacts with multi-lateral regional organizations joined the centre.

CIVILIANS

Prior to the tsunami, the ICRC's activities to restore family links had principally involved providing travel documents to asylum seekers recognized by the UNHCR office in Malaysia and enabling a few Malaysians to re-establish contact with relatives detained abroad. During the year, the ICRC processed 43 requests for travel documents for asylum seekers travelling to host countries. The documents were issued after the necessary interviews and verifications were carried out.

Following the tsunami, the delegation widened the scope of its tracing services to help people affected by the disaster to re-establish contact with their relatives, predominantly the Acehese community in Malaysia. After an assessment in February, a tracing delegate was seconded by the Australian Red Cross to assist with this activity and to improve the tracing capacity of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society.

The ICRC thus established a tracing unit within its Kuala Lumpur delegation. Meetings were held with community leaders and members and several field trips were conducted to a number of Acehese groups in Malaysia. "I am alive" and "Person sought" lists were shared with and distributed to key contacts and community leaders during these visits, and a mobile unit was set up to collect tracing requests.

At the end of the year, the ICRC began to identify other civilian target populations and assess needs for tracing and RCM services. The groups included some 25,000 Myanmarese and significant numbers of migrant workers from the Philippines, all without legal status or residency or work permits.

AUTHORITIES

No country covered by the delegation became party to any IHL treaty in 2005. Nevertheless, pertinent national legislation was adopted in three countries. Singapore

passed the Biological Agents and Toxins Act, Malaysia passed the Chemical Weapons Convention Act and Brunei published the Geneva Conventions Order 2005 in its official gazette. The Japanese authorities completed a translation into English of the emergency laws adopted to implement the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols.

Two high-level missions from ICRC headquarters to Japan marked a new phase in dialogue with the government. In order to increase understanding and awareness of its activities, the ICRC arranged a four-day field mission for Japanese officials to observe its operations in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, four major IHL dissemination initiatives were conducted in Japan with the National Institute for Defense Studies, the Foreign Training Institute, the United Nations University and the UN Institute for Training and Research.

Three representatives of Malaysia attended the meeting of Commonwealth national IHL committees in Nairobi. Following the event, the Malaysian Red Crescent and various government ministries set about drafting a proposal for the establishment of such a committee in Malaysia.

In September, the ICRC organized a round-table on preventing hostile use of the life sciences. Forty-five participants from 12 countries in the Asia and Pacific region attended the meeting in Kuala Lumpur, which aimed to increase awareness among the scientific community of the possible risks by the recent developments in biotechnology.

Representatives of Brunei and Singapore participated in several ICRC-organized regional IHL events during the year.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The progress made in integrating IHL into army, navy and air force training depended on the priority given to the issue by contacts within each service in each of the countries covered.

As part of continuing support for capacity building in IHL, the ICRC sponsored the participation of one Japanese and two Malaysian army officers in courses in San Remo. In addition, two Japanese and two Malaysian naval officers were sent to the first regional IHL instructor course for

naval officers conducted by the ICRC Regional Resource Centre in Djakarta.

In Malaysia, after being included in the directives of army headquarters in 2001, IHL was successfully integrated into the curricula of the Staff and Command College in 2005. The Joint Warfare Training Centre organized courses to meet the need for increased numbers of instructors and, with the ICRC, developed an IHL instructor kit containing training materials. By the end of the year, with the help of existing national instructors, 30 IHL instructors had been trained, bringing the total number trained since 2002 to 120.

During a four-day workshop, the Malaysian navy prepared proposals for integrating IHL into all its courses. The proposals were approved by the navy headquarters and were due to be implemented in 2006.

The ICRC kept up dialogue with senior officials from the Ministry of Defence and the headquarters of the Singapore armed forces. In addition, it participated in an annual course organized by the Staff College, which brought together officers from Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and the United States.

The ICRC gave briefings to officers from Malaysia and Singapore prior to their departure on peace and security operations. In Japan, it gave presentations on IHL at the National Institute for Defense Studies and the Ground Self-Defense Force Staff College and met various high-ranking officials.

Initial contact was made with the Malaysian police force regarding future cooperation.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Issues of concern to the ICRC, such as landmines and the protection of civilians, were used to cultivate media interest. The delegation and the Regional Resource Centre participated in a number of seminars and conferences with representatives of the media and civil society to raise awareness of the relevance of IHL and explore possible new avenues of cooperation.

Over the year, the ICRC's contacts with Malaysian universities significantly increased. Events included:

- the first South-East Asian teaching session held at the University of Malaya with 31 participants from 12 countries;

- IHL sessions and seminars for students of diplomacy, international relations and conflict studies at universities in Malaysia;
- the second national IHL moot-court competition for law students.

The ICRC enabled a team of Malaysian students to participate in a regional moot-court competition in Hong Kong. Students from Singapore also took part.

In Malaysia, ownership of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) school programme began gradually to shift to the Ministry of Education, which financed about 80% of a teacher-training seminar in April and played a major role in its organization. By the end of the year, 50 schools, 84 ICRC-trained teachers and 4,000 students had benefited from the programme. Translation of the education pack into Bahasa Malaysia had begun.

In 2004, the government had decided to include IHL in the new Civics and Citizenship Education curriculum to be taught nationwide in 2007. In 2005, the ICRC held a workshop to familiarize textbook writers and publishers with concepts from the EHL programme.

The EHL programme in Japan remained at the preliminary stage. The Japanese translation of the first two modules of the programme's education pack was completed by the National Society, and discussions with the Ministry of Education continued regarding implementation. The ICRC participated in a teacher-training event run by the National Society.

The delegation hosted a regional seminar on EHL, which brought together 35 participants from countries already implementing the programme.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of Malaysia, Singapore and Japan continued to be major players in the humanitarian field in their respective countries.

Disaster response

Internationally, the Japanese Red Cross Society deployed assessment and reconstruction teams to tsunami-stricken countries, and the Singapore Red Cross was instrumental in setting up the logistics coordination centre that formed the backbone of the ICRC's response in Aceh. In

addition, a number of emergency-response units were deployed in Indonesia by the Malaysian Red Crescent Society.

The National Societies of Malaysia, Singapore and Japan also responded rapidly to needs in the aftermath of the South Asian earthquake. The Japanese Red Cross ran one of four ICRC basic-health-care emergency-response units in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Promoting IHL

The ICRC took part in a basic training course and a training seminar for IHL disseminators from the Japanese Red Cross. The National Society set up a pavilion to exhibit the history, activities and mission of the Movement at the 2005 World Expo in Aichi.



ICRC regional delegation

new delhi

The regional delegation in New Delhi opened in 1982. It works through the armed forces, universities, civil society and the media in the region to promote broader understanding and implementation of IHL and to encourage respect for humanitarian rules and principles. It also supports the development of the National Societies in India and Bangladesh and supports some of their assistance programmes in the field. The ICRC visits people arrested and detained in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir (India), as well as in Bhutan and the Maldives.

COVERING

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	2,648
Assistance	738
Prevention	2,319
Cooperation with National Societies	1,640
General	-

► **7,344**

of which: Overheads 448

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91.5%
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PERSONNEL

24 expatriates
79 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued visits to detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, submitted a report to the authorities on visits conducted over the previous two years and sought dialogue with them on its findings;
- co-organized and hosted the Asian launch of the recently published ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law, attended by representatives from 24 countries;
- conducted its first two rounds of visits to detainees in the Maldives and its 23rd round of visits in Bhutan;
- organized the first regional Henry Dunant Memorial IHL Moot-Court Competition, the Seventh South Asian Teaching Session on IHL and Refugee Law and a conference promoting the inclusion of IHL in university curricula;
- encouraged and gave technical support for the development of IHL training in the Indian armed forces;
- stepped up its cooperation programmes with the Indian Red Cross Society to organize relief distributions and improve tracing services in the wake of the earthquake in Kashmir.

CONTEXT

Just days before the year began, the tsunami ravaged areas of southern India, causing some 10,000 casualties and leaving many more homeless. The Indian government took charge of the relief operation, assisting survivors in India and contributing to international relief efforts in neighbouring countries. In October, when a severe earthquake devastated areas on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir, the government again took full responsibility for relief on its territory, as well as sending some assistance across the LoC to areas of Kashmir controlled by Pakistan.

Dialogue on Kashmir was strengthened by the visit of the Pakistani president, Pervez Musharraf, to New Delhi in April. A bus link between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad was opened, and a high-level delegation of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) visited Pakistan for the first time. In addition to building on its contacts with the APHC, the Indian government began talks with another Kashmiri separatist group, the People's Conference. In Kashmir, however, ambushes, assassinations and bomb attacks persisted.

Indian security forces continued to confront armed groups struggling for independence or autonomy in the north-eastern states. India's efforts to end these groups' cross-border activities and other issues of border control affected its relations with neighbouring countries, generating friction in some cases and spawning cooperation in others.

General strikes (*hartals*) stifled the economy in Bangladesh, and political violence remained common. The near-simultaneous explosions of a large number of small bombs placed around the country in August and the country's first known suicide bombings at the end of the year fed speculation that militant Islamist groups were becoming more active there.

With the aim of establishing a constitutional monarchy, the government of Bhutan continued preparations for the drafting of a new constitution. Plans for the return of Lhotsampas refugees who had fled Bhutan more than a decade earlier remained on hold, with approximately 100,000 of them still in camps in Nepal.

Although several atolls of the Maldives were damaged by the tsunami, parliamentary elections went ahead as planned in January, and the country remained stable throughout the year.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		WOUNDED AND SICK ²		
Detainees visited	1,343	Physical rehabilitation		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,343	Patients receiving services	Patients	332
Number of visits carried out	80	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	71
Number of places of detention visited	31	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	5
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications				
RCMs collected	360			
RCMs distributed	349			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	268			

1. India and Bhutan

2. India

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued its visits to detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. It submitted to the Indian government a summary report on its visits conducted over the previous two years. From both New Delhi and Geneva, the ICRC took initiatives to establish dialogue with the authorities concerned in order to discuss the report's findings and obtain notification of and access to all detainees of concern to the organization, including those in interrogation centres. The regional delegation also visited detainees in Bhutan and made its first visits to detainees in the Maldives.

The ICRC promoted IHL among the authorities, armed and security forces and universities throughout the region. It organized and hosted the regional launch of its study on customary international humanitarian law and worked with universities, international organizations and professional groups and associations to hold events to develop expertise in IHL.

The regional delegation worked with the National Societies in India and Bangladesh to strengthen their development and discussed with the authorities the possibility of establishing a National Society in the Maldives.

Long travel time, difficulties in arranging meetings from New Delhi and frequent *hartals* slowed the progress of ICRC activities in Bangladesh.

CIVILIANS

In India, the ICRC continued to provide documents allowing refugees to travel to third countries that had granted them asylum. This was done at the request of the embassies of the countries accepting them.

In the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake, the ICRC collected 118 "person sought" requests from people seeking news of family members living in earthquake-affected areas on the Pakistani side of the LoC. The ICRC delivered two "I am alive" messages in Jammu and Kashmir that had been collected by the ICRC in Pakistan.

- ▶ 268 travel documents issued
- ▶ 114 RCMs collected from and 190 delivered to civilians in India and 8 RCMs collected from and 49 delivered to civilians in Bhutan

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Jammu and Kashmir

The ICRC continued to follow up on more than 1,100 people detained in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and held either there or in other states. It helped families travel to visit detained relatives and, as needed, provided detainees with books, clothes and footwear.

At the beginning of the year, the ICRC submitted a report to the Indian government on its visits to detainees conducted between January 2002 and August 2004. It summarized the findings of 177 visits to 1,491 people held in 30 places of detention. Throughout the year, the ICRC made overtures from both New Delhi and Geneva to the authorities at different levels in order to discuss issues raised in the report. The regional delegation also gave

the government written feedback on the visits it made in 2005.

- ▶ 1,295 people visited and monitored individually, including 6 women and 40 minors, in 78 visits to 29 places of detention; 497 people newly registered
- ▶ 50 detainees benefited from ICRC-supported family visits
- ▶ 190 RCMs collected from and 103 RCMs delivered to detainees
- ▶ 15 "person sought" tracing requests collected from detainees with relatives in earthquake-affected areas and forwarded to the ICRC in Pakistan

Bhutan

Annual visits to Chamgang Central Jail and to Lodrai Sub-District Jail were carried out in November 2005.

- ▶ 48 detainees visited and monitored individually in 2 visits to 2 places of detention; none newly registered
- ▶ 6 detainees benefited from ICRC-supported family visits
- ▶ 48 RCMs collected from and 7 RCMs delivered to detainees

Maldives

An agreement signed in October 2004 permitted the ICRC to begin visits to detainees in the Maldives. The first visits were conducted in April. With free access to all people held there, ICRC staff met 550 detainees and spoke with them as they chose. Most were detained for common crimes, since nearly all those arrested in connection with political disturbances the previous August had been released or sent home and kept under house arrest after the tsunami. The visits enabled the ICRC to get a better grasp of the country's prison system and of the legal instruments and issues related to detention. In August, the ICRC visited three places of detention under the responsibility of the police. It registered and

interviewed 114 detainees and sent a written report on its findings to the authorities.

WOUNDED AND SICK

The state government and state branch of the Indian Red Cross continued to run a physical rehabilitation centre at the Government Medical College in Jammu. The ICRC provided the centre with the training, materials and equipment needed to adopt polypropylene technology. The centre had fitted its first polypropylene below-the-knee prostheses at the end of 2004, and in 2005 it fitted the first above-the-knee prostheses. Two staff members sent by the ICRC for training in Bangalore returned in the second half of 2005. However, as word of the centre had spread and people were coming from further away, they could not keep up with the increased demand, and the ICRC had to employ more technicians. By the end of the year, there were still 70 disabled people on the centre's waiting list.

Amid plans for similar cooperation in Srinagar, the state branch of the Indian Red Cross signed a memorandum of understanding with the Bone and Joint Centre in Srinagar in June 2005. The ICRC sent two members of the centre's staff for a year's training in Bangalore and, in December, installed machinery and tools in the centre.

- 2 physical rehabilitation centres supported
- 332 patients received services
- 68 new patients fitted with prostheses and 4 with orthoses
- 71 prostheses (28 for mine victims) and 5 orthoses fitted (1 for mine victim)
- 8 wheelchairs and 18 pairs of crutches produced

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization co-organized the regional launch of the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law. Representatives from 24 Asian countries attended the event, which the regional delegation hosted in Delhi in early December.

In India, the ICRC and the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) continued to work together to promote IHL; they signed a memorandum of understanding formalizing their cooperation and outlining the direction of future collaboration. They worked

to introduce IHL in the Foreign Service, and the ICRC conducted a half-day session on its study on customary international humanitarian law at an ISIL conference.

In Bangladesh, the ICRC worked with the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies to conduct a seminar for staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on drafting domestic legislation to implement the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols.

Bhutan acceded to the Ottawa Convention in August 2005 and to the Chemical Weapons Convention a month later. The ICRC encouraged the government to incorporate the Geneva Conventions and the Ottawa Convention into domestic law, organizing a seminar on the subject for 21 officials from the different ministries, departments and forces concerned.

In the Maldives, the ICRC discussed the legislative reform process, draft penal code, code of criminal procedure and the police act with the authorities, encouraging them to develop legislation enforcing the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Military forces

The ICRC consulted key departments and institutions involved in military training in India and assessed the IHL instruction on offer. The National Defence Academy incorporated IHL into its curriculum, and the ICRC conducted trainer training to qualify staff to teach the subject. It also presented basic IHL to army troops deployed in Jammu and Kashmir, and trained the first Indian team participating in an IHL competition in San Remo.

India contributed the largest number of troops to UN peace-keeping operations in 2005. The ICRC helped conduct sessions on IHL at the Centre for UN Peacekeeping in New Delhi, presented information on the subject to all army units to be deployed in peace-keeping missions and gave brief training to a small number of instructors so they could give refresher training in the field.

In 2005, Bhutan declared its intention to integrate IHL into its military training. In January, the ICRC gave a presentation on IHL to high-ranking officers and conducted a six-day train-the-trainer course.

CIVIL SOCIETY

To foster the growth of university-level instruction and research in IHL, the ICRC collaborated with universities, professional and academic groups and international organizations to organize a variety of events and activities, including:

- the Seventh Annual South Asian Teaching Session on IHL and Refugee Law, organized with UNHCR and the National Law School of India University and attended by 44 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Pakistan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka;
- the first regional Henry Dunant Memorial IHL Moot-Court Competition for teams winning national competitions in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, as well as the national competitions in India (with the ISIL) and Bangladesh;
- teacher-training programmes in IHL at Indian law faculties in Amritsar (Guru Nanak Dev University), Hyderabad (National Academy of Legal Studies and Research) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra University);
- a conference on the inclusion of IHL in university curricula, attended by 21 vice-chancellors of major universities in India.

The ICRC worked through the media to raise public awareness of IHL, supplying information to journalists and giving presentations in schools of mass communication. With the Swiss embassy, it organized a painting exhibition on women and IHL at the College of Art in New Delhi. With a view to introducing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools in Jammu and Kashmir, the ICRC sent two teachers to a regional training seminar on the programme (see *Kuala Lumpur*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Internal changes in the National Societies of India and Bangladesh left vacancies in key leadership positions, slowing the implementation of activities planned with and supported by the ICRC. However, some of these went ahead:

- ▶ family links: the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society handed out basic relief items to stranded foreigners and reorganized its tracing activities to clear pending files; the Indian Red Cross equipped a tracing office in a hospital treating 600 tsunami victims;
- ▶ the “Safer Access” approach: both National Societies familiarized volunteers with the approach, to enable them to respond better to the needs of conflict victims while enhancing their own safety;
- ▶ earthquake response: the Indian Red Cross distributed tents, warm clothes, kitchen sets, blankets and other basic goods supplied and transported by the ICRC;

- ▶ promotion of IHL and the Movement: both National Societies conducted campaigns to stop misuse of the red cross and red crescent emblems;
- ▶ mine-risk education: Indian Red Cross programmes in Punjab and Rajasthan trained schoolteachers, village heads and social workers from mine-affected areas so that they could go on to raise awareness of mine risks in their villages. Although the Indian Red Cross did not set up mine-risk education activities in Jammu and Kashmir as planned, after the earthquake it issued warnings that mines might have moved.

In September, the International Federation launched the process of establishing a National Society in the Maldives, with the involvement of the government and technical support from the ICRC and other Movement partners.



suva

Since 2001, ICRC operations in the Pacific have been carried out by the Suva regional delegation. It assists governments in the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties and promotes respect for and compliance with IHL among the region's armed and security forces. It also promotes IHL among academic circles, the media and civil society. The ICRC visits people detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste, and is helping to create a national commission on missing persons in Timor-Leste. The ICRC helps build the conflict-response capacities of the region's National Societies.

COVERING

Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and autonomous states, territories and colonies of the Pacific

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	362
Assistance	31
Prevention	1,503
Cooperation with National Societies	1,372
General	-

► **3,268**

of which: Overheads 199

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	87.0%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
17	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- assessed the conditions of civilians living in troubled areas of Papua New Guinea in order to be in a better position to react in case of need;
- continued to support the region's National Societies in strengthening their dissemination and emergency-response capacities and assisted the Timor-Leste Red Cross in restoring and maintaining family links and achieving recognition by the Movement;
- continued to work towards the creation of an independent commission on missing persons in Timor-Leste and the approval by the Council of Ministers of a related decree-law;
- visited prisons in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste and monitored the detention conditions of people arrested in connection with past unrest.

CONTEXT

In Fiji, disagreement escalated between the government and the army over a reconciliation bill related to the 2000 coup. The army commander insisted on the need to prosecute all those involved in the coup. Pacific leaders agreed to implement the Pacific Plan, a long-term development plan put together by the Pacific Islands Forum to promote economic growth, sustainable development, good governance and security in the region.

Papua New Guinea continued to be affected by communal violence and a high crime rate, most notably in the Highlands region and urban areas. Several thousand people were displaced during the year.

In January, the Enhanced Cooperation Programme, a large-scale bilateral initiative between Australia and Papua New Guinea, was launched with the deployment of Australian police and officials to Papua New Guinea. The primary aim of the programme was to assist the country in the areas of law and order, justice, economic management, public-sector reform, border control and transport security and safety. By May, however, the country's Supreme Court had ruled that the immunities granted to the Australian police by the government were unconstitutional. The police therefore left the country, leaving behind 40 non-police officials in an advisory capacity, without immunities, to help fight corruption.

The first-ever presidential ballot held by the new autonomous government of Bougainville took place under the scrutiny of a wide array

of international observers. The UN Observer Mission withdrew after a seven-year presence.

The Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands, an Australian-led operation present since August 2003, continued to work towards creating the basis for long-term stability. Overall, law and order had been restored, and people charged with committing violent acts during the disturbances of 2000–03 had begun to be put on trial.

With the third anniversary of the restoration of independence in Timor-Leste on 20 May, the UN peace-keeping mission came to an end. At the same time, the UN Office for Timor-Leste started its one-year political follow-up mission for capacity-building purposes. The Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation handed over its final report and recommendations to President Xanana Gusmão in October, though by the end of the year the results had yet to be made public. Meanwhile, the terms of reference of the Commission of Truth and Friendship between Timor-Leste and Indonesia were signed by the respective governments in March, and the commission started its work in August.

Australia and New Zealand pursued efforts to enhance regional security. Despite initial reservations, Australia signed the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, enabling it to attend the inaugural East Asia Summit. To strengthen Australia's domestic security, the government passed new counter-terrorism legislation.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	320
Detainees visited and monitored individually	154
Number of visits carried out	14
Number of places of detention visited	8
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS ²	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	445
RCMs distributed	339
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	2
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	3
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	2,545

1. Fiji, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste

2. Timor-Leste only

ICRC ACTION

Throughout the year, the ICRC monitored the situation in Papua New Guinea to identify the problems faced by the population in violence-prone areas. At the end of the year, the ICRC was considering opening a mission in Papua New Guinea. In conjunction with an analysis of the complex security situation in the country, contacts with national and local authorities were being used to help define areas where Movement action needed to be intensified in 2006.

Cooperation with the region's National Societies remained a priority for the delegation, particularly in the fields of dissemination and the "Safer Access" approach. It continued to meet regularly and cooperate closely with the International Federation and the Red Cross Societies of Australia and New Zealand, key ICRC partners in the region. The ICRC continued working with the International Federation in preparing the Timor-Leste Red Cross for recognition by the Movement. The National Society was admitted as the 183rd member in December.

In Timor-Leste, the ICRC continued to work with all the parties concerned towards establishing an independent commission on missing persons to address the needs of the families of people missing as a result of the events in East Timor between 1975 and 1999. This included raising awareness of the role and mandate of the future commission among the general public.

The ICRC continued its visits to prisons in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste to monitor the treatment and living conditions of detainees arrested in connection with past unrest.

The delegation maintained contacts with a wide variety of bodies and organizations with a view to promoting IHL in the countries covered. It organized or took part in several events, giving presentations to representatives of the government, the military, NGOs, the media and academia.

An evaluation of ICRC activities with armed, security and police forces in the Pacific was carried out, and the ICRC began redefining its priorities. In Australia, the ICRC participated in Camelot, an Australian Defence Force exercise, giving input on the role of a humanitarian organization during an armed conflict. The ICRC signed a headquarters agreement with the Australian government which would then go before Australian parliament to become legislation.

CIVILIANS

In violence-prone areas

In Papua New Guinea, the delegation conducted a number of assessments of the security situation and living conditions of civilians in the Southern Highlands, where intercommunal conflicts were causing internal displacement, and in squatter settlements in urban centres. The next step was to prepare the National Society to respond in these specific areas when needed.

In the Solomon Islands, the ICRC monitored the situation in the Weather Coast and on the island of Malaita. Contacts were established with remote communities to ensure that they would be aware of ICRC or National Society availability in case of need. Contacts were also maintained with the authorities and community leaders in potentially unstable areas of the Solomon

Islands to ensure that effective protection was being extended to the civilian population.

Missing persons

In 2004, the ICRC began supporting the creation of a commission on missing persons in Timor-Leste. The commission's role would be to obtain reliable information on the fate of people unaccounted for between 1975 and 1999 and to inform their families accordingly. In 2005, with the technical support of the ICRC, the steering committee for the establishment of the commission drafted terms of reference for the commission and a related decree-law for adoption by the government.

A team composed of members of the future commission, the ICRC and the Timor-Leste Red Cross conducted dissemination sessions throughout the country to raise awareness of the future commission, explain its mandate and collect feedback from the communities.

Restoring family links

The Timor-Leste Red Cross continued to provide its RCM service to enable the population (civilians and detainees) to restore and maintain contact with their relatives, particularly in West Timor.

► 445 RCMs collected by the National Society from families in Timor-Leste and 399 RCMs delivered

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC carried out visits to prisons in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste to monitor the treatment and living conditions of detainees arrested in connection with past unrest. Confidential reports were submitted to the authorities.

- Fiji: 107 detainees monitored individually during 9 visits to 5 places of detention
- Solomon Islands: 212 detainees visited (including 46 monitored individually) during 4 visits to 2 places of detention
- Timor-Leste: 1 detainee monitored individually

AUTHORITIES

Discussions were pursued with the governments of Fiji and Papua New Guinea regarding their countries' progress towards ratification of the 1977 Additional Protocols. In Papua New Guinea, a round-table was held for senior officials to encourage accession to the Protocols.

Dialogue continued in an effort to encourage Nauru to accede to both the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

Vanuatu ratified the Ottawa Convention in September. The next step was to draft implementing legislation.

The ICRC also participated in an international workshop on the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention held in Australia under the joint auspices of the governments of Australia and Indonesia. This, and other events in which the ICRC took part, enabled it to reach a wide variety of audiences and representatives of governments, the military, academia, NGOs and the media to raise awareness of the importance and relevance of IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC reviewed its activities for armed, security and police forces in the Pacific. The preliminary results indicated the need to strengthen and focus on activities to expedite the incorporation of IHL into the doctrine and training of the forces most exposed to violence.

The delegation sponsored the participation of one officer each from the armed forces of Fiji and Papua New Guinea in an IHL course

at San Remo. IHL teaching material was translated into Tetun for use by the Timor-Leste armed forces.

Long-established and constructive working relations with the Australian and New Zealand Defence Forces continued. As in the past, the ICRC took part in Australian military training exercises and provided speakers on IHL topics for courses run, among others, by the Australian Defence Force and the Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law.

Relations were established with the new head of the legal department of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, following which the ICRC participated in predeployment briefings for soldiers bound for Iraq. The delegation also conducted briefings for the police forces of Fiji and Timor-Leste, prior to their deployment on UN peace-keeping missions, and for police recruits and prison guards in the Solomon Islands. An assessment of the police force's training needs was carried out in Timor-Leste.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL among the general public

ICRC press releases were picked up by the media in Australia and New Zealand and to a lesser extent in the Pacific. Nevertheless, ICRC stories covered in Australia were often reprinted across the Pacific. The ICRC and the Australian Red Cross made a concerted effort to promote the relaying of such information.

Visits were carried out to major media outlets in Australia and New Zealand, and relations were established with journalist associations. The individual briefing given to each media outlet was tailored to the company's specific information needs.

The ICRC gave several presentations on IHL during the year, including one on protection of journalists in conflict zones for some 40 representatives of private and public news organizations at a meeting of the Pacific Islands News Association in Tonga.

Among the other events organized by the ICRC was an IHL seminar in Sydney. Some 90 people attended the event, including representatives of the government, the diplomatic corps, the military, NGOs, the media, the medical field and academia, as well as lawyers and students.

The delegation also continued to give presentations on IHL in general and on "women and war" in particular at training seminars organized by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre. The seminars were attended by participants from eight Pacific Island countries.

The ICRC engaged in dialogue with a number of influential think-tanks, NGOs and UN agencies in Australia in an effort to promote IHL and a better understanding of the ICRC.

IHL and future decision-makers

Discussions on IHL teaching were held with the Suva and Vanuatu campuses of the University of the South Pacific. The ICRC gave a lecture on IHL at the law faculty in Vanuatu and worked with its students in connection with the study, *Even Wars Have Limits: Connecting IHL with the Pacific*, conducted in 2004. Furthermore, a lecturer from the University of Papua New Guinea, sponsored by the ICRC to attend an IHL course in Melbourne, compiled a series of lectures on IHL for his university.

The ICRC participated in the yearly IHL moot-court competition for university students run by the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC focused its support on the five National Societies in countries that were, or were at risk of, experiencing internal instability: Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste and Vanuatu. In addition, joint ICRC/International Federation training sessions were held to introduce all 14 National Societies to the "Safer Access" approach and to promote the inclusion of dissemination as an integral part of their annual plans. During 2005, the National Societies organized more than 600 dissemination events for some 36,000 participants: students, journalists, police recruits, prison guards, urban squatters and potential and existing National Society staff.

ICRC support also included the organization of regional training events for National Society staff, financial support for staff positions and support for field activities.

The delegation continued working with the International Federation to prepare the Timor-Leste Red Cross for recognition by the Movement. The National Society formally adopted its statutes and elected a governing

body at its first general assembly in August. After recognition by its government in September, the Timor-Leste Red Cross was admitted as the 183rd member of the Movement in December. The ICRC also maintained its support to the National Society's tracing activities.

The ICRC continued to cooperate closely with the International Federation and Red Cross Societies of Australia and New Zealand, which remained key partners in the region. The ICRC and the Australian Red Cross carried out joint assessment missions to Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands in order to reinforce the branch structures of the National Societies. The delegation also regularly attended the meetings of the national IHL committee of the Australian Red Cross.



ICRC regional delegation
 ICRC mission
 ICRC office
 ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

tashkent

In operation since 1992, the ICRC's regional delegation in Central Asia works with the armed forces and civilian educational establishments to develop IHL teaching programmes, promotes the ratification of IHL instruments and the adoption of implementing legislation and helps National Societies in the region promote IHL and strengthen their capacities to assist victims of violence. Current priorities for the regional delegation include visiting security detainees and supporting the authorities' efforts to control tuberculosis in Kyrgyz prisons.

COVERING

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	3,004
Assistance	1,555
Prevention	2,550
Cooperation with National Societies	757
General	-

► **7,867**

of which: Overheads 480

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	74.8%
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PERSONNEL

23	expatriates
93	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- ▶ visited Andijan immediately after the events there in May to assess the needs of the population and made numerous representations to the Uzbek authorities, particularly on behalf of families who did not know the whereabouts of their relatives;
- ▶ continued visits to detainees in Kyrgyzstan and helped the authorities to contain the spread of tuberculosis in prisons;
- ▶ sought to clarify issues of access and visiting procedures in order to resume visits, suspended since late 2004, to detainees in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan; pursued discussions with the Turkmen authorities on the possibility of starting visits to security detainees;
- ▶ continued to encourage universities, secondary schools and armed forces to develop IHL instruction and include the subject in their curricula;
- ▶ helped Central Asian Red Crescent Societies build up activities to promote IHL and restore family links and supported the mine-risk education programmes of the Red Crescent Societies of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan;
- ▶ maintained support to the only physical rehabilitation centre serving the disabled in Tajikistan, taking steps to hand over the facility to the government in due course.

CONTEXT

Central Asian energy resources continued to play a key role in relations between the countries of the region, as well as in their dealings with global powers. China and India strengthened trade links with Central Asia, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization fostered the development of regional political, military and economic ties. Both Tajikistan and Uzbekistan reinforced relations with Russia, and Uzbekistan requested that the United States cut back its military presence there.

Kazakhstan remained the wealthiest and most stable country in the region. Poverty in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan continued to drive large-scale economic migration to both Kazakhstan and Russia, and declining standards of living, along with extensive drug use, contributed to growing public health threats such as tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS.

In mid-May, several hundred people fled to Kyrgyzstan following violent security incidents in Andijan. Uzbekistan requested their extradition, but most of the refugees were evacuated to Romania in July by UNHCR following intervention by the international community. Over the year, the Uzbek government tightened its controls on foreign organizations. In spite of friction with both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan over border control and related issues, Uzbekistan began to clear mines laid on its borders with both countries.

In Kyrgyzstan, a wave of popular protest forced President Akayev to resign after he was accused of interfering with parliamentary elections. A new government was formed after the election of another president in July, but prison riots, the poorly explained deaths of several members of parliament and protests were signs of instability.

In Tajikistan, restrictions were imposed on the activities of political parties in the run-up to 2006 presidential elections. A key opposition leader was given a prison sentence of over 20 years.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		WOUNDED AND SICK ²		
Detainees visited		13,171	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>	
Number of visits carried out		39	Patients receiving services	Patients 663
Number of places of detention visited		21	Prostheses delivered	Pieces 347
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			Orthoses delivered	Pieces 146
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected		836		
RCMs distributed		682		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued		18		

1. Kyrgyzstan

2. Tajikistan

ICRC ACTION

Visits to security detainees remained the ICRC's priority in Central Asia, but the regional delegation was also active in following up on issues of protection of the civilian population in connection with the events in Andijan.

In 2005, visits to detainees in Kyrgyzstan, though interrupted for some weeks by prison riots, continued throughout the year. The ICRC gained access to detainees in police stations, assessed the treatment and living conditions of all detainees visited and contributed to government efforts to halt the spread of TB in prisons.

In both Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, meanwhile, ICRC visits had been suspended since late 2004 and remained so throughout 2005. In both countries, the ICRC sought to establish acceptable terms of access to detainees and to achieve the level of official commitment needed to resume the visits.

The ICRC continued to support the only centre providing rehabilitation services to the disabled in Tajikistan, gradually scaling back its input as the government took over more responsibility for the centre.

The delegation in Tashkent pressed on with a comprehensive agenda of regional activities, promoting IHL study and research at university level, assisting national education systems in incorporating basic IHL into secondary-school curricula, and supporting the integration of IHL into military and police training. It advised lawmakers on issues related to IHL and the ICRC's mandate, which included helping draft a law regulating use of the emblem (Kazakhstan) and strengthening legislation for the repression of war crimes (Kyrgyzstan).

In addition, the ICRC helped Central Asian Red Crescent Societies build their capacities to respond to emergencies, promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles and restore family links.

CIVILIANS

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan

While an ICRC team arrived in Andijan soon after the disturbances there and was able to travel freely in and around the city, it was not permitted to see those who had been arrested, wounded or killed. The ICRC made several visits to the Uzbek civilians who had fled to Kyrgyzstan. It made representations to both the Kyrgyz and the Uzbek authorities on their behalf. It relayed RCMs between the ones who found asylum abroad and family members back in Uzbekistan. It also established contact with families in the Andijan region who were seeking news of relatives who had been arrested and, in some cases, was able to obtain information from the authorities on the person's whereabouts. In July, the regional delegation submitted a written report on the events to the Uzbek authorities.

- 607 RCMs collected from civilians in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, 444 distributed to them

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Kyrgyzstan

Throughout 2005, the ICRC visited detainees held in investigation institutions and penal colonies administered by the Ministry of Justice. It also had access to people detained by the National Security Service. Kyrgyzstan's new government confirmed its commitment to cooperate with the ICRC in improving detainees'

treatment and living conditions and in bringing TB in prisons under control. In the second half of the year, the ICRC obtained access to people held in police stations under an agreement reached with the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

In August, the regional delegation submitted reports to the prime minister and minister of justice on the living conditions and treatment of detainees and the nutritional situation in the penitentiary system. These reports complemented the ICRC's previous reports on TB prevalence and sanitation conditions and were used as a basis for developing further cooperation in these areas and mobilizing assistance for the reform of the judicial and penitentiary systems.

The ICRC continued to support the Ministry of Justice's efforts to introduce the WHO-approved directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) to stop the spread of TB in prisons. It rehabilitated sanitation facilities in the main TB colony, helped form a national TB coordinating committee and organized a working group on TB in prisons. It encouraged other TB programmes in the country to include prisons and to assist the Ministry of Justice's efforts to contain the spread of the disease. In October, MSF-Switzerland launched a five-year project to implement the DOTS strategy in a TB colony for new patients.

- 13,731 detainees visited during 39 visits to 21 places of detention
- 88 RCMs delivered to and 108 RCMs collected from detainees

Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

A number of difficulties prompted the ICRC to suspend visits to detainees in Uzbekistan at the end of 2004. In order to resume visits, the delegation sought reconfirmation of the government's commitment to honour the terms of the agreement

it signed in January 2001. In particular, the ICRC requested access to all detainees and a formal undertaking by the government to address the issues raised in ICRC reports of previous visits. At the end of 2005, the ICRC was still negotiating with the authorities.

In Tajikistan, between January and September 2004, the ICRC had full access to all places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of Justice. The visits were conducted on the basis of an oral agreement from the president in June 2003. The ICRC suspended visits when the Ministry of Justice sought to impose restrictions that altered the procedures needed to obtain a clear picture of detainee conditions and treatment and to have an impact on them. In March 2005, to establish the basis for resuming visits to Ministry of Justice facilities and for beginning visits to places under the authority of the Ministries of Internal Affairs and Security, the ICRC submitted a comprehensive agreement on humanitarian activities for detained or imprisoned persons to the Tajik authorities for consideration. As there had not yet been any progress in discussions with authorities, visits were still on hold at the end of the year.

The ICRC worked with the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to relay RCMs between detainees and their families either in Tajikistan or abroad. It delivered messages in Tajikistan to families of people detained elsewhere, mostly in Afghanistan, the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station or Uzbekistan. It also followed up on Tajik detainees who had returned home after their release from Guantanamo Bay.

Turkmenistan

The ICRC and the government of Turkmenistan continued to discuss the possibility of starting ICRC visits to detainees, and the vice president of the ICRC visited Turkmenistan in May. Although it agreed in principle with ICRC visits, the government had not, by the end of the year, accepted all of the ICRC's standard procedures.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Supporting physical rehabilitation services in Tajikistan

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, with the ICRC's support, ran the only physical rehabilitation facility in Tajikistan. The centre was located in Dushanbe, and the Tajik Red Crescent identified disabled people and made follow-up visits to extend its services to those living far from the capital. In 2005, the centre began manufacturing upper-limb prostheses.

During the year, the ICRC gave on-the-job training to the centre's five technicians and continued to provide materials for making appliances. It also furnished the centre's new hostel, set up by the government to house patients living far away. It continued to scale down its financial support as the government took over more responsibility for the centre. However, it was clear that the government could not pay salaries high enough to retain qualified staff and that, if it was to provide long-term access to physical rehabilitation services for those who could not afford them, the centre would need external financial support for several years to come.

- 663 patients (446 amputees) provided with physical rehabilitation services
- 121 new patients fitted with prostheses, 73 with orthoses
- 312 lower-limb prostheses (34 to mine victims) and 35 upper-limb prostheses delivered; 146 orthoses and 356 crutches/sticks delivered

AUTHORITIES

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan had national committees for the implementation of IHL. Their priorities included: developing an emblem law (Kazakhstan); amending legislation repressing war crimes (Kyrgyzstan); and protecting cultural property during conflict (Tajikistan). In November, Tajikistan ratified the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property. In 2005, the ICRC provided some technical support to the national IHL committees, responded to queries from the legislative and executive bodies of Central Asian countries and familiarized several officials with IHL and ICRC action.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces

For a number of years, the ICRC had worked with the armed forces in the region to enhance their knowledge of States' responsibilities under IHL. In 2005, the regional delegation encouraged the Ministries of Defence to develop national curricula for military training in IHL, helped train military instructors in IHL and provided training materials.

In Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, the ICRC had begun teaching IHL to high-ranking officers and was seeking a formal agreement from the government to carry out a more comprehensive IHL training programme.

In Turkmenistan, where the ICRC had previously been able to engage in few activities with the armed forces, the government showed more openness to developing military training in IHL. The ICRC therefore submitted a draft agreement to this effect for its consideration. In Uzbekistan, which had the largest military force in the region, the ICRC helped finance the production of an IHL manual in Uzbek for the armed forces.

Tajikistan had few resources to devote to military training and lacked the structure needed to develop and sustain a national IHL training programme within the armed forces. The ICRC limited its activities to a basic presentation on IHL to different armed forces.

Police forces

For several years, the ICRC had conducted annual seminars on IHL and human rights law for police forces in the region. In 2005, it began exploring the possibility of helping the Uzbek Ministry of Interior develop instruction in IHL and human rights law for the police force.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Secondary schools

When secondary-school systems were adapting their curricula after independence, the ICRC worked with the authorities in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to develop textbooks in local languages with lessons on basic IHL principles. In 2005, the programmes continued in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. In Kazakhstan, the ICRC launched a pilot Exploring Humanitarian Law project in 40 schools in the south of the country and trained 45 teachers in the programme. These initiatives helped introduce the basic concepts of IHL to more than 620,000 students throughout the region during the year.

Universities

After a decade of technical support from the ICRC, 20 major Central Asian universities had integrated IHL into their curricula and standards and taught IHL as an optional subject in their faculties of international law, pre-military training and history. The ICRC donated standard IHL libraries to these partner universities. It also sponsored the sixth annual Central Asian IHL competition, held in Almaty in May, and conducted the first Central Asian IHL course for advanced students and junior lecturers in Tashkent in late October.

Media

Through contacts with journalists, the ICRC sought to increase public awareness of its mandate and activities. It also organized a photo exhibition on women and war, which was shown in Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC supported Central Asian Red Crescent Societies in conducting youth programmes and activities to restore family links and promote IHL. It also worked with the International Federation to help the National Societies of the region develop legal frameworks for independent action and to strengthen their operational capacities. The regional delegation sent National Society representatives to a number of Movement events and meetings, and helped the Turkmen Red Crescent repair its headquarters building and train key staff members.

Mine action

In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the ICRC gave the National Societies financial and technical support in running their mine-risk education programmes. The Tajik Red Crescent, which ran its programme in coordination with the Tajik Mine Action Cell, established eight safe play areas for children in areas in the north most affected by mines and unexploded ordnance.



Boris Heger/ICRC

ICRC delegates talk with detainees in private to ascertain how they are being treated and in what conditions they are living. Any concerns are then relayed in a confidential manner to the relevant authorities for action.

EUROPE DELEGATIONS

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Georgia
Serbia and Montenegro

EUROPE REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Budapest
Kyiv
Moscow
Skopje
Ankara
Brussels
International Tracing Service
London
Paris

THE AMERICAS DELEGATIONS

Colombia
Haiti

THE AMERICAS REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Buenos Aires
Caracas
Lima
Mexico City
Washington
New York

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS



Western, Central and South-Eastern Europe, plus Washington

Stability and peace in the region grew as the European Union (EU) and NATO continued to offer advantages to countries through agreements and membership. Bulgaria, Romania, Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) made progress towards EU accession. However, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro still had to address difficult issues in connection with past conflicts in the Balkans and to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Negotiations on the final status of Kosovo were officially launched in October 2005.

ICRC operations saw a continued emphasis on the preventive approach, promoting IHL and a deeper understanding of the organization's role and activities among the authorities, armed forces and other bearers of weapons and civil society. It continued to develop the capacities of the National Societies to act reliably, independently and impartially.

As planned, programmes in the Balkans were scaled back and the overall budget was substantially reduced. In particular, the authorities in Serbia and Montenegro shouldered greater responsibility for providing direct assistance to IDPs, while there was a winding down of assistance activities in the FYR Macedonia.

The ICRC remained actively involved in the quest to clarify the fate of missing persons, one of the most painful legacies of conflict. It made strong representations on the issue, as well as on the needs of IDPs and the situation of detainees, to national authorities and international organizations present in the region. The ICRC worked closely with National Societies operating in situations that were either still fragile, such as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, or unresolved, such as in Kosovo.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a decade after the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement, some progress was made towards stability, along with major political reforms. However, the many still unresolved cases of missing persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained a major concern for the ICRC. The organization provided legal and technical assistance to the authorities in charge of creating official central records on the missing, of implementing the Law on Missing Persons and of establishing the Missing Persons Institute. It chaired the

18th session of the Working Group on Persons Unaccounted For and promoted the use of ante-mortem data. Furthermore, the ICRC obtained access to war-crime suspects held under the jurisdictions of the State Court and the Ministries of Justice at entity level and visited people detained by NATO.

Serbia and Montenegro improved its cooperation with the international community, but the potential for violence persisted, particularly in Kosovo and southern Serbia. The ICRC continued to focus attention on the issues of missing persons and vulnerable IDPs from Kosovo. The organization chaired official sessions of the Working Group on the Missing in Kosovo, re-establishing direct talks and enabling sustained dialogue on the issue to take place between Belgrade and Pristina. It pursued discussions with the authorities in Serbia and Montenegro regarding the legal and administrative problems facing the families of the missing. Moreover, the ICRC monitored the situation of minorities and IDPs, assisted IDPs in Kosovo living in lead-contaminated areas and alerted the authorities and other humanitarian actors to the issue, and conducted a final evaluation of its assistance programmes for IDPs in Serbia and Montenegro.

In the countries covered by the Budapest and Skopje regional delegations, the ICRC pursued efforts to build an extensive network of contacts in civil society to raise awareness of its mandate and activities and of IHL. The ICRC continued to encourage the creation of national interministerial committees to promote the implementation of IHL.

The ICRC kept up its visits to people detained in The Hague within the framework of the ICTY. During the year, 61 detainees were visited, of whom 26 were monitored individually, during four visits to four places of detention.

The Washington regional delegation, which covers the United States and Canada, pursued its strategy of intensifying dialogue with the US administration on issues crucial to the protection of people held in relation to the "war on terror" and on the continued relevance of IHL. In addition, the ICRC helped thousands of people affected by the devastation left by hurricane Katrina in August and September to restore contact with their relatives via a special website. The delegation also maintained close contacts with the Canadian authorities on ICRC operational and institutional issues of concern.

From its communication office in London, based at the British Red Cross, the ICRC continued to develop its network of international and national media contacts to ensure that humanitarian concerns were central to their reporting on situations of conflict. It also sought to gain support for the rules of IHL among the public, decision-makers and opinion-leaders.

The ICRC delegations in Brussels and Paris worked to bolster their increasingly important role in international humanitarian diplomacy and to enhance respect for humanitarian principles and for the applicability of IHL in conflict situations.

In 2005, the ICRC maintained its presence in Ankara, strengthening relations with the national authorities and the Turkish Red Crescent Society and promoting IHL within the armed forces and academic circles.

Eastern Europe

The ICRC's operations in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia continued to suffer constraints due to the highly volatile security environment in the northern Caucasus. Indeed, while the need for humanitarian assistance remained significant, the development of neutral and impartial humanitarian action still posed serious challenges.

As anticipated, the ICRC continued to focus on protection and assistance activities in the northern Caucasus. It maintained its confidential dialogue with the authorities on protection concerns relating to detention issues and the civilian population, as well as on the missing. ICRC access to Chechnya improved, with expatriate delegates making regular visits to the republic. The organization continued to discuss detention visits, suspended in 2004, with the Russian authorities, seeking a resumption of the visits according to its standard procedures, but with no definitive results.

Across the northern Caucasus, the ICRC continued to provide people with essential household items and also ran micro-economic projects in Chechnya. In order to understand better how conflict had affected the livelihoods of people across the region and to continue to improve its response, the ICRC undertook a vulnerability needs assessment in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia.

The principal challenge in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, in terms of both protection and assistance, was to find long-term solutions to the problems arising from

the decade-long unresolved conflicts of the southern Caucasus.

In both Armenia and Azerbaijan, the ICRC submitted a set of proposals to the authorities with a view to clarifying the fate of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict and ultimately to providing answers to their families. It conducted a name-by-name comparison of the ICRC's list of missing persons with the authorities' lists in order to reach a consolidated list for each country. In Georgia, the organization offered technical support to the authorities with the aim of clarifying the fate of persons missing in relation to the Abkhazia and South Ossetia conflicts. The ICRC strengthened its capacity in the region with the appointment of a forensic adviser delegate in Georgia.

In Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, the ICRC visited places of detention to monitor conditions, including the functioning of the health system, and maintained support to the TB control programme in prisons. In Georgia, it also distributed food and essential household items, as well as grants, to vulnerable people and rehabilitated collective centres housing IDPs.

In the region covered by the Kyiv regional delegation, including Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, the ICRC pursued its long-term programmes to promote IHL. These included the ongoing integration of IHL into domestic legislation and academic teaching and developing the capacities of its local partners to promote IHL proactively and independently.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Across Latin America and the Caribbean, poverty, the growing gap between rich and poor, crime and migration continued to threaten the political stability of a number of countries. In some of these, indigenous people organized themselves to fight against social and economic marginalization and struggled to retain control of their ancestral lands.

Throughout the region, where possible in tandem with the International Federation, the ICRC continued to strengthen the institutional capacities of National Societies. In countries experiencing, or likely to experience, internal strife, such as Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay and Peru, the ICRC focused on enhancing the National Societies' emergency preparedness, especially their first-aid and ambulance services.

In Colombia, where the only large-scale armed conflict on the continent was still ongoing, the ICRC continued to face major challenges in conducting its operation, in terms both of the resources required and of carrying out neutral and impartial humanitarian activities in a climate of persistent IHL violations. In 2005, the conflict between the Colombian government and the country's main insurgent group intensified. The ICRC continued to focus its field activities on about 20 priority zones where humanitarian needs were greatest, streamlining its operational structure. It remained the only major organization in Colombia with access to victims in the zones hardest hit by the armed conflict and with the ability to provide them with emergency assistance and facilitate access to health services.

Intense social protests in Bolivia and Ecuador led to the resignations of these countries' respective presidents. At the end of the year, Bolivians elected, by an overwhelming margin, the country's first indigenous president. In Peru, tensions intensified between various groups, including remnants of the Shining Path guerrillas, and armed and police forces. In light of the social unrest in the region, the ICRC reinforced the capacities of National Societies covered by the Lima regional delegation to respond effectively to the consequences of violence and covered the cost of medical treatment of people affected by it. The ICRC also monitored the conditions of detention of hundreds of security detainees in Peru and offered expertise to government authorities in Peru and Bolivia in their efforts to upgrade health services for detainees.

From its regional delegation in Mexico City, the ICRC continued to encourage the national authorities in Mexico and Central America to implement and accede to IHL instruments, while fostering the integration of IHL or applicable human rights norms into the doctrine, operating procedures and training of the armed forces and the police. In response to unusually strong hurricanes and tropical storms, which devastated parts of Central America and the Mexican Gulf Coast in October, the ICRC helped the Salvadoran and Guatemalan National Societies restore family links and design better safety rules for staff and volunteers.

In light of Haiti's persistent instability as the country prepared for general elections scheduled for the end of the year, the ICRC continued to focus on protecting victims of armed violence by intensifying its dialogue with all groups involved. It also helped the Haitian Red Cross evacuate

hundreds of wounded people from Cité Soleil, one of the most violence-prone shantytowns, where a water and sanitation project initiated with the National Society in 2005 reversed to some extent the increasing marginalization of its residents. ICRC delegates continued to follow individual detainees arrested in connection with ongoing political disturbances and to monitor the detention conditions of all detainees in order to determine the structural support to be provided, in partnership with other organizations, to the national prison authorities.

The ICRC continued to have access to security detainees in the five countries covered by the Buenos Aires delegation, visiting people newly detained in connection with protest movements, particularly in Chile and Paraguay. With tensions especially high in Brazil and Paraguay owing to urban violence and the agrarian and indigenous issues, the delegation maintained close contact with the authorities in both countries. In Brazil, important breakthroughs were achieved in the integration of IHL into the doctrine of the armed forces and the inclusion of applicable human rights norms into the manuals, training and operating procedures of the police.

The Caracas delegation signed an agreement with the Venezuelan Ministry of the Interior to integrate applicable human rights norms into the manuals, training and operating procedures of selected police units. The Venezuelan authorities also granted the ICRC full access to all detainees of concern to the organization.

In the countries covered by the Buenos Aires and Caracas delegations, the ICRC kept up efforts to promote IHL, focusing particularly on incorporating the repression of war crimes into domestic law.



armenia

The ICRC has been working in Armenia since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. It focuses on addressing the issue of missing persons and the problems of detainees held in connection with the conflict, detained for security reasons or otherwise vulnerable, and monitors the situation of communities along the Line of Contact. It supports the authorities in bringing the spread of tuberculosis in prisons under control. It also promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into the training of the armed and security forces and into university and school curricula. The ICRC works to strengthen the capacities of the Armenian Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	966
Assistance	1,257
Prevention	879
Cooperation with National Societies	203
General	-

► **3,306**

of which: Overheads 202

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	96.5%
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PERSONNEL

6	expatriates
57	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- submitted a set of proposals to the authorities with a view to clarifying the fate of persons missing in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and ultimately to providing answers to their families; conducted a name-by-name comparison of the ICRC's list of missing persons with the authorities' and a local NGO's lists in order to reach a consolidated list;
- participated in the repatriation of 3 Azerbaijani POWs detained in Nagorno Karabakh in connection with the conflict;
- visited 16 places of detention to monitor conditions, including the functioning of the health system, and maintained support to the TB control programme in prisons;
- supported IHL training for the armed forces; held the first national IHL moot-court competition and the second national IHL essay competition for law students as part of its efforts to promote IHL.

CONTEXT

Armenia cultivated its diplomatic ties with both the United States and Russia, although relations with Moscow became strained when plans were announced to double the price of Russian natural gas. Cooperation with Iran increased significantly in the fields of energy (construction of a gas pipeline), transport and culture. At the same time, Yerevan intensified its dialogue with the European Union (EU) by beginning negotiations on an Armenia-EU joint action plan within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy.

In November, amendments to the 1995 Armenian Constitution were adopted as a result of a nationwide referendum. The opposition denounced fraud and called for the cancellation of the results. The Council of Europe regretted that serious incidents had marred the poll but declared it in compliance with international standards.

Eleven years after a ceasefire was concluded in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, encouraging developments seemed to take place within the framework of the Prague Process. The presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan held talks twice during the year, and the foreign ministers met numerous times. According to a statement by the 13th Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), adopted in December 2005, talks on the resolution of the conflict were poised to make the transition from negotiation to decision. The OSCE Minsk Group, mediating between the two sides, expressed hope

that a breakthrough might be achieved in 2006 leading to a lasting settlement.

At the same time, tensions were reported throughout the year along the international border/Line of Contact, particularly in the spring. The authorities of both Armenia and Azerbaijan continued to use militant rhetoric for domestic consumption.

Following a proposal by Azerbaijan for a new UN resolution entitled "Situation in the occupied territories", an OSCE fact-finding mission took place in January 2005 to assess the issue of settlements. The mission found evidence of the presence of settlers in the territories examined but – excepting Lachin – did not determine that such settlements resulted from a deliberate policy by the Armenian authorities.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	2,939	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	76	Food	Beneficiaries	1,070
Number of visits carried out	50	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	320
Number of places of detention visited	16	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	7,230
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	148			
RCMs distributed	113			

ICRC ACTION

The fate of people missing as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict continued to be the major focus of the ICRC in Armenia. To help resolve this issue, the ICRC pursued efforts to foster a dialogue between all parties concerned, reminding them of their obligations under IHL and presenting them with proposals on ways to advance the process.

The ICRC enjoyed a constructive relationship with the Armenian authorities and was granted full access to all detainees held in connection with the conflict. In all places of detention visited, the organization continued to focus on vulnerable groups, including those serving life sentences, foreigners, women and juveniles. The ICRC maintained its support to the extensive tuberculosis (TB) control programme in prisons, while working towards its eventual handover to the Ministry of Justice.

Following tensions along the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan in spring 2005, the ICRC carried out two assessment missions to the Tavush region to better understand and gauge the impact of the situation on the civilian population. Accordingly, it decided to step up its presence in the area in 2006.

As anticipated, the promotion of IHL remained a priority for the ICRC in Armenia. It kept in regular contact with the authorities regarding the national implementation of relevant IHL treaties and continued to support the work of military IHL instructors and the integration of IHL into military doctrine and training. Given the ongoing reform of the Armenian education system, the ICRC recommended that IHL be included in the school curriculum as a mandatory subject and that the authorities take over ownership of the programme within two years. The ICRC also continued to support the teaching of IHL in Armenian universities.

The ICRC maintained its close working relationship with the International Federation and the Armenian Red Cross Society with the aim of strengthening the National Society's capacities.

CIVILIANS

Missing persons

Thousands of families remained without news of the fate or whereabouts of relatives missing as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. The ICRC conducted a name-by-name comparison of its list of missing persons with the authorities' and a local NGO's lists and contacted the families of those people who were not on its own list in order to reach a consolidated list. By the end of the year, the ICRC's list of missing persons from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorny Karabakh contained 3,478 names.

► 467 new tracing requests registered

The ICRC presented all parties with a memorandum outlining proposals for addressing the issue of the missing in a comprehensive fashion. The Armenian authorities welcomed this initiative, and the organization pursued its dialogue with them on implementation of the proposals. These pertained to the ongoing work of the relevant commissions and the creation of multilateral mechanisms, the collection and management of information on the missing, the recovery and identification of human remains and psychological support for the families of the missing.

Although the authorities lacked experience in ante-mortem data collection, they expressed their readiness to uphold the process and requested support and training from the ICRC in doing so. The ICRC also initiated discussions with various actors capable of playing a role in ante-mortem data collection and later in the identification process. By year's end, the data form was finalized, forensic specialists identified

and a dialogue initiated with the Armenian Red Cross Society on cooperation in future data collection.

A first assessment of the legal and financial situation of families of the missing, completed by the ICRC, found that the families of missing soldiers received some level of compensation, while the families of missing civilians received no benefits. With the ICRC's support, the Fund Against Violation of Law, a local NGO, provided school materials to 94 children of missing persons, as well as psychological assistance to the families.

Family links

The RCM network remained the only way for a number of people from Abkhazia, Azerbaijan and other countries to stay in touch with relatives in Armenia.

► 93 RCMs distributed and 113 RCMs collected

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit people held in connection with the conflict in Nagorny Karabakh and to monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of detainees. It participated in the repatriation of three Azerbaijani POWs detained in Nagorny Karabakh in relation to the conflict.

The ICRC had unrestricted access to places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of Justice and the State police service. Recommendations made by the ICRC following its visits were acknowledged by the authorities and acted upon where possible. The organization was also allowed to visit places of detention under the responsibility of the Ministry of Defence.

The ICRC maintained its focus on the plight of the most vulnerable groups in the Armenian penitentiary system, including

those serving life sentences and foreigners. The material and psychological conditions of female and juvenile detainees, particularly during pre-trial isolation, were also monitored as a priority. The ICRC presented the authorities with a report on the conditions of detainees sentenced to life imprisonment.

As part of its cooperation with other humanitarian actors, the ICRC welcomed the involvement of the Civil Society Monitoring Group for Penitentiary Institutions in checking the conditions in pre-trial places of detention under the Ministry of Justice.

- 2,939 people visited, including 16 newly registered and 76 monitored individually, during 50 visits to 16 places of detention
- 20 RCMs distributed to detainees and 35 RCMs collected
- 160 family visits organized for 62 people either serving life sentences or detained for security reasons

TB control programme

TB remained a grave threat to the health of detainees in Armenia. The ICRC continued to support the Ministry of Justice in expanding the TB control programme to all detainees in the country, using the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) method. The organization monitored the programme and advised the authorities on its implementation.

New TB treatment units were opened in three Criminal Executive Institutions with the support of the ICRC. These units provided TB services to some 200 pre-trial detainees, by conducting screenings on entry and giving DOTS treatment to those diagnosed with TB.

The ICRC supported the Ministry of Justice in the rehabilitation and equipping of a TB microscopy laboratory. Infrastructure was created for the isolation and treatment of patients detected with TB, while toilet and shower facilities were refurbished and drainage and sewage systems rehabilitated. In addition, the organization supported the Ministry's health-care services through the provision of supplementary drugs, medical materials and personal protection articles.

In cooperation with WHO, the ICRC organized regional training in TB surveillance, monitoring and supervision, sponsoring the participation of doctors from the Armenian Ministry of Justice, as well as from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Doctors and nurses from the Ministry of Justice, along with laboratory

staff from the Ministry of Health, benefited from a variety of specialized training sessions and workshops supported by the ICRC.

In line with WHO recommendations, the ICRC encouraged the authorities also to take HIV/AIDS into account and stressed the importance of combating TB and AIDS jointly.

- 57 detainees integrated into the TB control programme, of which 34 newly detected cases
- 22 doctors and nurses from the Ministry of Justice trained in TB diagnosis and treatment
- 4,000 leaflets addressing the stigma of TB, produced by the ICRC and distributed by the Armenian Red Cross Society during a public awareness campaign relating to World TB Day

WOUNDED AND SICK

To improve treatment of victims of mines and explosive remnants of war, the ICRC sponsored the participation of three surgeons from the Armenian Ministry of Defence, along with four from Azerbaijan and three from Nagorno Karabakh, in its annual regional war-surgery seminars in Sochi, Russia.

AUTHORITIES

In its efforts to promote the implementation of relevant IHL treaties, the ICRC pursued its dialogue with the national authorities regarding Armenia's accession to the Rome Statute. It also translated into Armenian and published a collection of materials on the International Criminal Court. In addition, the ICRC monitored progress towards Armenia's accession to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its protocols, the Ottawa Convention and the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property. The National Assembly ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

With the support of the ICRC, two national studies were completed on the compatibility of Armenian law with international treaties and norms governing the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, on the one hand, and with IHL provisions related to missing persons, on the other hand.

A round-table on the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its protocols and the status of its implementation in Armenia was organized jointly by the ICRC and the Armenian Association of International Law.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Working to promote IHL among the Armenian armed forces, the ICRC continued to focus its efforts on instructing military specialists and integrating IHL into military doctrine and training.

IHL was taught as an integral part of the curriculum at the Military Institute of the Ministry of Defence, where more than 200 cadets attended 40 hours of IHL teaching. IHL was also included in the programme of the advanced officers' courses.

- 12 heads of battalion from the Armenian armed forces took part in an IHL course organized jointly by the ICRC and the Ministry of Defence
- 50 regimental commanders and 45 deputy commanders attended 2 IHL dissemination sessions conducted by the ICRC
- the chief of staff of the 3rd Army Corps participated in the 111th Military Course in San Remo and 1 officer coach and 4 cadets from the Military Institute participated in the General Skobelev IHL competition co-organized by the ICRC and the Russian armed forces in Ryazan, Russian Federation
- 4 officers took part in the 33rd and 35th Senezh IHL courses co-organized by the ICRC and the Russian armed forces in Solnechnogorsk, Russian Federation
- 3,500 posters and 50,000 leaflets, produced by the ICRC and containing extracts from the *IHL for Commanders* code of conduct manual were delivered to the Ministry of Defence for distribution

CIVIL SOCIETY

In a bid to target specific audiences in Armenia, the ICRC maintained regular contact with specialized media outlets. For example, all ICRC-issued information on its IHL programme for university students was published in two education weeklies. The ICRC's TB control programme in prisons was regularly highlighted in the Ministry of Health's weekly publication. ICRC representatives gave interviews to Armenian TV news programmes, and the

Ministry of Defence made a TV report on IHL teaching in the armed forces and the ICRC's role in it.

With educational reform well under way, the ICRC sought to include IHL in new secondary-school curricula. The secondary-school IHL programme marked its 10th anniversary, and the ICRC seized the opportunity to present the Ministry of Education with a summary of its major achievements and an analysis of teachers' and pupils' perceptions. The organization continued to reinforce national capacity to teach IHL and proposed that the authorities assume ownership of the programme as of 2007. To this end, a methodological guide for trainers was designed and produced, while teacher-training seminars intensified nationwide.

The ICRC's university programme focused on building local capacities in the field of IHL teaching. Moreover, some 2,000 volumes of ICRC/IHL-related publications in Armenian and Russian were distributed to universities and libraries. Further IHL promotion among future leaders and decision-makers took the shape of a first national IHL moot-court competition and a second national IHL essay competition for law students, both events co-organized by the ICRC and the Armenian Association of International Law.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC, in coordination with the International Federation, continued to provide support to the Armenian Red Cross Society, particularly for its tracing, dissemination and first-aid programmes.

To ensure the proper registration and follow-up of tracing requests addressed to the National Society, the ICRC helped create and install a database. It also sponsored the participation of the head of the National Society's tracing service in a specialized round-table in Moscow. Capacity-building efforts were enhanced through three tracing seminars and two dissemination seminars for National Society staff. A handbook containing dissemination guidelines was one of several National Society publications produced with ICRC support.



azerbaijan

The ICRC has been working in Azerbaijan since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. It focuses on addressing the issue of missing persons and the problems of detainees held in connection with the conflict, detained for security reasons or otherwise vulnerable, and monitors the situation of communities along the Line of Contact. It supports the authorities in bringing the spread of tuberculosis in prisons under control and ensuring the provision of adequate physical rehabilitation services for the disabled. The ICRC promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into the training of the armed and security forces and into university and school curricula. It works to strengthen the capacities of the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,525
Assistance	1,719
Prevention	1,220
Cooperation with National Societies	221
General	-

► **4,685**

of which: Overheads 286

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97.2%
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PERSONNEL

9 expatriates
56 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- submitted a set of proposals to the authorities with a view to clarifying the fate of persons missing in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and ultimately to providing answers to their families; conducted a name-by-name comparison of the ICRC's list of missing persons with the authorities' list in order to reach a consolidated list;
- positioned itself as an actor in conflict-affected areas of the country by establishing a more permanent presence along the international border/Line of Contact and by supporting the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan in the implementation of the Safe Play Areas programme;
- pursued efforts to obtain access to 6 Armenian POWs held in Azerbaijan and visited one of them; visited 3 Azerbaijani POWs detained in Nagorno Karabakh in connection with the conflict and participated in their repatriation;
- visited 34 places of detention to monitor conditions, including the functioning of the health system, and maintained support to the TB control programme in prisons;
- supported IHL training for the armed forces, notably improving cooperation with the Ministry of Defence; held the second national IHL moot-court competition for law students as part of its efforts to promote IHL.

CONTEXT

Azerbaijan continued to tread a fine line between the conflicting geopolitical interests of Russia, the United States, Turkey, Iran and Europe. The country's energy sector remained in the international spotlight, particularly with the opening of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline. Azerbaijan signed an Individual Partnership Action Plan with NATO and was included in the European Union's European Neighbourhood Policy. Military cooperation with the United States intensified with the announcement that two radar stations were to be established with US support in northern and southern Azerbaijan. Although the Azerbaijani authorities repeatedly stated that these radar stations would not be used against any neighbouring countries, both Iran and Russia expressed their concerns. In parallel, Baku intensified cooperation with Iran and Russia in the economic, military and energy spheres.

Domestically, the year was dominated by a sense of uncertainty linked to the November parliamentary elections. According to international election monitors (from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe), excluding ones from the Commonwealth of Independent States, the elections did not meet a number of international standards. The results were nevertheless accepted by the major powers, which identified some improvements over previous elections.

Eleven years after a ceasefire was concluded in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, encouraging developments seemed to take place within the framework of the Prague Process. The presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan held talks twice during the year, and the foreign ministers met numerous times. According to a statement by the 13th Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), adopted in December 2005, talks on the resolution of the conflict were poised to make the transition from negotiation to decision. The OSCE Minsk Group, mediating between the two sides, expressed hope that a breakthrough might be achieved in 2006 leading to a lasting settlement.

At the same time, tensions were reported throughout the year along the international border/Line of Contact, particularly in the spring. The authorities of both Armenia and Azerbaijan continued to use militant rhetoric for domestic consumption.

Following a proposal by Azerbaijan for a new UN resolution entitled "Situation in the occupied territories", an OSCE fact-finding mission took place in January 2005 to assess the issue of settlements. The mission found evidence of the presence of settlers in the territories examined but – excepting Lachin – did not determine that such settlements resulted from a deliberate policy by the Armenian authorities.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	15,106	<i>Water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	177	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)		
Number of visits carried out	101	Beneficiaries	600	
Number of places of detention visited	42	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	600
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs collected	122	Patients receiving services	Patients	9,280
RCMs distributed	114	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	1,248
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	2,397
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	467			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	9			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	3,478			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	64			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2			

ICRC ACTION

The fate of people missing as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict continued to be the major focus of the ICRC in Azerbaijan. To help resolve this issue, the ICRC pursued efforts to foster a dialogue between all parties concerned, reminding them of their obligations under IHL and presenting them with proposals on ways to advance the process.

In addition to monitoring the general conditions in places of detention, the ICRC further mobilized national partners and involved potential new donors and stakeholders in its programme to tackle high levels of tuberculosis (TB) among inmates. In all places of detention visited, while continuing to keep a close eye on vulnerable groups, including those serving life sentences, foreigners, women and juveniles, the ICRC shifted its attention to addressing structural problems, particularly in the field of detainee health care.

The ICRC continued to provide support to certain health services, notably in the sphere of physical rehabilitation.

As planned, support to the authorities in the implementation of IHL, as well as the promotion of IHL among the armed and security forces, secondary-school pupils and university students, remained a priority for the ICRC. Particular progress was noted in terms of improved cooperation with the Ministry of Defence in the integration of IHL into military doctrine and training.

The ICRC strengthened its collaboration with the Azerbaijani Red Crescent through the operational partnership in the Safe Play

Areas programme. These activities and a more regular presence along the international border/Line of Contact helped the ICRC increase its knowledge of the humanitarian situation in conflict-affected communities.

CIVILIANS

Missing persons

Thousands of families remained without news of the fate or whereabouts of relatives missing as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. The ICRC conducted a name-by-name comparison of its list of missing persons with the authorities' list and contacted the families of those people who were not on its own list in order to reach a consolidated list. By the end of the year, the ICRC's list of missing persons from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorny Karabakh contained 3,478 names.

► 467 new tracing requests registered

The ICRC presented all parties with a memorandum outlining proposals for addressing the issue of the missing in a comprehensive fashion. The Azerbaijani authorities formally approved most of the proposals and, consequently, the ICRC initiated discussions with them on implementation, focusing on ante-mortem data collection and psychological support for families. The authorities agreed that volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan would carry out the ante-mortem data collection, with technical support from the ICRC, while the authorities would be responsible for managing the information collected.

Difficulties were encountered in finding structures able to provide adequate psychological support to the families of missing persons. An ICRC survey of the needs of families of the missing showed, however, that they considered their main problems to be financial rather than psychological.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC encouraged the *de facto* authorities to establish a working group on missing persons in order to implement its proposals. In addition, the organization supported the creation of a burial site for unidentified human remains. Six sets of human remains were subsequently interred at the site, with plastic sheeting and reference tags provided by the ICRC to allow for possible later identification.

Family links

The ICRC issued travel documents to 64 people, mainly Afghan refugees, who had been accepted for resettlement in a third country or were returning to Afghanistan. In Nagorny Karabakh, it helped two people to obtain such documents.

Given the disruption of postal and telephone services between Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorny Karabakh, the RCM network was the only way for some people to maintain contact with family members from whom they had become separated as a result of conflict.

► 4 RCMs collected in Azerbaijan
► 82 RCMs collected and 84 distributed in Nagorny Karabakh

Conflict-affected communities

The ICRC undertook eight field missions to front-line areas. These missions enabled it to gain a better understanding of the situation faced by populations living there and to prepare for the reopening of an office.

The ICRC also resumed its involvement in mine action, working in close cooperation with the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action and the Azerbaijan Campaign to Ban Landmines. As part of the Safe Play Areas programme, the ICRC provided operational support to the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan in the construction of mine-free playgrounds for children in 15 villages.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC conducted three distributions of essential household items (soap, washing powder and school kits) and food parcels to some 400 vulnerable people (300 pensioners, 40 disabled persons, 60 members of families of missing persons).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit people held in connection with the conflict in Nagorny Karabakh and to monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of detainees. It regularly visited three Azerbaijani soldiers detained by the *de facto* authorities of Nagorny Karabakh and later participated in their repatriation.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the Azerbaijani authorities to obtain unrestricted access to people detained in relation to the conflict. Of the six Armenian POWs held by the Ministry of Defence during the year, the ICRC obtained access to one and helped him to remain in contact with his family. The organization also helped two Armenian civilians who had crossed the international border to return home.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC provided particularly vulnerable detainees with food items and clothing. Financial assistance was given to 10 families to facilitate visits to their detained relatives.

- in Azerbaijan, 13,991 detainees visited (including 50 detainees newly registered and 168 monitored individually) during 73 visits to 34 places of detention
- in Nagorny Karabakh, 1,115 detainees visited (including 8 detainees newly registered and 9 monitored individually) during 28 visits to 8 places of detention

- 15 RCMs collected from and 11 distributed to detainees in Azerbaijan
- 21 RCMs collected from and 19 distributed to detainees in Nagorny Karabakh

TB control programme

The prevalence of TB and high rates of multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) among detainees remained a serious problem in Azerbaijan. The ICRC maintained its firm commitment to building the capacities of the relevant authorities to implement the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) regime, including the laboratory requirements for this programme. Azerbaijan's application to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for funding for a five-year TB programme, including a pilot project in prisons to treat 100 MDR-TB cases, was approved.

The ICRC donated a mobile mass miniature radiographic unit to the Ministry of Justice, allowing more than a third of the total prison population of Azerbaijan (5,816 detainees/prisoners) to be screened for TB.

In terms of structural improvements, seven projects to rehabilitate specialized units, such as X-ray facilities, and to refurbish nurses' and visitors' rooms were carried out with ICRC support.

Furthermore, in an effort to ensure that released detainees were registered for treatment in civilian TB facilities, the ICRC visited the Baku and Sumgait TB dispensaries in order to identify potential obstacles. Thus, of the 154 detainees released while under TB treatment in 2005, 91 of them were registered in civilian TB dispensaries. A pilot project was developed to involve six Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan nurses in follow-up of and support to released detainees.

In cooperation with WHO, the ICRC organized regional training in TB surveillance, monitoring and supervision, sponsoring the participation of doctors from the Azerbaijani Ministry of Justice, as well as from Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Doctors, nurses and laboratory technicians from the Ministry of Justice benefited from a variety of specialized training sessions and workshops supported by the ICRC.

In December, the Ministry of Justice and the ICRC marked 10 years of collaboration in bringing TB under control in prisons of Azerbaijan, whereby 7,063 inmates

diagnosed with TB had been treated. The minister of justice and the minister of health participated in the event, and a study tour was organized to the prison TB hospital for representatives of the government, diplomatic community and international agencies to solicit continued commitment to the programme.

In line with WHO recommendations, the ICRC encouraged the authorities also to take HIV/AIDS into account and stressed the importance of combating TB and AIDS jointly.

- 5,816 detainees screened for TB, with 81 integrated into treatment
- 6,677 detainees screened for TB in 3 pre-trial isolators and 1 high-security prison, with 99 TB cases detected
- 769 detainees integrated into DOTS treatment
- 751 detainees completed TB treatment
- 14 doctors, nurses and laboratory technicians from the Ministry of Justice trained in TB diagnosis, treatment and epidemiology

WOUNDED AND SICK

Physical rehabilitation

The ICRC sought to ensure that amputees and other disabled people had access to good-quality rehabilitation services. The organization maintained its support to the Ahmedly Orthopaedic Centre in Baku, as well as the two physical rehabilitation centres in Ganja and Nakhichevan. It also encouraged Red Crescent branches to assist in raising awareness of the physical rehabilitation services available.

At a joint evaluation and planning seminar, the ICRC and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection analysed the previously agreed plan of action on physical rehabilitation and discussed ways of moving the programme forward. The ICRC also financed an external evaluation of physical rehabilitation services in Azerbaijan.

In addition, the ICRC provided crutches to 18 Chechen amputees and a wheelchair to a disabled Chechen woman, before the authorities decided to allow access for refugees to free-of-charge physical rehabilitation services in the Baku centre. In order to ensure access and quality of services, the ICRC accompanied 10 Chechen patients to the centre.

- 3 physical rehabilitation centres supported

- ▶ 9,280 patients, including 5,383 amputees, received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 203 new patients fitted with prostheses and 450 with orthoses
- ▶ 1,248 prostheses (125 for mine victims), 2,397 orthoses, 4,058 crutches and sticks and 210 wheelchairs delivered to patients
- ▶ 8 technical monitoring missions carried out (3 in Baku, 3 in Ganja and 2 in Nakhichevan)
- ▶ 2 seminars on prosthesis production held (1 in Baku and 1 in Ganja), attended by 9 technicians
- ▶ a one-month course in scoliosis treatment (physiotherapy and corset production) organized

To improve the care of victims of mines and explosive remnants of war, the ICRC sponsored the participation of four surgeons from the Azerbaijani Ministries of Defence and Health and three from Nagorny Karabakh, as well as three from Armenia, in its annual regional war-surgery seminars in Sochi, Russia.

Support to primary-health-care facilities in Nagorny Karabakh

In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC concentrated on distributing drugs and renewable medical items to rural health centres. Drug-management procedures were monitored during distributions, and feedback was given on the reporting procedures.

- ▶ 65 health-care facilities in Nagorny Karabakh supported
- ▶ basic medical materials donated to the Stepanakert/Khankendi Spinal Rehabilitation Centre, an old people's home, a hospital, a pre-trial detention facility and a prison
- ▶ anti-helminthic medication provided for a campaign to combat the prevalence of intestinal parasites in schoolchildren
- ▶ training material provided for first-aid training sessions for firefighters, emergency health workers, education staff and volunteers from the general public (48 participants in 4 courses)

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC maintained contact with the Azerbaijani authorities regarding the incorporation of IHL provisions into national legislation. In particular, discussions were held with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on government plans to establish an inter-ministerial committee for the implementation of IHL.

The ICRC commissioned a national study on the compatibility of Azerbaijani legislation with the requirements under IHL for the protection of cultural property. A proposal was made to set up a working group within the State Commission for the Protection of Cultural Property. Another study on the compatibility of existing legislation with the provisions of IHL on missing persons, also commissioned by the ICRC, was completed.

A one-day workshop on the ICRC's mandate and IHL was conducted for employees of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights of Azerbaijan. Also, two State officials participated in an IHL round-table in Moscow.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Azerbaijani minister of defence met the ICRC to express his ministry's wish to increase cooperation. The ICRC thus provided the authorities with a model ministerial order on IHL integration. It also met the assistant to the president on military and security issues and ministerial legal experts to discuss IHL integration within the armed forces.

- ▶ 31 officers from the combat training, operational, legal and education departments of the armed forces of Azerbaijan took part in 2 five-day IHL courses
- ▶ some 350 officers, cadets and teachers from the Higher Naval School attended a presentation on IHL and ICRC activities
- ▶ 2 officers from the Ministry of Defence participated in an IHL course in San Remo
- ▶ 2 officers from the Ministry of Defence participated in Senezh IHL training in Moscow
- ▶ a cadet team from the Azerbaijan Higher Military School took part in the Yaroslav Mudriy IHL competition in Odessa, Russian Federation

- ▶ a retired officer from the Ministry of Defence hired to facilitate understanding of IHL training and the teaching needs of the armed forces
- ▶ basic information on IHL published in the official newspaper of the Ministry of Defence, and 1,200 copies of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols distributed
- ▶ 14 officers from the internal troops, including commanders and chiefs of staff of regiments and line battalions, participated in a three-day IHL course
- ▶ 14 police officers from the operational, legal and education departments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs took part in a five-day course on IHL and international human rights law
- ▶ 2 officers from the internal troops and 2 teachers from the Police Academy participated in a course on IHL and international human rights law in Moscow
- ▶ in Nagorny Karabakh, 13 arms bearers responsible for combat training attended a five-day IHL course

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC maintained regular contact with the media in Azerbaijan in order to ensure coverage of issues of importance to the organization. It issued and distributed quarterly newsletters and regular press releases on its activities. An exhibition on IHL was mounted for World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May, and a film on the history of the Movement, *Story of an idea*, was dubbed into Azerbaijani and shown during the event. A documentary film on the TB control programme in prisons was produced in Azerbaijani and shown at the event marking the 10th anniversary of ICRC-Ministry of Justice collaboration.

Ten years after the launch of the ICRC's secondary-school IHL programme, pupils throughout Azerbaijan continued to learn about humanitarian principles via literature-based course books on IHL themes. Four hours' worth of IHL topics were included in the obligatory curriculum. The ICRC continued to reinforce national capacity to teach IHL through a series of tailor-made courses.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC held an IHL course for 14 education officials and conducted 11 teacher-training seminars.

IHL was included in the curricula of six third-level institutions, as well as in the State educational standards for international law

faculties in Azerbaijan. The ICRC delivered presentations on IHL and ICRC activities to law students of two Baku universities and one university in Nakhichevan. Besides sponsoring the participation of university students and teachers in events such as an IHL round-table and summer school in Moscow and the Martens Readings scientific conference in St. Petersburg, the ICRC held a second national IHL moot-court competition for students of law and international relations.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the main university-level institution continued to teach 24 hours of IHL to third-year law students and hosted two IHL dissemination sessions given by the ICRC. The ICRC also maintained contact with two private universities, each of which conducted IHL courses.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC continued to support the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan in its tracing and dissemination activities.

As part of its mine action activities, the ICRC focused on enhancing its long-term partnership with the National Society and, in particular, implementing the Safe Play Areas programme, resulting in the construction of 15 secure children's playgrounds in villages along the Line of Contact.



bosnia and herzegovina

The ICRC has been present in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1992, opening a delegation in Sarajevo in 1995. The organization strives to clarify the fate of missing persons and to address the needs of their families. It advocates a comprehensive approach to the issue and supports related initiatives in line with the outcome of the ICRC's 2003 International Conference on the Missing. It also contributes to strengthening the National Society to enable it to respond to immediate needs and to assume longer-term responsibilities in society. The ICRC works with the authorities and civil society to promote IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,304
Assistance	449
Prevention	1,489
Cooperation with National Societies	1,504
General	-

► **4,747**

of which: Overheads 290

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	81.0%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
64	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- provided legal and technical assistance to the authorities in charge of creating official central records on the missing, of implementing the Law on Missing Persons and of establishing the Missing Persons Institute; chaired the 18th session of the Working Group on Persons Unaccounted For and promoted the use of ante-mortem data;
- obtained access to war-crime suspects held under the jurisdictions of the State Court and the Ministries of Justice at entity level and visited people detained by NATO;
- continued to support the National Society in clarifying and consolidating its management and governance roles, through the revision of its statutes and the strengthening of its capacities in restoring family links, mine-risk education and promotion of IHL;
- participated in IHL training sessions for legal professionals at the State War Crimes Chamber and entities' courts;
- developed teacher-training in the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in the Brčko District, the Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and promoted integration of the programme into the secondary-school curriculum.

CONTEXT

A decade after the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement, Bosnia and Herzegovina made some progress towards stability. The international community, led by the UN Office of the High Representative, maintained pressure on the political authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to meet the conditions for accession to the European Union (EU).

Despite tense political negotiations between the leaders of the three main ethnic groups, major reforms advocated by the international community were approved. The defence reform package included full State-level competence, with the elimination of the entity Ministries of Defence, the abolition of general conscription and the creation of a single defence budget. An agreement on police reform was adopted by a clear majority in the Republika Srpska National Assembly and subsequently the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

These encouraging developments enabled the European Commission to recommend negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina on a Stabilization and Association Agreement, which were initiated on 25 November. The talks were expected to last at least one year, and the EU made it clear that progress would depend on the commitment and political will of the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels to ensure effective implementation of the requisite reforms.

To cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the Republika Srpska developed a policy of encouraging voluntary surrenders and, consequently, 15 war-crime suspects were transferred to The Hague. The international community welcomed these steps but insisted that all remaining indicted war-crime suspects still at large be rapidly apprehended and brought to justice, in particular Radovan Karadžić and Ratko Mladić, before Bosnia and Herzegovina could be considered for membership of NATO's Partnership for Peace.

The War Crimes Chamber within the Bosnia and Herzegovina State Court was inaugurated in March to prosecute war-crime suspects. A registry similar to the ICTY's was set up to coordinate international support.

The 10th anniversary of the fall of the town of Srebrenica, a difficult and painful milestone on the road to reconciliation, was commemorated serenely in July. On the eve of the event, Serbian President Boris Tadić offered his apologies to the families of those killed and missing and attended the commemoration and funeral ceremony for 600 identified victims.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	29
Detainees visited and monitored individually	29
Number of visits carried out	5
Number of places of detention visited	5
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	112
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	1,297
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	15,266

ICRC ACTION

The issue of missing persons remained the most tragic legacy of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The ICRC worked closely with the relevant authorities and organizations, such as the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), to accelerate the tracing process. In November, the ICRC convened and chaired the 18th session of the Working Group on Persons Unaccounted For. The ICRC expressed its concern that the fate of 15,266 missing persons remained unresolved and proposed that efforts to relieve the suffering of the families of missing persons be strengthened. The authorities took a major step forward by officially launching the Missing Persons Institute at State level in August.

The ICRC organized and chaired the second meeting of the Working Group's Regional Sub-Committee, composed of representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro, and obtained the renewed commitment of the States in the region to developing coordination and improving inter-State information transmission, the cross-border exhumation process and the repatriation of human remains.

The domestic prosecution of war-crime suspects was set in motion following the creation of a War Crimes Chamber within the State Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Before the year's end, the first two indictees were transferred from the ICTY to Bosnia and Herzegovina to be tried before the Chamber. The ICRC therefore initiated contacts with the State and entity judicial authorities and was given access to detainees held on war-crime charges.

The ICRC continued to provide technical and financial support to the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its

efforts to complete its restructuring and to undertake capacity building in tracing, first aid and dissemination. Significant efforts were invested in assisting the National Society in refocusing its mine-risk-education programme and in integrating its mine-action activities into the overall programme of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre.

The ICRC continued to cooperate with the armed forces of both entities on issues pertaining to IHL and missing persons. Given the ongoing defence reform, the ICRC contacted the State Ministry of Defence to initiate the process of integrating IHL into the doctrine, education and training of the armed forces countrywide.

The ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme followed its course in the Brčko District and the two entities. The ICRC concentrated on training teachers in using the programme and on fostering its formal integration into the secondary-school curriculum.

In October 2005, the ICRC reduced its set-up in Bosnia and Herzegovina by closing its Mostar sub-delegation.

CIVILIANS

Thousands of persons who had disappeared during the conflict, and whose relatives had approached the ICRC for assistance in locating them, remained unaccounted for. The ICRC worked to relieve this uncertainty, not only to allow the families of the missing to come to terms with their circumstances, but also to pave the way for reconciliation and durable peace.

Since 1996, the ICRC had collected 21,487 tracing requests, of which 6,855 had been resolved, mostly through the exhumation and identification process.

- 112 new cases of persons sought by their families registered (of which 22 cases of women and 4 of minors at the time of disappearance)
- 1,297 cases resolved, of which 39 people were located alive and 1,258 exhumed bodies were identified and handed over to their families
- 15,266 cases of missing persons still being handled (of which 1,480 cases of women and 816 of minors at the time of disappearance)
- 15,275 names of missing persons published on a dedicated ICRC website

The Working Group on Persons Unaccounted For met at intervals, with a full session convened in November. Chaired by the ICRC, the session was attended by State and entity officials, as well as family representatives, delegations from Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro, and high-level national and international observers. The ICRC reminded the authorities of the urgency of transmitting to the Working Group all relevant information on the missing. It also recalled its intention to gradually transfer the responsibilities of the Working Group to the Missing Persons Institute, provided the institute was effective in its work and responsive to the needs of the families.

The ICRC continued to update and publish on its website the list of persons reported missing. It also promoted and distributed the sixth edition of its *Book of Missing Persons on the Territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina*. The Federal Commission, the Tracing Officer of the Republika Srpska and the State Intelligence and Security Agency provided regular updates on exhumations and identifications.

The ICRC participated actively in the ICMP-chaired expert group for the establishment of a national central database on missing persons, focusing principally on the issue of data protection and the final transfer of the ante-mortem database, currently managed by the ICRC, to the Missing Persons Institute.

A total of 635 ante-mortem questionnaires were collected by the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 16 other National Societies in 2005. By 31 December, the ante-mortem database contained 15,247 identities, of which 7,076 related to the fall of Srebrenica and 8,171 were linked to other events.

The ICRC organized meetings with the Family Coordination Group, created in November 2004, with a view to ensuring that the interests of the families of missing persons were represented in various forums, including the Working Group, as well as in the Missing Persons Institute. Furthermore, the ICRC participated actively in meetings with representatives of the associations of families of missing persons and assisted the associations through financial and technical support. The organization continued to cover the transport costs of families of the missing to visit mass grave or exhumation sites.

The five consultants contracted by the ICRC provided psychological support to 158 relatives of missing persons through nine projects. Four additional projects were approved for 56 family members, to be completed in the first half of 2006.

The ICRC supported the organization for the first time of a three-day psychological workshop for 14 members of expert teams working on exhumations undertaken by the Tuzla office of the Federal Commission on Missing Persons. The workshop aimed to assist the experts, who had been involved in exhumation and identification processes for the past nine years, to cope with stress caused by the difficult nature of their work and to alleviate burn-out symptoms.

Moreover, the ICRC supported an educational seminar for 200 student teachers on the psychological consequences of the conflict, with the aim of assisting future teachers in identifying the psychological problems of children of missing persons.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

A constructive dialogue with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina resulted in the ICRC gaining access to detainees sentenced or held on war-crime charges in places of detention under the jurisdictions of the State Court and both entity Ministries of Justice.

Subsequently, an ICRC team visited detainees sentenced for war crimes, including detainees who were on hunger strike, in places of detention under the jurisdiction of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The team included a doctor to assess the access to proper medical care of the detainees on hunger strike. In December, the ICRC carried out its first visit to the newly built detention unit of the State Court, during which detainees were visited and registered, one of whom had been transferred from The Hague.

Following the transfer of the mandate of the Stabilization Force (SFOR) to the EU Force (EUFOR) and NATO headquarters, the ICRC was advised that indicted war-crime suspects and members of their support network would be held exclusively by NATO headquarters. In line with the above, the ICRC received an immediate notification and was granted access to three persons held by NATO.

The ICRC facilitated one family visit and provided transport for seven family members to visit relatives serving prison sentences for war crimes in Croatia.

- 29 detainees monitored individually (26 newly registered) during 5 visits to 5 detention facilities

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC maintained regular contact with the authorities and representatives of the international community to raise their awareness of the organization's humanitarian concerns and to obtain their support for its activities, notably for IHL and efforts to resolve the missing persons issue.

As planned, the State authorities were encouraged to implement IHL, accede to new IHL treaties and establish a national IHL committee. National legal experts began updating a study on the compatibility of domestic law with IHL. The ICRC provided technical and legal expertise to the authorities at both State and entity

levels in the drafting of bylaws required for full implementation of the Law on Missing Persons, and a leaflet was produced with the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees to promote public awareness of the new legislation.

The agreement establishing the Missing Persons Institute, signed by the Council of Ministers and the International Commission on Missing Persons in August, was ratified by both Houses of Parliament in December.

The ICRC delivered presentations on key IHL concepts and its standard visiting procedures in training sessions organized for a total of 61 judges, prosecutors and other court officials of the War Crimes Chamber.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The adoption of the Law on Defence, which provided for the transfer of authority over defence from the entity to the State level, and of the Law on Service in the Armed Forces, which set the basis for the creation of a single professional military force, signalled the last phase of the defence reform.

While continuing to monitor defence reform, the ICRC pursued cooperation with the armed forces at entity level and met the State-level Minister of Defence for discussions on future IHL training for the armed forces.

The ICRC maintained an open dialogue with EUFOR and NATO on IHL, defence reform, missing persons and detention-related activities. It also participated in EUFOR's quarterly legal conferences to familiarize the force with the organization's mandate, working methods and activities.

During the year, the ICRC:

- held an IHL workshop with both entity teams and trained 13 military instructors;
- conducted IHL courses for members of the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and countries involved in NATO's Partnership for Peace programme;
- sponsored the participation of 2 officers of the State armed forces in an IHL course in San Remo.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Copious media coverage of the 10th anniversaries of the fall of Srebrenica and the Dayton Peace Agreement provided a valuable avenue for the ICRC to foster understanding of its involvement in the missing persons issue, the promotion of IHL and its support for the National Society.

Following an agreement with all 10 cantonal ministries and the Ministry of Education of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, training in the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme was completed for 28 teachers from 22 schools. The programme was also expanded to Mostar, where 27 teachers were trained.

The pilot EHL programme in secondary schools in the Brčko District entered its third year. Lessons were attended by 4,260 students there, and the ICRC awarded 145 certificates to teachers trained since the programme's inception.

In the Republika Srpska, the ICRC and the Pedagogical Institute completed EHL training for 40 new teachers. Altogether, the 80 teachers trained so far were implementing the programme in 40 secondary schools for approximately 2,400 students.

The ICRC continued to work with key professors and academic institutions to promote the ICRC as a major reference on IHL. The ICRC held three IHL dissemination sessions for students of the law faculties of the Universities of Sarajevo and both Mostar law faculties (Croat and Bosniak). Students and professors from two law faculties participated in the regional IHL moot-court competition held in the FYR Macedonia.

- some 100 teachers throughout the country trained in the EHL programme
- 4,260 pupils attended EHL lessons in the Brčko District, taught by 145 ICRC-trained teachers
- 2,400 pupils attended EHL lessons in the Republika Srpska, taught by 80 ICRC-trained teachers

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC continued to support the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina in resolving a number of institutional matters, including reinforcement of its structures and management. Both the ICRC and the International Federation facilitated discussions throughout the National Society to finalize revision of its statutes. A five-year development plan was completed.

The National Society's tracing service continued to benefit from investment. Field branches received basic equipment. Unified tracing service guidelines were produced and distributed.

The ICRC continued to support the integration of National Society mine-action activities into the national strategy defined by the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre. Memoranda of understanding were signed with a view to formalizing the relationships, roles and responsibilities of the different actors in mine-risk education and data collection.

The ICRC provided financial support for two entity National Society IHL dissemination coordinators, as well as two health coordinators.

The ICRC and the International Federation continued to coordinate their support for the network of 22 emergency-response units within the National Society's disaster and conflict preparedness programme. The ICRC concentrated on provision of first-aid kits and training to strengthen the National Society's operational capacity.



georgia

The ICRC has been present in Georgia since 1992. It visits detainees throughout Georgia, including Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and supports the authorities in bringing tuberculosis in prisons under control. It contributes to efforts to provide answers to families of missing persons and protects and assists displaced people and other vulnerable groups in conflict-affected regions. The ICRC also promotes the integration of IHL into the training of the armed and security forces and into university and school curricula. In cooperation with Movement partners, the ICRC helps to strengthen the capacities of the National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,370
Assistance	12,419
Prevention	1,280
Cooperation with National Societies	274
General	3

► **15,346**

of which: Overheads 937

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	102.4%
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PERSONNEL

25 expatriates
335 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- established a permanent presence in South Ossetia following renewed tensions between the breakaway region and Georgia;
- visited 19 places of detention (including 2 in Abkhazia and 2 in South Ossetia) to monitor the conditions, including the functioning of the health system, and maintained its support for the TB control programme in prisons;
- offered technical support to the authorities with a view to clarifying the fate of persons missing in relation to the Abkhazia and South Ossetia conflicts;
- distributed food and essential household items, as well as grants (agricultural, trade and craft), to some 51,600 vulnerable people in Abkhazia and western Georgia and rehabilitated 28 collective centres housing IDPs (including 3 in the Georgia-South Ossetia conflict zone);
- supported 3 hospitals in Abkhazia and 2 physical rehabilitation centres (1 in Tbilisi and 1 in Abkhazia);
- supported IHL training for the armed forces; held a national moot-court competition and a national essay competition for law students as part of its efforts to promote IHL.

CONTEXT

Georgia continued to receive extensive international support for the process of economic and social reform. The government was able to raise the State budget on three occasions, thanks to the increased income from customs, taxes and privatization. Meanwhile, with rising prices and high unemployment, much of the population still had difficulty making ends meet.

Following the sudden death of Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania, repeated reshuffles in the executive at central and regional levels hampered the implementation of ambitious reform plans.

Georgia pursued its efforts to integrate Euro-Atlantic structures, working to implement an Individual Partnership Action Plan with NATO and to establish a European Neighbourhood Policy action plan with the European Union. Georgia and Russia finally reached agreement on the closure of Russian military bases and the withdrawal of troops from Georgia by 2008, which actually began in the second half of the year. The two countries had tense exchanges over Russia's presence and role in Georgia's conflicts with the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Following the rerun of the Abkhaz presidential election, won by Sergei Bagapsh, both Georgia and Abkhazia confirmed their willingness to resume peace negotiations. The parties met in Geneva and Tbilisi under the auspices of the UN, and steps were taken to finalize a draft agreement on the non-resumption of hostilities. However, the agreement had yet to be signed by the end of the year. Likewise, the official return of Georgian IDPs to the Gali district had still not taken place. The security situation in this district deteriorated steadily, especially at the end of the year, while the Kodori Valley and other parts of the ceasefire zone between Abkhazia and Georgia were relatively calm.

In the conflict between Georgia and South Ossetia, there was little progress in implementing the agreement signed in Sochi in November 2004. Tensions remained high, and several violent incidents undermined prospects for confidence-building. During the year, both sides presented similar peace proposals, calling for a three-stage peace process involving demilitarization, socio-economic rehabilitation and the definition of the breakaway region's political status. Although negotiations continued, there were no tangible results. The economy in South Ossetia was weakened by restrictions on trade between the conflict zone and nearby regions.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	8,165	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	22	Food	Beneficiaries	51,697
Number of visits carried out	68	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	51,606
Number of places of detention visited	19	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	16,987
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	5,974
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	350
RCMs collected	3,006	WOUNDED AND SICK		
RCMs distributed	3,203	Hospitals supported	Structures	3
People reunited with their families	6	Admissions	Patients	58
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Operations	Operations performed	819
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	34	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	14	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,077
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	21	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	343
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	653
People to whom travel documents were issued	30			

ICRC ACTION

Given the ongoing tensions and periodic violence in South Ossetia, the ICRC opened an office in Tskhinvali in order to monitor and address humanitarian issues related to the conflict. The organization carried out basic repairs to centres hosting IDPs, as well as to the emergency surgical facilities of key hospitals.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held in Georgia proper, Abkhazia and South Ossetia. It urged the Georgian government to reduce the severe overcrowding in pre-trial detention centres, pointing out the potential impact on both detainee and public health. In the most urgent cases, the ICRC provided beds and bedding and upgraded prison infrastructure and water-supply systems. Working closely with the government and other international actors involved, the organization continued to support the tuberculosis (TB) control programme in prisons, expanding activities to include facilities in western Georgia. The ICRC completed a comprehensive assessment of the management of health services for detainees and submitted its recommendations to the justice and health authorities.

The ICRC remained focused on the issue of persons missing as a result of the conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia. While encouraging the authorities to take measures to identify human remains and inform families, the organization assessed the needs of families of the missing and completed a study on national legislation relating to the problem.

In Abkhazia and western Georgia, the ICRC continued to distribute food and other basic supplies to a core of people who were most needy and without any productive capacity, while it helped other beneficiaries to start micro-economic initiatives, enabling them to earn an income in cash or kind, thus reducing their dependence on external assistance. It also strove to improve the living conditions of IDPs in western Georgia and in the Georgia-South Ossetia conflict zone through the rehabilitation of collective centres. At the same time, the ICRC pursued its dialogue with the authorities, encouraging them to take measures to improve security, local economic conditions and access to health care of civilians in conflict-affected areas.

As planned, the ICRC maintained its support to medical facilities in Abkhazia, as well as to physical rehabilitation services in Tbilisi and Gagra. In partnership with the health authorities, it organized an assessment of the national physical rehabilitation policy in Georgia.

The ICRC also supported the authorities' efforts to enact legislation to meet the country's obligations under IHL and to integrate IHL into the curricula of military training institutions, universities and secondary schools.

In close collaboration with the International Federation, the ICRC continued to support the Red Cross Society of Georgia, specifically to develop the National Society's dissemination capacities.

CIVILIANS

Family links

While assessing whether its RCM network was still needed, the ICRC found that, although communications between Georgia and Abkhazia had improved, telephone calls were expensive and the postal service did not fully cover Abkhazia. Consequently, some 6,200 people still relied on RCMs to keep in touch with family members. The Chechen community in the Pankisi Valley continued to be offered the family-links services, but they made limited use of it (8 messages exchanged and 3 tracing requests opened). Compared with 2004, the overall volume of RCMs exchanged decreased by 30%.

- 3,203 RCMs delivered (of which 1,854 in Abkhazia) and 3,006 RCMs collected (of which 1,560 in Abkhazia)
- 6 people reunited with their families

The missing

More than 12 years on, around 2,000 people remained missing in connection with the conflict in Abkhazia and about 120 in connection with the conflict in South Ossetia.

Despite having new statutes, the Georgian State commission dealing with the search for missing persons still had to adopt all best practices for handling issues related to the missing and their families. Although the Abkhaz commission for missing persons had been temporarily disbanded, by the end of the year the Abkhaz authorities began drafting new statutes for the commission with the ICRC's technical support. In South Ossetia, while tensions early in the year left little room for dialogue on the subject of the missing, the South Ossetian authorities responded favourably to an

ICRC proposal to initiate cooperation on this issue.

The approximately 2,000 sets of personal ante-mortem data gathered in Georgia and Abkhazia were recorded by the commissions, but there was little progress in the task of identifying remains. With a view to accelerating the exhumation process, the ICRC offered its technical assistance to help the commissions apply internationally accepted standards to ensure that the exhumations yielded accurate information.

Meanwhile, the ICRC assessed the needs of families of missing persons. It found that many experienced economic problems, felt neglected, struggled with legal problems and were ill-informed about how to deal with them. The organization also conducted a study to identify Georgian legislation that could provide legal protection for the families of the missing. On the basis of the needs assessment and the legal study, the ICRC began to examine ways to support families in Georgia and Abkhazia in cooperation with the commissions.

Economic security and basic needs

As an increasing number of residents of Abkhazia with Russian passports became eligible for Russian pensions, this improved their economic security and allowed the ICRC to stop its assistance to some of them. The caseload of people receiving food and essential household items was thus reduced from 15,593 to 8,363. The ICRC and its local partner continued to provide home care and cooked food to a number of these still highly vulnerable beneficiaries. Simultaneously, the organization provided grants to 4,567 people (1,391 households) to start micro-economic projects (agricultural, trade or craft) and decrease their dependence on external assistance.

In western Georgia, the ICRC continued to assist up to 36,013 people with food and essential household items, to distribute agricultural, trade and craft grants to 12,420 people (3,231 households), and some 8,900 people received a last food ration in 2005. At the end of 2005, there were 15,460 beneficiaries who either did not have any productive capacity or would receive a grant in 2006.

- ▶ 15,684 people in Abkhazia received food and essential household items, of these 4,567 also received grants
- ▶ 36,013 people in western Georgia received food and essential household items, of these 12,420 also received grants

ICRC engineers rehabilitated buildings, sanitation and water-supply facilities to improve living conditions in 28 collective centres housing IDPs, including three in the Georgia-South Ossetia conflict zone. These rehabilitation projects benefited 2,695 IDPs. The organization established maintenance teams in the 28 centres, providing training and tools.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visiting detainees and improving living conditions

The ICRC continued to visit detainees in Georgia proper, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, monitoring individually people arrested for security reasons, and paying special attention to foreigners.

In Georgia proper, the government received international support for its engagement in a process of prison reform. Even so, overcrowding increased, especially in pre-trial detention facilities. The overcrowding not only compromised detainee health but also, when prisoners were released, threatened public health. Having assessed the situation, the ICRC provided technical and material assistance to help the authorities improve overall conditions in prisons, thus benefiting all inmates and contributing to the reform process. For example, the organization responded to an urgent request by the Ministry of Justice to provide 400 beds and bedding for detainees.

Furthermore, the ICRC completed the water-supply system at a new prison under construction near Tbilisi (capacity 1,500), undertook emergency plumbing repairs at the central penitentiary hospital in Tbilisi (250 beneficiaries), rehabilitated the drinking-water supply of Ksani colony near Tbilisi (600 beneficiaries) and installed windows and rehabilitated showers in Geguti colony in western Georgia (650 beneficiaries). In South Ossetia, the organization upgraded the water-supply system and installed showers at the prison in Tskhinvali (50 beneficiaries).

The ICRC undertook an assessment of the management of health services in Georgia's penitentiary system and shared its findings with the government. Regular meetings then took place with the Ministries of Justice and of Health in order to encourage the integration of the ICRC's recommendations into the ongoing reform of the penitentiary system.

- ▶ 8,165 detainees visited (including 421 in Abkhazia and 95 in South Ossetia), of whom 10 newly registered and 22 monitored individually (including 3 in Abkhazia and 3 in South Ossetia), during 68 visits (including 8 in Abkhazia and 15 in South Ossetia) to 19 places of detention (including 2 in Abkhazia and 2 in South Ossetia)
- ▶ a family visit arranged for a security detainee in South Ossetia and the return home of a security detainee from Abkhazia organized
- ▶ water and sanitation conditions improved for 4,050 detainees

TB control programme

Detainees in Georgia remained at high risk of TB infection, as did the population at large when families visited their relatives in prison or when infected detainees were released. Supported by the ICRC, the government continued to implement the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) strategy for detainees with active TB.

In support of the TB control programme in prisons, the ICRC cooperated closely with the authorities and other international actors, providing technical assistance and medication. The Ministry of Justice conducted mass TB screening in 10 detention facilities, including for the first time in two detention facilities in Zugdidi and Batumi in western Georgia. The largest screening operation since the programme began was organized for 3,000 detainees at the most crowded pre-trial detention facility.

- ▶ 6,532 detainees screened for TB in 10 detention facilities
- ▶ 316 detainees diagnosed with TB admitted for treatment
- ▶ of the detainees starting treatment in 2005, 20 completed DOTS treatment and 254 were still undergoing treatment at year's end

WOUNDED AND SICK

Hospital support

In Abkhazia, problems related to a lack of recognition of the area's status continued to hinder the delivery of essential medicines and supplies. The ICRC thus provided three referral hospitals in Sukhumi, Agudzera and Tkvarcheli with essential analgesics and suture material.

- ▶ 819 surgical operations performed in 3 ICRC-supported hospitals in Abkhazia
- ▶ 58 weapon-wounded cases admitted to these 3 hospitals

In the Georgia-South Ossetia conflict zone, the ICRC carried out the partial rehabilitation of three Georgian health facilities and launched a project to improve the water and sanitation conditions in Tskhinvali hospital. The ICRC also sponsored the participation of two surgeons (one Georgian and one Ossetian) in the organization's annual regional war-surgery seminars in Sochi, Russia.

Physical rehabilitation

There were 4,000 amputees in Georgia, according to official estimates. In Abkhazia, there were around 600, most of whom were war-wounded. Therefore, the ICRC continued to assist two government physical rehabilitation centres, namely the main centre located in Tbilisi (which also served patients from South Ossetia) and the centre in Gagra, which was the only rehabilitation centre serving disabled people from Abkhazia.

The ICRC pursued its efforts to ensure that the Georgian Foundation for Prosthetic and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (GEFPOR), which it had helped set up, could gradually take over the physical rehabilitation programme in Tbilisi. To this end, it supported training for senior GEFPOR officials to further develop their organizational and financial management expertise and held a month-long course to upgrade the skills of six physiotherapists.

Moreover, in collaboration with the health authorities, the organization arranged for an independent evaluation of the national physical rehabilitation policy in Georgia to be conducted.

As part of its support to the centre in Gagra, the ICRC organized a three-week physiotherapy course to upgrade the skills of local professionals. In partnership with the local health authorities, the organization held a round-table on physical rehabilitation. Subsequently, the Abkhaz authorities agreed to progressively assume full responsibility for the Gagra centre.

- 1,077 patients, including 567 amputees, received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 124 new patients fitted with prostheses and 247 with orthoses
- 343 prostheses (70 for mine victims), 653 orthoses (1 for a mine victim), 892 crutches and 5 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC continued to promote Georgia's accession to IHL treaties prohibiting or regulating the use of certain types of weapons, including Protocols IV (blinding laser weapons) and V (explosive remnants of war) to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Ottawa Convention. To further support the authorities' efforts to enact legislation to meet Georgia's obligations under IHL, the ICRC completed a study of national legislation relating to missing persons and the rights of their families. It also reviewed Georgian legislation on the use and protection of the red cross and red crescent emblems. A five-day IHL training course for 23 State officials was co-organized by the ICRC and the Georgian Young Lawyers Association.

The ICRC regularly provided embassies of countries belonging to the ICRC Donor Support Group in Tbilisi, as well as the UN, the European Commission and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), with material on the ICRC's activities in the country and around the world.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

A presidential order disbanded the interior troops, integrating the majority of them into the Ministry of Defence land forces. Two battalions were left under the Ministry of the Interior and were deployed in Tbilisi and Zugdidi.

- participation of the deputy head of operational management of the land forces of Georgia sponsored in an IHL course in San Remo
- a three-day IHL course conducted for 36 officers of the 21st Battalion of the Kutaisi Brigade prior to its deployment to Iraq, as well as a half-day IHL training course for 8 officer-instructors and 32 sergeants of the Non-Commissioned Officers School
- the organization's activities presented to 60 military personnel from the UN Observer Mission in Georgia, 4 observers from the OSCE and 50 servicemen of the Russian Battalion of the Joint Peacekeeping Force in the Georgia-South Ossetia conflict zone
- 6 presentations given on the organization's activities for 41 police officers in Tskaltubo, Abasha and Poti, as well as for 80 officers of the Rapid Deployment Force of the Ministry of the Interior in Zugdidi

- the organization's activities presented to 145 officers of the Abkhaz military and law-enforcement bodies, and 11 briefings given to 42 officers at checkpoints throughout Abkhazia

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC organized several round-tables in western Georgia and Abkhazia in order to update media representatives on its humanitarian activities. It produced press releases and fact sheets and gave radio and TV interviews, highlighting its TB control programme in prisons and micro-economic initiatives to assist vulnerable civilians.

The ICRC maintained its support for a school programme to familiarize pupils in Georgia with the basic concepts of IHL and humanitarian action. As the education system went through its reform process, the organization cooperated with the Ministry of Education in integrating IHL-related topics into new curricula and textbooks. The ICRC organized a nationwide competition on teaching the basics of IHL, and 63 teachers from the different regions of Georgia participated in the final round. In Sukhumi, the ICRC organized an IHL competition for 35 pupils from 7 districts of Abkhazia.

- some 154,000 pupils, including 6,000 in Abkhazia, used ICRC-sponsored textbooks
- 106 groups of teachers (1,056 teachers) trained in Tbilisi and 15 regions of Georgia
- 7 teachers trained as teacher-trainers in Georgia and 12 in Abkhazia

IHL was taught in the law and journalism faculties of six universities in Georgia. The ICRC worked closely with the Georgian Young Lawyers Association to promote IHL in academic circles, notably co-organizing an IHL moot-court competition and a national IHL essay competition for law students. The organization sponsored the participation of university students and teachers in such events as the international Jean Pictet IHL competition, the Moscow IHL summer school and the Moscow IHL round-table for State officials and academic circles. In order to promote IHL rules and principles among current and future decision-makers in South Ossetia, the ICRC organized a one-day IHL training course for 20 professors and students of the University of Tskhinvali, in which 13 local government officials also participated.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Red Cross Society of Georgia focused on adopting new statutes and preparing for elections, as well as drawing up a new strategic plan for 2006–09.

The ICRC signed an agreement with the National Society on enhancing its capacities in the fields of dissemination and communication.

- ▶ with ICRC support, 14 National Society regional dissemination officers conducted 114 internal sessions with 802 participants and 164 external sessions with 1,148 participants



serbia and montenegro (including kosovo)

The ICRC works throughout Serbia and Montenegro, including Kosovo, to assist the families of missing persons in their efforts to shed light on the fate of their relatives. It monitors the situation of minority communities, IDPs and returnees facing security problems. Having concluded its direct assistance programmes in 2004, the organization continues to lobby the authorities to support IDPs and other vulnerable groups. The ICRC has operated in Serbia and Montenegro since 1991, and in Kosovo since 1992. As of January 2006, the Belgrade delegation will also cover Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	4,226
Assistance	3,091
Prevention	2,063
Cooperation with National Societies	1,943
General	-

► **11,323**

of which: Overheads 687

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95.4%
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PERSONNEL

15 expatriates
138 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- chaired official sessions of the Working Group on the Missing in Kosovo, re-establishing direct talks and enabling sustained dialogue on the issue to take place between Belgrade and Pristina; continued discussions with the authorities in Serbia and Montenegro regarding the legal and administrative problems facing the families of the missing;
- monitored the situation of minorities and IDPs; assisted IDPs in Kosovo suffering from lead poisoning and alerted the authorities and other humanitarian actors to the issue; conducted a final evaluation of its assistance programmes for IDPs in Serbia and Montenegro;
- handed over the basic health services pilot project in Kraljevo to public health authorities, who adopted it as a model for primary-health-care reform and started to replicate it elsewhere in Serbia;
- with the International Federation, pursued efforts to enhance cooperation between Red Cross actors;
- supported academic circles and the authorities in implementing IHL at the national and regional levels; facilitated IHL training for the armed forces.

CONTEXT

The potential for violence persisted, particularly in Kosovo and southern Serbia, owing to the fragile coexistence of different ethnic groups and religions, rival territorial claims and imbalances in socio-economic development levels. However, in light of its improved cooperation with the international community, Serbia and Montenegro was authorized to start discussions with the European Union on a Stabilization and Association Agreement. Nevertheless, strong pressure was again exerted on Serbia to continue active cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and, should any remaining indictees be in Serbia, to arrest and extradite them.

Despite a slight improvement in some macro-economic indicators, the state of the economy remained dire and many structural reforms were still pending. The economic situation of the most vulnerable deteriorated, especially among IDPs and minorities.

A referendum on independence in Montenegro, decisive for the future of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, was announced for spring 2006. Uncertainty about future relations between Belgrade and Podgorica put the resolution of many important legal and administrative matters on hold.

Kosovo remained stable throughout the year despite some serious challenges, such as the resignation in March of Prime Minister Haradinaj of the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG) to face war-crime charges in The Hague. Kosovo Serb representatives maintained their boycott of Kosovo's provisional institutions.

Negotiations on the final status of Kosovo were officially launched between Belgrade and Pristina in October 2005. Consequently, the province, still administered by the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), entered a sensitive phase.

Relations between UNMIK and the PISG improved as the transfer of responsibilities to the Kosovo institutions gathered momentum. In December 2005, UNMIK promulgated legislation establishing the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Kosovo Judicial Council. Dialogue between UNMIK and the Serbian authorities improved, with the resumption, after months of stalemate, of discussions on missing persons and the return of IDPs.

Tension and mistrust lingered between the majority Albanian and the main minority Serbian populations in the province, where Serbian IDPs and minorities continued to endure intimidation. The situation remained volatile, marked by attacks that left a number of people injured or dead.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	142
Detainees visited and monitored individually	130
Number of visits carried out	25
Number of places of detention visited	14
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	12
RCMs distributed	2
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons¹</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	85
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	601
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	2,450
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	6

1. Kosovo conflict only

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to chair the Working Group on the Missing in Kosovo, promoting forensic activities in support of the exhumation and identification processes and mobilizing local and international organizations. Increasing numbers of families obtained information on the fate of their relatives. The ICRC supported the families of the missing by lobbying for recognition of their legal and administrative rights, as well as assisting family associations in project funding and capacity building.

In Kosovo, the ICRC continued to monitor the situation of minority communities and IDPs, making representations to the authorities and providing direct assistance and support. In Serbia and Montenegro, as expected, the ICRC closed all its field offices and conducted a final evaluation of the situation of the most vulnerable IDPs from Kosovo and of the impact of the organization's income-generating and cash-assistance programmes. The Belgrade delegation lobbied national and international institutions for support in favour of the most vulnerable IDPs.

The ICRC completed the transfer of its basic health services pilot project to the Serbian Health Ministry. Initiated to help the local health structure overwhelmed by the arrival of IDPs in the central Serbian town of Kraljevo, the project inspired national primary-health-care reform and replication began elsewhere in Serbia.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees in Serbia and Montenegro and in Kosovo, focusing on persons held on war-crime

charges, State security detainees and those held in connection with the past Kosovo conflict. With the increase in the detention of war-crime suspects in Serbia, the ICRC's pursuit of a formal agreement on immediate and systematic access to these and security detainees intensified. In Kosovo, the ICRC monitored developments in the prison-management sector.

With the declining need for a lead agency among Red Cross actors in Kosovo, Movement partners reviewed their shared responsibilities. The ICRC and the International Federation enhanced coordination between the two operating Red Cross units. In Serbia and Montenegro, the focus of the ICRC's cooperation with the National Society shifted from supporting operational activities to capacity building.

Preventive activities, such as promoting IHL among the national authorities and the armed forces, remained on course. The ICRC intensified its IHL training activities with academic circles and continued to introduce the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools.

CIVILIANS

Helping to shed light on the fate of missing persons

The issue of missing persons remained the most painful legacy of past conflicts and a major impediment to development. The ICRC continued to assist families and family associations in their search for news of missing relatives.

Kosovo conflict

The Working Group on the Missing in Kosovo, a forum for information exchange between the authorities in Serbia and Montenegro and Kosovo, convened three public and three closed meetings, under ICRC chairmanship, in Belgrade and Pristina. Both parties signed a general framework agreement defining the Working Group's humanitarian mandate to clarify the fate of missing persons and the participants' responsibilities in pursuing this objective. Efforts were made to clarify the fate of individuals unaccounted for, gain information related to gravesite locations, identify corrective measures to accelerate the forensic process and offer administrative and legal support to the families of missing persons. Consequently, the human remains transfer process from Serbia proper to Kosovo was stepped up.

There was improved coordination and exchange of information between the organizations involved in forensic work, such as the Office on Missing Persons and Forensics (OMPF), the International Commission on Missing Persons and the Forensics Institute in Serbia. The ICRC continued to mobilize international and local authorities in support of the Working Group process and ensured the regular exchange of information with the families through the governmental commissions on missing persons and the family associations in both Serbia and Kosovo.

In relation to the Kosovo conflict:

- ▶ 601 cases of missing persons were resolved, including identification of 546 human remains which were handed over to families/authorities

(275 from Serbia to Kosovo, 29 from Kosovo to Serbia, 1 to Albania and 241 within Kosovo);

- 2 gravesites were excavated, yielding the remains of 35 persons;
- a list of 16 alleged gravesites was resubmitted to the OMPF, and the authorities decided to start the exhumation process in 11 of the 16 locations;
- ante-mortem data were collected from 70 individuals in Kosovo and 25 in Serbia and Montenegro;
- 6 meetings on forensics were convened with institutions and organizations involved in identifications;
- 2,450 persons remained unaccounted for at end-2005 (of which 356 women and 234 minors at the time of disappearance).

In Kosovo, the ICRC:

- in cooperation with the local Red Cross, provided first aid and psychological support to families during 10 reburials and visits to morgues;
- organized 12 psychological-support group sessions for around 200 relatives of missing persons and members of associations of families of missing persons;
- assessed the impact of psychosocial programmes and provided direction for future programmes.

In Serbia and Montenegro, the ICRC:

- provided financial and technical support for 23 projects initiated and implemented by 6 family associations, which included psychosocial support programmes and dissemination activities;
- supported the organization of commemorative events for families of the missing, as well as media events to draw attention to the families' problems;
- in cooperation with the local Red Cross, organized 8 community-based projects targeting vulnerable groups and including families of the missing;
- focused on building the capacities of family associations, organizing 3 workshops on advocacy, media relations and project management;
- actively lobbied local authorities for the legal and administrative rights of families of the missing.

Croatia conflict 1991–95, Bosnia conflict 1992–95

The stagnation in relations between the authorities in Belgrade and Zagreb continued, hampering progress in the identification process and other efforts to resolve the issue of missing persons.

In relation to the conflicts in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- 98 families from Serbia and Montenegro assisted in travelling to Zagreb, allowing the identification of the remains of 55 persons;
- ante-mortem data were collected from 43 individuals missing in relation to the Croatia conflict;
- ante-mortem data were collected from 122 individuals missing in relation to the Bosnia conflict.

Protecting and assisting vulnerable civilians

In Kosovo, the situation of minority communities remained a concern, particularly Serbs who regularly faced intimidation and attacks. Kosovo Albanians in predominantly Serb areas of Kosovo were equally at risk. Freedom of movement of resident minority communities was severely restricted owing to security threats. Access to basic public services, such as health care and education, remained difficult. Consequently, minorities achieved little integration. The ICRC maintained contacts with the communities at risk to assess their situation. Together with the local Red Cross, it provided the most vulnerable with food and material assistance and conveyed their concerns to the authorities.

The ICRC pursued its efforts in Kosovo to raise stakeholders' awareness of the difficulties discouraging the estimated 20,000 IDPs within Kosovo from returning to certain areas and stressed the importance of ensuring that they returned voluntarily. The number of returnees from Serbia proper remained low, since many considered it still unsafe to return. Restrictions on movement hampered IDPs' access to health and education. In cooperation with local Red Cross units, the ICRC carried out assessments of living conditions during displacement and upon return. It also facilitated the revival of a collective health centre in Obilić, where 468 people were subsequently treated.

To assist some 530 minority IDPs living in a lead-contaminated area of Kosovo, the ICRC made representations to the local and international authorities, leading to UNMIK's release of funds to deal with the emergency.

Concurrently, the ICRC initiated remedial measures in IDP camps, improving hygiene and offering low-fat milk to young children and pregnant women to reduce lead absorption.

In southern Serbia, the ICRC continued to monitor the fragile security situation and stayed in contact with the authorities and civil society in Bujanovac, Presevo and Medvedja. It likewise carried out periodic monitoring visits to the Sandzak area, home to a significant Bosniak minority, maintaining links with local community and religious leaders, as well as with grass-roots NGOs and the authorities.

Following the cessation of assistance programmes for vulnerable IDPs from Kosovo, the ICRC undertook a final evaluation to gauge the impact of its micro-economic and cash-assistance programmes and to assess the situation of IDPs in Serbia and Montenegro. Findings confirmed that the situation had worsened for all vulnerable groups, not only IDPs. However, income-generating schemes, such as micro-credit, in-kind grants and vocational training, alleviated the suffering of the most vulnerable IDPs, restored their dignity and self-reliance and significantly reduced the need for local assistance.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visits to detainees in Serbia and Montenegro

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held on war-crime charges or for security reasons in Serbia and Montenegro. It identified problems and made recommendations to the detaining authorities. The number of people arrested for war crimes in Serbia and Montenegro increased. While access to this category of detainees was granted, the ICRC continued to negotiate for a formal agreement guaranteeing access on a systematic basis.

- 77 detainees monitored individually during 13 visits to 8 places of detention
- 33 attestations of detention delivered to former detainees visited by the ICRC

Visits to detainees in Kosovo

In Kosovo, the ICRC conducted further visits to detainees held in connection with the conflict in 1999 and the violence in March 2004. With the handover of competencies for civilian detention facilities from UNMIK to the Kosovo Correction Service, the ICRC convened frequent

bilateral meetings with the authorities involved to closely monitor the planned transfer of portfolios. It also maintained regular contact with the military detaining authorities, as well as with NGOs concerned with detention issues.

- 65 detainees visited (53 monitored individually; 22 newly registered) during 12 visits to 6 places of detention
- 109 attestations of detention delivered to former detainees visited by the ICRC

WOUNDED AND SICK

As planned, the basic health services pilot project, developed in Kraljevo to meet the primary-health-care needs of a large IDP population and vulnerable residents, was handed over to the Serbian Ministry of Health. The project served as a model for national health reform and was replicated elsewhere in the country. Together with the health authorities and international experts, the ICRC evaluated the project, the findings of which were made available at www.phckraljevo.org.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC maintained regular contact with the authorities in Serbia and Montenegro, the PISG and Kosovo political leaders to promote IHL and raise awareness of the organization's mandate and humanitarian concerns, especially regarding missing persons and IDPs. It also participated in IHL-related events hosted by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence.

Support was given to the national IHL committee in its efforts to encourage ratification and implementation of IHL treaties by Serbia and Montenegro. A Serbian-language translation of Volume I of the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law was presented to State officials.

The ICRC continued to work with representatives of the international community, particularly UNMIK, to address the legal needs of families of missing persons. Capitalizing on international policy-makers' interest in the activities of the Working Group on the Missing in Kosovo, the ICRC organized briefings for a broad range of actors at central and local levels.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Despite the difficulties plaguing military reforms, the ICRC carried out most of the planned activities with the Serbia and Montenegro armed forces aimed at promoting further integration of IHL into military training. Specialized meetings and courses were organized and publications provided. The ICRC sponsored the participation of Defence Ministry representatives in IHL courses in San Remo and Vienna.

Cooperation between the 17,000-strong NATO-led Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the ICRC remained constructive. The ICRC enjoyed access to the various KFOR brigades and maintained contact with the central and regional command. It gave regular briefings on its mandate and humanitarian activities, with particular focus on missing persons and detention.

While the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe assisted in the ongoing reform of police and security forces in Serbia and Montenegro, the ICRC organized lectures on IHL provisions applicable to police functions for various law-enforcement agencies.

UNMIK police passed on some responsibilities to the Kosovo Police Service (KPS), and the ICRC shifted its focus to raising awareness of humanitarian principles and the organization's mandate among KPS personnel. It made 16 presentations to 648 KPS staff on IHL provisions applicable to internal violence and made two additional presentations to 75 KPS officers in special police units.

CIVIL SOCIETY

ICRC reports on the situation of vulnerable IDPs, Working Group sessions on the fate of missing persons and the public campaign around the International Day of the Disappeared kept media interest in humanitarian issues alive. An IHL competition for students, a regional IHL course involving universities from the former Yugoslavia, and the launch of the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law at the Serbian parliament were reported as contributions to a better understanding of IHL.

The ICRC maintained contacts with associations of war veterans and invalids and their families that had emerged after the conflict in Kosovo, as well as with student unions, to prepare the ground for round-tables on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and humanitarian

activities. Support was given to the Kosovo Action Network to launch a public campaign on missing persons.

By making presentations and supplying publications to the Kosovo Protection Corps, the ICRC fostered understanding of IHL and the role and responsibilities of civil defence organizations during conflict.

The Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme was extended to Serbian and Albanian classes in southern Serbia and piloted in the ethnically mixed (Bosniak/Serbian) area of Sandzak. Some 50 teachers were trained to teach the programme. In Kosovo, the ICRC strengthened its relations with the PISG Education Ministry to prepare for the introduction of a pilot project in selected secondary schools.

Ongoing reforms in university education included plans to pursue introduction of IHL in the curricula of leading law and political science faculties. The ICRC sponsored the national moot-court competition, organized a regional IHL course for 40 students and supplied standard IHL libraries to universities in Belgrade, Niš, Mitrovica and Priština.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Serbia and Montenegro Red Cross Society maintained its dissemination capacity through eight centres supporting over 100 branches. Dissemination activities covering IHL and emergency preparedness were implemented in 11 branches bordering the Kosovo province. The National Society's tracing service was assessed and a long-term development plan drawn up with ICRC support. Local Red Cross branches implemented 68 community-based projects for IDPs from Kosovo, with participation also of families of missing persons and minorities.

The ICRC relinquished its lead agency role for the Movement in Kosovo but retained the lead role in activities concerning missing persons, resident minorities, IDPs, tracing and dissemination. Together with the International Federation, it facilitated four meetings of a joint working group of the Red Cross of Kosova based in Pristina and the Red Cross of Kosovo and Metohija based in Mitrovica. The two Red Cross structures agreed to run a joint mobile clinic and received ICRC advice on how to raise awareness of mines and other explosive remnants of war.



ICRC regional delegation ICRC mission

budapest

The Budapest regional delegation, established in 1997, encourages and supports the States of the region in their efforts to ratify and implement IHL treaties. It assists the military authorities in incorporating IHL into their training programmes and exercises, and the civil authorities in integrating IHL into university and secondary-school curricula. It also promotes research and debate on IHL and humanitarian issues among academic circles. The delegation supports the development of the region's National Societies and addresses the needs of the families of persons who went missing during the conflicts in Croatia between 1991 and 1995.

COVERING

Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	603
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,285
Cooperation with National Societies	928
General	-

► **3,816**

of which: Overheads 233

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98.1%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
22	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- made preparations, with the Croatian government and National Society, for the handover to them of the missing persons file and the closure of the ICRC office in Zagreb in 2006;
- continued to visit people detained in connection with the past conflicts in Croatia;
- encouraged countries in the region to accede to IHL treaties they had not yet ratified;
- participated in a series of NATO command post exercises and training activities; pursued efforts to have IHL integrated into the training programmes of the armed forces of the region;
- signed a tripartite agreement with the Slovenian government and National Society on introducing the Exploring Humanitarian Law modules into the secondary-school curriculum.

CONTEXT

With eight of the countries in the region having joined the European Union (EU) in 2004 and three others aiming for accession, much of the region's political attention focused on the proposed EU constitution. The rejection of the constitution by EU members France and the Netherlands raised issues concerning the EU's identity and future enlargement, as well as the potential effect of the "No" vote on the European Security and Defence Policy.

While Bulgaria and Romania remained on course for accession to the EU in 2007, Croatia encountered difficulties. The European Council twice postponed negotiations because of Zagreb's failure to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. In December, a Croatian general charged with war crimes, Ante Gotovina, was arrested in Spain, and agreement was finally reached on beginning negotiations regarding Croatia's accession to the EU.

On the political scene, two countries saw a change of government in the wake of a crisis. In the Czech Republic, the resignation of Prime Minister Stanislav Gross led to the appointment of a new government under Jiří Paroubek. In Estonia, following the resignation of the government led by Juhan Parts, a new coalition government was sworn in under Andrus Ansip.

Parliamentary elections took place in Bulgaria, where the Socialist Party topped the poll. After weeks of wrangling, a coalition deal was reached whereby Sergei Stanishev became prime minister. Both presidential and parliamentary elections in Poland saw the victory of the conservative Law and Justice Party. Lech Kaczyński was named president, while Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz was appointed prime minister and formed a minority government.

The public in some Central European countries continued to voice opposition to the presence of their troops in Iraq. The discontent brought about a policy change in Bulgaria, for example, which withdrew its troops from Iraq at the end of the year. In Poland, meanwhile, the new government decided to prolong its presence in Iraq until the end of 2006, but with reduced troops. Hungary and Lithuania decided to lead provincial reconstruction teams in Afghanistan in 2006, without much public debate or interest. The allegations that the US Central Intelligence Agency operated secret detention facilities in certain Central European countries, flying over and landing in various other ones, were strongly denied by the governments in question. The general public, however, did not appear overly concerned by the issue.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	60
Detainees visited and monitored individually	54
Number of visits carried out	6
Number of places of detention visited	6
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS ¹	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	23
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	76
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	2,493
DOCUMENTS ISSUED ¹	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	293

1. Croatia only

ICRC ACTION

The promotion of IHL, particularly the ratification and national implementation of IHL treaties, was the main focus of the ICRC's work in the Central European region. Working with the 11 governments of the region, the organization continued to encourage the creation of national committees for the implementation of IHL and to support their work.

Efforts were pursued to integrate IHL into the training and operations of the armed forces in Central Europe. In ongoing discussions with the region's Ministries of Defence, the ICRC placed emphasis on participating in multilateral exercises, such as those conducted with NATO.

The ICRC also concentrated on incorporating the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme into secondary-school curricula, supporting Ministries of Education throughout the development of the programme, with a special emphasis on helping countries in the early stages of implementation and on finalizing negotiations with others willing to launch it.

The programme of cooperation with university law faculties continued to develop, with memoranda of understanding being signed with two new universities. Moreover, the ICRC organized a series of competitions and events for law students and teachers to foster expertise in IHL.

The ICRC pursued its cooperation with the region's 11 National Societies, aiming to build their capacities in the fields of dissemination and tracing. It continued to assist the Croatian Red Cross, in particular, in dealing with the issue of missing persons and in conducting mine-risk education.

A priority in 2005 was preparation for the closure of the ICRC's office in Zagreb. This was postponed until 2006 in order to finalize bilateral agreements between the ICRC and the Croatian government and the National Society respectively. Accordingly, the ICRC prepared to hand over the file dealing with missing persons to the Croatian Red Cross.

CIVILIANS

Ten years after the signing of the Dayton peace agreement, despite the ongoing process of exhumation and identification carried out by Croatia's Department for Detained and Missing Persons (DDMP), the fate of 2,493 people, recorded by the ICRC as missing in connection with the conflicts in Croatia between 1991 and 1995, remained unknown.

The ICRC proceeded with its plans to transfer its responsibilities and specific data related to the missing to the Croatian Red Cross and the DDMP in mid-2006, while taking steps to ensure the appropriate handling of the file. To this end, it was agreed that, following the handover, the ICRC would provide the National Society's tracing department with training and financial and technical support. In the meantime, the ICRC continued to gather data on persons reported missing by their families and to manage the file in cooperation with both its Croatian partners and National Societies abroad.

The ICRC transmitted to the DDMP 36 ante-mortem data forms that had been collected in Serbia and Montenegro, in Bosnia and Herzegovina and by National Societies in other countries. In another positive development, with encouragement from the ICRC, the Croatian government formed an interministerial commission on

missing persons, which should serve as an advisory body to the authorities and propose strategic decisions on the issue.

Following two identification sessions in Zagreb, organized with the ICRC's support, 39 bodies were identified. The ICRC helped 98 families living in Serbia and Montenegro to attend the sessions. Assistance was also given to 49 family members who, following the identification, decided to bury 10 relatives in their native villages in Croatia. Furthermore, the ICRC provided accommodation for 20 family members who did not have a place to stay.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to monitor the conditions and treatment of people detained in Croatia in relation to past conflicts. Most of them were ethnic Serbs, with their families living in neighbouring Serbia or the Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The organization followed up on people arrested on charges of war crimes and on detainees released, thanks to systematic notification from the Croatian Ministry of Justice.

Under an agreement between the parties, five detainees convicted of war crimes were transferred from Croatia to Serbia and Montenegro, where they would continue to serve their sentences.

- ▶ 60 detainees visited, of whom 54 monitored individually (6 newly registered, 2 women), during 6 visits to 6 places of detention in Croatia
- ▶ 7 detainees released, of whom 1 transferred by the ICRC to Serbia and Montenegro to be reunited with his family

- 22 detainees benefited from family visits supported by the ICRC
- 42 detainees provided with clothing and shoes
- 293 people issued with detention certificates

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC continued to engage in dialogue with the States of the region to foster their political commitment to respect their humanitarian obligations and to follow up on bilateral cooperation programmes concerning ratification and implementation of IHL treaties at the national level.

Thus, the ICRC encouraged accession to the few IHL treaties not yet ratified by certain countries in the region. During the year, Estonia acceded to the First Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, while Hungary and Poland were in the process of becoming party to the Convention's Second Protocol. Latvia ratified the Ottawa Convention and Croatia ratified Protocol V (explosive remnants of war) to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

The ICRC provided a number of States with advice regarding draft laws to incorporate the provisions of IHL treaties into domestic legislation. Special emphasis was put on drafting and supporting the adoption of or contributing to respect for legislation regulating and protecting the use of the red cross emblem. Additionally, the ICRC co-organized a regional seminar in Warsaw on implementation of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, in association with the Polish Ministry of Culture.

Ad hoc national IHL committees were created in the Czech Republic and Estonia. Meanwhile, the ICRC actively promoted its study on customary international humanitarian law, cultivating contacts with government authorities throughout the region.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC increased its participation in NATO-led training activities, such as exercises and seminars on peace-support operations and civil-military cooperation, at both national and supra-regional levels.

The ICRC continued to support the region's armed forces in integrating IHL into the training programmes of military academies. This support included providing key IHL publications in the national language, as well as sponsoring and organizing IHL training and courses both in the countries of the region and in Austria and San Remo.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Aiming to increase understanding of basic humanitarian principles and the organization's mandate, the ICRC developed its network of contacts with journalists and carried out joint projects with media agencies across the region, providing them with press releases and briefings and organizing media-related events. The region's media covered a number of humanitarian issues, including the new additional emblem. Furthermore, the ICRC participated actively in round-tables and workshops for journalists, as well as film festivals and photo exhibitions.

By the end of the year, the EHL education pack had been translated into five of the region's languages: Croatian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish and Slovenian. In Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, the EHL programme continued to be incorporated into the educational system. In Croatia and Lithuania, the programme was extended and offered in secondary schools nationwide. Trainers trained numbered 17 in Croatia, 12 in Latvia, 46 in Lithuania and 34 in Poland. In Slovenia, the Ministry of Education, the National Society and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding, paving the way for integration of the EHL programme into the secondary-school curriculum. In Estonia, the Ministry of Education approved an equivalent draft tripartite memorandum of understanding.

The ICRC continued to promote higher studies in IHL. Memoranda of understanding were signed with two new universities, bringing the total of such agreements to 17. The ICRC organized national moot-court competitions and a regional IHL essay competition and sponsored several training courses. It also organized the second regional

Friedrich Born IHL competition, bringing together 20 leading IHL lecturers and 33 students from eight countries.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of Poland and Slovakia adopted new statutes. The Hungarian Red Cross postponed the adoption of new statutes until 2006.

The ICRC focused on building the dissemination and tracing capacities of the region's 11 National Societies. In particular, it helped prepare the Croatian Red Cross to take over the responsibilities and specific data related to missing persons.

Moreover, the ICRC supported the Bulgarian Red Cross at two events focusing on the promotion of the "Safer Access" approach.

Lastly, the ICRC continued to provide financial assistance to the Croatian Red Cross in the field of mine-risk education, while planning to phase out its support in 2006.



ICRC regional delegation

kyiv

The Kyiv regional delegation, in operation since 1995, promotes the integration of IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula and the training programmes and codes of conduct of the armed, police and security forces in the region. It visits detainees in the Transnistrian region of Moldova and monitors the treatment and conditions of security detainees in Belarus. The ICRC is strengthening cooperation with the region's National Societies and helping them to address emerging needs for humanitarian assistance, such as those of detained migrants.

COVERING
Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	21
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,245
Cooperation with National Societies	477
General	-

► **1,744**

of which: Overheads 106

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95.7%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
10	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued to visit the remaining detainees of the "Ilascu group" in Moldova's breakaway region of Transnistria; monitored the situation of security detainees in Belarus; launched a pilot tracing programme for detained migrants in Ukraine in cooperation with the National Society;
- assisted the armed forces of Ukraine and Moldova in assuming responsibility for IHL training; initiated a dissemination programme on human rights law and IHL for the police force of Transnistria;
- consolidated integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the curricula of the region's secondary schools;
- extended the university cooperation programme for the teaching of IHL to 20 higher-education establishments in the three countries covered.

CONTEXT

All three countries of the region underwent political transformations in the aftermath of Ukraine's Orange Revolution. Ukraine and Moldova confirmed a pro-Western stance, while Belarus reinforced its authoritarian policies and pro-Russian leaning.

Ukraine's difficult relations with Russia were exacerbated by a dispute over the price of Russian natural gas. The two countries were also unable to reach agreement on the status of the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait. In contrast, Ukraine's relations with the European Union (EU) improved significantly, with Ukraine being granted market economy status. Relations with the United States also took a turn for the better with the lifting of the Jackson-Vanik amendment, which had prevented normal trade relations between the two countries. The visit of the US secretary of state in December 2005 underlined Ukraine's new strategic role for the United States. On the home front, wrangling between the winners of the 2004 presidential election led to a split within the party, and corruption charges took their toll. Economic problems made serious reform impossible, and at year's end President Yushchenko had lost most of the credit gained with the Orange Revolution.

Moves towards a union between Belarus and Russia gathered momentum, with the submission of a draft constitution to national leaders in November 2005. Meanwhile, President Lukashenko decided to bring forward the date of presidential elections to March 2006 and, aiming to prevent a "coloured revolution", the Belarusian

parliament amended the criminal code in order to punish severely all "acts against the people". Control over the media was also tightened.

In Moldova, parliamentary and presidential elections saw the re-election of the Communist Party and of President Voronin, but relations with Moscow deteriorated with a row over Russian natural gas. Under a Ukrainian plan, direct talks resumed between the Moldovan authorities and representatives of the secessionist Transnistrian region, who met twice for the first time in two years. No significant progress was made, however, and mediators worked on confidence-building measures only. For the first time, the EU and the United States took part in the talks as observers. In December 2005, the EU inaugurated a two-year border assistance mission to monitor the Moldovan-Ukrainian frontier along its Transnistrian segment.

ICRC ACTION

As planned, assisting the authorities in their efforts to incorporate the provisions of IHL into national legislation remained a priority for the ICRC. In particular, the organization maintained its support to the national IHL committees in Belarus and Moldova, and encouraged the government of Ukraine to appoint the new members of its committee.

The ICRC visited detainees in Moldova's breakaway region of Transnistria. It monitored the situation of people arrested and detained for security reasons in Belarus.

It was decided that a new tracing programme to assist migrants detained in Ukraine, implemented in cooperation with the National Society, would be further extended across the country as of January 2006. The ICRC provided specific training in tracing techniques to Ukrainian Red Cross staff from the seven new provinces joining the programme.

Significant progress was achieved in the IHL programme for the region's armed forces. Overall, the ICRC trained 420 instructors during 12 sessions. In Ukraine and Moldova, the Ministries of Defence agreed to take over the ICRC's role of training their officers in IHL, and the ICRC agreed to provide the necessary guidance and support for full integration of IHL into the training of the armed forces. In Belarus, discussions got under way to reach the same objective.

For the first time, the ICRC was able to conduct a seminar on human rights law and IHL for police instructors in Transnistria. However, no similar progress took place with the Transnistrian army.

The focus of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme was on involving the respective Ministries of Education and encouraging them to take the lead in coordinating the extension of the programme nationwide. Agreements were signed to this effect with the education authorities of Moldova and Belarus, as well as with the *de facto* education authorities of Transnistria. Regional resource centres were created and university IHL lecturers enlisted in the training of secondary-school teachers.

Throughout the region, the ICRC expanded contacts with academic circles in particular, but also with the media and NGOs, providing them with detailed information on IHL and the Movement.

Cooperation with the National Societies of Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova centred on restoring family links, disseminating IHL and providing limited medical support to first-aid posts in the Crimean peninsula.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit the remaining two detainees of the "Ilascu group", held in Transnistria in connection with the conflict in 1992, and reported its findings to the *de facto* Minister of Justice. The ICRC maintained close contact with the Organization for Security and Cooperation mission in Moldova when the two "Ilascu group" detainees needed medical assistance.

ICRC Russian-language publications on the management of tuberculosis and HIV in prisons were distributed to the penitentiary authorities.

The ICRC carried out a mission in Belarus and continued to collect information in order to monitor the situation of newly sentenced security detainees.

AUTHORITIES

In Ukraine, the ICRC continued to advise the authorities on accession to IHL treaties and encouraged the new Minister of Justice to resume the activities of the IHL committee, whose new members had not yet been appointed. In May 2005, Ukraine ratified the Ottawa Convention.

In Moldova, the newly composed IHL committee, in cooperation with the Moldovan Association of International Humanitarian Law and the ICRC, conducted a study on the compatibility of national legislation with the international instruments governing the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict. Consultations on the ratification of the Rome Statute continued.

In Belarus, with encouragement from the ICRC, the IHL committee met to discuss a plan of action for 2006 following a two-year lull.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In Ukraine, the ICRC intensified its efforts to promote ownership of IHL training by the armed forces, resulting in a decision by the organization to ensure the military's actual takeover of courses early in 2006. The ICRC continued to provide expertise on international human rights law and IHL for police officers preparing to be sent on international peace-keeping missions. It also organized a seminar for 40 Ukrainian law-enforcement officers bound for Kosovo.

In Belarus, the ICRC proposed an IHL integration strategy to the Ministry of Defence calling for a ministerial order demonstrating the political will to take over IHL training and subsequently the organization of similar IHL courses at the military academy in order to create ownership. The ICRC continued its efforts to assist the Ministry of Interior in integrating human rights law into all police training and conducted two courses on the topic for 41 senior police instructors.

In Moldova, the Ministry of Defence expressed interest in reinforcing ownership of IHL programmes previously undertaken by the ICRC, and preparations were made for the military to open an IHL centre by mid-2006. The ICRC organized a course for 28 law-enforcement officers in Chisinau. In Transnistria, while the military did not follow up on an ICRC proposal to initiate an IHL dissemination programme, the *de facto* Interior Ministry agreed to cooperate with the ICRC. Thus, 15 Transnistrian officers participated in the annual IHL seminar for regional peace-keepers, and a course in human rights law and IHL was conducted for 29 senior instructors from the Tiraspol Law Institute, as well as for field police officers.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL

In its contacts with the media, the ICRC focused on promoting IHL and highlighting matters of humanitarian concern. For example, a press conference on the additional emblem was held jointly with the Ukrainian National Society. The Kyiv delegation published a leaflet on its activities in English, Russian and Ukrainian, and a monthly newsletter was launched to inform academic circles on IHL-related issues.

IHL and future decision-makers

The ICRC increased its contacts with selected universities to promote the study of IHL as an integral part of law, international relations and journalism courses. Students from the region were sponsored to attend the IHL summer schools in Moscow and Warsaw, and the ICRC ran national student IHL essay competitions in Ukraine and Moldova. It also organized the annual Moldovan moot-court competition in Transnistria, with the participation of the Minsk State University, and the first Ukrainian IHL moot-court competition in Crimea. Consultations on the launch of a similar moot-court competition were conducted with the Belarusian State University.

Exploring Humanitarian Law

In the three countries, the ICRC gave its EHL partners guidance in designing strategy and consolidated integration of the programme in secondary-school curricula. Teachers benefited from the opening of 15 regional resource centres. The ICRC financed the printing and distribution of the programme textbook. It continued to support training sessions, seminars, workshops, round-tables and conferences, both national and regional, while working towards handing over responsibility for their organization to the education authorities. EHL teachers and Ministry of Education officials from Belarus, Moldova/Transnistria, Ukraine and Mongolia gathered for summer courses in Ukraine and Moldova.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In Ukraine, the ICRC continued to support the National Society in its efforts to make headway on the large Second World War caseload of information requests. Moreover, the ICRC supported the extension of the National Society's tracing programme for detained irregular migrants. During the year, 1,065 RCMs were collected, 361 phone calls made to families and 64 identification forms faxed to embassies.

An agreement was signed permitting visits to migrant camps in seven new provinces in Ukraine in 2006, and in preparation for such visits the ICRC organized a seminar for 21 tracing volunteers. It issued 29 travel documents to foreign nationals to facilitate their resettlement in third/host countries. The ICRC also supported the National Society's Crimean branch by supplying and equipping its first-aid points, which in 2005 benefited over 22,000 vulnerable Tatar returnees and isolated elderly people.

In Belarus, the National Society developed a consistent dissemination policy and, with ICRC support, made progress in its cooperation with the education authorities.

- ▶ 274 people attended lectures on IHL and the Fundamental Principles delivered by dissemination field staff
- ▶ 4 regional branches conducted training in interactive dissemination methods for National Society staff and teachers of the EHL programme
- ▶ 5 regional branches participated in completion of youth projects initiated by pupils taking part in the EHL programme

In Moldova, the ICRC supported the National Society in hiring a new dissemination officer. In Transnistria, following the signing of an agreement on implementation of the EHL programme with the *de facto* education authorities, a training session for 75 teachers was conducted by the ICRC and the National Society.



moscow

The Moscow delegation, which opened in 1992, combines operational functions in the Russian Federation with regional functions for other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). In the Russian Federation, the ICRC assists vulnerable populations affected by the conflict in Chechnya, in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross Society, and helps build the capacity of the National Society in the northern Caucasus. The ICRC seeks to gain access, in accordance with its standard procedures, to all persons detained in connection with the conflict in Chechnya. In all the countries covered, it runs long-term communication programmes to promote IHL and foster understanding of the ICRC's mandate and work

COVERING

The Russian Federation, with specialized services for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and parts of Central Asia

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,859
Assistance	21,141
Prevention	5,317
Cooperation with National Societies	2,381
General	17

► **30,715**

of which: Overheads 1,828

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94.4%
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PERSONNEL

27 expatriates
344 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- pursued discussions with the relevant authorities on access to people arrested in connection with the conflict in Chechnya;
- began a new family visits programme enabling relatives to visit ICRC-registered detainees held in penitentiary colonies in remote republics; continued to collect allegations of arrests and disappearances and transmit them to the authorities with the aim of obtaining information for the families;
- conducted an assessment of the needs of vulnerable people in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia; signed an agreement with a company to maintain medical equipment in the 10 ICRC-assisted hospitals in Chechnya;
- continued to implement long-term programmes to promote IHL among the authorities, armed and security forces and civil society;
- continued to assist the Russian Red Cross with its tracing service and IHL department and to strengthen the operational response capacities of its northern Caucasus branches.

CONTEXT

In the northern Caucasus, the security situation deteriorated as a series of bloody incidents took place across the region. Economic conditions remained bleak, with high rates of unemployment. Spring floods in Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia and Kabardino-Balkaria forced hundreds of families to evacuate their homes.

In Chechnya, attacks by the armed opposition persisted, while mines and other explosive remnants of war still posed a problem for civilians as they went about their daily lives. Many people continued to suffer from lack of adequate shelter and access to water, gas and electricity.

Attacks against the police and government representatives rose sharply in Dagestan but decreased again towards the end of the year. The security situation also worsened in Ingushetia, with regular attacks on government representatives. An attack by armed militants in Nalchik in Kabardino-Balkaria in October was a further sign that violence linked to the conflict in Chechnya had spilled over into other republics in the northern Caucasus. Meanwhile, in Karachayevo-Cherkesskaya, where clashes occurred in early 2005, the situation remained stable for the rest of the year.

In North Ossetia, the parliamentary commission concluded its investigation of the school siege in Beslan and published a report. The trial began of the only captured hostage-taker.

The disputed Prigorodny district came back into the political spotlight following the submission of a border-demarcation proposal by the Ingush parliament. During talks on the issue, the presidents of the republics of Ingushetia and North Ossetia discussed the possible return of displaced Ingush to their places of origin. Some families continued to return spontaneously to North Ossetia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
RCMs collected	207	Food	Beneficiaries	80,866
RCMs distributed	259	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	90,020
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	352
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	470	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	175,175
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	22	Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	5,907
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	1,433	WOUNDED AND SICK		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Hospitals supported	Structures	15 ¹
People to whom travel documents were issued	84	Admissions	Patients	93,629
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	4	Operations	Operations performed	25,197
		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
		Patients receiving services	Patients	953
		Prostheses delivered	Pieces	268
		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	55

1. Of which 12 hospitals supported on a monthly basis

ICRC ACTION

While the security situation in the northern Caucasus remained extremely volatile, ICRC access to Chechnya improved, with expatriate delegates making regular visits to the republic. Protection activities remained an operational priority for the ICRC. The organization continued to discuss detention visits, suspended in 2004, with the Russian authorities, seeking a resumption of the visits according to its standard procedures.

The ICRC started to finance yearly family visits to detainees serving their sentences in penitentiary colonies in the Russian Federation.

The ICRC kept up a dialogue with the authorities on missing persons and respect for the rights of civilians, particularly residents and IDPs in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia. It also collected allegations of arrests and disappearances and transmitted them to the authorities with the aim of providing information to the families concerned. A seminar on the missing organized in Grozny for representatives from the Chechen Republic and the Southern District of the Russian Federation allowed participants to enhance their knowledge of exhumation and identification processes.

To understand better how conflict had affected the livelihoods of people across the region and to continue to improve its response, the ICRC undertook a vulnerability needs assessment in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia. While food assistance programmes in the northern Caucasus had ceased in 2004, the organization continued to provide people with

essential household items in all three republics and ran micro-economic projects in Chechnya. It supported the Russian Red Cross branches in Kabardino-Balkaria and Ingushetia in assisting around 900 elderly or housebound people and some 650 children by donating essential household items. The ICRC, at times in cooperation with the local branch of the Russian Red Cross, carried out occasional distributions of mainly essential household items to hardship cases following extraordinary events such as floods, fires, arrests and displacements. It continued to support the local authorities in the rehabilitation and maintenance of infrastructure, such as water and sewage works, in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia.

As planned, the ICRC continued to provide assistance to 12 hospitals in the northern Caucasus, 10 of which were in Chechnya, with the aim of reinforcing health services in the region. An agreement was signed with a company based in Nalchik to maintain medical equipment.

The ICRC pursued its long-term programmes of promoting IHL among the authorities, armed and security forces and civil society and of encouraging the implementation of IHL treaties.

The Moscow-based ICRC regional communication centre continued to play an important role in coordinating and supporting long-term communication and prevention programmes. The organization built contacts with the media, as well as with universities, NGOs and think-tanks concerned with IHL and humanitarian issues.

As in the past, the ICRC worked closely with the Russian Red Cross, with a focus on strengthening the capacities of branches in the northern Caucasus.

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

CIVILIANS

Increased mobility enabled ICRC expatriates to maintain a regular presence throughout the northern Caucasus and to listen to the concerns of the population. In parallel, the ICRC worked to strengthen its network with the relevant authorities, particularly with a view to promoting respect for the rights of civilians.

Restoring family links

The ICRC continued to gather reports of alleged arrests and disappearances in Chechnya, Daghestan, Ingushetia and Kabardino-Balkaria. The organization urged the authorities to investigate these reports and provide answers to relatives.

To clarify the fate of missing persons who could be dead, the ICRC continued to explore the option of offering technical assistance to the authorities in the establishment of a centralized ante-mortem and post-mortem database. A first seminar organized in Grozny for representatives from the Chechen Republic and the Southern District of the Russian Federation allowed participants to enhance their knowledge about the ICRC's expertise related to the missing persons issue.

- 99 RCMs distributed and 94 RCMs collected
- 84 travel documents issued to enable people to resettle in third countries
- 470 new cases of persons sought by their families registered; 22 located; 1,433 (of which 50 women and 40 minors at the time of disappearance) still being handled by the end of 2005

Assistance to the most vulnerable

The ICRC undertook a needs assessment among vulnerable people in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia to develop a better understanding of the economic situation and coping strategies of people affected by the armed conflict in Chechnya.

In Chechnya, the ICRC continued to assist the most vulnerable people by providing over 44,000 beneficiaries with essential household items and food-preservation goods. The organization also assisted over 50 households (approximately 350 beneficiaries) through micro-economic projects, enabling them to generate regular additional income. One-off distributions of mainly essential household items were made to more than 4,500 hardship cases.

The ICRC continued to support the Russian Red Cross visiting-nurses programme by providing food and hygiene kits to assist more than 700 beneficiaries in Chechnya and over 1,500 beneficiaries in Daghestan and Ingushetia.

In Chechnya:

- 156,667 units of bedding (mattresses, bed linen, pillows and towels), 49,726 blankets, 49,507 barrels/buckets, 7,930 tarpaulins, 598 kitchen sets, 93,002 hygiene kits, 200 kg of soap, 496,955 candles, 8,044 food parcels, 382,411 kg of sugar, 95,653 litres of oil, 41,729 winter jackets and 24,250 pairs of rubber shoes for adults distributed
- 16,386 summer clothes sets, 33,861 pairs of shoes and boots for children distributed

In Ingushetia and Daghestan, the ICRC provided approximately 28,500 and 8,500 IDPs respectively with essential household items and food-preservation goods. One-off distributions of mainly essential household items were made to more than 1,500 hardship cases mostly in Ingushetia and Daghestan.

In Ingushetia and Daghestan:

- 8,105 mattresses, 70,061 hygiene kits, 292,572 kg of sugar, 72,113 litres of oil, 30,921 bed-linen sets, 30,834 towel sets, 30,593 pillows distributed
- 11,815 summer clothes sets, 22,794 pairs of shoes and boots for children, 11,348 winter jackets distributed

Improving general living conditions

In Chechnya, the living conditions of people affected by the conflict remained poor. The ICRC pursued its efforts to ensure that shelter rehabilitation met basic standards.

During the year, the ICRC:

- completed refurbishment of 2 collective centres in Grozny and Gudermes (2,044 beneficiaries) and began another in Argun (382 beneficiaries);
- installed hygiene facilities serving 3 collective centres in Sernovodskaya (1,800 beneficiaries);
- rehabilitated the Kurchaloi hospital, Gudermes paediatric hospital, Nadterechnyi hospital and Darbankhi psychiatric hospital, and began work in Nadterechnyi polyclinic and Achoi Martan hospital;
- set up children's playgrounds in 4 collective centres in Grozny (2,500 beneficiaries);
- provided 198 heating stoves to schools and social institutions.

Heavy damage to infrastructure in Grozny curtailed access to clean water. An ICRC-operated pumping station provided around 45,000 beneficiaries with safe drinking water. In the capital and elsewhere, the organization supported local water boards by supplying them with equipment for the rehabilitation and maintenance of water-pumping and sewage networks and by contributing to the renovation of electrical installations and boreholes.

The ICRC regularly met the authorities in Ingushetia and Daghestan to address basic needs such as water supply and sanitation and provided essential household items to the most vulnerable IDP groups. Thus, water facilities were upgraded in 20 locations in Ingushetia (over 6,900 beneficiaries) and three locations in Daghestan (7,245 host residents and IDP beneficiaries). In Daghestan, the ICRC supported a Russian Red Cross project to improve access to water for 500 schoolchildren in Novo Stroy. Also in Daghestan, the ICRC provided electro-mechanical equipment to

the Khasavyurt water board to rehabilitate two water-pumping stations supplying some 120,000 people. In Ingushetia, in collaboration with the government, the ICRC began the Karabulak water-supply and Psedakh pipeline-extension projects aiming to serve an estimated 13,000 people, half of whom were IDPs.

Mine-affected communities

Landmines and other explosive remnants of war constituted a perennial threat to the resident population in Chechnya and displaced people upon their return home. Working with the media, local authorities and parents, the ICRC endeavoured to alert the population, and especially children, to the dangers of mines through its mine-risk education programmes, promoting correct behaviour in mine-contaminated environments.

The ICRC supported the construction of 15 safe play areas for children. It provided materials for "Danger: mines" murals to be painted in 30 Chechen schools and supported mine-awareness initiatives targeting children through TV programmes, newspapers and puppet theatre.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

After encountering difficulties concerning full respect for its agreed standard procedures for visits to people detained in connection with the Chechen conflict, the ICRC suspended all visits to places of detention in the Russian Federation in September 2004. Throughout 2005, the organization pursued its dialogue with the authorities, both at regional and federal levels, but with no definitive results.

The ICRC initiated a family visits programme to assist close relatives in visiting ICRC-registered detainees held in remote penitentiary colonies. The ICRC continued to provide the authorities with lists of supposed detainees, seeking to establish confirmation of their presence in, transfer to or release from particular places of detention so as to keep the families informed.

- 113 RCMs collected from and 160 distributed to detainees
- 209 detainees benefited from family visits supported by the ICRC

WOUNDED AND SICK

In Chechnya, the ICRC continued to support 10 hospitals and the central blood bank, and it assisted hospital departments by improving infrastructure and donating equipment such as X-ray machines and laboratory consumables. In Daghestan and Ingushetia, ICRC assistance focused on surgery and emergencies in one hospital in each republic. The ICRC signed an agreement with a medical equipment maintenance company in Nalchik to maintain the equipment in Chechen hospitals and train medical staff in its use.

Ad hoc emergency support was also provided in the form of surgical kits to treat the wounded.

- ▶ 93,629 patients treated in ICRC-supported hospitals, including 707 wounded by weapons or mines, and 25,197 surgical operations performed
- ▶ blood-screening and -collection materials supplied to the Grozny central blood bank to which 7,971 people donated blood
- ▶ 46 medical specialists sponsored by the ICRC to attend various training sessions
- ▶ 23 surgeons from the northern Caucasus attended an ICRC war-surgery seminar in Sochi
- ▶ 37 medical journals in Russian regularly made available to ICRC-supported hospitals

With some 9,000 people estimated to have been physically disabled as a result of the hostilities in Chechnya, significant numbers of amputees and other handicapped people required rehabilitation services at the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre, which received technical support from the ICRC. To address long-term needs, the ICRC continued to train specialized Chechen staff from the centre. In October, six newly recruited staff members started their training in prosthetics and orthotics in St Petersburg, with the financial support of the ICRC.

- ▶ 953 patients received specialized treatment at the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre
- ▶ 268 prostheses (201 for victims of mines and other explosive remnants of war) and 55 orthoses delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC continued to offer advice and assistance to the authorities, both in the Russian Federation and in other CIS countries, in acceding to relevant IHL treaties and adopting national measures to implement their provisions.

With ICRC encouragement, the Russian authorities conducted a study on the compatibility of national legislation with IHL requirements for the protection of cultural property. Additionally, a study on the compatibility of national legislation with IHL requirements concerning the missing was prepared by national experts and the results shared with the ICRC. In April, the ICRC participated in a round-table on the protection of human dignity organized by the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS. The event was devoted in large part to the issue of missing persons and concluded with a commitment by the participants to develop a model law on the issue.

In November, the ICRC organized a round-table on IHL for State officials and representatives of academic circles and officially presented the authorities and law professors with the results of its study on customary international humanitarian law.

In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC maintained and developed contacts with the relevant authorities at all levels, including with the presidents of Chechnya, Kabardino-Balkaria and Karachayevo-Cherkesskaya. Besides presenting its principles and working methods, the organization voiced a number of humanitarian concerns and outlined its plan of action and activities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC maintained cooperation with the Ministry of Defence on the issue of integrating IHL into all aspects of military training. It continued to support train-the-trainer courses on IHL for the armed forces. Training courses in San Remo were provided for high-ranking officers from both the armed forces and the police. With the Ministry of the Interior, the ICRC worked towards integrating applicable human rights and humanitarian norms into the training of the police and security forces.

In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC also organized a number of IHL dissemination sessions and seminars for the armed forces and police.

For the armed forces:

- ▶ 6 IHL train-the-trainer courses organized at the Senezh training centre;
- ▶ 4 IHL courses held for officers in the northern Caucasus military district
- ▶ several workshops conducted for IHL instructors from advanced training institutions and military secondary schools run by the Ministry of Defence
- ▶ participation of officer cadets in IHL courses in San Remo, Ukraine and Kazakhstan sponsored
- ▶ meetings of an independent working group on the implementation of IHL within the armed forces of the Russian Federation organized
- ▶ an IHL competition for military secondary schools held
- ▶ the 6th General Skobelev competition on the law and customs of war organized for officer schools

For the police and security forces:

- ▶ 3 IHL/international human rights law seminars conducted for trainers and officers of the Russian Ministry of the Interior
- ▶ 2 IHL/international human rights law seminars held for police and interior troops officers from across the CIS
- ▶ 2 competitions organized, one for police and one for interior troops training establishments

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL

Aiming for coverage as a globally active, neutral and independent humanitarian organization working in conflict, the ICRC maintained contacts with the media at local and national levels and highlighted its activities in the Russian Federation. In Moscow, the first IHL competition for journalism students was held, and two photo exhibitions illustrating humanitarian issues and ICRC operations in Africa were mounted. In the northern Caucasus, several events were organized to promote knowledge of IHL and the ICRC's mandate, such as the "Play by the rules" football championships in Chechnya and Ingushetia and "open house" days for journalists in Chechnya and Daghestan.

IHL in schools

The ICRC pursued its programme to familiarize pupils in secondary schools and military colleges across the Russian Federation with the basic principles of IHL and humanitarian action. Long-term IHL

teacher-training programmes continued throughout the region. CD-ROM and print teaching materials were prepared and several extracurricular events were organized to foster understanding of basic IHL rules. Qualitative and quantitative evaluations were undertaken by the Ministry of Education.

IHL and future decision-makers

The ICRC reinforced its close partnership with leading academic institutions in the Russian Federation and other CIS countries. An IHL teaching kit was prepared, and the first IHL summer school for law lecturers and students was organized in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross. The ICRC held the fifth Martens Readings conference on the issue of missing persons and customary rules of IHL, as well as a number of moot-court competitions, including in Nalchik and Stavropol, for law students from the region.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC continued to work closely with the Russian Red Cross, providing technical and financial support and training to its IHL dissemination department and tracing service. Staff were trained to give presentations on the Fundamental Principles, for example, and over 35,100 requests for information mostly related to the Second World War were processed.

In order to strengthen the 13 Red Cross branches situated in southern Russia and the northern Caucasus, the ICRC, the International Federation and the National Society agreed to implement a long-term internal development plan based on an in-depth assessment of capacities.

The newly re-established Red Cross branch in Chechnya assumed responsibility for joint ICRC and National Society programmes there. These included home visits by nurses to elderly bedridden people, the running of playgroups for three- to six-year-olds and the provision of psychological support.

In North Ossetia, following the September 2004 school siege in Beslan, the National Society, with the support of the International Federation, opened a psycho-social centre in the town. In 2005, it continued to provide medical and other assistance to victims of the siege and their families.



ICRC regional delegation

skopje

The ICRC, present in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) since 1993, visits detainees and promotes the implementation of IHL. It is increasing its cooperation activities with the National Society, which is under new leadership, mainly in the field of dissemination. In Albania, where it has been present since 1997, the ICRC supports the Albanian Red Cross in raising civilians' awareness of the danger of mines and other explosive remnants of war and in developing its tracing and dissemination capacities.

COVERING

Albania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	375
Assistance	-
Prevention	874
Cooperation with National Societies	423
General	-

► **1,673**

of which: Overheads 102

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.6%
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PERSONNEL

4 expatriates
22 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued to visit detainees falling within its mandate and to assess their conditions of detention;
- presented the findings of a study on IHL implementation in the FYR Macedonia to the authorities;
- participated in NATO military exercises and training activities; worked towards the integration of IHL into the training programmes of the armed forces of the countries covered;
- continued to promote the teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and tested the programme's short path in 13 schools in the FYR Macedonia.

CONTEXT

The general situation in Albania and the FYR Macedonia remained stable and free of security incidents, while the political agenda in both countries was largely taken up with their respective elections and EU integration.

The March local elections in the FYR Macedonia saw the ruling coalition of the Social Democratic Alliance of Macedonia and the Democratic Union for Integration gain control of 51 out of 85 municipalities.

Implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, which was signed in 2001 and ended the conflict in the FYR Macedonia, was completed, with all the relevant laws adopted by parliament. As part of the process of decentralization, the number of municipalities was reduced by over 30%. Reforms to the penitentiary system, police and judiciary were carried out as part of the agreement.

The number of IDPs registered in the FYR Macedonia continued to decrease. The last 800 or so were reluctant, however, to return to their homes, citing security concerns. The government and the association of IDPs were still unable to come to an agreement on an offer of financial assistance to the remaining IDPs or their transfer to private accommodation in an attempt to close all collective centres. More court proceedings were brought against the government by IDPs demanding material and financial compensation for damage suffered during the crisis.

In Albania, the July parliamentary elections dominated most of the political activity. The final results of these elections were made public in September and resulted in a shift of power from the Socialist Party of Fatos Nano to the Democratic Party of Sali Berisha. The Albanian parliament passed two major pieces of legislation during 2005, one on property restitution and the other on reform of the electoral process, the latter involving the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Both Albania and the FYR Macedonia, as signatories to the Adriatic Charter, took steps to fulfil the requirements for integration into the European Union (EU) and NATO. Concerning EU integration, both countries made progress. Albania completed the groundwork for a Stabilization and Association Agreement with the EU, hoping to sign it in early 2006. The European Council granted the FYR Macedonia the status of country candidate for EU membership.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	19
Detainees visited and monitored individually	19
Number of visits carried out	8
Number of places of detention visited	4
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	2
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	14

1. FYR Macedonia only

ICRC ACTION

The main focus of the ICRC's work in the region was the promotion of IHL in cooperation with a broad range of partners. However, apart from carrying out a study on IHL implementation in the FYR Macedonia, little headway was made in achieving the major objectives in this domain.

Good relations were maintained with the Albanian and FYR Macedonian Ministries of Defence, and the ICRC participated actively in NATO exercises in both countries. Efforts were pursued to integrate IHL into the training programmes of the armed forces.

The ICRC continued to promote the teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme in schools. The testing of the modules progressed well in the FYR Macedonia, and talks with the Albanian Ministry of Education got under way with the help of the National Society.

A regional IHL moot-court competition was organized by the ICRC in Skopje, in which 30 law students from five Balkan countries participated.

The ICRC maintained its support to the National Societies of Albania and the FYR Macedonia to help strengthen their structures and improve the effectiveness of their tracing, dissemination and mine-risk education programmes.

The ICRC carried on with downscaling and restructuring its activities in Albania and the FYR Macedonia. Following the closure of the ICRC mission in Albania in December 2004, operational activities in the FYR Macedonia were substantially reduced in 2005. It was decided that as of 2006 the ICRC regional delegation in Skopje would become a mission coordinated by the Belgrade regional delegation.

CIVILIANS

Although ICRC support for IDP income-generating projects drew to a close at the end of 2004, the organization continued to follow developments affecting IDPs in the FYR Macedonia. The number of IDPs decreased from around 1,400 at the beginning of 2005 to some 800 at year's end.

The ICRC was one of the few international organizations in the FYR Macedonia to maintain regular contact with the relatives of persons missing in relation to the conflict in 2001. In February, the ICRC submitted an updated list of persons unaccounted for to the Ministry of the Interior with a request for further government action to provide relevant information to the families. At the end of the year, the number of tracing requests still being handled stood at 14.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In the FYR Macedonia, the ICRC visited two people arrested in relation to security incidents that had occurred in 2003. Furthermore, it visited two new pre-trial detainees accused of planting a bomb that exploded in the yard of a police station in Skopje in July 2005.

► 19 detainees visited and monitored individually during 8 visits to 4 places of detention

The ICRC did not obtain access to two Albanian citizens arrested in April 2005 in the FYR Macedonia and charged with acts of terrorism, despite numerous representations. It continued to discuss this matter with the authorities, and meetings were held at both national and international levels in order to obtain unhindered access to pre-trial detainees.

The FYR Macedonian Ministry of the Interior provided the ICRC with a response to a comprehensive report on the treatment of detainees in police custody. The organization followed up in writing and intensified its dialogue with the authorities, aiming to contribute to ongoing efforts to improve policing and respect for basic human rights in the FYR Macedonia.

AUTHORITIES

Although the ICRC maintained close contact with the relevant authorities, supplying information when requested on the implementation of IHL, progress on major IHL objectives was sluggish.

In the FYR Macedonia, the planned establishment of a national IHL committee failed to take place owing to the crowded political agenda. Preparations for its creation continued, however, with a study carried out on IHL implementation – the future committee's main working document – the findings of which were presented to a panel of legal experts from various ministries.

In Albania, political activity surrounding the parliamentary elections provided little opportunity for IHL implementation. Nevertheless, the ICRC worked closely with the Albanian Red Cross, holding discussions with the Ministry of Justice, with the result that the Ministry and the ICRC together began finalizing an official translation of the 1977 Additional Protocols.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces of Albania and the FYR Macedonia continued to undergo restructuring and downsizing as a requirement for future full membership of NATO. The ICRC was involved in the supranational NATO-organized military exercises in Albania and the FYR Macedonia in 2005. Besides being an active role-player, the ICRC delivered presentations to all participants, explaining the specific mandates and activities of the ICRC and the National Societies, as well as the ICRC perspective on civil-military relations in times of conflict and in disaster-relief operations.

During the year, the ICRC:

- ▶ took part in pre-deployment briefings of the South-Eastern Europe Brigade and the training of Special Forces in the FYR Macedonia;
- ▶ held human rights law/IHL operational planning seminars for regular and special police forces in the FYR Macedonia;
- ▶ coordinated train-the-trainer seminars for the Albanian army.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC continued to cultivate its contacts with the media in the FYR Macedonia to promote coverage of its activities and humanitarian concerns. In addition to providing briefings to journalists, the ICRC distributed reference material on IHL after two citizens were charged by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

In the FYR Macedonia, the ICRC tested the EHL short path, consisting of nine hours in the school curriculum, in 13 schools (nine secondary vocational and four primary). For this purpose, a four-day training session and two one-day consultations were organized in Macedonian, Albanian and Turkish for teachers. The results of the testing were to be used in deciding whether to include the EHL short path in secondary vocational education or primary education on a more permanent basis. As part of the testing process, school competitions on EHL were organized, with the best 30 students and 15 teachers participating in another two-day competition. An expert working group's analytical report on the field testing recommended to the Bureau for Education Development that the EHL short path be included in the final year of primary education. In Albania, in

cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC submitted an EHL project proposal to the Ministry of Education.

IHL was taught in five faculties of two universities in the FYR Macedonia. Moreover, an independent study was finalized, analysing the quality and quantity of IHL courses in the country. The results were used by the ICRC to strengthen contacts with universities and to further promote IHL teaching. The ICRC organized a regional IHL moot-court competition in Skopje in December, bringing together law students from five Balkan countries. In addition, the ICRC supported the participation of students in IHL training in Warsaw and Belgrade.

- ▶ 19 teachers and 2,250 pupils reached during the testing of the EHL short path
- ▶ 30 law students from the region participated in a regional IHL moot-court competition in Skopje
- ▶ 5 students participated in IHL training courses in Warsaw and Belgrade

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In a move aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of the Red Cross of the FYR Macedonia, standard procedures were jointly developed for use by local administrative and operational staff and ICRC cooperation staff when planning, reporting and budgeting. The ICRC also helped reinforce capacities in crisis management and disaster preparedness. The National Society finalized and adopted a development plan for 2006–10. A joint evaluation of the FYR Macedonia's dissemination approach reached its final stage. The ICRC continued to progressively hand over the Promoting Humanitarian Values programme to the Skopje branch of the Red Cross, while working on a strategy to link the programme more closely with National Society dissemination activities. The ICRC sponsored the creation of a dissemination and communication centre at headquarters.

The Albanian Red Cross continued to develop dissemination capacities at headquarters and branch level. The National Society's revised tracing policy was approved and direct assistance was provided to families with tracing needs. The ICRC continued to support the National Society's mine-risk education work. In addition, five schools completed mine-risk education murals, and 4,000 copies of a locally created comic book were distributed in mine-affected zones. Close cooperation with the

Albanian Mine Action Executive continued, two areas were declared free of mines, and no mine accidents were reported in 2005.

- ▶ 14 new volunteer disseminators trained to assist the Red Cross of the FYR Macedonia
- ▶ 11 Albanian Red Cross branch secretaries trained in dissemination matters and 21 workers trained in tracing matters
- ▶ 3,987 people participated in 118 community meetings in 3 mine-affected regions in Albania



ICRC mission

ankara

Based on an agreement with the Turkish authorities and in direct relation to the conflict in neighbouring Iraq, the ICRC opened a temporary mission in Ankara in April 2003. ICRC activities in connection with the situation in Iraq focus mainly on protection issues. Other ICRC activities in Turkey include supporting the authorities in the implementation of IHL and assisting the armed forces in integrating IHL into their training programmes. In addition, the ICRC conducts a number of joint programmes with the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	70
Assistance	-
Prevention	320
Cooperation with National Societies	283
General	-

► 673

of which: Overheads 41

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82.8%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
3	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- continued to focus on protection issues in connection with the situation in Iraq;
- strengthened relations with the national authorities, the armed forces and the Turkish Red Crescent Society;
- pursued a dialogue with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to consolidating the organization's status in the country;
- followed up on its formal offer to assist the Turkish authorities in conducting a compatibility study on IHL and welcomed Turkey's accession to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons;
- presented to the Turkish parliament the Turkish version of a handbook for parliamentarians entitled *Respect for International Humanitarian Law*.

CONTEXT

In 2003, the ICRC opened its temporary mission in Ankara in connection with the crisis in neighbouring Iraq, following an agreement reached with the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The ICRC maintained its presence in the Turkish capital in 2005 and strengthened relations with the national authorities and the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC pursued its protection activities in connection with the situation in Iraq, including notifying the authorities of the detention of Turkish nationals. It continued working closely with the Turkish Red Crescent Society's tracing unit, transmitting RCMs and collecting tracing requests from Turkish families seeking news of relatives detained/interned abroad.

Turkey acceded to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in March 2005. The ICRC provided support and advice throughout the process. It also expressed its readiness to assist the government in conducting a study on the compatibility of the domestic legal framework with the country's obligations under IHL and, to that end, pursued discussions with various ministries and the Turkish General Staff.

The ICRC cooperated with the Turkish parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to prepare for the official launch in June of the Turkish version of the handbook for parliamentarians entitled *Respect for International Humanitarian Law*. The handbook was distributed to members of parliament.

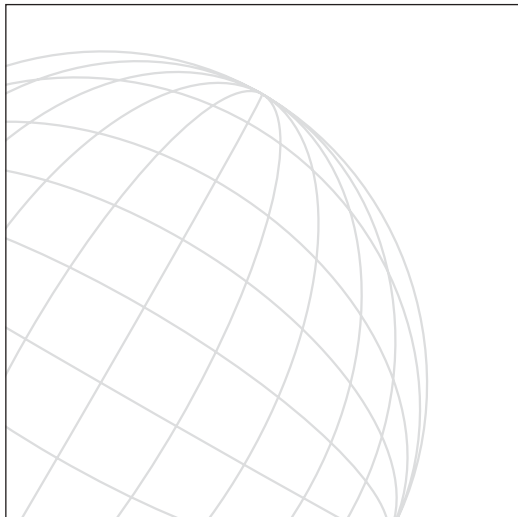
On the basis of memoranda of understanding concluded with NATO, the ICRC continued to take part in dissemination and training programmes for the Turkish armed forces conducted within NATO. The ICRC also contributed to the activities of the Partnership for Peace training centre by providing expertise for the development of courses on IHL and related issues and participating in the establishment of an Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) System on IHL to be used by potential participants in the law of armed conflict courses.

After submitting an offer of services to support the armed forces in integrating IHL into their doctrine, training and standing operating procedures, the ICRC pursued its dialogue with the office of the chief legal adviser of the Turkish General Staff.

Contacts with academic institutions on IHL promotion were reinforced, as were plans to give ad hoc presentations on IHL to university students and to enable law lecturers to participate in IHL courses in Geneva or in the region, with the aim of promoting the teaching of IHL in Turkish universities.

Following constructive talks with the Ministry of Education, the Turkish Red Crescent Society and the ICRC worked on the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the secondary school curriculum and completed a translation of the relevant modules into Turkish. National Society staff in charge of the programme participated in a meeting on the topic held in Riga, Latvia, in December.

Special emphasis was placed on preserving the independence of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, which the ICRC supported in planning its operations in Iraq and Pakistan and in its efforts to raise awareness of IHL and the Fundamental Principles.



brussels

The ICRC has been working in Brussels since 1999, building strong institutional and operational relations with EU institutions and with NATO and the NATO 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, to mobilize political, diplomatic and financial support for its activities and to ensure that relevant military decision-makers in Western Europe view the ICRC as the main reference point for neutral and independent humanitarian action.

COVERING

Institutions of the European Union (EU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and Key Armed Forces in Western Europe

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,440
Cooperation with National Societies	123
General	146

► **1,709**

of which: Overheads **104**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98.3%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
6	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- further developed its dialogue with EU institutions through the EU Presidency, the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU and the European Commission, and by following the work of the European Parliament;
- strengthened dialogue with the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) and with key member States and concluded a new memorandum of understanding with NATO on training issues;
- reinforced its high-level dialogue with the EU and NATO through meetings between the ICRC President, Jakob Kellenberger, and the High Representative of the EU for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and Secretary General of the Council of the EU, Javier Solana, the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Louis Michel, and the NATO Secretary General, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer;
- organized a briefing by President Kellenberger for the NATO Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council on the current challenges for IHL and the need for neutral and independent humanitarian action;
- presented the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law to the EU Working Group on Public International Law and was instrumental in the adoption by the EU of guidelines to promote compliance with IHL; briefed the legal advisers of the permanent representations of EU member States on the importance of IHL and on the EU's potential role in improving compliance with IHL;
- gave pre-deployment briefings on IHL to NATO troops.

CONTEXT

The rejection by France and the Netherlands of the European Constitution Treaty effectively prevented the adoption of a constitution requiring unanimity. In spite of this setback, the EU remained a global actor in conflict prevention and crisis management, for example playing a crucial role in resolving the political stalemate in Ukraine.

In 2005, the EU undertook eight European Security and Defence Policy operations on the ground, including a police mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the monitoring of a peace agreement in Aceh, police advisory missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and support for the African Union mission in Darfur (Sudan).

The European Commission supported the transition process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2005, allocating more than 149 million euros to the electoral process. In Darfur, the Commission strongly supported the African Union observer mission through peace facility grants. The Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) responded to crises and conflicts by supporting the work of NGOs, international organizations and the Movement.

Pursuant to pledges made by the EU and its individual member States at the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and in keeping with the conclusions of the 2003 European Council meeting in Thessaloniki (which supported the need for national armed forces to observe IHL and work with the ICRC to this effect), the EU expressed its willingness to promote IHL among the armed forces of its member States and among political and humanitarian actors. In December, the EU adopted important guidelines to promote compliance with IHL by non-member States and armed groups.

NATO continued to expand its out-of-area operations to the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq, helping those countries to retrain and restructure their armed forces. Together with the EU, it also strengthened its relationship with the African Union, supporting its efforts to promote security and stability in Sudan.

ICRC ACTION

In accordance with its specific mandate, the ICRC continued to focus on enhancing its dialogue with EU institutions on humanitarian aspects of conflict situations, particularly in light of EU progress towards a Common Foreign and Security Policy and the emphasis placed on crisis management and conflict prevention. The ICRC maintained a substantive dialogue with the European Commission (in particular ECHO and the other external services of the Commission) and the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU. The aim was to share with these institutions the ICRC's priorities and analysis of specific issues of humanitarian concern, such as the situations in Sudan, West Africa and the Middle East.

In 2005, the ICRC president travelled to London and Vienna to prepare for the British and Austrian presidencies of the EU.

AUTHORITIES

The EU Council

The ICRC maintained contacts with the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU and with the EU Presidency, held by Luxembourg in the first half of the year and by the United Kingdom in the second.

In April and November, President Kellenberger addressed the Political and Security Committee (PSC) on the ICRC's humanitarian priorities and exchanged views with PSC ambassadors.

The ICRC twice addressed the EU Council's Working Group on Public International Law to advise it on how the EU could improve compliance with IHL and to present the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law. In June, staff of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU attended a study day on IHL organized by the ICRC and the European Commission.

The European Commission

The ICRC continued its dialogue with ECHO on operational contexts to identify common funding priorities. Staff from Commission delegations worldwide attended the study day on IHL organized in June.

The European Parliament

The ICRC attended debates of the sub-committees on human rights and on defence and security at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament.

It also participated in hearings organized by the European Parliament on anti-personnel mines and the protection of journalists in armed conflict.

IHL and NATO

The ICRC maintained regular contact with NATO officials, discussing issues of common concern such as the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, Iraq and Darfur, where NATO was reinforcing its political and operational roles and where the ICRC was conducting humanitarian operations.

President Kellenberger briefed ambassadors to NATO's Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council on the challenges of ensuring respect for IHL and on the ICRC's principles of independence and neutrality.

Prior to the planned expansion of the NATO International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mandate in Afghanistan in mid-2006, a dialogue was initiated with selected senior NATO officials to clarify ISAF's detainee handling policy.

To strengthen dialogue with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the ICRC attended two of its sessions where subjects related to IHL and the ICRC's activities were addressed.

Political, academic and humanitarian institutions in Brussels

Together with the College of Europe in Bruges, the ICRC organized the second annual IHL course for students of the college and other universities in the region. In October, the ICRC and the College of Europe organized the 6th Bruges Colloquium for diplomats, civil servants and experts in IHL, focusing specifically on the law of occupation.

The ICRC also conducted an IHL course at the Institut Supérieur du Management Public et Politique in Brussels, where IHL issues were traditionally explored in the context of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

To enhance their understanding of the ICRC's mandate, working methods and activities and of the Fundamental Principles, the ICRC initiated a comprehensive dissemination programme for selected armed forces in Western Europe in 2004. The programme continued into its second year in 2005 with the aim of contributing to the training of officers called upon to conduct senior-level planning for operational missions in contexts in which the ICRC was working. The ICRC therefore focused on armed forces in Western Europe most likely to deploy to foreign contexts, such as the US European Command (US EUCOM), EU military staff, NATO and the UK armed forces.

NATO

Underpinned by a memorandum of understanding updated in 2005, ICRC cooperation with NATO during the second half of 2005 included:

- ▶ presentations and discussions at some half a dozen training courses for officers at the NATO School in Oberammergau;
- ▶ participation in key NATO Response Force exercises;
- ▶ support to ISAF pre-deployment mission-rehearsal exercises prior to departure for Afghanistan;
- ▶ support to officer training and other seminars conducted at SHAPE and subordinate commands.

US European Command

The ICRC provided US EUCOM officers training for deployment to contexts such as Afghanistan and Iraq with an overview of humanitarian issues in conflict zones and the role, mandate and activities of the ICRC in such contexts.

EU military staff

The ICRC discussed with EU military staff potential support to EU armed forces training along the lines already established with NATO.

UK armed forces

In 2005, the ICRC pursued its comprehensive armed forces approach in the UK, which began in late 2004. It involved:

- ▶ supporting officer training at three levels at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham;
- ▶ participation in senior-level training conducted by the UK Permanent Joint Headquarters, Northwood;

- participation in pre-deployment training conducted by the British Army's Land Warfare Centre;
- participation in relevant specialist training seminars.

CIVIL SOCIETY

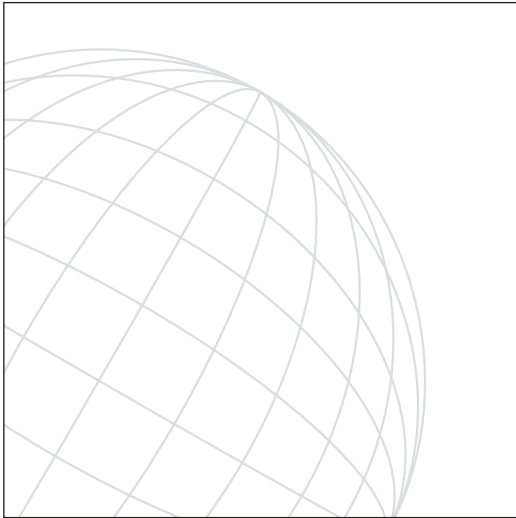
The ICRC maintained contacts with leading NGOs represented in Brussels and participated in a study group on the International Criminal Court organized by the Coalition for the International Criminal Court in the European Parliament.

The delegation participated in a seminar organized by the UK Royal United Services Institute, at which private military service providers (PMSPs) made a number of presentations on their role in modern expeditionary warfare. The ICRC raised concerns regarding the degree of understanding of and respect for IHL among PMSP staff sent to operational contexts.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Brussels delegation maintained close relations with the various components of the Movement present in Brussels, through the Red Cross/EU Office and the Belgian Red Cross. It supported and participated in an IHL moot-court competition organized by the Belgian Red Cross. With the Belgian Red Cross and the Catholic University of Louvain, it organized a seminar on the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law.

The ICRC also participated in the second EU disaster-management symposium, attended by the directors of the international departments of 24 National Societies. It attended a European Red Cross seminar on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme held in Riga, Latvia and took part in the meeting of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants, held in Sofia, Bulgaria.



international tracing service

The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany assembles, classifies, preserves and evaluates, for strictly humanitarian purposes, records concerning civilians persecuted during the Third Reich in Germany (1933–45) and non-Germans displaced as a result of the Second World War up until 1951. The ITS searches for missing persons and issues certificates to civilians who suffered incarceration or forced labour and are eligible for financial compensation, as well as to their legal successors. The institution, set up under the Bonn Agreements of 1955, is run by an ICRC-appointed director and is supervised by a commission comprising 11 member States.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	359
Assistance	-
Prevention	-
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **359**

of which: Overheads 22

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	103.3%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
0	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

**From 1 December 2004
to 30 November 2005, the ITS:**

- added more than 400,000 new names to its central databank;
- processed 18,559 enquiries within the scope of the Compensation Fund for Forced Labourers that had been submitted either directly by the people concerned or by various organizations representing their interests;
- issued 226,535 replies in the form of reports and partly as excerpts from documents;
- prepared for the 67th annual meeting of the International Commission for the International Tracing Service.

CONTEXT

The ITS has been directed and administered by the ICRC and supervised by representatives of the member States of the International Commission (Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) since 1955.

In 2005, the ITS remained an invaluable resource for civilians persecuted under the Third Reich and requesting official recognition of their persecution. To this end, the centre conserved an archive of documents which it consulted before issuing legally binding certificates attesting to the persecution. In order to ensure that the data contained in the records was not lost to future generations, it had converted the information to a digital form. The ITS also worked to restore the paper documents.

ITS ACTION

CIVILIANS

The ITS continued to serve as an essential point of contact for people who had suffered persecution under the Third Reich and who wished to have official recognition of it. The ITS continued to gather, file, preserve and process records and conserved an archive of documents referring to the victims of the National Socialist Regime. In the course of 2005, it received more than 400,000 additional names. When the institution was able to confirm that an individual had indeed suffered deportation, internment or forced labour, it issued a certificate attesting to the persecution. This document is recognized internationally and does not require verification by a notary to be valid.

The digitization of the ITS central index of names (50 million references with information on 17.5 million people) was completed at the end of 1999. The databank, which became operational in the second half of 2000, made it possible to check a considerable quantity of data electronically rather than manually, and thus to respond more quickly to requests for information and certificates. The scanning of all documentary materials from the ITS archives was started in 1999 for two reasons: to secure the information contained in the documents, which were mostly in bad condition owing to their age and frequent handling by caseworkers, and to make electronic assessment possible in order to speed up the processing of requests. By the end of 2005, the ITS had scanned and indexed 54.6% of the paper documentation.

During the year, the British Red Cross handed over to the ITS an index comprising about 200,000 cards containing data from the Second World War. These were scanned ready for use in electronic research.

The ITS aimed to implement the completely paperless processing of enquiries. Not only did it scan the new enquiries that arrived and papers relating to those cases, but also all papers pertaining to cases already in progress.

The ITS began streamlining its working procedures. In 2005, it made changes in the fields of translation and card-indexing of foreign-language enquiries. Moreover, fully electronic processing was introduced in the central index of names and two other units.

So as to preserve for future generations the historically precious documents stored in its archives – and not just the information they contained, in a digital form – the ITS continued to carry out conservation and restoration work, such as paper deacidification or delamination and the repair of mechanical damage. In 2003, the ITS began working systematically on larger stocks of concentration-camp documents, according to a list of priorities. In 2005, in cooperation with a specialized company, 252,000 single documents from the Buchenwald concentration camp index were restored and deacidified, and 21,000 sheets of the original lists from various concentration camps were delaminated. In total, over 1.2 million documents had been treated since the start of the conservation and restoration process.

Following the enactment of a German law, in August 2000, establishing the federal foundation *Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft* (Remembrance, Responsibility and Future) to provide financial compensation for people persecuted by the Nazi regime, as well as those subjected to slave or forced labour, the number of enquiries sent to the ITS increased dramatically, until 2003. Thereafter, enquiries originating from the foundation began to decline sharply as payments through the partner organizations were concluded. Thanks to the standardized list procedure set up for this, over 950,000 enquiries of this kind could be processed by the ITS in just under two years. In 2005, the ITS received such requests only from the International Organization for Migration (3,112) and foundations in Minsk (47) and Moscow (148).

Given that the ITS's stock of documentary materials was unfortunately far from complete, many enquiries could not be answered positively. To give the enquirers an additional chance to provide evidence of their persecution, the Federal Association for Information and Advice for Persecutees of National Socialism in Cologne, the Federal Archives in Koblenz and the ITS established a cooperation network whereby individual and list enquiries which could not be answered positively by the ITS were systematically forwarded, electronically, to numerous participating archives in Germany for further checks. On 31 December 2004, funding for the electronic cooperation network ended and the server was disconnected.

In 2005, the ITS turned its attention to activities such as the acquisition of documents from other institutions. The ITS obtained 135,407 names of Jews who were deported from Slovakia to the Auschwitz concentration camp during the Second World War. It also reached an agreement with an archive in Sweden to copy 54,000 index cards listing concentration-camp prisoners who had been driven to safety from Germany to Sweden in the "white buses" operation organized by Count Folke Bernadotte. The ITS also made plans to advise the Polish Catholic Church in Germany on how to digitize records of Poles registered in Germany during and immediately after the Second World War. Under the oral agreement, the ITS would be permitted to use the data.

The issue of how to manage access to the documents by historical researchers dominated the annual meeting of the International Commission for the International Tracing Service, which took place in Rome on 30 May. The French delegation proposed the creation of a group of experts who would be responsible for coming up with practical suggestions on how to open the archives to historians. The ICRC and the ITS offered their support for such a process. The member States, however, failed to reach a unanimous decision.

During the year, the ITS received a total of 150,828 new requests from 62 countries and gave 226,535 replies to these and other requests received earlier. At the end of November 2005, 407,065 requests were waiting to be processed.



london

In October 2003, an ICRC spokesperson was posted to London to work with the British Red Cross, mainly in the areas of media relations and communication. The aims are: to develop contacts with London-based media and institutions with an international scope so as to gain a better understanding of how they perceive problems and activities of a humanitarian nature in the regions they cover; to heighten understanding of and support for ICRC operations and the activities of the Movement in those regions; and to secure broader support for the implementation of IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	319
Cooperation with National Societies	56
General	-

► **375**

of which: Overheads 23

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91.9%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
1	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- jointly organized a public panel discussion on torture with the London School of Economics and took part in numerous panel discussions and in a variety of academic events on issues of ICRC concern in the United Kingdom and in a number of European countries;
- jointly organized a public lecture on "A Middle-Eastern Perspective on Humanitarian Action in the 21st Century", given by HRH Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan;
- took part in the review board of a BBC-sponsored radio station established in Basra, Iraq;
- jointly organized a conference in London with the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), the British Red Cross and the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law to mark the launch of its study on customary international humanitarian law;
- participated in training courses organized by the British Red Cross for the National Society's senior managers and future ICRC delegates.

CONTEXT

Over the years, London has become one of the world's foremost media centres. Not only is it home to a large number of media organizations with global reach, such as the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the Financial Times and the Economist, it also hosts a high concentration of foreign media from all continents, including Cable News Network (CNN) and Al Jazeera. The city is also the location of influential academic institutions with an international focus, such as the London School of Economics and the School of Oriental and African Studies.

In 2005, the London-based media again devoted intensive coverage to issues and debates surrounding the war in Iraq, including the British government's justification for joining the US-led invasion of the country in 2003, the situation of detainees/internees held in Iraq and the impact of the "fight against terrorism" on States' security measures and on human rights. The debate on how to counter "terrorism" was given added pertinence following the bomb attacks on London's public transport network in July 2005.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC consolidated its network of media contacts to encourage journalists to focus on humanitarian concerns while reporting on situations of conflict. It strove to both raise awareness of and gain support for IHL among the public, decision-makers and opinion-leaders. It also drew attention to the current challenges for independent and neutral humanitarian organizations in some conflict situations.

The ICRC spokesperson in London responded to queries from the media, met journalists, appeared on Arabic-language satellite television channels and attended numerous panel discussions on topics directly related to the ICRC's international operations and IHL.

He continued to work closely with the British Red Cross, meeting the National Society's senior management to look at the relevance of Resolution 9 of the 2003 Council of Delegates, "Promote respect for diversity and fight discrimination and intolerance". He worked to include in the ICRC's network of regular media contacts media serving the immigrant communities in the United Kingdom with a view to promoting the Fundamental Principles and information on ICRC operations worldwide among this audience. With the British Red Cross, he also briefed the media on the diplomatic conference convened in Geneva in 2005 to adopt Additional Protocol III to the Geneva Conventions.

The ICRC's collaboration with the British Red Cross helped complement the activities of both organizations and enhance the profile of the Movement. In January 2005, the two organizations agreed that this cooperation was fruitful and pledged to continue.

CIVIL SOCIETY

IHL and the media

Issues linked to the Iraq war and the ICRC's activities for detainees held at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, which had thrust the ICRC into the media spotlight over the past year, continued to be scrutinized by British journalists whenever new details emerged. The ICRC maintained and extended its network of contacts with UK-based media, including journalists working for the Arabic-language daily, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*.

The ICRC spokesperson participated in training seminars for Arab and Eastern

European journalists to enhance their understanding of both IHL and the Movement. He highlighted Movement activities for victims of the tsunami in South-east Asia during numerous talk shows on Arabic satellite television channels. He also took part in the review board of a BBC-sponsored radio station established in Basra, Iraq.

Promoting IHL among academics, think-tanks and NGOs

The ICRC actively encouraged academic debate and examination of IHL. Its initiatives included a conference, organized in cooperation with the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law and the British Red Cross, to mark the launch of the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law. More than 200 people attended the two-day conference held in London in April. The participants, who included government experts, lawyers, university lecturers and students, discussed the application of IHL in light of present-day events.

The Centre for Human Rights at the London School of Economics teamed up with the ICRC to hold a public panel discussion in May. Four speakers debated the subject of "Torture: the ultimate abuse of human rights?" The ICRC participated in various other events and think-tank discussions on topics such as the situation in Iraq, and contributed to the ongoing debate on the concept of neutral and independent humanitarian action at venues such as the Faculty of War Studies at King's College London.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

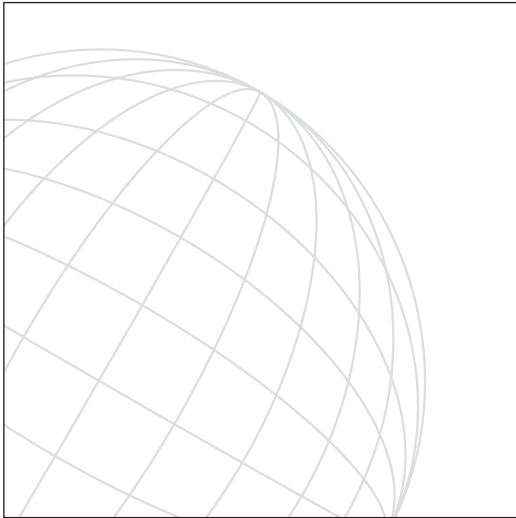
The partnership agreement between the ICRC and the British Red Cross continued to bear fruit. Cooperation between the two organizations meant that the ICRC's spokesperson could benefit from an established network of contacts, which he used to raise the Movement's public profile. At the beginning of the year, the two organizations agreed that their collaboration had been a success and agreed to continue the project.

With the British Red Cross, the ICRC organized the first in a series of a public lectures on the theme of humanitarian action. HRH Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan gave an address on "A Middle-Eastern Perspective on Humanitarian

Action in the 21st Century", which served to establish links between the Red Cross and representatives of the Muslim communities and their specific media in the United Kingdom.

In 2004, the work of the ICRC spokesperson had been shaped by the public's focus on detention issues, such as the treatment of detainees in Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq and the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. In 2005, however, the media granted a lot of exposure to Movement activities for victims of natural disasters such as the tsunami in South-east Asia, the earthquake in South Asia and the famine in Niger. In London, the ICRC and the British Red Cross mounted an exhibition of photographs by Jean Mohr. The photos portrayed daily life in Israel and the Palestinian territories between 1949 and 2003 and bore witness to ICRC action in the region.

The ICRC regularly consulted the senior management of the British Red Cross on proposed joint activities on a number of issues, including networking with immigrant communities and Islamic NGOs. The ICRC spokesperson participated in training courses organized by the British Red Cross for the National Society's senior managers and future ICRC delegates.



paris

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, representatives of the French-speaking world, economic interest groups, the media, the diplomatic community, the military and academic circles and the French Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,054
Cooperation with National Societies	31
General	-

► **1,085**

of which: Overheads **66**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84.3%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
3	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- remained in close contact with the French government, mainly with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence and the Presidency, to discuss ICRC operations and matters of humanitarian concern;
- maintained a network of contacts with individuals and established institutions in France able to influence decisions and dialogue on humanitarian action;
- continued to promote IHL, particularly among members of the armed forces and academic circles;
- strengthened relations with French and French-speaking media in order to promote the principles of IHL among the general public.

CONTEXT

The major event in 2005 was the rejection, on 29 May, of the European Constitution Treaty by the French people. Followed shortly by rejection in the Netherlands, it sharply called into question the social and political model put forward by the treaty. In spite of this setback, France remained a linchpin in the political, social and economic construction of Europe.

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, one of the architects of the European Union, an economic power and host to multinational companies, France continued to be a major player in international affairs. Given its large Arabic-speaking community and its traditionally close ties with many African countries, France was an important venue for humanitarian diplomacy, offering useful opportunities for intercession on behalf of conflict victims in parts of Africa and the Middle East.

ICRC ACTION

In 2005, the Paris delegation remained a key element in the ICRC's network for humanitarian diplomacy, through which the organization sought to promote IHL, increase understanding of its mandate and stimulate debate on issues of humanitarian concern. In France, this network included the French authorities, foreign opposition movements based in the country, NGOs, the media and opinion-makers.

The delegation continued to give IHL presentations to the armed forces and to participate in various seminars organized by the Ministry of Defence. It kept in frequent contact with the French-speaking media and worked on various projects aimed at improving the public's grasp of humanitarian issues and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

AUTHORITIES

Relations were strengthened with the French authorities. The ICRC discussed with them operational issues related to Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, the Caucasus, Darfur (Sudan), Iraq and Lebanon.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Pursuant to an agreement signed with the Ministry of Defence in 2002, the ICRC continued to give presentations on IHL to members of the *gendarmerie* due for deployment outside France (notably to the Balkans and Côte d'Ivoire), as well as to air force cadets. In 2005, some 1,500 military personnel attended these courses. Moreover, the delegation gave presentations on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities at various military schools and academies, such as the Collège Interarmées de Défense, the École de l'Air de Salon de Provence and the Séminaire Interarmées des Grandes Écoles Militaires. It also discussed IHL and the ICRC's mandate with legal advisers to the Ministry of Defence.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Five major French NGOs – Médecins sans Frontières, Médecins du Monde, Action contre la Faim, Handicap International and Première Urgence – and the French Red Cross joined forces with the ICRC to form a working committee designed to keep humanitarian issues firmly on the public agenda, particularly the need to protect and assist victims of armed conflict, and prepare for the second Estates-General meeting on IHL and humanitarian action originally planned for 2005. Nevertheless, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the meeting had to be rescheduled for 2006.

The Paris delegation had created an international press award at the Monte Carlo Television Festival in 2003 for the best TV documentary highlighting the principles of IHL during armed conflicts. In 2005, the prize went to a Croatian documentary on children and war. In preparation for the festival, the delegation promoted a DVD showing the first four films made by the ICRC in the 1920s, which illustrated the humanitarian consequences of the First World War. The delegation's aim was to encourage film professionals at the festival to use these little-known film archives in their work.

The delegation also worked on the publication of a book based on the ICRC's "Women and War" photo exhibition. The book was to illustrate the lives of 11 women in as many conflict zones and was to be officially launched in March 2007 to coincide with International Women's Day.

The ICRC raised awareness in the media of such issues as the ten-year anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre, the earthquake in South Asia and the conflict in Darfur. It also promoted IHL principles in universities, including the Institut d'Études Politiques in Paris, the law faculty of the University of Grenoble and the University of Versailles.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In 2005, the delegation strengthened its relationship with the new French Red Cross management team, led by former French Minister of Health, Jean-François Mattéi, and explored new avenues for the promotion of IHL through the branches of the French Red Cross.



colombia

The ICRC has been working in Colombia since 1969, striving to secure greater compliance with IHL by all armed groups – particularly regarding the protection of persons not taking part in the conflict – and promoting its integration into the doctrine, training and operating procedures of the Colombian armed forces. The ICRC also visits security detainees, assists IDPs and other victims of the conflict and implements public health programmes and small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation projects in conflict-affected areas. It works with the Colombian Red Cross Society and other members of the Movement to coordinate humanitarian activities in Colombia's conflict-affected regions.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	4,975
Assistance	13,855
Prevention	3,617
Cooperation with National Societies	1,219
General	-

► **23,666**

of which: Overheads 1,444

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91.0%
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PERSONNEL

53 expatriates
225 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- provided aid, together with the Colombian Red Cross, to almost 53,000 newly displaced people and residents affected by the conflict; completed 55 small-scale infrastructure projects and started 24 new ones, benefiting some 44,000 residents in conflict-affected areas; together with WFP, initiated the third phase of a joint programme aimed at improving the situation of IDPs through advocacy; established a pilot project for IDPs in Bogotá involving the distribution of vouchers instead of food and commodities;
- documented 990 alleged IHL violations, made 231 oral and written representations to weapon bearers, assisted some 1,000 victims of threats; facilitated the handover of 10 hostages and 6 members of the armed forces to their families or the authorities;
- monitored individually some 7,600 security detainees and conducted, together with the national penitentiary authorities, a survey of health services in 57 places of permanent detention; provided 207 disabled detainees with ortho-prosthetic appliances;
- continued to provide the armed forces with technical support in achieving the full integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operating procedures and assisted police contingents involved in military operations in incorporating IHL into training curricula;
- carried out 47 joint missions with local mobile medical teams to facilitate their access to residents in remote rural areas.

CONTEXT

After a two-year lull, the conflict between the Colombian government and the country's main insurgent group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), intensified in 2005. The FARC's announcement in February that it was bringing to an end its policy of "tactical withdrawal" was immediately followed by major attacks, mainly in the departments of Cauca, Putumayo, Chocó and Meta. Armed clashes also increased in frequency in the south and in the departments of Arauca, Meta and Norte de Santander. As a result, the number of mass displacements rose in 2005.

In a trend observed over the past few years, armed groups continued to use mines, leading to a growing number of casualties. In 2005, all of the country's departments, except the Caribbean islands of San Andrés y Providencia, were affected by anti-personnel mines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), making Colombia the only country in the Americas where mines and IEDs continued to be used daily.

An initiative launched by France, Spain and Switzerland aimed at facilitating a direct dialogue between the Colombian government and the FARC concerning the exchange of hostages against detained members of the FARC did not bear fruit. Although the Colombian government publicly accepted the proposal, the FARC declined to give an explicit response, while ruling out an agreement with the government of President Alvaro Uribe.

The second largest insurgent group, the National Liberation Army (ELN), started preliminary talks with the Colombian government in Havana, Cuba. Negotiations were scheduled to resume in January 2006.

The controversial Justice and Peace Law, a legal framework for the demobilization of paramilitary forces, was approved by Congress in June and ratified by the government in July. It had been heavily criticized by national and international observers for offering a blanket amnesty to perpetrators of serious IHL violations, while ignoring the subject of reparations to victims. Major international stakeholders nevertheless decided to support the process, provided the implementation of the new law proved effective.

In October, the demobilization of paramilitary groups was temporarily suspended when one of their leaders was transferred to a high security prison. Tensions increased when the government publicly insisted on sticking to the agreed demobilization deadline of end 2005, but following protests from paramilitary leaders, it agreed to extend the deadline.

The Constitutional Court approved a hotly debated new law permitting the re-election of the president, who subsequently announced he would be a contender in the April 2006 presidential elections.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	7,614	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	5,170	Food	Beneficiaries	52,344
Number of visits carried out	641	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	52,871
Number of places of detention visited	338	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	3,131
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	10,327
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Habitat structures	Beneficiaries	10,183
RCMs collected	250	<i>Health</i>		
RCMs distributed	194	Health centres supported	Structures	9
People reunited with their families	0	Consultations	Patients	11,279
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Activities	5,138
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	441			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	146			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	433			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to focus its field activities on about 20 priority zones where humanitarian needs were greatest. In line with this new orientation, and without modifying the scope of its programmes, it continued to streamline its operational structure, retaining five sub-delegations and six offices by the end of the year. By favouring a multi-disciplinary approach to humanitarian issues, the ICRC was able to improve, among other things, the collection of information on IHL violations, leading to the documentation of many more cases.

ICRC medical teams stopped replacing local health authorities, which became increasingly able to reach remote areas, but they still accompanied mobile health units whenever the security situation warranted it. To ensure populations affected by the conflict had access to sustainable health services, the ICRC started to support the reopening of health posts, in close cooperation with local health authorities and communities.

In detention centres, the ICRC's strategy of gradually reducing and ultimately ending its involvement in health issues, was successfully implemented, with the national penitentiary authorities (INPEC) taking on full responsibility for the community health care programme in the first half of 2005. The ICRC and INPEC also undertook a survey of health services provided to detainees, to be completed early in 2006, on the basis of which recommendations were to be made to the Colombian authorities.

Communication strategies designed to reinforce acceptance by all actors of the ICRC's humanitarian work were streamlined and adapted to local contexts and audiences,

with the aim of improving access to people affected by the armed conflict.

After eight years of distributing food rations to displaced populations, the ICRC developed a pilot voucher programme in Bogotá as part of a strategy to better address the needs of newly arrived IDPs.

In April, the ICRC sent the Colombian government a written notification confirming that the situation in Colombia qualified as a non-international armed conflict. The Colombian government replied by thanking the ICRC for its role in Colombia and recognizing that the provisions of IHL were indeed applicable to the Colombian situation.

CIVILIANS

Protection

The delegation documented 990 cases of alleged IHL violations in 2005, with disappearances (323) and targeted executions (152) representing the bulk of the cases. The delegation also documented 21 violations of medical facilities and/or staff. Intimidation of and threats against resident populations continued, often leading to forced displacement. During the year, the ICRC provided material assistance to 991 victims of threats, helping them reach other regions of the country to avoid imminent danger. It also helped 433 families with the burial costs of civilian family members killed as a result of the conflict. Armed actors continued to control access to certain areas to monitor population movements and the circulation of goods. The murder of IDPs who had sought refuge in cities remained a concern. The delegation acted as a facilitator for the release of eight civilian hostages.

- 990 allegations of IHL violations collected
- 441 new tracing cases for people unaccounted for opened, 146 persons located and 433 cases still being handled by the end of 2005
- 231 representations made to the armed parties allegedly responsible for IHL violations
- 172 RCMs collected from and 154 delivered to civilians

Persons unaccounted for in connection with the conflict

When the Justice and Peace Law came into force in July, the ICRC met members of the National Commission on Reparation and Reconciliation, set up to defend victims' interests, to follow up on the issue of persons unaccounted for in connection with the conflict.

In September, the ICRC participated in a regional conference of the Latin American Forensic Anthropology Association (ALAF), held in Bogotá, where it shared the main findings of its 2003 International Conference on Missing Persons and their Families. It also facilitated the presence of European experts, who shared their experience in the identification of human remains. Follow-up meetings were held in Bogotá to identify specific measures that could lead to relevant information for the families of victims.

In the field, the ICRC obtained information from armed groups regarding the fate of missing persons, leading to the recovery of human remains.

Emergency relief for IDPs

In 2005, mass displacements increased, while the displacement of individuals or families remained stable. The total number of IDPs officially registered with the government was 1.7 million.

The emergency needs of IDPs (consisting of food rations for up to three months – up to six months for households headed by women – and essential household items) were covered by the government's Social Solidarity Network (Red de Solidaridad Social – RSS) and the ICRC through a working agreement concluded in 2001. In the cities of Villavicencio, Bucaramanga, Sincelejo and Pereira, the Colombian Red Cross, in coordination with the ICRC, provided assistance to displaced individuals. In 2005, more than 31,500 people displaced individually and over 19,500 displaced en masse received emergency aid. In October, the ICRC launched a pilot project for IDPs in Bogotá involving the distribution of vouchers instead of food and commodities. The vouchers could be redeemed in selected markets and shops, enabling beneficiaries to reduce their transportation costs. If successful, the programme would be extended to other cities.

With WFP, the ICRC initiated the third phase of a joint programme aimed at improving the situation of IDPs. Although the mid- and long-term needs of IDPs remained largely unmet, the government and humanitarian organizations shifted their attention to helping IDPs recover their self-sufficiency, and the government's overall budget for IDPs significantly increased.

The ICRC, the RSS, the IOM and UNHCR set up an interagency committee, improving 10 IDP reception centres through better infrastructure, staff training and standardized procedures.

Meanwhile, the RSS continued to pay more attention to the security concerns of affected populations, insisting less on their returning home. Although assistance for those returning was yet to be standardized, there was improved coordination on planned returns between local authorities and the RSS.

Community infrastructure and agricultural projects

Resident populations living in remote areas remained exposed to threats and intimidation by armed groups. Security constraints prevented relevant State institutions from providing services, such as medical care. Moreover, residents sometimes faced restrictions in their movements and in the

circulation of goods, such as food, fuel and building materials, making living conditions precarious.

In 2005, the ICRC, in its priority zones:

- ▶ provided 1,540 residents with food and/or essential household items on an ad hoc basis;
- ▶ approved 14 agricultural projects for 2,068 beneficiaries;
- ▶ ensured the provision of basic health services to a monthly average of 81,000 residents by facilitating, through 47 joint missions, access of mobile medical teams to remote rural areas affected by the conflict;
- ▶ completed minor infrastructure and rehabilitation projects for 10,183 beneficiaries, water and sanitation projects for 10,327 beneficiaries and initiated water and habitat projects for another 36,960 beneficiaries.

Recruitment of minors

In 2005, the ICRC documented 10 cases of forced recruitment of minors. Allegations of collective recruitment of minors in urban centres, a worrying issue at the beginning of the year, diminished during the second half of the year. National and international NGOs, together with local authorities, continued to work on prevention and information. The ICRC also conducted 20 visits to centres run by the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF), collecting information to restore contact between former child soldiers and their families, sometimes successfully.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In 2005, further to ICRC representations to this effect, the authorities notified the ICRC more systematically of people detained in connection with the conflict.

Delegates spoke in private with 2,938 newly arrested detainees to assess their conditions of detention and provided material assistance to the more vulnerable ones. Owing to the gradual implementation of judicial reforms, which accelerated legal proceedings, overcrowding decreased significantly in places of temporary detention.

The ICRC facilitated the release of three policemen and a young soldier held by armed opposition groups and continued its efforts to gain access to army and police personnel, as well as civilians, still held. On three separate occasions, armed groups

spontaneously handed over a soldier to the ICRC. The ICRC also continued to press the US authorities for access to two Colombian security detainees belonging to the FARC who had been extradited to the United States.

In cooperation with INPEC, the ICRC carried out a survey in 57 detention centres to enable the penitentiary authorities to improve the planning and delivery of health services.

As planned, the ICRC discontinued the joint delivery of community health care and the running of health brigades in prisons, encouraging INPEC to take over these programmes early in the year. INPEC thus conducted eight training courses for health promoters and another 14 on HIV/AIDS; it also performed some 10,000 HIV tests.

The ICRC facilitated the signing of an agreement between INPEC and three Colombian universities to implement a pilot community health programme pioneered by the medical faculty of Pereira Technical University and the ICRC for some 6,000 detainees. The ICRC and INPEC signed a framework agreement on the rehabilitation of three prison health facilities, which were near completion at the end of 2005.

- ▶ 7,614 detainees visited, 5,170 monitored individually (including 2,938 newly registered, of whom 245 were women) during 641 visits to 338 places of detention
- ▶ 1,911 detainees received a family visit funded by the ICRC
- ▶ 40 RCMs delivered and 78 collected
- ▶ 207 detainees received ortho-prosthetic appliances based on a cost-sharing agreement between INPEC and the ICRC

WOUNDED AND SICK

The number of civilians affected by anti-personnel mines kept rising in 2005. According to the Landmine Monitor, by 1 August 2005, the government's Antipersonnel Mine Observatory had registered 510 new casualties from mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).

In 2005, the ICRC continued to provide medical assistance to the war-wounded and to sick civilians living in conflict zones, including victims of mines and ERW. When necessary, it also lobbied national and local authorities to ensure the delivery of appropriate medical care. It directed beneficiaries to the services provided by the national

health system, offering financial help if needed, and accompanied local medical teams or health brigades to remote areas. It also ran mobile health units in partnership with the Red Cross Societies of Canada, Norway and Sweden.

The ICRC obtained authorization from armed groups for mobile health units run by the Ministry of Social Protection to gain access to all the priority zones it had identified. In rural areas where security constraints prevented the deployment of national medical staff, the ICRC conducted dissemination sessions for armed groups, stressing the need to respect health facilities, vehicles and personnel.

To maximize efficiency during field missions, each ICRC sub-delegation developed a plan of action to increase community awareness of HIV/AIDS, in cooperation, whenever possible, with the Colombian Red Cross.

With ICRC support, government health personnel and mobile health units:

- administered 5,138 vaccinations;
- gave 11,279 curative consultations;
- gave talks on health promotion and disease prevention to over 16,000 people.

Assistance to the war-wounded and mine/ERW victims

In 2005, the ICRC began to develop, with the Ministry of Health, workshops for national health staff on the clinical management of the war-wounded. The organization and financing of these workshops was to be shared by the ICRC and the Ministry of Health.

The ICRC provided financial support for specialized medical care to:

- 102 victims of mines and 28 victims of ERW;
- 108 civilian war-wounded;
- 275 IDPs.

AUTHORITIES

Colombia was party to most IHL treaties and was in the process of adopting national implementing measures. Owing to procedural errors, the ratification of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property had to be started again. Congress was discussing a draft law on the ratification of Amended Article 1 of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

The ICRC met often with a study group on IHL, launched at the beginning of the year within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to discuss IHL-related issues, such as the continued applicability to the Colombian situation of Article 3 common to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocol II (which extends to non-international armed conflicts the principal rules of Protocol I relating to the protection of civilian populations against the effects of hostilities). The ICRC also met officials of the Ministry of Culture to promote the ratification of the Hague Convention's Second Protocol.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC continued to provide the armed forces with technical support in making IHL an integral and permanent part of their doctrine, training and standing operating procedures. It met the minister of defence and the command structure of the armed forces to promote the revision of the IHL content of instruction manuals pertaining to military doctrine and to conduct "after action reviews" to evaluate specific military operations from the perspective of compliance with IHL.

In cooperation with the Colombian Red Cross, the ICRC worked closely with the national police to complete the first draft of an instructor's reference guide integrating IHL principles, which would be widely used among police special forces participating in military operations.

- 85 dissemination sessions organized throughout the country to raise awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities among some 6,500 members of the armed forces and police units engaged in military operations
- 15 dissemination sessions on basic humanitarian principles and the ICRC's role and mandate conducted for some 500 members of armed opposition groups

CIVIL SOCIETY

In order to enhance knowledge and acceptance of IHL among a range of civil society audiences, the ICRC:

- held a seminar on basic IHL principles for more than 25 journalists;
- organized a photo exhibition in 22 cities and towns highlighting the plight of civilians affected by the conflict;
- continued networking with influential members of the private sector to raise awareness of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities;
- conducted a workshop on IHL for 25 representatives of oil companies.

IHL and future decision-makers

For several years, IHL had been incorporated into the academic programmes of Colombia's leading universities and was widely discussed in academic circles, especially within the framework of Colombia's armed conflict.

The ICRC organized IHL seminars for 85 lecturers and students from 15 universities providing legal and psychological assistance to victims of Colombia's conflict. In these seminars, the ICRC also discussed its study on customary international humanitarian law and the issue of missing persons.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Restoring family links

With ICRC support, the Colombian Red Cross completed an assessment of its tracing capacity and the revision of its training material on psychological support to victims of the conflict, producing some 10,000 new training manuals for its volunteers.

"Safer Access" approach

The ICRC conducted seven security workshops throughout the country, emphasizing the "Safer Access" approach, which prompted Red Cross branches to revise existing security contingency plans or to establish new ones. These workshops complemented monthly security meetings held by the Movement at both headquarter and branch levels. The participation of ICRC sub-delegation staff in the branch committee meetings helped identify security risks and reduce security incidents.

Cooperation with the National Society and other Movement partners

The ICRC and the International Federation helped the Colombian Red Cross revise its national development plan. It paid for the transport and accommodation of branch staff and volunteers travelling to meetings to give their input, thus ensuring that the finalized plan would be relevant to each local context. Colombian Red Cross activities carried out in cooperation with partner National Societies were coordinated under tripartite security and cooperation agreements, which were being replaced by new, multilateral agreements.

Agreements between the various partners enabled the Movement to coordinate its response to the humanitarian consequences of specific armed clashes. Similarly, the ICRC's contacts with armed groups paved the way for partner National Societies to work in areas that would otherwise have been off-limits for security reasons.

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

The Colombian Red Cross, with financial support and technical input from the ICRC, strengthened the dissemination/communication departments in all its branches. The ICRC supported the development of a distance-learning module on IHL for a National Society programme designed to ensure a coherent approach to IHL dissemination. It also:

- ▶ contributed to the salaries of staff working in the newly established doctrine and protection departments;
- ▶ provided financial support to Colombian Red Cross micro-projects;
- ▶ gave technical support to the National Society in launching a public information campaign on protection of the emblem.

Mine action

To prepare for the extension of the mine-risk education project to three new departments (Arauca, Meta and Norte de Santander), the Colombian Red Cross trained mine-action monitors in each of these branches. Once fully implemented, the project would bring the number of departments covered to five, including Antioquia and Cauca. The Colombian Red Cross started mine-risk education in four communities in Meta and Norte de Santander and revised its mine-risk education materials.



haiti

The ICRC's involvement in Haiti began in 1994, visiting detainees falling within its mandate. Previously covered by the regional delegation in Mexico City, Haiti became a fully fledged delegation in February 2004, when internal strife threatened to degenerate into armed conflict. Given the persisting violence, the ICRC is maintaining a presence in Haiti. It focuses on protection activities for detainees and civilians, ensures that people wounded as a result of violence have access to medical services and improves water and sanitation in violence-prone shantytowns. It contributes, along with other Movement partners, to strengthening the emergency-response capacity of the Haitian National Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,007
Assistance	1,271
Prevention	1,159
Cooperation with National Societies	1,439
General	-

► **4,875**

of which: Overheads 298

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	96.9%
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PERSONNEL

12	expatriates
41	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- monitored conditions in 38 places of detention, including some 20 police stations, upgraded water and sanitation facilities in 3 detention centres and provided technical, logistical and material support to the prison authorities in dealing with a countrywide beriberi outbreak;
- helped the Cité Soleil branch of the Haitian Red Cross evacuate wounded and sick people;
- completed a project to repair communal latrines in Cité Soleil, organized local residents to clean open-air waste-water drains and persuaded the local authorities to resume rubbish collection and improve the supply of drinking water in the shantytown;
- worked closely with the International Federation and partner National Societies to support the restructuring of the Haitian Red Cross and strengthen its emergency-response capacity;
- held information sessions on the ICRC's activities in Haiti and the Fundamental Principles for members of the Haitian police and the UN civilian police, as well as for staff of the UN peace-keeping mission in Haiti;
- maintained regular contact with all the different weapon bearers, including UN peace-keepers, to ensure safe access for Red Cross workers to victims of armed violence and to promote the Fundamental Principles and basic humanitarian norms.

CONTEXT

General elections initially planned for 9 October were postponed several times owing to technical delays in voter registration, difficulties in distributing voter identification cards and discussions on the total number of presidential candidates allowed to participate in the race and on the location of over 800 voting centres and the need to train the staff manning them. Voter registration, extended five times, closed on 23 October, with some 3.3 million people registered out of an estimated 3.5 to 4.5 million potential voters.

Armed violence, which increased significantly in and around Port-au-Prince in the first half of the year, somewhat abated as of August. There were fewer reported kidnappings and a return to a semblance of normal life in the shantytowns, with the exception of Cité Soleil, where, according to Médecins sans Frontières (MSF-France), an average of 115 people a month were being treated for gunshot wounds in a nearby hospital supported by the French NGO. The number of people treated for knife wounds also increased in the second half of the year. Although violence remained concentrated in and around the capital, armed groups continued to be active country-wide. The largest such group, made up of members of Haiti's former armed forces, kept a low profile in the second half of the year. A formal disarmament programme was abandoned in favour of a "violence-reduction" programme.

In 2005, the Haitian police and the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), whose mandate was extended until 15 February 2006, adopted a more active stance vis-à-vis armed groups, leading to numerous armed clashes in several of Port-au-Prince's neighbourhoods.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM		
Detainees visited	4,288	Water and habitat		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	107	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	208,800
Number of visits carried out	125			
Number of places of detention visited	38			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications				
RCMs collected	21			
RCMs distributed	12			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to focus on protecting victims of armed violence by intensifying its dialogue with all groups involved in the violence and helping the local branch of the Haitian Red Cross evacuate hundreds of wounded people in Cité Soleil, one of the metropolitan shantytowns most affected by armed gangs. The ICRC also placed more emphasis on monitoring the proportionality of the use of force by members of the Haitian police and MINUSTAH, after a number of clashes left a disproportionately high number of innocent bystanders injured or killed, mainly in Cité Soleil.

A water and sanitation project initiated with the Haitian Red Cross in 2005 reversed to some extent the increasing marginalization of the shantytown's residents as communal latrines were rehabilitated, rubbish collection and the supply of water were partially restored and open-air sewage drains were cleaned.

Although largely recovered from a complete collapse in February and March 2004, the Haitian penitentiary system remained vulnerable in 2005. In the second half of the year, a sizeable increase in the prison population, coupled with a countrywide outbreak of beriberi, further strained the system. To alleviate overcrowding, the ICRC refurbished some prison blocks. It also provided the penitentiary authorities with technical and logistical support, including a countrywide screening of detainees, to address the beriberi epidemic. It continued to follow up on individual detainees arrested in connection with ongoing political disturbances in the country and to monitor the detention conditions of all detainees in order to determine the structural support it should provide, in partnership with other organizations, to the national prison authorities.

The ICRC retained its role of lead agency within the Movement in Haiti. Together with the International Federation and

partner National Societies, it continued to pursue a comprehensive programme to strengthen the organizational structure and technical capacities of the Haitian Red Cross, with special emphasis on the "Safer Access" approach.

CIVILIANS

Haitians continued to suffer the effects of all kinds of violence: politically motivated attacks, common criminality, extortion, revenge killings, summary executions and kidnapping for ransom. Civilians were also increasingly victims of heavy-handed methods on the part of law-enforcement agents or were caught in the crossfire between armed groups and such agents. The ICRC maintained an ongoing dialogue with all armed groups, particularly with MINUSTAH and the national police, underlining once more the importance of allowing wounded people to be transported to hospital and the need to distinguish between civilians and fighters.

Improving water supply and sanitation

The chronic lack of water exacerbated tensions in Cité Soleil. By addressing some of the community's basic needs, maintaining a presence in the shantytown, alongside the Haitian Red Cross, and liaising with local authorities in charge of providing basic services, the ICRC contributed to easing the worst effects of the violence.

In cooperation with the government service responsible for water supply, the ICRC carried out repairs to the water-distribution system and delivered fuel for the generator of a water-pumping station as well as hydraulic equipment to repair it. Local residents trained by the ICRC repaired 15 communal water fountains out of 45, kept them in working order and supervised the sale of water.

The ICRC and the Haitian Red Cross set up teams drawn from the community to clean up rubbish dumps and open-air sewage drains in eight areas of Cité Soleil and to refurbish and maintain communal latrines. The ICRC provided wheelbarrows, boots, picks and shovels. It also obtained the collaboration of the government service responsible for solid-waste collection to repair 12 rubbish skips and empty their contents on a regular basis. These improvements benefited some 208,800 residents of Cité Soleil in 2005.

Missing persons

After initial discussions with the ICRC, the minister of justice had agreed to set up a structure within the ministry to deal with the issue of persons unaccounted for in connection with the political and security situation. Unfortunately, the removal of the minister and consequent changes in the ministry precluded any progress on this issue until a new government had been elected.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The prison population kept rising in 2005, particularly in the second half of the year. Despite efforts by the ministry of justice, an exceptionally low delivery of sentences by the justice system compounded the problem (88% of detainees nationwide and 96% in the main prison in Port-au-Prince were in pre-trial detention), resulting in renewed overcrowding in prisons and police stations.

In 2005, the ICRC visited 38 places of detention, monitoring the material conditions of detention and the treatment of detainees.

The ICRC helped the prison authorities carry out repairs to water and sanitation facilities in selected prisons and supplied detention centres with hygiene products and recreational items as needed. It maintained close contact with other organizations

working with detainees, such as UNDP, the Organization of American States (OAS) and MINUSTAH, as well as a constructive dialogue with the national bodies in charge of detention centres (the prison authorities and the Haitian police). The prison authorities took into account the ICRC's recommendations when drafting their 2005–10 strategic development plan.

Access to basic health care remained difficult for detainees. Detention centres had not yet been included in the national programme to combat tuberculosis; no provisions were made to care for detainees suffering from HIV/AIDS; and no secure hospital existed to which detainees in need of medical treatment could be transferred. The ICRC continued to encourage prison authorities, government ministries and international partners to address basic health-care issues and the problem of tuberculosis in prisons.

An outbreak of beriberi, a micronutrient deficiency, at the main prison of Port-au-Prince in October further illustrated the poor detention conditions in Haiti's prisons. Upon the request of the prison authorities, the ICRC provided technical and logistical support, helping to screen 3,282 detainees in 17 prisons, 160 of whom were diagnosed with the illness and treated accordingly. The beriberi crisis prompted the prison authorities to set up a taskforce comprising the ICRC, UNDP, MINUSTAH and the OAS to deal with issues such as nutrition, health care and hygiene in prisons.

- 4,288 detainees visited, of whom 107 followed up on individually and 80 newly registered
- 20 RCMs collected from and 1 delivered to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

According to MSF-France, the number of people the NGO had treated for bullet wounds jumped from 46 in January to 204 in May, followed by a sharp drop in October and another sharp rise in the last two months of the year. The number of people treated for knife wounds doubled in the second half of the year. A significant proportion of patients treated for bullet wounds were residents of Cité Soleil, almost all of whom had been evacuated by the Haitian Red Cross, with ICRC support.

The ICRC positioned stocks of medicine and surgical equipment in hospitals in Port-au-Prince and the provinces, as well as

stretchers and medical kits in Red Cross branches in the capital and Cap-Haïtien for use in the event of internal disturbances during the election period.

The ICRC purchased raw materials to help the Healing Hands for Haiti Foundation produce 50 prosthetic limbs using the low-cost technology pioneered by the ICRC.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC kept up its dialogue with the interim government on matters as diverse as security, the role and training of the police force, the need to involve the Ministries of Health and Social Protection in health care for detainees, the status of the Haitian Red Cross and the mandate of the ICRC. It also pursued a dialogue with the main parties participating in the elections.

A presidential decree affording the ICRC and its staff the same privileges and immunities granted to the UN and the diplomatic community was published in the official journal in April, followed a month later by the publication in the same journal of the new statutes of the Haitian Red Cross. On 1 September, Haiti ratified the Ottawa Convention. The ICRC continued to press the interim government to complete the ratification of the 1977 Additional Protocol II.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The UN Security Council approved additional military and police contingents in Haiti, bringing the number of MINUSTAH troops to 7,200 and of UN civilian police to 1,600 by the end of the year. In the second half of the year, MINUSTAH and the Haitian police stepped up their presence in Port-au-Prince's violence-prone neighbourhoods, restoring order in some areas but also contributing to the increase in civilians killed and injured in the crossfire in heavily populated communities. The ICRC maintained a dialogue on operational matters with MINUSTAH staff officers in Port-au-Prince and with officers and troops throughout the country, underlining the mandate of the ICRC and the importance of respecting the emblem and medical facilities.

In the absence of an army (disbanded by former President Aristide in 1995), the Haitian police was tasked with duties of a military nature, in addition to its traditional policing duties. With only 6,000 men

for a country of 8 million people, the force remained overstretched and undertrained. The ICRC conducted dissemination sessions on its mandate and activities and on pertinent human rights principles for police and prison guards throughout the country, including trainees graduating from the police academy. It insisted on the need to respect the emblem during medical evacuations from Cité Soleil carried out by the Haitian Red Cross.

Armed groups still roamed the countryside, the largest being the former armed forces, estimated by MINUSTAH at some 2,500 individuals. The greatest threat to civilians, however, came from urban armed groups, estimated by MINUSTAH at some 4,000 individuals, operating in Port-au-Prince's shantytowns. In informal contacts with these groups, the ICRC emphasized, as it did with other weapon bearers, the need to respect the civilian population, medical facilities and the red cross emblem. It also promoted these core messages on radio stations (see *Civil Society*) and adapted and translated the *Soldier's Handbook* into Creole.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC maintained close relations with some 30 media outlets, especially the country's burgeoning network of local radio stations, to explain the work of the ICRC and the Movement and raise awareness among weapon bearers and the general population of the need to respect medical facilities and the emblem. It briefed national and international media on various aspects of its work in Haiti.

The delegation continued to develop its contacts with local humanitarian NGOs and associations, organizing in December a briefing session on IHL and the ICRC's protection work for members of the Réseau National de Défense des Droits Humains in Port-au-Prince, one of the foremost local human rights organizations. The ICRC distributed a quarterly newsletter on the activities of the ICRC and the Movement in Haiti to the main NGOs.

Information sessions on IHL, planned with the University of Quisqueya, had to be postponed for security reasons.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC refurbished the office of the Haitian Red Cross in Cité Soleil, provided it with first-aid kits and trained its volunteers in first aid. It also continued to finance the rental of local taxis to transport 620 wounded people to hospital. Together with the International Federation, the ICRC upgraded the Haitian Red Cross's VHF radio system.

- ▶ 80 Haitian Red Cross volunteers working in Cité Soleil trained in first aid
- ▶ 490 first-aid kits distributed to 13 regional and 89 local branches of the Haitian Red Cross
- ▶ 2 workshops on the "Safer Access" approach held for 56 participants from 13 regional and 2 local Red Cross branches

The ICRC put together guidelines and a training module to standardize the teaching of the Fundamental Principles by Haitian Red Cross staff and volunteers. It also organized training courses for 58 disseminators from 13 regional and 3 local branches and supported the volunteers of the Haitian

Red Cross branch in Cité Soleil in their efforts to raise awareness among residents of the role and activities of the Movement.

To contribute to the restructuring of the Haitian Red Cross's tracing department, the ICRC conducted two advanced training courses on efficient management of RCMs for 56 Haitian Red Cross volunteers.

The ICRC conducted bi-monthly coordination meetings for all Movement partners and gave security briefings to all new staff of the International Federation and partner National Societies. A memorandum of understanding between the Haitian Red Cross, the ICRC, the International Federation and Movement partners, outlining each organization's role and responsibilities in Haiti, was renewed for a year in July.

The ICRC and Movement partners supported the Haitian Red Cross in implementing its plan of action for 2005–08. Included in this ambitious plan were capacity-building objectives and reforms aimed at responding more efficiently to Haiti's vast needs for humanitarian assistance, particularly in emergency situations stemming from natural disasters or armed violence. Such a plan would be achieved through the strengthening of programme management at headquarters level, together with a coordinated branch-development approach.

The ICRC rehabilitated the offices of two regional branches of the Haitian Red Cross and contributed to the rental of another.



ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office

buenos aires

The ICRC regional delegation in Buenos Aires, established in 1975, promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, into the curricula of academic institutions and into the operating procedures, manuals and training programmes of the armed forces, as well as the inclusion of human rights standards in police manuals and training programmes. It also works to raise awareness of IHL among the authorities, school-children, the media and the public. It visits security detainees in Chile and Paraguay. In Brazil and Paraguay, it stands ready to respond to potential humanitarian consequences of social unrest. Lastly, the delegation contributes to developing the operational capacities of the region's National Societies.

COVERING

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	326
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,642
Cooperation with National Societies	594
General	114

► **2,676**

of which: Overheads 163

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95.9%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
21	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- signed cooperation agreements with the police forces of several Brazilian states most affected by social protests or other situations of violence in order to promote the further integration of human rights norms applicable to policing into their manuals, training and operating procedures; continued to negotiate a similar agreement with the Argentinean authorities;
- held high-level meetings and seminars with the Brazilian armed forces in order to step up the integration of IHL into their training and operating procedures;
- monitored the release of hundreds of landless farmers who had been arrested in Paraguay in December 2004 after being forcibly removed from lands they were occupying; visited Mapuche indigenous activists sentenced under anti-terrorist legislation in Chile, as well as security detainees in Chile and Paraguay;
- together with the respective national IHL committees, was instrumental in the ratification by Chile of the Rome Statute and its integration into domestic law by Uruguay;
- continued to promote the teaching of IHL in the region's main universities.

CONTEXT

Following in the footsteps of its neighbours in the Southern Cone (Argentina, Brazil and Chile), in March Uruguay elected a leftist government, which had pledged to focus on social issues. The region's disenchantment with neo-liberal economic policies was strongly expressed at the fourth summit of the Americas held in November at Mar del Plata, Argentina, when Venezuela and members of MERCOSUR, the Southern Cone's common market, refused to endorse the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

The economic growth experienced by the region in 2005 failed to trickle down to the increasingly impoverished population. Social inequality, already at its most pronounced in countries such as Brazil, continued to grow. Urban violence and organized crime, fuelled by a sharp rise in drug trafficking, continued to take their toll. In Brazil, where the problem was particularly acute (in 2004, some 36,000 people died from bullet wounds), an overwhelming majority of voters (64%) rejected by referendum a proposal to ban the sale of weapons. Social protests linked to land distribution and indigenous issues took on renewed force, particularly in Brazil and Paraguay.

Against this backdrop, encouraging developments included heightened regional integration through organizations such as MERCOSUR, which granted Venezuela full member status in December 2005.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	37
Detainees visited and monitored individually	37
Number of visits carried out	11
Number of places of detention visited	7
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	14

1. Brazil, Chile and Paraguay

ICRC ACTION

The delegation continued to promote IHL throughout the region, focusing on incorporating the repression of war crimes into domestic law. In Brazil, important breakthroughs were achieved in the integration of IHL into the military doctrine of the armed forces and the inclusion of applicable human rights norms in the manuals, training and operating procedures of the police. Teaching of IHL continued in the region's main universities, while the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme for secondary-school children in Uruguay was boosted by the new government's support. In Chile, the programme's priorities were redefined and its progress monitored.

In order to gain a better understanding of the mechanisms leading to situations of internal violence and their humanitarian consequences, the ICRC established contacts with local human rights organizations, NGOs and representatives of social, agrarian and indigenous movements throughout the region and initiated various studies on the issue.

With tensions especially high in Brazil and Paraguay owing to urban violence and the agrarian and indigenous issues, the delegation maintained close contact with the authorities in the two countries, including with the armed forces, the police and the justice ministries. It also maintained a dialogue with representatives of NGOs and social and political movements and visited people newly detained in connection with protest movements and political tensions, particularly in Chile and Paraguay.

In order to help the region's National Societies better respond to the needs arising from situations of internal strife or violence, while enhancing the safety of their workers, the ICRC started training staff from the Argentinean and Paraguayan National Societies in the "Safer Access" approach.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC liaised with other delegations in the region as well as with National Societies in Latin America and Europe to help find people who had lost contact with family members. It issued travel documents to five asylum seekers who had been accepted for resettlement by host countries and helped security detainees in Chile and Paraguay keep in touch with their families.

The ICRC encouraged ministers of foreign affairs in the region to table a draft resolution on missing persons and their families at the 35th meeting of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which took place in Fort Lauderdale (USA) in June 2005. Along with a series of resolutions related to IHL, the OAS General Assembly adopted the proposed resolution. The ICRC also urged Argentina, Brazil and Chile to carry out a study on existing domestic legislation related to missing persons in order to improve it.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

At the beginning of the year, the ICRC followed up on the situation of 621 landless Paraguayan farmers who had been arrested at the end of 2004 for occupying farms belonging to absentee landowners. Most of them were released on parole.

The ICRC visited detainees in Chile and Paraguay on the basis of agreements with the respective prison authorities and laid the groundwork for a similar agreement with the Argentinian and Brazilian authorities.

- ▶ 20 security detainees (monitored individually) visited in Paraguay, during 4 visits to 2 places of detention
- ▶ 16 security detainees (monitored individually) visited in Chile, including Mapuche Indians and former members of an armed opposition group, during 6 visits to 4 places of detention

- ▶ 1 former member of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, arrested in Brazil, visited in October
- ▶ 11 detention certificates issued to former Chilean security detainees at their request and 3 to former Argentinian POWs (Malvinas/Falklands conflict)

AUTHORITIES

Throughout the region, the delegation continued to press for the inclusion of the repression of war crimes in domestic legislation and the strengthening of national IHL committees. In Chile, the constitution was revised to pave the way for the ratification of the Rome Statute. In Uruguay, the Statute's provisions were being integrated into domestic law.

In early March, representatives of 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries gathered in Buenos Aires for a conference on the protection of cultural property in time of war. The event was jointly organized by the government of Argentina, the ICRC and UNESCO to strengthen the implementation of treaties such as the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its protocols. Following the conference, the Argentinian government, with ICRC support, placed the appropriate emblem on various museums in the capital.

The delegation continued to urge the Argentinian authorities to pass a law on the protection of the red cross emblem.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces and IHL

In Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, the ICRC continued to assess the extent of integration of IHL into the armed forces' doctrine, training and operating procedures and to provide technical advice, including training workshops on IHL.

In view of the tense situation in some Brazilian states, the ICRC met the minister of defence and the army's chief of staff to discuss the need to take appropriate measures to protect civilians in situations of internal violence whenever the army was called in to restore law and order. Breaking with past practice, the highest echelons of the Brazilian army decided to go ahead with the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operating procedures. The ICRC held IHL workshops for army instructors and met the Chief of Air Staff and principal staff officers.

Human rights norms relevant to policing

In Argentina, the ICRC, which had introduced a programme in 2004 to integrate applicable human rights norms into the manuals, training programmes and operating procedures of the police force, was in the final stage of negotiating a cooperation agreement with the relevant authorities. In Paraguay, the deteriorating security situation prompted police authorities to request a briefing from the ICRC on human rights norms applicable to policing. As a result, they began considering the feasibility of introducing such norms into their internal regulations.

In another breakthrough in Brazil, significant progress was achieved in the implementation of the police programme, with the signing of an agreement between the ICRC and the authorities in charge of security in Rio de Janeiro, the state most prone to urban violence. The agreement established the steps to be taken over a 12-month period to integrate relevant human rights norms into police training and procedures. In the second part of the year, three additional states seriously affected by violence related to indigenous and agrarian issues, Para, Pernambuco and Rio Grande do Norte, signed a similar agreement.

- workshops on human rights law applicable to policing organized in 10 Brazilian states

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media and IHL

The ICRC continued to develop its network of contacts with national and regional media. It designed an online course on IHL and the role of the ICRC for journalists from the Southern Cone and held a seminar on IHL for journalists in Rio de Janeiro. The ICRC's Spanish and Portuguese websites continued to serve as an essential communication tool.

Teaching schoolchildren humanitarian principles

In Chile, the ICRC and the relevant authorities redefined the focus of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. Together, they designed a new plan of action to improve coordination, determined under which topics the programme would be included and redefined its geographical scope. New teachers were trained to implement the programme. In Uruguay, the newly elected government showed a keen interest in reviving the programme, originally launched in 2003, by working on a plan of action with the ICRC. An evaluation of the initial phase of the programme was carried out, followed by a training seminar for new teachers.

Teaching IHL to future decision-makers

The integration of IHL into the curricula of most universities in Argentina was well advanced. In Brazil and Paraguay, the ICRC conducted a series of training courses for lecturers to accelerate the process of introducing IHL teaching in universities. The delegation worked with 76 universities in the region and maintained a network of some 300 lecturers trained in teaching IHL, providing them with updated material.

The delegation sent promotional material on the Gustave Moynier prize for dissertations on IHL to all the countries in the region and helped the University of Buenos Aires prepare its students for the Philip C. Jessup international moot-court competition held yearly in Washington D.C. and for the Jean Pictet moot-court competition held in Collonges-la-Rouge, France, in 2005.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In Argentina and Paraguay, emergency-preparedness programmes went ahead as planned. The ICRC focused on training staff and volunteers from branches outside the capitals in emergency preparedness and the "Safer Access" approach.

In Brazil, the ICRC supported the Brazilian Red Cross in the revision of its statutes and the promotion of IHL in accordance with a tripartite agreement between the ICRC, the National Society and the International Federation. A similar agreement was being drawn up with the Argentinian Red Cross. In 2005, the ICRC and the International Federation signed a tripartite agreement with the Uruguayan Red Cross.

In Paraguay, following the promulgation of a law protecting the red cross emblem, the ICRC continued to support the National Society's efforts to promote the emblem. Throughout the region, the ICRC provided the National Societies with financial support and training for the publication of their newsletters, as well as technical support to enable them to assess the efficiency of their tracing departments.

The ICRC held communication and tracing workshops for the National Societies in Brazil, Chile and Uruguay.



Caracas

The ICRC regional delegation in Caracas was first established in 1971. Since 2000, it has been covering, in addition to Venezuela, the English-speaking Caribbean countries and Suriname. The delegation promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, into the curricula of academic institutions and into the operating procedures, manuals and training programmes of the armed forces and of pertinent human rights standards into police manuals and training programmes. It also helps to strengthen the capacities of National Red Cross Societies in the region.

COVERING

Venezuela, Suriname and the English-speaking Caribbean countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	69
Assistance	5
Prevention	1,090
Cooperation with National Societies	377
General	-

► **1,541**

of which: Overheads **94**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	74.1%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
9	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- was granted in November, by the Venezuelan authorities, full access to all detainees of concern to the organization;
- continued to support the teaching of IHL in Venezuela's main universities and conducted the first workshop on IHL for university professors from the CARICOM region;
- continued to encourage Venezuela and CARICOM member States to ratify IHL instruments to which they were not yet party and to implement those already ratified;
- sought to establish a formal cooperation agreement with the CARICOM Secretariat to promote humanitarian norms and principles;
- signed an agreement with the Venezuelan Ministry of the Interior to integrate applicable human rights norms into the manuals, training and operational procedures of selected police units;
- signed a headquarters agreement with the government of Trinidad and Tobago.

CONTEXT

Owing to a boycott advocated by opposition parties and the ensuing low voter turnout, Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez further consolidated his position after his party swept to victory in parliamentary elections in December 2005, with opposition groups failing to secure a single seat.

Fearing an attack, Venezuela began creating popular defence units and buying weapons from Russia and Spain, moves which prompted concern in the United States and neighbouring Colombia. President Chávez pushed a land reform bill through parliament to redistribute non-productive agricultural lands belonging to absentee landowners. However, aspects of the new bill lacked clarity, leading to spontaneous land invasions by people seeking to test its limits. Rampant crime and a planned reform of the police remained high on the political agenda.

Bolstered by the rising price of oil, Venezuela continued to play an active role in regional politics, voicing strong views on issues such as free trade and the war on drugs, which often clashed with those of the United States. Tensions reached a climax at the Fourth Summit of the Americas in November in Mar del Plata, Argentina, where the continent's heads of State failed to reach an agreement on a Washington-sponsored Free Trade Area of the Americas. President Chávez led a group proposing an alternative trade agreement emphasizing Latin American integration. In December 2005, Mercosur, a common market comprising Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and

Uruguay, agreed to grant Venezuela full member status.

Governments of countries belonging to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) focused on strengthening disaster-management capacities to cope with ever more deadly hurricane seasons. Also a high priority was combating murder and violent crime linked to illicit drug and arms trafficking and related gang warfare, which continued to take their toll, especially in Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. Although corporal punishment, denial of bail for murder suspects, and the death sentence by hanging are current practice, the governments of these countries introduced even stiffer measures.

At the regional level, CARICOM States drafted and enacted the legislation necessary for integration into the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), with a view to more effective participation in hemispheric and global trade negotiations. Smaller, less-developed countries of the eastern Caribbean, however, experienced difficulties in meeting the criteria for adherence to the CSME, delaying its full implementation. Although the regional Caribbean Court of Justice, based in Port of Spain, was inaugurated in April 2005, it had yet to replace the London-based Privy Council as the final court of appeal.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	132
Detainees visited and monitored individually	132
Number of visits carried out	18
Number of places of detention visited	10
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	6
RCMs distributed	5
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	4

1. Grenada and Venezuela

ICRC ACTION

The regional delegation focused on prevention and humanitarian diplomacy, reinforcing its acceptance by political, military and police authorities and civil society and concluding a headquarters agreement with the government of Trinidad and Tobago in November. The ICRC continued to encourage governments in the region to ratify and implement IHL treaties. Lecturers previously trained by the ICRC successfully integrated IHL into courses in Venezuelan and Caribbean universities. The ICRC kept the media in the region regularly updated on its activities. It also visited and monitored the conditions of detention of people deprived of their freedom in connection with past destabilization attempts in Venezuela and with the 1983 coup in Grenada.

The ICRC initiated discussions with the Directorate of the CARICOM Secretariat in Guyana to establish a formal cooperation agreement for the promotion and implementation of humanitarian norms and principles in the CARICOM region.

As in the past, the ICRC worked with the International Federation to strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued its regular visits to detainees at the military prison of Ramo Verde near Caracas and, jointly with the ICRC delegation in Colombia, monitored the release and repatriation of 73 Colombian citizens. During the second half of the year, the ICRC visited detention facilities administered by the security and judicial police, as well as prisons in various Venezuelan federal states.

- 121 detainees monitored individually during 17 visits to 9 places of detention
- 6 RCMs collected from and 2 distributed to detainees

In May, the ICRC made its annual visit to political detainees in Grenada held in connection with a coup in 1983.

AUTHORITIES

On 19 April, Venezuela became party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, following which the ICRC offered to assist the government in enacting implementing legislation.

The ICRC provided working groups in parliament and the Supreme Justice Tribunal tasked with updating the criminal justice code with technical advice to ensure that amendments were in line with IHL.

In the CARICOM countries, progress on further ratifications of IHL treaties and their national implementation remained slow, despite policy advice and technical support provided by the ICRC to individual governments, CARICOM's Attorneys-General and the CARICOM Secretariat.

Antigua and Barbuda, in August, and Grenada, in June, became party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, bringing to 11 the number of CARICOM countries that had ratified the Convention. Trinidad and Tobago, after becoming the first CARICOM country to ratify the Rome Statute, initiated a parliamentary debate in December on a draft bill related to the national implementation of the Statute.

The delegation established and maintained contact not only with various government authorities, but also with grassroots organizations, members of the Supreme Court,

indigenous leaders and opposition figures. Feedback from a variety of sources during the year confirmed that the ICRC's mandate and activities in the region were understood and respected.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Of the countries in the region, only Belize made significant progress in integrating IHL into the doctrine, training manuals and operating procedures of its armed forces.

In November, the ICRC met the heads of the armed forces of Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago to propose a conference in 2006, to be attended by the heads of the CARICOM region's armed forces, to look at how to integrate IHL into military doctrine, training manuals and operating procedures.

Following negotiations lasting over a year, in January 2005 the Venezuelan Minister of the Interior signed a memorandum of understanding with the ICRC, paving the way for the incorporation of applicable human rights norms into police manuals, training programmes and operating procedures. Together with the police academies of Valencia, Maracay and Barinitas, the ICRC organized three train-the-trainer courses on the subject. It also encouraged the National Police Coordination Office in the Ministry of the Interior to produce a police manual integrating human rights norms applicable to policing and to revise the curricula of police academies.

In the CARICOM region, after having stepped up training programmes and advisory missions aimed at encouraging the integration of applicable human rights norms into police operations and

procedures, the ICRC decided to shift its focus towards greater awareness-raising among the senior ranks of the police.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC organized two workshops for journalists in Venezuela and provided news updates to its media contacts, including the newly established Telesur network, whose headquarters were in Caracas. The written and electronic media in Venezuela reported extensively on the Geneva Diplomatic Conference on Additional Protocol III.

In the CARICOM region, in order to assess media interest in relaying information on humanitarian issues and on the ICRC's role and mandate, the delegation held a workshop for selected senior journalists. The General Secretary of the Association of Caribbean Media Workers followed this with a wider survey, the findings of which served as the basis for an ICRC regional media strategy.

In Venezuela, the ICRC conducted two IHL teaching courses for 40 university lecturers, all of whom made the commitment to incorporate IHL into their own courses. At the end of 2005, two Venezuelan universities had made IHL an integral part of their curricula.

In the CARICOM region, nine university professors from five Caribbean universities participated in a teacher-training and curriculum-design workshop organized by the ICRC. As a result, during the 2005–06 academic year, IHL was taught in selected universities in Guyana, Suriname, Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

In March, the ICRC briefed the education authorities in Jamaica on the proposed implementation of its Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools. However, the already overloaded curriculum made it difficult for the modules to be formally integrated into it. The option of introducing modules selectively through the Red Cross Youth, which works closely with certain high schools, was explored, but no further progress was achieved.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC regularly met staff of the Venezuelan Red Cross to prepare contingency plans in the event of internal strife and stood ready to provide the National Society with material support if needed.

National Societies in CARICOM remained small, with limited human, material and financial resources. Moreover, the capacities of National Societies were stretched to the limit during natural disasters that struck in 2005, such as hurricane Ivan in Jamaica and coastal floods in Guyana. In the wake of these events, the National Societies of both countries drew up emergency-response plans to deal with future such disasters.

In May, the ICRC participated in the 8th biennial meeting of Caribbean National Societies in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. Discussions centred on disaster management and preparedness, health, the promotion of humanitarian values, and the management of National Societies.

The ICRC and the International Federation continued to provide CARICOM National Societies with training support and materials in the area of dissemination and communication. They jointly conducted two workshops on international humanitarian standards and the Fundamental Principles for senior National Society executives.



lima

The delegation in Lima first opened in 1984. It began covering Bolivia, in addition to Peru, in 2003 and Ecuador in 2004. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into academic curricula and the doctrine, operating procedures, manuals and training programmes of the armed forces. It also supports the integration of human rights norms applicable to the use of force into the training programmes of police. The ICRC monitors conditions of detention, endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons and assists people affected by the lingering consequences of the struggle between government forces and the remnants of insurgent groups. The ICRC also seeks to strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies to respond to situations of internal strife.

COVERING

Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,356
Assistance	818
Prevention	1,671
Cooperation with National Societies	892
General	-

► **4,738**

of which: Overheads **289**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95.5%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
35	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- closely followed developments in all three countries covered by the regional delegation, providing support to the National Societies in responding to the needs of people affected by internal disturbances and incidents of violence;
- continued to monitor the conditions of detention of some 1,200 people held under anti-terrorist laws or for alleged acts of "rebellion" in Peru; advocated the establishment of a penitentiary health board in Peru; financed and participated in the supervision of health services in selected Peruvian and Bolivian prisons;
- continued to promote the ratification of IHL treaties and their integration into domestic law;
- continued to promote the integration of IHL into the doctrine, training and operating procedures of the region's armed forces (human rights norms in the case of the police) and into university curricula;
- with the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, organized a regional workshop for experts on issues related to internal violence and disturbances.

CONTEXT

Intense social protests in Bolivia and Ecuador led to the resignations of Presidents Carlos Mesa and Lucio Gutiérrez. In Peru, President Alejandro Toledo's approval rating remained at an all-time low.

In Bolivia, disagreement over the exploitation of gas reserves brought the country to a virtual standstill in May, triggering its most serious political and institutional crisis in 20 years. The country had been increasingly polarized over the adoption of a law raising taxes for foreign oil and gas companies. Indigenous, rural and labour groups demanded the nationalization of the country's rich gas reserves and the resignation of President Mesa, while a conservative business elite in the departments of Santa Cruz and Tarija expressed opposition to the tax increase and nationalization of the industry and pushed for autonomy of their region. On 18 December, Evo Morales, leader of the main opposition party and proponent of the nationalization of the oil and gas industry, as well as the legalization of coca leaf cultivation, won the presidential elections in a landslide victory. He became the first indigenous president of a country where 65% of the population considered themselves as indigenous.

In the Peruvian regions of Upper Huallaga, Ene and Apurimac, tensions intensified between coca producers, supported by remnants of the Shining Path guerrillas, and armed and police forces. The government declared a two-month state of emergency in Upper Huallaga after alleged members of the Shining Path killed eight policemen

at the end of December, the latest in a series of attacks aimed at police forces. In April, farmers occupied the airport of Andahuaylas, demanding government support for agriculture, clashing with police and army units and prompting the government to declare a state of emergency in the two affected provinces. In Puno, Quechua and Aymara indigenous communities pushed for greater autonomy and protested against oil and mining companies and the perceived corruption and mismanagement of regional and municipal authorities.

In November, the Chilean authorities arrested former Peruvian president Alberto Fujimori when his plane made a stopover in Santiago on his way to Peru. The Peruvian government immediately initiated extradition proceedings on charges of murder, torture, forced disappearance and misappropriation of funds. Mr Fujimori remained detained in Chile while the authorities examined the Peruvian request. The incident came at a low point in the relationship between the two countries: following the approval by the Peruvian parliament of a law redefining its maritime boundaries, the Chilean government protested that the new law would constitute a violation of the existing treaties clearly defining those boundaries.

In Ecuador, two oil-producing provinces in the Amazon region were the scene in August of violent protests as the local population blocked roads, airports and oil installations to demand a fairer redistribution of

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ¹		
Detainees visited	1,379	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,257	Food	Beneficiaries	62
Number of visits carried out	169	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	1,312
Number of places of detention visited	65			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	124			
RCMs distributed	101			
People reunited with their families	1			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	104			

1. Peru only

oil revenues through investment in infrastructure benefiting local communities. Some 40 people were wounded in clashes with the police.

Diplomatic tensions between Ecuador and Colombia escalated in June when the Colombian government accused its neighbour of harbouring FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) guerrillas, to which the Ecuadorean government replied that it maintained a neutral stance regarding "Colombia's civil war".

ICRC ACTION

The regional delegation monitored the conditions of detention of hundreds of security detainees in Peru and offered expertise to government authorities in Peru and Bolivia in their efforts to upgrade health services for detainees.

In light of the social unrest in the region, the ICRC reinforced the capacities of National Societies to respond effectively to the consequences of violence, providing training and suitable equipment for dealing with such emergencies. It also covered the cost of medical treatment for people affected by the violence.

The ICRC continued to provide the region's armed forces with technical advice to encourage the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training manuals and operating procedures. It also supported the integration of applicable human rights norms into the manuals, training programmes and operating procedures of the region's police forces.

The ICRC introduced the teaching of IHL in a dozen universities in the region and launched a programme in Peru to teach basic IHL principles to secondary-school children. It organized workshops on IHL for journalists and continued to encourage the region's governments to integrate IHL instruments in general, and the Rome Statute in particular, into national legislation.

CIVILIANS

Bouts of violence in Peru

The ICRC provided food, essential household items, clothes, blankets and bus fares to a small number of people affected by violence in Upper Huallaga and covered the medical costs of 81 wounded or sick civilians, including 15 injured by mines, explosive remnants of war or bullets.

In July, the ICRC evacuated people wounded as a result of confrontations between coca producers and the police in Tingo María (department of Huánuco) as well as vulnerable people. During the demonstrations against oil companies in August, the ICRC provided medical assistance to wounded people, visited some 20 people detained by the police and supported the Peruvian Red Cross's emergency response.

The ICRC reinforced its presence in the troubled region of Puno, multiplying its contacts with local authorities and armed opposition groups to help prevent further acts of violence. It documented cases of IHL violations and made representations to those responsible.

- ▶ 62 civilians received food and 58 essential household items
- ▶ 11 wounded people treated in first-aid posts
- ▶ 32 RCMs collected from and 62 distributed to civilians

Persons missing in connection with past conflict

An estimated 10,700 people were still unaccounted for in connection with 20 years of armed conflict in Peru. The Peruvian government established a system through the Office of the Ombudsman to ensure that the rights of the families of missing persons were given due consideration and to ease

legal proceedings undertaken by families. The government also adopted a resolution to investigate cases of missing persons and, if necessary, to issue families with a “certificate of absence”. Within the framework of its mandate, the ICRC continued to work closely with the Office of the Ombudsman on matters related to missing persons.

The ICRC encouraged the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to table a draft resolution on persons unaccounted for in connection with the conflict and their families at the 35th session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States. In May, jointly with the Pan American Health Organization, the ICRC organized a workshop on the management of human remains in disaster situations. Thirty-two experts from the Americas, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region attended the meeting. The ICRC helped cover the participation costs of four experts.

The delegation helped an association of families of the missing to collect additional information for the provisional register of missing persons by covering their travel expenses and provided office equipment to another association of families of the missing in Ayacucho. It also financed the publication by the Forensic Medical Institute of a monograph on exhumations carried out since the Truth Commission published its final report.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Peru, some 1,200 people remained detained under anti-terrorist laws or for alleged acts of “rebellion”, but their numbers kept decreasing as some of them were freed after serving sentences dating back to the 1990s. The delegation nonetheless registered 162 people detained in early January when reservists from the armed forces – members of an ultranationalist political group – attacked a police station in the remote Andean town of Andahuaylas, demanding the resignation of President Toledo and killing four policemen.

The Peruvian prison authorities’ new policy of keeping detainees close to their places of origin meant that far fewer security detainees were in need of the ICRC’s family visits programme. In early January, the ICRC suspended the programme, as planned, but continued to pay transport fares in exceptional cases, such as to enable the children of detainees to travel from abroad or from remote areas of the country to visit their parents.

The ICRC financed the construction of several classrooms and workshops, as well as the extension of the infirmary, at the women’s high-security prison in Chorrillos, benefiting all 200 inmates, of whom 130 were security detainees. Another 955 detainees in the Miguel Castro Castro prison benefited from the construction of a carpentry workshop and a computer classroom. The ICRC also provided tools and machinery for workshops in seven detention centres.

Improving health in prisons

Within its overall policy of supporting Peru’s National Penitentiary Institute (INPE), the ICRC played a pivotal role in designing a programme, financed by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, to control tuberculosis (TB) and address HIV/AIDS in nine of the country’s largest prisons.

The ICRC continued to push for better integration of prison health care into the mainstream national health system and supported INPE in addressing everyday health issues as well as TB and HIV/AIDS. It helped the national coordinating body for health care in prisons determine the number of health personnel necessary for penitentiary health-care services to become fully functional nationwide. The ICRC also financed an assessment by INPE of health services in the country’s major prisons and, together with them, trained health promoters in 12 prisons, focusing on issues such as TB, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, hygiene and mental health. In addition, it set up a programme to improve environmental health in the Chiclayo prison.

- 1,257 security detainees monitored individually (including 76 women and 201 newly registered detainees) during 169 visits to 65 detention centres
- 92 RCMs collected from and 39 distributed to detainees
- 45 detainees visited by relatives with ICRC financial assistance
- 183 families contacted by telephone to inform them of the situation of a detained relative
- 1,254 detainees received essential household items

In Bolivia, the ICRC organized the second national meeting of health professionals working in prisons and monitored, with the prison authorities, the health services in eight detention centres. Together with the Ministry of Health, it also assessed the overall situation of detainees’ health.

AUTHORITIES

In Bolivia, the ICRC pressed for the adoption of legislative measures to implement the Rome Statute. In Ecuador, the ICRC and the Andean Commission of Jurists explored ways of promoting implementation of the Statute. With ICRC support, the Ecuadorean Red Cross submitted to parliament a draft law on the protection of the emblem. However, Ecuador’s political and social crisis thwarted plans to create a national IHL committee. In Peru, the ICRC assisted the national IHL committee in its strategic planning and monitored the work accomplished by the special commission set up to revise the criminal justice code to include the repression of IHL violations. It also followed efforts to include the repression of war crimes in the revision of the military justice code. In June, the Lima delegation helped organize a regional workshop for experts on the use of force in situations of internal disturbances.

In all three countries covered by the regional delegation, the ICRC conducted training workshops on IHL in the principal judicial districts. In Peru, the ICRC signed an agreement with the National Council of Magistrates to incorporate IHL into judges’ training programmes.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL and the armed forces

The Peruvian armed forces distributed to their troops a general manual on IHL, produced in 2004, prompting all the branches of the armed forces to review their manuals in order to bring them in line with the general one. With ICRC technical support, the navy and air force incorporated IHL into their strategic manuals and the army into its operating and training manuals. In Bolivia, the integration of IHL into the doctrine, training and operating procedures of the armed forces continued according to plan. In Ecuador, only part of the armed forces had initiated the process of integrating IHL into their doctrine, operating procedures and training programmes.

Good policing

In Peru, police units began to revise their procedures, manuals and training programmes to include international human rights law applicable to policing. In Bolivia, the implementation of a new work plan to introduce pertinent human rights law in police training had still not started by year-end. In Ecuador, the police began

implementing a cooperation agreement, signed in 2004 by the Ministry of the Interior, the police and the ICRC, aimed at integrating pertinent human rights norms into their training programmes and manuals.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC, with the Peruvian Red Cross and the Institute for Legal Defence, held three workshops on basic IHL principles and the Movement for 160 journalists from the departments of Ayacucho, Huánuco and Puno. Similar workshops were conducted by the ICRC and National Societies in Quito (Ecuador) and El Alto (Bolivia). The ICRC also held an international seminar for 180 journalists and journalism students, organized with Quito's Central University, and another for 80 participants, organized with the Bolivian Catholic University.

Schools

In Peru, the Ministry of Education and the ICRC supported the decentralization of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme, organizing a first train-the-trainer workshop in Cuzco in April, prompting the education authorities of five other regions to organize their own workshops, with ICRC support. In June, the ICRC held another train-the-trainer workshop to extend the programme to five more regions, this time in the north. By year-end, 14 of the country's 25 departments were covered by the programme.

In October, the ICRC signed a cooperation agreement with the Bolivian Ministry of Education to introduce the EHL programme in schools. By December, a first workshop was held in Santa Cruz for 30 teachers.

Universities

After identifying the region's main universities and think-tanks, the ICRC established a plan of action to integrate the teaching of IHL into the curricula of 35 universities. During the year, the teaching of IHL was included in the mainstream compulsory courses of 12 law faculties and one media studies department in the region. The ICRC held refresher courses on IHL and international human rights law for lecturers from the universities of La Paz (Bolivia), Cuenca, Guayaquil and Quito (Ecuador) and Lima (Peru). It also enabled five lecturers to attend IHL courses abroad.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC technical assistance, the Bolivian Red Cross enhanced its communication strategy, especially regarding protection of the red cross emblem.

In May, all three National Societies evaluated their tracing programmes. The number of requests for tracing services remained low, and a capacity for disaster tracing had yet to be integrated into emergency-response and -preparedness plans in all three countries.

Emergency preparedness

In 2005, all three National Societies responded to internal disturbances and other instances of internal violence. In Bolivia, the ICRC and the National Society appealed through the media for the re-establishment of the water supply to the capital and the supply of gas and food to hospitals and orphanages. The ICRC helped Peruvian Red Cross teams reach the Andean town of Andahuaylas, where violence had occurred on two occasions and, later in the year, helped them reach Piura and Iquitos, where violent demonstrations had been staged against petroleum companies.

Emergency teams from the Ecuadorean Red Cross proved their preparedness during violent demonstrations against President Gutiérrez. The National Society was able to deploy first-aid teams across the country and provide ambulance services in Quito and some provincial capitals. The regional delegation financed the purchase of gas masks and helmets to protect volunteers.

In addition, the ICRC helped:

- ▶ the Bolivian Red Cross complete emergency-response contingency plans for its eight branches located in communities prone to internal disturbances and distributed additional stocks of first-aid materials and protective gear;
- ▶ the Peruvian Red Cross assess its existing emergency-response plans and introduced the "Safer Access" approach to all 52 branches during a regional planning workshop supported by the International Federation;
- ▶ the Ecuadorean Red Cross conduct 3 training workshops, including on the "Safer Access" approach, to strengthen its emergency teams and provided ICRC medical staff to assist the National Society in assessing hospital capacities in Quito and the provinces to update its contingency plans.

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

The ICRC organized a photo exhibition on "Women and War" with the Bolivian Red Cross and a travelling exhibition on displaced people worldwide with the Ecuadorean Red Cross. In October, the ICRC and the Bolivian Red Cross held a seminar for communication volunteers from all of the National Society's branches.

Coordination

The ICRC and the International Federation assisted the Ecuadorean and Peruvian Red Cross Societies in revising their statutes, supporting the creation of the post of executive director in the two National Societies, worked on emergency contingency plans for the Bolivian Red Cross and supported the dissemination activities of the Bolivian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies. The ICRC also supported the implementation of the national development plans of all three National Societies.



ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office
ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

mexico city

The Mexico delegation opened in 1998, becoming a regional delegation in 2002. It promotes the national implementation of IHL throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. It also works towards the integration of IHL into academic curricula and of IHL or applicable human rights norms into the doctrine and training of the armed forces and the police. It strengthens the capacities of the region's National Societies, mainly in the areas of dissemination and tracing, assists Colombian refugees and the local host population in Panama's Darién region, and monitors the conditions of detainees in Mexico and Panama.

COVERING

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

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	600
Assistance	268
Prevention	2,927
Cooperation with National Societies	1,165
General	-

► **4,960**

of which: Overheads 303

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.6%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
29	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- organized a regional conference in Guatemala on missing persons and their families;
- supported the National Societies in El Salvador and Guatemala in coping with the aftermath of hurricane Stan, which hit Central America in early October, helping restore family links and design better safety rules for their staff and volunteers in situations of internal disturbances;
- supported the region's national IHL committees, leading to the ratification by Mexico and the Dominican Republic of the Rome Statute and by Nicaragua of Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons on explosive remnants of war;
- organized a seminar in Oaxaca, Mexico, on health in prisons;
- continued to support the integration of IHL or pertinent human rights norms into the manuals, operating procedures and training programmes of the region's armed and police forces.

CONTEXT

Unusually strong hurricanes and tropical storms swept the region in the second half of the year, with related flash floods and mudslides causing the death of almost 2,000 people, most of them in Guatemala, where entire villages were buried under mud. Some 54,000 Salvadorans had to flee their homes, while in Mexico, 100,000 people were evacuated from the Gulf Coast. Severe damage to infrastructure and housing occurred mainly in Guatemala, El Salvador and the southern states of Mexico.

Political and social tensions remained high throughout the year in many countries of the region. In Mexico and Guatemala, political tensions were occasionally linked to general elections scheduled for 2006 but also to ethnic issues and social and economic disparities. In El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, the rise in violent crime was associated with the expansion of organized-crime gangs or *maras*, made up of juvenile delinquents. Their numbers were estimated in the tens of thousands. Governments in the region were treating the problem as a threat to national security rather than as a social issue. Some local communities reacted by organizing themselves in self-defence groups.

In the Mexican state of Chiapas, the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) announced it had given up the armed struggle and planned to pursue its goals by creating a political front encompassing a broad spectrum of the population.

In Guatemala, the government provided a budget to the recently established National Reparations Commission, thus enabling it to function. Congress approved the establishment of an office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, which started work in July. In October, the government announced its intention to create a commission to investigate the cases of persons unaccounted for in relation to the conflict. In spite of these steps forward, no substantial progress was made in setting up a commission of enquiry into the past behaviour of army officers and other members of the security apparatus. Moreover, human rights organizations continued to receive threats for carrying out their work.

In Cuba, a sharp rise in the price of electricity and stricter rules governing private businesses linked to tourism stirred discontent, increasing the number of persons detained. Popular unrest also gripped Nicaragua and Panama. Presidential elections in Honduras led to the narrow victory of the opposition Liberal Party candidate, Manuel Zelaya.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	83
Detainees visited and monitored individually	83
Number of visits carried out	22
Number of places of detention visited	20
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	9
RCMs distributed	3
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	5
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	0
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	7
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	6

1. Mexico and Panama

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to encourage authorities in the region to accede to IHL treaties and to enact implementing legislation. It also worked closely with armed and police forces to integrate IHL or human rights norms into all aspects of training and operations. Negotiations with the Mexican authorities on an agreement on visits to high-security federal prisons were interrupted following the sudden death of the Minister for Public Security.

In November, the ICRC held the first workshop on health in prisons for prison personnel from the Mexican states of Guerrero, Chiapas and Oaxaca. Also in November, it organized a conference in Guatemala to address the plight of relatives of persons unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict or internal violence in Mexico and Central America and submitted recommendations to the Guatemalan authorities for the adoption of national measures to address the issue. It offered support to the Panamanian and Salvadoran governments in carrying out a comparative study on existing legal measures aimed at preventing disappearances.

As in previous years, the ICRC worked closely with the Panamanian Red Cross to ensure that Colombian refugees and IDPs in the Darién region received adequate assistance and protection.

Together with the International Federation, the ICRC helped National Societies in the region incorporate activities to restore family links into their emergency-response plans, to raise public awareness of the Fundamental Principles and to apply the

“Safer Access” approach when confronted with situations of disturbances and other forms of violence.

CIVILIANS

Refugees, IDPs and residents in the Darién

During the year, the Panamanian Red Cross undertook, with ICRC support, four trips to the Darién region, distributing food and essential household items to Colombian refugees and vulnerable residents. Community leaders who had received training in primary and community health care were putting their knowledge to good use. In the upper Río Tuira area, 27 latrines were built and another 14 upgraded, benefiting 984 people, thus completing the latrine construction project. The communities had also planted community gardens with seeds provided through the programme. The Panamanian Red Cross had set up mobile health clinics, providing medical attention to 261 people and dental treatment for 58.

The ICRC continued to facilitate the exchange of RCMs and to offer tracing services to help separated family members re-establish contact. It also provided pre-paid telephone cards to families whose relatives had been located across the border in Colombia.

Missing persons

The Guatemalan government made some headway in addressing the issue of persons unaccounted for in connection with three decades of internal conflict. The National Reparations Commission, set up in late 2004, was finally functioning, thanks to a 40 million US dollar budget provided by the

government, and in October, the government announced a plan to establish a missing persons commission. In November, a study identifying measures to be integrated into domestic law to prevent the disappearance of people during situations of internal violence or armed conflict and to assist their families was completed.

The ICRC presented the recommendations of the International Conference on Missing Persons and their Families, held in February 2003, to the Guatemalan public prosecutor and the National Reparations Commission and continued to develop its contacts with the principal organizations working on the issue. It participated, along with Guatemala's major human rights organizations, in meetings organized by the Presidential Commission on Human Rights to draft a bill related to the establishment of a missing persons commission.

Another commission, set up to help families search for children who went missing during the conflict, yielded good results, with 324 cases resolved out of 1,280 under investigation. The commission presented the ICRC with 15 cases of family reunifications to take place between Mexico and Guatemala. The ICRC provided them with financial assistance, leading to the reunification of a first group of six people with their families. The remaining cases were postponed until 2006 owing to the severe disruption caused by hurricane Stan.

The ICRC financed the publication of a catalogue of objects found during exhumations carried out by the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Foundation.

Mine action in Nicaragua

The Nicaraguan Red Cross, with ICRC support, trained 18 youth volunteers in the municipality of Bonanza to raise awareness among their peers of the dangers posed by mines and explosive remnants of war. By year-end, 4,500 schoolchildren had been alerted to the problem. In June, the ICRC and the Nicaraguan Red Cross evaluated the programme, concluding that further awareness-raising was needed among vulnerable groups living in the vicinity of contaminated areas.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Most prison directors in Mexican high-security federal prisons were replaced when serious difficulties, including murders within the detention centres, arose in late 2004 and early 2005. Following discussions with the new authorities, the ICRC was able to visit security detainees in three such prisons, albeit without being granted full access to the facilities. Nevertheless, towards the end of the year, the ICRC was able to resume negotiations with the new Minister for Public Security on full access to these facilities, as well as the signing of a comprehensive agreement on visits to federal prisons.

In 2005, the ICRC reviewed its detention-related activities in Mexico with a view to helping prison authorities in certain states better address the needs of vulnerable detainees. It visited almost all the detention centres where security detainees were held in order to identify which of these facilities could benefit from the ICRC's support. The seminar on health in prisons, which took place in November in Oaxaca with 28 participants, served to introduce this new approach and reinforce the ICRC's working relationship with the prison authorities of the states of Chiapas, Guerrero and Oaxaca.

- 82 detainees monitored individually (21 newly registered) during 21 visits to 19 places of detention
- 44 detainees received ICRC-funded monthly visits from relatives

The ICRC made its annual visit to one political detainee in Panama.

In Cuba, the delegation once again met the Minister of Health to present the organization's mandate and its activities for people deprived of their freedom.

AUTHORITIES

Central American regional organizations and IHL

In April, the ICRC participated in a regional seminar in Mexico City on the implementation of the Rome Statute. It also attended the 24th meeting of the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination in Belize, where it presented regional progress achieved in the ratification of treaties relating to the protection of cultural property in times of conflict.

At a meeting in Panama in September of the Central American Council of Human Rights Ombudsmen, the ICRC encouraged the adoption of measures stemming from the recommendations of the International Conference on Missing Persons and their Families.

Implementation and ratification of IHL

In 2005, Guatemala became party to the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and Nicaragua to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, while the Dominican Republic and Mexico ratified the Rome Statute. With ICRC technical support, the authorities in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama continued to adapt national criminal law to include the provisions of IHL treaties relating to the repression of war crimes. Honduras ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention, and Nicaragua Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons on explosive remnants of war.

In Mexico, the lower house of Congress approved a draft law on the use of the emblem, including the emblem of Additional Protocol III. The Mexican Red Cross, with substantial input from the ICRC, had originally tabled the draft. The Dominican Republic's national IHL committee completed a draft law on the protection of the emblem; in Honduras, a similar law had entered into force in March.

In Mexico, the ICRC provided legal and technical advice in a process leading up to the Senate's adoption of a decree incorporating provisions of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its two protocols into national legislation.

In November, at a regional meeting of IHL committees in Managua, participants agreed to work on the national implementation of measures related to the repression

of war crimes, to missing persons and to weapons control. Also in November, the ICRC and the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law to members of the government and academia. The delegation gave dissemination sessions on IHL and the mandate and activities of the ICRC to 25 members of Guatemala's *Procuraduría de Derechos Humanos*.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL and the armed forces

With IHL already firmly incorporated into the curricula of military academies in the region, in 2005 further progress was made towards its fuller integration into tactical manuals and standing operating procedures.

The ICRC conducted two regional training seminars on IHL for military instructors and one for legal advisers of the armed forces. It also ran "checklist" workshops in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico to identify regulations missing from military manuals and conducted evaluation seminars to assess the status of IHL integration in El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua. Altogether, in 2005, 1,828 participants attended 37 such workshops and events.

The ICRC also helped the Honduran armed forces draft the IHL component of their "White Book on Defence", a public policy document outlining the government's broad defence strategy.

Human rights norms applicable to policing

The regional delegation worked mainly with the Secretariat of Public Security of the Federal District of Mexico City, organizing workshops and training courses for police instructors on human rights norms applicable to policing.

For Panamanian police units operating in the Darién, the ICRC conducted two workshops focusing on human rights principles pertinent to refugees and IDPs.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The regional delegation stepped up its contacts with journalists and editors in press, radio and television outlets in Mexico, as well as with opinion leaders and academic circles. Together with philanthropic and cultural institutions financed by the Mexican private sector, it hosted several art and photo exhibitions on humanitarian issues, such as children and war. It produced television spots on issues such as women and war, child soldiers and the missing, which were aired on Costa Rica's national television network.

Teaching IHL to future decision-makers

Universities in the region which had signed cooperation agreements with the ICRC made progress in the integration of IHL into their curricula. Thirty-two lecturers from nine universities in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico and Panama completed their ICRC-sponsored training in IHL.

Teaching humanitarian principles to schoolchildren

In Honduras, the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme went ahead as planned with a second teacher-trainer course. In El Salvador and Guatemala, although teaching continued, further development of the programme was put on hold owing to changes within these countries' Education Ministries.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC support, most National Societies in the region revised their statutes, and national development plans, except for the Guatemalan Red Cross, focused on hurricane relief.

Tracing in emergency response

The ICRC and the International Federation held workshops in Panama for National Societies of the region to ensure that tracing services were included in their response to natural disasters. In the aftermath of hurricane Stan, the Red Cross Societies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Mexico included tracing in their response. The ICRC contributed to strengthening the tracing services of the Guatemalan Red Cross in the wake of the storm.

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

With ICRC support, most National Societies in the region set up an IHL reference centre within their headquarters and ensured that dissemination and communication activities were better integrated into their structures and budgets.

The ICRC supported National Societies' activities promoting humanitarian action and principles, including: a campaign on the proper use of the emblem and courses and seminars for volunteers and other groups (Costa Rica), and promoting legislation on the protection of the emblem (Honduras and Mexico).



ICRC regional delegation ICRC delegation

washington

Established in 1995, the ICRC's regional delegation in Washington is an acknowledged source of information for government officials and relevant organizations, academic institutions and other interested groups in the United States and Canada. The delegation heightens awareness of the ICRC's mandate, mobilizes political and financial support for ICRC activities and secures support for IHL implementation. Since 2002, the ICRC has been regularly visiting people held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, and Charleston Navy Brig, South Carolina. It works closely with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies, focusing on their international activities and the promotion of IHL.

COVERING

Canada, United States of America

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	2,335
Assistance	198
Prevention	2,536
Cooperation with National Societies	243
General	-

► **5,312**

of which: Overheads 324

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105.2%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
7	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- president met the US president, secretary of state, national security advisor and secretary of defense to discuss issues of ICRC concern;
- visited 550 people interned/detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and conducted private interviews with 447 of them; visited 2 internees/detainees designated "enemy combatants" by the United States and held at Charleston Brig, South Carolina;
- kept the US and Canadian authorities informed on issues of humanitarian concern in its operations worldwide; took steps to strengthen relations with the United States Congress;
- maintained close contact with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies.

CONTEXT

The swearing-in of President George W. Bush for a second term in office in January turned the national and international spotlight back on US policies. The US government maintained its focus on internal security and protection, the reform of the intelligence system, the "war on terror" and the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The protracted violence in Iraq was of particular concern. So too was the alleged mistreatment of detainees in US-run places of detention, reports of which received extensive media coverage.

Within the United States, legal discussion centred on detention practice in the context of the "war on terror", in particular at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. By March 2005, the Combatant Status Review Tribunal had assessed the "enemy combatant" status of all internees in Guantanamo Bay and established that 38 internees were no longer "enemy combatants", making them eligible for repatriation. Administrative review boards, set up to review regularly the status of every internee, also became operational. The military commissions, suspended following a decision in November 2004 by the District Court for the District of Columbia, remained inoperative but were expected to resume in the near future following a decision in July 2005 by the Appeal Court for the District of Columbia. Some internees/detainees also started using their right to challenge their internment/detention by filing a writ of *habeas corpus*, and a few obtained legal representation.

In late August, the southern US states of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi were hit by hurricane Katrina, which submerged large swathes of land, including most of the city of New Orleans, leaving tens of thousands of people displaced, an unknown number dead and billions of dollars' worth of property destroyed.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	552
Detainees visited and monitored individually	449
Number of visits carried out	16
Number of places of detention visited	2
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	4,968
RCMs distributed	3,021
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	10
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	8

1. People detained/interned on US soil (Charleston Navy Brig) and people detained/interned by the United States in Guantanamo Bay

ICRC ACTION

In mid-February, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger held discussions in Washington with President George W. Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on the ICRC's activities in the United States and around the globe.

Throughout the year, other senior ICRC staff, including three directors, both from Geneva headquarters and from field postings, travelled to Washington and Ottawa for meetings with US and Canadian officials. Various operational, legal and communication issues were discussed during the visits.

The ICRC continued to play an essential role in monitoring the situation of internees/detainees held under US authority at Guantanamo Bay and the Charleston Navy Brig and in Afghanistan and Iraq. It developed and consolidated its dialogue with the US administration on issues of concern related to people deprived of their freedom as part of the "war on terror" and on the relevance of IHL.

The ICRC continued its efforts to promote IHL among members of the armed forces and civil societies in Canada and United States, participating in numerous events and training exercises.

At the request of the American Red Cross, the ICRC lent its assistance to people affected by the devastation left by hurricane Katrina in August and September. This included creating a special web page to help thousands of people in the United States re-establish contact with relatives they had lost touch with as a result of the disaster.

CIVILIANS

Following hurricane Katrina, the ICRC's family-links website (www.familylinks.icrc.org) provided a platform for families and friends to get in touch. In the weeks after the disaster, 219,898 people registered themselves on the site either as someone seeking a missing relative or as someone who wanted to let relatives know they were safe. The ICRC had to install additional servers to cope with the demand.

In September, the ICRC transferred the data on its website to the American Red Cross, which had created its own website www.katrinasafer.org. The American Red Cross then began to follow up requests and support people seeking to locate their relatives.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC regularly visited individuals held by the United States at Guantanamo Bay and the Charleston Navy Brig. It maintained a confidential working dialogue with the detaining authorities on the treatment of the internees/detainees and their detention conditions. ICRC delegates also interviewed 61 internees prior to their departure from Guantanamo Bay.

Long-term detention/internment in the absence of a clear legal process, mainly at Guantanamo Bay and in Afghanistan, remained of considerable concern to the ICRC. The organization therefore maintained its constructive dialogue with the US authorities in Washington on internment and detention in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay. The ICRC also reiterated its concerns about a number of people detained/interned by the United States at "undisclosed locations".

The ICRC held two dissemination sessions for soldiers and officers from the joint detention-operation group at Guantanamo Bay. It also requested the publication in the military base's weekly magazine of two articles describing the ICRC, its mandate and work at Guantanamo Bay. The organization also featured in a Pentagon Channel documentary on Guantanamo Bay. The documentary was broadcast to all US armed forces worldwide in June.

The RCM network remained available to enable detainees/internees to restore and maintain regular contact with their families. The number of messages forwarded through the Red Cross and Red Crescent family-news network doubled in 2005 compared with 2004. The network involved more than 20 ICRC delegations and National Societies worldwide.

- ▶ 550 internees/detainees visited at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; private interviews conducted with 447 of them
- ▶ 2 internees/detainees designated "enemy combatants" by the United States visited at Charleston Brig, South Carolina
- ▶ 3,021 RCMs delivered to and 4,968 RCMs collected from internees/detainees

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC further intensified and consolidated its dialogue with the relevant US government departments and agencies concerning its humanitarian role in conflict zones worldwide. It also stepped up its dialogue on and promotion of the place of IHL with respect to the ongoing "war on terror". Despite renewed efforts to reconcile legal positions, significant differences of opinion remained between the US administration and the ICRC on certain issues of concern to the organization.

In 2005, the ICRC:

- participated in the 8th Annual Human Security and Peacebuilding Consultations organized by the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- hired a new senior staff member to focus on relations with the US Congress; provided legal analysis of a number of legislative proposals related to detention and IHL and participated in two congressional panels;
- contributed to workshops on topics of ICRC concern organized by the US authorities.

The ICRC continued to strengthen its relations with the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, DC. Representatives of ICRC headquarters met the newly elected OAS assistant secretary-general to discuss increased dialogue between the two organizations.

Throughout the year, the delegation held meetings with the OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. It also participated in a special session of the OAS Committee of Judicial and Political Affairs, focusing on IHL and its implementation by OAS member States. Furthermore, the ICRC sent a delegation to the OAS general assembly in Fort Lauderdale in June and provided expert advice on a proposed resolution on the issue of missing persons.

The ICRC met the Canadian authorities regularly to brief them on ICRC strategies and views, discuss its activities in conflict zones throughout the world and seek their support in promoting IHL. Canada hosted a meeting of the ICRC Donor Support Group, which comprises governmental and supra-national donors that contribute at least CHF 10 million to the ICRC each year.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC pursued its dialogue on operational issues with the US Department of Defense, the unified combatant commands and the services. The ICRC president met the secretary of defense, the deputy secretary of defense and the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. The delegation also met the commanders of Joint Forces Command, Central Command, Southern Command and European Command. For the first time, the ICRC engaged in consultations with Joint Forces Command on more specific aspects of civil-military interaction and participated

in various military conferences and forums on the issue.

The delegation participated in numerous US pre-deployment exercises, mainly for units bound for Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa. During these exercises, ICRC delegates simulated the organization's visits to detainees and briefed commanders and staff officers on its role, mandate and activities. The ICRC also took part in training events at selected US military schools. Guest lectures by ICRC delegates had become a regular feature of the curriculum of over a dozen courses for senior and specialized officers.

The ICRC also maintained regular contact with individual private military and security companies and the International Peace Operations Association, a Washington-based body whose membership consisted of US, British and French companies. The ICRC participated in two public conferences in the United States on the subject of contractors on the battlefield.

The delegation participated in various courses on IHL organized by the Office of the Canadian Judge Advocate General with the support of the Canadian Red Cross.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC remained a reference point for the press. The delegation regularly responded to queries from the US, Canadian and international media on operational contexts and humanitarian issues, such as the situations in Pakistan, Sudan and Iraq, the security of humanitarian workers, the protection of the civilian population and Protocol III additional to the Geneva Conventions.

The ICRC participated in an increasing number of workshops, high-level symposiums and NGO meetings in the United States and Canada on topics of ICRC concern, such as reconstruction in post-conflict situations, the application of IHL in the "fight against terrorism", civil-military relations and relief assistance. The ICRC also continued to build up its network of contacts within think-tanks and schools of law and journalism.

In December, the delegation recruited two Washington-based communication officers to work towards expanding contacts with civil society in the United States and Canada in 2006.

During the year, the ICRC:

- held a meeting with the editorial board of the *Wall Street Journal* to introduce the organization and discuss issues of mutual interest;
- took part in the Ottawa public forum on media and humanitarian affairs organized by the Canadian Red Cross;
- supported and took part in an IHL seminar organized by Harvard University's Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research;
- sent over 6,000 copies of print and video productions to contacts in the media, academic circles, the military and the American Red Cross.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC regularly met representatives of the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies to brief them on major developments in its humanitarian operations worldwide. The organization held discussions with the IHL unit of the Canadian Red Cross to consolidate support from the National Society. Consultations were held regularly with the Canadian Red Cross on its programme for the promotion of IHL within the armed forces.

During the year, the ICRC:

- deployed more than a dozen senior logistic and tracing staff to support the American Red Cross response to hurricane Katrina and acted as American Red Cross spokesperson for the international media in Washington, DC and Louisiana;
- financially supported the launch of the ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law in Canada at an event organized by the Canadian Red Cross and McGill University;
- financially supported and participated in 2 workshops on the Exploring Humanitarian Law education programme organized by the American Red Cross and sponsored the participation of a Canadian teacher in one of the workshops;
- facilitated 1 basic training course at the American Red Cross and 2 at the Canadian Red Cross for delegates preparing for deployment overseas.



new york

The multiple tasks and activities of the United Nations often have implications for humanitarian action. Opened in 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 in UN and other New York-based forums, keeps abreast of trends and developments relating to humanitarian issues and promotes IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,189
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **2,189**

of which: Overheads 134

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93.0%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
6	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- during President Jakob Kellenberger's visit to New York, held two informal briefings for UN Security Council members and representatives of the General Assembly to exchange views on issues of concern to the ICRC;
- participated in an expert capacity in an open debate organized by the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict;
- followed UN negotiations on humanitarian matters, with a particular focus on the strengthening of coordination of humanitarian action; attended relevant sessions of the Economic and Social Council and the 60th General Assembly, and delivered statements on the strengthening of coordination of humanitarian action;
- contributed its expertise to meetings on: the elaboration of an international instrument on the identification and tracing of illicit small arms and light weapons; draft conventions on international terrorism and the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism; and the expansion of the scope of the 1994 Convention on the Safety of UN and Associated Personnel;
- attended, and delivered a statement at, the high-level plenary meeting organized as part of the 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women marking the tenth anniversary of the 1995 Beijing World Conference on Women;
- organized, in cooperation with the New York University School of Law, a two-day seminar on IHL for diplomats accredited to the UN.

CONTEXT

UN Security Council

African and Middle Eastern issues remained high on the agenda of the Security Council, especially: the situations in Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan (including Darfur), the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Eritrea/Ethiopia; the withdrawal of Israel's armed forces from the Gaza Strip; the adoption of the new constitution and the electoral process in Iraq; and the situation in Lebanon. Other contexts deliberated on by the Council, where the ICRC had an established presence or conducted activities, included Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Abkhazia/Georgia, Haiti, Kosovo and Papua New Guinea.

In parallel to the world summit held in September (see *UN General Assembly*), the Security Council met at the level of heads of State to strongly condemn, through the adoption of a resolution, all acts of "terrorism", whatever the motivations, wherever committed and whoever the perpetrators.

UN General Assembly

A world summit organized at the beginning of the 60th annual session of the General Assembly brought together 151 heads of State or government. Its agenda covered progress made on the Millennium Development Goals and items proposed in the Secretary-General's report entitled *In Larger Freedom*, including development, peace and collective security, human rights/the rule of law and the strengthening of the UN.

The 60th General Assembly, "For a stronger and more effective UN", immediately followed the summit, aimed to follow up and support implementation of the world summit's decisions, as well as to discuss a wide range of other issues of international import.

Economic and Social Council

The substantive session of the Economic and Social Council was held in New York from 29 June to 25 July. The humanitarian affairs segment focused on "Strengthening the coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including organizational and operational aspects". It concluded with the adoption of a resolution on the topic, which referred to the need for reform of the humanitarian sector.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC's New York delegation remained in close contact with numerous UN bodies, UN member States and observers, think-tanks, academic institutions and the media. It endeavoured to ensure that the UN and its various components had an accurate understanding of topical humanitarian issues and thus pave the way for the ICRC's neutral and impartial activities. The delegation aimed to secure acceptance of the ICRC's mandate and to encourage the UN to take the ICRC's specific concerns into account in any of its deliberations with direct implications for humanitarian action.

The ICRC closely monitored issues of humanitarian and legal concern addressed by the General Assembly and, where relevant, informed member States and various organizations about the ICRC's position and operational activities.

By regularly participating in meetings organized within/by the UN or its agencies, permanent missions to the UN and civil society, the ICRC continued to share its field and technical experience on topical issues. It contributed its IHL expertise to meetings on the review or development of international norms and the reform of humanitarian assistance.

The debate on strengthening humanitarian coordination within the UN and with other partners was of particular interest to the ICRC. It therefore regularly participated in various UN humanitarian coordination mechanisms.

Contacts with the media accredited to the UN were pursued and further developed, and press communications and updates on specific ICRC operations were regularly circulated within the UN.

Elsewhere in New York City, the ICRC continued participating in round-table talks, discussion groups and workshops on topics related to its mandate, operations and policy concerns.

AUTHORITIES

UN Security Council

The New York delegation followed the various thematic and operational issues addressed by the Security Council. It met the Security Council presidency each month to present its concerns regarding operational developments on the Council's agenda and to share information and concerns about contexts where the organization operated.

The ICRC participated in several open debates on topics of interest to the organization, including: the role of the Security Council in humanitarian crises; the situation of children in armed conflict; cooperation between regional organizations and the Council in maintaining peace and security; women and peace and security; and the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

In November, the head of delegation participated in the annual briefing of Security Council members and presented the organization's mandate and its role and tasks at the UN. In December, the ICRC took part in an expert capacity in an open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. ICRC Vice-President Jacques Forster delivered a statement.

UN General Assembly

In its capacity as observer, the ICRC closely followed the work of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies. It attended the 60th session of the General Assembly, focusing particularly on the work of three of the six thematic committees – disarmament (First), social, human and cultural rights and related issues (Third) and international law (Sixth) – as well as the plenary agenda item on strengthening humanitarian coordination and assistance, on which topic the organization delivered a statement.

The ICRC also followed debates on the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the event of armed conflict or natural disaster, including those organized following the South-east Asia tsunami and South Asia earthquake. Debates on UN reform were also followed closely, as the ensuing proposals and decisions could, if implemented, affect the ICRC's activities.

The ICRC also pursued efforts to promote its mandate and activities and knowledge of IHL. It participated in an annual meeting of legal advisers, held within the framework of the Sixth Committee, during which it presented its study on customary international humanitarian law. In addition, it took part in a round-table on customary law organized by the government of Sweden for legal advisers from UN missions. It also contributed its expertise in IHL during meetings on the development and review of international norms dealing with topics such as "terrorism", small arms and light weapons and the security of UN and associated personnel.

In cooperation with the New York University School of Law, the ICRC organized a two-day IHL seminar for diplomats accredited to the UN.

Economic and Social Council

ICRC Vice-President Jacques Forster participated in the debates of the 2005 humanitarian segment of the Economic and Social Council, which held its substantive session in New York. In his statement, he stressed the importance of neutral and independent humanitarian action. The ICRC also attended side events, following in particular the debate on the reform of the humanitarian response system.

At its substantive session in July 2004, the Council had decided that the 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women should convene a high-level plenary meeting, open to the participation of all UN member States and observers, on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. The meeting took place in 2005, at which the ICRC delivered a statement.

UN Secretariat and associated structures

Numerous bilateral meetings were held with various departments of the General Secretariat to discuss issues of common concern. The issues addressed included: contexts in which the UN and the ICRC were active; respect for and implementation of IHL; IHL and acts of "terrorism";

international justice, including the International Criminal Court and UN or mixed tribunals; and the implementation of weapons treaties such as the Ottawa Convention and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols.

The ICRC attended weekly meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee chaired by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. As a "standing invitee", it also attended, or closely monitored, working sessions on issues such as reform of the humanitarian response system, the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and integrated peace-keeping missions.

The delegation maintained contact with UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO and WFP on various operational and thematic issues. It contributed to training sessions on IHL and humanitarian action organized by UNICEF for its field staff.

The ICRC also regularly took part in the monthly meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, as well as other meetings and working groups chaired by the UN Mine Action Service.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC was again invited to give presentations to naval officers from a variety of countries being trained at the Naval Staff College in Newport, Rhode Island. The ICRC presented IHL and the organization's related role, to familiarize participants with the specific nature and extent of its operations worldwide.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC continued to participate in roundtables, discussion groups and workshops on topics related to its mandate, operations and policy concerns. These included various forums convened by organizations and think-thanks such as the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, the International Peace Academy, the Council on Foreign Relations and Columbia University. The ICRC attended Human Rights Watch's regular open meetings and had contacts with the Coalition for the International Criminal Court.

The delegation maintained and further developed contacts with the UN media service and media accredited to the UN, including journalists from Al-Jazeera and other Middle Eastern media, as well as US media based in New York City. The ICRC regularly published press releases on its operations and responded to queries from the media, private organizations and individuals on issues such as its working methods, the protection of detainees and the protective use of the emblem.

Students, academics and organizations frequently consulted the ICRC on topical humanitarian issues. The delegation was also visited regularly by representatives of permanent missions, the media and the public and provided information and documentation on the ICRC, IHL and the study on customary international humanitarian law.



ICRC-run programmes are often the only way for people to visit their detained relatives, and thus are vital for preserving family links.

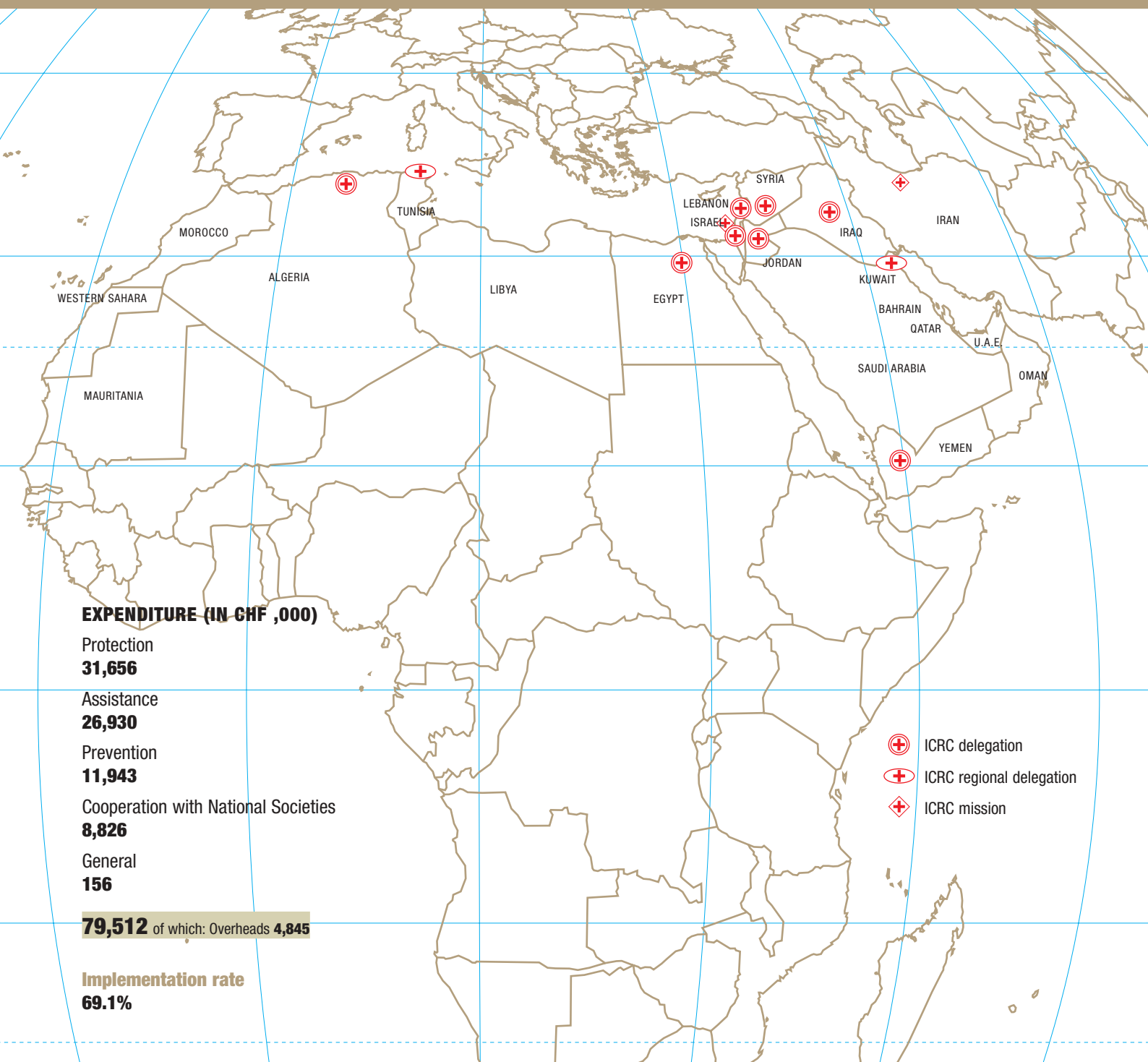
DELEGATIONS

Algeria
Egypt
Iran
Iraq
Israel, the Occupied Territories
and the Autonomous Palestinian
Territories
Jordan
Lebanon
Syria
Yemen

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Kuwait
Tunis

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



In 2005, the ICRC carried out a broad range of protection and assistance activities, often in close cooperation with the respective National Society, aimed at alleviating human suffering linked to past and present conflicts that have disrupted or claimed the lives of large numbers of people in the region. It actively promoted compliance with IHL, by intervening directly with the parties engaged in armed conflict or internal violence, particularly in Iraq and in Israel and the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories.

ICRC activities varied according to the context but in all cases were rooted in the organization's independence, neutrality and impartiality, whereby it seeks unhindered access to all victims of armed conflict and internal violence and contact with all belligerent parties.

The ICRC provided direct assistance to the victims of ongoing or recurrent hostilities in Iraq, the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories and Yemen. It also pursued efforts to resolve humanitarian issues still outstanding from past conflicts, including clarifying the fate of people unaccounted for in relation to the 1990–91 Gulf War and the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict.

Restoring and maintaining links between family members separated by conflict or imprisonment in either their home countries or abroad was another area where the demand for ICRC assistance remained high, particularly in Iraq and in Israel and the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories, owing to the large numbers of people interned/detained in these contexts.

ICRC visits continued to people interned or detained in Algeria, Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories, Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait to ensure that their treatment and living conditions complied with applicable legal standards and, when necessary, to make recommendations to the detaining authorities for corrective action. ICRC detention visits also started in Mauritania and Tunisia, following the conclusion of agreements with the respective authorities in spring 2005. Visits to detention places in Yemen remained suspended for a third year as no agreement on working procedures could yet be reached. The ICRC also systematically requested access to people previously held by the United States at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and transferred to their home countries. Such access was accorded in a number of countries, and follow-up visits to the detainees took place. The ICRC was in talks

with a number of other governments of the region on the possibility of conducting visits to detention places in their countries. Particular emphasis was placed on gaining or increasing access to security detainees, including those held in connection with the so-called "global war on terror".

The ICRC legal advisory service, in conjunction with the network of ICRC delegations in the region and the League of Arab States, encouraged Arab governments to adapt their national legislation in line with the provisions of IHL and supported them in doing so.

The ICRC made a concerted effort to enhance its understanding of the environments in which it operated, to build on its traditionally strong relations with the authorities concerned and to ensure that key segments of civil society had an accurate perception of the ICRC's mandate and role in order to facilitate its work. Thus, the ICRC reinforced its dialogue with civil society representatives, religious circles and radical groups in order to demonstrate the relevance of IHL in contemporary forms of armed conflict and violence and the ICRC's role in this regard. In all countries of the region, the ICRC stepped up work to promote adherence to IHL and the integration of its basic principles into military doctrine and school and university curricula.

To be ready to respond to needs relevant to its mandate, the ICRC closely monitored the political and humanitarian consequences of major developments in the region. These included general elections in Iraq, the evacuation of Israeli settlers and troops from the Gaza Strip, the ongoing construction of the West Bank barrier, the withdrawal of Syrian armed forces from Lebanon, intermittent skirmishes between Israeli forces and Hezbollah militants across the Israeli-Lebanese border and the volatile situation in northern Yemen.

In Iraq, despite severe security constraints, the ICRC was one of the only international humanitarian agencies to maintain a continuous operational presence in central, southern and northern parts of the country since the US-led military intervention there in March 2003. ICRC teams visited thousands of people detained/interned by the multinational forces in Iraq and the Iraqi authorities, and started to arrange family visits to one major internment facility in southern Iraq, which was difficult for them to get to given its remote location. It also rehabilitated health, water and sanitation facilities serving millions of people,

donated emergency medical supplies to hospitals treating the wounded, provided aid to families displaced by the fighting and delivered clean water to urban communities suffering acute shortages. It furthermore maintained its technical, material and training support to seven physical rehabilitation centres located in various parts of the country. In spite of its strong commitment to addressing some of the most urgent needs in Iraq, the ICRC was painfully aware of the frustrating limitations the difficult security environment imposed on its operations. Thus, pressing and large-scale needs in Iraq remained unmet owing to the overall weakness of the humanitarian response.

The ICRC operation in Israel and the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories remained one of its largest worldwide. As in the past, the core element of the ICRC's mandate was to strive to achieve respect by Israel for its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation and to make representations to the Israeli authorities with regard to alleged or documented violations of that law. Visits were made to thousands of Palestinians detained by Israel and to hundreds detained by the Palestinian Authority. The ICRC significantly expanded its family-visits programme for Palestinian detainees. It also stepped up field assessments to measure the impact of Israeli-imposed movement restrictions on the living conditions of the Palestinian population. Emergency aid was provided to thousands of particularly needy Palestinian families, including food parcels and household-relief kits for Palestinians whose homes had been destroyed or confiscated. In addition, cash-for-work and food-production projects were implemented in communities worst affected by acute unemployment and poverty, and water and sanitation infrastructure was rehabilitated or developed, in coordination with the Palestinian public utility authorities.

Gaining access to all places of detention in Lebanon remained an ICRC objective. The ICRC maintained a capacity to respond to the emergency needs of the civilian population in the event of a sudden intensification of cross-border violence between Hezbollah militants and Israeli forces. It also offered technical advice to the Lebanese authorities to reinforce their efforts to clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for from past conflicts.

As in past years, the focus of the ICRC in Syria was related to the Syrian population of the Israeli-occupied Golan, which is

protected by the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The ICRC enabled inhabitants of the occupied Golan to maintain contact with family members in Syria proper. It also facilitated travel to Syria proper by Golanese students and pilgrims who wished to pursue their studies or visit holy sites there. Continuing ICRC technical and financial support helped to sustain a prosthetic/orthotic centre run by the Syrian branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Damascus providing artificial limbs and physical rehabilitation for Palestinians and other persons in need.

Jordan remained a key logistical and supply base for ICRC operations in Iraq and the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories. In Jordan itself, the ICRC visited people deprived of their freedom and restored contact between people in Jordan and members of their families detained/interned abroad or between family members otherwise separated by conflict. The ICRC also continued to facilitate the transfer of people in need of medical care between the West Bank and Jordan.

The principal objective of the ICRC in Egypt was to promote greater knowledge and acceptance of IHL at the national level and, in cooperation with the Cairo-based League of Arab States, throughout the region. The ICRC's regional documentation and promotion centre in Cairo continued to produce written and audiovisual materials on IHL, including translations into Arabic of IHL treaties, for distribution to government and civil society audiences in the region. Another priority was to facilitate the resettlement of asylum seekers and refugees, mainly from Africa, in third countries.

Resolving humanitarian issues still outstanding from the 1990–91 Gulf war, in particular the fate of persons unaccounted for in relation to that conflict, was a continuing priority for the Kuwait regional delegation. The Tripartite Commission set up by the ICRC in 1991 to address these issues remained the official forum for discussions between the parties concerned, namely Iraq, Kuwait and the coalition States – France, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States. The regional delegation also increased cooperation with the National Societies in the Gulf region.

In Yemen, the ICRC sought to resume detention visits, which it suspended in 2003 following a decision by the Yemeni authorities to restrict as of 2004 the organization's access to central prisons only. The

organization nonetheless continued to provide female detainees with improved medical care and sewing and literacy courses to enhance their prospects of reintegration into society following release. Ongoing ICRC technical and material support helped sustain State-run limb-fitting centres caring for the physically disabled. As in past years, ICRC tracing and family-links services enabled refugees in Yemen to locate and restore contact with relatives in their home countries, mostly in the Horn of Africa.

Within the framework of a formal mechanism established in early 2004, the ICRC worked with the Iranian authorities to clarify the fate of prisoners of war who were registered by the ICRC during the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war or known to it via RCMs exchanged during that period. The ICRC also offered to facilitate a mechanism between Iran and Iraq aimed at shedding light on the fate of thousands of other people missing from the same conflict.

In Algeria, the ICRC carried out detention visits and cooperated with the Algerian Red Crescent Society to assist women and child victims of violence and to strengthen its national first-aid network. It also provided assistance to a prosthetic/orthotic unit in Algiers using ICRC technology to produce artificial limbs for Algerian amputees.

The Tunisia regional delegation repatriated the remaining Moroccan prisoners following their release by the Polisario Front after interviewing them individually to ensure that they wished to return to their country of origin. In addition, the delegation began detention visits in Tunisia and Mauritania after concluding access agreements with the authorities concerned. Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC worked with the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front to try and clarify the fate of combatants from both sides unaccounted for in relation to the Western Sahara conflict.

The ICRC has maintained a permanent presence in most countries of the region for several decades.



algeria

The ICRC in Algeria carries out visits to people held in places of detention run by the Ministry of Justice and to people remanded in custody in police stations and *gendarmeries*. It cooperates closely with the Algerian Red Crescent, supporting in particular its efforts to assist women and child victims of violence and to strengthen its national first-aid network. The ICRC also works to promote IHL among Algerian civil society, the authorities and the armed forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	743
Assistance	27
Prevention	284
Cooperation with National Societies	907
General	-

► **1,961**

of which: Overheads 120

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	75.5%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
5	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- stepped up visits to prisons, police stations and *gendarmeries* to assess the treatment and living conditions of people detained by the Algerian authorities;
- continued to provide technical, training and financial assistance for Algerian Red Crescent programmes designed to help women and children overcome the trauma of violence and reintegrate into society;
- provided technical, material and financial support to a prosthetic/orthotic production unit using ICRC technology to fit Algerian amputees;
- gave material assistance and training to enhance the capacities of the Algerian Red Crescent's first-aid, dissemination and tracing and RCM services;
- working with the National Society, restored contact between people in Algeria and their family members detained/interned abroad or living in countries affected by conflict;
- reinforced contacts with Algerian universities to promote the inclusion of IHL in law curricula and helped lay the groundwork for the educational authorities to pilot-test the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in a number of Algerian schools.

CONTEXT

In September 2005, a national referendum endorsed the Charter for Peace and National Reconciliation, which proposed an amnesty for people allegedly implicated in the years of intense civil strife that followed Algerian general elections in 1991. President Abdelaziz Bouteflika presented the charter to the electorate as part of ongoing efforts by the authorities to promote national unity fractured by the violence of the 1990s, which left between 150,000 and 200,000 people dead. Sporadic clashes nevertheless persisted between Algerian security forces and armed militants.

Rising oil prices generated increased revenue for the government to finance social and economic reforms and development programmes initiated by the Algerian president following his re-election in 2004. The government also took steps to reform the country's judicial and penitentiary systems and to privatize certain business sectors with a view to boosting the economy and reducing unemployment.

The National Advisory Committee for the Promotion of Human Rights, officially mandated to set up an ad hoc mechanism to address the issue of people unaccounted for in Algeria, submitted its findings in a confidential report to the government at the end of March.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		WOUNDED AND SICK		
Detainees visited	12,045	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	279	Patients receiving services	Patients	69
Number of visits carried out	64	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	30
Number of places of detention visited	57			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS				
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>				
RCMs collected	36			
RCMs distributed	74			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC in Algeria focused mainly on visits to places of detention to assess the treatment and living conditions of detainees and on strengthening the capacity of the Algerian Red Crescent to deliver humanitarian services.

Visits to places of detention run by the Ministry of Justice and to people remanded in custody in police stations and *gendarmeries* were stepped up following a reinforcement of the ICRC's detention team in Algeria.

The ICRC maintained its assistance to Algerian Red Crescent programmes for women and children traumatized by violence. Emphasis was also placed on helping Red Crescent staff and volunteers at local and provincial level to develop multi-disciplinary skills to enhance their ability to respond to emergencies, particularly in the fields of first-aid, psychological support, tracing and communication.

Another priority for the ICRC was to develop contacts with the Algerian authorities and key civil society circles such as the media to promote IHL and boost support for the organization's mandate and humanitarian activities.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC continued to support Algerian Red Crescent programmes for women and children suffering the effects of violence (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

In cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC provided tracing and RCM services to help Algerians locate and restore contact with family members detained/interned abroad or living in countries such as Iraq where communications remained difficult.

- ▶ 36 RCMs collected and 71 delivered

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

At the end of 2005, an estimated 40,000 people were being held in 127 penitentiary centres under the authority of the Ministry of Justice. The ICRC continued to visit detainees in a number of these centres under the terms of an access agreement concluded with the ministry in 1999. Visits were also made to people remanded in custody in police stations and *gendarmeries*.

During these visits, particular attention was paid to monitoring the treatment and detention conditions of women and minors.

After each visit, ICRC delegates conveyed their observations, together with recommendations for any necessary corrective action, to the authorities directly in charge of the detention facilities, as well as to the State prosecutors concerned. The ICRC also submitted to the detaining authorities a summary report of its visits carried out in 2004.

- ▶ 12,045 detainees visited, including 279 monitored individually, during 64 visits made to 57 places of detention, including prisons, police stations and *gendarmeries*
- ▶ 3 RCMs distributed on behalf of detainees and their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

As part of an ongoing programme initiated in 2001, the ICRC provided technical and financial support to the Ben Aknoun physical rehabilitation centre in Algiers, which used low-cost polypropylene technology and ICRC materials to produce artificial limbs and other orthopaedic appliances for the disabled.

- ▶ 69 patients received services at ICRC-supported rehabilitation centre

- ▶ 24 new patients fitted with prostheses and 37 with orthoses
- ▶ 30 prostheses (4 for mine victims) delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC kept up a regular dialogue with the Algerian authorities with a view to accelerating the national implementation of IHL treaties to which Algeria had acceded. In addition, the ICRC:

- ▶ participated in an international symposium on the implementation of the Ottawa Convention held in Algiers in May, jointly organized by the Ministry of Employment and National Solidarity and the UNDP (in November, Algeria destroyed its remaining stocks of anti-personnel mines);
- ▶ participated in a regional symposium on the trafficking of small arms and light weapons, organized by the UN and the League of Arab States in Algiers in April;
- ▶ The Algerian authorities worked on legislation to repress crimes against humanity following the adoption by the Council of Arab Justice Ministers of a draft law related to the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute. They also made moves to create a national IHL committee and to draft a law on the protection of the emblem.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC remained at the disposal of the Algerian authorities to help them incorporate the systematic teaching of IHL into the theoretical and practical instruction programmes of the Algerian armed forces.

- 2 Algerian military officers participated in a regional seminar on IHL organized by the ICRC in Cairo (see *Egypt*)

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC broadened its network of contacts with the Algerian media to promote more widespread coverage of IHL-related issues.

Contacts were also reinforced with the Ministry of Higher Education and with six university law faculties and the national administration school to encourage the study of IHL at university level. The ICRC also:

- gave lectures on IHL at the Universities of Annaba and Sidi Bel Abbès and provided documentation on IHL to the library of the University of Algiers;
- sponsored the participation of 2 Algerian law students in a competition on the International Criminal Court organized by the Belgian Red Cross and that of 2 other law students in a course on IHL at the Arab Centre for Legal and Judicial Studies in Beirut;
- coached 3 students selected to participate in a moot-court competition on IHL in 2006;
- ran a second training seminar for teachers on the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme, in conjunction with the Ministry of Education;
- monitored initial pilot-testing of the EHL programme in a number of schools near Algiers;
- invited an Algerian journalist to participate in a seminar on the protection of civilians in times of conflict organized by the ICRC in Dubai.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

By the end of 2005, the Algerian Red Crescent, with ICRC assistance, had trained thousands of first-aid workers who could be mobilized at short notice to respond to emergencies regionally and nationwide.

Throughout the year, the ICRC continued to provide technical, training and material support for an Algerian Red Crescent programme to help women and children overcome the trauma of violence and to ease their reintegration into society through psychological support and vocational training. The programme was implemented in 15 selected regions (*wilayat*).

The ICRC, together with the National Society, also organized follow-up training courses in tracing, restoring family links and communication for Red Crescent volunteers in 46 of the country's 48 *wilayat*. For its part, the Algerian Red Crescent distributed and collected RCMs exchanged between people in Algeria and their family members detained/interned abroad and organized follow-up courses in communication and first aid across the country for staff previously trained in these fields with ICRC support.

With ICRC support, the National Society produced a regular newsletter, made a documentary film on its activities and maintained and updated its website.



ICRC delegation

egypt

The ICRC delegation in Cairo promotes the implementation of IHL through national legislation, in cooperation with the League of Arab States, throughout the Arab world. It provides training in IHL for the armed and security forces, civilian and military judges, parliamentarians and diplomats, and promotes its inclusion in university and school curricula. These efforts are backed up by technical and academic support to IHL implementation bodies, by the production and distribution of IHL teaching materials and by increasing local capacities to teach IHL, including that of the Egyptian Red Crescent Society. Regional media communication is also carried out from Cairo, where the ICRC's regional documentation and promotion centre is based. The ICRC has been in Egypt, with interruptions, since the beginning of the Second World War.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	170
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,074
Cooperation with National Societies	100
General	-

► **1,344**

of which: Overheads **82**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.6%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
35	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- promoted and supported mechanisms to incorporate IHL into national law, university and school curricula and the teaching and training programmes of the national armed forces in the Arab world;
- organized regional conferences and workshops on IHL, in conjunction with the League of Arab States and national authorities, for a broad range of Arab government and military audiences to promote greater understanding and acceptance of IHL in the Arab world;
- worked closely with the League of Arab States and with Arab governments to accelerate the IHL implementation process, in accordance with a plan of action agreed upon at a regional meeting of Arab experts organized by the Arab League and the ICRC in Cairo in February 2005;
- enabled asylum seekers and refugees to trace and restore contact with family members in their home countries and helped re-establish links between people in Egypt and their family members detained/interned abroad;
- issued travel documents to recognized refugees to facilitate their resettlement in third countries;
- developed interaction with key elements of civil society, including human rights organizations and the media, to promote knowledge of and support for the ICRC's mandate and activities, as well as its position on major issues of humanitarian concern.

CONTEXT

Egypt remained at the forefront of Arab initiatives to defuse tension in the region generated by the conflict in Iraq, the Israeli-Palestinian crisis and the situation in Lebanon and Syria.

In February, Egypt hosted an Israeli-Palestinian summit, which led to a temporary suspension of hostilities between the two parties.

Egypt and Israel agreed to the deployment of Egyptian troops along Egypt's border with the Gaza Strip to secure the area and to prevent arms smuggling into the territory following Israel's pullout in August.

Under an international agreement implemented in December, European Union police observers were stationed at the Rafah checkpoint between Gaza and Egypt, where people were allowed to cross from one side to the other for the first time without Israeli authorization and direct controls. Several violent incidents occurred on the Gaza side of the crossing in late December, which led to episodes of lawlessness and a number of deaths.

Internal security was tightened and a number of arrests were made following bomb attacks in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh in July, in which 67 people were killed and many more injured. Another eight people were killed in attacks in Cairo in April. These incidents followed bomb attacks in the Sinai Peninsula in October 2004, in which 34 people died and 159 others were injured.

Meanwhile, the state of emergency declared in 1981 remained in force as a precaution against any resurgence of the violent Islamic militancy that disrupted the country in the 1990s.

In September, President Hosni Mubarak was re-elected to a fifth consecutive term of office in a vote which for the first time allowed multiple candidates to stand, in accordance with a constitutional amendment endorsed by referendum in May. The president won 88% of the vote, which registered a low turnout of 33%, widely attributed to the abstention of most key opposition parties. Legislative elections followed in November and December, in which candidates from the ruling National Democratic Party won 80% of parliamentary seats, while independent candidates close to the banned Muslim Brotherhood movement secured 20%, a fivefold increase in their legislative representation.

Large numbers of people fleeing war, internal violence and economic hardship continued to enter Egypt seeking asylum, refugee status or resettlement in third countries. Although primarily from Sudan, a significant portion also came from other countries in the same region.

Several thousand Sudanese nationals demanding resettlement in third countries took part in a prolonged sit-in near the UNHCR office in Cairo. More than 20 Sudanese were reported killed when police broke up the protest in late December.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	153
RCMs distributed	214
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	29
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	44
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	100
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	5,192

ICRC ACTION

Egypt continued to be the focal point of ICRC activities to promote greater knowledge and acceptance of IHL in countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

Working in close cooperation with the Cairo-based League of Arab States, the ICRC reinforced its advocacy role aimed at persuading Egyptian and other Arab governments to accede to IHL instruments or to implement those already ratified. As part of this process, the ICRC's legal advisory service conducted studies in a number of Arab countries to assess the compatibility of their national legislation with IHL, as a means of helping governments to modify their respective laws, where appropriate. Legal advice was also provided on request to government legislative bodies in drafting model laws incorporating the main provisions of IHL.

Regional and national seminars coordinated from Cairo across the region helped to promote the integration of IHL into university and school curricula and into the theoretical and operational training programmes of national armed and security forces in Arab League member States.

In support of these activities, the ICRC's regional documentation and promotion centre in Cairo continued to produce written and audiovisual materials on IHL, including Arabic translations of IHL treaties, for distribution to governments and national implementation bodies. The ICRC's Cairo-based Arabic website was also widely consulted as a key reference source on IHL-related issues.

Cooperation was reinforced with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society to strengthen its capacity to deliver humanitarian services in accordance with the Fundamental Principles.

As in past years, the ICRC's tracing and RCM services enabled Egyptians to restore and maintain contact with family members detained/interned abroad or living in countries affected by armed conflict. Refugees in Egypt were able to re-establish links with family members in their home countries by the same means. Furthermore, ICRC travel documents issued to thousands of asylum seekers and refugees – mainly nationals from countries in the Horn of Africa – facilitated their resettlement in third countries.

CIVILIANS

Large numbers of people fleeing their home countries for political or economic reasons continued to arrive in Egypt. The majority came from Sudan, other countries in the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes region and West Africa. Only a limited number were granted refugee status in Egypt or accepted for resettlement in third countries. Those who had no valid identification papers required travel documents issued by the ICRC. This process was coordinated together with the embassies of destination countries, UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration, governmental agencies and NGOs. Most recipients of ICRC travel documents were Sudanese nationals travelling to Australia, Canada and the United States.

Asylum seekers and refugees, particularly Sudanese nationals, also continued to require ICRC assistance to locate and restore contact with family members in their home countries through the ICRC tracing and RCM network. Information on their tracing needs was gathered during visits to refugee communities.

In addition, the ICRC helped families living in Egypt to trace and re-establish contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad or unaccounted for in countries

disrupted by conflict or other situations of violence where communications remained difficult.

- 153 RCMs collected and 214 distributed from and to families in Egypt and relatives either detained/interned abroad, mainly in Iraq or in the US detention facility in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, or living elsewhere abroad
- 5,192 people received ICRC travel documents
- 29 new tracing requests received, 44 closed positively and 100 remained pending

AUTHORITIES

Regional

Close contact was maintained with the Arab League and with Arab governments to accelerate the IHL implementation process, in accordance with a plan of action agreed at regional meetings of Arab experts organized jointly by the Arab League and the ICRC.

Countries that had not already done so were encouraged to establish national committees for the implementation of IHL, as well as parliamentary commissions on IHL. By the end of December, nine countries of the region had created national committees and six others were in the process of doing so. In support of these goals, ICRC experts carried out missions from Cairo to Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Sudan and Syria in 2005.

The ICRC legal advisory service continued to provide expertise and IHL-related documentation, as well as draft model laws, to governments and IHL implementation bodies in the region.

- In November, a draft law related to the ratification and implementation by Arab governments of provisions of the Rome Statute was adopted by the Council of Arab Justice Ministers;
- In 2005, the Cairo delegation organized several regional meetings on IHL, variously with the League of Arab States, the Arab Parliamentary Union and/or national authorities;
- February: representatives from 15 Arab States examined measures to reinforce implementation mechanisms for IHL at a meeting in Cairo;
- March: a first training course on IHL took place for civilian and military judges from 10 Arab countries, at the Kuwait Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies;
- June: the 2nd regional seminar on IHL was held in Beirut for government representatives from 15 Arab countries;
- November: 42 parliamentarians from 11 Arab countries met in Damascus and adopted a first plan of action regarding legislative aspects of national implementation of IHL at a meeting in Damascus.

In addition, IHL training courses and seminars were organized for various government, civil society and National Society audiences in Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Syria and Tunisia.

The ICRC published its third annual report in June on progress on the implementation of IHL in the 22 Arab League member States.

In November, the ICRC signed an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates to establish a regional IHL training centre for diplomats.

Egypt

As part of a longstanding programme, the ICRC gave presentations on IHL to hundreds of civilian and military judges and public prosecutors at various academies and training centres under the authority of the Ministry of Justice.

In August, Egypt ratified the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Regional

Cairo-based ICRC experts organized training courses on IHL for military instructors and/or promoted the integration of IHL

into military teaching and training programmes during missions in Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

In December, a seminar on IHL was conducted in Cairo for 38 operational and legal representatives of the armed forces of 17 Arab States. Discussions centered on ways to accelerate the systematic incorporation of IHL into military doctrine, teaching and training programmes.

Cooperation in this field was strengthened with the League of Arab States, which invited the ICRC to participate in discussions on IHL-related issues during periodic meetings of Arab military officials at its Cairo headquarters. The first such participation occurred in December at a meeting on military terminology attended by 50 high-ranking officers from 17 Arab States.

Egypt

The ICRC reviewed the current status of IHL teaching in the Egyptian armed forces with senior military officials and discussed with them measures to introduce IHL systematically into theoretical and practical military training programmes. In November, a course on IHL was conducted for 21 senior officers, most of whom were military instructors.

Meetings were held with senior officers of the Egyptian police academy to discuss ways of incorporating humanitarian principles and relevant human rights standards into training programmes for the security forces. Further dissemination sessions were conducted for hundreds of police and prison officers at various academies and training centres under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Regional

The ICRC's regional communication and documentation centre provided media circles in the Arab world with Arabic-language publications, including the quarterly *Al Insani* (*The Humanitarian*) magazine, background material and documentary video coverage of ICRC activities and IHL-related issues.

Missions were carried out to Algeria, Jordan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen to help organize national workshops on IHL and the ICRC for the media and NGOs.

High-level media representatives from 12 Arab countries participated in a

2nd regional meeting on IHL for journalists organized by the ICRC in Dubai, on how the media can contribute to the protection of civilians and the prevention of IHL violations.

The ICRC reinforced its networking with Islamic religious leaders and organizations throughout the region to promote an accurate perception of the ICRC as an organization carrying out humanitarian tasks on a strictly independent, neutral and impartial basis.

Egypt

The ICRC broadened contacts with civil society groups, including NGOs active in the fields of human rights, mine action, international mechanisms of justice and the protection of children in armed conflict, and with representatives of Islamic circles.

The ICRC was invited to address several international conferences hosted by Egypt on humanitarian issues. These included a meeting organized by the Egyptian government in February to mark the 10th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide; a UN-organized regional consultation on violence against children in June; and an international conference on landmines organized in December by the Egyptian National Council on Human Rights.

A national workshop for journalists took place in June for 18 media representatives to foster better understanding of the ICRC and to promote media coverage of issues related to IHL and human rights in armed conflict.

Exploring Humanitarian Law

The ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) education programme was introduced in the region in 2002, and its incorporation into school curricula was at varying stages in the different member countries of the Arab League. By December 2005, ten countries of the region had initiated the programme and eight had already reached or completed the training and experimentation phase and were due to start integrating the modules into school curricula.

Teacher training in the EHL programme was carried out from Cairo throughout the region, together with missions to assess and support its integration into secondary-school education. In Egypt, follow-up training courses in EHL were held for teachers of the subject in five governorates (Assyut, Cairo, Guizh, Ismaeliya and Qena).

A new form of collaboration was initiated with a Gulf-based Pan-Arab TV network

and its specialized channel for children to promote humanitarian issues among young people through educational programmes and TV spots.

New information and teaching tools on EHL were developed, including brochures and a CD-ROM version of the programme in Arabic, and information on the programme was updated on the ICRC's Arabic website.

IHL teaching in universities

A thorough survey to assess the current scope of IHL teaching in law faculties in the Arab world was conducted together with the education authorities concerned. It showed an uneven state of such teaching across the region and the need for increased training in IHL in order to speed up its integration into university curricula. In response, the ICRC has produced a number of reference texts and books on the subject, curricula models, teaching methodology tools and sample cases of IHL issues.

In August, in collaboration with the Arab League, the ICRC organized the 3rd regional seminar on IHL for 45 professors from 17 Arab States, who exchanged experiences on their respective IHL teaching programmes, mainly in law faculties, and were provided with updated information and teaching tools.

A first meeting of Arab officials responsible for university curricula and higher education was organized in Beirut in September for 25 experts from 11 Arab States, including the heads of the Union of Arab Universities and of the Scientific Committee of Arab Law Faculties. The meeting adopted new guidelines on the integration of IHL into university curricula.

At the end of 2005, the ICRC completed a comprehensive manual on IHL for academic circles, to be released at the beginning of 2006.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Following a field assessment in June, the ICRC rehabilitated an Egyptian Red Crescent health post in Rafah on Egypt's border with the Gaza Strip and stocked it with emergency relief supplies. In recent years, the health post had provided medical and other emergency assistance to Gaza residents blocked on the Egyptian side of the border by recurrent Israeli security closures.

Egyptian Red Crescent staff received training to strengthen their capacities to deal with tracing requests from refugees and families in Egypt seeking to re-establish contact with relatives in their home countries or with family members detained/interned abroad.

As a contribution to the National Society's emergency-preparedness and first-aid programmes, the ICRC provided new first-aid dummies to Red Crescent branches and sponsored the training of volunteers by the Egyptian civil defence service in fire-fighting and rescue operations.

In July and September, the ICRC helped the Egyptian Red Crescent to organize training seminars on IHL and the Movement in Cairo for 60 staff and volunteers from branch offices in 20 governorates.

The National Society maintained its support for ICRC emergency relief operations in various parts of the world.



iran

The ICRC in Iran endeavours to clarify the fate of POWs it registered during the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war and acts as a neutral intermediary between the parties. It also works to strengthen its partnership with the Iranian Red Crescent Society, particularly in the fields of tracing, the promotion of IHL, the implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and mine-risk education. The ICRC maintains two logistical and supply bases in Iran in support of ICRC operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. It has been present in Iran since 1978, with some interruptions.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	921
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,108
Cooperation with National Societies	480
General	2

► **2,510**

of which: Overheads 153

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.2%
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PERSONNEL

5 expatriates
42 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- worked with the Iranian authorities in the framework of a joint mechanism to exchange information on issues still outstanding from the Iran-Iraq war and clarified the cases of hundreds of former POWs previously unaccounted for; issued certificates of detention for thousands of former Iraqi POWs;
- acted as a neutral intermediary to facilitate the repatriation from Iraq of members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq who had expressed their wish to return to Iran; repatriated Iranian nationals from Afghanistan and the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station;
- restored contact between people in Iran and family members in Iraq and Afghanistan; located Iranians sought in Iraq by their families; reunited Afghan refugees with their families abroad;
- supported the Iranian Red Crescent Society in carrying out mine-risk education sessions for Afghan and Iraqi refugees and Iranian civilians living in mine-affected areas;
- supported the Iranian IHL committee in its work to promote the integration of IHL and its basic principles into national legislation, academic curricula and the teaching and training programmes of the Iranian armed forces;
- maintained a logistical supply capacity in Iran in support of ICRC operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

CONTEXT

In June, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad won a resounding victory in Iran's presidential election, defeating former president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in a run-off ballot. Mr Ahmadinejad replaced Mohammad Khatami, who stepped down after serving the maximum two consecutive terms in office provided for under Iran's constitution.

After being sworn in in August, the new president pursued efforts already undertaken by his predecessor to establish closer political, trade and security cooperation with other countries in the region. Iran also tightened security along its borders with Afghanistan and Iraq and in certain parts of the country inhabited mainly by ethnic Arab and Kurdish minorities, where anti-government rioting was reported between April and August. It furthermore increased security cooperation with Pakistan to prevent the infiltration of armed groups and cross-border drug smuggling.

The Iranian authorities repeatedly asserted that the country's nuclear programme was designed for peaceful purposes only, despite concern expressed by certain countries after its announcement in August that it had resumed uranium enrichment.

Iran welcomed the setting up of a new government in neighbouring Iraq and pledged its readiness to assist Iraq's political and economic development. The country also maintained significant support for the reconstruction of basic infrastructure in Afghanistan.

A series of high-level bilateral talks between Iran and Iraq covered a wide range of topics, including unresolved issues stemming from the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war. As a further sign of warming relations between the two countries, Iran and Iraq signed an agreement authorizing their nationals to visit pilgrimage sites on both sides of their common border. Iran also lifted visa restrictions for Iraqi citizens wishing to enter the country. Both countries agreed to remove leftover landmines along their common border.

Iran remained host to large numbers of mainly Afghan and Iraqi refugees. Following a meeting with Afghan officials and UNHCR, the Iranian authorities set 21 March 2006 as the new deadline for Afghan refugees to leave the country. However, under proposed revised laws, Iran planned to grant citizenship to Afghan children born in the country and to allow Afghan nationals entering the country legally to apply for residency.

Iran signed defence cooperation agreements with Algeria, Nigeria and Tajikistan and proposed similar agreements with Gulf Cooperation Council member States. It also continued discussions on building a gas pipeline linking Iran, Pakistan and India.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	260
RCMs distributed	250
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3,661

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC reinforced cooperation with the Iranian authorities and with key sectors of Iranian society to address humanitarian issues of mutual concern and to promote implementation of IHL.

In the framework of a joint mechanism agreed to in February 2004, significant progress was made towards resolving cases of POWs unaccounted for in relation to the Iran-Iraq war. Several hundred such cases were clarified through research activities carried out by the Iranian authorities and information collected by the ICRC through contacts with families in both Iran and Iraq.

In parallel, discussions were held with the Iranian authorities on the creation of a mechanism to tackle the issue of people unaccounted for – both Iranians and Iraqis – in relation to the Iran-Iraq war.

The ICRC continued to support the work of the Iranian IHL committee set up to oversee and promote the national implementation of IHL. It also stepped up efforts to have IHL incorporated into the theoretical and practical training programmes of the Iranian armed forces and to promote the inclusion of the subject in academic curricula.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC facilitated the voluntary repatriation from Iraq to Iran of hundreds of members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) movement. It also repatriated a number of Iranian nationals after their release from detention/internment in Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay and Iraq.

Cooperation was developed with the Iranian Red Crescent in the fields of mine-risk education, tracing and the promotion of IHL. The ICRC and the National Society signed a “statement of intent”, aimed at forging closer ties at both national and international levels.

A logistics and supply base was kept open close to Iran’s borders with Iraq in support

of ICRC humanitarian activities in Iraq. Iran also became the focal point for the procurement of mainly water and sanitation materials for ICRC projects in Afghanistan, Georgia and countries in Africa.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Afghan and Iraqi refugees in Iran were able to locate and re-establish contact with family members in their home countries through the ICRC’s RCM network, operated in conjunction with the National Societies of the countries concerned.

The ICRC, assisted by the Iranian Red Crescent, also continued to restore links through the RCM network between people in Iran and family members detained/interned abroad (Afghanistan, Iraq and Guantanamo Bay).

- 260 RCMs collected and 250 distributed from and to people in Iran, including Afghan refugees, and their family members located or detained/interned abroad
- 3 Afghan refugees, including 2 unaccompanied minors, resettled in third countries
- 48 of 138 tracing requests concerning Iranian nationals sought in Iraq resolved

Tracing people unaccounted for from the Iran-Iraq war

Significant progress was made in the framework of a joint mechanism agreed to with the Iranian authorities in 2004 to clarify the fate of registered POWs unaccounted for in relation to the Iran-Iraq war. In 2005, information collected through internal investigations conducted by the Iranian authorities and contacts made by the ICRC with families in Iraq and Iran resulted in the clarification of almost half of all pending cases.

Consultations were held with the Iranian authorities with a view to establishing a further mechanism to clarify the cases of

thousands of people other than POWs listed as missing in connection with the Iran-Iraq war. In support of this process, the ICRC worked on the completion of a Farsi version of an ICRC document entitled *The Missing*.

- 473 cases of former Iraqi POWs unaccounted for resolved
- 3,661 certificates of detention issued for former Iraqi POWs to enable them to qualify for financial allowances provided by the Iraqi authorities

Repatriating Iranian nationals from Iraq and elsewhere

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC carried out several operations to repatriate members of the MEK in Iraq who wished to return to Iran. It also repatriated Iranian nationals after their release from detention/internment abroad.

- 187 MEK members repatriated to Iran from Iraq
- 2 Iranian nationals repatriated after their release from detention/internment in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay

AUTHORITIES

ICRC support for the Iranian IHL committee, an interministerial body hosted by the Iranian Red Crescent, contributed to the organization of events to promote IHL within the armed forces, academic circles and the media. The ICRC concluded an agreement with the committee to establish a reference library and research centre on IHL available to all sectors of Iranian society.

Contact was maintained with the Tehran-based Parliamentary Union of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to discuss future projects on raising IHL awareness in its member States. The ICRC provided the organization with a standard library on IHL.

In cooperation with the Qom Institute of Theology and other prominent local

partners, the ICRC finalized preparations for a regional conference on Islam and IHL scheduled to take place in Qom in 2006.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Meetings were held with military officers and training instructors on the integration of IHL into military doctrine, operating procedures and instruction and training programmes. At their request, the ICRC submitted a draft of a top-level order regarding the introduction of IHL in military teaching and training programmes, together with models of ICRC training programmes on the subject.

Consultations were also held with the national IHL committee on the possibility of sending Iranian military officers on IHL courses in San Remo.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Iranian Red Crescent, the national IHL committee and the Ministry of Education concluded an agreement on the launch of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme on an experimental basis in Iranian schools. A steering committee was established to oversee the process and EHL teaching tools were translated into Farsi. Teacher-trainers presented the programme to hundreds of youths in summer camps to assess how it was perceived before being pilot-tested in schools as of early 2006. Two teacher-trainer courses on EHL were organized for 40 senior educational instructors.

The ICRC reached an agreement with a prominent university for the development of post-graduate courses in IHL, and lectures on the subject were given in several law faculties. In addition, the ICRC sponsored the participation of two law students in a course on IHL in Bangalore and that of a number of law professors and students in a similar course in Beirut. Discussions were also initiated on the possibility of Iranian students participating in an IHL moot-court competition.

The Iranian media were regularly briefed on ICRC activities in Iran and worldwide. In cooperation with the national IHL committee, a seminar on IHL was organized for journalists, and the ICRC sponsored the participation of an Iranian journalist in a regional media seminar on IHL in Dubai.

A photo exhibition highlighting ICRC and Red Crescent humanitarian activities during the Iran-Iraq war was inaugurated at the National Society's headquarters. The exhibition was due to be shown across the country in 2006.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In April, the president of the Iranian Red Crescent held talks with the ICRC president in Geneva to discuss the further development of bilateral cooperation in Iran and at the international level. In August 2005, the National Society and the ICRC signed a "statement of intent" outlining potential areas of cooperation in the international field as well as in national programmes.

The Iranian Red Crescent continued to provide assistance in tracing activities to restore contacts between refugees in Iran and family members abroad and between families in Iran and relatives detained/interned abroad.

A regional basic training course, aimed at preparing delegates for Red Cross/Red Crescent missions overseas, was held in Tehran in August in cooperation with the International Federation and the Iranian Red Crescent. Ten representatives from the Iranian Red Crescent and 12 from other National Societies in the Middle East and Europe participated.

A tracing workshop was organized for Red Crescent staff and, to facilitate its work, the ICRC provided the National Society with a computer, a scanner, a Farsi version of an ICRC publication and two ICRC video presentations on tracing techniques.

With ICRC support, the Iranian Red Crescent designed a set of mine-risk educational tools, including visual aids, leaflets, posters and pocket calendars, and delivered safety messages to more than 20,000 civilians in the five provinces worst affected by mine contamination along Iran's borders with Iraq and Afghanistan. The ICRC continued to provide technical support to the Iranian Red Crescent, in particular on data collection on mine incidents and victims.



ICRC regional delegation
 ICRC delegation
 ICRC sub-delegation
 ICRC office
 ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

iraq

The precarious security situation in Iraq and the persistent risk of direct attacks on the ICRC has led the organization to adopt an exceptional *modus operandi* in this context. Priority is given to protection activities, with a particular focus on persons detained/interned by the multinational forces in Iraq and the Iraqi authorities, the restoration of family links and action to clarify the fate of people unaccounted for from conflicts involving Iraq since 1980. Wherever possible, emergency aid is provided to health facilities in cooperation with the public health authorities. The distribution of RCMs is conducted in close collaboration with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society. The ICRC has been present in Iraq since the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF, 000)

Protection	10,161
Assistance	10,643
Prevention	2,467
Cooperation with National Societies	1,248
General	10

► **24,528**

of which: Overheads **1,497**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	50.2%
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PERSONNEL

32 expatriates
327 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- visited thousands of internees/detainees held by the multinational forces in Iraq and the Iraqi authorities to monitor their treatment and detention conditions;
- restored and maintained contact between detainees/internees in Iraq and family members in Iraq and abroad through the ICRC tracing and RCM network; financed a new family-visits programme for detainees/internees;
- provided emergency relief to people displaced by the hostilities through the Iraqi Red Crescent and supplied surgical kits to the Iraqi health authorities for distribution to hospitals dealing with mass-casualty emergencies;
- provided emergency water supplies to offset acute shortages in areas affected by the fighting;
- carried out construction and rehabilitation work on health, water and sanitation facilities;
- supported or encouraged the creation of mechanisms to tackle the issue of people unaccounted for in relation to the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war, the recent international armed conflict and occupation, the current non-international armed conflict in Iraq and past internal violence.

CONTEXT

Throughout 2005, Iraqi and multinational forces continued to confront a forceful insurgency, and the resulting hostilities exacted a heavy toll on all sides. Despite the persistent violence in many parts of the country, the Iraqi electorate went to the polls three times in 2005 in a political process aimed at establishing a permanent government representative of Iraq's ethnic and religious diversity.

National elections on 30 January led to the formation in April of a transitional government following a vote that was largely boycotted by the Arab Sunni community. Iraqi legislators then drafted a new constitution, which was endorsed in a national referendum held on 15 October, with the provision that lawmakers could amend it after a new government was installed in 2006. Iraqi voters went to the polls again on 15 December to choose representatives to serve for the next four years in Iraq's new 275-member parliament (Council of Representatives). More than 300 political entities and coalitions representing Iraq's main ethnic and religious groups, including Arab Sunnis, vied for seats in Iraq's 18 provinces. The official results of the December ballot were expected to be announced in January 2006.

The year was marked by an increase in sectarian violence. Most of the insurgent attacks, military operations and criminal violence occurred in Baghdad and in densely populated urban areas of the predominantly Sunni governorates, causing

considerable loss of life, the displacement of families and damage to vital infrastructure.

As the year progressed, the Iraqi police and security forces took on greater responsibilities, while the Iraqi National Guard continued to conduct military operations against insurgent groups alongside the multinational forces. The security situation nevertheless remained precarious in many parts of the country, which were prey to widespread violence and lawlessness.

Public health infrastructure, electricity supply and water and sanitation services remained far from adequate to meet the needs of the Iraqi population. The persistent violence also severely hindered national reconstruction programmes.

Unemployment and poverty levels remained high, and the majority of the population continued to depend on the government food distributions that had replaced the UN oil-for-food programme.

A survey based on data collected in 2004 and released in early 2005 by the Ministry of Planning and UNDP revealed increasingly high rates of child malnutrition.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	16,925	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	7,045	Food	Beneficiaries	20,830
Number of visits carried out	91	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	43,750
Number of places of detention visited	31	Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	428,260
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Hospitals supported		19 ¹
RCMs collected	21,376	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs distributed	15,519	Patients receiving services	Patients	30,113
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Prostheses delivered	Pieces	2,529
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	367	Orthoses delivered	Pieces	5,374
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	111			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	2,789			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	718			

1. Together with the Iraqi health authorities, the ICRC identified structures with acute needs which were supplied with surgical equipment and medical supplies for a total value of CHF 620,973.

ICRC ACTION

Although severe security constraints greatly affected its scope of operations in 2005, the ICRC was one of the only international humanitarian agencies to maintain a continuous operational presence in central, southern and northern parts of Iraq since the start of the latest conflict in March 2003.

More than 300 national employees worked out of permanent ICRC offices in Baghdad, Basra, Arbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk, backed up by a team of 35 expatriates carrying out regular missions in Iraq from neighbouring Jordan or based inside the country.

The ICRC suspended many assistance activities following the murder of a national staff member in Baghdad in January. This was the worst security incident it had suffered in Iraq since the killing in 2003 of four staff members, three of whom lost their lives in targeted attacks against the organization and the fourth in crossfire.

With a view to striking a balance between pursuing its humanitarian activities in Iraq and ensuring the safety of its personnel, the ICRC maintained tight restrictions on the movements of its staff within and between Iraqi towns and cities and carried out many of its activities through the Iraqi Red Crescent and the Iraqi authorities. In accordance with its standard practice, the ICRC continued to operate without military protection in order to preserve its neutral and independent identity.

Nevertheless, the ICRC was able to carry out a wide range of activities, albeit at a level far below the needs of those it sought

to serve and its own emergency response capacity and overall objectives. From March onwards, the ICRC focused primarily on protection activities, mainly visits to people deprived of their freedom, the restoration of family links, financial support to enable families to visit detained/interned relatives and ongoing efforts to trace persons unaccounted for in relation to conflicts involving Iraq since 1980.

Despite the suspension of many assistance activities, primarily affecting longstanding programmes to upgrade health, water and sanitation infrastructure, the ICRC managed to complete several large-scale rehabilitation projects initiated in 2004. Working through the local authorities and the Iraqi Red Crescent, the ICRC was also able to respond to a number of emergencies arising from the displacement of families by the hostilities, mass-casualty situations and water shortages in poorly served urban communities.

The ICRC also endeavoured to reinforce its capacity to assess needs for humanitarian assistance through its field staff, Iraqi Red Crescent workers and its network of contacts among State representatives and community leaders.

Much effort was put into strengthening relations with the Iraqi Red Crescent and its capacity to respond to emergencies. In November, the National Society, the ICRC and the International Federation signed an agreement on the management and coordination of the Movement's response in Iraq.

The ICRC sought to raise awareness of the suffering of the Iraqi people and to remind all the parties to the conflict of their

obligations under IHL, either through bilateral dialogue with the authorities concerned or through public communication.

CIVILIANS

Assisting displaced families

The ICRC was able to help the Iraqi authorities and the Iraqi Red Crescent to respond to many humanitarian emergencies arising from the displacement of thousands of families who fled their homes in areas affected by hostilities.

Emergency water, food and essential household supplies were provided to the National Society for distribution to several camps for displaced families, particularly following armed confrontations in the predominantly Sunni provinces of Anbar (east) and Ninawa (north). These activities contributed to preserving the basic health and dignity of people who had fled their homes.

The ICRC also organized daily water deliveries to poorly supplied parts of Baghdad.

- ▶ around 9,000 displaced families in various regions provided with basic household supplies, including: 25,000 kerosene stoves, 1,641 kerosene heaters, 20,200 buckets, 36,600 jerrycans, 15,670 blankets, 5,600 hygiene kits, 3,000 kitchen sets, 705 tents and 865 tarpaulins; in addition, 25,000 food parcels distributed
- ▶ from July onwards, 180,000 litres of water delivered daily to 900 families after they fled their homes in Tal Afar to 3 surrounding villages not connected to a water network; emergency ICRC repair work initiated in December

to restore water supply to Tal Afar and surrounding villages (scheduled for completion by January 2006)

- 160,000 litres of water a day delivered for several weeks in spring to almost 1,000 displaced families who fled their homes in Al-Qaim near the Syrian border; ICRC food parcels and basic household relief also distributed to the families by the Iraqi Red Crescent
- from mid-November, 60,000 litres of water delivered daily to 400 displaced people in Anah (Anbar governorate)

In addition, around 800,000 litres of water delivered daily throughout the year to some 120,000 inhabitants of Baghdad.

Following the suspension of many ICRC assistance activities in January, the ICRC cancelled some 20 planned rehabilitation projects owing to the unsafe security environment. Security concerns also compelled the organization to suspend emergency “quick fix” interventions on basic infrastructure. The ICRC was nevertheless able to continue and complete work on several rehabilitation or construction projects initiated in 2004.

Health infrastructure rehabilitation

- a primary-health-care centre constructed in Basra (Al-Qadissiyah quarter), designed to receive up to 70 patients/day
- a new maternity facility constructed at Al-Yarmouk medical complex in Baghdad serving a population of 1.5 million people
- additional wards and a heart-treatment unit constructed and water tanks installed at Al-Khalis General Hospital in Diyala governorate serving 350,000 people
- a primary-health-care centre constructed in the Qandil mountains of Arbil governorate in northern Iraq serving 5,000 people
- a hospital rehabilitated in Tikrit governorate serving 1.5 million people

Water infrastructure rehabilitation and development

- a water-treatment plant rehabilitated in Baquba, Diyala governorate serving 56,000 people
- a water-treatment plant rehabilitated in Al-Sawariyah, Najaf governorate serving 5,000 people
- a water pipeline extended in Hilla, Babil governorate serving 28,300 people
- 2 water-treatment plants rehabilitated in Al-Khairat, Kerbala governorate serving 28,000 people

- a new pumping station installed and a pipeline network extended in the eastern Baghdad district of Al-Hussayniyah serving 120,000 people

Clarifying the fate of the missing

The ICRC continued to chair meetings of the Tripartite Commission and its technical sub-committee, set up to address cases of persons missing from the 1990–91 Gulf War. Iraq was represented at these meetings by its Ministry of Human Rights. For the first time, a number of Iraqi cases were closed/resolved, and by the end of the year, around one-third of all Kuwaiti cases had been clarified following exhumation and identification operations carried out in Iraq as part of the tripartite process. Since 2003, the process had helped shed light on the cases of 269 people unaccounted for, 227 of which were submitted by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and 42 by Iraq.

- 27 cases submitted by the coalition forces and 12 by Iraq resolved positively
- the remains of 1 Iraqi national found in Kuwait repatriated under ICRC auspices
- 500 cases of missing persons submitted by the coalition forces and 1,085 submitted by Iraq still unresolved

ICRC action also focused on supporting or encouraging the creation of mechanisms to tackle the issue of people unaccounted for in relation to the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war, the recent international armed conflict and occupation, the current non-international armed conflict in Iraq and internal violence in past decades. In February, the Iraqi cabinet launched a process to create a National Centre for Missing and Disappeared Persons.

The Medico-Legal Institute (MLI), under the authority of the Ministry of Health, continued to play a key role in handling human remains related to the current hostilities. In order to enhance the MLI's capacity to handle its heavy caseload, the ICRC and the MLI, in conjunction with the Institute for Forensic Medicine of Jordan, the Jordan University of Science and Technology and the University of London, organized a two-week specialized training course for Iraqi forensic practitioners.

- 367 new tracing requests registered, 99 cases resolved positively and 1,604 cases remained unresolved (not including the missing cases related to the 1990–91 Gulf War)

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit thousands of people held in various places of detention or internment controlled by the Iraqi authorities and the multinational forces in Iraq. The purpose of the visits was to monitor the treatment and detention conditions of people deprived of their freedom and, when necessary, to make recommendations to the detaining authorities for corrective action. Visiting ICRC teams included medical doctors to assess the level of medical care dispensed to the detainees.

The main detention/internment facilities visited were Camp Cropper, located in the Baghdad airport complex, Camp Bucca, near the southern town of Um Qasr, and Fort Suse, a new internment facility near Sulaymaniyah that opened in late October, all under the authority of the US contingent of the multinational forces in Iraq. Visits were also made to the Camp Shaibe internment facility near Basra under the control of the UK contingent of the multinational forces in Iraq, as well as to people held by the Iraqi and US forces in separate areas of the Abu Ghraib prison and to others located in detention facilities controlled by the regional Kurdish authorities in northern Iraq.

The ICRC continued to provide clothes and hygiene kits as required to detainees in places of detention controlled by the Kurdish regional authorities. It also conducted a workshop in Amman in November for medical staff working in Iraqi prisons and detention centres in order to acquaint them with new concepts of prison health management and to help them better tackle current challenges.

Detention/internment facilities controlled by the multinational forces in Iraq

Owing to the large number of arrests made during extensive military operations from the end of 2004 onwards, the internee population under the control of the US multinational forces had doubled halfway through 2005 but remained stable for the rest of the year.

- 11,462 detainees/internees visited, including 5,084 monitored individually and 4,058 newly registered, during 14 visits made to 5 places of detention controlled by the multinational forces in Iraq

Detention/internment facilities controlled by the Iraqi authorities

Security-related travel restrictions prevented ICRC delegates from visiting detainees held by the Iraqi authorities in most parts of the country. The ICRC visited the section under Iraqi control at the Abu Ghraib detention/internment facility and people under Iraqi jurisdiction held at the Camp Cropper detention centre controlled by the US multinational forces.

Given the relatively stable security situation in the three northern provinces, the ICRC was able to visit numerous places of detention there under the control of the Kurdish regional authorities. Hundreds of people arrested during military operations in Mosul and Kirkuk were transferred to places of detention under Kurdish authority in Arbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah. In view of the increase in the detainee population under the control of the Kurdish authorities, the ICRC reinforced its detention team in northern Iraq.

- ▶ 411 detainees under the control of the Iraqi authorities visited, including 189 monitored individually and 120 newly registered, during 12 visits made (not including centres controlled by the Kurdish regional authorities in northern Iraq)
- ▶ 5,062 detainees/internees visited, including 1,772 monitored individually and 1,290 newly registered, during 65 visits made to 21 places of detention controlled by the Kurdish regional authorities in northern Iraq

Restoring family links

As in the past, people held by the various detaining authorities and visited by the ICRC were able to restore or maintain contact with their families in Iraq or abroad through RCMs collected and distributed with the assistance of the Iraqi Red Crescent.

The ICRC also made thousands of phone calls following visits to internment facilities, in order to inform the internees' families of the whereabouts and well-being of their loved ones. Furthermore, the ICRC increased its capacity to transmit *salamat* (family messages transmitted orally) for people seeking to restore contact with relatives in other parts of Iraq or abroad.

Security constraints prevented ICRC delegates from visiting detainees held in many parts of the country. Consequently, these detainees were unable to benefit from ICRC tracing and RCM services. The large number of new arrests since October 2004

nevertheless increased demand for the RCM service, although more frequent family visits to the three internment facilities controlled by US multinational forces reduced pressure on the RCM network as the sole means of maintaining family contact. Demand was particularly high in the north owing to the numerous arrests and security concerns there, which often prevented families from visiting relatives held in detention in Arbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah.

In October 2005, the ICRC started a programme to enable families to visit close relatives held at Camp Bucca by offering them monthly financial aid to cover part of the expenses involved.

In conjunction with the Iraqi Red Crescent, the ICRC issued certificates of detention to former Iraqi POWs who had previously been held by Kuwait in relation to the 1990–91 Gulf War. The certificates enabled them to qualify for Iraqi social welfare benefits.

The ICRC also repatriated foreign internees/detainees following their release and members of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) after interviewing them to make sure that they wished to return to their countries of origin.

- ▶ 21,376 RCMs collected from detainees/internees or their families and 15,519 delivered
- ▶ 2,504 people held in Camp Bucca benefited from the ICRC family visits programme
- ▶ 3,661 certificates of detention issued to former Iraqi POWs previously held by Kuwait in relation to the 1990–91 Gulf War
- ▶ more than 200 foreign detainees/internees repatriated under ICRC auspices
- ▶ 187 MEK members repatriated

WOUNDED AND SICK

Access to many areas of conflict in Iraq was limited owing to the insecurity. This often prevented the ICRC from delivering emergency medical supplies to hospitals directly. Working through the health authorities, however, the ICRC was able to provide surgical and medical supplies and equipment from its warehouses in Iraq (Baghdad and Arbil) and in Jordan (Amman), as well as water, to hospitals dealing with emergencies in places such as Baghdad, Arbil, Haditha, Hilla and Tal Afar.

For example:

- ▶ in early September, the ICRC provided water, 5,000 bed sheets, 500 stretchers, more than 450 body bags and drugs to a Baghdad hospital treating patients injured in a stampede triggered by rumours that a suicide bomber had infiltrated a group of pilgrims crossing a bridge on their way to a holy site;
- ▶ following a breakdown of water supply to parts of west Baghdad in July, the ICRC provided 30,000 litres of water a day to Al-Yarmouk hospital (1,000 beds) for a week until the water plant serving the area was repaired; similar aid was provided to Al-Kindy hospital in Baghdad when it suffered water shortages during mass-casualty emergencies;
- ▶ in December, the ICRC installed a water-bag production facility at the Al-Wathaba water treatment plant in Baghdad which manufactured water bags for distribution to hospitals in the capital following rumours that its water reservoirs had been poisoned.

Assisting physical rehabilitation centres for the disabled

The ICRC maintained material and financial support to seven centres caring for the physically disabled in Baghdad, Basra, Arbil, Najaf, Hilla and Mosul and producing artificial limbs and other orthopaedic appliances using polypropylene technology. The ICRC retained sole management of the Arbil physical rehabilitation centre.

Workshops were organized in Arbil for directors of the seven centres to exchange information on management issues. A training session was jointly organized in Amman with the Iraqi Ministry of Health for Iraqi prosthetic/orthotic technicians, which focused on the theoretical and practical management of patients who needed spinal orthoses.

- ▶ 7 physical rehabilitation centres supported (1 totally managed by ICRC)
- ▶ 30,113 people received services at 7 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 1,403 new patients fitted with prostheses and 3,993 with orthoses
- ▶ 2,529 prostheses (999 for mine victims) and 5,374 orthoses (132 for mine victims) delivered; 1,030 crutches and 7 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

ICRC contacts with the Iraqi authorities were limited, mainly owing to political changes in the country and the prevailing security environment.

Wherever possible, the ICRC held meetings or exchanged electronic correspondence with ministerial staff to coordinate its operations, in particular with the Ministry of Human Rights (regarding missing persons and detention issues), the Ministry of Justice (regarding detention issues), the Ministry of Health (regarding emergency war-wounded kits) and the MLI. Meetings also took place with Iraqi government representatives passing through Amman.

The ICRC set as a priority the development of relations with the newly elected authorities in order to seek their support for its operations in Iraq on behalf of the victims of the armed conflict. It also maintained close contact with the Kurdish regional authorities in northern Iraq and increased networking with all elements of Iraqi society, including State and non-State actors, with a view to improving access to vulnerable population groups.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Security concerns prevented the ICRC from implementing a programme to promote a better understanding of its mandate and IHL among all armed and security forces present in Iraq.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The delegation endeavoured to develop a network of contacts with civil society leaders, both in Islamic and in secular circles, in order to foster greater understanding and acceptance of the ICRC's independent, neutral and strictly humanitarian role in Iraq.

IHL continued to be taught as a compulsory subject in the law faculties of 23 universities throughout Iraq, and the Ministry of Education expressed an interest in introducing the Exploring Humanitarian Law syllabus in school curricula. Four Iraqi university law lecturers attended a regional workshop on IHL in Beirut.

A round-table on the media and IHL was organized in Amman for nine Iraqi journalists representing all main ethnic and religious groups in Iraq. Two Iraqi journalists participated in a regional meeting of Arab media experts organized in Dubai on how journalists can contribute to preventing IHL violations through their reporting.

The ICRC continued to voice its concerns about the humanitarian situation in Iraq and to explain its activities to the media, particularly to the major pan-Arab outlets.

The ICRC also produced a brochure in Arabic, English and Kurdish on its programme to partially finance the travel and accommodation costs of families wishing to visit relatives held in the Camp Bucca internment facility. In particular, the programme was promoted in several Baghdad mosques.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In July, the Iraqi Red Crescent held a general assembly in accordance with its recently revised statutes and elected a new board of governors. This marked an important development in strengthening the National Society and its commitment to the Fundamental Principles, adherence to IHL and the statutes of the Movement. The ICRC provided support to the National Society in its internal reform process and the revision of its statutes.

The ICRC maintained close cooperation with the Iraqi Red Crescent and provided technical and financial support to its tracing officers at headquarters and in the branches. Iraqi Red Crescent tracing officers helped to collect and distribute RCMs between detainees/internees and their families.

The ICRC also continued to provide relief supplies to the National Society for distribution to families displaced by fighting in, for example, Tal Afar, Falluja and Al-Qaim. To increase the Iraqi Red Crescent's emergency-response capacity, the ICRC donated relief supplies for pre-positioning at the National Society's headquarters and in branches across the country.

In November, the Iraqi Red Crescent, the ICRC and the International Federation signed a memorandum of understanding on the management and coordination of the Movement's response in Iraq. The Movement partners pledged to work closely together to ensure that those most in need in Iraq received maximum benefit from Movement resources and to strengthen the capacity of the National Society to deliver humanitarian services.

The ICRC continued to provide financial and technical support to national dissemination and mine-risk education programmes run by the Iraqi Red Crescent.



israel, the occupied territories and the autonomous palestinian territories

The ICRC has been present in Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Autonomous Territories since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. It strives to ensure respect for IHL, in particular its provisions relative to the protection of civilians living under occupation. It monitors the treatment and living conditions of detainees held by the Israeli and Palestinian authorities and provides assistance to the Palestinian population. As the lead agency for the Movement in this context, the ICRC coordinates the work of Movement partners and supports the activities of the Palestine Red Crescent Society and the Magen David Adom.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	15,256
Assistance	15,270
Prevention	2,551
Cooperation with National Societies	4,776
General	-

► **37,853**

of which: Overheads **2,303**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	80.7%
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PERSONNEL

66 expatriates
194 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- actively sought compliance by Israel with its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation;
- visited thousands of Palestinian detainees held by Israel and hundreds held by the Palestinian Authority to assess their treatment and living conditions and enable them to maintain contact with their families;
- assessed the impact of Israeli-imposed movement restrictions on the living conditions of the Palestinian population and provided emergency assistance to thousands of Palestinian families, including household kits for Palestinians whose homes had been destroyed or confiscated;
- implemented cash-for-work and food-production projects in communities worst affected by acute unemployment and poverty largely caused by mobility restrictions; rehabilitated or developed water and sanitation infrastructure in poorly served communities in coordination with the Palestinian authorities;
- gave presentations on IHL to high-ranking members of the Israeli armed forces and the Palestinian security services; continued to promote IHL in key sectors of the Israeli and Palestinian civil societies, such as NGOs, academics, clerics and youth;
- supported the Palestine Red Crescent and the Magen David Adom in enhancing their capacities to provide emergency medical services.

CONTEXT

Despite a suspension of hostilities agreed at an Israeli-Palestinian summit in February and pledges by the main militant Palestinian groups to abide by an Egyptian-brokered truce, armed confrontations persisted throughout much of 2005, although to a lesser extent than in previous years.

Most of the hostilities related to ongoing Israeli search-and-arrest operations and raids, attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank, rocket attacks launched from Gaza into Israel, and suicide bombings in Israel. The suicide attacks, which caused several Israeli civilian casualties, prompted Israel to reinstate its policy of targeting Palestinian militants through extrajudicial killings and to seek internal legal approval for its policy of demolishing their family homes.

Israel's landmark unilateral pullout from the Gaza Strip – along with its evacuation of four settlements in northern parts of the West Bank – was completed in September several weeks ahead of schedule with no fatalities reported, despite strong opposition to the move by many settlers.

At the end of November, Israel handed over control of the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt to the Palestinian Authority, and European Union monitors were deployed in the area to monitor compliance with the agreement reached.

Israel maintained an extensive military presence and stringent restrictions on the movement of people and goods in the West

Bank. Curfews, closures, roadblocks and the West Bank barrier currently under construction impeded the Palestinian population's access to the basic necessities of life such as the workplace and health and education facilities.

In January, Mahmoud Abbas succeeded the late Yasser Arafat as chairman of the Palestinian Authority. Hamas fared prominently in municipal elections held between March and May in Gaza and the West Bank, taking control of major cities such as Nablus and Jenin. Parliamentary elections were scheduled for January 2006.

In Israel, Amir Peretz defeated Shimon Perez in a vote for the Labour party leadership in November and withdrew from the governing coalition with the Likud party, triggering an early general election, scheduled for 28 March 2006. Days later, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon resigned from the Likud party and set up Kadima, a new centrist party that quickly took a lead in the polls.

Intra-Palestinian violence continued, with frequent shootouts reported between members of different security services, between the security services and Palestinian militants and between rival Palestinian families.

Sporadic skirmishes across the Israeli-Lebanese border persisted between Israeli forces and Hezbollah militants, particularly in the disputed Israeli-occupied Shebaa Farms region.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS		
Detainees visited	13,902	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	8,046	Food	Beneficiaries	26,542
Number of visits carried out	617	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	1,500
Number of places of detention visited	99	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	10,206
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (completed projects)	Beneficiaries	61,200
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK ¹		
RCMs collected	15,759			
RCMs distributed	18,487			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>				
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	21			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	11			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	28			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	17,882			

1. Financial assistance was provided to the MDA in support of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and the Blood Transfusion Service (BTS). Financial assistance was provided to the Palestine Red Crescent Society in support of the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and the ambulance fleet consisting of 80 well-maintained and equipped ambulances. See *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement* heading.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to monitor Israel's respect for its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation and to make prompt representations to the authorities concerned when corrective action was deemed necessary.

Regular ICRC field missions were undertaken to assess and, whenever possible, to respond to the most urgent needs of the Palestinian population living in areas worst affected by the restrictions imposed by Israel on the movement of people and goods.

Planned and ad hoc emergency assistance was distributed to thousands of destitute Palestinian families. New economic and food security programmes were developed for communities identified as having high levels of unemployment and poverty induced largely by the mobility restrictions which continued to severely undermine the Palestinian economy.

ICRC household kits were issued to Palestinians whose homes had been levelled or confiscated to clear land for the construction of the West Bank barrier or for settlement expansion, or because they had been built without construction permits.

The ICRC worked with the Palestinian water authority to rehabilitate or establish water and sanitation infrastructure in poorly served communities. It also organized water-tanker deliveries to rural West Bank communities not connected to water-distribution networks.

Delegates regularly visited thousands of Palestinians detained by Israel and hundreds held by the Palestinian Authority to monitor their treatment and detention conditions and to enable them to remain in contact with their families. Recommendations for corrective action were made to the detaining authorities whenever appropriate.

One priority for the ICRC was to ensure access of the Palestinian population to medical facilities and of medical service providers to the sick and wounded with minimal security-clearance delays. The ICRC assessed the level of access of the Druze population living in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights to health care, and helped to train Palestinian medical staff in trauma management.

The ICRC kept up its activities to promote the integration of IHL into Israel's domestic legislation, into the doctrine, teaching and training programmes of the Israeli armed forces, as well as into university and school curricula.

As in past years, the ICRC gave substantial support to the Palestine Red Crescent Society and the Magen David Adom to strengthen their capacities to deliver humanitarian services. The delegation helped facilitate the first-ever operational agreement between the two National Societies, reached under the auspices of the Swiss government.

The ICRC pursued efforts to clarify the fate of people unaccounted for or missing in action from previous conflicts in the region.

CIVILIANS

Protection of the civilian population

The ICRC monitored the situation leading up to and during Israel's disengagement from Gaza and from four settlements in the northern West Bank. Prior to the pullout, the ICRC made recommendations for preventive measures to the authorities concerned and stood ready to respond to emergency needs.

Further ICRC representations were made to the Israeli authorities concerning the humanitarian consequences of the West Bank barrier, including, for example, problems of access to land during the olive harvest and the adverse impact of the barrier on the population of East Jerusalem. On a number of other occasions, the ICRC made representations regarding incidents arising from more stringent restrictions of movement or house demolitions in the West Bank.

The ICRC stepped up field surveys to assess the impact of Israeli curfews, closures and the West Bank barrier on Palestinians' access to health-care facilities and conveyed its concerns in this regard to the Israeli authorities. In addition, it carried out an assessment of the level of access to health care of the Druze population in the Golan Heights (20,000 inhabitants).

► 66 written and over 1,000 oral representations made by the ICRC to the Israeli authorities to improve respect for IHL and/or to alleviate the humanitarian consequences of the occupation

A constructive relationship was established with new members of Palestinian ministries, and contacts were reinforced with Palestinian militant groups, with whom the ICRC raised issues related to the protection of the civilian population, including the impact on civilians of increased intra-Palestinian violence.

The ICRC observed a further decrease in the incidence of extrajudicial killings of alleged collaborators by Palestinian militants, although a number of alleged collaborators were abducted and wounded.

Access to clean water

Water and sanitation facilities remained inadequate to meet the needs of the Palestinian population, and existing infrastructure often functioned poorly owing to lack of maintenance. Working with the Palestinian water authority, ICRC experts identified villages most severely lacking these facilities. Eight projects in five West Bank villages were approved to rehabilitate and/or extend water networks, to construct reservoirs and a booster station and to overhaul water pumping equipment. The ICRC also continued to deliver water by tanker to rural West Bank communities not connected to water-distribution networks.

- ▶ 2 projects under way to improve water supply to 5,700 people
- ▶ 6 additional projects finalized to upgrade water facilities for another 61,200 people
- ▶ 102,200 cubic metres of water delivered by tanker to around 10,000 West Bank households not connected to water networks

Economic security

The ICRC conducted regular field missions to monitor and assess the humanitarian and economic consequences of mobility restrictions, which had largely contributed to the unprecedented levels of poverty and unemployment in the West Bank and Gaza.

Planned and ad hoc ICRC food distributions were made to thousands of destitute Palestinians and communities where unemployment and poverty levels were found to be particularly high. The worst-affected communities were identified for the implementation of cash-for-work projects and further food-security interventions.

As in past years, the ICRC issued household relief kits to Palestinian families whose homes had been destroyed or confiscated.

- ▶ an average of 2,462 Palestinian families in Hebron Old City issued with monthly food and household essentials
- ▶ 1,643 needy families provided with ad hoc food aid in the West Bank
- ▶ emergency household kits issued to 250 Palestinian families whose homes had been demolished
- ▶ over 10,000 individuals benefited from cash-for-work or food-production schemes

Restoring family links

Lebanese citizens resident in Israel since its withdrawal from southern Lebanon in May 2000 were offered the opportunity to correspond and exchange official documents with their families in Lebanon via the RCM network. The ICRC also processed requests for the registration in the Lebanese Civil Registry of marriages and births involving Lebanese nationals in Israel.

Travel to Syria by Syrian nationals living in the occupied Golan remained subject to Israeli restrictions. In view of this, the ICRC helped Druze students and clerics from the Golan to obtain authorization to travel to Syria for educational or religious purposes, or arranged for Golan residents to wed their prospective partners from Syria proper in the UN-controlled separation zone in Kuneitra.

The ICRC made no headway in persuading the authorities concerned to allow residents of the occupied Golan to visit family members in Syria.

- ▶ visits to Syria were arranged for 1,755 students and pilgrims from the occupied Golan

The ICRC also facilitated travel for Palestinians who for specific family reasons needed to meet up with relatives living elsewhere in the Palestinian territories or in Jordan. For example, it enabled two minors from Gaza to be reunited with their parents in the West Bank.

Clarifying the fate of the missing

The ICRC facilitated the repatriation of the remains of four Hezbollah fighters killed in two separate clashes between the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Hezbollah forces across the Israeli-Lebanese border. It pursued discussions with the Israeli authorities regarding repatriation of the remains of other Lebanese and Arab combatants killed in action by Israeli forces.

The ICRC followed up a request it had made previously to the Israeli authorities to

provide death certificates for 156 people whose remains had not been returned to their families by Israel.

It also pursued efforts to resolve the documented cases of five Israelis missing from past conflicts in the region and kept their families informed of developments.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Israel

At the end of 2005, approximately 11,200 Palestinians were held by Israel in interrogation units, temporary detention centres, military detention camps, prisons and police stations. The ICRC continued to carry out visits to these detention facilities and to present confidential reports on its findings and recommendations to the Israeli authorities.

The ICRC distributed medical appliances such as eye-glasses, dentures and orthopaedic devices, when urgently required, to detainees in military detention camps and prisons. Standard sets of clothing and small stipends were also issued to particularly needy detainees, and many detention centres were supplied with books, newspapers, magazines and recreational items.

Particular attention was paid to the specific needs of detained women and minors and to the judicial rights of administrative detainees, who under Israeli law could be held for renewable six-month periods without charge.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC monitored the release by Israel of 900 Palestinian detainees freed in two operations in January and May/June. Beforehand, the ICRC interviewed the detainees to confirm that they agreed to the location of their release. It was also present at release locations in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank to monitor the process and alerted the Israeli authorities to cases involving detainees not released in the locations they had requested.

- ▶ 12,192 detainees visited, including 7,504 monitored individually (of whom 131 women and 565 minors), during 365 visits made to 51 Israeli detention facilities
- ▶ 3,548 telephone calls made to families to inform them about the detention of a relative
- ▶ 15,603 RCMs collected and 18,328 distributed from and to Palestinian detainees and their families

- 17,714 certificates of detention issued to former detainees
- destitute detainees given regular allowances of 100 Shekels (approximately 22 US dollars)
- sets of clothes issued to detainees in prisons and military detention camps
- medical items, such as eye-glasses, issued to detainees

The ICRC family visits programme grew considerably in 2005. It remained the only means for thousands of Palestinian families to visit their relatives detained by Israel. The ICRC forwarded visit requests to the Israeli authorities and provided transport to and from the places of detention for visiting family members. By the end of 2005, over 60% of Palestinian detainees were receiving monthly family visits, a marked increase on previous years.

- an average of over 17,300 family members per month were able to visit relatives detained by Israel (compared with 8,000 per month in 2004); 6,710 detainees benefited from these visits

Palestinian Authority

ICRC visits continued to detention centres controlled by the Palestinian Authority. A constructive dialogue was maintained with the detaining authorities at the Palestinian Ministry of the Interior.

The number of detainees increased slightly in the second part of the year, causing overcrowding in the main prisons in the West Bank and Gaza.

Six confidential ICRC reports regarding various detention facilities (police stations, rehabilitation centres and interrogation centres) were transmitted to the Palestinian detaining authorities over the year.

Numerous seminars on the ICRC and IHL were held for members of the Palestinian security services involved in detention activities. Senior officers from the Ministry of the Interior and from the Joint Security Committee also attended the seminars.

- 1,710 detainees visited, including 542 monitored individually (of whom 17 women and 81 minors), during 252 visits made to 48 Palestinian places of detention
- 229 telephone calls made to families to inform them about the detention of a relative
- 156 RCMs collected and 159 distributed on behalf of Palestinian detainees and their families

- 168 certificates of detention issued to former detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

In December 2005, in cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Health, the ICRC held two four-day Emergency Room Trauma Courses for 50 surgeons, anaesthetists, emergency ward staff and nurses in the West Bank and Gaza to increase their capacities to respond to mass-casualty situations.

The ICRC facilitated the movement of Palestine Red Crescent ambulances and medical teams to ensure minimum delays caused by mobility restrictions. Persistent misuse of the emblem by certain other medical service providers nevertheless continued to create confusion at checkpoints, increasing the risk of delays for Red Crescent ambulances.

Subscriptions to medical journals were provided to 16 hospitals in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC expanded its already extensive network of contacts with diplomatic missions, donors and international organizations in Israel and the Palestinian territories in order to convey to them its main humanitarian concerns related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Regular coordination meetings were held with UN agencies, NGOs and the European Union Coordination Group on topics such as judicial guarantees for detainees, the legal and humanitarian implications of the Israeli disengagement plan, Israeli mobility restrictions and access by West Bank residents to East Jerusalem.

The official launch of the Hebrew version of the Additional Protocols in December 2004, as well as the ICRC's recently published study on customary international humanitarian law, stimulated debate on IHL-related issues, in particular the rules governing the conduct of hostilities.

The drafting of a law on the protection of the emblem was discussed with the Palestinian IHL committee, the Ministry of Justice and the Palestine Red Crescent. However, preparations for Palestinian elections, initially scheduled for the end of 2005 and subsequently postponed until January 2006, held up progress on this project.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Discussions continued with the IDF Land Forces Doctrine and Training Division and the Staff and Command College with a view to integrating IHL into the training of IDF officers to enable them to teach the subject. The ICRC also sponsored the participation of two IDF officers in an IHL course in San Remo.

IHL remained an integral part of the checkpoint commanders' training programme at the Central Command Training Base. The ICRC worked towards obtaining similar results with the military police units in charge of detention and gave a number of presentations on IHL to their commanding officers.

- more than 50 seminars on IHL organized for members of the Israeli armed and security forces

Three generals from the Palestinian security forces participated in an ICRC regional seminar in Cairo on the application of IHL rules in the conduct of military operations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media relations

The ICRC kept the media abreast of its activities through regular newsletters, updates and briefings, and ICRC news films were broadcast on Israeli television. Articles on ICRC activities and IHL issues were also published in *Al Insani* (*The Humanitarian*), the Arabic-language quarterly produced by the ICRC in Cairo.

Three leading Palestinian television journalists were invited to take part in a regional media workshop on the protection of civilians in armed conflict organized by the ICRC in Dubai.

Promoting IHL in civil society

The ICRC reinforced its network of Palestinian clerics and academics, members of influential militant groups and representatives of other key sectors of Palestinian society to gain a better insight into their views and to increase their understanding of IHL and the ICRC's role and activities in the region.

Numerous presentations on IHL and the ICRC were given for prominent Israeli and Palestinian NGOs working, in particular, on IHL and human rights issues. The ICRC also gave around 50 presentations on

its role, the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values for young Palestinians taking part in summer camps.

A workshop on “Internment during international armed conflict under IHL and Human Rights Law” was co-organized with the Hebrew University, bringing together Israeli and foreign academics and experts on IHL.

New ICRC materials were produced in Hebrew, including the third edition of the booklet *Towards a comprehensive solution to the question of the emblem*.

IHL in schools and universities

Israeli school teachers received training in the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme in support of efforts by the Israeli Ministry of Education to incorporate the subject into secondary-school curricula.

EHL supervisors from the Palestinian Ministry of Education, together with the Palestine Red Crescent and the ICRC, evaluated progress in 168 West Bank and Gaza schools where the programme was being taught and studied plans to extend it to another 95 Palestinian schools in 2006.

Three Israeli students from the College of Management were invited to participate in summer courses in IHL in Brussels and Warsaw. Two Palestinian teachers from the University of Bethlehem attended a regional course on IHL in Beirut.

Meetings were held with deans and professors of Palestinian law faculties to discuss the integration of IHL into university curricula.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation with the Magen David Adom and the Palestine Red Crescent Society remained a major component of ICRC activities in the region. The aim was to ensure that both possessed the means and expertise to carry out the full range of activities of a well-functioning National Society.

The ICRC continued to provide the Magen David Adom and the Palestine Red Crescent with various forms of technical, material and financial support to reinforce the capacities of their emergency medical and tracing services to respond effectively and promptly to needs arising in their

respective operational areas. The delegation also helped them draft an operational agreement to enhance cooperation between the two Societies. This agreement was concluded under the auspices of the Swiss government.

Palestine Red Crescent Society

ICRC assistance helped to keep the Palestine Red Crescent's fleet of 80 ambulances in good working order and covered some of the Society's operating costs, including its communications system, emergency medical stations, staff salaries and staff training. The ICRC also worked to upgrade the management practices of the Palestine Red Crescent emergency medical services, including helping it to budget effectively, reduce expenses and recover costs.

Through ICRC training in fields such as the provision of care to people suffering trauma disorders, staff of the Palestine Red Crescent emergency medical and disaster management services were able to improve their skills. Further funding was provided for dissemination programmes on IHL and the Fundamental Principles, as well as for the Palestine Red Crescent website and publications. Material, training and funding support helped the Palestine Red Crescent to develop a sustainable mine-risk education programme, coordinated with other agencies working in this field.

For its part, the Palestine Red Crescent continued to help the ICRC to implement programmes such as family visits to Palestinians detained by the Israeli authorities and emergency food distributions to destitute Palestinian families in Hebron.

Magen David Adom

The ICRC continued to provide financial assistance to the Magen David Adom's emergency medical services, including its blood bank. ICRC support enabled the National Society's tracing unit to continue its valuable work to trace Second World War victims and reunite family members separated by more recent conflicts. ICRC technical and financial assistance also helped the Magen David Adom develop a strategic emergency response to natural disasters such as earthquakes.

As the lead agency for the Movement in the region, the ICRC coordinated the activities of over 10 National Societies working with the Magen David Adom and the Palestine Red Crescent.



ICRC delegation ICRC warehouse

jordan

The ICRC has been permanently present in Jordan since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Its work there largely consists of visiting detainees to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention, providing tracing and Red Cross message services to civilians and foreign detainees, and promoting IHL throughout Jordan, in close cooperation with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society. The delegation also provides logistical support for ICRC relief operations in Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Autonomous Palestinian Territories and in Iraq.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,134
Assistance	2
Prevention	581
Cooperation with National Societies	135
General	-

► **1,852**

of which: Overheads 113

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	111.3%
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PERSONNEL

16	expatriates
80	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- carried out visits to people deprived of their freedom held by the Jordanian authorities;
- restored links between families in Jordan and their relatives detained in Jordan or abroad;
- made progress towards integrating IHL into the doctrine and teaching and training programmes of the Jordanian armed forces;
- reached an agreement to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula and started implementation in 13 pilot secondary schools;
- signed an annual cooperation agreement with the Jordanian Red Crescent covering tracing, mine-risk education and the promotion of IHL;
- maintained a relief and supply base in Amman in support of ICRC operations in Iraq and the Palestinian territories.

CONTEXT

In 2005, Jordanian King Abdullah II sought to speed up the pace of political, economic and social reforms and to bolster internal security in the wake of terrorist attacks. The country also pursued its traditional peace-maker role to restore peace and stability to the region.

The king participated in an Israeli-Palestinian summit in Egypt in February, which led to a temporary suspension of hostilities between the two parties. After the summit, Jordan renewed full diplomatic relations with Israel and sent an ambassador back to Tel Aviv after a four-year absence.

In April, Dr Adnan Badran was appointed prime minister and formed a new 25-member cabinet. Two further cabinet reshuffles took place in July and November, as the king sought to accelerate implementation of the government's 10-year reform strategy. Major changes also occurred in the composition of the Royal Court, and new appointees were named to head the State security services in May and December.

Security was tightened in August following a missile attack from the Jordanian mainland on a US naval vessel anchored in Aqaba Bay, missing the target but killing a Jordanian soldier. In November, Jordan was deeply shaken by three simultaneous suicide bombings at three international hotels in Amman, killing some 60 people and injuring hundreds more. The attacks were blamed on militants entering the country from Iraq.

Throughout 2005, Jordan registered a significant increase in tourism and foreign investment, as well as a boom in the construction industry, although its economy and low-income families were hard hit by sharp oil-price increases.

Jordan hosted several international conferences on topical issues such as Islam in today's world and the reconstruction of Iraq. Jordanian officials also participated in major events abroad, including the Iraq reconciliation conference in Cairo in November sponsored by the League of Arab States and the Islamic Summit held in Mecca in December.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	7,437
Detainees visited and monitored individually	565
Number of visits carried out	45
Number of places of detention visited	12
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	1,708
RCMs distributed	1,820
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	57
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	33
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	72
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	143
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	14

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC in Jordan continued to play a key role in support of ICRC operations in neighbouring Iraq and the Palestinian territories. Emergency medical supplies, food and other essential aid were dispatched from ICRC warehouses in Amman by air or road convoy to Iraq or to the West Bank.

In Jordan itself, visits to people deprived of their freedom and the re-establishment of contact between people in Jordan and members of their families detained/interned abroad, or between family members otherwise separated by conflict, remained priority activities. The ICRC also continued to facilitate the transfer of people in need of medical care between the West Bank and Jordan.

Activities to promote national implementation of IHL and to support national efforts to integrate IHL into the doctrine, teaching and training programmes of the armed forces and into university and school curricula were favourably received by the authorities concerned.

The ICRC also formalized its annual cooperation agreement with the Jordanian Red Crescent in the fields of tracing, dissemination and mine-risk education.

CIVILIANS

ICRC tracing and family-links services

The ICRC continued to restore links between people in Jordan and their family members detained/interned in Jordan or abroad. It also facilitated the exchange between them of official documents such as passports,

power-of-attorney papers and certificates of detention, and the forwarding of family parcels to detainees/internees.

Hundreds of people stranded in camps on the Iraqi-Jordanian border and in a strip of no-man's-land between the two countries since they fled Iraq when the conflict broke out there in March 2003 were also able to restore contact with family members through the RCM network.

Tracing requests received from Jordanian nationals seeking assistance to contact relatives in regions not affected by armed conflict were referred to the tracing department of the Jordanian Red Crescent and/or to the Foreign Ministry.

At the request of UNHCR and/or the embassies concerned, the ICRC issued travel documents to recognized refugees to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

- ▶ 1,406 RCMs collected from and 1,738 distributed to families, mostly for/from relatives detained in Jordan or abroad
- ▶ 57 new tracing requests processed, mainly from families enquiring about Jordanian nationals detained/interned or living in Iraq; 33 cases resolved and another 72 pending
- ▶ 143 ICRC travel documents issued to recognized refugees without valid identification papers

Logistics support and training

The ICRC logistics base in Amman continued to provide key support to ICRC activities in Iraq, the Palestinian territories and elsewhere.

In 2005:

- ▶ ICRC staff members, mainly logistics experts, were dispatched from Amman to assist various ICRC relief operations abroad (e.g. Darfur, Indonesia, Pakistan);
- ▶ 974 metric tonnes of medical, food and other essential aid were transferred from Amman warehouses to Iraq and the Palestinian territories by air or overland;
- ▶ the Jordanian authorities agreed to change the status of the main warehousing facility in Amman from "bonded" to "free zone", greatly facilitating logistics activities;
- ▶ the full contingency stock of 2,000 family tents at the Amman warehouse was dispatched to Pakistan in October for the earthquake emergency relief operation;
- ▶ 3 consignments of medical items and ambulances from the Norwegian Red Cross were received for shipment to Baghdad as a donation to the Iraqi Red Crescent Society.

The Amman-based ICRC regional training unit continued to provide training for ICRC staff in the region and in the Balkans and the Caucasus. In 2005, it held 21 training sessions for 212 participants.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC carried out visits to people held mainly in detention facilities run by the General Intelligence Directorate and in Correctional and Rehabilitation Centres under the authority of the Public Security Directorate to monitor the detainees' treatment and living conditions. It maintained

its confidential dialogue with the Jordanian detaining authorities and submitted to them two reports containing its findings and recommendations. Detainees were able to stay in touch with their families through the RCM service.

- 7,437 people visited, including 565 monitored individually and 515 newly registered, during 45 visits made to 12 places of detention
- 302 RCMs collected from and 82 distributed to detainees
- 14 certificates of detention issued to former detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

In cooperation with the Jordanian and Palestinian Red Crescent Societies, the ICRC facilitated the transfer by ambulance of patients and the bodies of Palestinian nationals between Jordan and the Palestinian territories. The transfer of medical cases across the King Hussein/Allenby Bridge between the two locations nevertheless continued to be affected by recurrent border closures. However, as recommended at a meeting the ICRC held with the two National Societies, ambulance drivers started to communicate directly via mobile phones, thus helping to avoid uncoordinated ambulance movements on either side of the bridge.

- 645 patients transferred by ambulance between Jordan and the West Bank with ICRC assistance

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC kept up its dialogue with the national authorities, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Legislation and Opinion Bureau and the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, regarding Jordan's implementation of IHL instruments. Thus, in 2005:

- a draft red crescent law incorporating provisions to protect the emblem was submitted to parliament for approval;
- a draft law implementing the Rome Statute began its final steps through parliament;
- the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation set up a committee to draft a law implementing the Ottawa Convention;
- the national IHL committee established three sub-committees to accelerate the implementation process: the legislation sub-committee, the media and dissemination sub-committee and the teaching and training sub-committee;

- 3 members of the national IHL committee and the head of the Military Judicial Directorate participated in the 4th governmental meeting on the implementation of IHL in Cairo;
- a Jordanian judge participated in the first regional course on IHL for Arab judges in Kuwait;
- a research competition on the International Criminal Court for Jordanian judges was held in cooperation with the Jordanian Judicial Institute;
- the Jordanian Judicial Institute took steps to integrate IHL into its curriculum, and the first part of a train-the-trainer course was conducted at the institute;
- a seminar on IHL implementation and the ICRC's activities in Jordan was organized for Foreign Ministry staff by the Institute of Diplomacy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC;
- 4 members of the lower house of parliament participated in the first regional conference on IHL for Arab Parliamentarians in Damascus.

ICRC publications, including *Al Insani* (*The Humanitarian*), were regularly distributed to the Jordanian authorities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Following numerous meetings of a committee of eight officers, the syllabus and corresponding reference documents integrating IHL into military training were finalized and handed over to the director of training of the Jordanian armed forces (JAF) for follow-up.

The final version of the curriculum for IHL teaching and training in the armed forces was formally presented to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the JAF director of training. Its contents were expected to be integrated into military training guidelines starting early in 2006.

In addition:

- the director of military operations and the director of the military legal department participated in a regional seminar on IHL organized by the ICRC in Cairo;
- 480 JAF officers and more than 300 Iraqi officers taking military courses in Jordan participated in ICRC presentations on IHL at various military institutes;
- a first-ever ICRC seminar on IHL was held for Jordanian military judges;
- 23 high-ranking Sudanese police officers were given a presentation on IHL at the Royal Police Academy during a training course for international police observers; a similar presentation was given for 6 UN multinational military staff officers from Jordan, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.

CIVIL SOCIETY

IHL teaching in universities

Integration of IHL teaching into university curricula continued to advance. Highlights included:

- 9 of Jordan's 13 university law faculties had started teaching IHL by the end of 2005, and the remaining four were in the process of integrating the subject into their curricula;
- ICRC publications on IHL were provided to the libraries of universities, various other academic institutes and to postgraduate law students;

- ▶ the ICRC participated in the second annual conference of the faculty of law at Jerash University on Resistance and Terrorism in Law and Islamic Sharia with 50 participants from various Arab countries;
- ▶ contact was established with two sharia faculties with a view to organizing seminars on IHL and the sharia;
- ▶ 18 law professors from 11 public and private universities attended an ICRC seminar on IHL for Jordanian international law professors;
- ▶ ICRC presentations on IHL were given at regional training workshops on the International Criminal Court and on Cultural Heritage Management in Times of Armed Conflicts;
- ▶ 2 Jordanian professors participated in the 3rd annual seminar on IHL for Arab law professors, which took place in Beirut; the Dean of the Faculty of Law of Yarmouk University attended a regional meeting of academics also in Beirut.

Exploring Humanitarian Law

An agreement on the introduction of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme in the national school system was signed by the Minister of Education and the ICRC on 31 May.

On the basis of a syllabus adapted to the Jordanian education system and adopted by the Education Board, the EHL programme was piloted in 13 secondary schools from September. The ICRC also gave refresher courses on the programme for 18 teachers and education supervisors.

Media relations

In addition to providing the national media with updated information on ICRC operations throughout the year, the ICRC organized a round-table in Amman for Jordanian journalists to discuss various subjects related to IHL and the ICRC's mandate and work.

The ICRC also sponsored the participation of a Jordanian columnist and member of the Higher Media Council in a two-day regional media workshop organized by the ICRC in Dubai to discuss, in particular, how media reporting can contribute to the protection of civilians and prevent IHL violations.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC continued to provide training, material and financial support to help strengthen the capacities of the Jordanian Red Crescent in the fields of dissemination, tracing and mine-risk education.

In 2005:

- ▶ 21 Red Crescent volunteers from mine-affected communities attended a training workshop on mine-risk education activities to strengthen the mine-action programme at community level;
- ▶ 26 volunteers from 9 Red Crescent branches attended a training workshop on the dissemination of IHL, the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values;
- ▶ 6 winners of a mine-risk contest for children organized by the ICRC and the National Society in 2004 received their prizes, and further competitions on IHL, the Movement and mine-risk education were held.

The ICRC assisted the Jordanian and Palestinian Red Crescent ambulance services in transferring medical cases between Jordan and the West Bank (see *Civilians*).



Lebanon

The ICRC has been present in Lebanon since 1967. It monitors the impact of hostilities on the civilian population in southern Lebanon and the situation of Lebanese refugees returning from Israel where they had fled following Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon. The ICRC is pursuing a dialogue with the Lebanese authorities to gain access to places of detention in the country. Restoring and maintaining contact between members of dispersed families is also an ICRC priority. Other important aspects of the ICRC's work include promoting IHL and supporting the Lebanese Red Cross Society, in particular in the areas of first aid and emergency response.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	398
Assistance	89
Prevention	599
Cooperation with National Societies	254
General	-

► **1,341**

of which: Overheads **82**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86.5%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
10	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- carried out activities to integrate IHL into the training programmes of the Lebanese armed forces and to disseminate its basic principles among other arms bearers in Lebanon; promoted the integration of IHL into Lebanese legislation and into university and secondary-school curricula;
- maintained a standby capacity to respond to the emergency needs of the civilian population in southern Lebanon in the event of a sudden intensification of cross-border violence between Hezbollah militants and Israeli forces;
- enabled families in Lebanon to maintain contact and exchange official documents with relatives either resident or detained in Israel, and repatriated the remains of people killed during skirmishes with Israeli forces;
- offered technical expertise to help identify human remains discovered in mass graves found in Lebanon in support of efforts to clarify the fate of people unaccounted for from past conflicts in the region;
- continued to support the first-aid, ambulance and communications services of the Lebanese Red Cross Society and a physical rehabilitation centre caring for disabled Palestinian refugees;
- pursued dialogue with the Lebanese authorities with a view to starting visits to all people detained in Lebanon.

CONTEXT

Lebanon experienced a period of political turmoil and social unrest following the assassination in February of former prime minister Rafik Hariri in a car-bomb attack in Beirut. The killing triggered mass demonstrations calling on the government to resign and Syrian troops to withdraw from Lebanon.

At the end of April, in compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1559, Syria withdrew all of its troops from Lebanon where they had been stationed since entering the country as a peace-keeping force in 1976 during Lebanon's civil war.

The preliminary findings of an ongoing UN investigation implicated both the Lebanese and Syrian security services in the killing of Rafik Hariri. As the investigation progressed, four Lebanese generals were arrested by the Lebanese authorities in connection with the murder.

After legislative elections in April/May, a new government was formed in July headed by Fuad Siniora, a former close ally of Rafik Hariri, and for the first time included Hezbollah cabinet ministers. It faced several major challenges, including the disbanding and disarming of militias on Lebanese soil, as demanded by the UN Security Council, reforming Lebanon's economy, electoral system and public and security services and, controversially, granting a more liberal legal status to Palestinian refugees.

Following the assassination in December of Gibran Tueni, a key political figure, the cabinet called for an international investigation into a string of killings of Lebanese political and media personalities who had been critical of Syrian involvement in Lebanon, spurring five ministers to suspend participation in the government.

In other violence, several bomb explosions occurred between March and May in areas populated mainly by Christians, and sporadic skirmishes persisted between Hezbollah militants in southern Lebanon and Israeli forces, inflicting casualties and material damage on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border. The hostilities centred on or near the Israeli-occupied Shebaa Farms region, which Lebanon claims as sovereign territory but which the UN considers to be part of the Syrian Golan Heights occupied by Israel during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Intermittent armed violence between rival Palestinian factions continued to disrupt the lives of Palestinian refugees living in precarious conditions in 12 camps scattered throughout the country.

The discovery of mass graves dating from Lebanon's 1975–91 civil war prompted the family associations concerned to increase pressure on the authorities to take more concerted and immediate action to clarify the fate of people unaccounted for, including those presumed to be detained or missing in Syria. Several joint meetings of commissions established by the Lebanese and Syrian authorities to exchange infor-

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs collected	60	Patients receiving services	Patients	120
RCMs distributed	90	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	25
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	21
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	8			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	3			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	4			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	58			

mation on the missing had not resulted in any tangible progress being made to resolve these cases by the end of 2005.

Commercial traffic between Lebanon and Syria was severely disrupted at the end of the summer by what Lebanon claimed to be deliberate Syrian administrative obstacles to trade with and beyond Syria, its main gateway to the wider Arab world.

ICRC ACTION

In 2005, the ICRC continued to address humanitarian issues stemming from past conflicts in the region and the current situation in Lebanon.

A standby capacity was maintained to respond to any major intensification of the recurrent cross-border hostilities between Hezbollah militants and Israeli forces. The ICRC also documented alleged violations of IHL in this context and made representations to the parties concerned.

The ICRC followed developments in Lebanon related to UN resolution 1559, which demanded the disbanding and disarming of all armed militant groups in the country.

Further steps were taken to promote the integration of IHL and its basic principles into domestic legislation, university and school curricula and the teaching and training programmes of the national armed forces. The ICRC also sought to spread knowledge of IHL among other arms bearers in Lebanon.

The bodies of Lebanese refugees who died in Israel and those of Hezbollah fighters killed by Israeli forces and kept in Israel were repatriated under ICRC auspices.

ICRC tracing and RCM services enabled contact to be restored or maintained and the exchange of official documents between people in Lebanon and their family members resident in Israel since Israeli troops pulled out of southern Lebanon in September 2000.

The ICRC continued to support the Lebanese Red Cross Society in providing efficient ambulance and first-aid services.

CIVILIANS

Protecting the civilian population

One of the ICRC's main concerns was to ensure that the civilian population of southern Lebanon was protected from the effects of recurrent hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces. When necessary, it documented incidents involving alleged violations of IHL in this context and made timely representations to the relevant authorities/armed groups.

The ICRC also stood ready to respond, in cooperation with the Lebanese Red Cross, to emergency needs should there be any major deterioration in the cross-border hostilities.

Families in Lebanon, both Lebanese and Palestinian, were able to maintain contact and exchange official documents with relatives either resident or detained in Israel through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services.

The ICRC continued to raise awareness among the Lebanese authorities and the international community of the basic needs of the Palestinian refugee population in Lebanon. It also documented cases where civilian lives were allegedly endangered by intra-Palestinian violence and made representations to the relevant parties.

At the request of the families concerned and in coordination with the Lebanese and Israeli authorities, the remains of Lebanese exiles who died in Israel and those of Lebanese and other Arab combatants killed in conflict and buried in Israel, were repatriated under ICRC auspices.

The ICRC also sought to persuade the Lebanese authorities to allow the registration in Lebanon of marriage and birth certificates of Lebanese refugees living in Israel, although no progress was made on this question in 2005. Upon request, the ICRC issued certificates of detention to former detainees released by Israel and repatriated to Lebanon.

- ▶ the remains of 2 Lebanese nationals and 3 Hezbollah militants repatriated under ICRC auspices
- ▶ 60 RCMs collected and 90 distributed

Resolving cases of people unaccounted for

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with the Lebanese authorities and armed groups to resolve the cases of people unaccounted for in the context of past conflicts in Lebanon. It endeavoured to maintain interest among key sectors of Lebanese political and civil society about this issue amidst mounting pressure from the families concerned to address it as a matter of urgency.

In support of efforts to provide information to Lebanese and Palestinian families who have remained without news of their missing relatives for many years, the ICRC also offered technical guidance to the Lebanese authorities in the exhumation and identification of human remains found in gravesites in Lebanon.

- ▶ 8 new tracing requests registered
- ▶ 3 tracing requests resolved and 4 previously registered cases pending
- ▶ 55 various certificates delivered

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Political developments in Lebanon during the year prevented any further progress in ICRC discussions with the Lebanese authorities regarding ICRC access to places of detention in the country.

The ICRC nevertheless continued to issue certificates of detention to former detainees it had visited in the past.

- 58 certificates of detention issued to former detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

Disabled Palestinians not assisted by the Lebanese social welfare services were fitted free of charge with artificial limbs at a physical rehabilitation centre run by the Sidon Orphan Welfare Society located close to the main Palestinian refugee camp of Ein El-Helwe and supported by the ICRC.

The ICRC continued to provide the centre with materials, components for orthopaedic appliances and financial support. An ICRC prosthetic/orthotic technician based in Damascus regularly monitored and evaluated the quality of the limb-fitting service and helped to assess the centre's needs. This ICRC programme was scheduled to run until the end of 2006.

- 120 patients received at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 2 new patients fitted with prostheses and 6 with orthoses
- 25 prostheses and 21 orthoses delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC established contacts with members of the new Lebanese government with a view to ensuring continuity of the ICRC's traditional activities in Lebanon, carried out in conjunction with the Lebanese authorities.

In order to promote IHL among various authorities, the ICRC:

- contributed to an ongoing study on the compatibility of current Lebanese domestic legislation with the provisions of IHL;
- trained a number of Lebanese judges to teach IHL to their colleagues;
- organized, in conjunction with the League of Arab States, a second regional

seminar on IHL at the Arab Centre for Legal and Judicial Studies in Beirut attended by 55 government officials from 15 Arab countries.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC pursued activities aimed at ensuring that members of the armed and security forces were familiar with the ICRC and were trained to apply the rules of IHL. These included:

- giving presentations on IHL and the ICRC's mandate to trainee officers at the Institute for Internal Security, as well as to senior staff of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, which continued to facilitate ICRC activities in southern Lebanon;
- holding regular meetings with all armed groups present in the country to promote greater understanding of the ICRC's mandate and to facilitate its activities in Lebanon.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Closer contacts were developed with key media outlets in Lebanon, which gave significant coverage to ICRC activities in the country and worldwide.

Regular meetings were held with the leaders of Islamic groups with a view to increasing their understanding of IHL and the ICRC's mandate in Lebanon and in other contexts in the region where the ICRC is operational.

To promote the study of IHL at university level, the ICRC:

- organized courses on IHL for Arab law lecturers and university officials;
- selected 3 students from 3 universities to participate in the Jean Pictet moot-court competition on IHL.

A mixed commission composed of representatives of the Lebanese Pedagogical Centre and ICRC experts was entrusted with the task of overseeing implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme, in coordination with the Ministry of Education. Following training in the programme, teachers began giving classes in the subject. Impact assessments showed strong student interest in the syllabus.

- 8 teachers trained in the EHL programme.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC worked to enhance the operational capacities of the Lebanese Red Cross Society's first-aid, ambulance and communication services. It also helped the National Society to promote knowledge and understanding of IHL principles among the authorities and key sectors of civil society, as well as among its own staff and volunteers.

The Lebanese Red Cross responded effectively to emergency situations resulting from mass street demonstrations, explosions and killings that occurred during the year. In support of these and other National Society activities, the ICRC:

- funded ambulance facilities for emergency interventions and the installation of appropriate telecommunications facilities in first-aid centres;
- trained a further 25 Lebanese Red Cross dissemination experts to teach the EHL programme; previously trained staff gave several presentations on the subject to National Society colleagues.



ICRC delegation

syria

The ICRC has been present in Syria since 1967. It acts as a neutral intermediary regarding matters of humanitarian concern for the Syrian inhabitants of the part of the Golan occupied by Israel; they are protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention. It facilitates the passage of Syrian nationals, mainly students and pilgrims who have to cross the area of separation for educational or religious purposes, and helps family members separated as a result of the conflict with Israel to keep in contact. It works to spread knowledge of IHL in government, military, academic and media circles and cooperates closely with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	188
Assistance	288
Prevention	455
Cooperation with National Societies	155
General	-

► **1,086**

of which: Overheads **66**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	77.4%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
7	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- helped Syrian inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied Golan preserve a minimum of contact with their families in Syria and arranged for students and pilgrims from the Golan to travel to Syria for educational or religious purposes;
- handled tracing requests from people in Syria seeking to locate and re-establish contact with family members unaccounted for in Syria or detained/interned abroad, mainly in Iraq;
- expanded contacts with government and academic circles to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula and the doctrine and training programmes of the Syrian armed forces;
- carried out field visits to Syrian Arab Red Crescent branches nationwide to identify ways of reinforcing mutual cooperation;
- transported to Syria, at the request of the Syrian and Israeli authorities, more than 4,000 tonnes of apples produced by farmers in the occupied Golan;
- introduced the Exploring Humanitarian Law education programme in secondary schools on a trial basis.

CONTEXT

At the end of April, Syria withdrew the last of its troops from Lebanon where they had been stationed since entering the country as a peace-keeping force in 1976 during the Lebanese civil war. The pull-out was in compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1559, adopted in September 2004, which called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and the disbandment of all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias.

Syria nevertheless remained under international scrutiny through an investigation commission established by the UN Security Council to find out who was behind the assassination of former Lebanese prime minister Rafik Hariri in Beirut in February. In its two preliminary reports, the commission directly implicated the Syrian security services, prompting strong denials from the Syrian government. This and other issues led to a progressive deterioration of political and economic relations between Syria and Lebanon over the year.

Syria also refuted accusations by certain countries, particularly the United States, that it had allowed fighters of various nationalities to transit its territory to join the insurgency in Iraq. It was furthermore criticized by the United States and a number of other countries for its alleged support for various Palestinian militant organizations.

At its 10th national congress in June, the ruling Baath party asserted that democratic reforms in Syria should be implemented without foreign interference. It also encouraged the government to accelerate the

transition of the economy to a free market system and to take measures to attract foreign investment.

The economy was severely stretched by the increasing number of young people entering the workplace, particularly after Syria reduced compulsory military service from 30 to 24 months and following the return of tens of thousands of Syrian workers from Lebanon.

According to Kurdish parties, around 225,000 Kurds living in Syria had not been granted Syrian nationality and a further 75,000 had no official papers at all. The Syrian authorities reiterated that they were working on the problem and intended to grant Syrian nationality to some 100,000 Kurds.

In May, a prominent Kurdish sheikh, Mohammad Maashouk al-Khaznawi, was assassinated in unclear circumstances. The Syrian authorities blamed a criminal group for the killing, which led to large demonstrations and clashes with security forces and a number of arrests in areas populated mainly by Kurds.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs collected	323	Patients receiving services	Patients	777
RCMs distributed	278	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	351
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	268
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	34			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	9			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	65			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom travel documents were issued	131			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued, in close cooperation with the Israeli and Syrian authorities, to enable people in Syria to keep in some form of contact with their families living in the Israeli-occupied Golan.

ICRC tracing and RCM services helped Syrian nationals and Iraqi refugees in Syria to locate and re-establish contact with family members detained/interned or unaccounted for abroad, mainly in Iraq. These services also enabled Palestinian refugees in Syria to restore and maintain contact with relatives imprisoned in Israel.

Recognized Iraqi and other refugees in Syria without valid identification papers were provided with travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

The ICRC strengthened its partnership with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and reinforced its capacity to deliver humanitarian services in the fields of tracing, emergency response in situations of conflict and violence, mine-risk education and the promotion of IHL at community level.

ICRC support was maintained to a physical rehabilitation centre run by the Syrian branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society treating Palestinian and Syrian amputees.

In accordance with a core element of its mandate, the ICRC continued to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula and the training programmes of the Syrian armed forces.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, at the request of the Israeli and Syrian authorities and of Golan and Syrian farmers, the ICRC transported to Syria more than 4,000 tonnes of apples produced by farmers in the

occupied Golan. Six ICRC trucks transported the cargo between March and April in an operation coordinated with the UN Disengagement Observer Force, which monitors the demarcation line between Syria and the occupied Golan. The operation was an economic boost for the Golan population, which depends largely on the sale of apples for its livelihood.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

The ICRC enabled a minimum level of contact to be preserved between Syrians who fled or were expelled from the part of the Golan occupied by Israel in 1967 and family members who remained in the region. This mainly involved arranging travel by pilgrims and students from the occupied Golan to Syria for religious or study purposes and the exchange of official papers such as power-of-attorney documents and marriage, birth and death certificates between members of the two communities.

Medical evacuations between Syria and the occupied Golan were also arranged under ICRC auspices, as were weddings between engaged couples separated by the demarcation line.

Consultations with the authorities concerned aimed at resuming regular meetings between family members in Syria and the occupied Golan, particularly the young and the elderly, failed to produce any tangible results.

The ICRC continued to issue travel documents to refugees and asylum seekers in Syria without valid identification papers to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

The ICRC processed tracing requests from families in Syria seeking to locate

and re-establish contact with relatives either detained/interned or unaccounted for in Iraq. Not all such requests could be dealt with successfully owing to security conditions in Iraq, which prevented the ICRC from visiting places of detention where some people's relatives were believed to be detained/interned.

Insofar as security conditions allowed, the ICRC offered to repatriate the bodies of Syrians killed in Iraq, in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, and to organize family visits to Syrian detainees held in Camp Bucca in Iraq.

- travel for 302 students and 463 pilgrims facilitated between the occupied Golan and Syria
- 2 medical evacuations carried out between Syria and the occupied Golan
- 1 wedding ceremony arranged in the separation zone under ICRC auspices
- 35 official documents exchanged between families in Syria and the occupied Golan
- 131 people received ICRC travel documents
- 323 RCMs collected and 278 delivered to and from families in Syria and relatives detained/interned abroad
- 34 new tracing requests opened for families in Syria seeking news of relatives unaccounted for in Iraq; 9 tracing requests resolved, 65 cases remained pending

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC maintained a capacity to restore links between people in Syria and their family members detained/interned abroad through its tracing and RCM services (see *Civilians*).

WOUNDED AND SICK

The ICRC started to provide assistance to a physical rehabilitation centre run by the Syrian branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society in 2003 through the provision of materials purchased locally and of prosthetic/orthotic equipment and appliances.

In the first part of 2005, the ICRC posted a regional prosthetic/orthotic expert to Damascus to support the staff of the centre and to review ICRC cooperation related to the physical rehabilitation programme. ICRC support focused on enhancing the quality of services provided and orthopaedic appliances produced by the centre and upgrading its management and stock-control systems. The ICRC also sponsored training courses for Palestinian Red Crescent technicians working at the centre.

- ▶ 777 patients received at ICRC-supported rehabilitation centre
- ▶ 178 new patients fitted with prostheses and 144 with orthoses
- ▶ 351 prostheses (42 for mine victims), 268 orthoses and 53 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

The creation in June 2004 of a national committee for the implementation of IHL, composed of representatives of all key Syrian ministries and the president of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, led to the establishment of various sub-committees and the formulation of a plan of action to accelerate the adoption and implementation of IHL treaties in Syria. In 2005, the committee continued to work on the drafting of a law on the protection of the emblem, which was finally adopted by parliament in November.

A four-day seminar was held for national IHL committee members to review a plan of action to advance the IHL implementation process and to undertake a study on the compatibility of current Syrian legislation with IHL.

In addition, 250 parliamentarians from 12 Arab countries adopted a plan of action to speed up national implementation of IHL at a three-day conference organized by the ICRC in conjunction with the Syrian People's Assembly and the Damascus-based Arab Parliamentary Union.

- ▶ 60 future Syrian judges attended a presentation on IHL organized jointly

with the Ministry of Justice and the Syrian Judicial Institute

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In 2005:

- ▶ 37 senior military instructors attended courses on IHL organized by the ICRC, in conjunction with the training directorate of the Syrian armed forces, and had gained sufficient knowledge of the subject to teach it to military personnel;
- ▶ IHL courses were held for members of the UN Truce Supervision Organization stationed in the Golan Heights.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Efforts were pursued to raise the media's awareness of the ICRC and IHL. The ICRC sponsored the participation of a Syrian website editor in a two-day regional workshop organized in Dubai to discuss, in particular, how media reporting can contribute to the protection of civilians and to preventing IHL violations.

Although implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme was relatively slow during the 2005 school year, the Ministry of Education and the Minister of Red Crescent Affairs nevertheless confirmed their willingness to integrate it progressively into secondary-school curricula.

The EHL programme was introduced for the first time in Syria on a trial basis for 306 students in four schools in the Aleppo region.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

ICRC support to and cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in 2005 included:

- ▶ carrying out visits to nearly all 14 Red Crescent branches nationwide to evaluate their activities and most urgent needs and to seek ways of broadening cooperation in fields of mutual interest;
- ▶ providing material support to the National Society to reopen branch offices in Hassakeh and Qamishli;
- ▶ holding a two-day tracing seminar for branch directors;

- ▶ organizing a joint National Society/ICRC mine-risk workshop in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence and the association for landmines in Kuneitra governorate, which is still affected by mines and other explosive remnants of war left over from past conflicts in the region;
- ▶ conducting a refresher course on IHL for branch office volunteers, who also received documentation to help them carry out dissemination sessions at community level.



yemen

In Yemen, the ICRC is negotiating the resumption of visits to all detainees and is meanwhile conducting activities for vulnerable groups in detention such as women. It spreads knowledge of IHL and promotes its incorporation into national legislation, school and university curricula and the training programmes of the armed and police forces. The ICRC assists rehabilitation centres for the disabled and helps refugees to restore family links and Yemeni nationals to locate and contact relatives detained/interned abroad. The ICRC has been working in Yemen since the outbreak of the civil war in 1962.

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	299
Assistance	611
Prevention	768
Cooperation with National Societies	284
General	-

► **1,961**

of which: Overheads 120

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82.4%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
16	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- pursued and intensified efforts to visit detainees in all the country's detention places;
- with the Yemen Red Crescent Society, assisted civilians affected by armed confrontations in northern Yemen;
- restored contact between families in Yemen and relatives detained/interned abroad and between foreigners in Yemen – mainly refugees and asylum seekers – and family members in their home countries;
- issued certificates of detention to former detainees seeking refugee status in Yemen and facilitated family reunifications in third countries;
- sponsored vocational and literacy training and medical care for imprisoned women, in cooperation with the National Society; assisted physical rehabilitation centres caring for the disabled;
- promoted the integration of IHL into national legislation, the national education system and the teaching and training programmes of the Yemeni armed forces.

CONTEXT

Clashes between government forces and followers of Sheikh Hussain al-Houthi, a cleric accused of sedition and rebellion, flared up again in the northern province of Saada at the end of March. The province had been the scene of armed confrontations between the same parties in mid-2004, during which the sheikh was reportedly killed and later succeeded by his father, Badreddin al-Houthi. Negotiations between the two sides in the summer were inconclusive, and sporadic clashes erupted again in the Saada region in mid-December.

In July, scores of people were killed and hundreds injured in widespread rioting which broke out in Sana'a and several other big cities after the government announced cuts in subsidies on oil products by more than half as part of its economic reform programme.

The trials of several people arrested for reasons of State security started or ended in 2005, as Yemen pursued its clampdown on suspected Islamic extremists within its borders. Alongside, it reinforced security cooperation with neighbouring countries in the "fight against terrorism".

A steady flow of refugees continued to enter Yemen, mostly from Somalia and other conflict-ridden countries in the Horn of Africa. Yemen also continued to host the Arabian Peninsula's largest non-Palestinian refugee population.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK		
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>		
RCMs collected	4,445	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,025
RCMs distributed	3,470	Prostheses delivered	Pieces	264
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Orthoses delivered	Pieces	1,274
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	63			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	39			
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	28			
DOCUMENTS ISSUED				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	66			

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC pursued dialogue with the Yemeni authorities with a view to resuming regular visits to all detainees in Yemen. Particular emphasis was placed on gaining access to people held in relation to the armed confrontations in the north of the country or to activities perceived as endangering State security.

In conjunction with the Yemen Red Crescent Society, the ICRC maintained its support for a programme providing literacy courses and vocational training, as well as improved medical care, for women prisoners. It also continued to assist the Yemeni authorities in identifying and responding, jointly with the National Society, to the emergency needs of the population in northern Yemen affected by the recurring hostilities between government forces and armed groups.

Demand remained steady for the ICRC tracing and RCM services enabling refugees in Yemen to stay in touch with their families and Yemeni nationals to re-establish and maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad.

The ICRC also continued to provide technical, training and material support to physical rehabilitation centres caring for the disabled.

Other ICRC priorities included promoting knowledge of IHL and its integration into national legislation, school and university curricula and the training programmes of the armed, police and security forces.

CIVILIANS

Assisting the civilian population

In 2005, the ICRC again offered its services to the Yemeni authorities to help assess and respond to potential needs in areas affected

by armed confrontations in northern Yemen. This followed an initial offer of services in 2004, which resulted in a joint mission by the ICRC and the National Society in December of the same year to assess the most urgent needs in the Marran region of Saada.

After submitting the findings and recommendations that resulted from the mission to the Yemeni authorities in February 2005, the ICRC and the Yemeni Red Crescent were authorized to visit the region again, where they carried out emergency relief operations for the civilian population.

Starting in June, after identifying water shortages as being the main problem, a team of ICRC staff and Red Crescent volunteers distributed 1,100 water filters to households in the area and provided timber, corrugated iron, cement and sand to enable the local population to repair ponds used for water collection that were damaged during the fighting.

In July, the ICRC provided medical equipment and logistical support to the National Society to strengthen its capacity to give on-site first-aid treatment and transport the wounded to hospital following rioting triggered by the fuel-price increases.

Restoring family links

Thousands of refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from countries in the Horn of Africa, continued to rely on the ICRC's tracing and RCM network to locate and re-establish contact with family members in their home countries. By the same means, hundreds of families in Yemen were able to restore and maintain contact with close relatives detained or interned abroad (in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay). RCMs were also relayed between Iraqi nationals resident in Yemen and family members held in Iraq.

ICRC certificates of detention were issued to former detainees without identification papers to facilitate their requests for refugee status in Yemen or resettlement in third countries. The certificates were provided by ICRC delegations in countries where they were previously imprisoned. In several cases, the ICRC cross-checked detention records at the request of UNHCR in Yemen.

- ▶ 4,442 RCMs collected and 3,462 RCMs delivered from and to Yemenis detained/interned abroad and family members in Yemen
- ▶ 63 new tracing requests received
- ▶ 39 tracing requests closed positively and 28 tracing requests still pending
- ▶ 66 certificates of detention issued to former detainees

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visits to detainees

The ICRC pursued negotiations with the authorities to gain regular access to all places of detention in Yemen, including those holding people in connection with the armed confrontations in northern Yemen and with activities perceived as endangering State security. It emphasized to the Yemeni authorities that its visits must be extended to all categories of detainees and carried out in accordance with standard ICRC procedure before they could resume on a regular basis.

Ad hoc visits were made to a Yemeni national following his transfer and repatriation from Guantanamo Bay, and the ICRC requested access to other Yemenis repatriated from US detention facilities.

- ▶ 3 RCMs collected from and 2 delivered to detainees

Assistance to women prisoners

In conjunction with the Yemeni Red Crescent, the ICRC continued to provide financial and material support for a programme offering sewing/weaving facilities and literacy courses for women prisoners in five central prisons in Aden, Amran, Dhamar, Al Hodeida and Al Mahwit. The aim of the programme was to break their isolation and improve their prospects of reintegration into society after release. Following an assessment of needs, the ICRC also distributed basic hygiene materials to the women's sections of the central prisons in Aden and Al Hodeida.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Assistance to the disabled

The ICRC continued to provide professional training in prosthetics and orthotics and to supply orthopaedic components to Ministry of Health physical rehabilitation centres in Sana'a and Al Mukalla. Orthopaedic appliances were produced by the centres according to ICRC polypropylene technology introduced in Yemen in 2002.

As part of the training process, the ICRC sponsored the participation of two Yemeni technicians in a 30-month prosthetics and orthotics course at the Mobility India institute in Bangalore and organized English lessons for six other technicians from the Al Mukalla and Sana'a centres selected to attend the same course in summer 2006.

- 1,025 patients received at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 251 new patients fitted with prostheses and 925 with orthoses
- 264 prostheses (19 for mine victims) and 1,274 orthoses delivered

AUTHORITIES

A key ICRC activity was to provide the Yemeni authorities with legal support and IHL documentation to accelerate Yemen's adherence to IHL treaties and their national implementation. Yemen's ratification of the Rome Statute was debated in parliament.

To promote IHL among the various authorities, in 2005:

- workshops on IHL were held for judges, national prosecutors, trainee diplomats and officials from the Ministry of Human Rights;

- the ICRC donated reference material and books on IHL to the library of Yemen's parliament;
- the Attorney General of Yemen participated in the 4th regional meeting for Arab government experts on IHL in Cairo (see Egypt);
- the ICRC advised the national IHL committee on the production of its annual report on the implementation of IHL in Yemen.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

ICRC support continued to promote the sustainability of IHL training programmes for the armed forces, including:

- a refresher course on IHL for 50 instructors from the Yemeni armed and security forces;
- a five-day basic course on IHL for 38 Yemeni air force and navy officers;
- the publication of ICRC articles on IHL-related issues in the monthly armed forces magazine *Al-Jaish* and in the weekly newspaper of the Ministry of Defence;
- distribution of publications on the ICRC and IHL and the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law to the military authorities and military training institutes.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL among media, academic and religious circles

In order to spread knowledge of IHL, the ICRC developed contacts with the media and academic and religious circles. Thus, in 2005:

- 20 journalists attended an ICRC workshop on media coverage of humanitarian activities and IHL-related issues and 1 journalist participated in a regional media meeting on the protection of civilians held in Dubai;
- 40 Yemeni scholars, academics, members of parliament and religious dignitaries attended a seminar on the protection of war victims under IHL and sharia law organized with the Yemeni Red Crescent and Aden University;
- 200 participants from various segments of Yemeni civil society, including religious leaders and prominent academics, attended an ICRC seminar on humanitarian principles in IHL and sharia law in Taiz;

- the deans of the law faculties of Sana'a and Aden universities and the Deputy Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research participated in a meeting in Beirut on the integration of IHL into university curricula;
- the ICRC provided law faculty libraries with reference publications on IHL, including copies of the recent ICRC study on customary international humanitarian law.

Promoting humanitarian principles among young people

The ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) education programme, introduced in Yemen on a trial basis in the 2003–04 school year, continued to run successfully, and its implementation was extended by ministerial decree to a total of 16 schools in 8 governorates. Missions were carried out to assess the impact of the EHL programme in the schools where it was already being taught.

- 32 teachers newly trained in the EHL programme

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Yemeni Red Crescent and the ICRC, supported by volunteers from a local NGO, carried out emergency relief activities in areas of north Yemen affected by the hostilities between government forces and armed groups (see *Civilians*).

To further reinforce the capacity of the National Society to deliver first-aid services, the ICRC donated 30 first-aid kits for distribution to all 12 of its branches. Emergency medical supplies were also provided to help the National Society respond to needs arising from the extensive rioting in several major cities (see *Civilians*).

Strategies to enhance the impact of the ICRC's assistance programme for women in prison (see *People deprived of their freedom*) were reviewed at an ICRC workshop in Sana'a for representatives of Red Crescent branches involved in the programme. Discussion focused on ways to improve training techniques for Red Crescent staff and volunteers working with women detainees and the marketing of the handicrafts they produced.

Government officials and representatives of some 20 local organizations attended a workshop on current programmes and policies related to women detainees in

Yemen and handicrafts produced by women in the five central prisons were put on public display. Other activities in 2005 included:

- ▶ a photo exhibition entitled “Together for the Protection of Human Dignity: the Red Cross and the Red Crescent in Yemen – Past and Present”, organized by the ICRC, the International Federation and the National Society to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May;
- ▶ support for dissemination sessions on the Fundamental Principles and IHL conducted by Red Crescent volunteers for various segments of Yemeni society;
- ▶ support for the publication of the National Society’s bimonthly magazine (*Al Ithar*) and Red Crescent branches’ quarterly newsletters;
- ▶ further training in restoring family links for National Society personnel and for 5 Somali nationals selected to work as Red Crescent volunteers to help Somali refugees re-establish contact with family members in their home country via the tracing and RCM network;
- ▶ an assessment of Yemeni Red Crescent tracing capacities conducted by the ICRC and the National Society in order to develop a strategy to upgrade tracing services;
- ▶ introduction of the “Safer Access” approach to more than 150 Red Crescent volunteers at a disaster-management course organized by the National Society and the International Federation.



ICRC regional delegation

kuwait

The ICRC's presence in the region is linked to humanitarian issues still outstanding from the 1990–91 Gulf War, as well as those arising from the current armed conflict in Iraq and those relating to people deprived of freedom in the Gulf region. In addition, the ICRC focuses on communication strategies aimed at promoting IHL and the ICRC's role as a neutral and independent humanitarian organization operating in areas affected by armed conflict and internal violence. It also works to reinforce cooperation with the National Red Crescent Societies of the region.

COVERING

Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	601
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,187
Cooperation with National Societies	153
General	140

► **2,080**

of which: Overheads 127

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88.9%
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PERSONNEL

4 expatriates
18 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- in the framework of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-committee set up under the auspices of the ICRC, endeavoured to clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for in relation to the 1990–91 Gulf War;
- restored contact between families in Gulf countries and relatives either detained/interned abroad (e.g. Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Iraq, Afghanistan) or separated from them as a result of armed conflict;
- visited certain categories of detainees in Kuwait to monitor their treatment and living conditions;
- made progress in its efforts to integrate IHL into national legislation, university and school education and the teaching and training programmes of the armed forces in Gulf States;
- intensified networking with officials, religious and opinion leaders and the Arab media to promote IHL-related issues and the ICRC's humanitarian activities in conflict areas worldwide;
- worked with the National Societies to help coordinate assistance activities in conflict regions and to enlist their support in promoting knowledge and implementation of IHL.

CONTEXT

Important transitions of power took place in the region after the passing away of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Sheikh Zayed of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Crown Prince Abdullah became the new king of Saudi Arabia and Sheikh Khalifa succeeded his father as president of the UAE.

Several States in the region pursued efforts to promote greater national dialogue and reconciliation through gradual political and social reforms.

From February to April, Saudi Arabia held its first nationwide municipal elections. Half of the 178 municipal council seats were subject to popular vote, while the others were filled by government appointees. In April, the Saudi Consultative Council, whose members were nominated by the Saudi monarch, was renewed and enlarged from 120 to 150 seats.

In Kuwait, the national assembly voted to grant women full political rights. The vote, however, came too late for women to participate in municipal elections which took place in June 2005.

Political debate in Bahrain centred on constitutional reforms demanded by the Shiite majority, which sought a greater role in the country's political process. Throughout the year, demonstrations took place in Bahrain over political reforms and unemployment.

In Qatar, a political reform programme, approved by referendum in 2003 and providing for the creation of a national assembly, remained on course with the introduction of a new constitution in June 2005. Qatar also set up a special court to hear cases on private issues brought before it by members of the Shiite community.

At the end of 2005, Sheikh Khalifa, president of the UAE, announced elections for half of the members of the Federal National Council.

Countries in the Arabian Peninsula reinforced regional security cooperation in a period marked by several security incidents involving militants in a number of Gulf States. In January, Kuwaiti security forces were engaged in an unprecedented series of clashes with armed groups, which resulted in several casualties and the conviction of 29 people, six of whom were sentenced to death. During the same month, a number of people in Oman were imprisoned after being found guilty of planning attacks against public and government targets and later granted amnesty by Sultan Qaboos. In March, a suicide bomber targeted a theatre in Qatar in the first attack of its kind reported in the country. In Saudi Arabia, security forces were involved in major clashes with armed militant groups in Qassim province in March and early April.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	44
Detainees visited and monitored individually	44
Number of visits carried out	18
Number of places of detention visited	5
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	835
RCMs distributed	856
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	53
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	35
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	576
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3,235

1. Kuwait

ICRC ACTION

Resolving the humanitarian issues still outstanding from the 1990–91 Gulf War and others arising from the regional consequences of the conflict in Iraq and the global “fight against terrorism” remained priority objectives for the Kuwait regional delegation.

ICRC activities related to the 1990–91 Gulf War continued to focus mainly on clarifying the fate of people still missing from that conflict, in order to relieve the anxiety of their families and to organize the voluntary repatriation of those found to be alive, or the recovery of identified human remains by the families concerned. The ICRC also provided former Iraqi POWs from the conflict with certificates of detention to enable them to qualify for State benefits.

Visits continued to people detained in Kuwait as a result of the Gulf War and without diplomatic representation, to assess their treatment and material conditions of detention and to facilitate their repatriation or resettlement in third countries whenever such assistance was requested. Further visits were carried out to Kuwaiti nationals held after their transfer and repatriation from the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station.

As in the past, the ICRC helped people in Gulf countries to trace and re-establish contact with family members imprisoned in Iraq, Guantanamo Bay and Afghanistan, or present in other countries affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence where communications remained unreliable.

A particular effort was made to reinforce contacts among officials, religious and

opinion leaders and the media in Gulf States to gain increased acceptance of and support for the ICRC’s mandate and humanitarian activities in conflict areas worldwide.

The ICRC also focused on the development of solid working partnerships with National Societies in the Gulf region with the aim of enhancing the spirit of the Movement through greater operational and financial support for its activities.

Further steps were taken to encourage the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula and the teaching and training programmes of national armed forces in the region.

Following his visit to Saudi Arabia in 2003, the ICRC president returned to the country early in 2005 for talks with the highest authorities and the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society on humanitarian issues of mutual concern. The visit was an opportunity to update the Saudi authorities on the ICRC’s humanitarian work – notably in the Palestinian territories, Sudan and Iraq – in the light of recent political developments and security challenges, and to discuss operational issues.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Families in the region continued to require assistance to trace and restore or maintain contact with family members detained/interned abroad or located in countries disrupted by armed conflict or other situations of violence. Demand for the RCM service from and for families in Gulf countries increased by 50% in 2005 compared

with 2004. Many of the requests concerned family members held in detention facilities in Iraq and Guantanamo Bay.

Cooperation was reinforced with the State authorities and Red Crescent Societies in the region to ensure that RCMs were collected and distributed with minimum delay.

Following the tsunami disaster in December 2004 and given the large number of nationals from the affected countries who were at the time working in Gulf States, the Kuwait regional delegation contacted representatives of the embassies concerned (India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) and briefed them on the ICRC tracing website set up to facilitate the restoration of family links. In addition, the ICRC processed a number of tracing requests from families in Sri Lanka anxious to get in touch with close relatives in Saudi Arabia.

- 91 RCMs collected and 33 distributed from and to families in Gulf countries and relatives held in places of detention abroad
- 53 tracing requests registered, 8 cases were resolved and 76 remained unresolved

Tracing the missing from the 1990–91 Gulf War

The 28th Tripartite Commission meeting, as well as the 47th, 48th and 49th sessions of its Technical Sub-Committee, were held under ICRC chairmanship in Kuwait during 2005 and attended by representatives of Iraq, Kuwait, France, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-Committee were established to address the issue of people unaccounted for in connection with the 1990–91 Gulf War. The

ICRC had chaired both bodies since they were set up in 1991 and 1994 respectively. All parties concerned pledged to pursue their cooperation in efforts to clarify unresolved cases of persons missing in relation to the conflict. The Iraqi delegation, led by the Minister for Human Rights, was invited for the first time to visit Kuwait's National Committee for Missing Persons and Prisoners of War's Affairs (NCMPA) and was briefed on its structure, working procedures and activities with respect to the issue of missing persons.

Since 2003, 269 cases of missing persons were resolved through the Tripartite Commission process, 227 of which had been submitted by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and 42 by Iraq.

- 27 cases submitted by the coalition forces and 12 by Iraq resolved positively
- the remains of 1 Iraqi national found in Kuwait repatriated under ICRC auspices
- 500 cases of missing persons submitted by the coalition forces and 1,085 submitted by Iraq still unresolved

Facilitating refugee resettlement

In previous years, the ICRC had provided travel documents to refugees and asylum seekers without valid identification papers in Gulf countries in order to facilitate their resettlement in third countries and for migration or family reunification purposes. The ICRC issued no travel documents in 2005 but maintained the capacity to do so if required.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visits to detainees

Visits were made to foreign detainees, mainly Iraqis and stateless persons without diplomatic representation in Kuwait and detained in connection with the 1990–91 conflict, held at the Kuwaiti central prison for men, the central prison for women and the deportation centre. Visits were also carried out to Kuwaiti nationals detained in Kuwait after their transfer and repatriation from Guantanamo Bay.

The ICRC obtained written approval from the Saudi authorities to visit Saudi detainees formerly held in Guantanamo Bay. However, at the end of December, no date had yet been agreed upon for the visit.

Up until February, the ICRC had facilitated the repatriation of released Iraqi detainees from Kuwait after interviewing them in private to ensure that they were returning to Iraq of their own free will.

In 2005, no visits were made to detention centres in Qatar.

Working closely with the authorities and the National Societies concerned, the ICRC endeavoured to process in a timely and efficient manner requests for certificates of detention from former Iraqi POWs previously held in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and visited and registered at the time by ICRC delegates.

- 44 people visited and monitored individually, including 4 newly registered detainees, during 18 visits made to 5 places of detention in Kuwait
- 744 RCMs collected from and 823 distributed to detainees
- 3,235 certificates of detention issued to former Iraqi POWs and former detainees

AUTHORITIES

Promoting the implementation of IHL

Gulf States were encouraged to adhere to IHL treaties and conventions to which they were not yet party and to incorporate into national legislation those already ratified.

The ICRC's legal advisory service conducted studies in a number of Arab countries to assess the compatibility of their national legislation with IHL as a means of helping governments to modify their respective laws, where appropriate.

In May, the ICRC president visited Saudi Arabia, where he met the crown prince, ministers and representatives of the Saudi Consultative Council and senior officials of the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society. Discussions focused on the main humanitarian challenges currently facing the ICRC in various parts of the world and the relevance of IHL in these contexts.

In 2005:

- government legal experts from several Gulf countries participated in regional seminars on measures to implement IHL organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC;
- 25 Qatari government officials attended a seminar on IHL organized at the invitation of the Qatari Council of Ministers;
- the UAE government approved the creation of a national IHL committee and signed a memorandum of understanding with the ICRC on the creation of a regional IHL training centre for diplomats;

- the ICRC trained a librarian to handle IHL reference documentation at the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies;
- Qatar acceded to the 1977 Additional Protocol I.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

To promote knowledge of and compliance with IHL by the armed forces of the region, the ICRC:

- conducted courses in IHL for around 60 senior officers from various units of the Omani armed forces, for some 120 junior and senior officers at the Kuwait Command and Staff College and for 45 officers from Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar at the Kuwait Junior Staff College;
- gave presentations on IHL and the ICRC at the Prince Nayef Arab Academy for Security Sciences in Riyadh;
- arranged for 12 military officers from Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE and Saudi Arabia to participate in the 3rd regional meeting on IHL;
- provided publications on IHL to armed forces' libraries in Oman and Kuwait.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Contacts with religious and opinion leaders were intensified to promote IHL and to increase their understanding of the independent, neutral and impartial nature of the ICRC's humanitarian mandate and activities worldwide.

The ICRC kept the Arab and international media based in the Gulf regularly informed of its activities and humanitarian issues.

In addition, in 2005:

- a regional seminar for Arab media representatives on how the media can contribute to the protection of civilians in times of war was organized in Dubai;
- 3 workshops on IHL in media reporting were organized for journalists representing international and Arab media in the Gulf;
- a presentation on IHL and the ICRC was given to a group of journalists from across the region at a media seminar organized by the Al-Jazeera Training Centre and the Qatari Human Rights Commission in Qatar;

- ways and means of incorporating IHL into national legislation were discussed with prominent Kuwaiti journalists.

Promoting the inclusion of IHL in academic curricula

In 2005, the ICRC:

- held meetings with the deans and teaching staff of the faculties and colleges of sharia law in Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia to promote the teaching of IHL at university level;
- maintained support to the Kuwait Institute for Legal and Judicial Studies teaching IHL to public prosecutors and judges from Arab countries;
- gave presentations on IHL and the ICRC to professors and students at the University of Kuwait and at the Colleges of Law in Oman and Bahrain;
- supported the participation of 5 university law lecturers from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE in the 3rd regional seminar on IHL;
- pursued discussion with the education authorities in Kuwait and Bahrain regarding the integration of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies of the region were encouraged to support ICRC relief operations in Iraq, Sudan, the Palestinian territories and countries affected by the tsunami disaster and by the earthquake in South Asia.

An agreement was signed with the Saudi Red Crescent and the Saudi Committee for Relief of the Palestinian People regarding Saudi contributions to ICRC humanitarian assistance programmes in the Palestinian territories.

The UAE Red Crescent Society provided support for ICRC mine-action work in the region and for ICRC activities related to the Asian tsunami, the earthquake in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and ICRC operations in Liberia and Afghanistan. The Bahrain Red Crescent Society contributed for the second time to the ICRC's food-distribution programme for destitute Palestinian families in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Red Crescent Societies continued to collect and deliver RCMs between families living in Gulf States and their detained relatives, mainly in Guantanamo Bay and Iraq (see *Civilians*). A representative of the Saudi Red Crescent became a member of the Advisory Group implementing a project to develop the capacities of the tracing services of National Societies and to reinforce the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's family news network.

Qatar was represented at a meeting of National Society media officers held at ICRC headquarters in Geneva to discuss ways of raising media interest and support for humanitarian action based on IHL and the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence.

The ICRC facilitated the transfer from the West Bank of olive oil purchased by the Qatar Red Crescent Society to help Palestinian farmers affected by the situation in the Palestinian territories.

In March, an ICRC delegation attended the 33rd General Assembly of the General Secretariat of the Organization of Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Riyadh.



ICRC regional delegation

tunis

The regional delegation in Tunis has been operating since 1987 and focuses on resolving issues of humanitarian concern arising from the aftermath of the Western Sahara conflict. It also visits people deprived of their freedom in Tunisia and Mauritania to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention. It promotes implementation of IHL by the authorities and its integration into school and university curricula and into the training programmes of the armed forces. National Societies and the media in the region are essential partners in this process

COVERING

Libya, Mauritania, Morocco/Western Sahara, Tunisia

EXPENDITURE (IN CHF ,000)

Protection	1,785
Assistance	-
Prevention	869
Cooperation with National Societies	336
General	4

► **2,995**

of which: Overheads 183

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	103.4%
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PERSONNEL

8	expatriates
13	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2005, the ICRC:

- started visits to places of detention in Mauritania and Tunisia after signing access agreements with the authorities of the two countries;
- visited Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front to monitor their treatment and living conditions and to enable them to maintain contact with their families;
- repatriated the remaining 404 Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front on 18 August 2005;
- acted as a neutral intermediary to help clarify the fate of people still unaccounted for in relation to the Western Sahara conflict;
- re-established or maintained links between families in countries of the Maghreb and relatives detained or interned abroad;
- promoted the integration of IHL into national legislation and into the training programmes of the armed forces in the region and the incorporation of its basic principles into school curricula.

CONTEXT

The future status of the Western Sahara remained unresolved more than 14 years after a UN-brokered ceasefire ended the armed conflict between Morocco and the Polisario Front over control of the territory. In October, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of its peace-keeping forces in the disputed territory until 30 April 2006.

The remaining 404 Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front were released in August and repatriated under ICRC auspices, marking an important step towards resolving the humanitarian consequences of the conflict in Western Sahara.

According to the UN, an estimated 150,000 Saharawi refugees who fled the Western Sahara as a result of the conflict there continued to live in camps in the desert of south-western Algeria. In November, the UN renewed exchange visits between the refugees and their family members in Laayoune, Western Sahara.

In Mauritania, former national security chief Ely Ould Mohamed Vall became head of State following a military coup in August which deposed President Maaouya Ould Taya. The new leadership pledged to hold presidential elections within two years.

After nearly two years of investigations into alleged human rights violations committed in Morocco between 1956 and 1999, Morocco's State-appointed Equity and Reconciliation Commission submitted its final report and recommendations to King Mohamed VI at the end of 2005.

The Commission, which reported receiving between 25,000 and 30,000 applications for compensation, was to determine the form and amount of reparation the State was to provide to each of the victims of proven human rights violations.

Governments in the region faced growing problems in controlling illegal immigration, particularly from countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Towards the end of the year, the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla on the north Moroccan coast were inundated with immigrants seeking to enter Western European countries.

Tunisia hosted the second phase of the UN World Summit on the Information Society, which took place in Tunis in November.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	16,880
Detainees visited and monitored individually	844
Number of visits carried out	60
Number of places of detention visited	45
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS ²	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	364
RCMs distributed	327
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	14
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	4
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	69

1. Mauritania, Tunisia, and Western Sahara

2. Not related to Western Sahara conflict

ICRC ACTION

ICRC operations in the region were expanded to cover visits to places of detention in Mauritania and Tunisia following agreements signed in the first part of the year with the authorities of the two countries. The first visits were carried out in Mauritania and Tunisia in May and June respectively.

Securing the release of Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front in relation to the Western Sahara conflict, in accordance with IHL, had for long been an ICRC priority. On 18 August, the 404 remaining Moroccan prisoners in the custody of the Polisario Front were released and repatriated under ICRC auspices. Their release followed mediation by the United States and marked an important step in resolving the humanitarian consequences of the Western Sahara conflict.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC worked with the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front to resolve the cases of combatants and civilians from both sides still missing in relation to the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict. The ICRC continued to conduct this work on the basis of lists of missing persons provided by the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front.

Another priority for the ICRC was to accelerate the integration of IHL into national legislation, military teaching and training programmes and academic curricula in countries of the region.

CIVILIANS

Tracing the missing

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC worked with the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front to resolve the cases of combatants and civilians still unaccounted for on both sides in relation to the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict.

The ICRC continued to work on the basis of lists of missing persons provided by the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front. Two fact-finding missions were carried out in the Rabouni region, where ICRC delegates met the families of missing Saharawis to collect further information on these cases. The findings were submitted to the Moroccan authorities to assist the tracing process.

In January, the Polisario Front informed the ICRC that it had closed five cases of missing Saharawis. It also provided the ICRC with a list of 226 Saharawi civilians and 4 combatants still unaccounted for, which was handed over to the Moroccan authorities for follow-up. The Moroccan authorities said that they had clarified the cases of 25 members of the Moroccan armed forces previously listed as unaccounted for and also provided the ICRC with information on 7 Saharawi cases submitted to them by the ICRC in May.

- ▶ 33 tracing requests related to the Western Sahara conflict were resolved and 704 cases remained unresolved

Restoring family links

Families in North Africa continued to require assistance to locate and restore contact with close relatives detained or interned abroad or present in countries

where armed conflict or other situations of violence made communication difficult.

The ICRC tracing and RCM services enabled families in the region to restore or maintain contact with relatives detained or interned in Afghanistan, the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station and Iraq. The National Societies in some of the countries concerned played a key role in the collection and distribution of RCMs.

- ▶ 364 RCMs collected and 327 distributed to and from families in countries of the region and relatives detained/interned abroad
- ▶ 14 new tracing requests registered, 4 cases were resolved and 69 tracing requests remained unresolved

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Western Sahara conflict

In January, the ICRC made its final visit to Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front prior to their release in August and repatriation under ICRC auspices. The ICRC had been visiting the prisoners twice a year since 1994 to monitor their treatment and living conditions and to enable them to maintain contact with their families via the RCM network. All of the prisoners had been held for between 15 and 20 years or more.

The ICRC tracing and RCM services enabled Moroccan prisoners held by the Polisario Front and their families to remain in contact until their final release in August.

- ▶ 410 Moroccan prisoners visited, including 408 monitored individually, during 11 visits (in 10 places of detention)

- 331 RCMs collected from and 124 distributed to the prisoners
- 406 Moroccan prisoners repatriated after their release

Mauritania

The agreement on ICRC access to places of detention concluded with the authorities in Mauritania on 27 March was upheld by the ruling military council which came to power in August. Visits were conducted to prisons in Nouakchott, Kaedi, Aleg, Nouadhibou and Rosso. The ICRC also carried out preventive activities in Nouakchott's three prisons in close cooperation with Mauritanian Red Crescent volunteers after a cholera epidemic was reported in some areas of the city. In addition, it supported long-term efforts by the Mauritanian authorities concerned to restructure the country's penitentiary system.

- 461 detainees visited, including 95 monitored individually, during 16 visits made to 7 places of detention in Mauritania

Tunisia

Detention visits in Tunisia started in early June in accordance with an agreement concluded with the Tunisian authorities on 26 April. By the end of 2005, the ICRC had visited the nine largest prisons in Tunisia, two of them twice, holding more than half of Tunisia's total prison population. It had also visited 19 places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior.

- 16,009 detainees visited, including 341 monitored individually, during 33 visits made to 28 places of detention in Tunisia

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC remained active in the region to promote the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and maintained its support for implementation bodies set up by the national authorities for this purpose.

In July, the Libyan authorities and the ICRC organized a first seminar in Libya on the implementation of IHL attended by Libyan legal experts from various ministries and representatives of the Libyan Red Crescent.

Members of the Moroccan IHL committee and Moroccan judges participated in a course on IHL organized jointly by the Moroccan Ministry of Justice and the ICRC. It was followed by a second course on the subject for judges only.

In December, the Tunisian authorities announced the creation of a national IHL committee.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC continued to promote the inclusion of IHL in the training programmes of the armed forces in countries of the region and the development of appropriate teaching aids.

Senior military defence officials from Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Mauritania participated in a regional seminar held in Cairo on the dissemination of IHL for the armed forces of the Arab world (see *Egypt*).

In Tunisia, the ICRC continued to press for the military authorities to issue a formal order to incorporate IHL teaching into the theoretical and practical training programmes at all levels of the armed forces. The subject was discussed during a meeting with the Minister of Defence in October.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC continued to provide training, technical and financial support for the introduction and/or extension of its Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) programme in secondary school education in the region. By the end of the year, the programme had been introduced in schools in Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. In Morocco, elements of the EHL modules were included in new textbooks for literature, Arabic and English courses. The extension of the programme to Libya was discussed with the national educational authorities concerned.

The ICRC kept the media and other key segments of civil society in the region informed on its activities in the region and worldwide.

Two Moroccan journalists were invited to participate in a regional media workshop on IHL organized by the ICRC in Cairo (see *Egypt*).

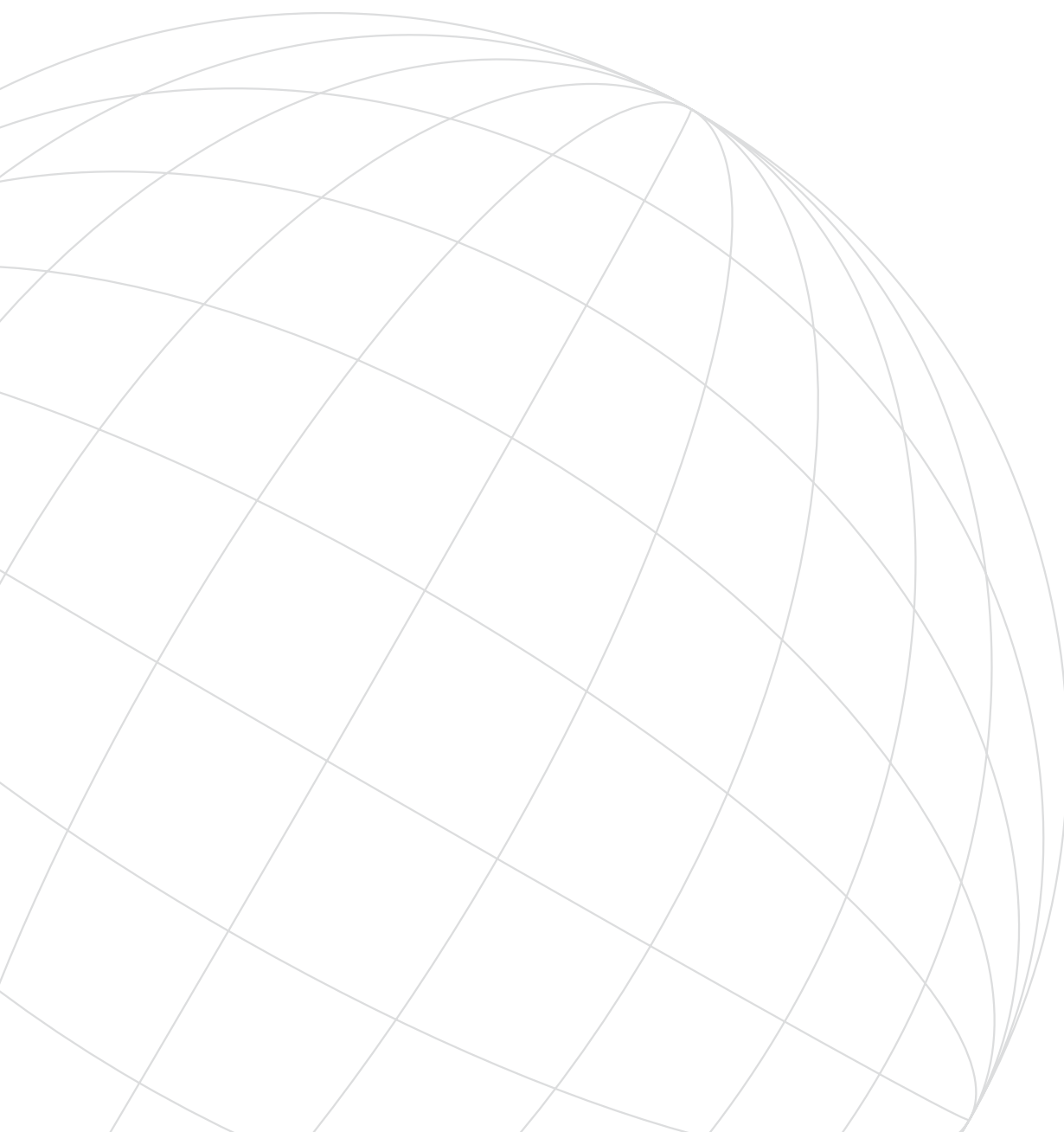
RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

ICRC efforts focused essentially on helping National Societies in the region to develop their capacities to carry out tracing activities and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles. The ICRC also sought to gain deeper insight into the challenges currently confronting them.

Training sessions on restoring family links were organized for 81 members of the Moroccan Red Crescent branch network. In Mauritania, the ICRC conducted four seminars on IHL and the Fundamental Principles for more than 100 Mauritanian Red Crescent volunteers from branches nationwide. In Tunisia, the ICRC held a workshop in Bizerte on IHL and the Fundamental Principles for 40 volunteers from around the country.

In addition, the ICRC co-facilitated a seminar on IHL organized in Mauritania by the General Secretariat of the Organization of Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in which more than 20 senior representatives from Red Crescent Societies in the Maghreb participated.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS



PROTECTION FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM					
All categories/all statuses					
Detainees visited	528,611	219,863	200,907	40,606	67,235
Detainees visited and monitored individually	46,288	8,695	13,000	7,768	16,825
Detainees newly registered in 2005	25,831	4,497	6,748	3,461	11,125
Detainees released	34,215	7,721	6,210	2,114	18,170
Number of visits carried out	5,956	2,277	1,511	1,269	899
Number of places of detention visited	2,594	1,017	736	590	251
Number of detainees who benefited from the ICRC's family-visits programme	13,982	940	1,524	2,304	9,214
Women					
Women detainees visited and monitored individually	1,429	211	567	433	218
Women detainees newly registered in 2005	818	144	305	258	111
Women detainees released	730	214	228	182	106
Number of women detainees who benefited from the ICRC's family-visits programme	295	29	33	73	160
Minors					
Detained minors visited and monitored individually	2,240	528	894	7	811
Detained minors newly registered in 2005	1,889	480	717	6	686
Detained minors released	2,105	1,095	214	11	785
Number of detained minors who benefited from the ICRC's family-visits programme	488	-	92	1	395
International armed conflicts (Third Geneva Convention)					
Prisoners of war (POWs) visited	788	29	-	326	433
POWs newly registered in 2005	3	-	-	3	-
POWs released	462	-	-	43	419
of whom repatriated by/via the ICRC	409	-	-	1	408
Number of visits carried out	44	5	-	21	18
Number of places visited	17	1	-	3	13
International armed conflicts (Fourth Geneva Convention)					
Civilian internees (CIs) and others visited	8,128	29	-	-	8,099
CIs and others newly registered in 2005	4,211	-	-	-	4,211
CIs and others released	7,838	7	-	-	7,831
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	4	3	-	-	1
Number of visits carried out	362	9	-	-	353
Number of places visited	47	2	-	-	45
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)					
RCMs collected	505,748	427,075	24,150	8,873	45,650
of which from detainees	60,238	20,190	12,343	5,425	22,280
of which from unaccompanied minors/separated children	5,814	5,505	305	-	4
of which from civilians	439,696	401,380	11,502	3,448	23,366
RCMs distributed	453,727	381,462	23,735	7,021	41,509
of which to detainees	48,790	15,243	9,660	3,374	20,513
of which to unaccompanied minors/separated children	3,784	3,780	1	-	3
of which to civilians	401,153	362,439	14,074	3,647	20,993
RCMs not distributed (back to sender)	45,393	41,199	2,200	295	1,699
Other means of family contact					
Telephone calls made to relatives (by satellite or cellular phone)	6,780	38	2,638	191	3,913
Names published in the media	54,122	27,658	26,463	1	-
Names published on the ICRC website	337,862	39,040	47,768	241,851	9,203

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Reunification, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families	1,650	1,616	24	7	3
Civilians transferred	3,244	14	1	1	3,228
Human remains transferred	101	-	1	-	100
Civilians repatriated	1,081	1,030	-	-	51
Human remains repatriated	11	-	-	-	11
Tracing requests					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	12,490	8,174	1,794	1,640	882
who were women	3,687	3,145	346	161	35
who were minors at the time of disappearance	2,859	2,492	250	74	43
Tracing requests closed positively (person located)	6,381	2,729	1,160	2,170	322
Tracing requests closed negatively (person not located)	4,573	3,250	407	708	208
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2005	69,301	29,134	10,148	25,584	4,435
of which for women	13,010	9,325	908	2,612	165
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	7,719	4,788	1,398	1,277	256
Missing persons ¹					
Cases of missing persons newly opened	1,707	-	2	1,469	236
who were women	130	-	1	129	-
who were minors when reported missing	57	-	-	57	-
Cases of missing persons closed positively	2,123	-	2	2,049	72
Cases of missing persons closed negatively	589	-	-	589	-
Cases of missing persons still being handled at 31 December 2005	36,337	115	8,595	25,453	2,174
of whom women	3,261	-	646	2,577	38
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	2,471	-	1,138	1,263	70
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs)					
UAMs/SCs newly registered	3,594	3,366	228	-	-
by the ICRC	3,568	3,349	219	-	-
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families	2,547	2,433	111	1	2
by the ICRC	1,605	1,575	27	1	2
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2005	6,144	5,983	157	-	4
Unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers ²					
Demobilized child soldiers newly registered	893	863	30	-	-
by the ICRC	873	852	21	-	-
Demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families	713	707	6	-	-
by the ICRC	510	509	1	-	-
Cases of demobilized child soldiers still being handled at 31 December 2005	508	440	68	-	-
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	6,785	661	422	233	5,469
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	28,159	1,742	317	432	25,668
Other attestations issued	953	33	44	595	281
Documents transmitted/transferred	2,988	157	5	45	2,781
PERSONS SOLICITING ICRC OFFICES IN THE FIELD					
People who visited or telephoned ICRC offices	932,465	126,905	23,137	23,806	758,617

1. Figures for missing persons are included in the figures for tracing requests above.

2. Figures for unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers are included in the figures for unaccompanied minors and separated children above.

PROTECTION FIGURES AND INDICATORS – EXPLANATIONS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees visited

Number of detainees visited, whether monitored individually or otherwise, during the period under consideration. It includes detainees seen and registered for the first time, and those registered previously and visited again, and groups having received aid collectively without being registered individually.

Detainees visited and monitored individually

Number of detainees visited and monitored individually, i.e. those seen for the first time and registered and those registered previously and visited again during the period under consideration.

Detainees newly registered in 2005

Number of detainees visited for the first time since their arrest and registered during the period under consideration.

Detainees released

Number of detainees released, as per information received from various sources, including those transferred or repatriated by the ICRC upon release, during the period under consideration.

Number of visits carried out

Number of visits made, including those to places found empty when visited, during the period under consideration.

Number of places of detention visited

Number of places of detention visited, including places that were found empty when visited, during the period under consideration.

Number of detainees benefiting from the ICRC's family-visits programme

Number of detainees who were visited by a relative via an ICRC-organized or -financed visit during the period under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICT (THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION)

Prisoners of war (POWs) visited

Number of POWs visited and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs newly registered in 2005

Number of POWs visited for the first time since capture, and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs released during 2005

Number of POWs released during the period under consideration.

POWs repatriated by/via the ICRC

Number of POWs released and repatriated by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

Number of visits carried out

Number of visits to POWs carried out during the period under consideration.

Number of places visited

Number of places holding or having held POWs visited during the period under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICT (FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION)

Civilian internees (CIs) and others visited

Number of CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention who were visited and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

CIs and others newly registered in 2005

Number of CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention who were visited for the first time since the start of their internment and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

CIs and others released

Number of CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention who were released, as per information received from various sources, including those transferred or repatriated by the ICRC upon release, during the period under consideration.

Number of visits carried out

Number of visits carried out to places holding or having held CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention during the period under consideration.

Number of places visited

Number of places holding or having held CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention visited during the period under consideration.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

RED CROSS MESSAGES (RCMS)

RCMs collected

Number of RCMs collected, regardless of the destination of the RCM, during the period under consideration.

RCMs distributed

Number of RCMs distributed, regardless of the origin of the RCM, during the period under consideration.

RCMs not distributed and sent back to sender

Number of RCMs which were impossible to distribute – either because the addressee could not be located or because the addressee refused to accept the RCM (for whatever reason) – and sent back to sender during the period under consideration.

REUNIFICATION, TRANSFERS AND REPATRIATION

People reunited with their families

Number of people reunited with their families under the auspices of the ICRC during the period under consideration.

Civilians transferred/human remains transferred

Number of civilians, not counting those in a context of detention, or human remains transferred by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

Civilians repatriated/human remains repatriated

Number of civilians, not counting those in a context of detention, or human remains repatriated by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

TRACING REQUESTS¹

People for whom a tracing request has been newly registered

Number of people for whom a tracing request was initiated during the period under consideration – e.g. because there has been no news of them, they were not located by RCM, they were being sought by their families, or they were presumed to have been arrested and/or detained – and for whom the ICRC is going to take steps to locate or clarify their fate.

Tracing requests closed positively

Number of people for whom a tracing request had been initiated and who were located or whose fate was established during the period under consideration (closed positively).

Tracing request closed negatively

Number of people for whom a tracing request had been initiated and who were not located or whose fate was not established during the period under consideration and for whom the ICRC has exhausted its tracing possibilities (closed negatively).

Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December

Number of tracing requests still open and pending at the end of the period under consideration – 31 December.

MISSING PERSONS²

Cases of missing persons newly opened

Number of people for whom a missing person file was opened during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons closed positively

Number of people whose case has been resolved (closed positively), i.e. people who have been located or confirmed deceased, during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons closed negatively

Number of people whose cases have not been resolved, and for whom the ICRC has decided not to pursue enquiries (closed negatively), during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons still being handled at 31 December

Number of people whose cases are still open (pending) at the end of the period under consideration – 31 December.

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS (UAMs)³/SEPARATED CHILDREN (SCs)⁴/DEMobilized CHILD SOLDIERS

UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers newly registered

Number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers registered by the ICRC or by another organization and the data of whom are centralized by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their family

Number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families by the ICRC or by another organization during the period under consideration.

Cases of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers still being handled at 31 December

Number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers whose cases were opened but who have not yet been reunited by the ICRC or by another organization during the period under consideration – 31 December; these include cases concerning either children whose parents are being sought or children whose parents have been found but with whom they have not yet been reunited.

DOCUMENTS ISSUED

People to whom travel documents were issued

Number of beneficiaries of travel documents issued by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

People to whom a detention attestation was issued

Number of people who received a certificate testifying to their detention according to ICRC records of visits, during the period under consideration.

Other attestations issued

Number of attestations – not related to detention – issued during the period under consideration.

Documents transmitted/transferred

Number of documents – e.g. passport, power of attorney, death certificate, birth certificate, marriage certificate, and ICRC certificates such as house destruction certificates, tracing requests (other than detention certificates) – forwarded or transmitted during the period under consideration.

PEOPLE SOLICITING ICRC OFFICES IN THE FIELD

People who visited or telephoned ICRC offices

Number of people who contacted an ICRC office in the field, either in person or by telephone, during the period under consideration.

1. All cases of people whose fate is not known either to their families or the ICRC and for whom the ICRC is going to undertake some kind of action to clarify their fate or to confirm their alleged fate; these can include allegations of arrest and co-detention, and tracing requests collected following unsuccessful attempts to restore family links by other means.
2. Figures for missing persons are included in the figures for tracing requests.
3. Child under 18 or under legal age of majority separated from both parents and from all other relatives and not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.
4. Child under 18 or under legal age of majority who is separated from both parents or from his/her previous legal caregiver but accompanied by another adult relative.

ASSISTANCE FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
ECONOMIC SECURITY (Number of beneficiaries)					
Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)					
Essential household items	1,138,837	625,535	399,239	68,843	45,220
Food	692,424	360,469	218,949	65,634	47,372
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	1,680,328	1,647,106	16,039	6,977	10,206
Internally displaced people					
Essential household items	1,624,162	1,102,033	396,067	126,032	30
Food	351,537	138,206	92,926	120,405	-
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	959,028	802,984	142,551	13,493	-
Detainees					
Essential household items	107,821	100,538	6,029	1,254	-
Food	61,993	61,993	-	-	-
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	3,117	3,117	-	-	-
Total of all target populations					
Essential household items	2,870,820	1,828,106	801,335	196,129	45,250
Food	1,105,954	560,668	311,875	186,039	47,372
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	2,642,473	2,453,207	158,590	20,470	10,206
WATER AND HABITAT (Number of beneficiaries)					
Completed projects					
Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	6,597,838	5,315,005	414,816	382,557	485,460
Habitat structures	65,217	5,850	43,684	15,683	-
Internally displaced people					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	465,954	446,435	5,300	10,219	4,000
Habitat structures	26,507	26,100	-	407	-
Detainees					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	151,531	122,047	14,154	15,330	-
Habitat structures	35,180	31,535	2,695	950	-
Wounded and sick (number of beds)					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	4,560	448	893	645	2,574
Habitat structures	2,862	302	1,495	462	603
Total of completed projects for all target populations					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	7,215,323	5,883,487	434,270	408,106	489,460
Habitat structures	126,904	63,485	46,379	17,040	-
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems (number of beds)	4,560	448	893	645	2,574
Habitat structures (number of beds)	2,862	302	1,495	462	603
Ongoing projects for all target populations					
Water-supply schemes and sanitation systems	4,002,176	2,677,564	394,514	716,398	213,700
Habitat structures	206,452	98,945	13,000	94,507	-

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
COMMUNITY HEALTH (Number of beneficiaries) ¹					
Health centres supported					
Monthly average of health centres supported	91	50	25	16	-
Number of health centres supported	179	64	41	74	-
Estimated population covered by these health centres (monthly average)	773,183	553,282	126,860	93,041	-
Activities					
Number of ante and post-natal consultations					
Age <15	236	188	-	48	-
Age >15	31,627	29,442	1,966	219	-
Number of immunization activities					
Age 0–5	292,954	285,394	4,959	2,601	-
Age 5–15	15,855	14,282	1,023	550	-
Age >15	108,172	71,933	34,252	1,987	-
Number of polio immunizations					
Age 0–5	273,165	270,697	1,646	822	-
Age 5–15	1,776	1,523	134	119	-
Age >15	43,380	12,765	30,615	-	-
Number of curative consultations					
Age 0–5	77,372	70,949	4,652	1,771	-
Age 5–15	63,091	49,698	11,101	2,292	-
Age >15	421,114	344,000	70,165	6,949	-
Number of cases referred from first- to second-line health facilities					
Age 0–5	269	234	29	6	-
Age 5–15	216	128	43	45	-
Age >15	2,732	1,238	1,358	136	-

1. **Iraq** – health structures supported in 2005 are not included in the table: the majority of health structures are supported through the Department of Health and the number of beneficiaries is difficult to estimate. The total value of the assistance provided via the Department of Health was CHF 620,973 in 2005.

Israel, the Occupied and the Autonomous Palestinian Territories – support in the form of financial assistance to the Magen David Adom (support for the Emergency Medical Service and the Blood Transfusion Service) and to the Palestine Red Crescent Society (support for Emergency Medical Technicians and the ambulance fleet) is not included in the table. The total value of the assistance to the Magen David Adom was CHF 451,553 and to Palestine Red Crescent Society was CHF 380,146 in 2005.

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
HOSPITAL SUPPORT ¹					
Hospitals supported					
Monthly average of hospitals supported	51	21	15	15	-
Number of hospitals supported	99	28	34	18	19
Activities					
Surgical					
Number of weapon-wounded admitted	6,358	2,899	2,764	695	-
Number of mine victims admitted	376	19	265	92	-
Number of surgical cases, non-weapon-wounded, admitted	77,432	20,729	30,189	26,514	-
Number of operations performed	76,834	29,465	21,332	26,037	-
Medical					
Number of medical patients admitted	74,523	44,208	6,263	24,052	-
Gynaecological/obstetric					
Number of gynaecological/obstetric patients admitted	54,654	25,020	3,355	26,279	-
Outpatients					
Number of outpatients treated	740,083	485,930	252,828	1,325	-
Paediatric					
Number of paediatric patients admitted	83,258	57,959	9,129	16,170	-
First-aid posts					
Total number of first-aid posts supported	15	10	3	2	-

1. **Iraq** – health structures supported in 2005 are not included in the table: the majority of health structures are supported through the Department of Health and the number of beneficiaries is difficult to estimate. The total value of the assistance provided via the Department of Health was CHF 620,973 in 2005.

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	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
PHYSICAL REHABILITATION					
Activities					
Number of patients receiving services at a centre	137,931	22,341	72,176	11,310	32,104
Number of amputees receiving services at a centre	53,946	8,653	27,067	6,407	11,819
Number of new patients fitted with prostheses (new to the ICRC)	9,096	2,432	4,362	444	1,858
Total number of prostheses delivered	20,559	5,097	10,404	1,859	3,199
Number of prostheses delivered to mine victims	10,542	2,218	6,862	396	1,066
Number of non-amputees receiving services at a centre	83,969	13,688	45,093	4,903	20,285
Number of new patients fitted with orthoses (new to the ICRC)	14,622	2,714	6,013	790	5,105
Total number of orthoses delivered	25,877	4,282	11,553	3,105	6,937
Number of orthoses delivered to mine victims	400	126	121	21	132
Crutches and sticks delivered (pieces)	38,891	14,698	18,136	4,974	1,083
Wheelchairs delivered	1,979	190	1,567	215	7
Components delivered to non-ICRC projects					
Artificial knees	1,031	-	1,031	-	-
Alignment systems	4,631	1,365	3,266	-	-
Orthotic knee joints (pairs)	1,233	116	1,117	-	-

ASSISTANCE FIGURES AND INDICATORS – EXPLANATIONS

ECONOMIC SECURITY PROGRAMMES

Beneficiaries

One beneficiary = one person who has been assisted at least once over the course of the year. A person who has been assisted several times is counted only once.

Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)

This population group includes residents and returnees, as well as internally displaced people who cannot be clearly identified as such, for example, those living with friends or relatives.

In general these are people living in rural areas and/or areas which are difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure.

Internally displaced people

This population group includes only internally displaced people clearly identified as such, for example, those staying in camps.

Essential household items

Per population group, number of beneficiaries who have been assisted with one or more essential household commodity over the course of the year. The main commodities distributed in 2005 were tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, soap, jerrycans and mosquito nets.

Food

Per population group, number of beneficiaries who have been assisted with one or more food commodity over the course of the year. The main commodities distributed in 2005 were rice, wheat flour, maize, beans and oil.

Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives

Per population group, number of beneficiaries who have been assisted with one or more agricultural/veterinary input (e.g. fertilizers, animal vaccines, seeds, tools), micro-economic project (e.g. carpentry, welding, food processing, trade) or cash over the course of the year.

N.B. Figures for food, essential household items and agricultural/veterinary and micro-economic initiatives cannot be cumulated as some groups benefited from two or three types of aid.

WATER AND HABITAT PROGRAMMES

Beneficiaries

One beneficiary = one person who has been assisted at least once over the course of the year. A person who has been assisted several times is counted only once.

Beneficiaries are counted separately for projects completed during the course of the year and for ongoing projects.

For recurrent projects like water trucking or regular supply of material (chlorine, spare parts, etc.), beneficiaries are counted only once.

Given the close link between water-supply schemes and sanitation system projects, it is not possible to differentiate between beneficiaries.

The figures shown under “Wounded and sick” represent the number of beds in the structures supported.

Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)

This population group includes residents and returnees, as well as internally displaced people who cannot be clearly identified as such, for example, those living with friends or relatives.

In general these are people living in rural areas and/or areas which are difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure.

Internally displaced people

This population group includes only internally displaced people clearly identified as such, for example, those staying in camps.

Detainees

The figures shown represent the total capacity of the structures supported.

Wounded and sick

The figures shown represent the number of beds in the structures supported.

Water-supply schemes for all population groups

This comprises the following types of projects: wells, boreholes, springs, dams and water-treatment plants, built or repaired.

Sanitation systems for all population groups

This comprises the following types of projects: latrines, septic tanks and sewage plants, built or repaired, as well as vector-control activities.

Habitat structures for civilians and internally displaced people

This comprises the following types of projects: temporary settlements (shelters), site planning and support for house rehabilitation.

Habitat structures for detainees

This comprises the following types of projects: prisons or detention centres rehabilitated, especially kitchen facilities.

Habitat structures for wounded and sick

This comprises the following types of projects: hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres, built or repaired.

HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNITY HEALTH/BASIC HEALTH CARE – RESIDENTS AND DISPLACED PERSONS

Monthly average of health centres supported

Average number of first-line health services supported per month during the year.

Number of health centres supported

Total number of health centres regularly supported in 2005.

Activities

Beneficiaries are registered according to the service they received (ante and post-natal consultation, immunization, curative consultation).

Number of immunization activities

Number of doses delivered during the year.

Number of polio immunizations

Included in total number of immunization activities.

HOSPITAL SUPPORT – WOUNDED AND SICK

Monthly average of hospitals supported

Average number of second-line health services supported per month during the year.

Number of hospitals supported

Total number of hospitals regularly supported in 2005.

Activities

Patients admitted: beneficiaries are registered according to the service they received (surgical, medical, gynaecological/obstetric, paediatric).

Outpatients treated: total number of outpatients without distinction of diagnosis.

Number of mine victims admitted

Included in the total number of weapon-wounded admitted.

Number of operations performed

Number of operations performed on weapon-wounded and non-weapon-wounded.

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

Number of patients receiving services at the centre

Includes all patients, amputees and non-amputees, who received services at a centre during the year – new and former patients who came for new devices, repairs, physiotherapy, etc.

Number of amputees receiving services at the centre

Includes all amputees who received services at a centre during the year – new and former amputee patients who came for new devices, repairs (prostheses, wheelchairs, walking aids) or for physiotherapy.

Number of new patients fitted with prostheses (new to ICRC)

Includes all new patients who received prostheses within the year – first-time fitted and patients who had previously received prostheses from a centre not assisted by the ICRC.

Total number of prostheses delivered

This figure represents the total number of prostheses delivered within the year.

Number of prostheses delivered to mine victims

This figure represents the total number of prostheses delivered specifically for victims of mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) during the year.

Number of non-amputees receiving services at the centre

Includes all non-amputees who received services at a centre during the year – new and former non-amputee patients who came for new devices, repairs (orthoses, wheelchairs, walking aids) or physiotherapy.

Number of new patients fitted with orthoses (new to ICRC)

Includes all new patients who received orthoses within the year – first-time fitted and patients who had previously received orthoses from a centre not assisted by the ICRC.

Total number of orthoses delivered

This figure represents the total number of orthoses delivered within the year.

Number of orthoses delivered to mine victims

This figure represents the total number of orthoses delivered specifically for mine and ERW victims during the year.

Crutches and sticks delivered (pieces)

This figure represents the total number of crutches and sticks (by piece, not by pairs) delivered within the year.

Wheelchairs delivered

This figure represents the total number of wheelchairs delivered during the year.

Components delivered to non-ICRC projects

Exclusively for Cambodia and Afghanistan where the ICRC continues to manufacture components that are given to other organizations.

Male

Includes males aged 15 and older.

Female

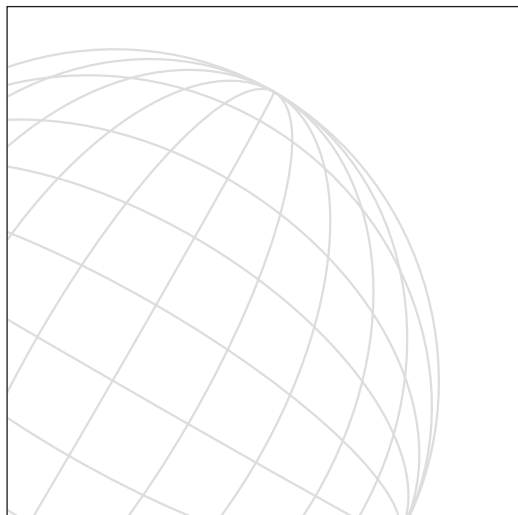
Includes females aged 15 and older.

Child

Includes both males and females aged 14 and younger.

FINANCE





the financial year 2005

The year 2005 was marked by the two natural disasters that occurred in late 2004 (the tsunami that struck coastal areas in South and South-East Asia) and early October 2005 (the earthquake in Pakistan). The operational capacity of the ICRC was stretched in meeting the immense and unexpected humanitarian needs created by those two quakes. At the same time, the ICRC maintained its humanitarian response in other conflict-affected areas such as Darfur (Sudan), Afghanistan, Israel and the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories, the northern Caucasus and Liberia. This was only possible thanks to the considerable financial support of donors and the general public.

EMERGENCY APPEALS

The initial budget of CHF 780.6 million increased by CHF 108.8 million (14%) as a result of the budget extensions relating to the two quakes. Given that in 2004 budget extensions represented 5% of the initial budget, the increase in 2005 indicates the magnitude of the ICRC's response. Taking into account the impact of the quakes on individual countries, the initial emergency appeal increased four-fold for Indonesia, three-fold for Sri Lanka and eleven-fold for Pakistan.

Total field expenditure amounted to CHF 811.1 million, compared with CHF 675.9 million for 2004, representing a 91% implementation rate. As a proportion of the total expenditure, the main operations were those in Sudan (CHF 129.7 million, 16%), Pakistan (CHF 59.7 million, 7.4%), Afghanistan (CHF 40.4 million, 5.0%), Israel (CHF 37.7 million, 4.7%), Indonesia (CHF 36.8 million, 4.5%), Moscow (CHF 30.7, million 3.8%), Liberia (CHF 30.1 million, 3.7%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (CHF 29.6 million, 3.7%) and Sri Lanka (CHF 27.6 million, 3.4%). Contributions to the field budget reached CHF 832.6 million. A breakdown of contributions by donor category shows an exceptional response from National Societies, which tripled their financial commitments, as well as from governments and private donors.

HEADQUARTERS APPEAL

Despite increased resources being drawn from headquarters to support the ICRC's field operations, headquarters expenditure remained below the budgeted CHF 152.0 million, at CHF 147.6 million.

This was largely due to careful management of the headcount at headquarters.

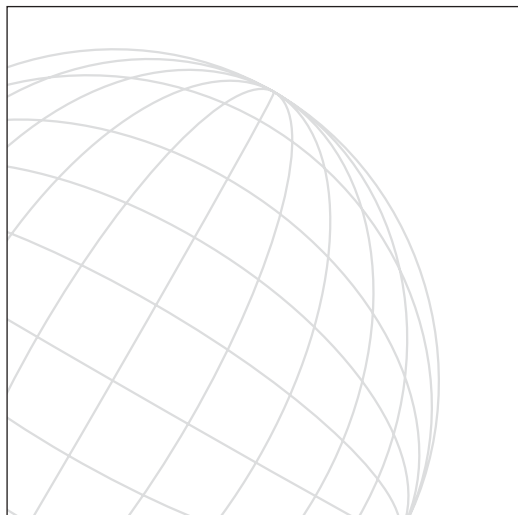
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

After consolidation of the operational results of field and headquarters financial structures, those of the Omar El Muktar and Clare R. Benedict funds, and the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross, there is an overall surplus of CHF 48.9 million, compared with a deficit of CHF 24.4 million in 2004. To that figure a net surplus of CHF 23.9 million, compared with CHF 9 million in 2004, arising from non-operational results, must be added, making a surplus of CHF 72.8 million before movement on reserves. The net result of each field operation is restricted to that operation either as a temporary deficit or as donor-restricted (earmarked) contributions. They are therefore not available for the unrestricted reserves. The temporary deficits of operations increased by CHF 29.5 million to reach CHF 39.0 million, compared with CHF 9.5 million in 2004. Donor-restricted (earmarked) contributions to operations increased by CHF 53.9 million to reach CHF 61.9 million, compared with CHF 8.1 million the previous year. Although 2005 was a favourable year financially, this increase in deficit, along with restricted (earmarked) contributions, is a matter of concern for the management since it poses some risks for the organization's operational response capacity.

BALANCE SHEET

Increased operations throughout 2005, and especially those in response to the Pakistan earthquake at the end of the year, had a significant impact on the balance sheet, which shows an increase of CHF 147.5 million, compared with a decrease of CHF 20.4 million in 2004. The explanation is mainly to be found in the current assets increase of CHF 142 million, where pledged contributions and cash and cash equivalents are the main positions.

With regard to liabilities, the main changes are with the accrued expenses and deferred incomes, as well as accounts payable and the funding of field operations. Unrestricted reserves increased by CHF 45.9 million to enable the ICRC to meet its future risks and commitments.



consolidated financial statements of the ICRC 2005

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3. Consolidated Cash Flow Statement
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26. Related parties
27. Subsequent events

1. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

(in CHF ,000)

ASSETS	Notes	2005	2004
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.3.1	240,829	184,417
Securities	5.3.2	58,759	52,329
Accounts receivable and prepayments	5.3.3	168,229	76,698
Inventories	5.3.4	18,470	18,821
Total Current Assets		486,287	332,265
Non-current Assets			
Property and equipment	5.3.5	86,165	81,912
Intangible assets	5.3.5	6,097	5,257
Other assets	5.3.6	1,406	963
Total Non-current Assets		93,668	88,132
Total ASSETS		579,955	420,397
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	5.3.7	45,630	34,384
Financial liabilities	5.3.8	1,370	1,172
Provisions	5.3.9	58	354
Employee benefit liabilities	5.3.10	59,205	49,174
Accrued expenses and deferred income	5.3.11	62,646	11,768
Total Current Liabilities		168,909	96,852
Non-current Liabilities			
Financial liabilities	5.3.8	16,398	17,178
Employee benefit liabilities	5.3.10	5,286	6,397
Deferred income	5.3.11	16,533	-
Total Non-current Liabilities		38,217	23,575
Total LIABILITIES		207,126	120,427
Restricted Reserves			
Total Funds and Foundations	5.3.12	14,462	11,987
Funding of Field Operations	5.3.13		
Field operations with temporary deficit financing		-38,945	-9,487
Donor-restricted contributions		61,943	8,064
Total Funding of Field Operations		22,998	-1,423
Total Restricted Reserves		37,460	10,564
Unrestricted Reserves			
<i>Reserves designated by the Assembly</i>	5.3.14		
Future operations		147,691	127,605
Operational risks		26,166	25,000
Assets replacement		116,969	99,351
Financial risks		14,933	12,176
Human resources		10,694	8,294
Specific projects		4,516	2,580
Total Designated Reserves		320,969	275,006
Other Unrestricted Reserves			
General reserve		12,500	12,500
Retained surplus at beginning of the year		1,900	1,900
Total Other Unrestricted Reserves		14,400	14,400
Total Unrestricted Reserves		335,369	289,406
Total RESERVES		372,829	299,970
Total LIABILITIES and RESERVES		579,955	420,397

2. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

(in CHF ,000)

	Notes	2005	2004
Total CONTRIBUTIONS	5.3.15	959,652	757,757
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	5.3.16		
Staff-related costs	5.3.10/18	-445,997	-386,956
Mission costs		-48,428	-36,308
Rentals		-109,840	-71,237
Sub-contracted maintenance		-18,867	-27,548
Purchase of goods and materials		-200,365	-159,500
General expenditure	5.3.20	-68,516	-82,823
Depreciation		-18,718	-17,814
Total OPERATING EXPENDITURE		-910,731	-782,186
NET RESULT OF OPERATING ACTIVITIES		48,921	-24,429
OTHER INCOME			
Contributed assets		1,771	959
Financial income	5.3.20	7,088	2,117
Foreign exchange gain (loss), net	5.3.20	5,920	-6,452
Other	5.3.21	12,836	16,946
Total OTHER INCOME		27,615	13,570
OTHER EXPENDITURE			
Impairment of assets	5.3.5	-721	-239
Other	5.3.21	-2,956	-4,321
Total OTHER EXPENDITURE		-3,677	-4,560
NET RESULT OF NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES		23,938	9,010
RESULT FOR THE YEAR		72,859	-15,419
ALLOCATION OF RESULT FOR THE YEAR			
Allocation to Reserves, net	Table 4	-70,384	16,776
Allocation to Funds and Foundations	Table 4	-2,475	-1,357
RESULT FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS		0	0

3. CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

(in CHF ,000)

	Notes	2005	2004
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Net result before interest		69,823	-16,919
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Depreciation and impairment on assets		19,853	17,794
Decrease in current cash and cash equivalent allowances		-335	-1,863
Gain on securities, net	5.3.20	-3,972	-237
Gain from disposals of fixed assets, net		-3,301	-3,848
Contributed assets		-1,771	-959
Increase of employee benefit liabilities		14,256	5,439
Operating surplus before changes in working capital		94,553	-593
<i>Changes in working capital:</i>			
Accounts receivable and prepayments, net		-91,643	14,367
Inventories		-319	1,094
Other assets		-443	-61
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		78,657	-3,591
Employee benefit liabilities		-5,336	-4,133
Net Cash from Operating Activities		75,469	7,083
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Acquisition of fixed assets		-23,305	-20,724
Purchase of securities		-18,328	-15,851
Proceeds from disposals of fixed assets		4,213	5,088
Proceeds from sale of securities		15,870	13,795
Interest received	5.3.20	2,016	1,010
Securities' income, net		1,380	870
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities		-18,154	-15,812
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Interest paid		-360	-380
Repayment of loan	5.3.8	-770	-759
Net Cash from Financing Activities		-1,130	-1,139
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		56,185	-9,868
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		179,402	196,462
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		4,651	-2,541
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	5.3.1	240,238	184,053
RECONCILIATION OF RESULT FOR THE YEAR TO NET RESULT BEFORE INTEREST			
Result for the year		72,859	-15,419
Finance interest income		-2,016	-1,010
Securities interest income		-1,380	-870
Mortgage and leasing interest		360	380
Net result before interest		69,823	-16,919

4. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

(in CHF ,000)

	Restricted		Unrestricted		Result for the year	Total
	Funds and foundations	Funding of field operations	Designated by the Assembly	Other unrestricted reserves		
Notes	5.3.12	5.3.13	5.3.14			
Balance at 31 December 2003	10,630	39,390	250,969	14,400	-	315,389
Net result for the year					-15,419	-15,419
<i>Balance before transfers to/(from) reserves</i>	<i>10,630</i>	<i>39,390</i>	<i>250,969</i>	<i>14,400</i>	<i>-15,419</i>	<i>299,970</i>
Allocation of results of funds and foundations	1,357				-1,357	-
Decrease of field operations with temporary deficit financing		6,163			-6,163	-
Increase in donor-restricted contributions for specific operations		-46,976			46,976	-
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-9,616		9,616	-
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			33,653		-33,653	-
Total movement, net	1,357	-40,813	24,037	-	15,419	299,970
Balance at 31 December 2004	11,987	-1,423	275,006	14,400	-	299,970
Net result for the year					72,859	72,859
<i>Balance before transfers to/(from) reserves</i>	<i>11,987</i>	<i>-1,423</i>	<i>275,006</i>	<i>14,400</i>	<i>72,859</i>	<i>372,829</i>
Allocation of results of funds and foundations	2,475				-2,475	-
Increase of field operations with temporary deficit financing		-29,458			29,458	-
Increase in donor-restricted contributions for specific operations		53,879			-53,879	-
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-3,667		3,667	-
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			49,630		-49,630	-
Total movement, net	2,475	24,421	45,963	-	-72,859	-
Balance at 31 December 2005	14,462	22,998	320,969	14,400	-	372,829

5. NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

(In Swiss francs ,000)

5.1 ACTIVITIES

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance.

It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It is formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by the International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The ICRC is an independent humanitarian non-profit organization, domiciled in Switzerland and was granted observer status at the United Nations in October 1990.

The ICRC's principal tasks include:

- ▶ visits to prisoners of war and civilian detainees;
- ▶ the search for missing persons;
- ▶ transmission of messages between family members separated by conflict;
- ▶ reunification of dispersed families;
- ▶ provision of food, water and medical assistance to civilians without access to these basic necessities;
- ▶ spreading knowledge of humanitarian law;
- ▶ monitoring compliance with that law;
- ▶ drawing attention to violations and contributing to the development of humanitarian law;
- ▶ enhancing the capacity of National Societies to fulfil their own responsibilities as Red Cross and Red Crescent institutions providing humanitarian services in their own countries.

These consolidated financial statements of the ICRC for the year ending 31 December 2005 include activities of the Geneva headquarters, all ICRC delegations, two funds and one foundation.

The consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 4 April 2006 for issue to the Assembly Council on 7 April 2006 and for approval by the Assembly on 27 April 2006.

5.2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

5.2.1 Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with and comply with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), and interpretations issued by the Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC) of the IASB, and are presented in accordance with the statutes of the ICRC and Swiss law.

Currently, IFRS do not contain specific guidelines for non-profit organizations and non-governmental organizations concerning

the accounting treatment and the presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

The accounting policies have been applied consistently by the ICRC and are consistent with those used in previous years.

5.2.2 Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Swiss francs, rounded to the nearest thousand.

They are prepared on the historical cost convention except that financial securities and derivative financial instruments are stated at their fair value.

Fair value is the amount for which a financial asset, liability or instrument could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. If in the future such estimates and assumptions, which are based on management's best judgment at the date of the consolidated financial statements, deviate from the actual circumstances, the original estimates and assumptions will be modified as appropriate in the year in which the circumstances change.

5.2.3 Basis of consolidation

SPECIAL FUNDS AND FOUNDATIONS

The funds and foundations listed below are controlled by the ICRC, and their financial statements are included in the consolidated financial statements. Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealized gains from such transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Control exists when the ICRC has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity. The financial statements of the funds and foundations are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases.

Funds and foundations:

- ▶ Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross,
- ▶ Clare R. Benedict Fund,
- ▶ Omar El Muktar Fund.

The general purpose of the foundation and funds is to financially assist the ICRC in its humanitarian work.

5.2.4 Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in currencies other than Swiss francs are converted into Swiss francs at rates which approximate the actual rates ruling at the transaction date. At the balance sheet date monetary assets (including securities) and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are converted into Swiss francs at the rate of exchange ruling at that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies that are stated at historical cost are translated at the foreign exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Realized and unrealized exchange differences are reported as income and expenditure.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

The ICRC's foreign operations are considered an integral part of the operations in Geneva. The assets and liabilities of those operations are translated into Swiss francs at foreign exchange rates ruling on the balance sheet date, while income and expenditure are translated at rates approximating the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates of the transactions.

The principal rates of exchange are shown below:

	Closing rate of exchange		Average rate of exchange	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
USD	1.3150	1.1320	1.2374	1.2508
EUR	1.5555	1.5440	1.5475	1.5461
GBP	2.2670	2.1837	2.2576	2.2748

5.2.5 Fair value

The fair value of securities is reported in Note 5.3.2 to the consolidated financial statements. The fair value of cash, other financial assets and accounts payable are not materially different from the carrying amounts.

Fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time, based on market conditions and information about the financial instrument. These estimates are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties and matters of significant judgement and therefore cannot be determined with precision. Changes in assumptions could significantly affect estimates.

5.2.6 Derivative financial instruments

The ICRC uses derivative financial instruments – forward foreign exchange contracts – to hedge its exposure to foreign exchange risks arising from financing and operational activities (for significant pledged contributions and expenditures). In accordance with its treasury policy, the ICRC does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Derivative financial instruments are stated at fair value. Where a derivative financial instrument is used to hedge economically the foreign exchange exposure of a recognized monetary asset or liability, any gain or loss on the hedging instrument is recognized in the statement of income and expenditure, and consequently hedge accounting does not need to be applied. Further, accounts receivable are not hedged against accounts payable.

The fair value of forward exchange contracts is their market price at the balance sheet date.

5.2.7 Cash and cash equivalents

The ICRC considers cash on hand, amounts due from banks and short-term time deposits with banks to be cash and cash equivalents.

Bank borrowings that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the ICRC's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the statement of cash flows.

5.2.8 Securities

Securities are recorded as *financial assets at fair value through profit and loss*, and classified as current assets with any resultant gain or loss recognized in the statement of income and expenditure. Securities are recognized and derecognized by the ICRC at the date it commits to purchase or sell the investments.

The fair value of listed securities is their quoted bid price at the balance sheet date. Financial income consists principally of interest and net realized and unrealized gains on changes in fair value. Interest income is recognized on an accruals basis, taking into account the effective yield of the asset.

As the ICRC's securities are managed externally on a portfolio basis, all securities income is disclosed net.

5.2.9 Accounts receivable

Receivables are stated at their cost net of an allowance on outstanding amounts to cover the risk on non-payment (see Note 5.3.3).

The main positions of the receivables are recognized for:

- ▶ *Pledges*: at the moment of a written confirmation, except pledges falling due after five years which are considered as contingent assets only, and are not recognized due to uncertainties associated with their receipt. (see Note 5.2.20).
- ▶ *Re-invoiced costs*: at the moment when (i) the service or basic expenditure is fulfilled or (ii) the ownership of the asset is transferred.

The allowance is made based upon a specific review of all significant outstanding positions. For those positions not specifically reviewed, the provision is made at differing rates, based upon the age of the receivable and applying allowance rates based on past experience.

5.2.10 Inventories

Inventories held at the headquarters and at the principal regional distribution centre in Nairobi are considered as uncommitted stocks and are recorded at cost. The cost of inventories includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the inventories and bringing them to their existing location and condition. Expenditure is recognized at the moment of the delivery or consumption of these stocks except for obsolete inventories which are written off.

Inventories held at other locations are considered as committed and are included in expenditure due to the nature of the ICRC operations.

The cost of inventories of perishable goods is based on the *first-expired first-out principle*.

The cost of other inventories is based on the *first-in first-out principle* except where goods have been specifically earmarked, in which case they are used first and therefore the costs of these items are specifically identified.

5.2.11 Property, equipment and intangibles

Assets are measured at their historical costs and are capitalized when (i) they are used for the ICRC and when (ii) the following limits are reached for individual asset amounts:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| ▶ Buildings | all |
| ▶ Equipment and vehicles | CHF 10 |
| ▶ Software | CHF 100 *) |

Contributed assets are accounted for using the same principles as for purchased assets (see Note 5.2.16).

*) Licences for commercial software are considered as fully expensed during the year.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

SUBSEQUENT EXPENDITURE

Subsequent expenditure is capitalized only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the item of property and equipment.

All other expenditure is recognized in the statement of income and expenditure as an expense as incurred.

DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is calculated on the *straight line method* so as to depreciate the initial cost over the estimated useful lives, which are as follows:

	in Switzerland	other countries
Buildings	50 years	10 years
Fixed installations	10 years	10 years
Equipment and vehicles	5 – 8 years	5 – 8 years
Hardware	3 years	3 years
Software	5 years	5 years

Land is not depreciated.

FINANCE LEASE

Assets acquired under long-term finance leases are capitalized and depreciated in accordance with the ICRC's policy on property, equipment and software. The associated obligations are included in financial liabilities.

5.2.12 Impairment

The carrying amounts of the ICRC's assets, other than securities (see Note 5.2.8) and inventories (see Note 5.2.10), are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

An impairment loss is then recognized whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is only reversed to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortization, if no impairment loss had been recognized.

5.2.13 Provisions

A provision is recognized in the balance sheet when the ICRC has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of assets will be required to settle the obligation.

If the effect is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flow that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

5.2.14 Interest-bearing borrowings and loans

Interest-bearing borrowings and loans are recognized initially at fair value, less attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing loans are stated at amortized cost with any difference between cost and redemption value being recognized in the statement of income and expenditure over the period of the loan on an effective interest basis.

5.2.15 Reserves**FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS***Field operations with temporary deficit financing*

This position relates to expenditures in the field which have not been financed by contributions received or pledged at 31 December 2005.

Donor-restricted contributions

Some contributions received by the ICRC are earmarked for specific usage. At the end of the financial year, any such funds which have not yet been spent are recorded under this heading. In case that the funds cannot be used, the ICRC either obtains agreement for a reallocation of those funds for a different usage or reimburses them to the donor in which case they are recognized as liability before the effective payment takes place.

RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY*Future operations reserve*

This position contains the reserve for operational funding. The ideal amount of this reserve is estimated at two and a half months of the headquarter and field operational cash, kind and service expenditure over the last five years (see Note 5.3.14).

Operational risks reserve

This concerns reserves relating to insurance coverage and to potential litigation issues.

Assets reserve

The ICRC sets aside funds for capital expenditure on real estate and equipment, in order to be able to make investments, which are essential for its operations regardless of short-term financial fluctuations.

Financial risks reserve

This covers the risks of exchange-rate and price fluctuations in securities.

Human resources reserves

This reserve is set aside to cover future payments to management and staff under agreements for early retirements.

Specific projects reserves

Allocations for specific projects to be undertaken are made in anticipation of the events taking place; such as the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and studies concerning the red cross emblem.

OTHER UNRESTRICTED RESERVES*General reserve*

This reserve is the accumulation of excess funds of the ICRC that has been set aside with no specific reservation or restriction.

Retained surplus at beginning of the year

This reserve is the balance of surplus income from previous years that is not allocated to any specific reserve.

5.2.16 Income**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Pledges in cash are recognized on receipt of a written confirmation of donation from the donors.

Contributions that are based on contracts for specific projects (e.g. European Union, USAID, projects delegated to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) are recognized as the expenditure is incurred.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

The *following contributions* are recognized upon receipt of the cash collection:

- ▶ Private sources, associations and companies
- ▶ Legacies
- ▶ Gifts

Contributions in kind (goods or interests) *and in services* (in the form of staff, means of transport or rent) are recognized on the date of receipt of the goods or service and are reported as equal contributions and expenses in the income and expenditure statement.

Contributions in kind for fixed assets are recorded at fair value under other income. Depreciation of such assets is included in operational expenditure in the same manner as for purchased fixed assets.

The *value of contributions in kind* is determined by the donor's indication of the value of the goods, including the cost of transport to the final destination. The fair value may not be exceeded.

The *value of service contributions* in form of staff is estimated by determining the real cost that would have been incurred had the contribution not been made. In the case of staff seconded to the ICRC, the estimated value consists of the salary plus the social security and insurance contributions paid by the ICRC for the position concerned. From this value, all personnel costs paid by the ICRC directly to the persons concerned or its employer have been deducted to give the value of service recorded.

EARMARKING

Cash contributions restricted by donors not other than for general ICRC field operations are considered as *non-earmarked*.

Cash contributions to a given region, country or programme (worldwide) are seen as *loosely earmarked*.

Contributions (in cash or in kind) to the programme or sub-programme of a country, project or goods are *tightly earmarked*.

The table below shows the overall framework for the earmarking level of cash contributions for the field budgets:

Level of earmarking	Range/restrictions	Example
none	overall ICRC field budget	<i>ICRC operations worldwide</i>
region	one of the four regions	<i>ICRC operations in Africa</i>
programme	one of the four programmes	<i>ICRC preventive action activities worldwide</i>
programme/region	one of the four programmes for one of the four regions	<i>ICRC protection activities in Asia and the Pacific</i>
operation	one of the worldwide delegations	<i>ICRC activities in Colombia</i>

Donor-restricted contributions that exceed specific expenditure within the accounting year are carried forward to the following year (see Note 5.2.15).

In case that the ICRC meets an over financing due to earmarked contributions for a specific operation, the donor is asked if the contribution can be allocated to another operation or be carried forward to the following year. In case of overfinancing, the donor may also ask for a reimbursement of the donation.

5.2.17 Financial income and expenditure

The net financial result is comprised of interest payable on borrowings, interest receivable on funds invested, securities' income, foreign exchange gains and losses, and gains and losses on hedging instruments (see Note 5.2.6).

Interest income is recognized in the statement of income and expenditure as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the asset.

5.2.18 Employee benefits

For headquarters and expatriated employees pension obligations are covered by an independent foundation with a defined contribution plan. One third of the contributions are paid by the employees and two thirds by the ICRC.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

Contributions to the defined contribution pension plan are recognized as an expense in the statement of income and expenditure as incurred.

EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The ICRC has a plan, which proposes to a certain category of its staff working at headquarters or in the field and hired in Geneva to have a pre-retirement at 57 instead of 62. This plan is revocable at any time.

The obligation to employees who presently benefit from this plan is shown under Current employee benefit liabilities (see Note 5.3.10), discounted to its present value. The discount rate is the yield at balance sheet date on a 5-year Swiss Government bond. It covers the period from the date of the ICRC retirement up to the date of Swiss legal retirement.

Allocations made towards the cost of future early retirements are included in the human resources reserve.

DELEGATION EMPLOYEES BENEFITS

Personnel employed locally by the delegations receive social benefits in accordance with the legislation of the countries concerned and the local collective staff agreements.

5.2.19 Expenditure

OPERATING LEASE PAYMENTS

Payments made under operating leases are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure as an integral part of the total lease payments made.

5.2.20 Contingent assets

The ICRC views pledges falling due after five years as probably being receivable but given the operating environment, receipt is not virtually certain as defined in IAS 37. Consequently, management has considered these receivables as contingent assets, which have not been accounted for in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2005 (see Note 5.3.24). In 2004 pledges falling due after one year had been considered as contingent assets.

5.2.21 Presentation

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This section provides a breakdown of the main items on the balance sheet, the statement of income and expenditure, the cash flow statement and the statement of changes in reserves. All figures are in thousands of Swiss francs (CHF ,000) and represent a consolidation of the headquarters and field financial data.

5.3.1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2005	2004
Cash and bank accounts, net ⁽¹⁾	89,781	37,574
Time deposits	151,048	146,843
Cash and bank balances	240,829	184,417
Bank overdrafts	-591	-403
Allowance adjustment ⁽¹⁾	-	39
Cash and cash equivalents	240,238	184,053

(1) In 2004 cash and bank accounts were presented net of an allowance amounting to CHF 39 for non-reimbursement of foreign bank accounts.

5.3.2 Securities

	2005	2004
Debt and equity securities	46,099	37,737
Deposits	12,660	14,592
Total securities	58,759	52,329

Deposits included in securities have an original maturity of over three months.

5.3.3 Accounts receivable and prepayments

	2005	2004
Pledges (see also Note 5.3.24)	151,243	64,270
Re-invoiced costs commercial	1,721	1,544
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	4,863	4,737
Withholding taxes	1,561	1,270
Allowance for accounts receivable	-4,400	-4,470
Total accounts receivable	154,988	67,351
Prepaid expenses	8,964	5,669
Social security and insurance contributions	319	780
Advance payments to suppliers	220	73
Advance payments to employees	3,738	2,825
Total prepayments	13,241	9,347
Total accounts receivable and prepayments	168,229	76,698

5.3.4 Inventories

	2005	2004
Breakdown by category of goods:		
Relief	2,452	3,447
Medical and physical rehabilitation	8,048	8,167
Water and habitat	3,074	2,409
Other	5,246	4,798
Allowance for inventory	-350	-
Total inventories	18,470	18,821

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.5 Property, equipment and intangibles

	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2005 property and equipment	Total 2005 intangibles - software
Historical acquisition costs				
Balance at 1 January 2005	63,258	112,836	176,094	25,355
Additions	3,795	19,337	23,132	1,944
Disposals	-195	-12,874	-13,069	-
Balance at 31 December 2005	66,858	119,299	186,157	27,299
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments				
Balance at 1 January 2005	-20,045	-74,137	-94,182	-20,098
Impairment losses	-508	-213	-721	-
Depreciation charge for the year	-2,219	-15,027	-17,246	-1,104
Disposals	37	12,120	12,157	-
Balance at 31 December 2005	-22,735	-77,257	-99,992	-21,202
Net book value as at 31 December 2005	44,123	42,042	86,165	6,097
	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2004 property and equipment	Total 2004 intangibles - software
Historical acquisition costs				
Balance at 1 January 2004	57,794	120,345	178,139	23,171
Additions	5,653	13,846	19,499	2,184
Disposals	-189	-21,355	-21,544	-
Balance at 31 December 2004	63,258	112,836	176,094	25,355
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments				
Balance at 1 January 2004	-18,281	-81,769	-100,050	-16,868
Impairment losses	-	-133	-133	-106
Depreciation charge for the year	-1,766	-12,537	-14,303	-3,124
Disposals	2	20,302	20,304	-
Balance at 31 December 2004	-20,045	-74,137	-94,182	-20,098
Net book value as at 31 December 2004	43,213	38,699	81,912	5,257

a. Work in progress

At 31 December 2005 assets include work in progress comprising CHF 1,378 for construction and renovation works for buildings (2004: CHF 458), CHF 57 for equipment (2004: CHF 328) and CHF 2,064 for software in development acquired externally or generated internally (2004: CHF 2,823).

b. Impairment loss

An assessment of the value attributed to assets caused the ICRC to write down the carrying amount by CHF 721 (2004: CHF 239).

c. Finance leases

Net equipment held under finance lease amount to CHF 1,110 at 31 December 2005 (2004: CHF 1,472).

d. Security: mortgage loan on property

At 31 December 2005 the headquarters building No.3 is subject to two mortgage notes of CHF 7,050 each to secure the interest-bearing mortgage loan (see Note 5.3.8).

e. Insurance value

The buildings owned and utilized by ICRC have a total insurance cover of CHF 107,488 (2004: CHF 104,729). The buildings owned by the ICRC have an insurance value of CHF 72,366 (2004: CHF 69,967).

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.6 Other assets

	2005	2004
Guarantee deposits	1,401	958
Financial assets	5	5
Total other assets	1,406	963

5.3.7 Accounts payable

	2005	2004
Governments	9,289	7,729
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	1,814	905
Suppliers	15,132	13,050
Social security and insurance contributions	19,325	12,627
Sundry items	70	73
Total accounts payable	45,630	34,384

5.3.8 Financial liabilities

Current financial liabilities	2005	2004
Bank overdrafts	591	403
Current portion of non-current financial liabilities	779	769
Total current financial liabilities	1,370	1,172

Non-current financial liabilities	2005	2004
Loans		
Interest-bearing loan	7,100	7,300
Unsecured loan	8,967	9,175
Financial Leases		
Lease obligation	1,110	1,472
Total loans and financial leases	17,177	17,947
Current portion	-779	-769
Total non-current financial liabilities	16,398	17,178

Terms and loan repayment schedule	Total	within 1 year	2-5 years	more than 5 years
<i>Interest-bearing loan (effective rate)</i>				
CHF – fixed at 4.43%	7,100	200	800	6,100
<i>Unsecured loan</i>				
CHF – granted at 0%	8,967	208	835	7,924
Total	16,067	408	1,635	14,024

The interest-bearing loan of CHF 7,100 (2004: CHF 7,300) relates to one building at the headquarters in Geneva. Interest amounted to CHF 323 in 2005 (2004: CHF 333).

The unsecured loan of initially CHF 9,800 is interest free, reimbursable over 47 years and has been granted for the training centre in Ecogia-Geneva, Switzerland. Notional interest for a contributed service of CHF 295 (2004: CHF 299) has been recorded as expenditure and as income at 3.21 % (2004: 3.19 %).

The fair value of non-current financial liabilities amounts to CHF 10,537 (2004: CHF 9,995).

5.3.9 Provisions

CURRENT PROVISIONS

	2005	2004
For specific risks		
Balance at 1 January	354	1,886
Use of provisions during the year	-296	-1,532
Total	58	354

The balance represents potential operational claims on the ICRC.

NON-CURRENT PROVISIONS

In 2005 there were no long-term provisions (2004: nil).

5.3.10 Employee benefits

ICRC has one defined contribution pension plan and an early retirement plan for headquarters contracted staff, and an end-of-service plan for delegation-employed staff. The following provides details of each of these plans.

A. PERSONNEL PENSION PLAN

Under the defined contribution pension plan the ICRC paid CHF 32,819 (2004: CHF 29,959) to the pension fund.

The pension fund Board has by a signed agreement with the ICRC accepted the following:

1. The ICRC's level of contributions is fixed at 17% of the pensionable salary.
2. The ICRC will not be liable for any additional contributions if the fund does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits as defined in the pension fund regulations relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.
3. The ICRC will not be liable for any additional contributions if the fund does not maintain a 4% return on investment.
4. Any surplus will not be used to reduce employer contributions.

B. EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The future financial commitments due to early retirement benefits are borne by the ICRC and are included under the caption "Employee benefits – current liabilities" in the amount of CHF 7,317 (2004: CHF 8,614) for accepted early retirements. The human resources reserve includes an accumulated allocation of CHF 4,994 (2004: CHF 4,094) towards the cost of future early retirements.

The obligation for early retirement is calculated on the basis of the following actuarial assumptions:

	2005	2004
Discount rate	1.81%	1.75%
Rate of pension increase	0.79%	0.85%

The discount rate is based on a 5-year-yield Swiss Government bond and the rate of pension increase on the average Swiss inflation rate for the last 10 years.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

C. DELEGATION EMPLOYEE END-OF-SERVICE BENEFITS

The present value of future financial commitments due for end-of-service indemnities (e.g. end of employment, retirement, severance pay) are borne by the ICRC and are included under the caption "Employee benefits – current liabilities" in the amount of CHF 29,385 (2004: CHF 20,736). In 2005 allocations to this provision were CHF 12,324 (2004: CHF 1,850), and use of the provision was CHF 3,675 (2004: CHF 2,495). The indemnity is based on one month of compensation for every year of service up to a maximum of 12 months except for certain countries where local legislation requires otherwise. The calculated costs have been computed using the projected unit credit cost method. As there is only a lump sum benefit at the end of service there are no pensioners. The plan is unfunded and therefore the fair value of plan assets is nil.

The principal assumptions used for the purpose of the actuarial valuations were as follows:

	2005	2004
Discount rate	10.65 – 15.5%	10.65 – 15.5%
Future salary increase	6.75 – 10.7%	6.75 – 10.7%

These rates have been expressed as a range reflecting the various material financial environments (countries) that the obligation has been calculated for.

Rates for mortality, disability, normal retirement and withdrawal vary depending on each country and the nature of the ICRC operations. These variations do not have a material impact on the calculations.

MOVEMENT IN NET OBLIGATION

	2005	2004
Opening net obligation recognized in balance sheet	20,736	21,380
Net periodic pension cost	12,324	1,850
Benefits paid	-3,675	-2,494
Closing net obligation recognized in balance sheet	29,385	20,736

Current employee benefit liabilities	2005	2004
Staff vacation accruals	24,455	23,379
Salaries due to employees	3,334	2,842
Early retirement	7,317	8,614
Delegation employee benefits	29,385	20,736
Non-current portion of current employee benefits	-5,286	-6,397
Total current employee benefit liabilities	59,205	49,174

Non-current employee benefit liabilities	2005	2004
Early retirement	5,286	6,397
Total non-current employee benefit liabilities	5,286	6,397

5.3.11 Accrued expenses and deferred income

	2005	2004
Accrued expenses	13,793	7,895
National Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, organizations, foundations and funds	1,139	1,884
Deferred income	47,714	1,989
Total accrued expenses and deferred income	62,646	11,768

Non-current deferred income	2005	2004
Deferred income	16,533	-
Total non-current deferred income	16,533	-

In 2004 deferred income was classified as contingent asset, see Note 5.3.24

5.3.12 Funds and foundations

The following balances are included in the consolidated financial statements from the funds and foundations.

	2005	2004
Cash and bank accounts	41	844
Securities	14,093	11,144
Accounts receivable	5,655	55
Deferred income	5,500	-
Contributions – private sources	1,142	1,086
Financial income	1,394	346
Other expenditure	61	48

5.3.13 Funding of field operations

A. FIELD OPERATIONS WITH TEMPORARY DEFICIT FINANCING

	2005	2004
Loosely earmarked balances	-38,945	-8,924
Tightly earmarked balances	-	-563
Total	-38,945	-9,487

Field operations are considered as a *deficit financing* as soon as contributions do not cover the expenditure.

B. DONOR-RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS

	2005	2004
Loosely earmarked balances	60,254	1,296
Tightly earmarked balances	1,689	6,768
Total	61,943	8,064

In 2005 there was no reimbursement of contributions received in previous years (2004: nil).

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.14 Reserves designated by the Assembly

	Future operations	Operational risks	Assets replacement	Financial risks	Human resources	Specific projects	Total
Balance as at 31 December 2003	118,521	19,590	90,315	11,051	8,294	3,198	250,969
Use/release during 2004	-	-401	-	-4,251	-2,401	-2,563	-9,616
Allocations 2004	9,084	5,811	9,036	5,376	2,401	1,945	33,653
Balance as at 31 December 2004	127,605	25,000	99,351	12,176	8,294	2,580	275,006
Use/release during 2005	-	-463	-787	-	-1,187	-1,230	-3,667
Allocations 2005	20,086	1,629	18,405	2,757	3,587	3,166	49,630
Balance as at 31 December 2005	147,691	26,166	116,969	14,933	10,694	4,516	320,969

The future operations reserve is for insufficient operational funding, estimated at a level of the average of 2.5 months of *cash, kind* and *services* expenditure over the last five years including both the headquarters and field structure. The theoretical level would be CHF 171,109 (in 2004: CHF 168,285).

5.3.15 Contributions

	2005	2004
Governments	697,385	606,352
European Commission	90,129	77,899
International organizations	186	326
Supranational organizations	283	474
National Societies	124,903	39,020
Public sources	4,476	4,581
Private sources	42,290	29,105
Total	959,652	757,757

5.3.16 Operating expenditure by cash, kind and services

Operating expenditure	Cash	Kind	Services	Total 2005	Total 2004
Field					
Staff-related costs	-319,944	-	-16,266	-336,210	-282,320
Mission costs	-43,196	-	-	-43,196	-31,608
Rentals	-106,087	-	-897	-106,984	-68,760
Subcontracted maintenance	-16,599	-	-	-16,599	-24,699
Purchase of goods and materials	-172,324	-24,783	-	-197,107	-155,897
General expenditure	-48,655	-	-	-48,655	-59,202
Depreciation	-14,377	-	-	-14,377	-12,758
Total	-721,182	-24,783	-17,163	-763,128	-635,244
Headquarters					
Staff-related costs	-109,501	-	-285	-109,786	-104,636
Mission costs	-5,232	-	-	-5,232	-4,700
Rentals	-1,662	-	-1,194	-2,856	-2,477
Subcontracted maintenance	-2,268	-	-	-2,268	-2,849
Purchase of goods and materials	-3,258	-	-	-3,258	-3,603
General expenditure	-19,557	-305	-	-19,862	-23,621
Depreciation	-4,341	-	-	-4,341	-5,056
Total	-145,819	-305	-1,479	-147,603	-146,942

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.17 Headquarters overhead income, field overhead expenditure and administrative costs

As a contribution to the costs of headquarters' support for operations in the field, an additional 6.5% is added to the budget of each operation for cash and service movements. This support includes services essential for an operation's success such as human resources, finance, logistics, information technology and other support. The following analysis reconciles the audited consolidated financial statements to the management financial results of the emergency appeals.

- a. The reconciliation of **Headquarters overhead income** results in the following breakdown for the last two years:

2005		Headquarters	Field	Total
Contributions	5.3.15			959,652
less Funds and foundations	5.3.12			-1,142
ICRC Contributions		125,819	832,691	958,510
Internal allocation from field budget		47,993	-	47,993
Total income		173,812	832,691	1,006,503

2004				
Contributions	5.3.15			757,757
less Funds and foundations	5.3.12			-1,086
ICRC Contributions		126,477	630,194	756,671
Internal allocation from field budget		40,661	-	40,661
Total income related to emergency appeals		167,138	630,194	797,332

- b. The reconciliation of **Field overhead expenditure** is as follows:

2005		Headquarters	Field	Total
Operational expenditure	5.3.16	-147,603	-763,128	-910,731
Internal allocation to headquarters budget		-	-47,993	-47,993
Total expenditure		-147,603	-811,121	958,724

2004				
Operational expenditure		-146,942	-635,244	-782,186
Internal allocation to headquarters budget		-	-40,661	-40,661
Total expenditure related to emergency appeals		-146,942	-675,905	-822,847

c. Administrative costs

The following cost centres at headquarters are classified as administrative not direct programme-oriented operating expenditures:

- ▶ Presidency, directorate and management control
- ▶ Finance and administration
- ▶ Human resources
- ▶ Fundraising
- ▶ Information systems and archives

Their total cost amounts to CHF 84,446 (2004: CHF 85,034) which represents 9.3% (2004: 10.9%) of the overall operational expenditure.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.18 Staff-related costs and figures

	2005	2004
Wages and salaries	336,898	294,464
Social insurance and social benefits	92,548	82,216
Contributed services	16,551	10,276
Total	445,997	386,956

The average number of positions/employees during 2005 (2004) was:

in the field:

- ▶ 1,478 (2004: 1,383) expatriate staff (including 179 (2004: 214) seconded by National Societies);
- ▶ 9,965 (2004: 8,613) locally recruited employees under ICRC contract;
- ▶ 4,075 (2004: 2,454) local daily workers.

at headquarters:

- ▶ 853 (2004: 831) staff (including 8 (2004: 11) seconded by National Societies), which represents
- ▶ 722 (2004: 701) full-time positions.

5.3.19 Leases**A. OPERATING LEASES AS LESSEE**

The ICRC leases warehouses, delegation buildings and means of transport under operating leases. The leases may typically run for a period up to ten years, with an option to renew the lease after that date. Lease payments are increased annually to reflect market rentals.

During the current year CHF 108 million were recognized as rental expense in the statement of income and expenditure in respect of operating leases (2004: CHF 69 million) as follows:

	2005	2004
Premises and equipment	30,249	27,679
Transport	77,759	41,574
Total	108,008	69,253
Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:		
within 12 months	2,956	4,844
within 1 to 5 years	4,799	7,648
over 5 years	-	-
Total	7,755	12,492

B. OPERATING LEASES AS LESSOR

In 2005, CHF 632 (2004: CHF 456) was recognized as income in the statement of income and expenditure in respect of sub-leases.

C. FINANCE LEASES AS LESSEE

Non-cancellable finance lease liabilities are as follows: 2005

	Future value		Present value	
	Payments	Interests	Principal	Payments
within 12 months	397	25	370	383
within 1 to 5 years	761	21	740	716
Total	1,158	46	1,110	1,099

The difference between the future value of the minimum lease payments and their present value represents the discount on the lease obligations.

5.3.20 Financial income and expense

	2005	2004
Securities at fair value		
Gain on securities	3,692	237
Securities' income, net	1,380	870
Total net income on securities	5,072	1,107
Interest income	2,016	1,010
Financial income	7,088	2,117
Interest expense ⁽¹⁾	-360	-380
Total financial income, net	6,728	1,737
Foreign exchange gain (loss), net		
	5,920	-6,452

(1) Interest expense is classified within operating expenditure consistent with the requirements of agreements with donors.

5.3.21 Other income and other expenditure

	2005	2004
Decrease in allowance for accounts receivable	70	260
Decrease in allowance for specific risks, net	415	1,856
Revaluation of fixed assets	38	113
Re-invoiced costs	4,458	4,295
Income arising from prior period	1,852	2,646
Other	5,392	5,984
Adjustments of operations	611	1,792
Total other income	12,836	16,946
Increase in allowance for specific risks, net	-114	-
Increase in allowance for obsolete stock	-350	-
Expenditure arising from prior period	-513	-120
Other	-1,979	-4,201
Total other expenditure	-2,956	-4,321

Adjustments of operations concern prior period charges relating mainly to transfer of goods and revised estimates of accruals, and does not relate to current field operations.

5.3.22 Taxes

The ICRC (but not its staff) is exempt from taxes in Switzerland and most countries in which its delegations are based.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

5.3.23 Financial instruments

A. FOREIGN CURRENCY RISK

The ICRC incurs foreign currency risk on pledged contributions that are denominated in a currency other than Swiss francs. The currencies giving rise to this risk are primarily the euro, pound sterling, Swedish kroner and US-dollar.

Substantially all financial instruments are denominated in Swiss francs except for the following:

		2005	2004
Cash and cash equivalents	Euro	27,877	11,206
	US dollar	26,176	22,238
Accounts Receivable	Euro	43,242	96,558
	British pound	15,756	6,573
	US dollar	50,206	7,421
Accounts payable	Euro	1,340	1,430
	US dollar	14,516	9,984

Hedging policy

The ICRC hedges significant pledged contributions denominated in a foreign currency on the balance sheet.

The ICRC uses *forward foreign exchange contracts* to hedge its foreign currency risk as soon as the balance sheet item is recognized. The forward exchange contracts have maturities of less than one year after the balance sheet date. Where necessary the contracts are swapped at maturity. Neither cash-flow nor fair value hedge accounting has been applied in 2005.

In respect of other monetary assets and liabilities held in currencies other than Swiss francs, the ICRC ensures that the net exposure is kept to an acceptable level, by buying or selling foreign currencies at *spot rates* where necessary to address short-term needs.

At the year-end, the following positions are open:

	2005	2004
Forward foreign exchange contracts		
Purchase of foreign currencies	31,922	33,815
Sale of foreign currencies	-95,706	-30,848

B. FAIR VALUE

Changes in the fair value of forward exchange contracts that hedge pledged contributions or significant expenditures are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure. They are generally offset by foreign exchange gains and losses arising on translation of the hedged item to Swiss francs at the balance sheet date.

Both the changes in fair value of the hedging instruments and the foreign exchange gains and losses relating to the hedged items are recognized as part of "Total financial income, net". (see Note 5.3.20). The net result of marking forward exchange contracts to market at the balance sheet date was a charge of CHF 1,161 (2004: charge of CHF 297).

Except for an unsecured loan of CHF 8,967 (see note 5.3.8), the fair value of the financial instruments held at 31 December 2005 does not differ from the carrying amounts shown in the balance sheet.

C. INTEREST RATE RISK

The ICRC has a fixed rate mortgage up to 30 June 2006 at a rate of 4.43%. Current market rates for similar debt instruments range from 3.20% to 3.75%.

D. CREDIT RISK

The receivables are mostly with governments with high credit ratings, where credit risk is low.

Investments are allowed only in liquid securities and only with counterparties that have a high credit rating.

Other positions are not material, or are covered by provisions.

At the balance sheet date there were no significant concentrations of credit risk. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset, including the derivative financial instruments, in the balance sheet.

5.3.24 Contingent assets

In 2005 pledges falling due after five years amounting to CHF 4,500 have been considered as contingent assets.

Contingent assets	Total 2005	Total 2004
Due within 1 year	-	41,218
Due between 2 – 5 years	-	13,237
Due after 5 years	4,500	-
Total	4,500	54,455

In 2005 ICRC management reviewed the probability of receipt of pledges and considered it more accurate to classify pledges falling due after 5 years as contingent assets. In 2004 pledges falling due after one year were considered contingent assets. Had the estimate used in 2005 been applied at 31 December 2004, contingent assets at this date would have been lowered by CHF 54,455. Hence, trade receivables and deferred income would have been increased by the same amount.

5.3.25 Capital and contractual commitments

Capital commitments

Capital expenditures of CHF 5,253 (2004: CHF 14,407) have been approved but not provided for in these consolidated financial statements.

5.3.26 Related parties

A. IDENTITY OF RELATED PARTIES

The ICRC has a related party relationship with five funds (Augusta Fund, Nightingale Fund, Maurice De Madre Fund, Paul Reuter Fund and the Special Fund for the Disabled). The objectives of these funds are to assist the ICRC in its activities.

In addition, the Avenir Foundation is an entity for the benefit of staff working at headquarters or in the field and hired in Geneva under an open-ended contract. Its purpose is to facilitate training of professional skills, to facilitate career moves and to improve retirement benefits. The ICRC pays fixed contributions to staff's individual accounts of the foundation depending on the length of their employment.

(in Swiss francs ,000)

Key management personnel are persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the ICRC. Related parties implies the directors and senior management as well as close members of their families or households.

The Assembly is the supreme governing body of the ICRC.

The ICRC has a **conflict-of-interest policy** whereby the Assembly, the directors, and the senior management must advise the Assembly or the human resources management of any direct or indirect interest in any transaction or relationship with the ICRC and are disqualified from participation in discussions and decisions regarding any action affecting their individual, professional, or business interests.

B. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the ICRC received income of CHF nil (2004: CHF 20) from these five funds.

In 2005, contributions to the Avenir Foundation amounts to CHF 10,306 (2004: CHF 9,396), and an amount of CHF 3,223 (2004: CHF 5,782) for training purposes, professional integration outside of the ICRC and early retirements has been paid out by the foundation.

There were no transactions with key management personnel except those described in the following paragraph. With the exception of the president and the permanent vice-president, none of the other members of the Assembly, nor any person related to them, have received any remuneration from the ICRC during the year.

C. REMUNERATION

The salaries and benefits of the president, the permanent vice-president, the 6 directors and the head of Internal Audit of the ICRC are set by the Assembly. Their total remuneration amounted to CHF 3,350 (2004: CHF 3,269) including employer expenses for social insurance and social benefits. No other salaries and benefits (e.g. fringe benefits, loans) were granted to them.

Related party remuneration	Total 2005	Total 2004
Short-term employee benefits	2,753	2,641
Post-employment benefits	528	564
Other long-term benefits	69	64
Total remuneration	3,350	3,269

The non-permanent members of the Assembly, or persons related or connected by business to them, have not received any remuneration from the ICRC during the year.

5.3.27 Subsequent events

No events occurred between 31 December 2005 and the authorization of the consolidated financial statements that would require modification of or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements.



**KPMG Fides Peat
Audit**

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Report of the external Auditors to the Assembly of the Members of The International Committee of the Red Cross

As external auditors of your association, we have audited the financial statements (balance sheet, statement of income and expenditure, cash flow statement, statement of changes in reserves and notes) of The International Committee of the Red Cross for the year ended December 31, 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Committee. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We confirm that we meet the legal requirements concerning professional qualification and independence.

Our audit was conducted in accordance with Swiss Auditing Standards and with the International Standards on Auditing, issued by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Committee, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the International Committee of the Red Cross as of December 31, 2005, and the results of operations, the changes in reserves and the cash flows in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Furthermore, the accounting records and financial statements comply with the Swiss law and the articles of incorporation.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

KPMG Fides Peat

Stéphane Gard
Auditor in charge

Hélène Béguin

Geneva, 7 April, 2006

(in CHF ,000)

6.1. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE RELATED TO THE 2005 EMERGENCY AND HEADQUARTERS APPEALS

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2005 Initial budget	Amendments	2005 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Preventive action	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2005 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)										
Africa	390,471	-	390,471	70,282	245,108	33,592	27,147	82	376,210	22,576
Asia and the Pacific	135,389	108,867	244,256	38,432	148,207	21,327	15,710	209	223,886	12,596
Europe and the Americas	139,750	-	139,750	23,347	56,492	36,618	14,776	280	131,514	7,976
Middle East and North Africa	115,080	-	115,080	31,656	26,930	11,943	8,826	156	79,512	4,845
Contingency	39,034	-	39,034							
TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS FIELD	819,724	108,867	928,592	163,716	476,737	103,481	66,460	728	811,121	47,993
2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL										
Headquarters general										
2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT										
Africa	24,677	-	24,677	3,515	12,478	1,504	873	6,013	24,384	
Asia and the Pacific	11,157	-	11,157	1,953	4,750	777	383	3,270	11,134	
Europe and the Americas	14,728	-	14,728	2,072	5,592	2,209	223	3,818	13,915	
Middle East and North Africa	10,642	-	10,642	1,492	3,906	1,062	236	2,285	8,981	
SUB-TOTAL HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT	61,204	-	61,204	9,032	26,726	5,553	1,716	15,386	58,413	
2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES										
Assembly, Presidency and Management Control	4,244	-	4,244	0	-	487	-	4,263	4,750	
Directorate	10,959	-	10,959	-	-	2,212	619	9,873	12,703	
Operations	32,778	-	32,778	4,491	8,468	2,707	882	11,298	27,846	
Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement	20,256	-	20,256	415	-	10,063	3,571	5,954	20,002	
Communication	22,654	-	22,654	-	-	19,387	1,048	2,018	22,453	
Kind and services for buildings			-					1,435	1,435	
SUB-TOTAL HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES	90,891	-	90,891	4,907	8,468	34,856	6,119	34,840	89,189	
TOTAL HEADQUARTERS	152,095	-	152,095	13,939	35,194	40,409	7,835	50,226	147,603	
3. TOTAL FOUNDATION AND FUNDS								58	58	
4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE (according to table 2 – Statement of income and expenditure)										
Total ICRC income and expenditure				177,655	511,931	143,890	74,295	50,954	958,782	47,993
Deduction of field non-operating income										
Deduction of headquarters non-operating income										
Deduction of overheads									-47,993	-47,993
Deduction of cross-charging (foundation and funds)								-58	-58	
TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE				177,655	511,931	143,890	74,295	50,896	910,731	-

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

INCOME (Cash, kind and services)						FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS (Balances brought forward)					
Cash contributions	Cash non-operating income	Overheads	Kind contributions	Services contributions	2005 Total income	2004 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2004 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2005 Donor-restricted contributions	2005 Field operations with temporary deficit financing	
358,388	1,136		6,316	7,491	373,331		- 2,836	196	11,326	- 16,845	1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)
221,176	337		17,508	8,651	247,671	5,157	- 3,205	56	33,836	- 8,043	Africa
122,008	500		837	1,151	124,495	937	- 2,230	301	619	- 8,630	Asia and the Pacific
88,654	462		122	391	89,628	1,295	- 1,216	57	15,680	- 5,427	Europe and the Americas
											Middle East and North Africa
											Contingency
790,225	2,435		24,783	17,683	835,126	7,389	- 9,487	611	61,461	- 38,945	TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS FIELD
123,373	3,727	47,993	82	-	175,175						2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL
											Headquarters general
											2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT
-	-		-	-	-						Africa
-	-		-	-	-						Asia and the Pacific
-	237		-	-	237						Europe and the Americas
-	-		-	-	-						Middle East and North Africa
-	237		-	-	237						SUB-TOTAL HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT
-	-		-	10	10						2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES
524	-		-	-	524						Assembly, Presidency and Management Control
-	-		-	75	75						Directorate
											Operations
56	24		-	210	290						Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement
-	50		-	-	50						Communication
			-	1,489	1,489						Kind and services for buildings
580	75		-	1,783	2,520						SUB-TOTAL HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES
123,953	4,039	47,993	82	1,783	177,850						TOTAL HEADQUARTERS
1,200					1,200						3.TOTAL FOUNDATION AND FUNDS
915,379	6,473	47,993	24,865	19,466	1,014,175						4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE
	- 2,435				- 2,435						Total ICRC income and expenditure
											Deduction of field non-operating income
	- 4,039				- 4,039						Deduction of headquarters non-operating income
		- 47,993			- 47,993						Deduction of overheads
- 58					- 58						Deduction of cross-charging (foundation and funds)
915,321	-	-	24,865	19,466	959,652						TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE

(in CHF ,000)

6.2. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2005 EMERGENCY APPEALS

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)								
	2005 Initial budget	Amendments	2005 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Preventive action	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2005 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)		
Africa												
Angola	12,784	-	12,784	6,137	3,744	1,936	799	2	12,618	770		
Burundi	9,228	-	9,228	1,912	5,199	836	311	-	8,258	504		
Chad	7,132	-	7,132	3,239	2,660	1,068	153	2	7,122	431		
Congo, Democratic Republic of	29,669	-	29,669	8,441	14,960	3,145	3,087	-	29,632	1,809		
Congo	9,082	-	9,082	1,028	4,602	1,402	419	-	7,451	454		
Eritrea	8,096	-	8,096	1,902	4,864	326	527	4	7,624	465		
Ethiopia	29,004	-	29,004	6,361	14,641	2,432	1,562	-	24,997	1,514		
Guinea	9,382	-	9,382	3,905	2,401	1,711	1,290	-	9,308	568		
Liberia	32,732	-	32,732	6,031	21,429	747	1,952	16	30,174	1,822		
Rwanda	15,464	-	15,464	3,373	8,960	888	668	-	13,890	848		
Sierra Leone	6,885	-	6,885	3,483	1,239	679	1,325	14	6,740	411		
Somalia	23,486	-	23,486	328	22,595	553	1,059	7	24,542	1,456		
Sudan	130,243	-	130,243	12,090	108,517	5,741	3,395	38	129,781	7,619		
Uganda	20,592	-	20,592	1,531	13,583	1,063	1,998	-	18,175	1,109		
Abidjan (regional delegation)	15,366	-	15,366	3,774	8,124	2,529	1,717	-	16,143	978		
Abuja (regional delegation)	4,459	-	4,459	767	34	1,144	2,226	-	4,171	255		
Dakar (regional delegation)	3,702	-	3,702	250	1,615	1,305	1,011	-	4,182	255		
Harare (regional delegation)	5,673	-	5,673	1,794	925	880	536	-	4,135	252		
Nairobi (regional delegation)	8,094	-	8,094	2,587	3,336	2,106	1,145	- 0	9,174	560		
Pretoria (regional delegation)	4,777	-	4,777	646	653	1,727	1,199	-	4,225	258		
Yaoundé (regional delegation)	4,620	-	4,620	703	1,025	1,374	768	-	3,871	236		
Total Africa	390,471	-	390,471	70,282	245,108	33,592	27,147	82	376,210	22,576		
Asia and the Pacific												
Afghanistan	43,600	-	43,600	4,941	29,034	2,905	3,607	-	40,487	2,471		
Indonesia	9,002	29,856	38,858	4,581	28,976	1,657	1,594	-	36,808	1,907		
Myanmar	16,869	-	16,869	6,098	6,082	1,518	752	-	14,449	882		
Nepal	9,832	-	9,832	4,983	2,013	1,068	1,188	-	9,252	565		
Pakistan	5,571	56,462	62,033	2,420	55,192	1,254	836	35	59,737	3,137		
Philippines	3,147	-	3,147	1,642	384	746	311	-	3,082	188		
Sri Lanka	10,767	22,549	33,316	6,126	18,288	1,426	1,847	6	27,693	1,470		
Bangkok (regional delegation)	6,491	-	6,491	1,373	2,783	1,325	768	25	6,273	383		
Beijing (regional delegation)	5,750	-	5,750	28	3,132	1,433	824	3	5,420	331		
Kuala Lumpur (regional delegation)	2,059	-	2,059	226	-	1,625	215	140	2,206	135		
New Delhi (regional delegation)	8,023	-	8,023	2,648	738	2,319	1,640	-	7,344	448		
Suva (regional delegation)	3,757	-	3,757	362	31	1,503	1,372	-	3,268	199		
Tashkent (regional delegation)	10,521	-	10,521	3,004	1,555	2,550	757	-	7,867	480		
Total Asia and the Pacific	135,389	108,867	244,256	38,432	148,207	21,327	15,710	209	223,886	12,596		

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

INCOME (Cash, kind and services)						FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS (Balances brought forward)					
	Cash contributions	Cash non-operating income	Kind contributions	Services contributions	2005 Total income		2004 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2004 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2005 Donor-restricted contributions	2005 Field operations with temporary deficit financing
											Africa
	12,501	64	-	175	12,741		- 120	- 2			Angola
	8,158	19	-	80	8,258						Burundi
	7,055	2	56	9	7,122						Chad
	27,576	26	-	62	27,664					- 1,968	Congo, Democratic Republic of
	7,328	104	6	14	7,451						Congo
	7,518	3	-	103	7,623			0			Eritrea
	18,239	43	196	447	18,924			31		- 6,041	Ethiopia
	9,010	53	-	244	9,308						Guinea
	30,217	14	319	835	31,386		- 1,216	5			Liberia
	13,779	58	-	53	13,890						Rwanda
	6,652	13	-	74	6,740						Sierra Leone
	16,674	2	685	216	17,577			148		- 6,818	Somalia
	130,389	333	4,943	4,484	140,149		- 1,500	15	8,883		Sudan
	20,286	9	-	323	20,618				2,443		Uganda
	13,568	183	112	263	14,125					- 2,018	Abidjan (regional delegation)
	4,161	10	-	-	4,171						Abuja (regional delegation)
	4,173	1	-	7	4,182						Dakar (regional delegation)
	4,100	35	-	-	4,135						Harare (regional delegation)
	9,005	110	-	59	9,174			0			Nairobi (regional delegation)
	4,148	32	-	44	4,225						Pretoria (regional delegation)
	3,848	22	-	-	3,871						Yaoundé (regional delegation)
	358,388	1,136	6,316	7,491	373,331	-	- 2,836	196	11,326	- 16,845	Total Africa
											Asia and the Pacific
	34,757	185	-	685	35,626		- 1,220	49		- 6,032	Afghanistan
	43,827	23	5,555	1,860	51,265	2,910			17,368		Indonesia
	15,310	16	-	289	15,615		- 1,174	7			Myanmar
	7,822	5	-	225	8,053		- 812			- 2,011	Nepal
	54,596	9	8,338	3,169	66,112			- 0	6,375		Pakistan
	3,063	7	-	13	3,082						Philippines
	30,340	56	3,615	2,142	36,153	1,634			10,094		Sri Lanka
	5,573	3	-	84	5,660	613					Bangkok (regional delegation)
	5,418	2	-	-	5,420						Beijing (regional delegation)
	2,146	2	-	58	2,206						Kuala Lumpur (regional delegation)
	7,341	4	-	-	7,344						New Delhi (regional delegation)
	3,263	5	-	-	3,268						Suva (regional delegation)
	7,720	20	-	126	7,867						Tashkent (regional delegation)
	221,176	337	17,508	8,651	247,671	5,157	- 3,205	56	33,836	- 8,043	Total Asia and the Pacific

(in CHF ,000)

6.2. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2005 EMERGENCY APPEALS (cont.)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2005 Initial budget	Amendments	2005 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Preventive action	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2005 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
Europe and the Americas										
Armenia	3,425	-	3,425	966	1,257	879	203	-	3,306	202
Azerbaijan	4,822	-	4,822	1,525	1,719	1,220	221	-	4,685	286
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5,862	-	5,862	1,304	449	1,489	1,504	-	4,747	290
Georgia	14,983	-	14,983	1,370	12,419	1,280	274	3	15,346	937
Serbia and Montenegro (including Kosovo)	11,872	-	11,872	4,226	3,091	2,063	1,943	-	11,323	687
Budapest (regional delegation)	3,892	-	3,892	603	-	2,285	928	-	3,816	233
Kyiv (regional delegation)	1,822	-	1,822	21	-	1,245	477	-	1,744	106
Moscow (regional delegation)	32,533	-	32,533	1,859	21,141	5,317	2,381	17	30,715	1,828
Skopje (regional delegation)	1,931	-	1,931	375	-	874	423	-	1,673	102
Ankara	813	-	813	70	-	320	283	-	673	41
Brussels	1,739	-	1,739	-	-	1,440	123	146	1,709	104
International Tracing Service	348	-	348	359	-	-	-	-	359	22
London	408	-	408	-	-	319	56	-	375	23
Paris	1,288	-	1,288	-	-	1,054	31	-	1,085	66
Colombia	26,018	-	26,018	4,975	13,855	3,617	1,219	-	23,666	1,444
Haiti	5,033	-	5,033	1,007	1,271	1,159	1,439	-	4,875	298
Buenos Aires (regional delegation)	2,791	-	2,791	326	-	1,642	594	114	2,676	163
Caracas (regional delegation)	2,080	-	2,080	69	5	1,090	377	-	1,541	94
Lima (regional delegation)	4,963	-	4,963	1,356	818	1,671	892	-	4,738	289
Mexico City (regional delegation)	5,724	-	5,724	600	268	2,927	1,165	-	4,960	303
Washington (regional delegation)	5,049	-	5,049	2,335	198	2,536	243	-	5,312	324
New York	2,353	-	2,353	-	-	2,189	-	-	2,189	134
Total Europe and the Americas	139,750	-	139,750	23,347	56,492	36,618	14,776	280	131,514	7,976
Middle East and North Africa										
Algeria	2,597	-	2,597	743	27	284	907	-	1,961	120
Egypt	1,553	-	1,553	170	-	1,074	100	-	1,344	82
Iran	2,912	-	2,912	921	-	1,108	480	2	2,510	153
Iraq	48,863	-	48,863	10,161	10,643	2,467	1,248	10	24,528	1,497
Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Autonomous Palestinian Territories	46,919	-	46,919	15,256	15,270	2,551	4,776	-	37,853	2,303
Jordan	1,664	-	1,664	1,134	2	581	135	-	1,852	113
Lebanon	1,551	-	1,551	398	89	599	254	-	1,341	82
Syria	1,404	-	1,404	188	288	455	155	-	1,086	66
Yemen	2,382	-	2,382	299	611	768	284	-	1,961	120
Kuwait (regional delegation)	2,341	-	2,341	601	-	1,187	153	140	2,080	127
Tunis (regional delegation)	2,895	-	2,895	1,785	-	869	336	4	2,995	183
Total Middle East and North Africa	115,080	-	115,080	31,656	26,930	11,943	8,826	156	79,512	4,845
Contingency	39,034	-	39,034							
TOTAL FIELD	819,724	108,867	928,592	163,716	476,737	103,481	66,460	728	811,121	47,993

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

INCOME (Cash, kind and services)						FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS (Balances brought forward)					
Cash contributions	Cash non-operating income	Kind contributions	Services contributions	2005 Total Income		2004 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2004 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2005 Donor-restricted contributions	2005 Field operations with temporary deficit financing	
											Europe and the Americas
3,302	4	-	-	3,306							Armenia
4,648	1	-	36	4,685							Azerbaijan
4,729	13	-	4	4,747							Bosnia and Herzegovina
15,037	9	-	124	15,171		176	- 0				Georgia
11,121	39	68	82	11,311			12				Serbia and Montenegro (including Kosovo)
2,975	79	-	1	3,055		761		619	- 619		Budapest (regional delegation)
1,707	37	-	-	1,744							Kyiv (regional delegation)
25,905	7	767	125	26,804		- 1,092			- 5,003		Moscow (regional delegation)
1,540	3	-	129	1,673							Skopje (regional delegation)
673	0	-	-	673							Ankara
1,707	2	-	-	1,709							Brussels
359	1	-	-	359							International Tracing Service
363	-	-	12	375							London
780	167	-	138	1,085							Paris
21,397	40	1	358	21,796		- 1,139			- 3,008		Colombia
4,446	2	-	138	4,586			289				Haiti
2,619	57	-	-	2,676							Buenos Aires (regional delegation)
1,539	2	-	-	1,541							Caracas (regional delegation)
4,733	5	-	-	4,738							Lima (regional delegation)
4,943	15	-	2	4,960							Mexico City (regional delegation)
5,303	7	-	1	5,312							Washington (regional delegation)
2,180	9	-	-	2,189							New York
122,008	500	837	1,151	124,495		937	- 2,230	301	619	- 8,630	Total Europe and the Americas
											Middle East and North Africa
1,962	- 1	-	-	1,961							Algeria
1,343	2	-	-	1,344							Egypt
2,499	4	-	-	2,503			7				Iran
38,220	42	-	17	38,280		1,295	44	15,091			Iraq
33,478	388	122	275	34,262		- 1,216	- 31	589	- 5,427		Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Autonomous Palestinian Territories
1,694	22	-	99	1,814			38				Jordan
1,339	2	-	-	1,341							Lebanon
1,085	0	-	-	1,086							Syria
1,961	1	-	-	1,961							Yemen
2,079	1	-	-	2,080							Kuwait (regional delegation)
2,994	0	-	-	2,995							Tunis (regional delegation)
88,654	462	122	391	89,628		1,295	- 1,216	57	15,680	- 5,427	Total Middle East and North Africa
											Contingency
790,225	2,435	24,783	17,683	835,126		7,389	- 9,487	611	61,461	- 38,945	TOTAL FIELD

7. CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2005

7.0 SUMMARY OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
7.1 Governments	116,900,870	567,980,911	319,167	685,200,947	10,226,608	1,957,066	697,384,621	419,137	697,803,758
7.2 European Commission ⁽¹⁾		91,257,564	- 1,128,995	90,128,570			90,128,570		90,128,570
7.3 International organizations					186,028		186,028		186,028
7.4 Supranational organizations		202,872		202,872	79,963		282,835		282,835
7.5 National Societies	6,114,197	89,263,582	- 56,821	95,320,958	13,627,574	15,954,709	124,903,242	477,625	125,380,867
7.6 Public sources		3,282,216		3,282,216		1,194,024	4,476,240		4,476,240
7.7 Private sources	570,562	39,484,041	- 11,496	40,043,107	744,868	360,147	41,148,123	873,979	42,022,102
GRAND TOTAL	123,585,629	791,471,186	- 878,145	914,178,670	24,865,042	19,465,946	958,509,658	1,770,741	960,280,399

**Reconciliation between the consolidated contributions of the ICRC (chapter 5.3.15)
and the summary of the contributions to the ICRC (chapter 7.0)**

(1) Member of the Donor Support Group

Total consolidated contributions of the ICRC (chapter 7.0)	958,509,658
Contributions received from funds and foundations of the ICRC	1,200,000
Contributions of the consolidated funds and foundations of the ICRC to the ICRC actions (chapter 7.7):	
Clare R. Benedict Fund	- 22,719
Foundation for the ICRC	- 24,392
Omar El Muktar Fund	- 10,055
Total contributions of the consolidated accounts of the ICRC (chapter 5.3.15)	959,652,491

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.1 GOVERNMENTS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Algeria	45,007			45,007			45,007		45,007
Australia ⁽¹⁾	4,414,000	8,026,950		12,440,950			12,440,950		12,440,950
Austria	710,657	2,084,850		2,795,507			2,795,507		2,795,507
Bahamas	19,929			19,929			19,929		19,929
Barbados	1,075			1,075			1,075		1,075
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	1,167,000	9,074,925		10,241,925			10,241,925		10,241,925
Belize	1,490			1,490			1,490		1,490
Benin	2,964			2,964			2,964		2,964
Bhutan	18,240			18,240			18,240		18,240
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4,563			4,563			4,563		4,563
Bulgaria	25,856			25,856			25,856		25,856
Cambodia	2,903			2,903			2,903		2,903
Cameroon	12,036			12,036			12,036		12,036
Canada ⁽¹⁾	2,959,500	16,523,825		19,483,325			19,483,325		19,483,325
Chile	62,896	45,231		108,127			108,127		108,127
China	540,000			540,000			540,000		540,000
Colombia	174,150		125,151	299,301			299,301		299,301
Costa Rica	38,223			38,223			38,223		38,223
Cyprus	59,400			59,400			59,400		59,400
Czech Republic	228,791			228,791			228,791		228,791
Denmark ⁽¹⁾	2,494,692	7,912,771		10,407,463		802,766	11,210,229		11,210,229
Egypt	190,234		116,848	307,083			307,083		307,083
Estonia	19,415	9,707		29,122			29,122		29,122
Finland ⁽¹⁾	1,549,500	7,744,056		9,293,556	1,847,673	283,341	11,424,570		11,424,570
France ⁽¹⁾	1,312,400	12,622,359		13,934,759			13,934,759		13,934,759
Germany ⁽¹⁾	1,751,161	16,374,240		18,125,401			18,125,401		18,125,401
Greece	806,104			806,104			806,104		806,104
Grenada	1,604			1,604			1,604		1,604
Guyana	1,552			1,552			1,552		1,552
Haiti	12,450			12,450			12,450		12,450

7.1 GOVERNMENTS (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Holy See	11,288			11,288			11,288		11,288
Iceland	72,000	97,050	72,000	241,050			241,050		241,050
India	16,404			16,404			16,404		16,404
Indonesia	25,000			25,000			25,000		25,000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		121,100		121,100			121,100		121,100
Ireland	200,590	3,681,100		3,881,690			3,881,690		3,881,690
Israel	141,020			141,020			141,020		141,020
Italy ⁽¹⁾	1,231,200	9,080,100		10,311,300			10,311,300		10,311,300
Japan ⁽¹⁾	680,000	12,912,000		13,592,000			13,592,000		13,592,000
Korea (Republic of)	153,840			153,840			153,840		153,840
Lebanon			51,985	51,985			51,985		51,985
Liechtenstein	200,000	370,000		570,000			570,000		570,000
Lithuania			4,599	4,599			4,599		4,599
Luxembourg	753,179	4,719,175		5,472,354			5,472,354		5,472,354
Malaysia	18,459			18,459			18,459		18,459
Malta	14,200			14,200			14,200		14,200
Mexico	177,900			177,900			177,900		177,900
Monaco	100,000			100,000			100,000		100,000
Morocco	71,485			71,485			71,485		71,485
Myanmar	17,880			17,880			17,880		17,880
Namibia	9,126			9,126			9,126		9,126
Netherlands ⁽¹⁾	5,771,250	59,037,750		64,809,000			64,809,000		64,809,000
New Zealand	369,960	1,017,390		1,387,350			1,387,350		1,387,350
Nicaragua			- 78,655	- 78,655			- 78,655		- 78,655
Norway ⁽¹⁾	1,013,769	30,609,218		31,622,987	3,553,706		35,176,693	242,514	35,419,207
Pakistan	18,834			18,834			18,834		18,834
Panama	36,858			36,858			36,858		36,858
Philippines	23,434		65,507	88,941			88,941		88,941
Poland	701,158	24,920		726,078			726,078		726,078
Portugal	200,000	874,850		1,074,850			1,074,850		1,074,850
Qatar	129,840			129,840			129,840		129,840
San Marino	50,000			50,000			50,000		50,000
Senegal	7,447			7,447			7,447		7,447
Singapore	28,500			28,500			28,500		28,500
Slovakia	35,000			35,000			35,000		35,000
Slovenia	11,924	38,577		50,501			50,501		50,501
South Africa	141,912	153,738		295,650			295,650		295,650
Spain	463,800	1,546,000		2,009,800			2,009,800		2,009,800
Sudan	11,599			11,599			11,599		11,599
Sweden ⁽¹⁾	3,404,220	45,873,450		49,277,670			49,277,670		49,277,670
Switzerland ⁽¹⁾	65,000,000	27,706,088	- 59,097	92,646,991	26,300	179,413	92,852,704		92,852,704
Tajikistan	685			685			685		685
Thailand	89,400			89,400			89,400		89,400
Tonga	1,498			1,498			1,498		1,498
Tunisia	7,835			7,835			7,835		7,835
Turkey	100,000			100,000			100,000		100,000
United Arab Emirates	65,750			65,750			65,750		65,750
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ⁽¹⁾	1,377,240	97,966,097		99,343,337		647,000	99,990,337	176,623	100,166,960
United States of America ⁽¹⁾	15,209,501	191,733,394	45,486	206,988,380	4,798,929	44,546	211,831,854		211,831,854
Venezuela	108,094			108,094			108,094		108,094
Yugoslavia ⁽²⁾			- 24,657	- 24,657			- 24,657		- 24,657
Total from governments	116,900,870	567,980,911	319,167	685,200,947	10,226,608	1,957,066	697,384,621	419,137	697,803,758

(1) Member of the Donor Support Group

(2) Adjustment of 2001 contribution

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.2 EUROPEAN COMMISSION ⁽¹⁾ (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Directorate General Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)		70,079,450	- 1,230,755	68,848,695			68,848,695		68,848,695
Directorate General for Development		18,467,080	263,422	18,730,502			18,730,502		18,730,502
European Development Fund		2,711,034	- 161,662	2,549,372			2,549,372		2,549,372
Total from European Commission		91,257,564	- 1,128,995	90,128,570			90,128,570		90,128,570

(1) Member of the Donor Support Group

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.3 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
WHO					150		150		150
WFP					174,080		174,080		174,080
Various UN					11,798		11,798		11,798
Total from international organizations					186,028		186,028		186,028

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.4 SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
AG Fund		102,872		102,872			102,872		102,872
Médecins sans Frontières					79,963		79,963		79,963
Various supranational organizations		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Total from supranational organizations		202,872		202,872	79,963		282,835		282,835

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.5 NATIONAL SOCIETIES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Afghanistan	944			944			944		944
Albania	1,278			1,278			1,278		1,278
Andorra	900			900			900		900
Area under Palestinian Authority						12,160	12,160		12,160
Argentina	500			500			500		500
Australia	158,848	4,213,506		4,372,354	31,228	1,607,787	6,011,369		6,011,369
Austria	63,561	4,743,604		4,807,165		321,775	5,128,940		5,128,940
Bahamas	3,088		3,088	6,176			6,176		6,176
Bahrain	9,795			9,795	122,074		131,869		131,869
Belarus	6,352			6,352			6,352		6,352
Belgium		206,280		206,280	456,351	276,590	939,221		939,221
Belize	623			623			623		623
Bolivia	745			745			745		745
Botswana	1,597			1,597			1,597		1,597
Bulgaria	1,500			1,500			1,500		1,500
Cambodia	2,129			2,129			2,129		2,129
Canada	146,476	15,240,623		15,387,099		1,767,717	17,154,816		17,154,816
Cape Verde	1,916			1,916			1,916		1,916
Chile	11,872		152	12,024			12,024		12,024
China	88,687	1,788,000		1,876,687			1,876,687		1,876,687
China/Hong Kong		3,500,000		3,500,000		8,811	3,508,811		3,508,811

7.5 NATIONAL SOCIETIES (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Colombia	31,453		29,278	60,731			60,731		60,731
Congo	471			471			471		471
Costa Rica	7,023			7,023			7,023		7,023
Croatia	4,791			4,791			4,791		4,791
Czech Republic	12,457			12,457			12,457		12,457
Denmark	84,428	520,970	- 5,085	600,313		235,310	835,623		835,623
Dominica	319			319			319		319
Egypt	10,753	56,132		66,885			66,885		66,885
Estonia	3,620			3,620			3,620		3,620
Ethiopia	5,323			5,323			5,323		5,323
Finland	84,332			84,332	1,505,963	732,420	2,322,715		2,322,715
France	532,545	511,768	- 646	1,043,667	561	618,318	1,662,546		1,662,546
Gambia	319			319			319		319
Germany	1,299,433	5,573,865	- 66,783	6,806,515	5,678,273	1,012,480	13,497,268	68,464	13,565,732
Greece	25,000			25,000		15,655	40,655		40,655
Guyana	897			897			897		897
Honduras	2,439			2,439			2,439		2,439
Hungary	5,000			5,000			5,000		5,000
Iceland	39,073	506,469		545,542		627,425	1,172,967		1,172,967
Indonesia	6,000			6,000			6,000		6,000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	29,478			29,478			29,478		29,478
Ireland	23,529	309,200		332,729		427,272	760,001		760,001
Israel						4,572	4,572		4,572
Italy	311,200	83,367	- 35	394,532			394,532		394,532
Japan	1,415,792	3,747,113	- 18,579	5,144,326	366,103	561,760	6,072,189		6,072,189
Jordan	958			958			958		958
Kenya	1,439			1,439			1,439		1,439
Korea (Republic of)	272,874			272,874			272,874		272,874
Kyrgyzstan	756			756			756		756
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1,384			1,384			1,384		1,384
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	12,057			12,057			12,057		12,057
Liechtenstein	14,160	74,000		88,160			88,160		88,160
Luxembourg	23,103	387,050		410,153			410,153		410,153
Mali	514			514			514		514
Mexico	5,000			5,000			5,000		5,000
Micronesia (Federated States of)	230			230			230		230
Monaco	15,438	83,968		99,406			99,406		99,406
Mongolia	921			921			921		921
Morocco	1,365			1,365			1,365		1,365
Namibia			852	852			852		852
Nepal	852			852			852		852
Netherlands	207,184	1,165,076		1,372,260	327,947	406,571	2,106,778		2,106,778
New Zealand	43,951	3,079,613		3,123,564		647,709	3,771,273		3,771,273
Norway	141,743	12,584,969	- 688	12,726,024	4,244,993	2,755,621	19,726,638	96,903	19,823,541
Pakistan	5,004			5,004			5,004		5,004
Papua New Guinea	2,129			2,129			2,129		2,129
Portugal		231,600		231,600		17,614	249,214		249,214
Qatar	7,772			7,772			7,772		7,772
Romania	10,860			10,860			10,860		10,860
Rwanda			740	740			740		740
Saint Lucia	426			426			426		426
Saudi Arabia		1,317,219		1,317,219	5,404		1,322,623		1,322,623
Senegal	1,566		979	2,545			2,545		2,545
Slovakia	7,240			7,240			7,240		7,240
Spain	384,238			384,238		548,268	932,506		932,506
Suriname	540			540			540		540
Sweden	105,087	5,441,933		5,547,020	319,293	678,056	6,544,369		6,544,369
Switzerland	104,018	500,000		604,018	84,818		688,836		688,836
Tajikistan	532			532			532		532
Thailand	38,860			38,860			38,860		38,860
Tonga	426			426			426		426
Trinidad and Tobago	1,597			1,597			1,597		1,597
United Arab Emirates	6,575	144,100		150,675			150,675		150,675
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	253,501	21,971,157		22,224,658	269,564	2,580,180	25,074,403	312,258	25,386,661
United States of America		1,282,000	- 93	1,281,907		90,638	1,372,545		1,372,545
Uruguay	110			110			110		110
Vietnam	1,491			1,491			1,491		1,491
Zimbabwe	1,810			1,810			1,810		1,810
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies					215,002		215,002		215,002
Total from National Societies	6,114,197	89,263,582	- 56,821	95,320,958	13,627,574	15,954,709	124,903,242	477,625	125,380,867

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.6 PUBLIC SOURCES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Bernex		32,040		32,040			32,040		32,040
Founex		176		176			176		176
Fribourg, Canton of		30,000		30,000			30,000		30,000
Geneva, Canton of		3,000,000		3,000,000		713,424	3,713,424		3,713,424
Geneva, City of		165,000		165,000			165,000		165,000
Lausanne, City of		10,000		10,000			10,000		10,000
Obwalden, Canton of		35,000		35,000			35,000		35,000
Vernier		10,000		10,000			10,000		10,000
Versoix						480,600	480,600		480,600
Total from public sources		3,282,216		3,282,216		1,194,024	4,476,240		4,476,240

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

7.7 PRIVATE SOURCES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Sub-total	Total assets	Grand total
Direct mail fundraising campaigns		2,118,570		2,118,570			2,118,570		2,118,570
Spontaneous donations from private individuals		16,403,574	- 481	16,403,094	55,728		16,458,822	99,433	16,558,255
Donations from foundations/funds									
Clare R. Benedict Fund		22,719		22,719			22,719		22,719
Fondation Albert Ed Oechslin		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Fondation Bogette		20,000		20,000			20,000		20,000
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)						294,504	294,504		294,504
Fondation Hans Wilsdorf ⁽¹⁾	500,000	1,000,000		1,500,000			1,500,000		1,500,000
Fondation Philanthropique Edmond J. Safra		306,600		306,600			306,600		306,600
Fundacion Conde de Barcelona	46,170			46,170			46,170		46,170
Lamprecht-Steiger Stiftung		30,000		30,000			30,000		30,000
Noric Foundation		69,453		69,453			69,453		69,453
Odeon Foundation		31,350		31,350			31,350		31,350
Omar El Muktar Fund		10,055		10,055			10,055		10,055
Parthenon Trust		2,792,125		2,792,125			2,792,125		2,792,125
SINITUS Care and Aid Foundation		123,952		123,952			123,952		123,952
The Antoinette J. Hunter Trust		258,709		258,709			258,709		258,709
Liechtenstein Charitable Foundation		214,900		214,900			214,900		214,900
The Link Foundation		46,025		46,025			46,025		46,025
The Prince Foundation		21,837		21,837			21,837		21,837
Others and less than CHF 10,000	24,392	1,522,802		1,547,194			1,547,194		1,547,194
Total donations from foundations/funds	570,562	6,570,528		7,141,090		294,504	7,435,594		7,435,594
Legacies		3,081,112	- 9,141	3,071,971			3,071,971	774,546	3,846,517
Donations from private companies									
Banque Mirabaud et Cie		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Crédit Suisse		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Firmenich		50,000		50,000			50,000		50,000
Prudential Life Insurance Co.		24,044		24,044			24,044		24,044
The Gibraltar Life Insurance Co.		49,879		49,879			49,879		49,879
Other private companies		5,817,337		5,817,337	689,140	65,643	6,572,120		6,572,120
Total donations from private companies	6,141,259			6,141,259	689,140	65,643	6,896,042		6,896,042
Donations from associations and service clubs									
Association des Maires de grandes villes de France		50,343		50,343			50,343		50,343
Comité International Olympique		646,000		646,000			646,000		646,000
Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile		200,000		200,000			200,000		200,000
Kooperation Utan Gränser		42,163		42,163			42,163		42,163
MINE-EX Rotary Schweiz-Liechtenstein		1,003,931		1,003,931			1,003,931		1,003,931
Rotary Club de Caen		1,539		1,539			1,539		1,539
Soroptimist International		48,442		48,442			48,442		48,442
UEFA		2,016,580		2,016,580			2,016,580		2,016,580
Various associations and service clubs			- 1,875	- 1,875			- 1,875		- 1,875
Total donations from associations and service clubs	4,008,998		- 1,875	4,007,123			4,007,123		4,007,123
Various donors		1,160,000		1,160,000			1,160,000		1,160,000
Total from private sources	570,562	39,484,041	- 11,496	40,043,107	744,868	360,147	41,148,123	873,979	42,022,102

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

8. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO DELEGATED PROJECTS AND INTEGRATED PROJECTS 2005 (in CHF)

	Donations in kind (excluding DP & IP) ⁽¹⁾		Donations in services (excluding DP & IP) ⁽¹⁾		Donations for delegated projects and integrated projects				Grand total		Number of days of employees services
	Headquarters	Field	Headquarters	Field	Kind	Services	Cash	Total DP & IP ⁽¹⁾	Total kind	Total services	
NATIONAL SOCIETIES											
Area under Palestinian Authority				12,160						12,160	32
Australia		31,228	14,159	1,593,628					31,228	1,607,787	5,442
Austria				321,775						321,775	1,136
Bahrain		122,074							122,074		
Belgium		456,351		276,590					456,351	276,590	356
Canada			41,646	1,250,019		476,052	1,623,767	2,099,819		1,767,717	2,563
China/Hong Kong				8,811						8,811	41
Denmark				235,310			515,885	515,885		235,310	214
Finland		1,505,963		732,420					1,505,963	732,420	2,405
France	561		2,819	555,199		60,300	201,922	262,222	561	618,318	658
Germany		5,678,273		1,012,480			25,731	25,731	5,678,273	1,012,480	2,503
Greece				15,655						15,655	93
Iceland				627,425						627,425	1,882
Ireland				427,272						427,272	1,739
Israel				4,572						4,572	20
Italy							83,367	83,367			
Japan		366,103		561,760			13,369	13,369	366,103	561,760	1,493
Netherlands		327,947		406,571					327,947	406,571	1,296
New Zealand				647,709						647,709	3,815
Norway		4,244,005	128,304	2,330,142	988	297,175	5,327,159	5,625,322	4,244,993	2,755,621	6,914
Portugal				17,614						17,614	51
Saudi Arabia		5,404							5,404		
Spain				548,268						548,268	1,904
Sweden		319,293		559,466		118,590	1,162,705	1,281,295	319,293	678,056	2,018
Switzerland		84,818							84,818		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		269,564	97,793	1,554,786		927,601	2,045,421	2,973,022	269,564	2,580,180	4,733
United States of America				90,638			- 93	- 93		90,638	58
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies		215,002							215,002		
Sub-total	561	13,626,025	284,721	13,790,270	988	1,879,718	10,999,233	12,879,939	13,627,574	15,954,709	41,366
GOVERNMENTS											
Denmark				509,476		293,290		293,290		802,766	1,374
Finland		1,847,673		283,341					1,847,673	283,341	823
Norway	1,073	3,552,634							3,553,706		
Switzerland		26,300		179,413					26,300	179,413	464
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland				647,000						647,000	
United States of America		4,798,929		44,546					4,798,929	44,546	
Sub-total	1,073	10,225,536		1,663,776		293,290		293,290	10,226,608	1,957,066	2,661

(1) Delegated projects and integrated projects.

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

8. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO DELEGATED PROJECTS AND INTEGRATED PROJECTS 2005 (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Donations in kind (excluding DP & IP) ⁽¹⁾		Donations in services (excluding DP & IP) ⁽¹⁾		Donations for delegated projects and integrated projects				Grand total		Number of days of employees services
	Headquarters	Field	Headquarters	Field	Kind	Services	Cash	Total DP & IP ⁽¹⁾	Total kind	Total services	
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS											
WHO	150								150		
WFP		174,080							174,080		
Various UN		11,798							11,798		
Sub-total	150	185,878							186,028		
SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS											
Médecins sans Frontières		71,644			8,319			8,319	79,963		
Sub-total		71,644			8,319			8,319	79,963		
PUBLIC SOURCES											
Geneva, Canton of			713,424						713,424		
Versoix			480,600						480,600		
Sub-total			1,194,024						1,194,024		
PRIVATE SOURCES											
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)			294,504						294,504		
Spontaneous donations from private individuals		55,728							55,728		
Others private companies	80,192	608,948	10,000	55,643					689,140	65,643	
Sub-total	80,192	664,676	304,504	55,643					744,868	360,147	
GRAND TOTAL	81,976	24,773,759	1,783,249	15,509,689	9,307	2,173,008	10,999,233	13,181,548	24,865,042	19,465,946	44,027

(1) Delegated projects and integrated projects.

N.B. Figures in these tables are rounded off, may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents and may result in rounding-off addition differences.

9. ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES

The statistical data in the following tables can be summarized as follows:

9.1 CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND RECEIVED AND PURCHASES MADE BY THE ICRC IN 2005

All assistance supplies received as contributions in kind or purchased by the ICRC and inventoried in the country of final destination between 1 January and 31 December, 2005. The figures for contributions in kind cover all material support received as a gift but do not include any services received, such as the provision of human resources and/or logistical means. The figures for assistance supplies purchased comprise all procurements carried out both with non-earmarked and earmarked financial contributions ("cash for kind"). The grand total of CHF 142,237,371 in table 9.1 therefore corresponds to the grand total given in table 9.2 "Assistance supplies dispatched in 2005".

9.2 ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISPATCHED BY THE ICRC IN 2005

All assistance supplies received as contributions in kind or purchased by the ICRC and inventoried in the country of final destination between 1 January and 31 December, 2005.

9.3 ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 2005

All assistance supplies distributed by the ICRC in the field between 1 January and 31 December, 2005. These goods were either purchased or received in kind during 2005 or taken from stock already constituted at the end of 2004.

9.1 CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND RECEIVED AND PURCHASES MADE BY THE ICRC IN 2005

(divided by donors & purchases, according to stock entry date)

Donors	Food	Seeds	Blankets	Tents	Kitchen sets	Clothes	Other relief goods	Total relief *	Water & habitat	Medical **	Grand total
	(Tonnes)	(Tonnes)	(Units)	(Units)	(Units)	(Tonnes)	(Tonnes)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)
National Societies	78.2			2,882	16,480	127.7	179.9	7,870,002	775,356	5,459,841	14,105,199
Australia										31,228	31,228
Bahrain	78.2							122,074			122,074
Belgium					10,000			456,351			456,351
Finland				145				428,293	85,920	991,750	1,505,963
France										561	561
Germany				1,950			72.1	3,887,552	437,192	1,421,993	5,746,737
Japan				7			0.3	282,919	17,143	66,041	366,103
Netherlands					6,480			327,947			327,947
Norway							67.7	1,215,052	178,576	2,948,268	4,341,896
Saudi Arabia							0.5	5,404			5,404
Sweden						127.7		319,293			319,293
Switzerland							25.0	84,818			84,818
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland							14.3	581,822			581,822
Federation				780				158,477	56,525		215,002
Governments	9,017.4			49			54.9	7,422,715	779,302	2,443,729	10,645,746
Finland	1,340.0			42			0.0	1,176,640	78,531	592,502	1,847,673
Norway	2.1			7			49.8	1,270,523	700,771	1,824,927	3,796,221
Switzerland (DDA)										26,300	26,300
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (DFID)							5.1	176,623			176,623
United States of America (USAID, OFDA)	7,675.3							4,798,929			4,798,929
Various donors	432.6	25.0	2,500		23		18.3	319,760	74,304	716,127	1,110,191
United Nations (WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF)	412.4							174,080		11,948	186,028
Other donors	20.2	25.0	2,500		23		18.3	145,680	74,304	704,179	924,163
TOTAL GIFTS IN KIND	9,528.2	25.0	2,500	2,931	16,503	127.7	253.1	15,612,477	1,628,962	8,619,697	25,861,136
ICRC PURCHASES (non-earmarked)	17,092.2	3,596.4	718,704	1,873	125,577	499.9	9,777.5	50,911,390	13,777,598	16,983,721	81,672,709
ICRC PURCHASES (cash for kind)	29,571.4	347.4	554,406	7,390	77,114	415.7	2,724.2	32,091,938			32,091,938
ICRC PURCHASES (delegated projects)	10.0					2.1	9.3	49,704	1,878,820	683,064	2,611,588
TOTAL ICRC PURCHASES	46,673.6	3,943.8	1,273,110	9,263	202,691	917.7	12,511.0	83,053,032	15,656,418	17,666,785	116,376,235
GRAND TOTAL	56,201.8	3,968.8	1,275,610	12,194	219,194	1,045.4	12,764.1	98,665,509	17,285,380	26,286,482	142,237,371

* RELIEF includes, food, seed, agricultural rehabilitation and essential household items.

** MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items.

9.2 ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISPATCHED BY THE ICRC IN 2005

(by receiving countries, according to stock entry date)

Countries	GIFTS IN KIND			PURCHASES BY THE ICRC			TOTAL DISPATCHED			Total
	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	
AFRICA	27,031	3,051	6,286,383	5,912,733	10,710,255	39,325,739	5,939,764	10,713,306	45,612,122	62,265,192
Angola				156,025	103,311	27,422	156,025	103,311	27,422	286,758
Botswana						3,488			3,488	3,488
Burundi				82,437	1,015,636	202,135	82,437	1,015,636	202,135	1,300,208
Central African Republic				12,894	122,791	35,911	12,894	122,791	35,911	171,596
Chad			56,150	103,864	261,009	213,697	103,864	261,009	269,847	634,720
Congo, Democratic Republic of				371,820	679,514	1,377,659	371,820	679,514	1,377,659	2,428,993
Congo			5,822	96,902	241,367	107,546	96,902	241,367	113,368	451,637
Côte d'Ivoire			112,108	419,900	1,451,109	898,080	419,900	1,451,109	1,010,188	2,881,197
Djibouti					115	13,832		115	13,832	13,947
Equatorial Guinea				1,819		10,587	1,819		10,587	12,406
Eritrea					828,828	900,473		828,828	900,473	1,729,301
Ethiopia			195,598	547,979	1,031,467	1,780,861	547,979	1,031,467	1,976,459	3,555,905
Gambia				911		1,061	911		1,061	1,972
Guinea				16,537	196,768	61,418	16,537	196,768	61,418	274,723
Guinea-Bissau					26,773	365		26,773	365	27,138
Kenya				36,558	89,413	71,895	36,558	89,413	71,895	197,866
Liberia			319,293	424,760	1,275,760	5,022,730	424,760	1,275,760	5,342,023	7,042,543
Madagascar				11,554	30,888	33,376	11,554	30,888	33,376	75,818
Namibia						8,130			8,130	8,130
Niger				363	10,395	2,204	363	10,395	2,204	12,962
Nigeria				1,566		4,784	1,566		4,784	6,350
Rwanda				55,850	488,836	992,847	55,850	488,836	992,847	1,537,533
Senegal				44,930	183,221	90,597	44,930	183,221	90,597	318,748
Sierra Leone				9,947	372,599	24,961	9,947	372,599	24,961	407,507
Somalia			684,773	904,615	573,207	6,147,589	904,615	573,207	6,832,362	8,310,184
Sudan	27,031	3,051	4,912,639	2,220,388	1,355,329	15,821,394	2,247,419	1,358,380	20,734,033	24,339,832
Tanzania, United Republic of				38,473	57,895	28,774	38,473	57,895	28,774	125,142
Togo						49,985			49,985	49,985
Uganda				337,065	296,103	5,387,735	337,065	296,103	5,387,735	6,020,903
Zambia				64	17,921	4,203	64	17,921	4,203	22,188
Zimbabwe				15,512			15,512			15,512
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	8,529,596	1,625,911	8,361,652	6,122,302	3,132,156	25,837,006	14,651,898	4,758,067	34,198,658	53,608,623
Afghanistan				2,846,224	1,127,158	1,683,761	2,846,224	1,127,158	1,683,761	5,657,143
Bhutan						309			309	309
Cambodia				410,227	76,018	87,952	410,227	76,018	87,952	574,197
China				51,837	10,037	2,317	51,837	10,037	2,317	64,191
Fiji						1,839			1,839	1,839
India				78,749		527,026	78,749		527,026	605,775
Indonesia	2,572,636	788,774	2,548,979	498,541	487,072	6,268,773	3,071,177	1,275,846	8,817,752	13,164,775
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of				455,419	78,854	21,407	455,419	78,854	21,407	555,680
Kyrgyzstan				9,343		15,317	9,343		15,317	24,660
Lao People's Democratic Republic				114	39,864		114	39,864		39,978
Myanmar				430,268	127,039	132,122	430,268	127,039	132,122	689,429
Nepal				98,636	10,152	117,108	98,636	10,152	117,108	225,896
Pakistan	4,642,062	394,612	3,955,447	865,080	390,887	13,382,033	5,507,142	785,499	17,337,480	23,630,121
Philippines				56,674	16,826	75,402	56,674	16,826	75,402	148,902
Solomon Islands					768,040	548		768,040	548	768,588
Sri Lanka	1,314,898	442,525	1,857,226	129,012		3,520,028	1,443,910	442,525	5,377,254	7,263,689
Tajikistan				60,667	209	810	60,667	209	810	61,686
Thailand				102,047		254	102,047		254	102,301
Uzbekistan				29,464			29,464			29,464

Countries	GIFTS IN KIND			PURCHASES BY THE ICRC			TOTAL DISPATCHED			Total
	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief ** (CHF)	
EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	1,485		835,282	3,876,584	1,588,908	14,072,280	3,878,069	1,588,908	14,907,562	20,374,539
Armenia				44,859	3,684	26,188	44,859	3,684	26,188	74,731
Azerbaijan				98,202	36,838	6,148	98,202	36,838	6,148	141,188
Croatia				741		4,007	741		4,007	4,748
Georgia				46,667	79,416	2,765,237	46,667	79,416	2,765,237	2,891,320
Russian Federation			767,498	3,501,478	587,641	7,155,949	3,501,478	587,641	7,923,447	12,012,566
Serbia and Montenegro			67,784	7,840		28,945	7,840		96,729	104,569
Bolivia				5,722			5,722			5,722
Chile						850			850	850
Colombia	1,485			98,797	675,285	3,972,999	100,282	675,285	3,972,999	4,748,566
Haiti				52,671	200,656	24,654	52,671	200,656	24,654	277,981
Panama				3,869	895	16,287	3,869	895	16,287	21,051
Peru				15,738	4,493	64,479	15,738	4,493	64,479	84,710
United States of America						4,958			4,958	4,958
Venezuela						1,579			1,579	1,579
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA			122,074	1,755,166	225,099	3,818,007	1,755,166	225,099	3,940,081	5,920,346
Egypt						46,178			46,178	46,178
Iraq				655,592	179,926	563,794	655,592	179,926	563,794	1,399,312
Israel (including the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories)			122,074	907,747		3,189,768	907,747		3,311,842	4,219,589
Jordan				29,316			29,316			29,316
Lebanon				591		968	591		968	1,559
Syrian Arab Republic				69,201			69,201			69,201
Western Sahara						10,358			10,358	10,358
Yemen				92,719	45,173	6,941	92,719	45,173	6,941	144,833
REGIONAL STOCKS	61,585		7,086				61,585		7,086	68,671
Geneva & Nairobi (only gifts in kind)	61,585		7,086				61,585		7,086	68,671
GRAND TOTAL	8,619,697	1,628,962	15,612,477	17,666,785	15,656,418	83,053,032	26,286,482	17,285,380	98,665,509	142,237,371

* MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items.

** RELIEF includes, food, seed, agricultural rehabilitation and essential household items.

9.3 ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 2005

Countries	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief **		Total (CHF)
			(CHF)	(Tonnes)	
AFRICA	6,461,713	9,635,926	45,620,532	52,128.9	61,718,171
Angola	290,394	143,889	36,144	18.8	470,427
Botswana			3,488	0.4	3,488
Burundi	172,587	812,434	177,642	270.8	1,162,663
Central African Republic	13,615	130,505	11,483	4.2	155,603
Chad	105,511	261,009	152,404	212.0	518,924
Congo, Democratic Republic of	393,435	826,490	1,537,498	855.2	2,757,423
Congo	94,817	189,772	501,288	130.9	785,877
Côte d'Ivoire	377,262	974,204	576,552	530.0	1,928,018
Djibouti		115	13,832	6.8	13,947
Equatorial Guinea	1,819		10,587	5.2	12,406
Eritrea		773,760	739,984	289.5	1,513,744
Ethiopia	485,026	1,075,385	1,742,462	1,778.9	3,302,873
Gambia	911		1,061	0.4	1,972
Guinea	19,752	136,689	48,674	17.2	205,115
Guinea-Bissau		26,773	365	0.2	27,138
Kenya	37,311	66,179	71,852	17.8	175,342
Liberia	302,271	1,142,974	4,745,517	2,798.9	6,190,762
Madagascar	11,554	30,888	33,376	13.2	75,818
Namibia			8,130	1.0	8,130
Niger	363	10,395	2,204	0.3	12,962
Nigeria	2,407		87,630	22.4	90,037
Rwanda	84,836	480,934	1,405,917	3,181.4	1,971,687
Senegal	44,930	183,221	90,597	35.9	318,748
Sierra Leone	11,356	359,665	33,795	16.5	404,816
Somalia	862,370	596,139	5,869,458	3,684.1	7,327,967
Sudan	2,955,696	1,042,880	23,096,874	35,776.4	27,095,450
Tanzania, United Republic of	19,880	57,895	28,774	4.6	106,549
Togo	26,744		55,725	17.5	82,469
Uganda	118,901	295,810	4,512,562	2,400.0	4,927,273
Zambia	64	17,921	4,500	2.7	22,485
Zimbabwe	27,901		20,157	35.7	48,058
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	13,815,464	3,687,402	28,079,054	12,755.4	45,581,920
Afghanistan	2,455,219	1,124,000	2,107,671	2,296.2	5,686,890
Bhutan			309	0.1	309
Cambodia	395,590	76,018	87,952	53.3	559,560
China	85,547	10,037	2,317	1.1	97,901
Fiji			1,839	0.2	1,839
India	126,738		527,026	174.4	653,764
Indonesia	3,016,895	603,596	8,418,093	2,188.4	12,038,584
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	351,143	78,854	21,407	10.7	451,404
Kyrgyzstan	4,770		17,222	3.3	21,992
Lao People's Democratic Republic	114	39,864			39,978
Myanmar	373,370	105,210	131,843	171.4	610,423
Nepal	125,770	13,446	110,193	32.1	249,409
Pakistan	5,201,898	761,139	12,231,323	5,955.9	18,194,360
Philippines	56,674	16,826	100,931	132.9	174,431
Solomon Islands			548	0.1	548
Sri Lanka	1,455,848	858,203	4,319,269	1,734.7	6,633,320
Tajikistan	63,191	209	857	0.4	64,257
Thailand	102,047		254	0.2	102,301
Uzbekistan	650				650

Countries	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief **		Total (CHF)
			(CHF)	(Tonnes)	
EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	4,187,094	1,577,359	14,685,126	9,751.4	20,449,579
Armenia	67,774	3,684	27,257	24.6	98,715
Azerbaijan	155,222	36,838	5,171	0.5	197,231
Croatia	741		4,007	0.7	4,748
Georgia	129,338	51,778	2,858,217	4,636.1	3,039,333
Russian Federation	3,599,582	602,056	7,550,066	2,704.7	11,751,704
Serbia and Montenegro	7,840		182,147	87.4	189,987
Bolivia	5,722				5,722
Chile			850	0.6	850
Colombia	158,703	675,285	3,947,867	2,265.4	4,781,855
Haiti	42,420	200,656	21,600	5.8	264,676
Panama	3,869	895	16,287	5.3	21,051
Peru	15,883	6,167	65,120	18.9	87,170
United States of America			4,958	0.6	4,958
Venezuela			1,579	0.8	1,579
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	2,500,727	2,304,427	5,311,891	2,920.4	10,117,045
Egypt			46,178	26.0	46,178
Iraq	1,401,153	2,259,254	2,077,042	967.2	5,737,449
Israel (including the Occupied and Autonomous Palestinian Territories)	907,747		3,180,762	1,923.4	4,088,509
Lebanon	29,316				29,316
Mauritania	591		968	0.7	1,559
Syrian Arab Republic	69,201				69,201
Yemen	92,719	45,173	6,941	3.1	144,833
GRAND TOTAL	26,964,998	17,205,114	93,696,603	77,556.1	137,866,715

* MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items.

** RELIEF includes, food, seed, agricultural rehabilitation & essential household items.

10. SPECIAL FUNDS

10.1 FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005		2004	
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	41		844	
Securities	11,079		8,404	
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	173			
Accounts receivable	5,558		54	
Accrued interest	99			
Total assets	16,950		9,302	
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES				
Current liabilities				
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account			51	
Deferred income	5,500			
Total current liabilities	5,500		51	
Reserves				
RESTRICTED RESERVES				
Inalienable capital	886		886	
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES				
<i>Inalienable capital designated by the Board</i>				
Balance brought forward	7,060		5,954	
Allocation for the year	1,243	8,303	1,106	7,060
<i>Financial risk reserves</i>				
Balance brought forward	1,281		1,086	
Allocation / - release during the year	722	2,003	195	1,281
GENERAL RESERVES				
Balance brought forward	24		0	
Result for the year after transfer from/- to reserves	234	258	24	24
Total unrestricted reserves	10,564		8,365	
Total reserves	11,450		9,251	
Total liabilities and reserves	16,950		9,302	

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Contributions	1,200	1,106
Income from securities	316	211
Realized gain on securities	119	26
Unrealized gain on securities	722	195
Bank interest	1	1
Foreign exchange gain, net		
Total	2,358	1,539
Expenditure		
Bank charges	-33	-37
Realized loss on securities	-75	-166
Fundraising charges	-21	-4
Audit fees	-6	-5
Foreign exchange loss, net	0	-2
Total	-135	-214
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	2,223	1,325
Allocation to unrestricted reserves		
Inalienable capital designated by the Board	-1,243	-1,136
Financial risk reserves	-722	-177
Total	-1,965	-1,313
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-24	-134
Result for the year after transfer from/- to reserves	234	-122

Establishment

Created on 1 May 1931; statutes and objectives revised in 2002.

Purpose

The Foundation strives to secure long-term support for the ICRC by establishing a substantial endowment fund income, most of which will be freely available to the organization.

Administration

The Foundation Board is made up of representatives of business and political circles and the ICRC:

- ▶ one representative of the Swiss Confederation;
- ▶ between five and eleven members appointed by the ICRC.

10.2 AUGUSTA FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	149	136
Total assets	149	136
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, current account	8	1
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	1	1
Total current liabilities	9	2
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
Inalienable capital	100	100
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>	18	18
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		
Balance brought forward	16	14
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	6	2
Total unrestricted reserves	40	34
Total reserves	140	134
Total liabilities and reserves	149	136

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	9	2
Total	9	2
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-1	-1
Total	-1	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the F. Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/- to reserves	8	1
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Attribution to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund	-8	-1
Result for the year after attribution to the F. Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/- to reserves	0	0

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

In 1890, at the initiative of the ICRC, to commemorate the services rendered to the Red Cross by the German Empress Augusta, wife of Wilhelm I.

Administration

In view of the above-mentioned decision, the same as for the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund.

Purpose

Modified on several occasions. At the Twenty-first International Conference of the Red Cross, held in Istanbul in 1969, it was decided that, pending further modification, receipts from the Augusta Fund would be allocated to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund. This decision was confirmed at the Twenty-second Conference, held in Tehran in 1973.

10.3 FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	508	454
Augusta Fund, current account	8	1
Stock of medals	8	18
Total assets	524	473
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	6	4
Total current liabilities	6	4
Unrestricted reserves		
<i>Capital</i>	75	75
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	342	337
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	28	5
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		
Balance brought forward	52	44
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	21	8
Total unrestricted reserves	518	469
Total liabilities and reserves	524	473

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	32	6
Attribution from the Augusta Fund	8	1
Total	40	7
Expenditure		
Presentation of medals, printing and dispatching circulars	-10	
Audit fees	-2	-2
Total	-12	-2
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	28	5
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	28	5

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

In accordance with the recommendations of the Eighth International Conference of the Red Cross, held in London, in 1907, and with the decision of the Ninth Conference held in Washington in 1912, a fund was established by contributions from National Red Cross Societies. The regulations were revised by the Eighteenth International Conference of the Red Cross, held in Toronto in 1952, and by the Council of Delegates, held in Budapest in 1991.

Purpose

The Fund's income is used to distribute a medal, called the "Florence Nightingale Medal", to honour the life and work of Florence Nightingale. The medal may be awarded to Red Cross

and Red Crescent nurses and voluntary aides for having distinguished themselves by their service to sick and wounded people in time of peace or war. The medal is awarded every two years by the ICRC on the basis of proposals made to it by the National Societies. Only 50 medals may be distributed at any one time.

Administration

A commission composed of five ICRC representatives, including four Committee members.

10.4 CLARE BENEDICT FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	2,056	1,869
Total assets	2,056	1,869
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	1	1
Total current liabilities	1	1
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVE		
<i>Capital</i>	1,633	1,633
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserve</i>		
Balance brought forward	23	14
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	105	9
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		
Balance brought forward	212	182
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	82	30
Total unrestricted reserves	422	235
Total reserves	2,055	1,868
Total liabilities and reserves	2,056	1,869

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	129	24
Total	129	24
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-1	-1
Total	-1	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	128	23
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-23	-14
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	105	9

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

1 February 1968.

Purpose

The Fund's income is attributed to assistance activities for the victims of armed conflicts, in accordance with Miss Benedict's wishes.

Administration

A commission composed of three persons appointed by the ICRC.

10.5 MAURICE DE MADRE FRENCH FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	5,180	4,932
Total assets	5,180	4,932
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	173	261
Total current liabilities	173	261
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVE		
Donors' restricted contributions	3	15
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
Capital		
Balance brought forward	4,097	4,183
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	165	-86
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		4,097
Balance brought forward	559	475
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	183	84
	742	559
Total unrestricted reserves	5,004	4,656
Total reserves	5,007	4,671
Total liabilities and reserves	5,180	4,932

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Contributions	5	17
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	325	62
Total	330	79
Expenditure		
Allocations	-172	-175
Audit fees	-2	-2
Other expenses	-3	-2
Total	-177	-179
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	153	-100
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Use of restricted reserves		
Use of donors' restricted contributions	16	31
Allocation to restricted reserve		
Donors' restricted contributions	-4	-17
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	165	-86

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

The Fund was set up in accordance with the Count's will and the ICRC Assembly's decision of 19 December 1974.

Purpose

To assist temporary or permanent staff, such as first-aid workers, delegates and nurses, of international or national Red Cross or Red Crescent institutions who, in the course of their work or during war operations or natural disasters, have suffered injury and thereby find themselves in straitened circumstances or in reduced health.

In the event that the persons specified above should lose their lives in the course of the said humanitarian activities, payments may be made to their families.

Administration

A Board composed of five persons appointed by the ICRC, currently:

- ▶ two ICRC members or staff;
- ▶ one representative of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;
- ▶ one representative of the de Madre family;
- ▶ one Swiss lawyer.

In 2005:

The fund's Board held its official annual meeting on 25 April and an extraordinary meeting on 25 November; its Secretariat handled 76 files (consisting of 124 individual cases) on Movement staff.

10.6 OMAR EL MUKTAR FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	958	871
Total assets	958	871
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	1	2
Total current liabilities	1	2
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>	761	761
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserve</i>		
Balance brought forward	10	6
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	49	4
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		
Balance brought forward	98	84
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	39	14
Total unrestricted reserves	196	108
Total reserves	957	869
Total liabilities and reserves	958	871

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	60	11
Total	60	11
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-1	-1
Total	-1	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	59	10
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-10	-6
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	49	4

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

Pursuant to decision No. 5 of the Executive Board of 20 November 1980, adopted by the Committee in December 1980.

Purpose

A fund in dollars, made up of one or more donations by the authorities of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the income of which is to be used to finance the ICRC's general assistance and protection activities.

Administration

A Board composed of three ICRC representatives.

10.7 PAUL REUTER FUND (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	627	581
Total assets	627	581
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	12	18
Total current liabilities	12	18
Unrestricted reserves		
UNRESTRICTED RESERVE DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ICRC		
<i>Initial capital</i>	200	200
<i>General reserve</i>		
Balance brought forward	297	291
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	28	6
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>		
Balance brought forward	66	56
Increase of unrealized gain during the year	24	10
Total unrestricted reserves	615	563
Total liabilities and reserves	627	581

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005	2005	2004
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	39	7
Total	39	7
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-1	-1
Allocation to the Jean Pictet Competition	-10	
Total	-11	-1
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	28	6
Allocation to unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	28	6

Note:

Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

Establishment

Pursuant to decision No. 1 of the Executive Board of 6 January 1983.

Purpose

The fund's initial capital of CHF 200,000 donated by Prof. Paul Reuter (his Balzan prize) may be augmented by gifts or bequests. The fund's purpose is to:

- ▶ use the income to encourage and promote knowledge and dissemination of international humanitarian law;
- ▶ and to that effect award a prize every two years to reward work, assist in the implementation of a project or make a publication possible.

Administration

- ▶ a committee composed of one member of the ICRC, who is its chairman, and two members of the ICRC staff, appointed by the Directorate;
- ▶ two persons from outside the ICRC who, with the Committee members, shall make up the Paul Reuter prize jury.

10.8 ICRC SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DISABLED (in CHF ,000)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005		2005	2004
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		944	1,756
Securities		3,873	3,382
Accounts receivable		538	143
Accrued interest		28	
Total assets		5,383	5,281
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current liabilities			
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account		1,033	1,354
Deferred income		310	
Total current liabilities		1,343	1,354
RESTRICTED RESERVES			
<i>Donors' restricted contributions</i>			
Balance brought forward	29		15
Use for Addis Ababa project	-29		
Use for Ho Chi Minh project			-14
Use for Dhaka project			-1
Allocation for Tirana project	0		29
Total restricted reserves	0		29
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD			
<i>Initial capital</i>		1,000	1,000
<i>Provision for portfolio unrealized gain</i>			
Balance brought forward	581		154
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gain during the year	-89	492	427
<i>General reserve</i>			
Balance brought forward	2,317		2,654
Use for Addis Ababa project	-169		-313
Use for Dhaka project	-73		-136
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	473	2,548	112
Total unrestricted reserves	4,040		3,898
Total reserves		4,040	3,927
Total liabilities and reserves		5,383	5,281

Notes:

1. Since 31 December 2004 securities have been recorded at fair market value; until then equities had been recorded at historical value and bonds at par value.
2. Certain 2004 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2005.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005								2004
	2005							Total
	Addis Ababa project	Ho Chi Minh project	Managua project	Dhaka project	Tirana project	General	Total	Total
Operating activities								
Contributions received in cash								
<i>Governments</i>								
Austria								75
Canada		78					78	73
Liechtenstein		50					50	
Norway	626	736	28		31		1,421	1,322
Switzerland		200					200	
War victims fund/USAID	1,288						1,288	1,306
<i>National Societies</i>								
Germany	8						8	8
Ireland		2					2	
Japan		57					57	
Monaco			15				15	15
New Zealand								
Norway		79	79				158	147
Switzerland			500				500	500
Turkey		5					5	
United Arab Emirates								13
<i>Private sources</i>								
CR Equipement								61
Pro-Victimis				47			47	113
Opec			193				193	
Municipality of Coppet		1					1	
Various donors			14				14	6
Contributions received in services								
<i>National Societies</i>								
France	43						43	17
Total contributions	1,965	1,208	829	47	31		4,080	3,656
Operating expenditure								
Cash expenditure	-2,091	-1,208	-829	-120	-60		-4,308	-4,074
Services expenditure	-43						-43	-17
Total operating expenditure	-2,134	-1,208	-829	-120	-60		-4,351	-4,091
Net result of operating activities	-169	0	0	-73	-29		-271	-435
Non-operating activities								
Financial income								
Securities income						129	129	99
Bank interest						24	24	
Realized gain on securities						376	376	59
Foreign exchange gain, net								11
Total financial income						529	529	169
Financial expenditure								
Bank charges						-47	-47	-52
Audit fees						-7	-7	-5
Foreign exchange loss, net						-2	-2	
Total financial expenditure						-56	-56	-57
Net result of non-operating activities						473	473	112
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	-169	0	0	-73	-29	473	202	-323

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005 (CONT.)								2004
	Addis Ababa project	Ho Chi Minh project	Managua project	Dhaka project	Tirana project	General	Total	Total
Use of restricted reserves								
Use of donors' restricted contributions for Tirana project					29		29	
Use of donors' restricted contributions for Ho Chi Minh project								14
Use of donors' restricted contributions for Dhaka project								1
Total	0	0	0	0	29		29	15
Use of unrestricted reserves								
Use of general reserve	169			73			242	449
Allocation to restricted reserves								
Donors' restricted contributions							0	-29
Allocation to unrestricted reserves								
							-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	0	0	0	0	0	473	473	112

Establishment and initial objectives

The year 1981 was declared by the United Nations to be the "International Year for Disabled Persons". The same year, when it met in Manila, the 24th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent adopted a resolution recommending that "a special fund be formed for the benefit of the disabled and to promote the implementation of durable projects to aid disabled persons". Pursuant to the ICRC Assembly's decision No. 2 of 19-20 October 1983 the Special Fund for the Disabled (SFD) was subsequently established. Its objectives were twofold:

- ▶ to help finance long-term projects for disabled persons, in particular the creation of workshops for the production of artificial limbs and orthotic appliances, and centres for rehabilitation and occupational retraining;
- ▶ to participate not only in ICRC and National Society projects, but also in those of other humanitarian bodies working in accordance with ICRC criteria.

Legal status

In January 2001, the ICRC Assembly converted the SFD into an independent foundation under Swiss law. The primary objectives of the "ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled" remained to a large extent unchanged, i.e. to ensure the continuity of ICRC programmes on behalf of the war-disabled and support physical rehabilitation centres in developing countries.

Although the SFD had become a more independent body, its programmes continued to be drawn up in accordance with ICRC operational policies in the countries concerned. However, the statutes of the new Foundation also allowed the opening of its Board to members of other organizations and the SFD developed its own independent fundraising and financial management structure.

Funding

In 1983, the ICRC donated an initial one million Swiss francs to set up the Special Fund for the Disabled. Further support is since given to the SFD by various governments, a number of National Societies and by private and public sources.

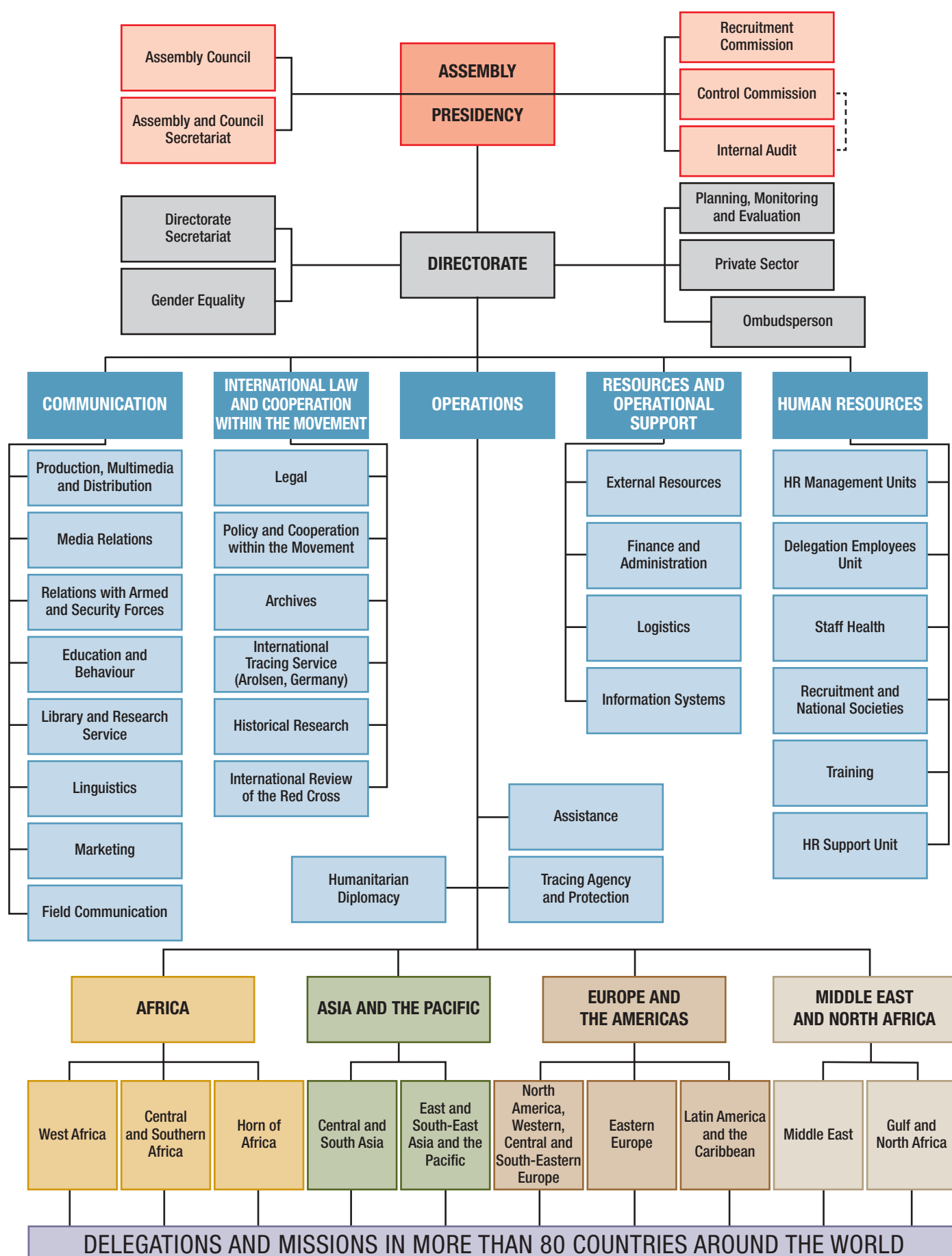
11. COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS (in CHF ,000)

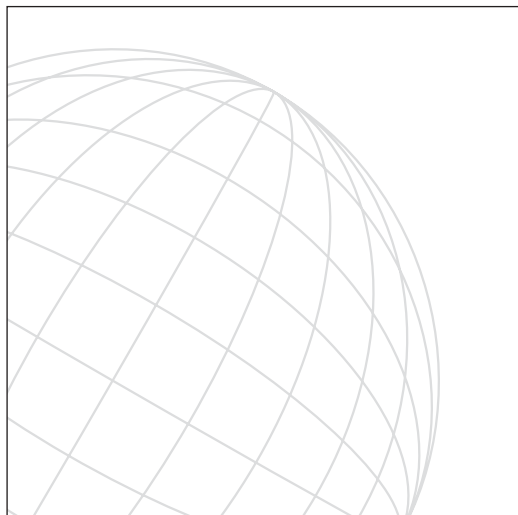
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Balance sheet					
Current assets	486,287	332,265	355,503	305,284	300,932
Non-current assets	93,668	88,132	85,294	76,896	76,514
Total assets	579,955	420,397	440,797	382,180	377,446
Liabilities	-207,126	-120,427	-125,408	-128,308	-124,199
Total net assets	372,829	299,970	315,389	255,812	253,247
Funds and foundations	14,462	11,987	10,630	9,293	9,320
Funding of current operations	22,998	-1,423	39,390	48	3,334
Unrestricted reserves designated by the Assembly	320,969	275,006	250,969	232,071	226,193
Other unrestricted reserves	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400
Total reserves (equities)	372,829	299,970	315,389	255,812	253,247
Income and expenditure statement					
Contributions	959,652	757,757	895,899	788,325	829,745
Operational expenditures	-910,731	-782,211	-844,740	-781,703	-789,680
Operational result	48,921	-24,454	51,159	6,622	40,065
Net result of non-operational activities	23,938	9,035	8,418	-4,057	5,619
Result for the year before transfers	72,859	-15,419	59,577	625	45,684
Administrative cost	84,446	85,034	84,274	86,440	85,686
Ratios					
Equities in % of assets	64.3%	71.4%	71.5%	66.9%	67.1%
Administrative cost in % of operational expenditures	9.3%	10.9%	10.0%	11.1%	10.9%

ANNEX



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS





ICRC decision-making structures¹

ASSEMBLY

The Assembly is the supreme governing body of the ICRC, overseeing all of its activities. The Assembly formulates policy, defines general objectives and institutional strategy and approves the budget and accounts. It delegates certain of its responsibilities to the Assembly Council. Composed of between 15 and 25 members of the International Committee, the Assembly is collegial in character. Its president and two vice-presidents are the president and vice-presidents of the ICRC. The Assembly convenes every two months.

Mr Jakob Kellenberger, President, Ph.D. from the University of Zurich, former Swiss Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (1999), ICRC president since 2000.

Mrs Anne Petitpierre, Vice-President, Doctor of Law, barrister, professor at the University of Geneva Law Faculty (1987).²

Mr Jacques Forster, permanent Vice-President, Doctor of Economics, professor at the Graduate Institute of Development Studies in Geneva (1988).

Mr Paolo Bernasconi, Bachelor of Law, barrister, professor of fiscal law and economic criminal law at the Universities of St. Gallen, Zurich and Milan (Bocconi), former Public Prosecutor in Lugano (1987).

Ms Susy Bruschweiler, nurse, former Director of the Swiss Red Cross College of Nursing in Aarau, CEO S-V Group (1988).

Mr Jacques Moreillon, Bachelor of Law, Doctor of Political Science, former Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, former Director-General at the ICRC (1988).

Mr Daniel Thürer, Master of Law (Cambridge), Doctor of Law, professor at the University of Zurich (1991).

Mr Ernst A. Brugger, Doctor of Natural Science, consultant for economic development issues, professor at the University of Zurich (1995).²

Mr André von Moos, Doctor of Law, Bachelor of Economics, Harvard Business School SMP certificate, former Chairman of the von Moos Group, industrialist (1998).

Mr Olivier Vodoz, Bachelor of Law, barrister, former Deputy in the Geneva *Grand Conseil* and former President of the *Conseil d'État* of the Republic and Canton of Geneva (1998).³

Mrs Gabrielle Nanchen, Bachelor of Social Science from the University of Lausanne School of Social Studies, former member of the Swiss National Council (1998).

Mr Jean de Courten, Bachelor of Law, former delegate and former Director of Operations at the ICRC (1998).

Mr Jean-Philippe Assal, Professor of Medicine, former head of the Division for Instruction in the Treatment of Chronic Diseases at the University of Geneva Faculty of Medicine (1999).

Mr Jean Abt, diplomas in agriculture and business, Lieutenant-General in the Swiss Army (retd.) (2001).

Mr Yves Sandoz, Doctor of Law, lecturer at the University of Geneva, former Director of International Humanitarian Law and Principles at the ICRC (2002).

Ms Claude Le Coultre, professor at the University of Geneva Faculty of Medicine, vice-dean in charge of humanitarian relations and cooperation with the countries of the South and East, Geneva University Hospital delegate for humanitarian affairs (2004).

Mrs Christine Beerli, lawyer, Managing Director of the Technical and Information Technology Departments of Bern University of Applied Sciences, former Senator (Swiss Council of States) (2005).

¹ As at 31 December 2005

² Honorary member as of 1 January 2006

³ Vice-President as of 1 January 2006

Ms Paola Ghillani, pharmacist from the University of Lausanne, certificate from the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) in Lausanne, businesswoman, former Director General of the Max Havelaar Foundation (Switzerland) (2005).

Honorary members: Mr Peter Arbenz, Mr Jean-François Aubert, Mrs Denise Bindschedler-Robert, Mr Georges-André Cuendet, Mr Max Daetwyler, Mr Josef Feldmann, Mr Athos Gallino, Mrs Renée Guisan, Mr Rodolphe de Haller, Mr Pierre Keller, Mrs Liselotte Kraus-Gurny, Mr Pierre Languetin, Mr Jakob Nüesch, Mr Richard Pestalozzi, Ms Francesca Pometta, Mr Eric Roethlisberger, Mr Alain Rossier, Mr Dietrich Schindler, Mr Cornelio Sommaruga.

ASSEMBLY COUNCIL

The Assembly Council is a subsidiary body of the Assembly and comprises five members of the International Committee elected by the Assembly. Chaired by the president of the ICRC, it prepares the Assembly's programme of activities and takes decisions on matters within its competence, particularly concerning strategic options relating to general policy on funding, personnel and communication. It serves as a link between the Directorate and the Assembly, to which it reports regularly. The Assembly Council meets on a monthly basis.

Mr Jakob Kellenberger, President

Mr Jacques Forster, permanent Vice-President

Mr Jean Abt, member of the Committee

Mr Jean de Courten, member of the Committee

Mr Jacques Moreillon, member of the Committee

PRESIDENCY

The Presidency is composed of the president, one permanent vice-president and one non-permanent vice-president. The president of the ICRC has primary responsibility for the organization's external relations. As president of the Assembly and of the Assembly Council, he ensures that the spheres of competence of these two bodies are safeguarded. The president maintains a standing dialogue with the Directorate on all activities conducted by the ICRC.

COMMISSIONS AND BODIES APPOINTED BY THE ASSEMBLY

Control Commission

The Control Commission is composed of five members of the International Committee who are not members of the Assembly Council. It assists the Assembly in overseeing the work of the organization. It controls the implementation of Assembly decisions and ensures that ICRC activities are conducted efficiently. The Commission reviews the reports of the external and internal auditors, and monitors implementation of the audit recommendations. It meets six to eight times per year.

Recruitment Commission

The Recruitment Commission is composed of members of the International Committee. It handles matters relating to the Committee's composition and submits proposals to the Assembly for the co-optation of new members.

Remuneration Commission

Chaired by the president of the Control Commission, the Remuneration Commission is composed of three members of the International Committee. It sets the salaries and benefits of the president, the permanent vice-president, the directors and the head of Internal Audit.

Internal Audit

The Internal Audit helps the ICRC to accomplish its objectives by using a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. The Internal Audit reports its findings directly to the president and the Control Commission, and issues recommendations to management. The head of Internal Audit is appointed by the Assembly.

External Audit

The Assembly appoints the external auditors for the ICRC's financial statements. The external auditors report their audit opinion to the Assembly and prepare a management letter addressed to the Directorate.

DIRECTORATE

The Directorate is the executive body of the ICRC, responsible for applying and ensuring implementation of the general objectives and institutional strategy defined by the Assembly or the Assembly Council. The Directorate is also responsible for the smooth running of the ICRC and for the efficiency of its staff as a whole.

The Director-General sets the administration's general priorities, directs the decision-making process and supervises the implementation of the decisions taken. The Director-General is accountable to the Presidency and the Assembly as regards the Directorate's objectives and activities and the results achieved.

Mr Angelo Gnaedinger, Director-General

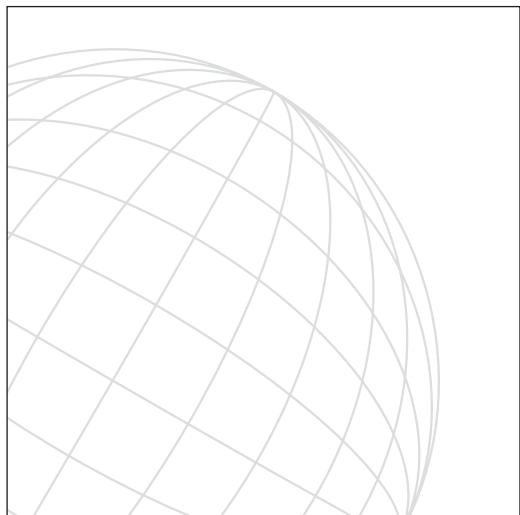
Mr Francois Bugnion, Director for International Law and Cooperation within the Movement

Mr Yves Daccord, Director of Communication

Mr Pierre Krähenbühl, Director of Operations

Ms Doris Pfister, Director of Resources and Operational Support

Mr Jacques Stroun, Director of Human Resources



international advisers

ADVISERS FOR THE PERIOD 2004–2007 (6TH GROUP)

The purpose of the Group of International Advisers, set up by the ICRC for a four-year period to provide it with counsel and support in its activities and policy decisions, is to seek appropriate ways to enhance respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) in times of conflict, to help the ICRC better understand and deal with the political issues it encounters in carrying out its mandate and to assist it in assessing the environment for humanitarian endeavour.

The 2004–2007 Group follows on five previous groups of advisers that have assisted the ICRC since 1984. It meets twice a year for confidential discussions with the ICRC leadership and is composed of twelve individuals with confirmed international experience:

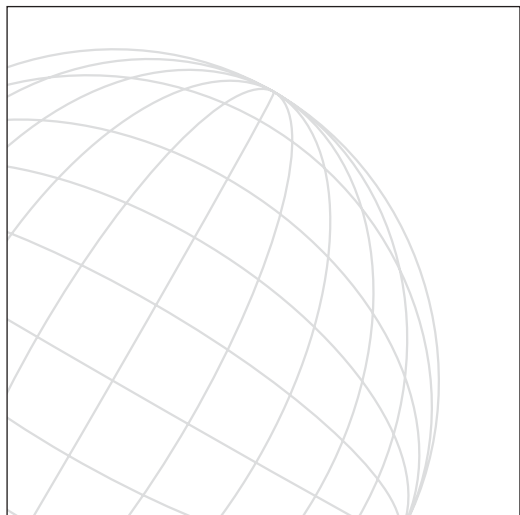
Professor Ridwan AL-SAYYID (Lebanon)
Mr Jayantha DHANAPALA (Sri Lanka)
Ms Bineta DIOP (Senegal)
Mr Bronislaw GEREMEK (Poland)
Brigadier Titus Kamau GITHIORA (Kenya)
Mr Andrey A. KOKOSHIN (Russia)
Professor Djamchid MOMTAZ (Iran)
Mr George E. MOOSE (USA)
Ms Sadako OGATA (Japan)
Professor Paulo Sérgio PINHEIRO (Brazil)
Mr Ahmed RASHID (Pakistan)
General (Retired) Sir Rupert A. SMITH (UK)

In 2005, the Group met in March and in August with members of the International Committee and the Directorate. The following topics were discussed:

- ▶ General trends in the conflict environment and the main challenges facing the ICRC in 2005, particularly in Asia and the Middle East; the diversity of conflict typology; the link between local, regional and global trends; the growing role played by regional organizations; the possible consequences of rising military expenditure and of the oil price boom; the political reforms taking shape in certain countries.

- ▶ Respect for IHL in situations of asymmetric violence; the worrisome weakening of the principle of distinction and new features in tactical warfare.
- ▶ The privatization of war and outsourcing of military tasks; implications stemming from the ever increasing diversity of tasks and responsibilities given to private military companies by the States hiring them. The need for regulation: market self-regulation by the private sector *versus* State-imposed regulation.
- ▶ The study on customary international humanitarian law: its importance and the dissemination of its findings. Two key elements emerge from the study: most of the provisions of Additional Protocol I reflect customary rules, and these rules are applicable both in international and non-international armed conflicts.
- ▶ Coordination among humanitarian actors: the need for and constraints of coordination; the integrated approach and the risk that the boundaries between humanitarian and military action will be blurred; the position of the ICRC as an organization closely cooperating with the UN and participating as an observer in several of its forums, but nevertheless remaining outside the UN system in order to maintain its independence.
- ▶ UN reform and its implications for the ICRC: the importance of the main recent UN policy reports (the High-level Panel's *A more secure world: our shared responsibility* and the Secretary-General's *In Larger Freedom*); the question of the definition of terrorism; the proposal to transform the Commission on Human Rights into a permanent body and the ICRC's relationship with UNHCHR.

The comments and suggestions made during these meetings provided valuable input to the ICRC's planning and policy-making process.



the ICRC and the international red cross and red crescent movement

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is made up of the National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Although each of the Movement's components engages in different activities, they are all united by the same Fundamental Principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality.

As the founding institution of the Movement, the ICRC has certain statutory responsibilities towards the other components. In particular, it is responsible for ensuring respect for and promoting knowledge of the Fundamental Principles, recognizing new National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies which meet the current conditions for recognition, and discharging the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The ICRC is actively involved in the organization of the Council of Delegates and the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

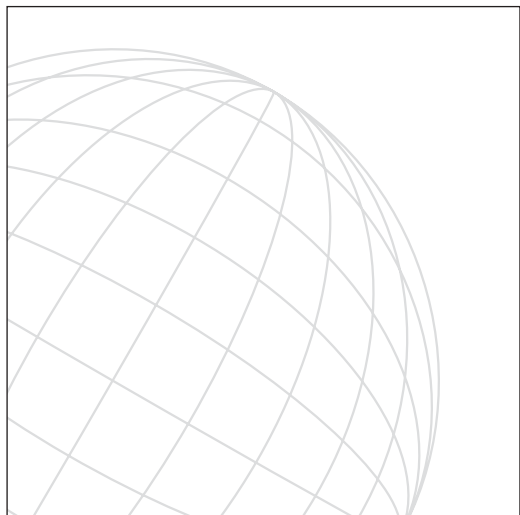
National Societies in their own country and the ICRC both have the mandate to assist the victims of armed conflicts. National Societies are the main operational partners of the ICRC, particularly in the fields of relief assistance and re-establishment of family links.

While fully respecting the International Federation's competence in the matter, the ICRC contributes to the development of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the following areas:

- ▶ disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law and the Fundamental Principles;
- ▶ involvement of National Societies in measures taken to promote international humanitarian law and ensure its implementation;
- ▶ preparation of the National Societies for their activities in the event of conflict and internal strife ;
- ▶ re-establishment of family links;
- ▶ technical and legal assistance in establishing and reconstituting National Societies;

- ▶ revision of National Society statutes, together with the International Federation;
- ▶ supporting National Societies in their efforts to adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, together with the International Federation.

Finally, the ICRC acts as lead agency, coordinating the international relief operations conducted by the Red Cross and Red Crescent in situations of international and non-international armed conflict, internal strife and their direct results, as well as in situations of armed conflict concomitant with natural or technological disasters.



legal bases

The work of the ICRC is based on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols of 1977, the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the resolutions of the International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The ICRC's mission is to provide the victims of armed conflict with protection and assistance. To that end, the ICRC takes direct and immediate action in response to emergency situations, while at the same time promoting preventive measures, such as the dissemination and national implementation of international humanitarian law.

It was on the ICRC's initiative that States adopted the original Geneva Convention of 1864. Since then, the ICRC, with the support of the entire Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, has put constant pressure on governments to adapt international humanitarian law to changing circumstances, in particular to modern developments in the means and methods of warfare, so as to provide more effective protection and assistance for conflict victims.

Today, virtually all States are bound by the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, which, in times of armed conflict, protect wounded, sick and shipwrecked members of the armed forces, prisoners of war and civilians.

Over three-quarters of all States are currently party to the two Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions. Protocol I protects the victims of international armed conflicts, while Protocol II protects the victims of non-international armed conflicts. These instruments have in particular codified the rules protecting the civilian population against the effects of hostilities.

The legal bases of any action undertaken by the ICRC may be summed up as follows:

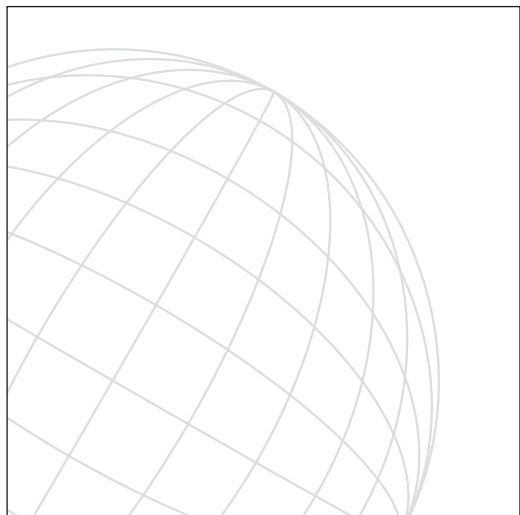
- ▶ The four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I confer on the ICRC a specific mandate to act in the event of international armed conflict. In particular, the ICRC has the right to visit prisoners of war and civilian internees. The Conventions also give the ICRC a broad right of initiative.

- ▶ In situations of armed conflict that are not international in character, the ICRC enjoys a right of humanitarian initiative recognized by the international community and enshrined in Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions.
- ▶ In the event of internal disturbances and tensions, and in any other situation that warrants humanitarian action, the ICRC also enjoys a right of initiative, which is affirmed and recognized in the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Thus, wherever international humanitarian law does not apply, the ICRC may offer its services to governments without that offer constituting interference in the internal affairs of the State concerned.

UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS

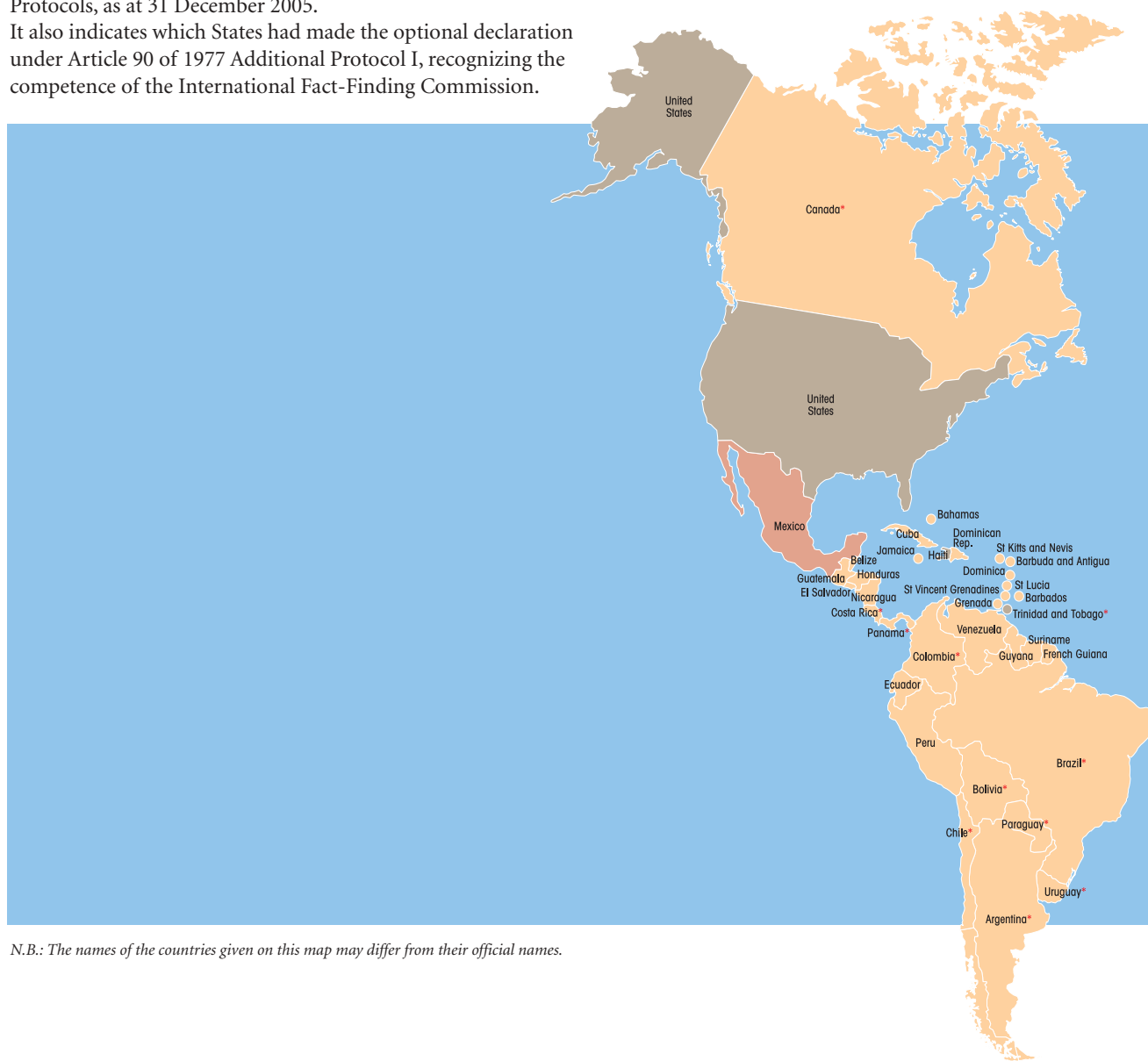
By the end of 2005, a total of 192 States were party to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions. During the year, Timor-Leste acceded to Protocols I and II additional to the Geneva Conventions (12 April 2005) and Qatar acceded to Protocol II. This brought the number of States party to Additional Protocol I and Additional Protocol II to 163 and 159 respectively.

A total of 68 States were party to Article 90 of Additional Protocol I which provides for the establishment of an International Fact-Finding Commission to enquire into allegations of serious violations of humanitarian law.



states party to the geneva conventions and their additional protocols

This map shows which States were party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and to their 1977 Additional Protocols, as at 31 December 2005. It also indicates which States had made the optional declaration under Article 90 of 1977 Additional Protocol I, recognizing the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission.



N.B.: The names of the countries given on this map may differ from their official names.



ABBREVIATIONS

R/A/S = **Ratification**: a treaty is generally open for signature for a certain time following the conference which has adopted it. However, a signature is not binding on a State unless it has been endorsed by ratification. The time limits having elapsed, the Conventions and the Protocols are no longer open for signature. The States which have not signed them may at any time accede or, in the appropriate circumstances, succeed to them.

Accession: instead of signing and then ratifying a treaty, a State may become party to it by the single act called accession.

Succession (declaration of): a newly independent State may declare that it will abide by a treaty which was applicable to it prior to its independence. A State may also declare that it will provisionally abide by such treaties during the time it deems necessary to examine their texts carefully and to decide on accession or succession to some or all of the said treaties (declaration of provisional application of the treaties). At present no State is bound by such a declaration.

R/D = **Reservation/Declaration**: unilateral statement, however phrased or named, made by a State when ratifying, acceding or succeeding to a treaty, whereby it purports to exclude or to modify the legal effect of certain provisions of the treaty in their application to that State (provided that such reservations are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty).

D90 = **Declaration** provided for under article 90 of Protocol I (prior acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission).

DATES

The dates indicated are those on which the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs received the official instrument from the State that was ratifying, acceding to or succeeding to the Conventions or Protocols or accepting the competence of the Commission provided for under Article 90 of Protocol I. They thus represent neither the date on which ratification, accession, succession or acceptance of the Commission was decided upon by the State concerned nor that on which the corresponding instrument was sent.

N.B.: The dates given for succession to the Geneva Conventions by THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, JAMAICA, MADAGASCAR, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, and SIERRA LEONE used to be those on which the corresponding instruments had been officially adopted. They have now been replaced by the dates on which the depositary received those instruments.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Except as mentioned in footnotes at the end of the tables, for all States the entry into force of the Conventions and of the Protocols occurs six months after the date given in the present document; for States which have made a declaration of succession, entry into force takes place retroactively, on the day of their accession to

independence. The 1949 Geneva Conventions entered into force on 21 October 1950. The 1977 Protocols entered into force on 7 December 1978.

NAMES OF COUNTRIES

The names of countries given in the following list may differ from the official names of States.

UPDATE SINCE 31.12.2004

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol I:

► Timor-Leste 12.04.2005

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol II:

► Timor-Leste 12.04.2005

► Qatar 05.01.2005

TOTALS

Number of States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949: 192

Number of States Parties to the Additional Protocol I: 163

Number of States having made the declaration under Article 90: 68

Number of States Parties to the Additional Protocol II: 159

Number of States Members of the United Nations: 191

States Members of the UN or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, not party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions: NAURU.

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS		PROTOCOL I		D90	PROTOCOL II	
	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D		R/A/S	R/D
Afghanistan	26.09.1956	R					
Albania	27.05.1957	R	X	16.07.1993	A	16.07.1993	A
Algeria	20.06.1960	A		16.08.1989	A	X	16.08.1989
	03.07.1962	A		16.08.1989	A	X	16.08.1989
Andorra	17.09.1993	A					
Angola	20.09.1984	A	X	20.09.1984	A	X	
Antigua and Barbuda	06.10.1986	S		06.10.1986	A		06.10.1986
Argentina	18.09.1956	R		26.11.1986	A	X	11.10.1996
Armenia	07.06.1993	A		07.06.1993	A		07.06.1993
Australia	14.10.1958	R	X	21.06.1991	R	X	23.09.1992
Austria	27.08.1953	R		13.08.1982	R	X	13.08.1982
Azerbaijan	01.06.1993	A					
Bahamas	11.07.1975	S		10.04.1980	A		10.04.1980
Bahrain	30.11.1971	A		30.10.1986	A		30.10.1986
Bangladesh	04.04.1972	S		08.09.1980	A		08.09.1980
Barbados	10.09.1968	S	X	19.02.1990	A		19.02.1990
Belarus	03.08.1954	R		23.10.1989	R		23.10.1989
Belgium	03.09.1952	R		20.05.1986	R	X	27.03.1987
Belize	29.06.1984	A		29.06.1984	A		29.06.1984
Benin	14.12.1961	S		28.05.1986	A		28.05.1986
Bhutan	10.01.1991	A					
Bolivia	10.12.1976	R		08.12.1983	A		10.08.1992
Bosnia and Herzegovina	31.12.1992	S		31.12.1992	S		31.12.1992
Botswana	29.03.1968	A		23.05.1979	A		23.05.1979
Brazil	29.06.1957	R		05.05.1992	A		23.11.1993
Brunei Darussalam	14.10.1991	A		14.10.1991	A		14.10.1991
Bulgaria	22.07.1954	R		26.09.1989	R		09.05.1994
Burkina Faso	07.11.1961	S		20.10.1987	R		24.05.2004
Burundi	27.12.1971	S		10.06.1993	A		10.06.1993
Cambodia	08.12.1958	A		14.01.1998	A		14.01.1998
Cameroon	16.09.1963	S		16.03.1984	A		16.03.1984
Canada	14.05.1965	R		20.11.1990	R	X	20.11.1990
Cape Verde	11.05.1984	A		16.03.1995	A		16.03.1995
Central African Republic	01.08.1966	S		17.07.1984	A		17.07.1984
Chad	05.08.1970	A		17.01.1997	A		17.01.1997
Chile	12.10.1950	R		24.04.1991	R		24.04.1991
China	28.12.1956	R	X	14.09.1983	A	X	14.09.1983
Colombia	08.11.1961	R		01.09.1993	A		17.04.1996
Comoros	21.11.1985	A		21.11.1985	A		21.11.1985
Congo, Democratic Republic of	24.02.1961	S		03.06.1982	A		12.12.2002
Congo	04.02.1967	S		10.11.1983	A		10.11.1983
Cook Islands	11.06.2001	S		07.05.2002	A		07.05.2002
Costa Rica	15.10.1969	A		15.12.1983	A		02.12.1999
Côte d'Ivoire	28.12.1961	S		20.09.1989	R		20.09.1989
Croatia	11.05.1992	S		11.05.1992	S		11.05.1992
Cuba	15.04.1954	R		25.11.1982	A		23.12.1999
Cyprus	23.05.1962	A		01.06.1979	R		14.10.2002
Czech Republic	05.02.1993	S	X	05.02.1993	S		02.05.1995
Denmark	27.06.1951	R		17.06.1982	R	X	17.06.1982
Djibouti	06.03.1978	S		08.04.1991	A		08.04.1991
Dominica	28.09.1981	S		25.04.1996	A		25.04.1996
Dominican Republic	22.01.1958	A		26.05.1994	A		26.05.1994
Ecuador	11.08.1954	R		10.04.1979	R		10.04.1979
Egypt	10.11.1952	R		09.10.1992	R	X	09.10.1992
El Salvador	17.06.1953	R		23.11.1978	R		23.11.1978
Equatorial Guinea	24.07.1986	A		24.07.1986	A		24.07.1986
Eritrea	14.08.2000	A					
Estonia	18.01.1993	A		18.01.1993	A		18.01.1993
Ethiopia	02.10.1969	R		08.04.1994	A		08.04.1994
Fiji	09.08.1971	S					
Finland	22.02.1955	R		07.08.1980	R	X	07.08.1980
France	28.06.1951	R		11.04.2001	A	X	24.02.1984

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I			PROTOCOL II			
Country	R/A/S	R/D		R/A/S	R/D		D90	R/A/S	R/D	
Gabon	26.02.1965	S		08.04.1980	A			08.04.1980	A	
Gambia	20.10.1966	S		12.01.1989	A			12.01.1989	A	
Georgia	14.09.1993	A		14.09.1993	A			14.09.1993	A	
Germany	03.09.1954	A	X	14.02.1991	R	X	14.02.1991	14.02.1991	R	X
Ghana	02.08.1958	A		28.02.1978	R			28.02.1978	R	
Greece	05.06.1956	R		31.03.1989	R		04.02.1998	15.02.1993	A	
Grenada	13.04.1981	S		23.09.1998	A			23.09.1998	A	
Guatemala	14.05.1952	R		19.10.1987	R			19.10.1987	R	
Guinea	11.07.1984	A		11.07.1984	A		20.12.1993	11.07.1984	A	
Guinea-Bissau	21.02.1974	A	X	21.10.1986	A			21.10.1986	A	
Guyana	22.07.1968	S		18.01.1988	A			18.01.1988	A	
Haiti	11.04.1957	A								
Holy See	22.02.1951	R		21.11.1985	R	X		21.11.1985	R	X
Honduras	31.12.1965	A		16.02.1995	R			16.02.1995	R	
Hungary	03.08.1954	R	X	12.04.1989	R		23.09.1991	12.04.1989	R	
Iceland	10.08.1965	A		10.04.1987	R	X	10.04.1987	10.04.1987	R	
India	09.11.1950	R								
Indonesia	30.09.1958	A								
Iran, Islamic Republic of	20.02.1957	R	X							
Iraq	14.02.1956	A								
Ireland	27.09.1962	R		19.05.1999	R	X	19.05.1999	19.05.1999	R	X
Israel	06.07.1951	R	X							
Italy	17.12.1951	R		27.02.1986	R	X	27.02.1986	27.02.1986	R	
Jamaica	20.07.1964	S		29.07.1986	A			29.07.1986	A	
Japan	21.04.1953	A		31.08.2004	A	X	31.08.2004	31.08.2004	A	
Jordan	29.05.1951	A		01.05.1979	R			01.05.1979	R	
Kazakhstan	05.05.1992	S		05.05.1992	S			05.05.1992	S	
Kenya	20.09.1966	A		23.02.1999	A			23.02.1999	A	
Kiribati	05.01.1989	S								
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	27.08.1957	A	X	09.03.1988	A					
Korea, Republic of	16.08.1966	A	X	15.01.1982	R	X	16.04.2004	15.01.1982	R	
Kuwait	02.09.1967	A	X	17.01.1985	A			17.01.1985	A	
Kyrgyzstan	18.09.1992	S		18.09.1992	S			18.09.1992	S	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	29.10.1956	A		18.11.1980	R		30.01.1998	18.11.1980	R	
Latvia	24.12.1991	A		24.12.1991	A			24.12.1991	A	
Lebanon	10.04.1951	R		23.07.1997	A			23.07.1997	A	
Lesotho	20.05.1968	S		20.05.1994	A			20.05.1994	A	
Liberia	29.03.1954	A		30.06.1988	A			30.06.1988	A	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	22.05.1956	A		07.06.1978	A			07.06.1978	A	
Liechtenstein	21.09.1950	R		10.08.1989	R	X	10.08.1989	10.08.1989	R	X
Lithuania	03.10.1996	A		13.07.2000	A		13.07.2000	13.07.2000	A	
Luxembourg	01.07.1953	R		29.08.1989	R		12.05.1993	29.08.1989	R	
Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	01.09.1993	S	X	01.09.1993	S	X	01.09.1993	01.09.1993	S	
Madagascar	18.07.1963	S		08.05.1992	R		27.07.1993	08.05.1992	R	
Malawi	05.01.1968	A		07.10.1991	A			07.10.1991	A	
Malaysia	24.08.1962	A								
Maldives	18.06.1991	A		03.09.1991	A			03.09.1991	A	
Mali	24.05.1965	A		08.02.1989	A		09.05.2003	08.02.1989	A	
Malta	22.08.1968	S		17.04.1989	A	X	17.04.1989	17.04.1989	A	X
Marshall Islands	01.06.2004	A								
Mauritania	30.10.1962	S		14.03.1980	A			14.03.1980	A	
Mauritius	18.08.1970	S		22.03.1982	A			22.03.1982	A	
Mexico	29.10.1952	R		10.03.1983	A					
Micronesia, Federated States of	19.09.1995	A		19.09.1995	A			19.09.1995	A	
Moldova, Republic of	24.05.1993	A		24.05.1993	A			24.05.1993	A	
Monaco	05.07.1950	R		07.01.2000	A			07.01.2000	A	
Mongolia	20.12.1958	A		06.12.1995	R	X	06.12.1995	06.12.1995	R	
Morocco	26.07.1956	A								
Mozambique	14.03.1983	A		14.03.1983	A			12.11.2002	A	
Myanmar	25.08.1992	A								
Namibia	22.08.1991	S		17.06.1994	A		21.07.1994	17.06.1994	A	
Nepal	07.02.1964	A								

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS		PROTOCOL I				PROTOCOL II		
	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D	D90		R/A/S	R/D	
Netherlands	03.08.1954	R			26.06.1987	R X	26.06.1987	26.06.1987	R
New Zealand	02.05.1959	R	X		08.02.1988	R X	08.02.1988	08.02.1988	R
Nicaragua	17.12.1953	R							
Niger	21.04.1964	S			08.06.1979	R		08.06.1979	R
Nigeria	20.06.1961	S			10.10.1988	A		10.10.1988	A
Norway	03.08.1951	R			14.12.1981	R	14.12.1981	14.12.1981	R
Oman	31.01.1974	A			29.03.1984	A X		29.03.1984	A X
Pakistan	12.06.1951	R	X						
Palau	25.06.1996	A			25.06.1996	A		25.06.1996	A
Panama	10.02.1956	A			18.09.1995	R	26.10.1999	18.09.1995	R
Papua New Guinea	26.05.1976	S							
Paraguay	23.10.1961	R			30.11.1990	A	30.01.1998	30.11.1990	A
Peru	15.02.1956	R			14.07.1989	R		14.07.1989	R
Philippines	06.10.1952	R						11.12.1986	A
Poland	26.11.1954	R	X		23.10.1991	R	02.10.1992	23.10.1991	R
Portugal	14.03.1961	R	X		27.05.1992	R	01.07.1994	27.05.1992	R
Qatar	15.10.1975	A			05.04.1988	A X	24.09.1991	05.01.2005	A
Romania	01.06.1954	R			21.06.1990	R	31.05.1995	21.06.1990	R
Russian Federation	10.05.1954	R	X		29.09.1989	R X	29.09.1989	29.09.1989	R X
Rwanda	05.05.1964	S			19.11.1984	A	08.07.1993	19.11.1984	A
Saint Kitts and Nevis	14.02.1986	S			14.02.1986	A		14.02.1986	A
Saint Lucia	18.09.1981	S			07.10.1982	A		07.10.1982	A
Saint Vincent Grenadines	01.04.1981	A			08.04.1983	A		08.04.1983	A
Samoa	23.08.1984	S			23.08.1984	A		23.08.1984	A
San Marino	29.08.1953	A			05.04.1994	R		05.04.1994	R
Sao Tome and Principe	21.05.1976	A			05.07.1996	A		05.07.1996	A
Saudi Arabia	18.05.1963	A			21.08.1987	A X		28.11.2001	A
Senegal	18.05.1963	S			07.05.1985	R		07.05.1985	R
Serbia and Montenegro	16.10.2001	S			16.10.2001	S	16.10.2001	16.10.2001	S
Seychelles	08.11.1984	A			08.11.1984	A	22.05.1992	08.11.1984	A
Sierra Leone	10.06.1965	S			21.10.1986	A		21.10.1986	A
Singapore	27.04.1973	A							
Slovakia	02.04.1993	S	X		02.04.1993	S	13.03.1995	02.04.1993	S
Slovenia	26.03.1992	S			26.03.1992	S	26.03.1992	26.03.1992	S
Solomon Islands	06.07.1981	S			19.09.1988	A		19.09.1988	A
Somalia	12.07.1962	A							
South Africa	31.03.1952	A			21.11.1995	A		21.11.1995	A
Spain	04.08.1952	R			21.04.1989	R X	21.04.1989	21.04.1989	R
Sri Lanka	28.02.1959	R							
Sudan	23.09.1957	A							
Suriname	13.10.1976	S	X		16.12.1985	A		16.12.1985	A
Swaziland	28.06.1973	A			02.11.1995	A		02.11.1995	A
Sweden	28.12.1953	R			31.08.1979	R X	31.08.1979	31.08.1979	R
Switzerland	31.03.1950	R			17.02.1982	R X	17.02.1982	17.02.1982	R
Syrian Arab Republic	02.11.1953	R			14.11.1983	A X			
Tajikistan	13.01.1993	S			13.01.1993	S	10.09.1997	13.01.1993	S
Tanzania, United Republic of	12.12.1962	S			15.02.1983	A		15.02.1983	A
Thailand	29.12.1954	A							
Timor-Leste	08.05.2003	A			12.04.2005	A		12.04.2005	A
Togo	06.01.1962	S			21.06.1984	R	21.11.1991	21.06.1984	R
Tonga	13.04.1978	S			20.01.2003	A	20.01.2003	20.01.2003	A
Trinidad and Tobago	24.09.1963	A			20.07.2001	A	20.07.2001	20.07.2001	A
Tunisia	04.05.1957	A			09.08.1979	R		09.08.1979	R
Turkey	10.02.1954	R							
Turkmenistan	10.04.1992	S			10.04.1992	S		10.04.1992	S
Tuvalu	19.02.1981	S							
Uganda	18.05.1964	A			13.03.1991	A		13.03.1991	A
Ukraine	03.08.1954	R	X		25.01.1990	R	25.01.1990	25.01.1990	R
United Arab Emirates	10.05.1972	A			09.03.1983	A X	06.03.1992	09.03.1983	A X
United Kingdom	23.09.1957	R	X		28.01.1998	R X	17.05.1999	28.01.1998	R
United States of America	02.08.1955	R	X						
Uruguay	05.03.1969	R	X		13.12.1985	A	17.07.1990	13.12.1985	A

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I		D90	PROTOCOL II	
	R/A/S	R/D		R/A/S	R/D		R/A/S	R/D
Uzbekistan	08.10.1993	A		08.10.1993	A		08.10.1993	A
Vanuatu	27.10.1982	A		28.02.1985	A		28.02.1985	A
Venezuela	13.02.1956	R		23.07.1998	A		23.07.1998	A
Vietnam	28.06.1957	A	X	19.10.1981	R			
Yemen	16.07.1970	A	X	17.04.1990	R		17.04.1990	R
Zambia	19.10.1966	A		04.05.1995	A		04.05.1995	A
Zimbabwe	07.03.1983	A		19.10.1992	A		19.10.1992	A

NOTES**Djibouti**

Djibouti's declaration of succession in respect of the First Convention was dated 26.01.78.

France

On accession to Protocol II, France made a communication concerning Protocol I.

Ghana

Entry into force of Protocols I and II on 07.12.78.

Namibia

An instrument of accession to the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols was deposited by the United Nations Council for Namibia on 18.10.83. In an instrument deposited on 22.08.91, Namibia declared its succession to the Geneva Conventions, which were previously applicable pursuant to South Africa's accession on 31.03.52.

Palestine

On 21 June 1989, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs received a letter from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Office in Geneva informing the Swiss Federal Council "that the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, entrusted with the functions of the Government of the State of Palestine by decision of the Palestine National Council, decided, on 4 May 1989, to adhere to the Four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the two Protocols additional thereto".

On 13 September 1989, the Swiss Federal Council informed the States that it was not in a position to decide whether the letter constituted an instrument of accession, "due to the uncertainty within the international community as to the existence or non-existence of a State of Palestine".

Philippines

The First Geneva Convention was ratified on 7.03.1951.

Republic of Korea

The Geneva Conventions entered into force on 23.09.66, the Republic of Korea having invoked Art.62/61/141/157 common respectively to the First, Second, Third and Fourth Conventions (immediate effect).

Sri Lanka

Accession to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 23 February 1959 (Ceylon had signed only the First, Second, and Third Conventions).

Switzerland

Entry into force of the Geneva Conventions on 21.10.50.

Trinidad and Tobago

Accession to the First Geneva Convention on 17.03.1963.



MISSION

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



ICRC

