


ANNUAL REPORT 2007



ICRC

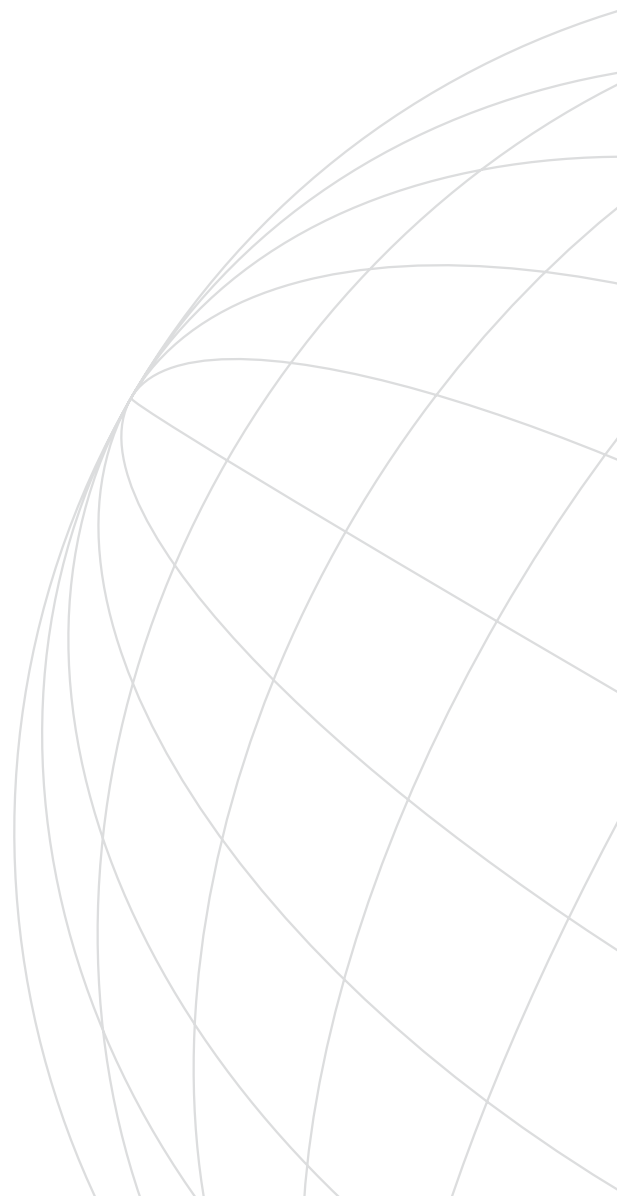


This report is primarily an account of the ICRC's work in the field and its activities to promote international humanitarian law. Mention is made of some of the negotiations entered into with a view to bringing protection and assistance to the victims of international and non-international armed conflicts and other situations of violence. 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 2007, the average exchange rate was CHF 1.2039 to USD 1, and CHF 1.6417 to EUR 1.



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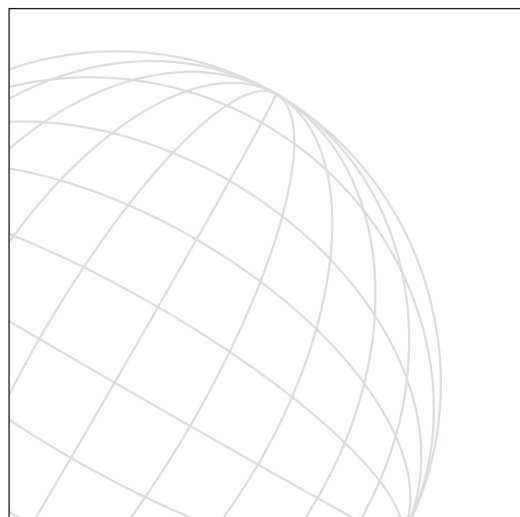


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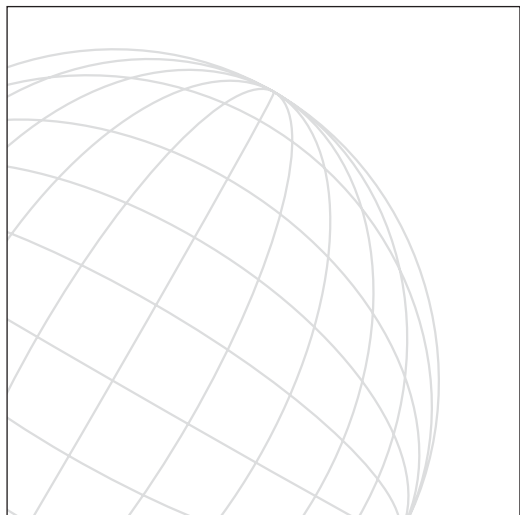
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abbreviations and definitions

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
K	KCHF	thousand Swiss francs
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.

N	NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
	NGO	non-governmental organization
O	OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
	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	Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement	In November 2007, the Movement's Council of Delegates adopted the Restoring Family Links Strategy proposed by the ICRC after three years of consultation within the Movement. The strategy, which covers a ten-year period, aims to strengthen the Movement's family-links network by enhancing the capacity of its components to respond to the needs of those without news of family members owing to armed conflict, other situations of violence, natural disasters or other circumstances, such as migration.
	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.

S	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
	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

Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Iraq, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan were among the many countries in which countless women, men and children had their lives torn apart by armed conflicts in 2007. The ICRC worked relentlessly to bring protection and assistance to these vulnerable people, its sole aim being to meet their most urgent needs without discrimination.

In 2007, direct attacks on civilian communities, general insecurity and the destruction of livelihoods forced innumerable civilians to flee their homes. Assisting and protecting internally displaced people (IDPs), who are protected under international humanitarian law (IHL), remained one of the ICRC's priorities throughout the year.

Worldwide, more than 4 million IDPs benefited from ICRC relief activities. In the Darfur region of Sudan, the ICRC responded to the changing situation by taking over the management of several IDP camps in which other organizations were unable to work. It helped vulnerable rural communities cope with the additional hardship brought about by the conflict so that they would not be obliged to join the multitude of IDPs. In Colombia, people continued to be forced to abandon their homes, land, crops and livestock and flee to big cities, where the conditions they encountered fell short of needs. Since 1997, the ICRC and the Colombian Red Cross Society have assisted over 1 million displaced Colombians, 53% of them minors. The relief provided has ranged from food and essential household items to vouchers and inputs for the production of short-cycle organic crops and poultry raising. Worldwide, the ICRC distributed food to 2.5 million people, mainly IDPs and residents, and essential household and hygiene items to close to 4 million people in 2007. Around 2.8 million people benefited from sustainable food-production programmes or micro-economic initiatives.

Throughout the year, ICRC water, sanitation and construction activities met the needs of more than 14 million people around the world. In Iraq, for example, the ICRC provided more than 3 million IDPs and vulnerable residents with improved access to water and sanitation facilities in the areas worst affected by the hostilities or those hosting large numbers of IDPs. In the DRC, it restored part of the water distribution system in Goma and worked on Bukavu's largest pumping station, enabling drinking water to flow to over half a million people.

Close to 3 million people worldwide benefited from ICRC health-related activities such as the provision of supplies for large hospitals, as in Afghanistan, or the deployment of mobile surgical teams, as in Chad and Sudan.

In 2007, the ICRC also visited around 2,400 places of detention with more than half a million detainees, more than 36,000 of whom were monitored individually. The aim of such visits, based on a confidential dialogue with detainees and the detaining authorities, is to prevent detainees from disappearing or being ill-treated, and to ensure that they have decent conditions of detention. The ICRC has been carrying out such visits for more than a century in conflict-affected and violence-prone areas. In further recognition of the importance of the organization's work in this field, UNESCO added the ICRC's archives on the fate of about 2 million First World War prisoners to its Memory of the World Register, on the grounds that they provided "testimony to the extent of human suffering during the First World War, but also of the [ICRC's] pioneering action to protect civilians".

The ICRC's neutral and independent humanitarian status and action enabled it on several occasions to offer its services as a neutral intermediary, in particular to facilitate the release of captured civilians or fighters or handover of human remains, as in Afghanistan, Colombia, Ethiopia and Niger.

IHL balances legitimate military necessity against the basic requirements of humanity, which hold good even in war. It is a finely crafted body of law specifically designed to be applied in armed conflicts. Its tenets are rooted in values common to all civilizations and religions, and are therefore universal. Enhanced respect for IHL in the midst of the fighting would undoubtedly prevent many civilians from being killed or wounded, many women and girls from being raped and many people from being displaced. I deeply deplore the innumerable violations of IHL that ICRC delegates witness throughout the world.

The ICRC's experience and studies show that a key means of ensuring better compliance with the law is to penalize the perpetrators of violations. This was reaffirmed at an expert meeting on the subject organized by the ICRC in November 2007. Though visible steps have been taken at the international level for more than a decade, much remains to be done by the belligerents and the international community to combat impunity. The ICRC appeals to all States to fulfil their obligations to that end.

When its delegates witness violations of IHL, the ICRC does all it can to engage in a confidential dialogue with the belligerents, governments or armed groups concerned, asking for measures to be taken to put an end to the abuse. The ICRC also strives to prevent violations through specifically designed assistance activities. In Darfur, for example, it initiated a project to provide IDPs with water, food rations requiring less cooking time and fuel-efficient stoves, reducing the need for women to venture out to the fields on the outskirts of villages and hence the risks to their physical safety. More generally, building a well or a borehole in a village, as the ICRC does in Afghanistan, Chad, the Philippines or Somalia, among others, can have the dual effect of providing safe drinking water and avoiding the need for residents to venture out of their villages, sometimes great distances, to fetch water, which at times can be a very risky endeavour.

Through dialogue with the authorities in Myanmar, for more than two years the ICRC had tried, but to no avail, to overcome the difficulties that prevented it from visiting detainees and working for the benefit of civilians affected by the violence in the sensitive border areas. In June 2007, the ICRC took the exceptional step of denouncing publicly the Government of Myanmar's grave and repeated violations of IHL against civilians and detainees. It demanded that the Government take immediate steps to bring them to an end and ensure they did not reoccur.

Throughout 2007, the ICRC continued to reassert the undiminished relevance of IHL. It welcomed the adoption by the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in November 2007, of a strongly worded resolution on the reaffirmation and implementation of IHL. However, IHL is not a static body of law. Normative developments and clarification of key notions are necessary. In October, I called for the adoption of a new IHL treaty to address the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of the use of cluster munitions for civilians and their communities.

The 30th International Conference was also an opportunity for the Movement's components and the States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions to demonstrate their commitment to stronger collaborative humanitarian action. It highlighted the specific role of the Movement's components in dealing with the humanitarian challenges posed by environmental degradation, including climate change, international migration, violence, in particular in urban settings, emerging and recurrent diseases and other public health challenges, such as access to health care.

At the Council of Delegates held just before the International Conference, the Movement adopted the Restoring Family Links Strategy (2008–2018). Separation is one of the many hardships that arise in armed conflicts, and it is a source of immense relief for families torn apart by the hostilities to be able to remain in touch with their loved ones and to know that they are alive and well. The extensive network of Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers and the expertise acquired by the Movement's components in restoring family links in emergency situations are assets upon which the strategy builds to make the Movement even more effective in this field. In 2007, the ICRC, together with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world, delivered or collected close to half a million Red Cross messages and ascertained the whereabouts of some 5,500 people separated from their next-of-kin. In the same period, it reunited with close relatives more than 750 children who had become separated from their families.

In 2007, the ICRC also renewed its Group of International Advisers for the period 2008 to 2011 and took leave of its permanent vice-president for eight years, Mr Jacques Forster, who remains a member of the ICRC Assembly. I would like to pay tribute to Mr Forster's outstanding commitment to the ICRC and to welcome his successor, Ms Christine Beerli, who took office on 1 January 2008.



Jakob Kellenberger
President



Thierry Gassmann/ICRC



ICRC operational framework and programme descriptions

ICRC OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The ICRC endeavours to respond to the humanitarian needs engendered by today's complex armed conflicts and other situations of violence in the most timely, human and professional way possible. Each situation thus requires thorough analysis, a sensitive but objective assessment of the needs and human suffering, and the design and implementation of specific and efficient humanitarian responses.

Today more than ever, situations have to be considered holistically, in a way that integrates local, regional and global elements and takes into account the broad range of problems and needs of the populations the ICRC wants to help. It is important as well to ensure the coherence of ICRC activities both in the medium and long term, as well as between comparable contexts.

To this end, the ICRC works with a dynamic network of multi-disciplinary teams composed of both specialized and non-specialized staff who are led and coordinated by a competent management with clear policies and priorities. Effective monitoring and critical evaluation, drawing on lessons learned from past experience, are also crucial to this process, as is coordination with the numerous actors present on the increasingly complex and critical humanitarian scene.

The ICRC operational framework is characterized by a diverse range of activities requiring varied skills and expertise, a focus on different target populations, and the strategic use of various modes of action at different levels of intervention.

MODES OF ACTION

The modes of action used by the ICRC depend on the situation, the problems encountered and the objectives to be achieved.

- **persuasion:** confidential representations addressed to the authorities and aimed at convincing them to enhance respect for IHL and/or other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence and to take measures which improve the circumstances of people affected by such situations

- **support:** activities aimed at providing assistance to the authorities so that they are better able to carry out their functions and fulfil their responsibilities
- **direct services/substitution:** activities to provide direct services to people in need, often in place of authorities who are not able or not willing to do so
- **mobilization:** activities aimed at prevailing on third parties to influence the behaviour or action of the authorities, to support them, or to provide direct services to people in need
- **denunciation (resorted to by the ICRC only in exceptional circumstances and under strict conditions):** public declarations regarding violations of IHL or other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence committed by specific actors, for the purpose of bringing a halt to such violations or preventing their reoccurrence

LEVELS OF INTERVENTION

The activities carried out under the ICRC's programmes are conducted at the following **complementary** levels to reach common objectives in aid of the affected populations:

- **preventing or alleviating the immediate effects** of an emerging or established pattern of abuse or problem (responsive action)
- **restoring dignified living conditions** through rehabilitation, restitution and reparation (remedial action)
- **fostering a social, cultural, institutional and legal environment** conducive to full respect for IHL and/or other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence (environment-building action)

RESULT-BASED MANAGEMENT

At least once a year, on the basis of an analysis of the given situation and of the humanitarian issues, the ICRC defines objectives and plans of action for the coming year for each context in which it operates. The plans of action describe how the ICRC aims to work towards the objectives in question. Changes in situations and humanitarian issues may require objectives and plans of action to be revised during the year. Objectives and plans of action are

organized according to target populations and list activities according to programme (see descriptions below). The accounting system is structured accordingly (see description below).

ICRC Appeals provide donors with information about these objectives and plans of action and their corresponding budget.

The ICRC also produces its *Annual Report*, which provides information – descriptive, quantitative and financial – regarding those objectives and plans of action.

Whenever possible the reporting is result-oriented. It includes a description of the products and services resulting from processes that use a combination of resources, and their effect or results – at output, outcome or impact level – once consumed by a given target population.

The ICRC works according to the following definitions of the terminology used, adopted on the basis of a common understanding in existing literature:

- ▶ **input:** resources that enable a person/organization to do something
- ▶ **activity:** any action or process
- ▶ **output:** the products, capital goods and services that are **generated** by an activity, including changes resulting from the activity that are expected to **lead** to the achievement of outcomes
- ▶ **outcome:** the likely, or achieved, medium-term (1–5 year) effects of the output of one or several activities or interventions
- ▶ **impact:** positive and negative, primary and secondary, long-term effects produced by interventions (a combination of factors), directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. The ICRC, as any other actor, is likely only to **contribute** to an impact. Many factors will come into play: some man-made, others occurring naturally

TARGET POPULATIONS

In setting its objectives, the ICRC has drawn up a standard list of seven target groups, divided into two broad categories. These are defined as follows:

1) **Affected populations/persons** are individuals or segments of the population suffering the direct and/or indirect effects of a confirmed or emerging situation of armed conflict or violence, who do not or no longer take a direct part in the hostilities or violence. The aim of ICRC action for such people is to ensure that they are respected and protected and to alleviate the suffering caused by the situation, in accordance with the provisions of IHL and internationally accepted standards. The ICRC distinguishes between three different groups of people:

- ▶ **civilians:**
all people who do not take a direct part in hostilities or violence but whose physical or mental integrity and dignity are either threatened or affected during a conflict or another situation of violence
- ▶ **people deprived of their freedom:**
all individuals deprived of their freedom in connection with a situation of armed conflict or violence, such as prisoners of war, civilian internees and security detainees
- ▶ **the wounded and sick:**
people injured or suffering from disease in a situation of armed conflict or violence

2) Then there are **influential individuals** or **institutions** that, because of their roles and functions, may directly or indirectly take action to curb, avoid or put an end to violations of IHL or other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence, and protect or aid those affected when humanitarian problems arise. The ICRC endeavours to persuade them to take action, in the manner most conducive to promoting full respect for those fundamental rules and to ensuring that the people in need receive protection and assistance. This second broad category comprises the following:

- ▶ **the authorities:**
political decision-makers (civil, administrative or legislative authorities, whether official or unofficial)
- ▶ **armed forces and other weapon bearers:**
armed, police and security forces, and all State and non-State actors involved in armed violence
- ▶ **civil society:**
the public at large, representatives of civil society or other actors exerting influence, such as the media, associations of various kinds, NGOs, religious authorities or opinion-makers, economic entities, young people, university students and academic institutions
- ▶ **the Movement:**
besides the ICRC, the Movement comprises the National Societies and their International Federation. There is a National Society in almost every country in the world, carrying out humanitarian services for the benefit of the community. For the ICRC, the existence of a local partner in each country is a valuable asset and one of the distinguishing features of cooperation within the Movement

Particular concerns

The ICRC devotes particular attention to certain individual characteristics and situations which further increase vulnerability. As the civilian population becomes increasingly caught up in armed conflicts, specific problems may engender or exacerbate vulnerability among women, children, the elderly or minorities.

As warring parties fight for territorial control, more and more civilians are displaced. Forced displacement could aim to weaken enemy forces by targeting communities considered to be supportive of them, or to facilitate appropriation of property or access to natural resources. **Internally displaced people** are those compelled to flee their homes, leaving most of their personal belongings behind, often to resettle in over-populated areas in conditions of extreme poverty, without gainful employment and seldom having the benefit of services such as a clean water supply, sewage systems, health care or education.

Children are not spared in conflict, as they not only represent a large segment of the population but are also more vulnerable than adults. They should benefit both from the general protection guaranteed by law as people not taking a direct part in hostilities and from specific protection as a particularly vulnerable group (children are covered by 25 articles in the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols). Yet three out of every five war victims assisted by the ICRC are children. They are often the powerless witnesses of atrocities committed against their relatives. Many of them are killed, wounded or imprisoned, torn from their families, forcibly recruited into combat, compelled to flee or left without even an identity.

Women and girls mostly experience armed conflict as civilians, and as such are often exposed to acts of violence. Such acts include

death or injury from indiscriminate attacks and mine explosions, but also direct assaults. Sexual violence, including rape, is widespread and often used as a method of warfare against the civilian population, with women and girls as the main victims. In addition, the loss of male relatives, deprivation of access to the basic means of survival and health care makes women and girls vulnerable. It is therefore imperative to understand in which way, owing to their status and role in a given context, women and girls are affected by a situation of violence and how best humanitarian programmes can contribute to alleviating their plight.

As the ICRC aims to provide a comprehensive response to all populations affected by armed conflict or violence, neither its programmes (protection, assistance, prevention and cooperation with National Societies) nor their corresponding budgets are designed in such a way as to cater solely to one or another of the specific groups described above. Donors wishing to help the ICRC manage contributions to its programmes in the most efficient way possible are referred to the proposed criteria for levels of earmarking set out in the “Contributions” section of this chapter.

In late 2001, the ICRC launched the “Missing” project to heighten awareness of the tragic fate of people who are unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to seek ways of alleviating the anguish suffered by their families. In the wake of the International Conference of Governmental and Non-Governmental Experts on the missing and their families, convened by the ICRC in Geneva in February 2003, and the pledge made at the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in December 2003, operational guidelines have been established to prevent disappearances and to respond to the needs and suffering of the families left behind. They are currently being implemented on the ground by the relevant ICRC delegations worldwide. Moreover, the ICRC continues to heighten concern about the issue of missing persons and their relatives among governments, NGOs, UN agencies and relevant segments of civil society and to emphasize the importance of addressing and ultimately resolving the issue.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTIONS

PROTECTION

Programmes in this area cover all activities designed to ensure protection of the victims of armed conflicts and other situations of violence. The beneficiaries are resident and displaced civilians, people deprived of their freedom (in particular prisoners of war, security detainees, internees and other vulnerable people), people separated from their relatives by conflict, and missing people and their families.

Protection is the mainstay of ICRC activities. It lies at the heart of the ICRC’s mandate and IHL. As a neutral and independent humanitarian organization, the ICRC seeks to ensure that all the parties to a conflict and all authorities provide individuals and groups with the full respect and protection that are due to them under IHL and other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence. In response to violations of these rules, the ICRC endeavours, as much as possible through constructive and confidential dialogue, to encourage the authorities concerned to take corrective action and to prevent any recurrence. Delegations monitor the situation and the treatment of the civilian population and persons deprived of their freedom, discuss their findings with the authorities concerned, recommend measures and conduct follow-up activities.

Respect for persons deprived of their freedom

The objective of the ICRC’s activities for persons deprived of their freedom is purely humanitarian, namely to ensure that their physical and mental integrity is fully respected and that their conditions of detention are in keeping with IHL and/or internationally recognized standards. As circumstances dictate, the ICRC strives to prevent forced disappearances or extrajudicial executions, ill-treatment and failure to respect fundamental judicial guarantees, and, whenever necessary, takes action to improve conditions of detention. This involves in particular:

- ▶ negotiating with the authorities to obtain access to persons deprived of their freedom wherever they may be held, in accordance with procedures that guarantee the effectiveness and consistency of ICRC action
- ▶ visiting all detainees, assessing their conditions of detention and identifying any shortcomings and humanitarian needs
- ▶ monitoring individual detainees (for specific protection, medical or other purposes)
- ▶ maintaining family links (such as facilitating family visits or forwarding RCMs)
- ▶ under specific conditions, providing material and medical relief supplies to detainees or engaging in cooperation on specific projects with the detaining authorities
- ▶ fostering a confidential and meaningful dialogue with the authorities at all levels regarding any problems of a humanitarian nature that may arise

Visits to places of detention are carried out by the ICRC in accordance with strict conditions:

- ▶ delegates must be provided with full and unimpeded access to all detainees falling within the ICRC’s mandate and to all places where they are held
- ▶ delegates must be able to hold private interviews with the detainees of their choice
- ▶ delegates must be able to repeat their visits
- ▶ detainees falling within the ICRC’s mandate must be notified individually to the ICRC, and the ICRC must be able to draw up lists of their names

Respect for civilians

Protection activities for the civilian population are intended to ensure that individuals and groups not or no longer taking a direct part in hostilities are fully respected and protected, in accordance with IHL or other fundamental rules protecting persons in situations of violence. This involves in particular:

- ▶ engaging in dialogue with the authorities to obtain access to individuals or groups needing protection and/or assistance
- ▶ deploying delegates in the field, assessing the living conditions of these individuals or groups and their means of subsistence, analysing cases of abuse and violations and identifying any shortcomings or needs arising from the violations
- ▶ monitoring individuals who are particularly vulnerable
- ▶ establishing and maintaining a dialogue – preventive and corrective – with the relevant parties, including civil and military authorities, at all levels regarding humanitarian issues, and reminding them of their legal obligations

Restoring family links

These activities aim to restore or maintain contact between members of families separated by armed conflict or other situations

of violence, including persons deprived of their freedom, with a view to relieving their mental anguish. This involves in particular:

- ▶ forwarding family news (through various means, such as RCMs, radio broadcasts, the telephone and the Internet) via the worldwide Red Cross and Red Crescent network (National Societies and ICRC delegations)
- ▶ collecting information on detentions, disappearances and deaths, collecting tracing requests from the families of missing people and submitting them to the relevant authorities for clarification
- ▶ organizing repatriations and family reunifications
- ▶ facilitating family visits to detainees or across front lines
- ▶ issuing ICRC travel documents for people who, owing to a conflict, do not or no longer have identity papers and are about to be repatriated or resettled in a third country

Missing persons

Activities for missing persons are intended to shed light on the fate and/or whereabouts of people who are unaccounted for as a consequence of armed conflict or other situations of violence, to respond to the suffering of their relatives caused by the uncertainty surrounding the fate of their loved ones. This involves establishing and supporting mechanisms to facilitate dialogue between the authorities and the families of missing people in order to speed up the tracing process, which can include the exhumation and identification of human remains, and responding to the needs of the families left behind.

ASSISTANCE

Assistance programmes are designed to preserve or restore acceptable living conditions for people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, to enable them to maintain an adequate standard of living in their respective social and cultural context until their basic needs are met by the authorities or through their own means. The beneficiaries are primarily resident or displaced civilians, vulnerable groups such as minorities and the families of people who are unaccounted for, the sick and the wounded (both military and civilian) and people deprived of their freedom.

Assistance activities are based on the “health pyramid” approach, whereby priorities are set in such a way as to reduce as rapidly and effectively as possible the risks of disease and death among the populations concerned. The health pyramid shows that precedence must be given to ensuring access to food, water and other vital necessities, and to restoring satisfactory hygiene conditions through the adoption of public health measures. Assistance must not lead to dependency. The ICRC’s strategy aims to restore self-sufficiency, which helps those affected to preserve their dignity.

Economic security

Economic security programmes are designed to ensure that households and communities have access to the services and resources required to meet their essential economic needs, as defined by their physical condition and social and cultural environment. In practice, this translates into three different types of intervention:

- ▶ *relief interventions*: to protect lives and livelihoods by providing persons in need with the goods and/or services essential for their survival when they can no longer obtain these through their own means

- ▶ *production interventions*: to protect or enhance a household’s or community’s asset base – its means of production – so that it can maintain or recover its livelihood
- ▶ *structural interventions*: to protect livelihoods by influencing processes, institutions and policies that have a direct impact on a target population’s capacity to maintain its livelihood over time (such as agricultural or livestock services)

Water and habitat

Water and habitat programmes are designed to ensure access to safe water (for both drinking and household use) and to a safe living environment.

In situations of acute crisis, infrastructure may have been damaged by fighting and basic services may not work or be inaccessible. People may be forced to leave their homes to look for water in a hostile environment. By monitoring the situation and implementing projects when and where necessary, in both urban and rural contexts, the ICRC ensures access to water and safe environmental sanitation conditions, and promotes basic health care by taking emergency action and supporting existing facilities.

In emerging crises, chronic crises and post-crisis situations, the priority is to support and strengthen existing structures through initiatives taken in conjunction with the authorities and/or through specific programmes that meet the needs of the population in a viable, sustainable manner.

Health services

Health-related activities are designed to give people affected by conflict access to appropriate preventive and curative health care that meets universally recognized standards, a task which entails assisting local or regional health services and sometimes stepping in for them on a temporary basis. This involves in particular:

- ▶ implementing activities, supporting existing structures, organizations and programmes or mobilizing others in order to foster access to health care, especially in the following key areas: health in detention; pre-hospital care (first aid and medical evacuations); emergency hospital care; hospital management; basic health care and support for victims of sexual violence
- ▶ negotiating with the authorities in order to guarantee safe access to quality health care for the affected population and a safe working environment for medical personnel

Physical rehabilitation

Physical rehabilitation projects are designed to provide physically disabled people with prosthetic/orthotic appliances so that they can recover their mobility and play an active role in society. This involves in particular:

- ▶ manufacturing prosthetic/orthotic appliances and components
- ▶ providing national technicians with theoretical and practical training in accordance with recognized standards
- ▶ engaging in dialogue with the authorities, especially on questions concerning the handover and continuation of projects

PREVENTION

Preventive action covers all pre-emptive steps taken to limit violence and to prevent human suffering, by influencing the attitudes and behaviour of those who determine the plight of people affected by armed conflicts or other situations of violence, and/or who can

influence the ICRC's ability to gain access to these persons and to operate efficiently in their favour. This covers a range of activities that are carried out as appropriate both in peacetime and in times of war.

Implementation of IHL

Implementation activities aim to promote the universal ratification of humanitarian treaties and the adoption by States of legislative, administrative and practical measures and mechanisms to give effect to these instruments at national level. It is also important to ascertain that proposals to develop domestic laws do not undermine existing IHL norms. Implementation activities also aim to foster compliance with IHL during armed conflicts and to ensure that national authorities, international organizations, the armed forces and other bearers of weapons correctly understand the law applicable in such situations. This involves in particular:

- ▶ promoting humanitarian treaties among the relevant authorities by making representations to governments, providing training in IHL and drafting technical documents and guidelines to further national implementation
- ▶ providing technical advice and support for the implementation of IHL, undertaking studies and carrying out technical assessments of the compatibility of national legislation with this body of law
- ▶ translating existing IHL and human rights texts and materials into different languages
- ▶ encouraging and helping authorities to integrate IHL into the doctrine, education and training of national armed, police and security forces, and into the training and education programmes for future leaders and opinion-makers in universities and schools

Development of IHL

These activities aim to promote the adoption of new treaties to make IHL more effective and to respond to needs which arise as a result of technological progress and the changing nature of armed conflict. At the same time, the ICRC furthers the development of customary international humanitarian law by encouraging constructive State practice. This involves in particular:

- ▶ taking part in meetings of experts and diplomatic conferences held to develop new treaties or other legal instruments, and formulating bilateral and multilateral initiatives to promote their acceptance by governments and relevant organizations
- ▶ monitoring new developments, carrying out studies, organizing meetings of experts and drafting proposals

Communication

The following complementary communication approaches constitute a key component of preventive action and facilitate ICRC access to the victims of armed conflict and violence:

- ▶ public communication which aims to inform and mobilize key stakeholders on priority general humanitarian issues and to promote greater understanding of and support for IHL and the work of the ICRC
- ▶ processes to scan the humanitarian environment at the global, regional and local levels with a view to identifying, understanding and addressing perceptions and issues having an impact on the ICRC's ability to operate
- ▶ developing and implementing strategies to influence the attitudes and actions of other political authorities or weapon bearers

- ▶ developing communication strategies and tools to mobilize key target groups – such as leaders and opinion-makers – in favour of respect for IHL and acceptance of ICRC action on behalf of victims of armed conflict
- ▶ supporting the implementation of the youth education programme – Exploring Humanitarian Law – to help young people embrace humanitarian principles and the social and legal norms intended to protect life and human dignity
- ▶ reinforcing links with academic circles to consolidate a network of IHL experts and developing partnerships with institutes and research centres specializing in IHL
- ▶ responding to public information requests on humanitarian norms, issues and action in situations of armed conflict

Mine action and other weapons issues

The ICRC devotes particular attention to promoting measures to restrict or prohibit the use of weapons that have indiscriminate effects or cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering. This includes promoting the application of existing IHL norms on the use of weapons and the development, when appropriate, of additional norms in response to the field realities witnessed by the ICRC or the emergence of new technology.

The ICRC, working closely with National Societies, also implements preventive mine-action activities in situations where mines and other explosive remnants of war represent a danger to the population. These programmes are adapted to each individual situation and can comprise a range of activities that seek to define the problem, facilitate a flexible and effective response and take into account the activities of others in this field. This involves in particular:

- ▶ making representations to governments and other weapon bearers
- ▶ providing an IHL perspective on weapons issues in national and international fora
- ▶ holding meetings of military, legal, technical and foreign affairs experts to consider, *inter alia*, issues relating to emerging weapons technology and the impact in humanitarian terms of the use of certain weapons
- ▶ promoting the full and faithful implementation of treaties such as the Ottawa Convention and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and providing IHL perspectives in meetings on relevant arms treaties
- ▶ providing policy guidance and technical support on mines and other arms issues to National Societies and representing the Movement internationally on these matters
- ▶ attending meetings with key mine-action organizations that contribute to the development of mine-action policy, methodologies and systems
- ▶ planning and implementing preventive mine-action activities, often in cooperation with National Societies, to limit the physical, social and economic impact of mines and other explosive remnants of war
- ▶ deploying a mine-action rapid response team to provide technical support to ICRC delegations working in emergencies where mines and explosive remnants of war pose a threat to the ICRC and/or the population

COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

It is vital to ensure that all the Movement's components provide assistance and services to beneficiaries as effectively and efficiently as possible, acting in accordance with the Movement's Statutes, policies and Fundamental Principles. The ICRC's cooperation activities aim to reinforce National Society capacity to provide humanitarian services in situations of armed conflict or internal strife and to foster coordination between the Movement's components to achieve mutually supportive and effective action.

The ICRC shares its expertise with the National Societies in their domestic and international activities, not only in times of conflict or internal strife, but also in peacetime. It does this by:

- ▶ strengthening the National Societies' capacity to take action and provide appropriate services in times of conflict or internal strife in their own country
- ▶ promoting operational partnerships with National Societies in their own countries and with those working internationally in order to respond to the needs of people affected by conflicts or internal strife
- ▶ promoting dialogue and having regular communication on issues of common concern with National Societies and the International Federation Secretariat

The sections below describe these activities, distinguishing between cooperation with a National Society working in its own country and cooperation between the ICRC and National Societies working internationally. The final section discusses overall Movement coordination in the field.

Building the response capacity of National Societies in their own countries

The ICRC provides expertise in certain areas to all National Societies in order to strengthen their capacity to conduct activities domestically in accordance with their own priorities and plans. These areas include:

- ▶ promoting IHL and spreading knowledge of the Movement's principles, ideals and activities among both internal and external target groups
- ▶ preparing for and providing health care and relief services in situations of conflict and internal strife
- ▶ restoring family links through the worldwide Red Cross/Red Crescent tracing network
- ▶ developing activities to prevent the danger posed by mines and other explosive remnants of war
- ▶ supporting National Societies in relevant legal matters, such as recognizing or reconstituting a National Society, drawing up or amending statutes, and preparing for statutory meetings of the Movement

The National Society remains responsible for designing, managing, implementing and monitoring all the activities it carries out. The ICRC facilitates the implementation of planned activities by:

- ▶ providing National Societies with technical expertise
- ▶ making available material and financial assistance in order to help National Societies to fulfil their humanitarian role in situations of armed conflict and internal strife

- ▶ mobilizing support from sister National Societies and retaining a monitoring and support role with respect to the achievement of agreed objectives
- ▶ seconding ICRC delegates to National Societies so that they can exercise executive, managerial or support responsibilities in areas agreed with the National Society

Whatever forms the ICRC's support may take, it is offered in the spirit of a mutually beneficial partnership. Written agreements between the ICRC and each National Society ensure that the objectives are clear to each partner and that the working relationship is based on a common understanding of respective roles and responsibilities. The ICRC provides capacity-building support in close consultation and coordination with the International Federation, as activities are carried out with a long-term perspective and are part of each National Society's development process.

Operational partnerships with National Societies in their own countries

The ICRC and National Societies in their own countries often join forces and choose to implement activities together for the benefit of people affected by conflict or internal strife. Activities selected for joint implementation are those which best fit within the National Society's own plan, preserve its ability to function as an independent institution and contribute to further strengthening its operational capacity. The National Society's autonomy in managing such activities may vary, and is contingent on its operational capacity and conditions on the ground.

Written agreements formalize the operational partnership and specify the objectives to be achieved, respective roles and responsibilities, and corresponding plans of action and budgets. Financial, administrative and reporting procedures form an integral part of such agreements.

This form of cooperation involves meeting the ICRC's own objectives within its budget and consequently the ICRC retains principal responsibility.

Operational partnerships with National Societies working internationally

Many National Societies have the resources and willingness to work internationally together with the ICRC, and contribute in cash, in kind or by providing personnel and operational management. This section focuses on how this kind of operational partnership functions and on the form of projects implemented in the field.

In order to make its operational partnerships with National Societies working internationally more effective, and in line with its Cooperation policy of May 2003, the ICRC developed and tested between 2004 and 2006 new forms of partnership and management procedures that aim to bring added value to the Movement's overall humanitarian response. The first – **Integrated Partnerships** – has been designed for situations where a project carried out by a National Society working internationally forms an integral part of the ICRC's own objectives, and the National Society is integrated into the ICRC's operational management framework. The second – **Coordinated Activities** – has been designed for contexts where work carried out by a National Society working internationally is not part of the ICRC's objectives, but is under the ICRC's leadership and coordination in conformity with the Seville Agreement.

In the future, the ICRC will further invest in the development of partnerships with National Societies that have recently expanded their international work.

Coordination within the Movement

In a given context today, all the types of cooperation outlined above may occur simultaneously. They have to be carefully organized, coordinated and managed in order to achieve their respective objectives. More broadly, the resources made available to the Movement must be coordinated and managed in ways that ensure maximum benefit is derived for the beneficiaries.

The ICRC is responsible for promoting and directing the contribution and involvement of other Movement components in international relief operations in countries affected by armed conflict, internal strife and their direct consequences. It assumes the role of “lead agency” for the Movement operation in accordance with the Movement’s Statutes and the Seville Agreement, and in consultation with the National Society of the country concerned.

In such situations, coordination mechanisms are established that cover all the Red Cross and Red Crescent institutions active on the ground.

When the ICRC assumes the role of lead agency, it implements its own activities while also taking responsibility for coordinating the response of other Movement components. It is currently working to improve its practice as lead agency, by working with the National Society of the country as its natural “primary partner”. Country-level memoranda of understanding, defining the roles and responsibilities of each Movement component in emergency and normal situations, during periods of conflict, transition and peace, have been developed in a number of contexts and have proven effective in preparing the ground for well coordinated Movement action.

In cooperation with other Movement partners, the ICRC has dedicated further resources to learning from the experience of coordinating the Movement’s humanitarian response in a number of contexts. Revised operational guidelines to enhance coordination are under development.

GENERAL

This programme covers all activities related to the functioning of ICRC delegations, but which cannot be allocated to another programme, such as strategy, management, internal control and certain strategic negotiations.

OVERHEADS

The budget and expenditure for each operation comprises a 6.5% overhead charge on cash and services as a contribution to the costs of headquarters support for operations in the field. This support is for services essential to an operation’s success, such as human resources, finance, logistics, information technology and other support as described in the Headquarters Appeal for the same year. The contribution covers approximately 30% of the actual cost of support provided by headquarters to field operations.

CONTINGENCY

The overall amount of the Emergency Appeals includes a budgetary reserve of 5% of the total field budget (including overheads). The reserve enables the ICRC to meet unforeseen needs arising from the intensification of armed conflicts or other situations of violence where the total expenditure for its work does not justify a Budget Extension or Special Appeal.

ICRC FIELD STRUCTURE

The ICRC has developed a broad network of delegations around the world. The ultimate purpose of such a network is to enable the ICRC to fulfill its mandate in favour of those affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, by responding in a timely, efficient and adequate manner to the resulting humanitarian needs.

ICRC delegations adapt to the specific needs of the contexts in which they are active and endeavour to develop the most appropriate strategies and effective means of responsive, remedial and/or environment-building action. They also act as early-warning systems with regard to political violence or nascent armed conflicts and their potential consequences in humanitarian terms.

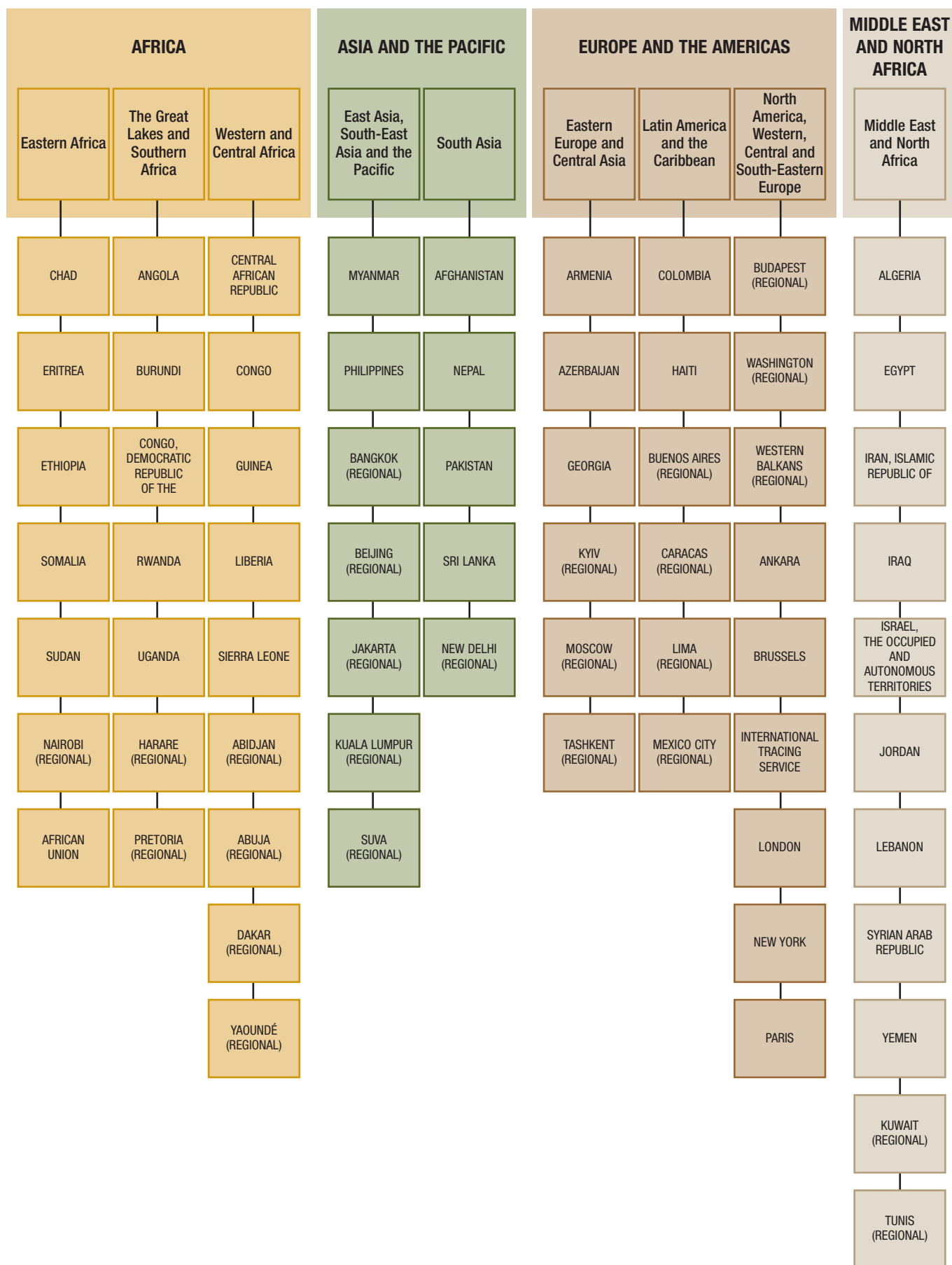
In ongoing or emerging situations of armed conflict or violence, the delegations focus on operational activities such as protection, assistance, cooperation and preventive action at the responsive and remedial levels, for the direct benefit of victims – civilians, people deprived of their freedom and the wounded and sick.

In other situations, the delegations focus primarily on environment-building preventive action, cooperation with National Societies and humanitarian diplomacy, while remaining poised to become more operational should the need arise.

Many delegations cover only one country. Others cover several countries and are called “regional delegations”. Certain delegations are tending more and more to provide regional services for their respective regions, such as the Cairo delegation in terms of communication, Amman in terms of logistics and Colombo as a training provider.

The ICRC’s presence in the field can also take the form of a mission or other form of representation adapted to the particularities of the context or the specific functions assigned to the ICRC staff on the ground.

OPERATIONS WORLDWIDE



DELEGATIONS AND MISSIONS IN MORE THAN 80 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

Delegations are grouped by geographic regions covering the following geographical entities:

- ▶ **Africa**
- ▶ **Asia and the Pacific**
- ▶ **Europe and the Americas**
- ▶ **Middle East and North Africa**

There are 9 regions in all:

- ▶ **Africa**
 - Eastern Africa
 - The Great Lakes and Southern Africa
 - Western and Central Africa
- ▶ **Asia and the Pacific**
 - East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific
 - South Asia
- ▶ **Europe and the Americas**
 - Eastern Europe and Central Asia
 - Latin America and the Caribbean
 - North America, Western, Central and South-Eastern Europe
- ▶ **Middle East and North Africa**
 - Middle East and North Africa

At headquarters, a head of region is in charge of the day-to-day management of and support for field operations in each region. The head of region answers to the director of Operations and is also in charge of a regional multidisciplinary team representing headquarters services such as Protection, Assistance, Logistics, Law, Communication, Cooperation within the Movement, Humanitarian Diplomacy, External Resources, Human Resources and Finance and Administration, which are involved as needed. The aim is to enhance relations between headquarters and field delegations, and to better coordinate and focus the support provided by these various services.

the field and at headquarters. Existing standard reporting procedures have to be duplicated to meet individual requests, specific reporting, audit and evaluation requirements.

The ICRC has formulated guidelines to ensure greater uniformity and coherence in managing earmarked funds. These standards are designed to maximize the ICRC's effectiveness in the field, by limiting the number of financing and reporting constraints. The guidelines include rules on contributions which cannot be accepted on principle. These include:

- ▶ contributions which are in contradiction with the Movement's Fundamental Principles
- ▶ contributions which seek to support only a specific category of beneficiary (e.g. an ethnic or religious minority, a specific age group or a specific gender)
- ▶ contributions which seek to support only a specific sub-region of a country
- ▶ visibility requirements which impinge on the security of beneficiaries or ICRC staff

Earmarking is one of the issues raised in the Donor Support Group (DSG), a discussion forum made up of governments contributing over 10 million Swiss francs annually to the ICRC's Emergency Appeals. The DSG has successfully assisted the ICRC in its efforts to decrease the levels of earmarking on contributions and to improve its standard reporting system. In addition, the majority of DSG members have accepted that the ICRC's standard reporting meets the reporting requirements related to their donations. The ICRC continues to try to encourage donors to ease their constraints, while maintaining its commitment to use funds as efficiently as possible. In 2001, the ICRC adapted its standard reporting system to its internal annual planning exercise (known in-house as the PfR, or Planning for Results). This commitment to improve reporting to donors has been further reinforced through, for instance, external audits and enhanced internal planning, monitoring and evaluation procedures.

CONTRIBUTIONS

LEVELS OF EARMARKING

"Earmarking" is the practice whereby donors require that their funds be attributed to a particular region, country, programme or project, or for the purchase of specific goods. Experience has shown that the ICRC's operational flexibility decreases in direct proportion to the degree of earmarking demanded by donors, to the detriment of the people that the ICRC is trying to help. Coming to terms with specific earmarking and reporting requirements generates an additional administrative workload, both in

The table below shows the overall framework agreed with donors for the earmarking level of cash contributions to the ICRC:

▶ Level of earmarking	Range/restrictions	Example
None	overall ICRC field budget	ICRC operations worldwide
Region	one of the four geographical entities	ICRC operations in Africa
Programme	one of the four programmes	ICRC prevention worldwide
Programme/region	one of the four programmes for one of the four geographical entities	ICRC protection activities in Asia and the Pacific
Operation	one of the operational delegations	ICRC activities in Colombia

Contributions which lead to double or over-financing (e.g. two different donors wishing to fund the same programme in the same country) cannot be accepted as this would run counter to recognized audit standards. The ICRC can make exceptions in accepting earmarking to programme or sub-programme level for a specific operation when standard reporting requirements are agreed.

Earmarking guidelines not only seek increased uniformity and coherence in managing contributions, but also establish a correlation between earmarking and reporting. Indeed, greater flexibility on the donor side regarding narrative and financial reporting enables the ICRC to manage tighter earmarking more effectively.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND

Contributions in kind refer to assistance provided in the form of food, non-food items or specific goods needed for the ICRC's assistance activities. The customary procedure for the acquisition of contributions in kind is as follows: the ICRC makes a request for specific goods needed for a particular field operation; that request is matched by a specific donor offer of goods. Once the offer has been accepted, the goods are delivered by the donor directly to the ICRC's local or regional warehouses.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN SERVICES

Contributions in services refer to support given to the ICRC in the form of logistics or staff on loan. The heading "in services" in the regional budget table indicates the portion of the budget that the ICRC estimates will be covered by this sort of contribution.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCOUNTING MODEL

The accounting model draws a clear distinction between financial accounting and cost accounting. Cost accounting enhances the information available for internal management and reporting to donors. Financial accounting illustrates how human, material and financial resources are used, while cost accounting focuses on the use of those resources for the implementation of operational objectives by country, programme and target population, as defined in the PfR methodology. The aim of the system is to enhance understanding of the resources needed to achieve operational results and to determine the reasons for, and the objectives of, the costs incurred.

OVERVIEW

The objective of the financial accounting system is to record expenses and to report on financial transactions in accordance with legal requirements. The purpose of cost accounting, which is based on financial accounting, is to promote understanding of processes and transactions, to respond to management requirements in terms of detailed information and – in particular for the ICRC – to facilitate general and specific reporting to donors.

The financial accounting system is composed of different data-entry modules that supply the basic information to the cost accounting system (comprising *cost centre accounting* and *cost units accounting*). The costs are allocated from the cost centres to the cost units according to where and by whom the objectives are being implemented. For the system to function, staff must report on the time they spend working on different objectives.

Financial accounting system

The financial accounting system consists of a number of *modules* (*general ledger, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, stocks, fixed assets*). Information recorded in the peripheral modules is stored within the main module, the *general ledger*, and incorporated into a balance sheet and a profit-and-loss statement. As financial accounting does not provide information about the origin of and the reason for costs, it does not in itself serve to assess results. In other words, it does not provide the information needed for reporting purposes. This task is performed by cost accounting.

Cost or analytical accounting system

The cost accounting system allocates all costs in two different ways: to the *cost centre*, which explains the origin of the costs, and to the *cost units*, which indicate the reason for or the objective of the costs. Thus it not only explains the type and origin of costs (e.g. salary, purchase, communications), but also creates a link between the internal service supplier (operations, management, warehouse, logistics, administration, etc.) and the beneficiary, thereby providing reliable and meaningful information for both internal and external performance assessment and reporting.

COST TYPE ACCOUNTING

Personnel costs are initiated directly by employees and comprise salaries, social benefits, training and all other expenses directly related to staff remuneration.

Workplace costs comprise all costs incurred in connection with the space and infrastructure necessary for the work of staff, and are therefore directly correlated to the number of employees within the cost centre initiating the costs. Examples of such costs are office furniture, IT infrastructure, all types of material and equipment and their maintenance, depreciation of assets, rent for work space and storage space, consumables such as electricity and water, means of transport and communication fees.

Direct costs represent all direct costs that bear no direct relation to the number of employees and that can therefore be allocated directly to cost units accounting (see below). Examples are the purchase of goods and services for distribution to beneficiaries or for immediate consumption.

Financial accounting and cost categories

The chart of accounts comprises three cost categories that serve to allocate costs between cost centres and to cost units accounting.

Cost centre accounting

Any unit (department or unit at headquarters or delegation in the field) within the organization generates costs as it consumes goods and services. It is important to identify the initiator of these costs and to specify his or her responsibility for the type, quality and dimension of the transactions concerned. This is the purpose of the *cost centre accounting* system. The cost centre reflects the structure of the unit to which the costs incurred within a given period are initially charged. The person who is answerable for the origin of the relevant costs always manages the cost centre.

Cost units accounting

Cost units accounting responds to the information requirements of management and donors, providing greater insight into the financial resources consumed. It is an essential tool for management since it describes the reason for or purpose of the costs. Cost units accounting and reporting is based on the operational objectives defined using the PfR methodology and gives a clearer indication of the purpose for which the costs were incurred.

To make it possible to produce all the reports required, a three-dimensional cost units structure is used. The three dimensions, outlined below, are independent from one another. Set together they are the parameters of the PfR system. The total costs found in cost unit accounting are equal to the total costs found in cost centre accounting. In all three of the dimensions described there are different levels of aggregation in order to monitor activities adequately.

a) Financial “organizational unit” dimension

The financial organizational unit (OU) reflects the hierarchy of the organization in terms of responsibility for operational results. As most ICRC field operations are designed for and implemented in a specific geographical area, the OU dimension also reflects the geographical structure of field operations. It serves to determine the costs and income of a delegation, region or geographical entity and to compare those costs and that income with the pre-defined objectives and results to be achieved.

At headquarters, the OU dimension corresponds to directorates, departments and units.

b) Programme dimension

Programmes are slices of institutional objectives cut along the lines of the ICRC’s core activities. They therefore represent the ICRC’s areas of competence translated into products and services delivered to the beneficiaries (see *Programme Descriptions* above).

c) Target populations dimension

With the introduction of the PfR methodology, it has become necessary to identify target populations as relevant cost units and hence to incorporate them into the project dimension (for the definition of target populations see *Target Populations* above).

Objectives and plans of action

The objectives are a general statement of intent used for planning purposes on a timescale of one to several years. Via plans of action, this process clearly identifies a result or a measurable change for a target target population.

CONCLUSION

The ICRC has an ambitious accounting model that has implications not only for financial and data-processing procedures but also for the organization and working methods of the relevant support units. In this connection, it has started to work on performance indicators which aim at enhancing the financial information obtained with operational key indicators.

ANNEX: THE ICRC’S OPERATIONAL APPROACH TO WOMEN AND GIRLS

BACKGROUND AND APPROACH

Owing to its unique mandate, the ICRC implements an “all victims” approach aimed at protecting the life and dignity of victims of armed conflict and providing them with assistance. Within this approach, the ICRC acknowledges that women’s experience of war is multifaceted (separation, loss of loved ones, loss of sources of livelihood and coping mechanisms, increased risks of sexual violence, greater responsibility for dependants, wounding, detention, even death) and often differs from that of men. The ICRC approaches gender as a means of fostering a better understanding of the respective social and cultural roles of men and women (such as division of labour, productive and reproductive activities, access to and control over resources and benefits) and of the social and economic factors influencing them. It endeavours thereby to obtain a more sensitive and holistic grasp of women’s roles, responsibilities and experience, and therefore to provide a more adequate response to their needs in times of conflict. In accordance with its principles of neutrality and impartiality, the ICRC does not claim to reform gender relations.

Often, women and children are lumped together in the same category of vulnerability. Such hasty categorization overlooks the fact that women’s needs, experiences and roles in armed conflicts and situations of internal violence differ from those of children and that women often display remarkable strength, as evidenced by the part they play as combatants or agents for peace, or by the roles they assume in wartime to protect and support their

families. The relevant question is not who is more vulnerable but rather who is vulnerable to which particular risks (which are context-related and depend on individual circumstances, resources and available coping mechanisms). Different groups face different factors of vulnerability and it is an oversimplification to see one gender as active (male combatants) and the other as passive (female victims).

The ICRC's main objective is therefore to ensure that the needs, situations and perspectives of women and girls are integrated into all activities and programmes, and that special programmes are developed when necessary to respond adequately to their specific social, medical, psychological, economic and protection needs.

Recognizing that armed conflicts have a different impact on men, women, children and the elderly, and that the needs of women are often overlooked, the ICRC pledged in 1999 to better assess and address the needs of women and girls, and to promote the respect to which they are entitled, with a specific focus on situations involving sexual violence. It launched a four-year "Women and War" project (from 1999 to 2003), during which it conducted an in-depth study of the impact on women of armed conflict or internal violence, focusing on issues such as physical safety, sexual violence, displacement, access to health care and hygiene, food, water and shelter, and the problem of missing relatives and its repercussions on survivors, and produced *Addressing the needs of women affected by armed conflict: an ICRC guidance document*, to translate the study's findings into practical guidelines for staff involved in the planning and implementation of humanitarian programmes. At the end of the four years, the ICRC renewed its commitment to the issue by appointing a focal point for the operational implementation of the study's findings and recommendations.

In armed conflicts and other situations of violence, sexual violence is a widespread phenomenon that affects mostly women and girls. The overall consequences are serious, but given that the stigma associated with sexual violence may prevent victims from coming forward, the true extent of the problem is often concealed. It affects not only the victims, but also their families, and sometimes entire communities. The ICRC has therefore developed the *Frame of reference for sexual violence in armed conflict and other situations of violence*, which gives a comprehensive and detailed overview of the various aspects of sexual violence and defines the ICRC's multidisciplinary approach to the problem. It encompasses preventive action, awareness-raising activities and protection strategies aimed at addressing the causes and consequences of sexual violence while providing victims with timely medical and psychological support.

The development of the ICRC's stance on women and war is reflected today in its operational strategies, programmes and activities.

Below is a description, by target population, of how ICRC programmes take into account the specific situations and needs of women and girls in times of armed conflict. These descriptions are valid in any ICRC operation. They are not repeated explicitly under each context section, unless specifically required, but they may be cited to enhance understanding of the information therein.

CIVILIANS

Protection

Protecting the civilian population

- ▶ the ICRC monitors the situation of individuals and groups not or no longer taking part in hostilities, the large majority of whom are women and their children. Where documented, allegations of abuse committed against women and girls, such as sexual violence and enforced enrolment by armed groups, are raised in the ICRC's discussions with all parties on alleged IHL violations and the measures to be taken to stop them. In some contexts, dialogue with women is possible only owing to the presence of female ICRC staff, both national and expatriate
- ▶ in addition to formal and informal oral and written representations to the authorities concerned about alleged incidents, preventive dissemination activities are conducted for all kinds of weapon bearers to raise their awareness of their responsibilities under IHL to protect and respect at all times, in particular, women and children not taking part in hostilities

Restoring family links

- ▶ enabling women to restore and maintain contact with their husbands and families contributes to their psychological well-being and can also help ensure their safety and respect for others. In certain contexts, where for social and cultural reasons women are less visible or less accessible, awareness-raising sessions to promote existing tracing services are held specifically for women
- ▶ the ICRC family reunification programme aims to reunite vulnerable people with their families, including children with their mothers, thus preserving the family unit. Similarly, when organizing repatriations, the ICRC pays special attention to enabling families to stay together, with particular emphasis on keeping children with their mothers

Unaccompanied girls/girls formerly associated with fighting forces

- ▶ boys and girls who have become separated from their parents, including those who have formerly been associated with fighting forces, are registered by the ICRC and their mothers and fathers, or their closest relatives, sought
- ▶ working closely with the authorities concerned and other organizations active in child protection, the ICRC pays special attention to the treatment of unaccompanied girls living in host or foster families; whenever necessary, it directs them to the appropriate referral structures
- ▶ the ICRC advocates that children formerly associated with fighting forces, in particular girls, be provided with adequate care, in particular in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes
- ▶ family reunifications are organized according to the best interests of the child and only if all parties – the child and the family – want to be reunited
- ▶ special attention is paid to the treatment of boys and girls reunited with their families, and to how the children readapt to family life; whenever necessary the families and the children concerned receive material support and are directed to referral structures. The children are often checked on several months after being reunited with their families to ensure that they do not face new protection problems, especially if they were formerly associated with fighting forces or are girls with children of their own

Missing persons

- ▶ ICRC action in relation to missing persons benefits mainly women as they are overwhelmingly the ones left behind after a loved one has disappeared during an armed conflict or other situation of violence
- ▶ whenever possible, the ICRC works closely with the relevant authorities and organizations to accelerate the tracing process. It provides support for ante-mortem data collection and the forensic process, and covers the transport costs of families – mainly women – of the missing to visit mass graves or exhumation sites. On its website it updates and publishes lists of persons reported missing. It provides women with administrative help in dealing with matters of inheritance, pensions, legal status, custody of children and property rights
- ▶ the ICRC organizes meetings with family associations, whose members are chiefly women, to ensure that their interests are represented in various fora and provides the associations with financial and technical support
- ▶ directly or through associations or institutions, the ICRC contributes towards the psychological support of relatives of missing persons, principally women and their children, and towards their education and occupational training
- ▶ it also encourages governments to enact or implement legislation to prevent people from becoming unaccounted for (by establishing an information bureau, for example), to ascertain the fate of missing persons through appropriate measures and to protect and support the families – mainly women who have become heads of household, and children – of those who are missing, notably by making it easier for them to undertake legal proceedings

Assistance*Economic security – emergency aid:**food and essential household items*

- ▶ when distributing aid, the ICRC gives priority to the most vulnerable households, many of which have been deprived of their main breadwinner and are headed by women. Women and girls are often, therefore, the main beneficiaries of the relief provided to IDPs, returnees and residents
- ▶ if the need exists, the ICRC provides food rations and essential household items, such as blankets, tarpaulins, jerrycans, kitchen sets and hygiene kits, to enable women to take care of their families. Other items, such as clothes or fabric to make clothing, are also distributed according to need
- ▶ ICRC food parcels in the Middle East include baby food
- ▶ hygiene kits increasingly include specific products for women and their children, such as sanitary towels, baby powder or washable cotton and plastic nappies. This is already the case in the Middle East

Economic security – livelihood support

- ▶ in addition to providing relief, the ICRC also aims to help destitute or very poor families, mainly households headed by women or girls, recover their ability to earn a living. Its micro-economic initiatives provide victims of sexual violence who have lost their sources of livelihood and victims of conflict, such as widows and the wives of missing persons, with social and economic support

- ▶ livelihood support programmes help women and girls in their endeavour to ensure the family's self-sufficiency. Seed and tool distributions, vouchers to hire tractor-ploughing services, livestock replenishment and vaccination, cash-for-work projects to rehabilitate community infrastructure, and other, smaller, income-boosting projects, to give but a few examples, directly improve the standard of living of many women and their children
- ▶ occupational training often forms part of livelihood support programmes. Particular attention is paid to increasing the participation of women, who perform most of the activities that provide the household with food or income

Water supply, sanitation and shelter

- ▶ ICRC water, sanitation and habitat projects (trucking of clean drinking water during emergencies; rehabilitation or building of water sources and infrastructure) give displaced and resident women safe access to a source of water for household purposes, ensure better sanitation practices for the whole family, and free up for other tasks time once spent fetching water. They also reduce the incidence of sickness caused by inadequate hygiene and prevent long journeys to water points during which the women may be at risk of attack
- ▶ in some contexts, the provision of fuel-saving stoves reduces the need for women and girls to go out in search of firewood, thus leaving them more time for other household tasks and reducing their risk of being attacked
- ▶ as women are in charge of the water resources and bear most of the burden for the household in many contexts, ICRC engineers systematically involve them in the design, implementation and management of water and habitat projects

Health care

- ▶ the majority of the people treated in outpatient departments and referral hospitals in violence-affected areas are women and children, and thus are the main beneficiaries of ICRC support to such facilities, which provide comprehensive reproductive health and delivery services and care for children under five
- ▶ in many contexts the ICRC trains female community health workers and traditional birth attendants/midwives so that they can treat female patients effectively. The women are trained in the prevention and management of sexual violence, attend home deliveries and play a decisive role in health education (basic care and breastfeeding and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS). Health workers and those offering psychological support are also trained in counselling techniques for the victims of sexual violence and to work at community level, using mediation to facilitate the reintegration of victims of sexual violence, who are often rejected by their families and communities
- ▶ women and children are the primary target of health and hygiene promotion sessions. Most of the time, for social and cultural reasons, the ICRC uses teams of female health and hygiene promoters, who are especially trained for this task. The teams also play a crucial role in raising awareness among women, especially pregnant women and those with small children, of how malaria is transmitted, and distribute mosquito nets to help contain the disease

- ▶ ICRC support for immunization programmes (cold chain, transport, supervision) run by governments, NGOs or international organizations benefits mostly women of child-bearing age and children under five, who receive vital vaccinations against, for example, tetanus and polio
- ▶ in emergencies, the ICRC may also support therapeutic feeding centres to help malnourished children and their mothers
- ▶ on the basis of its field experience, in 2005 the ICRC produced the *Antenatal guidelines for primary health care in crisis conditions*

Prevention

Mine action

- ▶ mine-risk education sessions target primarily children, but also women. They are conducted in schools, places of prayer and community fora and aim to ensure the safety of civilians by informing them of the dangers of mines
- ▶ communities are given support in creating safe, mine-free play areas for their children

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Protection

- ▶ during its visits to people deprived of their freedom, the ICRC pays special attention to the conditions of detention of any women or girls being held, in particular to their accommodation, which should include dedicated cells and sanitation facilities, and their access to health services, including to female nurses and gynaecological care when needed. It drafts its confidential reports and recommendations to the authorities concerned accordingly
- ▶ as infants often stay with their detained mothers, their needs are also addressed, in terms, for example, of food, health care, clothing and play
- ▶ in certain societies, women who are detained are often ostracized and sometimes even abandoned by their families, especially when they are held for so-called moral offences. The ICRC places special emphasis on their plight in its dialogue with the relevant authorities and in its assistance programmes
- ▶ ICRC support for the penitentiary administration and training for penitentiary staff (medical personnel included) includes, whenever relevant, action regarding or consideration of the particular needs of women and children
- ▶ ICRC family news services allow detained women in particular to communicate with their families and detained men to communicate with their wives and mothers outside. This contributes to the psychological well-being of all concerned
- ▶ the ICRC enables detained women to receive family visits and family members, who are mainly women and children, to visit their detained relatives, either by organizing the visits itself or by covering the cost of transport. Family visits are not only essential for the psychological well-being both of the detainees and of their relatives outside, they are also a vital channel for the detainees in obtaining food and essential items. Family visits can also help ensure respect from other detainees, as in the absence of such visits, women may become more vulnerable to prostitution or sexual exploitation and abuse

Assistance

- ▶ ICRC assistance programmes for detainees are adapted to the specific needs of women and girls whenever necessary. For example, women detainees may receive female hygiene items, clothing and recreational materials for themselves and for their children. Occupational training (in sewing, weaving, literacy, for example) aims to break the isolation of imprisoned women and improve their prospects for reintegration into society after release

Water and habitat

- ▶ as part of its efforts to improve environmental health conditions for detainees, the ICRC often carries out maintenance, rehabilitation or construction projects in places of detention. These projects always take into consideration the needs of women and children, such as separate accommodation for men and women, separate access to toilets and showers and adequate facilities for women with babies and/or small children

WOUNDED AND SICK

Assistance

Medical care

- ▶ women and children take priority in operations to evacuate the wounded and sick from areas affected by fighting
- ▶ the specific needs of women and girls are included in training on first aid and medical evacuations and the support provided to ambulance services
- ▶ ICRC support for hospitals focuses as a priority on emergency surgical, obstetric and paediatric services, as well as medical services for patients in general and women in particular. This support may include the provision of equipment, medical supplies and training, for example in obstetric surgery

Physical rehabilitation

- ▶ women benefit from physical rehabilitation programmes supported by the ICRC. They may receive artificial limbs, walking aids, wheelchairs and physiotherapy. The ICRC pays particular attention to ensuring that women and men have equal access to physical rehabilitation programmes
- ▶ women also benefit from projects – education, vocational training or micro-credit schemes – to help them reintegrate into society
- ▶ many disabled women are also offered employment in ICRC-run or ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres

Water and habitat

- ▶ the renovation or construction of health facilities such as hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres always takes into account the specific needs of women and children. In most cases, women and children are given special accommodation in line with local customs and international standards

AUTHORITIES, ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS, CIVIL SOCIETY

Prevention

- ▶ preventive activities targeting political authorities, armed forces, other bearers of weapons and civil society (e.g. the media, schools, universities, NGOs) always emphasize the need to take measures to respect the physical integrity and dignity of all people who are not, or no longer, participating in the armed conflict or other situation of violence. The target groups are systematically made aware that not only do women and children (those under 18 years) more often than not form the majority of that group, their position in society may make them particularly vulnerable and their specific needs must be recognized and addressed. Depending on the target group, preventive activities comprise highlighting the existing provisions of IHL that focus on women, examining legal and practical measures to protect women from abuse and meet their specific needs, and case studies
- ▶ the ICRC endeavours to raise awareness of the situation of women affected by armed conflict and internal disturbances – and of the international law that accords them protection – among governments, representatives of the diplomatic, political, military and academic communities, international organizations and NGOs. It is often invited to speak about the issue at relevant conferences hosted by donors and regional organizations. The ICRC also provides input when new international resolutions and policies are drafted and encourages their enforcement
- ▶ the ICRC makes a particular effort to engage with different sectors of society and circles of influence, including women's associations or networks, to help sustain the organization's activities for victims of conflict
- ▶ the ICRC has improved its staff training courses by adding key messages consistent with the policies, recommendations and guidelines relative to women affected by armed conflict and internal disturbances, including those related to specific issues, such as sexual violence, and by disseminating the ICRC guidance document. Role playing, which is part of the introductory training course for new delegates, highlights specific aspects related to women and war
- ▶ in carrying out its activities, the ICRC encourages the use of teams that comprise both men and women. It also promotes the participation of local women as a means of fostering direct contact and dialogue with women, the better to define and respond to their needs

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation

National Societies

- ▶ the ICRC provides support for the development of National Society training, first-aid and emergency-preparedness capacities, the better to enable National Society staff and volunteers to meet the specific needs of women in situations of armed conflict or internal violence. It provides training in the Safer Access approach, including the analysis of risk and vulnerability factors affecting National Society staff and volunteers, such as the participation of female workers in certain operations

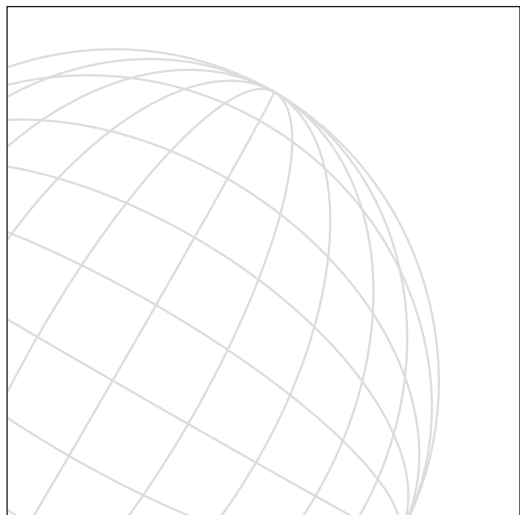
ICRC employment policy

- ▶ the ICRC's employment policy promotes equitable conditions for male and female staff through gender mainstreaming and affirmative action. The ICRC believes there is a strong link between the improvement of women's status within the organization and progress in the protection of and delivery of assistance to women in situations of armed conflict or internal violence



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 IHL. 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

In 2007, the Assembly and the Assembly Council held 6 and 12 meetings respectively. The president and director-general of the ICRC kept the Assembly and the Assembly Council informed about the conduct of operations, issues relating to IHL, humanitarian diplomacy, cooperation within the Movement and with other humanitarian practitioners, external communication, and administration and finance. The Assembly and the Assembly Council examined, in particular, ICRC operations in Afghanistan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Myanmar, the Russian Federation, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, and Yemen.

The Assembly also held discussions on the following issues: implementation of overall human resources policies, gender equality, risk management and internal audit, new weapons and IHL, including cluster munitions, the future of the International Tracing Service, and topics to be considered at the Council of Delegates of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Geneva, 23–24 November 2007) and at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Geneva, 26–30 November 2007). It adopted an updated policy on ICRC good offices and mediation and selected the individuals that would be invited to form the 2008–2011 group of ICRC international advisers.

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 2007 objectives and budgets (November). At its annual seminar in June, the Assembly, together with the Directorate, reflected on the factors that might weaken or strengthen IHL.

On behalf of the Assembly, the Assembly Council adopted the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, subsequently adopted by the Council of Delegates in November.

MISSIONS

Mr J. Kellenberger, president of the ICRC, conducted various missions to hold bilateral discussions with governments; where pertinent, the missions included a visit to ICRC operations in the field. Such missions included visits to Berlin, Germany (January and October); Brussels, Belgium (European Commission: January, April, May, October; NATO: June); Paris, France (January, November); Sudan (February); London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (March); Washington, United States of America (March); The Hague and Rotterdam, the Netherlands (April); Bratislava, Slovakia (May); Istanbul, Turkey (7th European Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: May); Lisbon, Portugal (May); Luxembourg (June); New York, United States of America (UN, June); Stockholm, Sweden (June); Mexico (August); Bogotá, Colombia (August); and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (African Union: November).

Mr J. Forster, permanent vice-president, went to Cannes, France (France–Africa Summit: February); Helsinki, Finland (130th anniversary of the Finish Red Cross: May); Oslo, Norway (symposium on the impact of armed conflict and societal violence on women, International Peace Research Institute: May; conference on multidimensional and integrated peace operations: October); Guayaquil, Ecuador (17th Inter-American Conference of the Red Cross: June); Beijing, China (symposium on the 30th anniversary of the Additional Protocols: June); Bangkok, Thailand (conference on IHL and discussions at government level: June); Manila, Philippines (June); San Remo, Italy (round-table, International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL): September; IIHL Executive Council: November); Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (conference on preventive diplomacy and international cooperation: December).

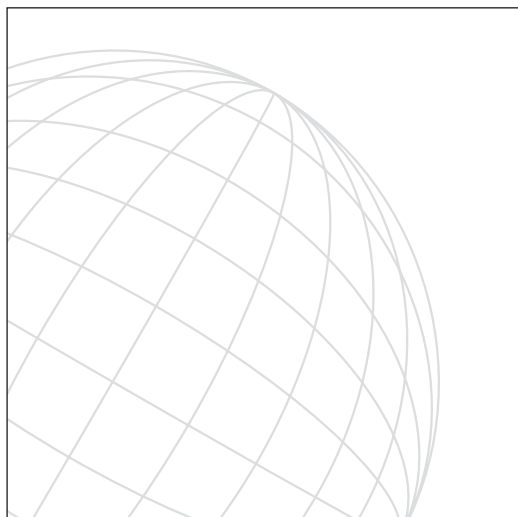
Mr O. Vodoz, vice-president, went to Alexandria, Egypt (conference on building a protective environment for civilians during armed conflict: January); Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (conference on voluntary service: March); Amman, Jordan (seventh meeting of the States party to the Ottawa Convention: November).

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

- ▶ **Mr J. Abt** travelled to San Remo, Italy (IIHL: April and September), and Kuwait (regional seminar on anti-personnel mines: June)
- ▶ **Mr J. Moreillon** attended the 10th Mediterranean Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Athens, Greece (March), and participated in a conference on addressing the human costs of anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war for the States of Magreb in Tunis, Tunisia (September)
- ▶ **Mr Y. Sandoz** attended conferences on IHL-related issues in Paris, France (March); Warsaw, Poland (March); New Delhi, India (June); and Aix-en-Provence, France (June)
- ▶ **Mr D. Thürer** participated in the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference in Wellington, New Zealand (August), and subsequently had meetings with the Philippine authorities in Manila (September)

In addition, three members of the Assembly conducted internal operational missions:

- ▶ **Mr J. Staehelin** to Sudan (April)
- ▶ **Ms C. Augsburger** to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (October)
- ▶ **Ms C. Beerli** to Colombia (November)



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 2006.

MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES FOR 2007–2010

At the beginning of its four-year mandate, the Directorate established management priorities for 2007–2010, based on the achievements of the Programme of the Directorate for 2003–2006 and on the ICRC's institutional strategy for 2007–2010. They aim to strengthen the ICRC's position as the benchmark organization for neutral and independent humanitarian action and IHL and are based on three pillars:

- ▶ strengthening the ICRC's capacity to design and manage its multidisciplinary operations
- ▶ enhancing internal and external accountability
- ▶ increasing the effectiveness of ICRC operations

The Directorate has established a detailed plan of action for each of its management priorities, as described below.

Manage a wide range of services

The ICRC has been steadily reviewing and enhancing its range of activities in order to provide an appropriate response to all the needs of populations affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence. It intends to pursue most of these activities on its own or in cooperation with National Societies, rather than outsourcing them.

Plan of action

- ▶ build the capacity of staff at all levels to design and manage multidisciplinary action
- ▶ define the range of services and strengthen expertise in identified core activities, such as protection and health
- ▶ reinforce the skills needed to engage in operational partnerships with National Societies in countries where the ICRC has a significant presence, with a view to bolstering emergency response capacities

Main achievements in 2007

- ▶ work got under way to adapt the ICRC's introductory training course for new staff members to current needs and to better define the capacities and skills required for embarking on various career paths
- ▶ a compulsory training course was launched for all senior managers (People Leadership and Management)
- ▶ an extensive policy on ICRC protection activities was examined with a view to finalizing it in early 2008; the Protection and Tracing Agency Division produced, and field delegations started to implement, internal guidelines for the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict
- ▶ a number of studies and evaluations were launched with a view to analysing and strengthening partnerships with National Societies in countries where the ICRC has a significant presence

Implement results-based management

The ICRC strives to develop a management culture of accountability and learning which allows for enhanced monitoring and critical evaluation of its operations.

Plan of action

- ▶ develop a management style that is based on clearly established objectives
- ▶ enhance the skills required for result-based management at all levels
- ▶ define indicators for all levels of established objectives (field operations, programmes, institutional)
- ▶ adapt the existing institutional tools of result-based management to achieve established objectives

Main achievements in 2007

- ▶ a document on result-based planning and reporting was prepared and presented to the Donor Support Group; a comprehensive inventory was initiated of result-based management, including indicators, and is due to be completed in early 2008
- ▶ the roles and responsibilities of the Performance Management Unit, which reports to the Office of the Director-General, were defined and a head of unit recruited
- ▶ focal points were designated for the result-based management of assistance, protection and prevention programmes

Ensure that the ICRC operates smoothly and is able to react rapidly

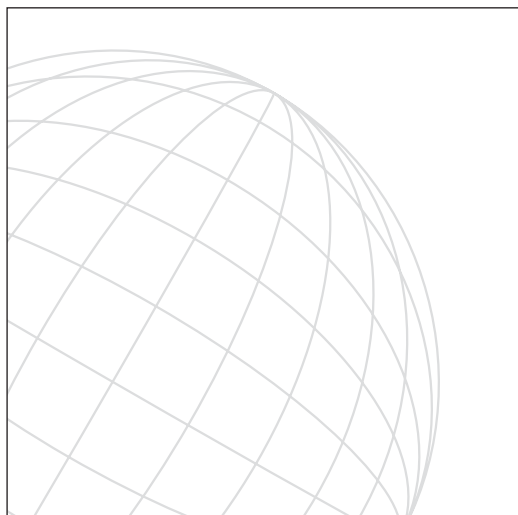
The ICRC intends to clarify its internal functioning on the basis of a transparent, rapid and efficient decision-making process and appropriate management procedures.

Plan of action

- ▶ reaffirm the ICRC's organizational model of a single headquarters and a worldwide network of delegations
- ▶ clearly define the roles and modalities in the institutional decision-making process
- ▶ improve the internal flow of information
- ▶ enhance the mobility (geographical and hierarchical) of personnel so as to be able to respond to emergencies in a timely and efficient manner
- ▶ further improve career management and ensure that dialogue between the organization and its staff is transparent

Main achievements in 2007

- ▶ the concept of a rapid deployment unit was validated and is now being implemented
- ▶ a number of IT projects aimed at improving the flow of information (intranet, internal e-mail system, electronic archives) continued to be implemented
- ▶ the objectives of the internal communication project were defined and a person appointed within the Office of the Director-General to be in charge of internal communication
- ▶ the mandates and functioning of the internal commissions dealing with career-path management were reviewed



office of the director- general

The director-general chairs the Directorate and ensures that its decisions are implemented. He reports to the President's Office and the Assembly on the Directorate's objectives, decisions and activities, and on the results achieved. The Office of the Director-General supervises the directorate of the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, Germany, and the headquarters unit responsible for performance management; it also oversees efforts to promote gender equality and a number of key strategic projects.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As part of its endeavour to improve its humanitarian services for persons adversely affected by armed conflict, the ICRC continues to apply a performance management method that facilitates management decisions, enhances learning 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 2007, 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 2007. PfR was designed to define explicit objectives for ICRC operations formulated in terms of three parameters: target population, programme capacity and geographical location. In 2007, revision began of the planning tool for ICRC headquarters.

Monitoring and reporting on results

The result-based planning and reporting system was strengthened in several areas. This significantly improved the quality of external reporting, to the satisfaction of the Donor Support Group. Focal points were designated for the result-based management and monitoring of the ICRC's main activities (protection, assistance, prevention).

Evaluating results

In accordance with its work plan, and under the direct supervision of the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, in 2007 the ICRC completed independent evaluations of its 2006 emergency operation in Lebanon, the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled project in Nicaragua, and ICRC action for missing persons and their families in the Balkans.

In 2007, work continued on a large-scale independent evaluation of the Movement-wide family-links service for people affected by the Asian tsunami. Another such independent evaluation, on the ICRC's programme for the national implementation of IHL, was launched.

ISSUES MANAGEMENT

The issues management mechanism run by the Office of the Director-General identified, analysed and put into perspective emerging issues and phenomena that might affect the ICRC's capacity to operate in the future. Particular attention was paid to issues relating to environmental developments such as climate change and the economic impact of biofuel. Complex challenges in the humanitarian sector, such as coordination with other actors, relations between the Movement's components, and the relevance of IHL, were also examined. The mechanism also played a key role in institution-wide efforts to prioritize matters pertaining to ICRC humanitarian diplomacy.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

In September 2007, the ICRC Directorate appointed a head of project in charge of analysing the current internal communication system and integrating professional best practices in order to set objectives and define structures, processes and products by mid-2008.

The ICRC also launched a major internal survey among headquarters and expatriate staff worldwide. The survey looks at all aspects of employee engagement and the results will be used as part of the above internal communication project. The last such survey dates back to 2003, although national staff were surveyed separately in 2005.

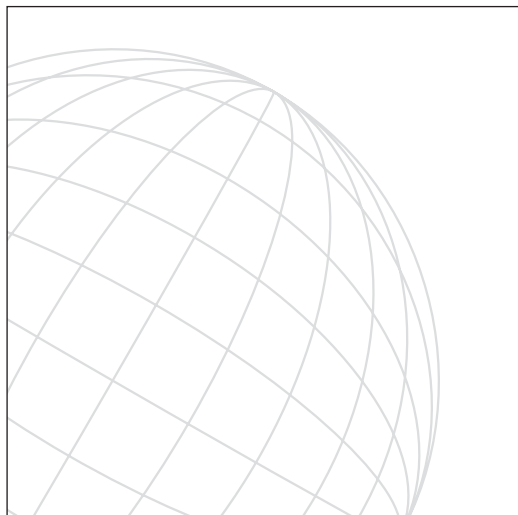
The new ICRC intranet continued to be developed throughout the year and is to be launched in the second quarter of 2008.

GENDER EQUALITY

The annual assessment of gender equality within the ICRC, prepared by the Office of the Director-General, was discussed by the Directorate in December 2007. This was the second such assessment since the adoption by the Directorate of a new gender equality framework in March 2006.

A number of positive results were noted. The ICRC's governing and advisory bodies have achieved more balanced representation of women and men, and awareness of gender equality issues has improved among senior management, owing in particular to sessions with external experts. More women are taking part in mentoring, networking and training programmes that target them specifically. With regard to improving work/life balance, the gender equality adviser proposed the introduction of longer paternity leave, new flexible work arrangements and measures to support two-career families.

The ICRC continued to adapt its promotion mechanisms to women's career paths and to ensure that both men and women can reconcile work and family life. On the basis of concrete experience, measures are being identified with a view to easing the specific difficulties encountered by women on field assignments and to empowering both men and women working in difficult ICRC occupational environments. The difficulties relate to sexual and gender-based violence, women's health and hygiene, sports and leisure, and behavioural adaptation for expatriate staff in contexts where gender roles are markedly different from those in the staff members' countries of origin.



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

In 2007, the Department of Operations was composed of nine geographical regions, two operational divisions (Assistance and Protection and Central Tracing Agency) and two smaller units, Humanitarian Diplomacy and Security and Stress.

Operational support was provided by an adviser looking into the specific situations and needs of women in times of conflict and by the Rapid Deployment Unit, both of which form part of the Department:

- ▶ the ICRC guidelines on action in response to sexual violence were sent out to field delegations to improve support for victims of sexual violence in times of conflict
- ▶ the framework for an enhanced ICRC rapid-deployment mechanism was finalized and approved by the Directorate

PROTECTION AND CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY

The Protection and Central Tracing Agency Division provides strategic support and professional expertise in three areas of activity – protection of the civilian population, protection of people deprived of their freedom and restoring family links, including issues regarding missing persons and their families – to operations in the field (see *Operational framework and programme descriptions*

for more details on the protection programme). In 2007, it completed the reorganization of its structure into three thematic units corresponding to its three areas of activity.

PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION

The Central Tracing Agency and Protection Division finalized and implemented an updated set of guidelines for the protection of civilians affected by conflict. The guidelines were distributed to all delegations and specific training started to be given.

The implementation and scope of protection activities for the civilian population depend on several factors, notably security conditions and the readiness of the authorities to enter into dialogue and to address issues brought to their attention. 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 will be achieved. In many contexts, the ICRC is aware of the need to maintain or increase its protection activities despite unfavourable conditions, and develops innovative approaches to enhance respect for IHL and other fundamental norms devised to protect individuals in situations of violence.

In 2007, the ICRC pursued its dialogue on the protection of civilians with the authorities and weapon bearers in many countries, such as Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Lebanon, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Sudan. It did this despite security constraints which, at times, restricted access to certain areas of ICRC concern. The situation in Iraq prevented the ICRC from engaging in substantial protection activities for civilians in that country.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

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 connection with an armed conflict or other situation 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 to protect people deprived of their freedom is to prevent or put an end to summary executions, torture and 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 visits are repeated in a process that is held to strict professional standards.

In countries affected by both armed conflict or other forms of violence and longstanding severe economic difficulties, the detaining authorities may be unable to provide for the basic needs of detainees, regardless of the reason for their detention. The ICRC's response to such situations varies, 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, to a catalogue of activities that includes material assistance, the repair or installation of water supply and sanitation systems, the provision of medical and hygiene supplies, 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 2007, the ICRC had access to persons deprived of their freedom in nearly 80 countries and made numerous recommendations to improve often unsatisfactory conditions or treatment. It also continued its visits to people held in The Hague (the Netherlands) under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court or by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, in Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania) by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and in Freetown (Sierra Leone) by the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

States' policies of repression relating to acts of transnational "terrorism" continued to challenge the ICRC's ability to engage in constructive dialogue with the authorities responsible for compliance with IHL and other fundamental norms, and to promote respect for the relevant rules among specific groups/protagonists 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 "terrorism" in several contexts, and continued to seek access to persons detained on similar charges wherever they were held.

In countries such as Afghanistan, Haiti, Georgia, Peru, the Philippines, Rwanda and Uganda, the ICRC provided support to the penitentiary administrations, initiating or pursuing activities to address structural problems with a view to enabling the authorities to improve their response to the needs and rights of people deprived of their freedom.

The ICRC carried out activities for people deprived of their freedom in Lebanon and in Pakistan pursuant to agreements reached with the authorities of those countries. It was unable to resume its activities in several countries where they had been suspended, such as Myanmar, the Russian Federation (for Chechnya), Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and continued to discuss access to persons deprived of their freedom in several others.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

Armed violence and natural or man-made disasters may lead to massive displacements of people and the separation of families. Working as a rule in close cooperation with National Societies, the ICRC provides services for restoring family links, including reuniting family members. 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 family-links network – comprising the ICRC's Central Tracing Agency, ICRC delegations and National Society tracing services – provides essential services to those in need, enabling people to communicate with one another, reuniting those who were separated, locating missing relatives or identifying and recovering human remains. The ICRC acts both in its direct operational capacity and in its lead role for restoring family links within the Movement. This lead role means that the ICRC acts as the Movement's technical adviser in this field and coordinator of its international response, including in situations of natural disaster occurring outside conflict zones or violence-prone areas.

In 2007, needs for assistance in restoring family links and related activities remained particularly acute in Africa, mainly in Angola, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan. In West Africa, where the situation continued to stabilize, tracing activities on the whole related to the remaining cases of children separated from their families in connection with the conflicts in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In a number of countries, such as Afghanistan and Iraq, such services benefited mainly people deprived of their freedom, who were able to exchange RCMs with their relatives. Following natural disasters, the ICRC acted, whenever necessary, and in cooperation with National Societies, to enable people who had lost touch with their relatives to get the assistance they required. This was the case following floods in Bangladesh and Mexico.

In November, the Movement's Council of Delegates adopted the Restoring Family Links Strategy proposed by the ICRC after three years of consultation within the Movement. The strategy, which covers a ten-year period, aims to strengthen the Movement's family-links network by enhancing the capacity of its components to respond to the needs of those without news of family members owing to armed conflict, other situations of violence, natural disasters or other circumstances, such as migration.

MISSING PERSONS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Armed conflicts and other situations of violence often lead to the disappearance of hundreds, or even thousands, of people. ICRC activities in relation to missing persons include: promoting the relevant humanitarian rules; lending support for the development of appropriate national legislation; assisting authorities in setting

up mechanisms aimed at addressing the issue of missing persons; cooperating with the authorities and other players involved with a view to ascertaining the fate of the missing; tracing people who are unaccounted for; handling human remains; and providing support to the families of the missing.

In 2007, the ICRC undertook or pursued activities for missing persons and their families in places such as the Balkans, Colombia, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Nepal, Peru, the southern Caucasus and Timor-Leste.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

The ICRC participated in various meetings, round-tables and conferences on general and specific protection issues. It also maintained bilateral relations with the main organizations and institutions active in this area. Within the UN framework, it followed in particular discussions on the protection of IDPs and participated as an observer in protection cluster meetings, both in the field and at headquarters. The main purpose of these contacts was to promote the specific approach of the ICRC, ensure complementarity and prevent gaps in protection work while seeking agreement on principles guiding protection activities, avoid duplication of efforts and the weakening of professional standards, and accurately identify the added value of each individual organization, in terms of its mandate, experience and specific nature.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

The Protection and Central Tracing Agency Division devoted considerable attention to the vital area of staff management and development. Its training team reviewed existing courses, developed new ones and organized numerous training events or seminars for beginners and for middle management, with a view to increasing its pool of protection coordinators and delegates experienced in tracing and data administration.

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 (see *Operational framework and programme descriptions* for more details on the assistance programme).

To maintain the quality of its services, the Assistance Division develops and helps shape both assistance and institutional policies, guidelines and strategy. 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 2007, most of the ICRC's delegations and offices around the world carried out health, economic security, and water and habitat programmes. The most extensive programmes were in Afghanistan, Chad, the Caucasus, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.

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 2007, the ICRC provided monthly support to hospitals admitting wounded patients – including people with mine injuries – and other surgical emergencies. It also supported first-aid and emergency-evacuation services run by National Societies or other players. Basic health care programmes were run in some 20 countries.

Health care activities are carried out as part of the 2004 ICRC Assistance Policy and include:

- ▶ the development and implementation of comprehensive hospital emergency care, including surgical, medical, paediatric and gynaecological/obstetric care, as in Afghanistan
- ▶ strengthening the national hospital-management capacity in chronic conflict and post-crisis situations, such as in Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda
- ▶ responding to an increase in the number of weapon-wounded by providing expatriate surgical teams in Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sudan
- ▶ ensuring that hospitals have the drugs and consumables required to carry out emergency surgery, as in Afghanistan, Iraq, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories and Somalia
- ▶ increasing the immunization capacity and backing immunization activities in conflict areas of Afghanistan, Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sri Lanka and Sudan (Darfur)
- ▶ providing support for victims of sexual violence, 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 Afghanistan, Bolivia, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, Peru, Rwanda and the southern Caucasus
- ▶ continuing the tuberculosis (TB) control programme in prisons in the Caucasus and Kyrgyzstan as it is gradually handed over to the authorities
- ▶ in accordance with established criteria, assisting people living with HIV/AIDS in African prisons, for instance in Burundi, Lesotho, Rwanda and Uganda, in partnership with the relevant Ministries of Justice and Health, national NGOs and international organizations

- ▶ documenting and working to prevent ill-treatment in prisons
- ▶ providing psychological support to the families of missing persons in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Sri Lanka

In another health-related field, the physical rehabilitation of disabled people, the ICRC provided support to centres in 26 countries in 2007. The three main objectives of its programmes are to improve access to rehabilitation services, promote good quality services and ensure the long-term functioning of the services.

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 renovated 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 period.

In 2007, the ICRC constructed or repaired water and sanitation facilities in some 40 countries. Its projects, implemented by expatriate and national engineers and technicians, catered for the needs of millions of 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 many contexts, it is the task of women and girls to fetch water. Making water facilities more accessible reduces their exposure to the risk of attack and sexual violence.

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.

In Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, the ICRC expanded its water and habitat set-up to address emergencies following military incursions that affected the operation of water, sewage and health infrastructure in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The projects also aimed to support the local authorities, whose work to repair, maintain and develop the sewage and water pumping stations and distribution networks was hindered by a lack of funding.

In Chad and Sudan, the ICRC continued to focus on improving access to water supply and health facilities for communities affected by recurrent violence. Beneficiaries were IDPs, returnees and residents in rural areas and urban centres alike.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the supply of drinking water in the north remained very precarious despite the Ouagadougou Agreement. The ICRC provided local water boards with electrical and mechanical equipment and chemical reagents to ensure a safe water supply.

In eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is prone to chronic instability, most vulnerable groups among residents and returnees have benefited from improved access to drinking water

thanks to the renovation of small urban water schemes, the construction of new wells and spring protection. All projects were implemented in cooperation with the local authorities in both urban and rural settings. In addition, water and sanitation activities were carried out in selected medical facilities receiving support under ICRC health programmes.

In Sri Lanka, people displaced by renewed fighting in the east and north and living in camps or with host families were provided with essentials such as shelter, water and sanitation facilities. Shelter materials were also given to returnees in the eastern region.

In the Philippines, the ICRC continued to address acute emergencies stemming from the conflict, mainly in the south, where the population was forced to flee the fighting. It trained members of the Philippines National Red Cross in providing emergency water and sanitation assistance in a situation of conflict or natural disaster and, in close cooperation with the authorities, implemented projects to alleviate the effects of the severe overcrowding in prisons across the country.

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, Cambodia, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, the Philippines, Rwanda and Uganda.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

The ICRC's approach to economic security aims to ensure that households and communities can cover their essential 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.

The ICRC's approach to economic security is to take account of the concerns of the households and communities, as it sees them as essential for broadening its institutional understanding of the people it is mandated to protect.

With a view to improving the sustainable nature of its response, the ICRC also devoted special attention to technical training matters, in close consultation with the International Federation. It has adopted an approach that involves training instructors to deliver technical training and coaching to ICRC staff and to qualified members of the National Society in their respective places of assignment. In economic security matters, the ICRC continues to pay special attention to issues related to land tenure, and to their influence on tension and violence.

In 2007, the ICRC carried out economic security work in some 30 countries, providing IDPs and residents with food aid and essential household and hygiene items. Many more people – including single-headed households – 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, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Nepal, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

On selected occasions, and mostly because the detaining authorities were unable to respond in a timely manner to deteriorating situations, the ICRC provided food for inmates, and supported feeding programmes and/or provided technical advice for the management and prevention of malnutrition in some prisons in the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Niger, the Philippines, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia.

The ICRC carried out crop and livestock (including veterinary and fishery) projects in Chad, Colombia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, the Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, 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, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, the Russian Federation, Somalia and Sri Lanka.

In Pakistan, the ICRC continued its many crop projects, and ended a livestock-restocking project conducted in cooperation with the German Red Cross.

The deterioration of the humanitarian situation in a number of contexts prompted substantial increases in operations, notably in the Central African Republic, eastern Chad, Iraq, Somalia and Sudan (Darfur). In each case, the ICRC tailored its response to the event and the country in question, providing food, essential household items and seeds, livestock restocking and veterinary treatment.

In Darfur, the ICRC continued to run feeding programmes in partnership with the British Red Cross, and took charge of the management of the IDP camp in Gereida. In Iraq, the ICRC endeavoured to address the difficulties related to its remote-control operation by developing a network of local partners, including the Iraqi Red Crescent Society and a number of Iraqi NGOs. In the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, the ICRC maintained its economic assistance programme in support of its protection efforts. This included livelihood support programmes aimed at addressing, in material terms, the consequences of closures and other limitations on the movement of civilians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In Somalia, the ICRC scaled up its economic security assistance following an increase in the armed confrontation.

The ICRC has begun efforts to make its response to the social and economic reintegration of disabled people more systematic. It conducted feasibility studies and pilot projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, northern Iraq and Pakistan, as well as in Afghanistan, where such an approach has been in place for many years.

A team of external consultants evaluated the economic security programme in Georgia before it was wound up.

POLICIES AND KEY ISSUES

The Assistance Division produced a number of guidelines and reference tools in its three areas of activity. These guidelines and tools were developed after a careful review of existing documents and other sources of information and included:

- ▶ the Spanish version of the reference manual *First Aid in armed conflicts and other situations of violence*
- ▶ an internet training course on dealing with drug-resistant TB
- ▶ revision of the *Antenatal guidelines for primary health care in crisis conditions*
- ▶ additional technical guidelines for physical rehabilitation services
- ▶ guidelines for cash transfer programming, together with the International Federation and the British Red Cross

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

In 2007, as in previous years, the Assistance Division worked unstintingly to improve the quality and scope of training for its health, economic security and water and habitat personnel. It organized courses and workshops on issues such as first aid, basic health care, emergency surgery in war-torn areas, hospital management, economic security, 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, six Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) courses, given in three languages, were organized in Geneva (Switzerland), Baltimore and Honolulu (United States), Pretoria (South Africa), Ouidah (Benin) and Cuernavaca (Mexico), which brings the total of H.E.L.P. courses organized to 97 for more than 2,000 students since the first one was held 20 years ago.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HUMANITARIAN DEBATE

Throughout the year, 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 (MSF), 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 international forums, the ICRC promotes knowledge, understanding and – whenever appropriate – the development of IHL. It explains its position on issues of humanitarian concern. It 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, including IDPs. Above all, it strives to defend

and promote impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian action, and to guard against the use of humanitarian activities for military or political ends.

For this purpose, the ICRC develops and maintains close relations with a wide range of intergovernmental organizations through its headquarters and its delegations, mainly in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Brussels (Belgium), Cairo (Egypt), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), New York (United States), Paris (France) and Washington (United States). The ICRC's Humanitarian Diplomacy Unit acts as the focal point for relations between the ICRC and these organizations, *inter alia* the African Union (AU), the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). In general terms, the ICRC has further deepened its understanding of Asian multilateral and regional organizations as a means of reinforcing its humanitarian diplomacy in the region. Similarly, it maintains regular contact with the UN bodies in New York and Geneva, such as the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Peacebuilding Commission, the Human Rights Council, the Economic and Social Council, and the various UN and non-UN humanitarian agencies. It also engages in regular exchanges with NGOs and their umbrella organizations.

RAISING ISSUES OF HUMANITARIAN CONCERN IN INTERNATIONAL FORA

Throughout 2007, issues of humanitarian concern were high on the agenda of various UN bodies and international conferences, not only because of the major international crises that occurred, but also because various aspects of UN humanitarian system reform continued to be introduced at field level.

The ICRC trained a keen eye on the UN reform process and its implementation. It strives to keep abreast of developments that are relevant to its own humanitarian activities, and to promote understanding of and support for its mandate and work, both generally and in relation with the UN's cluster approach. It attended the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly in its capacity as an observer, and delivered statements, in the plenary and various committees, on issues of humanitarian concern. These included enhanced coordination of UN humanitarian and disaster-relief assistance, protection of the rights of children and women in time of armed conflict, the situation of IDPs, the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and peacekeeping operations. The ICRC paid close attention to the various issues taken up by the UN Security Council. In November, the Security Council invited the ICRC's director-general to participate in its debate on the protection of the civilian population in armed conflicts. In Geneva, the ICRC played a similar role at the Humanitarian Affairs Segment of the Economic and Social Council, and followed closely developments in the Human Rights Council as it completed its first year of work. Such developments included the finalizing of the Council's institution-building process, along with the new universal periodic review mechanism, and ongoing discussions on the Council's geographic and thematic special procedures. The ICRC monitored the special sessions on Darfur and Myanmar and developed diplomatic contacts.

In Africa, the ICRC reinforced its cooperation with the AU, its Commission and relevant departments, and particularly with the Peace and Security Council (PSC). The ICRC and the presidency

of the PSC strengthened a structured dialogue on humanitarian topics of mutual concern. Through its focal points network, the ICRC also strengthened its cooperation with Africa's main regional economic communities and attended some of the events organized under their auspices. It attended the eighth and ninth AU summits in Addis Ababa and Accra (Ghana) respectively. The ICRC is also making a significant contribution to the preparation of the September 2008 special summit on IDPs in Africa. In November, the president of the ICRC met with the PSC, the president of the AU Commission and two commissioners. This visit reinforced the relations between the ICRC and the AU and saw both parties express their desire for further high-level meetings on an annual basis.

A significant milestone in Asian multilateral affairs was the signing of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Charter by the organization's member States. During contact with the Eminent Persons Group tasked with drafting the Charter, the ICRC's Kuala Lumpur delegation, with the support of delegations in the region and the Humanitarian Diplomacy Unit at headquarters, successfully lobbied for the inclusion of a provision on IHL. Furthermore, significant effort has been put into relations with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). To date, two meetings have taken place with the organization's secretary-general.

In Latin America, the ICRC closely followed the work of, among others, the OAS, the Caribbean Community and Common Market, and the Common Market of the South (Mercosur). It participated in various events, including the 37th General Assembly of the OAS in Panama. It also significantly strengthened its cooperation with various OAS bodies at OAS headquarters in Washington, and with the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights. Throughout its interaction with these organizations, the ICRC focused on the application of IHL, international refugee law and human rights law, the fight against "terrorism" and the issue of persons displaced and missing in connection with armed conflict.

With regard to Europe, fruitful cooperation between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the ICRC led to the adoption by the PACE of two resolutions for which the ICRC gave substantial input. As in previous years, the ICRC regularly attended events such as those organized by the Council of Europe and the OSCE, including the regular sessions of the PACE, the 15th OSCE Ministerial Council, and the Council of Europe-OSCE-UN Tripartite Meeting. These events were opportunities for the ICRC to promote its humanitarian agenda and to interact with other multilateral and intergovernmental organizations, such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

The ICRC continued to pursue closer links with Muslim organizations and their leaders. It participated as an observer in several high-level meetings, including the 34th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Islamabad (Pakistan). It drew closer to the OIC through a mission to OIC headquarters in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), and organized a number of workshops on the implementation of IHL with the support of the League of Arab States.

The ICRC maintained and developed its interaction with the IPU. ICRC representatives attended the IPU Assemblies in Nusa Dua (Indonesia) and Geneva, participating in meetings of the ad hoc committee on IHL and monitoring Standing Committee debates and other relevant IPU activities. The IPU and the ICRC launched

two joint projects on missing persons: the production of a handbook for parliamentarians, and the conduct of a study of the national implementation by IPU members of international norms related to the missing.

The ICRC kept abreast of numerous public discussions on issues relevant to its work, including migration, the specific situation of women and children in conflict, internal displacement, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and the strengthening of the humanitarian response capacity for forgotten emergencies. Accordingly, it attended international conferences on these issues in various places around the globe.

ENHANCING COOPERATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN AGENCIES

In recognition of the scale and complexity of needs arising from crises, the growing number of relief organizations on the ground, the diversity of the humanitarian environment and changes resulting from the UN humanitarian reform process, the ICRC continued to consult and coordinate with other humanitarian actors on the multilateral humanitarian scene, both at headquarters and in the field.

The ICRC actively participated in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), in which it is a standing invitee, and played an active role in the IASC's sub-bodies, information meetings, working groups and principals meetings at headquarters. ICRC field delegations participated in coordination meetings and cooperated with UN staff to develop Common Humanitarian Action Plans in an effort to prevent duplication or gaps in relief aid.

In 2007 the ICRC delegation in Iraq appointed a full-time delegate to liaise with the various players involved in humanitarian assistance for the Iraqi population, and in particular with the UN bodies. This followed the example of a similar position created in Lebanon during the crisis there in 2006.

The ICRC maintained close bilateral operational and institutional relations throughout the year with various UN and non-UN agencies. It attended several executive councils and board

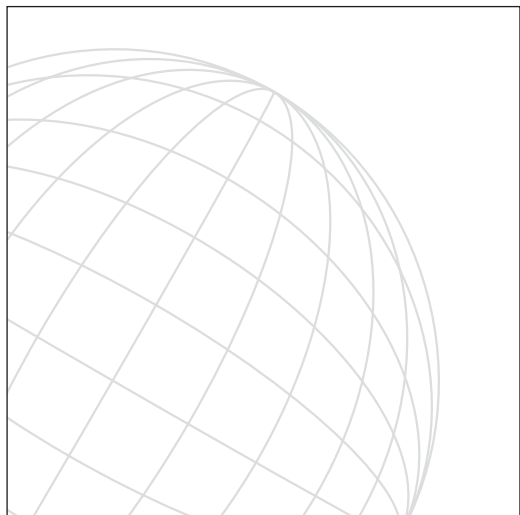
meetings of UN and other agencies engaged in humanitarian activities (IOM, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO). It held bilateral high-level meetings with the UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP in order to strengthen operational dialogue. These meetings were good opportunities to address issues linked to implementation of the UN cluster approach, the humanitarian response to IDPs, access to victims and security constraints, and complementarity and coordination, taking into consideration the ICRC's traditionally independent and neutral action.

In October 2007, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger and UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres reaffirmed their desire to implement the 2006 Joint Note defining cooperation between the ICRC and UNHCR. Preparations for the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (held in November 2007) also led to several meetings with IOM, including with its deputy director general, Ms Ndiaye, regarding international migration issues.

The ICRC maintained close contacts with NGOs in the light of its decision to apply to them the approach outlined in its position paper, ICRC Position on Humanitarian Coordination: reality-based and action-oriented. Preparations began for a high-level meeting between MSF and the ICRC in spring 2008. Close coordination with NGO umbrella organizations, such as the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (the ICRC is a full member) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (the ICRC has observer status) has continued. The ICRC was one of the speakers at a Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies (VOICE) seminar that took place in Brussels.

The ICRC continued to participate in the UN/non-UN dialogue through the Global Humanitarian Platform, which was created in 2006 to bring NGOs, the Movement and the UN together on an equal footing. The Platform created the Principle of Partnership, including a commitment to equality, diversity, transparency, mutual accountability and complementary roles.

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.



international law and cooperation within the movement

The Department of International Law and Cooperation within the Movement seeks to reinforce and help implement the rules protecting victims of war, and to promote coherent action and policy among the Movement's components. It spearheads work to develop, explain and promote the provisions of IHL relating 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 and publishes a periodical.

The Department was mobilized throughout 2007 for various major events, in particular the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November, but also several key IHL expert meetings on issues such as cluster munitions or direct participation in hostilities. It continued to provide ICRC field operations with substantial support on legal, Movement and policy matters.

POLICY-MAKING

In 2007, in line with the ICRC's decision to strengthen its policy-making process, the Department finalized an institutional policy-making framework aimed at lending coherency to ICRC policy texts. It also contributed to the deliberations on several fundamental policies regarding the ICRC's unique *modus operandi* and emphasizing the crucial importance of protection and prevention activities.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

The *International Review* is an academic peer-reviewed journal. It is published by the ICRC with the assistance of an international editorial board and printed and distributed by Cambridge University Press. The three issues produced in 2007 centred on humanitarian actors (Vol. 89, No. 865), catastrophic events (No. 866) and torture (No. 867). The articles they contained are available free on-line and a selection was published in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.

MOVEMENT COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

The ICRC works closely with National Societies and their International Federation to respond to humanitarian needs in accordance with the Movement's Statutes and policies. In this connection, the Division for Movement Coordination and Cooperation:

- ▶ provides direction, guidance and support to ICRC headquarters and field delegations for National Society capacity building and operational cooperation and for coordination with other Movement components (Movement action)
- ▶ backs National Society endeavours to implement the Fundamental Principles and the Movement's policies, rules and regulations (Movement principles and rules)
- ▶ develops policies and guidance documents for adoption by the Movement's statutory bodies, organizes meetings of these bodies and promotes implementation of the decisions and resolutions they adopt (Movement policy)

The highlights of the Division's 2007 activities are described below.

MOVEMENT ACTION

In 2007, the Division again provided substantial support for coordination and cooperation between Movement components, placing particular emphasis on the role of the host National Society in major ICRC operations in places such as Afghanistan, Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan (Darfur).

Operational and capacity-building partnerships with National Societies

One of the two cornerstones of the Division's work – the other being preparations for the 2007 statutory meetings – was implementation of the ICRC's institutional priority for 2007–2010 to reinforce its partnerships with National Societies both in operational cooperation and capacity building for emergency response.

Accordingly, it drew up an implementation framework to serve as the basis for guidelines, tools development and staff training. It also organized workshops and consultations with senior National Society staff in countries hosting large-scale ICRC operations (Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Nepal, Somalia and Sudan) and with the International Federation and partner National Societies with a view to ensuring coherent application of the Code of Good Partnership.

The Division's guidance and support for ICRC delegations and headquarters were aligned on this priority, the focus being on joint operations and programmes to strengthen National Society capacities to assist the victims of armed conflicts and violence, restore family links, promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles and conduct mine-action activities. These efforts were closely linked with activities relating to National Society statutes and integrity. Other forms of support will be provided in the light of needs and in coordination with the International Federation.

In addition, the Division worked hand in hand with the ICRC Protection and Tracing Agency Division on the Movement's 10-year Restoring Family Links Strategy adopted at the 2007 Council of Delegates.

Support for Movement coordination

The Division worked to help implement the Supplementary Measures to the Seville Agreement. In cooperation with the International Federation, it organized eleven joint ICRC-International Federation training sessions for over 180 managers from the two institutions, arranged for external evaluations to monitor implementation in Haiti and Indonesia, and documented situations in ten additional contexts using a jointly developed monitoring framework. The findings pointed to improvements in awareness and implementation and were compiled in a report for the 2007 Council of Delegates.

In order to ensure the best possible operational coordination between the ICRC and the International Federation's new geographical structure and operating model, the Division helped arrange several coordination meetings between operational managers from both institutions. Together with its counterparts from the International Federation, it organized six senior management meetings that focused on strengthening the Movement's identity and working methods as a distinct system of humanitarian response.

Again with the International Federation, the Division organized the annual information meeting for 40 National Societies working internationally. The meeting discussed in particular the specific nature of Movement partnerships and action, and other key topics linked to the 2007 statutory meetings. A workshop in Kuwait brought together five National Societies from the Persian Gulf region – emerging international players – and several ICRC units from headquarters.

Another aspect of the Division's work was to provide input for Movement papers and processes, such as the Movement security framework (internal guidelines on how to establish, manage and maintain a security framework for Movement partners), the draft guidelines for National Societies wishing to work with detained migrants and the dialogue with Movement partners on migration.

ICRC specialists and experts from National Societies working internationally visited the National Societies in Chad, Liberia and Pakistan to bolster their first-aid capacity, and specific partnerships

are being explored in this field. The Division also organized an external review of the emblem protection campaigns carried out for several years by the National Societies of Bangladesh and Nepal with the support of the ICRC.

Together with the International Federation, the Division organized two Leadership Development Programme courses for 36 senior National Society leaders, focusing on their international dimensions and responsibilities. For the first time in several years, one course was conducted in Russian, and a broad range of reference documents was therefore translated into Russian.

The Division also helped develop the new on-line self-study course that is a first part of the Basic Training Course (BTC) for National Society staff. It ensured that the ICRC participated in 36 BTCs organized by 18 National Societies and in several training sessions for International Federation staff seconded to emergency operations.

MOVEMENT PRINCIPLES AND RULES

The Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes continued to help National Societies adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles by strengthening their legal base, i.e. their statutes and national legislation on the Movement's emblems. The Commission met five times in 2007; it provided formal comments and recommendations to 40 National Societies on the text of their draft statutes and assistance and guidance to 10 National Societies regarding the revision of national legislation. It also prepared a report for the 2007 Council of Delegates that emphasized how important it was, in keeping with the Strategy for the Movement, for all National Societies to revise their statutes by 2010.

The ICRC further developed its method for helping National Societies safeguard their integrity in accordance with the Fundamental Principles. An ICRC internal case-management database was established, with 61 cases being monitored and analysed, and a CD was produced on the subject for ICRC delegations. For the purposes of coordination, the ICRC participated in the International Federation Governing Board working group on integrity, and both institutions agreed to strengthen mechanisms at management level. They also intervened, either jointly or separately but in coordinated fashion, in cases where serious concerns arose regarding the integrity of individual National Societies. The ICRC provided input for the implementation guidelines for the International Federation policy on integrity.

The Division dealt with roughly 50 inquiries in 2007 about the proper use of the red cross, red crescent and red crystal emblems, providing advice and recommendations to ICRC delegations, National Societies, government authorities and private individuals. The ICRC, in consultation with a large number of National Societies, produced the Study on operational, commercial and other non-operational issues involving the use of the emblems it had been asked for in the Strategy for the Movement. The Study was submitted for information to the 2007 Council of Delegates and will be developed further in line with the participants' feedback.

The standard agreement between UNHCR and its implementing partners was revised in 2007, and a specific format drawn up for agreements between the Movement's components and UNHCR that is in accordance with the Movement's Statutes and principles.

The Division administered and supervised various Movement funds, medals and prizes, and organized 43 official visits by 376 National Society leaders and representatives to ICRC headquarters.

The *Handbook of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*, which is also to become a web-based reference work, was updated to include the 2007 statutory meetings and will be distributed in 2008.

MOVEMENT POLICY – 2007 STATUTORY MEETINGS

The year was also taken up with the preparatory work for the Movement's November 2007 statutory meetings: the 2007 Council of Delegates and the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. In keeping with the Conference slogan, "Together for Humanity", the statutory meetings adopted several resolutions providing the entire Movement with new positions, guidance and policy documents.

The International Conference, which brings together the Movement's components and the States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, reaffirmed the relevance of IHL and the importance of effective implementation (Resolution 3, see below). It confirmed the pertinence and global scope of four major 21st-century challenges, namely environmental degradation and climate change, international migration, violence in urban settings and emergent and recurrent diseases, called for a collective response to their humanitarian consequences and recognized the added value contributed by the Movement's components and their partnerships, both with each other and with non-Movement entities such as governments, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs.

The Council of Delegates, for its part, adopted the Restoring Family Links Strategy (and Implementation Plan) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Resolution 4). The Strategy underlines the importance of restoring family links in armed conflicts, situations of violence, natural or man-made disasters and any other circumstances requiring a humanitarian response. It reaffirms the ICRC's lead role within the Movement in this connection and the entire Movement's commitment to consolidating its leadership in this field.

The Council of Delegates also welcomed the decision of the International Federation General Assembly to develop a policy on international migration for National Societies that draws on the ICRC's expertise in protection work. It acknowledged the relevance of the Restoring Family Links Strategy for international migrants and requested the ICRC to develop guidelines for National Societies working or wishing to work in places where migrants are being detained (Resolution 5).

The Council of Delegates also adopted a resolution on cluster munitions (Resolution 8, see below).

Both the Council of Delegates and the International Conference adopted resolutions on the Movement's specific nature in action and partnerships and the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field. The resolutions recognize the specific (and distinctive) partnership between National Societies and their governments, and contain key provisions governing the auxiliary role of National Societies. In particular, they provide a solid normative foundation for ensuring

that governments respect the National Societies' obligation to adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, especially the principles of independence and neutrality.

Lastly, both the Council of Delegates and the International Conference called for full implementation and stepped up monitoring of the Memorandum of Understanding and associated Agreement on Operational Arrangements signed by the Palestine Red Crescent Society and the Magen David Adom in Israel on 28 November 2005.

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.

The ICRC's capacity to protect and assist persons affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence is substantially enhanced by the 83 headquarters agreements it has signed with the governments of the countries in which it works; the privileges and immunities thus conferred enable the ICRC and its staff to work in an entirely independent manner. In 13 other States, the organization's privileges and immunities are established by legislation or other arrangements.

The highlights of the Legal Division's work in 2007 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 accede to the relevant international instruments and adopt national measures to implement IHL norms in their domestic law and practice. Such measures touch upon many different areas, such as the repression of war crimes, the use and protection of the distinctive emblems of the red cross, red crescent and red crystal, and the prohibition or restrictions on the production and use of certain weapons.

Throughout 2007 the ICRC's Advisory Service on IHL engaged in active dialogue with national authorities worldwide in order to promote accession to IHL treaties and their domestic implementation. It provided legal and technical advice to governments in many countries seeking to develop domestic legislation, in particular Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Chad, Comoros, the Republic of the Congo, the Cook Islands, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, France, Gabon, Honduras, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Nepal, Panama, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela and Zambia.

The ICRC also organized, or contributed to, a range of national and regional conferences, seminars and workshops relating to IHL and its incorporation into domestic law. These included events organized in Beijing (China), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Jakarta (Indonesia), Mexico City (Mexico), New Delhi (India) and Pretoria (South Africa) to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols and a series of regional meetings of governmental experts

held in Budapest (Hungary), Cairo (Egypt), Brasilia (Brazil), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Minsk (Belarus), Phnom Penh (Cambodia), Pretoria and Wellington (New Zealand).

The ICRC continued to support and encourage States in their endeavours to establish national interministerial committees entrusted with the national implementation of IHL. In 2007, six new national committees were created (Algeria, China, Honduras, Nepal, Saudi Arabia and Spain), bringing the total number worldwide to 87. In order to promote dialogue and cooperation between national IHL committees, the ICRC held a second meeting of all such committees worldwide, in March 2007, and organized the 6th regional conference of national IHL committees in Arab countries in Cairo in September.

The ICRC also maintained an active dialogue with international and regional organizations such as the Commonwealth, the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States, the Council of Europe, the European Union, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States. It took part in meetings of States party to various IHL treaties and related instruments such as the Ottawa Convention, the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its Second Protocol of 1999, and the Rome Statute.

In 2007, the ICRC pursued its interdisciplinary consultation of experts on the role and effect of sanctions against perpetrators of serious violations of IHL in ensuring greater respect for the law. The proceedings of this initiative will be made available in the course of 2008.

In order to provide national authorities with the tools they need, the Advisory Service on IHL produced new guidelines for the adoption of national legislation to prevent persons from becoming unaccounted for as a consequence of armed conflict and to protect missing persons and their families.

Lastly, issues related to the national implementation of IHL figured prominently on the agenda of the 30th International Conference. An event was organized in tandem with the Conference on the role of national IHL committees and the repression of war crimes, and many government delegations made pledges pertaining to participation in IHL treaties and national implementation of IHL.

The year was marked by the following progress in the participation of States in IHL treaties:

- ▶ one State (Monaco) made the Declaration of acceptance of the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission pursuant to Article 90 of Additional Protocol I
- ▶ fifteen States (Belize, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Georgia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, San Marino, Slovakia, United States) acceded to Additional Protocol III
- ▶ two States (Japan and Montenegro) acceded to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, three States (Japan, Montenegro, Saudi Arabia) to its first Protocol and six States (Czech Republic, Japan, Montenegro, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia and Uruguay) to its Second Protocol
- ▶ eight States (Angola, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Egypt, Montenegro, Nepal, Vanuatu and Yemen) ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

- ▶ one State (Japan) acceded to the Rome Statute
- ▶ one State (Nicaragua) acceded to the 1976 Convention on the prohibition of military or any hostile use of environmental modification techniques
- ▶ three States (Indonesia, Iraq and Kuwait) acceded to the Ottawa Convention (the ICRC encouraged States to accede to and fulfil their commitments under the Convention, in particular with regard to mine clearance deadlines)
- ▶ one State (Gabon) became party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, seven States (Chile, Cuba, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Niger, Russian Federation and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) to the revised Framework Convention, one State (Gabon) to Protocol I, one State (Niger) to Amended Protocol II, one State (Gabon) to Protocol III, two States (Niger and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) to Protocol IV, and seven States (Australia, Austria, New Zealand, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay) to Protocol V
- ▶ one State (Barbados) acceded to the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention

Lastly, the Legal Division drafted a commentary on Additional Protocol III that was published in the *International Review of the Red Cross*.

REAFFIRMING, CLARIFYING AND DEVELOPING IHL

Throughout 2007, the Legal Division attended numerous conferences, seminars and courses and provided States, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and other interested bodies with expertise on a variety of IHL-related topics. The primary aim of these activities was to promote IHL, to stress the relevance of its provisions in contemporary armed conflicts, and to explain the specific role of the ICRC.

The Legal Division also provided legal advice on a daily basis to the ICRC's field delegations, notably regarding confidential representations reminding the parties to armed conflicts of their obligations under IHL.

Reaffirming the fundamental guarantees of IHL

The 30th International Conference adopted a resolution drafted by the ICRC on the reaffirmation and implementation of IHL (Resolution 3). The resolution was adopted by consensus and reasserts the relevance of IHL, stressing that it governs only situations of armed conflict and should not be extended to other situations. It focuses on the fundamental guarantees provided by IHL to all persons in the power of a party to an armed conflict and reiterates that no one is outside the law. It also reaffirms the basic IHL principles and rules governing the conduct of hostilities and contains a series of provisions on achieving effective implementation. The resolution's adoption reflects the depth of the commitment to IHL, in particular its fundamental guarantees, felt by the States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Movement's components.

IHL and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts

The International Conference also provided the ICRC with an opportunity to present its thinking and work on a range of legal issues to a very broad audience through two reports submitted for information: one on the Study on customary international humanitarian law, requested by the 28th International Conference,

and a second on IHL and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts. The latter follows up on a report submitted to the 28th International Conference and provides an overview of new and emerging legal issues that merit discussion with a view to generating broader debate on a number of current challenges to IHL. It deals with issues such as IHL and “terrorism”, procedural principles and safeguards that should govern internment or administrative detention, the conduct of hostilities, including challenges posed by asymmetric warfare and the notion of “direct participation in hostilities”, non-international armed conflicts, the regulation of private military and security companies, occupation and other forms of administration of territory, cluster munitions and the role of sanctions.

Study on customary international humanitarian law

The Division continued to promote the Study on customary international humanitarian law. In 2007, the Arabic translation of Volume I was launched in Cairo at a conference organized with the League of Arab States. Similarly, the French translation was launched at a colloquium in Paris organized with the support of the Universities of Paris II and XI, the French Red Cross and the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*. Lastly, the Chinese translation was presented in Beijing at an event organized together with the Chinese Society of International Law. The Spanish translation of Volume I was completed in 2007 and will be launched in 2008 in Bogotá (Colombia). In addition to the translations of Volume I, a summary of the study and the list of rules have been translated into some thirty languages, with several more forthcoming. The report of the 2006 regional round-tables on customary IHL in Beijing and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) was published in 2007. The ICRC teamed up with the British Red Cross in 2007 on a project to update the practice contained in Volume II of the Study.

The Study, the outcome of ten years of work, is unique in that it represents the first global and thorough assessment of customary IHL. It has shown in particular that the normative framework for non-international armed conflicts under customary law is more developed than the treaty-based framework. This enhanced framework should ultimately heighten the protection of victims of such conflicts, in law and in practice. In 2007, the Study continued to be used as a reference by courts, rapporteurs, government lawyers, academics and organizations.

Direct participation in hostilities

Throughout 2007 the ICRC pursued its efforts to clarify the notion of “direct participation in hostilities” under IHL within a multiyear research process involving more than 40 international legal experts from military, academic, governmental and non-governmental backgrounds. This informal process, the preliminary results of which were presented during an ICRC workshop at the 30th International Conference, will be brought to a conclusion in the course of 2008 with the publication of “Interpretive Guidance” on the notion of direct participation in hostilities under IHL.

Cluster munitions

International discussion of cluster munitions picked up in 2007, in particular after 46 governments meeting in Oslo in February pledged to adopt a legally binding instrument on the matter by the end of 2008. The ICRC contributed to the increased international attention by hosting an expert meeting on the humanitarian, military, technical and legal challenges of cluster munitions in April 2007. The meeting was widely recognized as the most in-depth discussion to date on cluster munitions. The resulting insights were analysed in the ICRC report of the meeting and

became benchmarks in ongoing multilateral discussions, including the June 2007 Governmental Group of Experts Meeting of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

In a statement made to diplomatic missions in Geneva (Switzerland) in October 2007, the ICRC president expressed deep concern about cluster munitions and the need for urgent action by the international community. He called for the urgent conclusion by all States of a new IHL treaty to prohibit the use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of inaccurate and unreliable cluster munitions. He also repeated the ICRC’s call for States immediately to end the use of such weapons on a national basis.

The 2007 Council of Delegates adopted a resolution calling on all the Movement’s components to promote national measures to address the humanitarian concerns arising from the use of cluster munitions, including ending the use and transfer of inaccurate and unreliable cluster munitions, and on States to pursue their efforts in the Oslo and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons processes.

Throughout the year the ICRC participated in numerous national, regional or international meetings on cluster munitions in order to highlight the scope of the humanitarian problems they cause and the urgent need for international action.

Procedural principles and safeguards on internment or administrative detention

In 2007 the ICRC continued disseminating its institutional position on the procedural principles and safeguards applicable to internment or administrative detention in armed conflict and other situations of violence. The text was widely distributed at a number of governmental and academic conferences and was used by ICRC field delegations. In September 2007, the ICRC regional delegation for the United States and Canada, together with Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, Ohio), organized a two-day expert seminar aimed at soliciting the views of governmental, academic and NGO experts on the legal and practical issues that arose when persons were imprisoned for security reasons.

Improving compliance with IHL in non-international armed conflicts

In 2007, the ICRC finalized a report on increasing respect for IHL in non-international armed conflicts that was presented to the 30th International Conference as part of its report on IHL and the challenges of contemporary armed conflicts. This text, the outcome of a broader internal ICRC study of the issue, provides States and non-State armed groups, humanitarian players and others with suggestions for ways in which the law could be better implemented. It outlines a range of legal tools – from special agreements under Common Article 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions to strategic argumentation – that can be used to persuade parties to non-international armed conflicts to abide by the law. The report is to be issued as a stand-alone publication in early 2008.

Air and missile warfare

The ICRC is an active contributor to a process – sponsored by the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research – whose ultimate aim is the adoption of a manual of existing IHL norms pertaining to air and missile warfare. In the course of the year Legal Division experts were involved in drafting a commentary on certain sections of the manual, including those on medical aircraft, special protection for specific types of aircraft and humanitarian relief.

Private military and security companies

The operations of private military and security companies in situations of armed conflict gained even greater prominence as a result of public and media attention on the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The ICRC stepped up its activities in this connection in order to position itself more clearly and to recall the existing international law that governs the activities of such companies. It pursued its dialogue with them and with the States responsible for their actions (especially States that hire the companies and States in whose territories they operate) to ensure all were aware of their responsibilities in relation to IHL. Legal Division experts participated in numerous external events that addressed the legal issues raised.

In particular, the ICRC pursued close cooperation with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs on a related intergovernmental initiative launched in 2005. The initiative aims to further intergovernmental discussion of the issues raised by the use of private military and security companies, to reaffirm and clarify the obligations by which States and such companies are bound, and to provide guidance to States in their relations with the companies. In 2007, four expert meetings were held in the framework of the initiative, which was also the subject of a workshop and outreach work at the 30th International Conference in November 2007. The aim is to finalize a document to be agreed on by the States concerned.

Occupation and other forms of administration of foreign territory

In 2007 the ICRC initiated a project on occupation law aimed at examining questions arising in connection with recent situations of occupation and other forms of administration of foreign territory. The project, which in its initial phase necessitated a certain amount of internal research, will proceed in 2008 with consultations with key players and the organization of expert meetings with a view to proposing substantive and procedural means of addressing the challenges posed by contemporary occupation and other forms of administration of foreign territory.

Other matters

The fact that the ICRC concentrated on the issues outlined above did not preclude it from dealing with a number of other topical matters. During the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly, the ICRC paid particular attention to legal developments on issues such as “terrorism”, IDPs and humanitarian coordination, including the Sixth Committee’s ongoing negotiations on the draft comprehensive convention on terrorism. It also again took part as an observer in meetings of the Council of Europe’s Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law.

Other issues, such as the protection of women and children in armed conflicts, the protection of journalists, multinational forces and cyber-attacks, were also addressed.

ARCHIVES

Reports on all ICRC activities, registers of official decisions and legal and operational correspondence have been stored since 1863 in the ICRC’s Archives. In June 2007, UNESCO added the archives of the International Prisoners of War Agency (1914–1923) to its Memory of the World Register, in testimony to “the extent of human suffering during the First World War, but also of pioneering action to protect civilians”. The extensive programme launched by the ICRC in 2006 to restore and digitize these archives is to be completed in 2012.

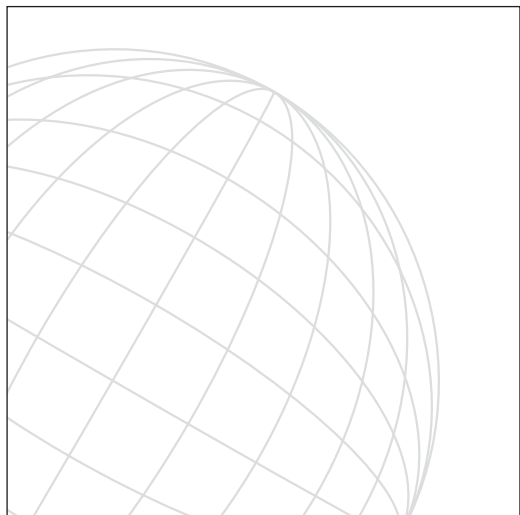
In line with the ICRC’s policy of greater transparency regarding its history, the Archives Division provided the *Centre d’application libyen d’études historiques* in Tripoli (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) with copies of ICRC archives containing the names of Libyan nationals enlisted in the Italian armed forces and taken prisoner during the Second World War. In association with the University of Geneva, it organized an international symposium from 18 to 21 April on “Katyn and Switzerland: Forensic experts and investigations in humanitarian crises”.

In 2007, the Archives Division handled more than 2,500 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. Under the rules governing access to the ICRC’s archives, the organization’s records are subject to a protective embargo for a general period of 40 years and an extended period of 60 years. Hence, records up to 1965 have been opened to the general public for consultation.

The Archives Division also replied to some 1,000 requests for information on the ICRC’s film and paper archives and received researchers in its reading room for the equivalent of 350 working days. It responded to 1,000 internal requests from other ICRC units. In order to improve accessibility, the ICRC and Memoriav, an association founded to preserve Switzerland’s audiovisual cultural heritage, decided jointly to finance a long-term project to preserve and restore the ICRC’s 16-mm film archives on its activities in favour of persons affected by conflicts from 1950 to 1980.

The purpose of the ICRC’s historical research activities is to make the organization’s history more widely known. In March 2007, the ICRC published a new chapter of its history covering the period 1945 to 1955 in French (Catherine Rey-Schyr, *Histoire du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge, 1945–1955: De Yalta à Dien Bien Phu*).

The Archives Division continued to create the ICRC’s institutional reference files at headquarters and secured an additional 500 linear metres of records transferred from headquarters support units and from delegations.



communication

The Communication Department seeks to ensure that the ICRC's mandate and activities are accurately projected to a range of audiences 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 conflicts 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 in both public communication, in order to mobilize key stakeholders to act on pressing humanitarian issues, and operational communication, in order to gain acceptance for its work and access to victims. It also carries out a range of preventive activities which aim to ensure that IHL is integrated into armed forces doctrine, education and training, and into the curricula of schools and universities.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

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. In 2007, a range of communication strategies and tools were used to convey key messages relating to its activities for people detained in connection with armed conflict, its actions to trace missing persons and reunite families, the impact of the use of cluster munitions, and its role as an impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian organization.

In 2007, as part of its work to prevent violations of IHL, the ICRC continued to focus its educational and promotional activities on those in a position to influence humanitarian action, whether positively or negatively, particularly weapon bearers and opinion leaders. It also continued to train and consolidate its network of field-based communication staff whose role is to support the ICRC's operational and public communication endeavours at local and regional level and to provide input for communication geared to the international media.

In addition, the ICRC's public communication work focused on the human impact of a number of major crises, including the

hostilities in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and Sudan, and the situations in the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories and Myanmar. The ICRC provided the media and other partners with facts and figures on its field operations and appealed to all parties to respect the rules of law protecting people affected by armed conflicts. To mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, it conducted an awareness-raising campaign on the relevance of IHL in today's conflicts.

To reach key audiences worldwide, the ICRC continued to take a multimedia approach, producing professional communication materials that included regular news footage. The focus was on further developing the ICRC's multilingual website, a new version of which will be launched in 2008. Elsewhere, work continued apace on a project to develop an intranet that is aimed at optimizing the internal information flow and is to be introduced at headquarters in early 2008.

The ICRC continued to build its environment-scanning capacity both at headquarters and in a number of regional delegations. As a result, its strategic decision-makers at headquarters and in the field were able to draw on wide-ranging media monitoring and analyses of global, regional and thematic trends.

RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA

In the absence of a single armed conflict that monopolized world attention, the media spotlight centred on several key contexts, especially Afghanistan, Darfur (Sudan), Iraq and Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories. To a lesser extent, it also covered ongoing humanitarian problems in Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sri Lanka. As well as reporting on political developments, the media regularly focused on the plight of those affected by armed conflict and the extent to which parties to a conflict conducted hostilities in accordance with IHL. Conversely, several conflicts and other situations of violence remained outside the international media spotlight despite the considerable suffering they engendered. Examples include the Central African Republic, Haiti and the Philippines.

It remained a challenge for the ICRC to ensure that its messages were understood in a global environment in which everyone – governments, armed groups, civil society, pressure groups and, increasingly, members of the general public – uses the media and the Internet to “spin” a particular version of the story, and in which others frequently communicate about the ICRC and its activities.

In 2007, the ICRC engaged in successful public communication on key contexts such as Afghanistan, Iraq and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, thus placing its analysis and concerns firmly on the agenda of relevant decision-makers. Moreover, the ICRC’s added value as a neutral intermediary was powerfully illustrated through media coverage of its role in several hostage-release operations, Afghanistan and Ethiopia being but two examples. The organization also took the rare step of publicly condemning the serious violations of IHL in Myanmar, having exhausted all other possibilities of resolving the issue directly with the authorities.

The ICRC also managed to raise public awareness of the plight of vulnerable groups particularly hard hit by the effects of armed conflicts, such as missing persons and their families, and victims of mines and cluster munitions. On these issues, as on other humanitarian crises, the organization’s ability to produce and distribute quality video footage enabled it to reach new audiences, for example in China and Latin America.

The ICRC’s network of communicators in Geneva, its field delegations and media hubs such as Beijing (China), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Amman (Jordan), London (United Kingdom), Moscow (Russian Federation), Paris (France) and Washington (United States) enabled it to promote the organization’s work to great effect across the globe and around the clock. In addition, most delegations invested considerable effort in building quality relationships with local media in conflict areas, encouraging them to take humanitarian concerns and IHL into consideration in their reporting.

In November 2007, the ICRC hosted a meeting in Geneva at which more than 100 representatives of States, Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the media and media-related organizations considered the relevance of IHL to media coverage of armed conflicts and discussed ways of improving the safety of media personnel in such situations. The meeting formed part of an ICRC project on covering war and armed conflicts, and aimed to draw attention to IHL as a means of both giving media reporting on war greater relevance and impact and of providing protection for media professionals. The ICRC is in the process of developing a digital tool, which it expects to release in 2008, to teach the media about the basics of IHL.

DIALOGUE WITH ARMED, SECURITY AND POLICE FORCES, AND OTHER WEAPON BEARERS

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. To this end, it maintained relations throughout the year with the armed forces of some 140 countries and with about 60 armed groups and several private military and security companies.

Conducted within a reference framework adopted in 2007 for relations with all weapon bearers, these activities are performed by a variety of ICRC personnel, including some 25 specialized delegates, backed up by a network of national officer-instructors around the world.

Throughout 2007, the ICRC consolidated its relations with armed forces worldwide, with a particular emphasis on those needing to resort to force, either at home or abroad. To enhance understanding of the ICRC’s role and its operational procedures among US and NATO officers, two additional delegates were posted to Budapest (Hungary) and Washington. Similarly, an additional position was created in Yaoundé (Cameroon) to reinforce the existing dialogue with African Union forces. Specialized delegates in Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America represented the ICRC and observed the implementation of IHL or international human rights law in a dozen international military exercises. They took part in numerous pre-deployment briefings or exercises, in particular for US and NATO units on their way to Afghanistan or Iraq.

Specialized delegates continued to support the efforts of weapon bearers to disseminate IHL or international human rights law, to integrate those norms into their doctrine, education and training, to purchase adequate equipment and to adopt disciplinary and penal sanctions in the event of a violation. They engaged in dialogue throughout the year with armed, police or security forces on the use of force, further consolidating contacts with key individuals at policy-making level and with academies and institutes. Two additional positions were created for relations with the police and security forces of Latin America and of the Indian sub-continent.

A new two-week “Senior workshop on international rules governing military operations” enabled the ICRC to reinforce its relations with 55 generals and senior officers from 53 countries, using practical case studies to foster exchanges on ways of implementing relevant legal norms. Two new publications were produced: *Integrating the Law*, summarizing this process, and *Violence and the Use of Force*, summarizing the essential norms of IHL and international human rights law. Ten new officer-instructors, both police and military, were trained to give lectures on IHL and international human rights law in support of the regular activities carried out by specialized delegates.

Delegates around the world continued their efforts to establish a dialogue with armed groups and to strengthen their acceptance of the ICRC and respect for IHL. To this end, countless dissemination sessions were conducted, for instance in the Gaza Strip (occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories) and in Darfur. A film entitled *Words of Warriors*, intended to raise awareness among armed groups of the need to respect IHL and ICRC action, was tested in the field. It will be distributed to delegations as a dissemination tool in early 2008. Representatives of armed groups originating from Africa and from Nepal were invited to take part in consultations on the need for disciplinary and criminal sanctions for violations of IHL.

Delegates held discussions with some of the most active private military or security companies, notably in Washington and London and talked with government representatives in the same capitals on the need for a regulatory framework and for disciplinary or criminal sanctions in the event of violations. The ICRC, for its part, thoroughly reviewed its own use of security companies around the world and adopted internal guidelines on the matter.

Internally, the coherence of the ICRC's dialogue with armed forces operating at global level was reinforced. Mechanisms were put in place in 2007 to allow for better internal communication and coordination. Hence, the delegation in Haiti formulated key messages linked to the use of force or to humanitarian action to be raised by delegations elsewhere with the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and with countries contributing troops to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti. The delegations in Afghanistan and Iraq will proceed along the same lines.

The International Institute for Humanitarian Law in San Remo, its military department in particular, continued to receive financial and technical assistance and advice from the ICRC. In 2007, the ICRC sponsored courses for air force and naval operators. Similarly some 21 officers from 12 countries received ICRC fellowships to attend courses. Projects to review the basic courses offered at San Remo and to modernize the classes were also financed by the ICRC.

REACHING OUT TO DECISION-MAKERS AND OPINION-FORMERS

ACADEMIC CIRCLES

As the reference organization for IHL, the ICRC continued to provide curriculum input and support for a network of academic institutes and universities identified as training grounds for future leaders and decision-makers. More than 700 copies of the ICRC's IHL casebook *How Does Law Protect in War?* were distributed to practitioners, lecturers and students around the world. More than 50 ICRC delegations were working with academic circles and many were developing context-specific course materials.

About 300 advanced students and faculty members selected from a wide range of applicants benefited from intensive IHL courses organized by ICRC headquarters in a number of locations, such as Modane (France) and Warsaw (Poland). ICRC delegations in the field also reinforced partnerships with universities and higher-education institutes specializing in IHL through events such as courses, symposiums, working sessions and IHL competitions.

YOUTH

The ICRC continued to consolidate two large-scale programmes for young people in formal education settings: the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and the secondary school programme for member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Through these programmes, the ICRC actively promoted the integration of IHL instruction at the secondary school level, working in close cooperation with the educational authorities and National Society of the countries concerned.

To ensure the programmes' success, the ICRC worked with ministries of education and National Societies on the basis of identified best practices, providing academic, technical and financial assistance for translation, teacher training and teaching materials. Five regional advisers continued to provide guidance to ICRC delegations with a view to fostering a coherent institutional

approach to implementation in their regions. To encourage the sharing of experience and build confidence, the ICRC held several regional and sub-regional meetings with educational authorities and National Society personnel responsible for introducing the programmes at country level.

The Exploring Humanitarian Law Virtual Campus, funded by the Government of the Netherlands, was successfully launched in 2007. The Virtual Campus aims to provide teachers at secondary level with programme-related news, information, teaching aids and distance-learning tools. During 2007, revisions to the Exploring Humanitarian Law teaching materials were posted on the campus website. These revisions were based on feedback collected worldwide. In parallel, a new visual design and packaging concept for the entire range of Exploring Humanitarian Law products was developed. The aim of both initiatives was to improve the quality of material and support offered to teachers using the programme.

The evaluation report on the European Union Education Leadership Conference, which had been held under the auspices of the Austrian presidency of the European Union in May 2006, was distributed in 2007 and further follow-up carried out within the framework of the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

As part of the revisions and review of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, the ICRC decided to conduct a global external evaluation of the programme after it had been in operation for seven years, i.e. in 2008. The evaluation should provide the ICRC with indications of the challenges, risks and best practices associated with the programme.

OTHER CIVIL SOCIETY TARGET GROUPS

The ICRC and the Nordic National Red Cross Societies met on several occasions to follow up on their agreement on "Communicating IHL and Neutral and Independent Humanitarian Action". Pursuant to the agreement, the ICRC and the Nordic National Societies conducted a survey among parliamentarians in the Nordic countries to determine their views on humanitarian action and co-organized a workshop on neutral and independent humanitarian action at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. A second plan of action, covering 2008–2009, was signed at the end of the year.

In cooperation with the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, two courses on IHL and current conflicts were organized for policy-makers and practitioners from around the world concerned with the role of IHL in the work of governments, international organizations and humanitarian NGOs. ICRC delegations organized similar courses at the national and regional level. In addition, the ICRC, together with the Crimes of War Project, began to develop a digital resource tool to be used in IHL workshops for media staff.

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, welcoming over 5,000 people to ICRC headquarters. It further strengthened its interaction with key stakeholders of the ICRC and developed its networking function.

COMMUNICATION RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

Over the past decade, the ICRC has carried out a number of studies on people's attitudes towards IHL, on the roots of combatants' behaviour, and on IHL violations. Such studies have given the organization a clearer understanding of the complex psychological and social factors influencing behaviour, and have highlighted both the limitations of strategies to influence that behaviour and the need to define clear and realistic objectives for prevention activities. Periodic evaluations and reviews of prevention activities have confirmed these conclusions, helped clarify the success criteria for such activities and emphasized the synergies between different ICRC activities.

In 2007, the ICRC continued to work closely with academic circles specializing in research on armed conflict and preventing violations of IHL and other fundamental rules that protect people in situations of violence. It participated in a number of round-tables and seminars focusing on issues related to behaviour change. In addition, it initiated a research project on how to prevent young people from taking part in organized armed violence.

The ICRC pursued its efforts to clarify the prevention dimension of its action. The Directorate confirmed that prevention aims to create an environment conducive to respect for the life and dignity of persons affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence and for ICRC operations. Policy guidelines on the ICRC's prevention activities will be finalized in early 2008.

The ICRC began to develop a methodology for ensuring a cohesive and comprehensive approach to evaluating the effects of its prevention activities, both at headquarters and in the field. This long-term project is part of the organization's overall efforts to enhance accountability to donors and beneficiaries by means of result-based management.

MINE ACTION

The ICRC, together with the Movement, seeks to reduce the social and economic impact of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) through a flexible, multidisciplinary approach. Activities to prevent accidents and reduce the impact of these weapons are implemented alongside activities that provide support to victims, including physical rehabilitation, surgical and economic security activities. The composition and specific objectives of prevention activities are dictated by the context in which they are implemented; they normally include a flexible combination of data gathering, risk reduction, mine/ERW surveys/clearance and risk education.

Within the Movement, the ICRC is the lead organization for mine action. As such, it develops Movement policy and provides coordination, guidance and support to National Societies. The majority of ICRC activities focus on building National Society capacity to work alongside national authorities in their own countries. In the field, activities to reduce the impact of mines and explosive remnants of war are carried out during routine protection, economic security, water and habitat work.

In 2007, the ICRC finalized a weapon contamination handbook, which is the central reference for all those engaged in the planning and implementation of activities in this domain. Further to this, elements of mine action continued to be integrated into relevant

guidelines, toolboxes, policies, training and procedures, in accordance with the integration plan finalized in November 2005. In the field, the ICRC continued to review existing operations and realign them with the preventive mine-action framework.

Rapid response capacity was strengthened through the signing of memoranda of understanding with the Norwegian Red Cross on staffing, and with the Swedish Rescue Services Agency (SRSA) on technical clearance capacity. This means that the ICRC now has the capacity to respond rapidly and the ability to survey and clear mine and ERW contamination where it is hindering the delivery of aid, affecting staff security or having a direct impact on the population. In all cases, such interventions are of a limited nature. A training exercise in Sweden, held jointly with the UN and SRSA, further added to this capacity by training staff in a simulated emergency situation.

The training course developed during 2006 on the basis of the weapon contamination handbook was held on two occasions in Nairobi (Kenya). The course is for ICRC managers and coordinators and gives them the knowledge to assess, plan and implement activities in areas contaminated by mines and explosive remnants of war.

SUPPORT FOR COMMUNICATION IN THE FIELD

Strengthening the capacity of ICRC delegations to communicate effectively in complex and sensitive environments remains one of the Communication Department's priorities. In 2007, a dozen training courses were conducted at headquarters and in the field in order to enhance the skills and ability of ICRC staff to develop context-based communication approaches and products. The courses enabled both newly appointed and experienced staff to master media relations, to improve their production of print and audio-visual materials, and to develop coherent communication strategies for a wide variety of target groups. Several workshops were held in priority contexts, such as Sri Lanka and Sudan, with a view to more effectively integrating communication into the ICRC's operational activities. To enable non-specialized staff to communicate more effectively, Department representatives continued to participate in institutional training courses organized for newly recruited staff and managers.

The challenge of securing acceptance of the ICRC's mission in highly polarized contexts calls for coherent communication strategies at the global, regional and local levels. Regional communication meetings were organized in South-East Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe in order to consolidate analyses of regional trends and to share best practices developed in the field. Priority issues and influential stakeholders were identified, and communication plans were prepared in order to address perception problems and to support the ICRC's humanitarian endeavours.

Throughout the year, 15 support missions were carried out to priority delegations, eight of them in Africa (Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Kenya, Rwanda and Sudan). Particular emphasis was put on providing guidance and coaching to locally recruited communication staff and on strengthening the management of human resources in priority contexts such as Iraq, Sudan and the United States. In a number of contexts, such as Guinea and the Philippines, the ICRC continued to provide support to National Societies with a view to enhancing their capacity to communicate in conflict situations.

As part of its efforts to heighten the impact of communication in support of its overall humanitarian response, the ICRC organized a workshop on operational communication for experienced practitioners and operational managers in Geneva. Building on field experience and confirmed practices, the Communication Department was able to give the participants practical guidance on how to address problems of acceptance and foster respect for IHL in difficult contexts.

Developing the environment-scanning capacity of delegations is a key element of ICRC communication. In 2007, the organization conducted studies in Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jordan, Lebanon and Liberia in order to assess how the ICRC was perceived by influential audiences. The results were used to identify critical gaps in the organization's communication and to review the delegations' strategies.

As in previous years, recruiting, managing and retaining competent communication staff remained key priorities for the Department. Using the results of a comprehensive study of communication profiles and organizational set-ups in the field, the ICRC was able to draw up a new human resources strategy. The strategy includes a number of medium-term measures to improve the organization's ability to ensure that it has qualified and experienced communication staff in the field.

RESEARCH SERVICE, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

RESEARCH

The Research Service helps the ICRC achieve the best possible understanding of its operational and institutional working environment. To that end, it uses a range of tools and internal and external resources to scan media and other public sources of information to provide feedback. The Service also provides comprehensive information on the contexts in which the ICRC operates and offers guidance on sources of information. It plays an essential role in providing context-specific information for delegates before their departure for the field, and in drawing their attention to the services and information sources they can have access to while on a field assignment.

An increasingly structured and systematic approach to tracking external trends and issues enabled the Research Service to provide the ICRC's management and operational staff in particular with pertinent and timely information throughout 2007. A range of standard products (The ICRC in the Press, Information Bulletin and regular press reviews) were produced on a regular basis and distributed electronically both at headquarters and in the field.

The service also provided documentary support for ICRC field operations in the form of ad hoc thematic and context-related research and environment-scanning products, issued on request or in response to events of particular significance for the ICRC and its work. It cooperated closely with four regional delegations to enhance the ICRC's capacity to monitor issues by drawing on local, regional and international sources.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Through its library and related services, the ICRC promotes knowledge of its role as a reference organization for IHL and of its mandate and operations among students, teachers, civil society, the media and the general public by providing access to its collection of over 140,000 items (books, periodicals, photographs and videos). An on-line catalogue is accessible through the ICRC's website.

A two-year programme to digitalize the ICRC's photograph collection is now complete, and a new project has been launched to make the entire photograph catalogue available on the ICRC website. Similarly, virtual access can now be had to 100 print titles from the ICRC library, and e-journals currently available internally will eventually be part of the electronic library on the ICRC website.

A new content management system was purchased in 2007 for use with the upcoming ICRC intranet and new institutional website. A prototype has been put in place for the launch of both systems in 2008. The intranet will have the capacity to act as an effective search engine for both internal and external information sources. The implementation of the intranet is a key step in the Directorate's strategy on information management and flow.

PRODUCTION, WEB AND DISTRIBUTION

Developing, producing and distributing timely, credible and consistent products, together with updated and interesting web content, are key elements of the ICRC's communication. In 2007, some 35 new print and audiovisual products were produced, 3,500 web pages created and around 5,000 DVD, video, print and multimedia orders processed.

Major productions in 2007 included a promotional kit on the Movement's three emblems, campaign material to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, a photo exhibition on weapons that continue to kill even after a conflict has ended, and a public report on the ongoing problem of people missing in relation to armed conflict. A film on women and displacement was produced in time for 8 March – International Women's Day – and distributed widely, including to broadcast media. In addition, communication efforts relating to the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent included the production of a short video clip, a photo exhibition and printed material.

The ICRC continued to attach great importance to its corporate visual guidelines, conducting several workshops and training sessions to ensure understanding, respect and correct use throughout the organization of the ICRC logo and visual identity. To make it easier to distinguish between various product and content types, a series of product categories were identified, for implementation in 2008. To maintain production standards and ensure staff development, a training module for regional production officers was developed and tested. It will now serve as the prototype for workshops in 2008.

The powerful new content management system in which the ICRC has invested will be used to serve the future needs of the organization's web services (Internet, intranet and extranets). New design and functionality specifications have been produced

in preparation for the migration of some 35,000 web pages to the new version of the ICRC's public website in 2008. The migration of the English and Arabic sites will start in mid-2008, and the other languages sites will follow. The ICRC continued to identify and reserve domain names worldwide related to the red cross, red crescent and red crystal.

The seven language sites of www.icrc.org (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Chinese and Russian) registered more than 2.5 million visitors during the year and nearly 12.3 million page views. The English reference site accounted for more than a third of visitors, followed by the Spanish at about 30 per cent and French at 15 per cent. In terms of page views, the share of the English reference site increased to about 45 per cent, with the Spanish and French both at a little below 20 per cent. Web statistics showed that there was most interest in the following subjects: the emblem, women and war, children and war, mines, the missing and the displaced, and contexts such as Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Somalia and Sudan. General pages about IHL and the treaty databases were also consulted often. The number of visitors ballooned in May, for World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, and in November, in the run-up to the 30th International Conference. In contrast with previous years, there was no significant peak in visitors in 2007, a reflection of the fact that the ICRC was not active in any new major humanitarian crises.

MARKETING

The Department pursued its research in 2007, focusing on the development of a comprehensive plan to enable the ICRC to track its reputation among key target groups. The research aims to establish a means of identifying the factors on which that reputation is based and a method for gauging its reach, with a view to ensuring that the ICRC's work and messages are understood and accepted. It will be conducted over a three-year period.

The ICRC also initiated a research project in the field aimed at obtaining a more thorough understanding of the impact of the organization's neutrality on its work and at demonstrating the practical applicability of a neutral approach in the field using the example of four key ICRC contexts.

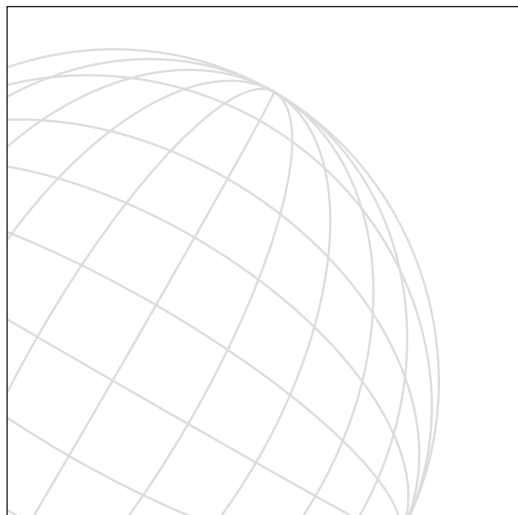
To raise awareness of the need to protect health workers, the ICRC developed a new television spot and advertisements for print media. The advertisements are designed to be used in conjunction with other communication tools when a conflict breaks out in order to convey the message that health workers risk their lives to help anyone who is wounded or sick and thus that they must be protected.

To promote the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, the ICRC developed a range of print and electronic materials, raising awareness of the need to distinguish between civilians and combatants. Special events linked to this campaign included a striking exhibition at Geneva International Airport and RAID Cross, an interactive game for students developed in coordination with the Geneva Red Cross and the International Federation.

The ICRC entered into partnership with the Geneva Marathon, enabling it to promote its work to the local community and to strengthen its working relationships with other Movement partners. It continued to promote the full range of its publications and films, with particular emphasis on developing its e-marketing capabilities. In addition, www.icrc.org was promoted to enhance its positioning on the web. The ICRC continues to develop evaluation tools to assess the pertinence and impact of its products, campaigns and public communication activities.

MULTILINGUAL COMMUNICATION

In keeping with its mission to help victims of conflicts and internal conflict worldwide, the ICRC communicates with a wide range of actors and audiences at the local, regional and international levels. Its public communication is multilingual, as exemplified by its website, which features the world's seven main global and regional languages. In 2007, some 7 million words were processed at headquarters using internal and external resources. The ICRC's language staff and their external partners edited, translated and proofread a wide range of public communication materials (media products and materials for the ICRC website, publications, donor documentation and public statements) and documents of a legal and operational nature. In particular, the full set of documents for the 30th International Conference and the Council of Delegates that preceded it were produced in Arabic for the first time, in addition to English, French and Spanish.



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 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 2007, an average of 9,768 national employees¹ (a slight decrease since 2006) and 1,491 expatriates (no change) were working in the field.

MEETING ONGOING CHALLENGES

In response to staff expectations and the demands placed on the organization by an increasingly complex and unpredictable operational environment, the ICRC continued to implement RH2006, an ambitious programme launched in 2004 to restructure human resource management and enhance the development of staff skills and the management of assignments.

The career assessment commissions (COMOR and COMCA), which provide career guidance to middle and senior managers, gave 62 managers feedback in 2007. The mandate and functioning of these commissions was under review by the end of 2007 in order to streamline career-path management in relation to institutional needs. Work started to review the capacities and skills required to embark on various career path.

Furthermore, owing to the existence of a pool of personnel, no more than one or two per cent of field posts were ever vacant at any one time.

Another aim of RH2006 is to improve the management of national employees, who represent 80 per cent of ICRC personnel, by providing them with greater opportunities to develop their skills. In 2007, the Department reviewed its management policy accordingly and began implementing the new version.

The project launched by the Department in 2005 to replace its 12-year-old IT tool is now in its final phase. The tool was deployed in 2007 and will be fully operational by 1 January 2008.

CONSOLIDATING THE RECRUITMENT BASE

In 2007, the ICRC remained a highly attractive employer, even though the number of job applicants fell from 6,000 in 2006 to 4,500. The need for first-mission delegates fell slightly, however, and the number of newly hired staff therefore decreased accordingly, from 280 in 2006 to 260.

STAFF DIVERSITY

In keeping with the ICRC's policy of enhancing the international character of its expatriate staff, 84 per cent of newly recruited delegates came from countries other than Switzerland. Overall, 65 per cent of expatriates were non-Swiss.

Although 53 per cent of the delegates recruited in 2007 were women, women nevertheless remained under-represented among senior field staff. Pursuant to the gender equality framework established by the Directorate in March 2006, the Department made every effort to meet targets for the promotion of women to senior positions, using the career assessment commissions and other means to identify and encourage women with the potential to take up such positions. It also participated in discussion of the second annual assessment of gender equality within the ICRC, which was submitted to the Directorate by the Office of the Director-General in December 2007 and endorsed additional measures to be considered with a view to further improving gender equality at the ICRC.

1. Daily workers not included

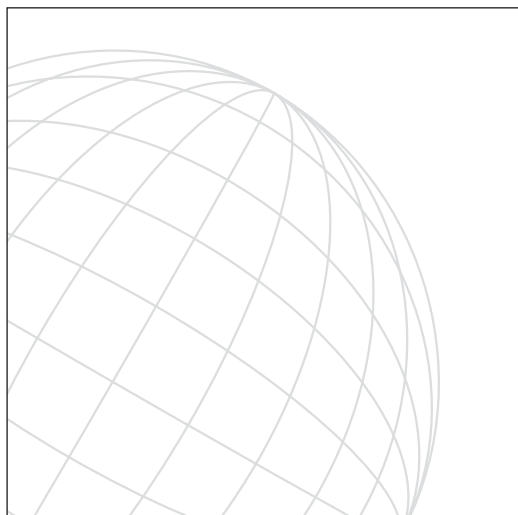
TRAINING

In 2007, the Department's senior managers implemented the new reference framework for ICRC training. Major innovations include the establishment of a steering group and a board of trainers to improve the coherence of all training activities within the organization.

The Department also launched the management course entitled People Leadership and Management. The first groups of mid-level (67 participants: 49 men and 18 women) and senior managers (89 participants: 67 men and 22 women) attended seven sessions in 2007. Over the coming four years, more than 600 middle and senior managers will take the course, including all ICRC directors.

The ICRC continued to reassess its introductory training course, adapting it to changes in the organization's operational environment. In 2007, almost 500 people – all either newly recruited expatriates or national employees – attended a session of the course either at headquarters or at one of the decentralized training units in Amman (Jordan), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dakar (Senegal) and Nairobi (Kenya).

In addition, more than 450 managers attended various in-house training courses covering such diverse topics as security and stress management, protection and IHL, team leadership and management, train-the-trainer methods, communication and presentation techniques.



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 so as to keep them abreast of ICRC financial requirements. 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 a year with a sustained high level of operational activities, the ICRC's support services worked steadily to ensure delegations had the logistics, communication technology and other infrastructure they needed. Six budget extensions during the first half of 2007 (9 in total for 2007) required flexible and well-organized use of resources to make sure that the most urgent needs were met first.

There were rapid increases in the field budget from March to May, and the financial forecasting tool again proved invaluable in managing financial risks throughout the year. Measures were taken mid-year to narrow the gap between estimated expenditure and income.

A system of overall risk management was introduced and the internal control system was further reinforced.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Financial management

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

In 2007, the Department focused on:

- ▶ mitigating the financial risks related to a forecast deficit

- ▶ preparing for changes in Swiss law related to external audits, which will affect the 2008 financial statements, especially in the area of internal control
- ▶ briefing the new external auditors
- ▶ further streamlining the financial control framework and methodology and related responsibilities
- ▶ completing deployment of the new accounting software in all delegations in early 2007
- ▶ reviewing the headquarters planning/budgeting cycle and approach in order to provide management with more relevant information on headquarters services
- ▶ initiating a worldwide review of infrastructure using ecological/sustainable development criteria
- ▶ consolidating and improving the institution-wide data warehouse for reporting purposes

Infrastructure management

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

Construction work was started on extensions to existing buildings that will replace rented space and are to be completed by 2010. The extensions will integrate ecological and sustainable development criteria. Plans were also made to replace the current logistics centre in Geneva.

Information delivery

The ongoing objective in this area is to optimize the speed of information delivery while maintaining reasonable cost levels. The focus in 2007 was on the integration and enhancement of the new outsourced mailroom services.

FUNDING

All ICRC funding is coordinated by and channelled through the External Resources Division, which raises the funds the organization needs to carry out its humanitarian activities while securing its 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 given due consideration.

Budgets

The initial budget appeals for 2007, launched by the ICRC in December 2006, totalled CHF 1.003 billion. This was CHF 46.0 million lower than the preceding year's overall initial budget. The largest decrease was in the Emergency Appeals for ICRC field operations, which amounted to CHF 843.3 million in 2007, compared with CHF 895.3 million in 2006. The Headquarters Appeal registered an increase, totalling CHF 159.9 million in 2007, as opposed to CHF 153.9 million in 2006.

In the course of the year, donors were informed of nine budget extensions drawn up in response to unforeseen events and substantial humanitarian needs brought about by the resurgence or intensification of conflicts in the Central African Republic, Chad, Guinea (contingency funds), Iraq, Lebanon (contingency funds), Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Yemen.

Expenditure

► Overall expenditure (including overheads)	CHF 995.1 million
► Headquarters	CHF 154.9 million
► Field operations	CHF 840.2 million

The implementation rate (field expenditure [in cash, kind and services] divided by final field budget [excluding contingency] multiplied by 100) for the activities the ICRC had planned to carry out in order to meet its objectives for the year 2007 was higher than in 2006 (86.2%) and previous years (2004: 89.6%; 2003: 79.7%) apart from in 2005 (91.2%), when expenditure reached 90.8% of the overall final Emergency Appeals budget. This was largely due to the resurgence of conflicts in several key contexts and the capacity of the ICRC to address the needs of the victims.

(in CHF million)

► Name of donor (DSG member)	Cash: Headquarters	Cash: Field	Total Cash	Total Kind	Total Services	Grand Total
Australia	2.0	11.8	13.8	-	-	13.8
Belgium	1.2	9.6	10.7	-	-	10.7
Canada	3.2	31.9	35.1	-	0.2	35.3
Denmark	4.3	6.9	11.3	-	1.0	12.2
European Commission	-	111.3	111.3	-	-	111.3
Finland	1.6	14.3	15.9	0.4	-	16.3
France	1.5	13.3	14.8	-	-	14.8
Germany	2.0	21.7	23.7	-	-	23.7
Ireland	0.2	13.2	13.4	-	-	13.4
Italy	1.3	10.0	11.3	-	-	11.3
Japan	0.5	9.8	10.3	-	-	10.3
Luxembourg	1.1	12.0	13.1	-	-	13.1
Netherlands	6.1	66.5	72.6	-	-	72.6
Norway	2.4	35.3	37.8	0.7	-	38.5
Spain	1.0	13.3	14.3	0.0	-	14.3
Sweden	5.4	73.5	78.9	-	-	78.9
Switzerland	70.0	26.9	96.9	-	-	96.9
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1.4	105.1	106.5	-	-	106.5
United States of America	15.6	189.5	205.1	-	-	205.1

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.

Contributions

► Total contributions received in 2007: CHF 1,001.0 million

Funding sources and patterns were similar to 2006. In 2007, the proportion of support from governments increased slightly to 80.1% (2006: 79.8%; 2005: 72.7%; 2004: 80.1%; 2003: 79.9%), while that from National Societies fell to 5.9% (2006: 8.6%; 2005: 13.1%; 2004: 5.2%; 2003: 6%). Funding received from the European Commission increased to 11.1% (2006: 9.0%; 2005: 9.4%; 2004: 10.3%; 2003: 8.8%), while contributions from various other public and private sources amounted to 2.6% (2006: 2.5%; 2005: 4.8%; 2004: 4.3%; 2003: 4.3%).

The United States of America remained the ICRC's largest donor, accounting for 20.5% (CHF 205.1 million) of all contributions and 21.9% (CHF 189.5 million) of funding for field operations. The European Commission came second with a contribution of CHF 111.3 million, which accounted for 11.1% of all contributions and 12.9% of funding for field operations. The total contribution of CHF 106.5 million by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was the third largest. Some of those funds were contributed pursuant to the partnership agreement signed by the Department for International Development (DFID), the British Red Cross and the ICRC in 2006, whereby the DFID pledged GBP 80 million in non-earmarked funding for the 2006–2010 period. Switzerland came fourth (CHF 96.9 million, including 70 million for the headquarters budget), followed by Sweden (CHF 78.9 million) and the Netherlands (CHF 72.6 million).

The ICRC's operational flexibility was enhanced by the fact that a number of governments 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 geographical region). Governments that made substantial contributions over 40% of which was flexibly earmarked include Australia, Austria, Denmark, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The ICRC's Donor Support Group (DSG) – made up of governments contributing more than CHF 10 million in cash annually – comprised 19 members in 2007. Its annual meeting was hosted by the Swedish government.

Contributions in response to the Headquarters Appeal

A total of CHF 137.7 million was received in contributions for the headquarters budget: 128.7 million from 78 governments, 6.8 million from 69 National Societies and 2.2 million from a number of other private and public sources.

Contributions in response to the Emergency Appeals

► Cash component	CHF 849.8 million (2006: 786.8 million; 2005: 785.2 million; 2004: 609 million; 2003: 731 million)
► In-kind component	CHF 4.2 million (2006: 16.7 million; 2005: 24.8 million; 2004: 9.7 million; 2003: 23.4 million)
► Services	CHF 9.3 million (2006: 13.2 million; 2005: 17.7 million; 2004: 10.6 million; 2003: 17.8 million)
► Assets	CHF 0.01 million (2006: 0.04 million; 2005: 1 million; 2004: 0.8 million; 2003: 1.5 million)

In total, CHF 673.4 million were provided for ICRC field operations by 30 governments, 111.3 million by the European Commission, 52.4 million by 32 National Societies, 2.5 million by a variety of supranational and international organizations, and 23.7 million by public and private sources such as the Parthenon Trust, Rotary International, and the Swiss Reinsurance Company.

Flexibility in funding

Specific donor requirements in terms of earmarking and reporting were generally the same in 2007 as in previous years.

To meet needs effectively, it is essential for the ICRC to enjoy flexibility in the use of its funds, particularly in relation to earmarking and reporting. The level of earmarking remained unchanged and, as in the past, was often accompanied by both rigorous project implementation timetables and stringently specific reporting conditions. Experience has shown that there is a direct correlation between flexible funding policies and the ability of the ICRC to maintain its independence and capacity to react quickly.

► 2007 non-earmarked cash contributions	CHF 279.4 million / 28.4% (28.4% in 2006, 25.3% in 2005 and 31.5% in 2004)
► 2007 tightly earmarked cash contributions	CHF 135.6 million / 13.8% (CHF 145.2 million, or 15.9%, in 2006; CHF 132.9 million, or 14.5%, in 2005; CHF 115.6 million, or 15.7%, in 2004)

At 28.4% in 2007, the proportion of non-earmarked cash contributions ("core funding") made in response to the ICRC's Emergency and Headquarters Appeals was the same as in 2006 (28.4%). Apart from certain private donations, most non-earmarked funds for both the Emergency Appeals and the Mine Action Special Appeal came from six governments (Belgium, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and the canton of Geneva.

Cash contributions loosely earmarked for a given region, country or programme represented about 57.9% (CHF 570.5 million) of

the total. Of this amount, CHF 146.0 million (14.8% of total cash contributions) represented broad, geographically earmarked funding received primarily from the United States of America.

Predictability in funding

The ICRC's system of funding does not rely on set (statutory) contributions. Moreover, its programmes are implemented according to needs and are not contingent on the level of contributions received or pledged. The organization relies on donors to provide the funding it needs 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, and in fact it already has such agreements with Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. 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 obtaining 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 facilitate financial planning and reduce risk.

From the one-year perspective, predictability of funding improved in 2007, in large part owing to arrangements made early in the year with the majority of DSG members.

Diversity in the donor base

The ICRC remained concerned about the slow progress made towards enlarging the range of its main financial contributors despite its ongoing efforts to broaden its donor base. In view of its universal mandate and worldwide activities, the organization would like to be able to count on the broadest possible support in Asia and in the Middle East. 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 reliant on a relatively small number of key donors for the bulk of its funding.

Overall ICRC funding (CHF 1,001.0 million)	
► 80 governments (2006: 82; 2005: 79; 2004: 78; 2003: 84) and the European Commission	CHF 913.4 million / 91.2% (2006: 88.8%; 2005: 82.1%; 2004: 90.4%; 2003: 88.7%)
► Top 10 governments including the European Commission	CHF 785.2 million / 78.4% (2006: 76.5%; 2005: 72.5%; 2004: 78.5%; 2003: 71.2%)
► Top 5 governments including the European Commission	CHF 598.8 million / 59.8% (2006: 59.3%; 2005: 58.3%; 2004: 61.3%; 2003: 58.1%)

Contributions were received from 77 National Societies (2006: 70; 2005: 89; 2004: 71; 2003: 72), with the amount given by the top 10 dropping sharply to 78.5% (2006: 83%; 2005: 86.8%; 2004: 82.4%, 2003: 78.2%) of the total of CHF 59.2 million in contributions received from National Societies.

In all, 30 governments (2006: 35; 2005: 29; 2004: 32; 2003: 35) and the European Commission responded to the Emergency Appeals.

Relations with the corporate sector

The ICRC also sees business as a major stakeholder in its work. The ICRC and a group of selected Swiss companies set up the Corporate Support Group in 2005, establishing an innovative and long-term partnership. The founding members of the Corporate Support Group are: ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie, F. Hoffmann La Roche Ltd, Swiss Reinsurance Company, Vontobel Group, Fondation Hans Wilsdorf and Zurich Financial Services. The ICRC's corporate partners were selected according to ethical guidelines designed to ensure that the companies had neither policies nor activities that would in any way compromise the ICRC's image or hinder its work. The 2007 plenary meeting took place in October and was hosted by Zurich Financial Services. In September, 14 experts from the partner corporations tackled the scenario of a conflict-related emergency. Coached by ICRC facilitators, the participants were asked to assess the needs of a war-affected population and to define a strategy and a plan of action. The exercise, which was held partly outdoors, was inspired by the ICRC's training programme for its own staff. It focused on the following skills: negotiation, stress management, intercultural approach and communication in a crisis situation.

Members of the Corporate Support Group provide additional sources of funding for the ICRC, thereby increasing the private-sector component of ICRC financing. Their contributions are used either for operational activities or to train staff – the ICRC's most valuable asset.

Reporting to donors

The ICRC kept donors informed of its activities through a variety of documents and publications. Its 2007 Emergency and Headquarters Appeals, which were launched in December 2006, were followed in the course of 2007 by nine budget extension appeals.

The ICRC reported to donors on all its field operations by means of the Midterm Report, which covers field operations in the first and second quarters. The whole year is 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 out in the Emergency Appeals for 2007. They are result-based whenever possible and include the standard figures and indicators about ICRC activities by context, which have been enhanced since their introduction in the 2005 *Annual Report*.

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 kept abreast of the main developments in ICRC operations and related humanitarian issues in 34 updates covering a wide range of operations and in the special report on mine action in 2006.

The ICRC Donor Site, a password-protected extranet site on which all documents issued by the ICRC's External Resources Division are posted, continued 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.

Field

The new server infrastructure (operating system and upgrade of Lotus Notes) was rolled out worldwide in 2007. More than 90 large servers were migrated in delegations and sub-delegations. An original concept of "workgroup server" running on a normal desktop machine was introduced in more than 60 small sub-delegations and offices to interconnect stand-alone computers and to share IT resources, business applications and the messaging system. A stronger security concept was implemented to guarantee data confidentiality and integrity. Lastly, the back-up and restore concept, whose implementation had been particularly poor in difficult environments, was completely reviewed in order to enhance the system's efficiency; the amount of data lost dropped sharply as a result.

Successful tests were run on permanent terrestrial connections between the field and headquarters, which will be deployed in the coming years. VSAT (very small aperture terminal) permanent connections were evaluated prior to testing and implementation, and centralized management of access to applications was introduced.

Numerous software applications were deployed in the field, particularly the accounting software for delegations. The events database, which will manage information on events affecting people protected by IHL, was readied for deployment. Other major applications were being developed for assistance and logistics activities.

Headquarters

Rigorous action was taken to virtualize production environment servers, a process that will be finished early in 2008. Partially redundant servers were reactivated in response to fresh challenges of communication with the field.

A concerted effort was made to reduce dependence on an Internet service network provider when implementing redundant accesses to the headquarters network, and IT security was regularly updated to reduce risks.

Major strategic software applications continued to be analysed and developed. The new human resources software was successfully deployed and development work started on a "donation to distribution" process and on a new professional mail system. A content management system was chosen for the next version of the website and the corporate intranet platform.

LOGISTICS

A network on a global scale

The ICRC runs a worldwide logistics network. Thanks to the range of services available – from air freight to vehicle workshops – it is able to maintain field operations and to take rapid and effective action in emergencies. In 2007, it operated 3,500 vehicles and trucks, 130 warehouses and over 15 aircraft.

During the year, logistics activities were carried out on three main fronts:

- ▶ the ICRC logistics set-up in and around Iraq was reinforced with several logistics bases in Amman (Jordan), Erbil (Iraq) and Kermanshah (Islamic Republic of Iran) to secure access and enhance logistics capacities for medical and relief programmes
- ▶ in Darfur (Sudan), the ICRC continued to mobilize extensive logistical and human resources to carry out substantial and complex distributions of food aid in remote areas
- ▶ in response to the various conflict-related crises in the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories and Somalia, the ICRC bolstered its logistical capacity to provide relief and surgical supplies to different operations through its logistics bases in Geneva and Nairobi (Kenya). In order to minimize operational costs and enhance logistics coordination during emergencies, it maintained technical and operational links throughout the year with the International Federation, with the WFP and other UN organizations, and with other Movement components conducting further studies on the use of Emergency Response Unit logistics

Logistics tools such as the Air Operations Management System (AOMS), the Field Supply System (FSS) and the International Transport Application (ITA) were further enhanced, and the new versions should be deployed in the field in 2008.

The Air Operations Safety System was introduced and all ICRC operators were audited.

In 2007, the ICRC had about 120 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 large-scale operations abroad. The development of specialist training in all logistics functions was completed. The level of recruitment was maintained and higher standards were applied.

In the framework of the Logistics 2010 project, and in close collaboration with other departments and divisions, the Logistics Division launched three projects:

- ▶ to review, analyse and adapt its organization and infrastructure in the light of the changing environment and assistance needs
- ▶ to enhance human resources management and mobilization capacity in emergencies
- ▶ to review its supply-chain information system

Working in harmony with partners

The ICRC continued to strengthen its working relations with various agencies in the UN system and with NGOs. In responding to the complex emergencies in the Central African Republic, Chad, Somalia and Sudan (Darfur), the ICRC engaged in constant dialogue with the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC) and logistics cluster members on logistics issues.

The WFP and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding on enhanced collaboration in air operations management, audit and safety. This had the advantage of ensuring that the two organizations did not conduct unnecessary duplicate audits, of maximizing efficiency and coordination, and of promoting information-sharing in the field and at headquarters.

In close coordination with the International Federation, ICRC logistics staff participated actively in the UNJLC Logistics Cluster Group and met regularly with other leading logistics players. After the successful launch of the Certification in Humanitarian Logistics programme agreed at inter-agency level (WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, ICRC, Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam, Care, etc.), work started on development of a more advanced course on the management of humanitarian supply chains.





OPERATIONS





the ICRC around the world



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



ICRC headquarters



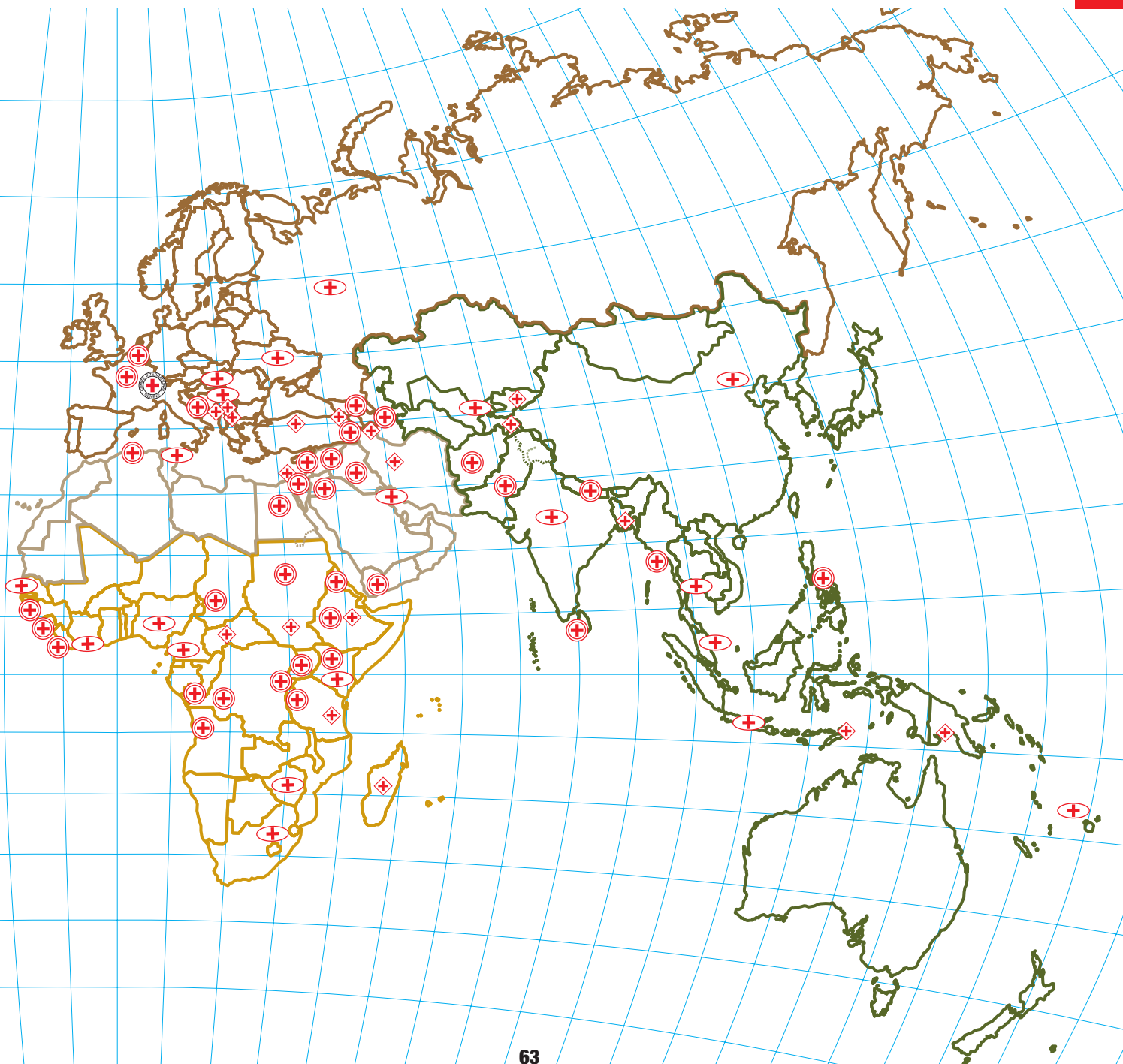
ICRC delegation

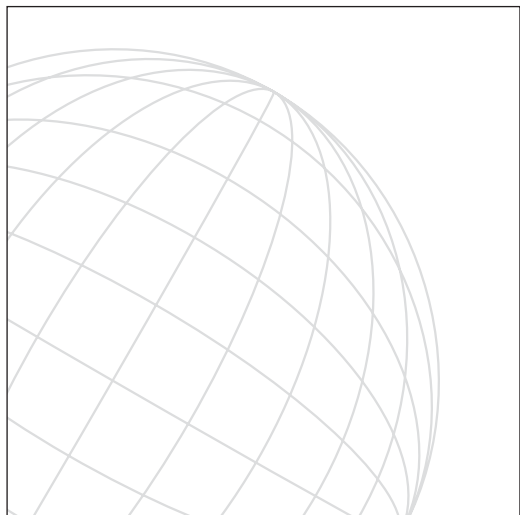


ICRC regional delegation



ICRC mission





operational highlights



Thierry Gassmann/ICRC

Pierre Krähenbühl
Director of Operations

CONFLICT ENVIRONMENTS AND CHALLENGES FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In 2007, it proved as complex as ever to analyse the factors affecting armed conflicts around the world. Experience shows that most present-day armed conflicts are rooted in a combination of local and/or national factors. In the past, they would have mostly pitted two or more chiefdoms or countries against one another in a struggle for influence or territorial control. Such conflicts involved conventional, established and structured armed forces that clashed on designated battlefields, with front lines that could be marked on equally conventional maps. They were waged to obtain by force what the warring parties could not achieve through dialogue, negotiation, cajolery or threat alone.

These patterns of warfare are changing. Fewer wars are being fought for outright control of territory, although there are, of course, some that have a strong territorial dimension or undercurrent, such as the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. And fewer wars are being fought for deep-seated ideological reasons, as they were during the Cold War.

Nowadays, conflicts appear to be more often fuelled by pressure to secure immediate and long-term access to or control over key natural resources. Economic factors therefore play a significant role, with armed elements indulging in economic predation. Many countries, meanwhile, continue to suffer from inherently weak or collapsed public services, such as health, water and social welfare.

Such developments have been complicated by a number of other factors: the assertion of identity, weapon proliferation, environmental degradation and scarcity of land and water, mass migration leading to a rise in new forms of urban violence, and, in several contexts, the blurring of the line between political violence and criminality.

Another feature of current conflict environments is the interplay of local, regional and global dynamics. In 2007, few wars were being waged between States, whereas a growing number of highly complex non-international armed conflicts at times acquired an international dimension and involved a plethora of actors with various grievances.

There has been a marked rise in the influence of non-State actors, specifically those engaging in armed violence. Such groups are often unstable and have a tendency to fragment into different sub-factions that regroup under new commands. In 2007, as in recent years, several armed groups were engaged in confrontation on a global scale with a number of States. This manifested itself in several countries mainly in acts of “terrorism”, on the one hand, and counter-“terrorism” operations, on the other.

Many situations of armed conflict are characterized by their extended duration, chronic nature, generally low intensity and widespread impact. No matter what the nature of the hostilities – armed conflict or situation of violence – the outcome is inevitably large numbers of people killed, injured, detained, separated from their families or missing. Many people are also affected indirectly; the sick, for example, may be unable to access medical care because of the fighting or insecurity.

The ICRC believes that responding to today’s armed conflicts and other situations of violence presents two major challenges: one is to have a clear understanding of the diversity of armed conflicts and other situations of violence and the specificity of each; the other is to address the multitude of needs they engender in a meaningful way.

According to the ICRC’s analysis, the trend is for civilians to be specifically targeted and the number of indirect victims to grow. Threats to civilians’ security often arise from a lack of respect by the warring parties for the relevant norms and rules of international law, notably IHL.

Developments in 2007 have confirmed that it is the interaction of many of these factors that makes the understanding of and response to such situations highly complex.

OPERATIONS: REVIEW, APPROACH AND THEMATIC CHALLENGES

The year 2007 was significant for the ICRC in operational terms. The organization started out with an overall field budget of CHF 843.3 million; it subsequently issued nine separate budget extensions amounting to an additional CHF 122.4 million.

Throughout the year, the ICRC combined its commitment to alleviate human suffering resulting from longstanding, often neglected, crises in countries such as the Central African Republic, Colombia, Haiti, the Philippines, Somalia and Yemen with responses in higher-profile conflicts such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous territories, Sri Lanka and Sudan. The ICRC's role of neutral intermediary was also reaffirmed in several contexts, and the organization gained broad recognition of its independent and impartial approach.

In late 2003, at the end of a particularly testing year for the ICRC, there was much debate and justified soul-searching within the organization and in the humanitarian community at large. "Is there a future for neutral and independent humanitarian action?" was one of the questions being asked. Assertions that "there is no neutral ground in today's polarized world" and "the Geneva Conventions are outdated" became part of the conventional wisdom of the day.

At the time, profoundly shaken by the targeted killing of several of its national and expatriate staff in Afghanistan and Iraq, the ICRC made some important decisions that remain highly relevant today. The first was to reassert that its operational approach was indeed based on working close to those in need and on broad acceptance of the organization by all parties to a conflict. The second was to maintain its decentralized approach to security management. The third was to adopt a more structured and global approach to building relationships with key Muslim actors, given that, in an increasingly polarized world, the ICRC needs and wants to engage with all stakeholders able to facilitate its mission.

Underpinning these strategies was the determination to demonstrate, through a firm operational commitment and concrete deeds, the added value of the ICRC's neutral and independent humanitarian action. This has involved remaining, to the extent possible, in often dangerous and unpredictable contexts and striving to preserve or regain the acceptance of a variety of stakeholders. It has also entailed demonstrating an enhanced rapid-response capacity and an ability to sustain large-scale operations over time in increasingly chronic crises. Moreover, the ICRC has continued to foster relations with a range of key State actors, keeping in mind the gradual rebalancing of the world's centres of power and influence, regionally and globally.

The ICRC remains committed to furnishing a multi-disciplinary response to the needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable among them. Analysing and seeking to understand the nature of the risks and the violence to which specific populations are exposed during armed conflict is a central feature of its approach. In 2007, it further developed its combined protection and assistance activities. For example, in responding to emergency medical needs, the ICRC relied more heavily on flying surgical teams, which have proved their relevance in contexts that require a great deal of flexibility, such as Chad and Sudan. In response to needs that are specific to women and young girls,

the ICRC drew on its field experience over recent years in contexts such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo to develop an operational framework for dealing with the consequences of sexual violence.

Across the globe, armed conflicts have increasingly led to population displacements. The ICRC remained firmly committed to responding to the plight of IDPs in a significant number of contexts in 2007, such as Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. In many of these contexts, displaced families are taken in by neighbours or relatives, which is one of the reasons why the ICRC also analyses the situation of resident families and addresses their needs in parallel. They are also included in attempts to prevent further displacements from occurring, as in Darfur (Sudan).

AFRICA

East Africa was particularly volatile throughout much of 2007. Sudan remained the ICRC's single largest operation for a fourth consecutive year. Overall, the ICRC was able to carry out its activities in acceptable security conditions. Its operational strategy remained focused on resident populations in remote rural regions of Darfur. Following a dramatic security incident affecting Oxfam and Action Contre la Faim in Gereida (South Darfur) in late 2006, the ICRC decided to take over responsibility for assisting the 120,000 IDPs living in the camp there. In neighbouring Chad, the ICRC worked primarily in tense border regions in the east of the country, seeking to assist displaced and resident populations affected by the various forms of conflict and violence.

Somalia was once again a particular challenge following changes to the internal landscape: the overthrow of the Islamic Courts in December 2006 and the gradual change in the pattern of the conflict pitting the Transitional Federal Government and Ethiopian forces against a range of armed opposition groups. The ICRC, in close partnership with the Somali Red Crescent Society, assisted hospitals in Mogadishu and provided IDPs affected by the fighting with a combination of food, essential household items and a safe water supply.

The situation in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo took another turn for the worse in 2007. Despite the ongoing nationwide political transition, the Kivu provinces saw a resumption of heavy fighting leading to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. The ICRC stepped up its programmes, combining protection and assistance activities.

A new feature that emerged in the course of the year was the ICRC's involvement in the broader Sahel region. In particular in northern Niger but also in Mali, it provided medical services and played the role of neutral intermediary in securing the release of detainees held by armed groups.

Elsewhere in Africa – in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea and Zimbabwe, for example – the ICRC faced a variety of challenges in carrying out its work. Furthermore, in July, the Ethiopian authorities expelled the ICRC from Somali Regional State, on the grounds that it had provided support to the Ogaden National Liberation Front. The ICRC refuted the accusation. The ensuing discussions, including at a high level, had failed to resolve the crisis at the end of the year.

ASIA

Afghanistan experienced a highly volatile year. Already exhausted by decades of conflict, the civilian population continued to bear the brunt of the armed conflict between the contingents of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), the Afghan national armed and police forces and armed opposition groups. Fortunately, the ICRC's role as the neutral guardian of IHL was recognized by all parties. In close partnership with the Afghan Red Crescent, the ICRC broadened the geographical scope of its programmes, particularly in the medical field. It acted as a neutral intermediary in the release of hostages (including a group from the Republic of Korea) and in securing access to the most conflict-torn regions of the south and east for immunization teams from the UN and the Afghan Ministry of Health. It also continued to visit detainees held by ISAF and the Afghan authorities.

In Pakistan, the ICRC adapted the focus of its activities to the evolving situation. It began a series of nationwide visits to detainees and, in close cooperation with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, enhanced its response to the consequences of armed violence, particularly in terms of medical care and in the western part of the country. In October 2007, the ICRC inaugurated a new physical rehabilitation centre in Muzaffarabad while winding up its other activities related to the consequences of the 2005 earthquake.

Another country that presented considerable operational challenges was Sri Lanka. The ICRC responded in particular to the consequences for IDPs and resident populations of the fighting in the east and north. It followed with particular concern and attention the rise in the number of disappearances.

Other situations of notable concern in Asia were the Philippines and Nepal. In India, the ICRC pursued its activities in Jammu and Kashmir, continuing to visit persons arrested and detained in relation to the prevailing situation in that context.

For more than two years, the ICRC had tried to engage in dialogue with the authorities of Myanmar with a view to overcoming the difficulties that it had encountered in visiting detainees and assisting civilians affected by violence in sensitive border regions. In 2007, it began to mobilize third-party States in support of its efforts, and in June it issued a public denunciation of the violations committed against detainees and civilians in Myanmar. Since then, it has spared no effort to renew its dialogue with the authorities of Myanmar and continues to do so. Throughout 2007, the ICRC maintained its presence in Myanmar and continued its activities in the field of physical rehabilitation, provided support to families visiting detained relatives of ICRC concern and cooperated with the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with specific Asian States, such as Australia, China, India, Indonesia and Japan, and with Asian institutions such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, in order to deepen its understanding of how they view conflict dynamics in Asia and beyond, and how they analyse the humanitarian implications thereof.

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

Colombia experienced a particularly difficult year in terms of conflict dynamics, the result being an increase in the number of newly displaced people assisted by the ICRC, significant numbers of reported IHL violations, such as forced disappearances and

summary executions, and greater use of landmines and thus consequences for civilians and weapon bearers. The ICRC saw its level of operational involvement climb, its positive dialogue with all those involved giving it good access, including to all places of detention under the responsibility of the Colombian authorities. Its combined protection and assistance activities were carried out in priority zones across the country. Accepted as a neutral and independent humanitarian practitioner, the ICRC played a key role in the release of some 20 hostages and the recovery of the bodies of 11 deputies who died in captivity. The remains were returned to their families.

As in the past, the ICRC worked to obtain greater insight into the specific nature of urban violence, notably in Brazil and Haiti. In Haiti it focused on addressing major humanitarian needs in particularly violent areas of the capital, Port-au-Prince, providing support for the medical evacuation programmes of the Haitian National Red Cross Society and ensuring safe access to water supplies for the population.

The ICRC maintained its visits to people held by the US authorities in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and in Afghanistan and Iraq. The dialogue between the ICRC and the US administration remained strong and constructive.

The ICRC also consolidated its relations with key European stakeholders and continued its gradual operational phase-out in the Western Balkans.

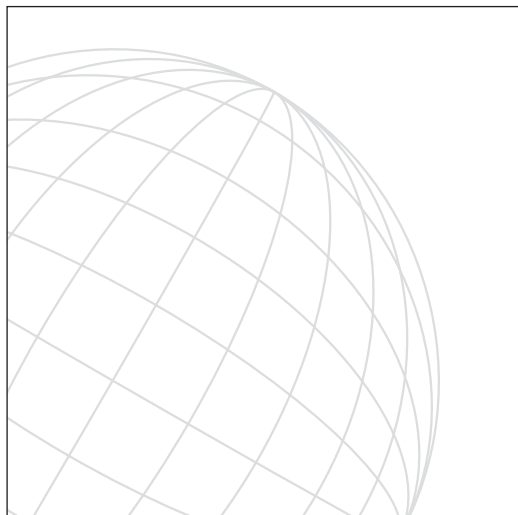
In the Russian Federation, the ICRC gradually downsized its operations in the northern Caucasus, particularly its assistance programmes. While still prone to acts of violence by armed groups and security force operations, the situation in the region is less acute than two or three years ago. Although the ICRC was unable to resolve its differences with the authorities of the Russian Federation on the issue of access to detainees, it continued to organize family visits for sentenced detainees held far away from their homes. It was particularly attentive to the plight of persons missing as a result of the conflict in Chechnya.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Iraq remained the foremost crisis spot in the region with horrific consequences for the civilian population. Although the levels of violence were somewhat less acute in the last four months of 2007, Iraqis were again exposed to the effects of car-bomb attacks, deliberate sectarian killings, kidnappings, military operations and more. The number of Iraqis displaced or forced to flee the country was in the hundreds of thousands. The ICRC pursued its visits to detainees, including for the first time to people held by the Iraqi authorities. It strengthened its medical, water and habitat and assistance programmes for IDPs and residents and, while continuing to operate under very tight security, sought to increase the scope of its operations in geographical terms.

In Israel and the occupied and autonomous territories, the ICRC remained deeply concerned about the impact of the occupation for the population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It scaled up its activities in the latter, in particular in terms of medical care and water and habitat programmes, following the closure of the Gaza Strip by Israel. It pursued its visits to more than 11,000 Palestinians held by Israel and continued to voice concern about the fate and whereabouts of three missing Israeli servicemen in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, the unstable situation in Lebanon, the conflict in the north of Yemen and the violence in Algeria received particular attention.



ICRC operations in 2007: a few facts and figures

PRESENCE

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

▶ Africa	28
▶ Asia and the Pacific	15
▶ Europe and the Americas	26
▶ Middle East and North Africa	11

PERSONNEL

The average number of ICRC staff in 2007 was as follows:

▶ Headquarters:	818
Field: expatriates	1,491
Expatriates	1,349
National Society staff	126
National staff on temporary mission	16
Field: national staff	9,769
▶ Field: total ¹	11,260
Final total	12,078

1. This figure does not include an average of 1,420 daily workers hired by the ICRC in the field

FINANCE

▶ ICRC expenditure in 2007

Headquarters	CHF 154.9 million	USD 128.6 million	EUR 94.3 million
Field	CHF 840.2 million	USD 697.9 million	EUR 511.8 million

The sub-total comes to CHF 995.1 million, from which field overheads (CHF 51.0 million) must be deducted in order to reach the final total.

Final total:	CHF 944.1 million	USD 784.1 million	EUR 575.1 million
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▶ 10 largest operations in 2007 in terms of expenditure

1 Sudan	CHF 94.0 million	USD 78.1 million	EUR 57.3 million
2 Iraq	CHF 76.5 million	USD 63.6 million	EUR 46.6 million
3 Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Territories	CHF 61.4 million	USD 51.0 million	EUR 37.4 million
4 Afghanistan	CHF 49.8 million	USD 41.3 million	EUR 30.3 million
5 Somalia	CHF 49.2 million	USD 40.9 million	EUR 30.0 million
6 Congo, Democratic Republic of the	CHF 32.6 million	USD 27.1 million	EUR 19.9 million
7 Colombia	CHF 30.6 million	USD 25.4 million	EUR 18.7 million
8 Sri Lanka	CHF 30.2 million	USD 25.1 million	EUR 18.4 million
9 Chad	CHF 24.6 million	USD 20.4 million	EUR 15.0 million
10 Uganda	CHF 22.6 million	USD 18.8 million	EUR 13.8 million

Exchange rates: USD 1.00 = CHF 1.2039; EUR 1.00 = CHF 1.6417

VISITS TO DETAINEES

ICRC delegates visited **518,277 detainees**, **36,777** of whom were monitored individually (including 957 females and 1,846 minors), held in **2,425 places of detention** in **77 countries**. Of this number, **21,609 detainees** (including 629 females and 1,495 minors) were registered and visited for the first time in 2007.

With support provided by the ICRC, **23,358 detainees** benefited from **family visits**.

A total of **21,867 detention attestations** were issued.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

The ICRC collected **256,772** and distributed **229,150 Red Cross messages**, thus enabling members of families separated as a result of conflict, disturbances or tensions to exchange news. Among these messages, **49,717** were collected from and **41,964** distributed to **detainees**. In addition **4,228 phone calls** allowed people, mainly detainees, to inform their families of their whereabouts.

The ICRC **registered 969 unaccompanied/separated children** (including 210 demobilized children) during 2007. Once their families had been located and with the agreement of the children and their relatives, it organized and supported the reunification of **761 children** with their families. By the end of the year, the cases of **2,140 unaccompanied/separated minors** (including **119 demobilized children**) were still being handled, which involved tracing their relatives, maintaining contacts between the children and their families, organizing family reunification and/or identifying another long-term solution for the children concerned.

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES

In 2007, the ICRC purchased or received as contributions in kind the following assistance supplies:

► Food items	52,625 tonnes	CHF	53 million
► Seed	3,808 tonnes	CHF	4 million
► Essential household items	20,367 tonnes	CHF	52 million
<i>Including:</i>			
<i>1,522,000 blankets</i>			
<i>10,830 tents</i>			
<i>454,800 tarpaulins</i>			
<i>357,570 kitchen sets</i>			
<i>383,250 hygiene kits</i>			
<i>510 tonnes of clothing</i>			
► Medical and physical rehabilitation items		CHF	37 million
► Water and habitat items		CHF	17 million
		TOTAL	CHF 163 million
			USD 135 million
			EUR 99 million

The ICRC established the **whereabouts of 5,570 people** for whom tracing requests had been filed by their families. The ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org allowed the **publication of 82,641 names** of people providing news to relatives and friends or being sought by their relatives. At the end of the year, the ICRC was still taking action to locate **66,409 people** (including 11,891 women and 6,368 minors) for their families.

The ICRC helped **868 people** (including 761 minors) **to rejoin their families**. It organized the **transfer or repatriation of 5,212 people**, including **464 detainees after their release**, and **353 sets of human remains**. It issued **travel documents** that enabled **3,228 people** to return to their home countries or to settle in a host country.

It relayed **3,246 official documents** of various types between family members across borders and front lines.

More than **1 million people** contacted ICRC offices worldwide for services or advice regarding issues related to protection and family links.

ASSISTANCE

In 2007, the ICRC ran assistance programmes in **52 countries**. The bulk of the work was carried out in Afghanistan, Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, Pakistan, the Russian Federation (Northern Caucasus), Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.

Exchange rates: USD 1.00 = CHF 1.2039; EUR 1.00 = CHF 1.6417

ECONOMIC SECURITY

During the year, ICRC activities to ensure economic security, many times implemented together with host National Societies, directly benefited households and communities in **36 countries** worldwide. More than **2,520,000 internally displaced people, returnees, residents** (in general, people living in rural areas and/or areas difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure) and **people deprived of their freedom** received aid in the form of **food** and **3,940,000** in the form of **essential household and hygiene items**. Around **66% and 72%** of the beneficiaries of food and essential household and hygiene items respectively were **IDPs**. In addition, **2,780,000 people** (of whom around 33% were IDPs) benefited from livelihood support 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 2007, the ICRC's Water and Habitat Unit was involved in water, sanitation and construction work in 40 countries. These projects catered for the needs of more than **14.3 million people** worldwide (IDPs, returnees, residents – in general, people living in rural areas and/or areas difficult to reach owing to insecurity and/or lack of infrastructure – and people deprived of their freedom). They were implemented by **expatriate and national engineers and technicians**.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

During the year, the ICRC regularly supported **318 hospitals** and **524 other health care facilities** around the world. An estimated **2,890,000 people** (53% children, 30% women and 17% men) benefited from ICRC-supported health care facilities. **Community health** programmes were implemented in **18 countries**, in many cases with National Society participation.

More than **20,200 weapon-wounded** and **100,700 non-weapon-wounded** (surgical case) patients were admitted to ICRC-supported hospitals in **18 countries** where more than **113,000 surgical operations** were performed. The ICRC regularly supported **113 first-aid posts** located near combat zones, which provided emergency treatment, mainly for weapon-wounded patients.

CARE FOR THE DISABLED

The ICRC's Physical Rehabilitation Unit provided support to **85 centres** in **26 countries**, enabling **160,693 patients** (including 26,378 women and 36,431 children) to receive services. A total of **11,006 new patients were fitted with prostheses** and **18,609 with orthoses**. The centres produced and delivered **22,309 prostheses** (including 2,836 for women, 1,454 for children and 9,729 for mine victims) and **32,123 orthoses** (including 5,804 for women, 15,863 for children and 745 for mine victims). In addition, **2,909 wheelchairs** and **36,850 crutches and sticks** were distributed, most of them locally manufactured. Training of local staff was a priority in order to ensure sustainable services for patients.

ICRC COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The aim of the ICRC's cooperation with National Societies is to strengthen working relationships and dialogue with Movement partners for the greater benefit of people affected by armed conflict and internal strife.

In the vast majority of the countries where the ICRC operates, it does so in partnership with National Societies. Overall, it is estimated that more than **one third of the ICRC's operational activities are carried out in cooperation with the National Society of the country concerned**.

The ICRC also spent **CHF 75 million** to assist National Societies in their own countries in building and strengthening their capacity to carry out activities in the following areas:

- ▶ **140 National Societies** in their work to promote and spread knowledge of **IHL and the Fundamental Principles**
- ▶ **123 National Societies** in their work to restore **family links**, including responding to needs resulting from natural disasters, in conformity with the newly adopted Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement
- ▶ **103 National Societies** in their **preparedness for health and relief assistance** during conflict
- ▶ **20 National Societies** in carrying out **community awareness programmes on mines and explosive remnants of war**

In 5 of the countries where the ICRC is running its largest operations, 4 different National Societies working internationally were involved in the **implementation of 8 ICRC projects**. The ICRC also provided a coordination framework (through a coordinated activities agreement or a bilateral project agreement) for **14 National Societies working internationally on 37 projects in 6 countries**.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

In 2007, the **Media Relations Unit** in Geneva issued **247 press releases, 3 news reports, 105 information bulletins** and **74 briefing and information notes**, and organized **10 press conferences**. It produced and issued **16 video news items** to broadcasters worldwide and produced **52 news stories** for use with various target groups and **5 films** in the *From the field* series.

According to the Factiva database, which compiles print-media sources from more than 159 countries in 22 languages, the ICRC was mentioned more than 14,000 times in 2007.

RELATIONS WITH ARMS CARRIERS

Throughout the year, ICRC delegates met and dialogued with various arms carriers present in conflict zones, from members of the military and the police to paramilitary units, armed groups and private military companies' staff.

- ▶ **25 specialized ICRC delegates** conducted or took part in more than **300 courses, workshops, round-tables and exercises** involving some **20,000 military, security and police personnel** in more than **120 countries**. A total of **21 military officers from 12 countries** received ICRC scholarships to attend **5 military courses on IHL** in San Remo

- ▶ a total of **55** general and senior **officers** from **53 countries** received ICRC scholarships to attend the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations (SWIRMO) in Geneva, Switzerland
- ▶ a meeting on both disciplinary and penal sanctions took place in Geneva with representatives of various armed forces, armed groups and academic circles
- ▶ **10 new officer-instructors (police and military)** were trained in order to give lectures on both IHL and human rights in support of regular activities by specialized delegates
- ▶ a film based on interviews with former non-State fighters from 4 different countries about their knowledge of and compliance with IHL was produced and tested in the field in autumn 2007 and will be ready in 2008 for use as a dissemination tool in discussions with armed groups
- ▶ the ICRC also published *Integrating the law and Violence and the use of force*, 2 booklets for delegates and their audiences

RELATIONS WITH ACADEMIC CIRCLES

In practically every country covered by the ICRC, university lecturers in law, international relations and journalism incorporated IHL into their teaching. At the national level, the ICRC supported universities by distributing teaching materials, co-organizing IHL events and competitions for students and sponsoring the participation of lecturers and professors in key regional and international IHL seminars.

In 2007, the ICRC organized or co-organized:

- ▶ **15 regional and international IHL training seminars for academics** (2 in Africa; 3 in Asia; 10 in Europe and the Americas), involving **over 200 professors, lecturers and graduate students**
- ▶ **10 regional IHL competitions** for students (2 in Africa; 3 in Asia; 5 in Europe and the Americas), involving some **400 students and lecturers**

SUPPORTING IHL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

The **Exploring Humanitarian Law teaching programme**, launched in 2001, is currently being implemented in **40 contexts** around the world. It was piloted in classrooms in **7 countries** during the year.

WEAPON CONTAMINATION

Throughout the year, the mine-action sector provided operational support to delegations, National Societies and political authorities in 19 countries. The sector also worked with the UN and NGOs to further develop and strengthen international mine-action standards and coordination.

INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND LANGUAGE SERVICES

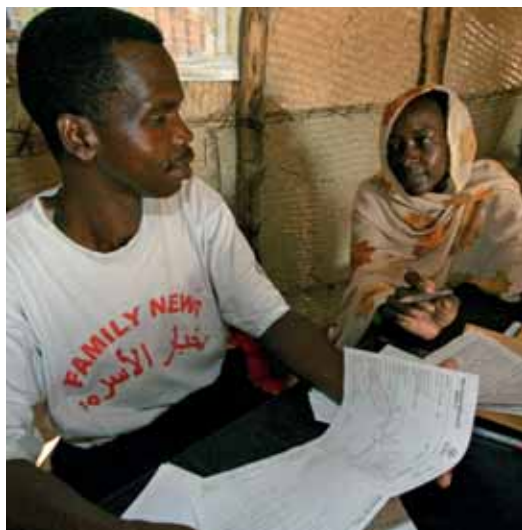
Through its library and research service, the ICRC responded to some **2,380 requests** for information from National Societies, NGOs, academics, government departments and the media.

The ICRC produced some **35 print and audiovisual products** and **distributed** more than **6,000 films** and **635,000 publications** worldwide. The ICRC website received around **2.5 million visitors** who viewed about 12.3 million pages in total.

The ICRC headquarters received groups totalling over **5,200 visitors**. Of these, some 47% were university students, 8% were from the diplomatic community, 7% were from international organizations and NGOs, and 4% were military.

Some **7 million words** were translated, edited and proofread by translators and editors working for or contracted by the ICRC through its language service.





DELEGATIONS

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

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Abidjan
Abuja
Dakar
Harare
Nairobi
Pretoria
Yaoundé

AFRICA

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

74,207

Assistance

234,358

Prevention

38,123

Cooperation with National Societies

29,793

General

-

376,481 of which: Overheads **22,783**

Implementation rate

93%

⊕ ICRC delegation
⊕ ICRC regional delegation
⊕ ICRC mission

AFRICA

In 2007, the ICRC maintained a strong operational presence in its Africa region (hereafter referred to as Africa), with 28 delegations and missions carrying out a wide range of activities to protect and assist victims of present and past armed conflicts or other situations of violence. Just over 2.2 million people (91% of them IDPs) received ICRC relief goods, some 932,000 (74% of them IDPs) were provided with food rations, and 2.3 million benefited from quick-impact livelihood-support projects designed to improve their economic situation. In parallel, the ICRC worked to promote much wider implementation of IHL throughout Africa, both to protect vulnerable populations and to ensure that its staff had safe access to people in need.

Sudan was the ICRC's largest operation worldwide for the fourth consecutive year, while Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Somalia and Uganda were among the top ten. Despite international peace initiatives, conflict erupted again in North and South Kivu in the DRC, escalated in Sudan's Darfur region and in central and southern Somalia, and was ongoing in eastern Chad, resulting in casualties, population displacement and economic hardship. ICRC activities were also stepped up in the conflict-affected northern areas of the Central African Republic (CAR) and Niger, and in Guinea, which experienced internal unrest.

In countries where peace agreements were in progress or in post-conflict situations, the ICRC gradually adapted its operations, shifting from emergency aid to helping communities rebuild their livelihoods, and scaled down its set-up, where appropriate.

In Ethiopia, activities were significantly curtailed from July after the government expelled the ICRC from the Somali Regional State, where conflict between government troops and armed groups had escalated.

Despite security constraints, the ICRC was able to operate in most regions of Africa affected by ongoing non-international armed conflict. In Darfur, it even managed to regain access to some areas where it had suffered security incidents. This was in large part because of the organization's strict principles of neutrality and independence, which allowed it to develop contacts with all parties to conflict, thus gaining acceptance in the field. The ICRC also stressed to all parties their obligations under IHL towards those not or no longer taking part in hostilities. This message was reinforced in Sudan by the ICRC president during his visit there in February. Delegates documented allegations of IHL violations and, where necessary, made representations to the relevant parties to halt the abuses.

Flexibility was another key factor which allowed the ICRC to respond effectively in conflict situations. Delegations constantly adapted their operations to the scale and urgency of needs, basing their activities on a realistic assessment of the constraints on the ground and the activities of other organizations.

In many countries, the ICRC and the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society worked together to deliver relief goods, carry out assistance projects, run family-links services and promote IHL, and the National Societies received ongoing ICRC support to strengthen their capacities in these fields. In Senegal's Casamance region, where operations remained suspended (see *Dakar regional*), the Senegalese Red Cross Society, with ICRC support, ensured the continuation of certain ICRC health, sanitation and agricultural projects. National Societies' knowledge of local conditions also helped the ICRC work effectively and safely, as in Somalia.

The ICRC continued to coordinate its activities with those of Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors working in areas of common interest, in order to maximize impact, bridge gaps and avoid duplication, including through its attendance as an observer at UN cluster meetings.

ICRC relief and assistance programmes aimed, among other things, to prevent population displacement. In Darfur, the ICRC focused on helping rural communities preserve their livelihoods so that they were not forced to join the crowded urban IDP camps, where the bulk of international aid was concentrated. Assistance included shelter materials, essential household items, seed and tools, veterinary training, livestock vaccination campaigns and micro-economic projects. Vulnerable resident communities in the DRC and central and southern Somalia also benefited from a range of assistance to help them avoid destitution and aid dependency, including seed, farm tools, fishing gear, and cash-for-work and irrigation projects.

Displaced families were assisted, wherever possible, in their place of refuge, usually close to their village or in a host community, thus favouring their return home, security permitting, rather than their placement in a camp, where they could become dependent on outside aid. In the CAR, Chad, the DRC and Somalia, IDPs received, as needed, shelter materials, essential household items, seed and tools and, in case of urgent need, food rations. Vulnerable residents in communities hosting IDPs were given similar assistance, and the ICRC initiated micro-economic projects to help boost those communities' income and productivity.

In exceptional circumstances, the ICRC assisted IDPs in camps. In northern Uganda, several hundred thousand IDPs still in camps or in transit camps en route home received relief goods. In South Darfur, following a security incident targeting other humanitarian organizations in late 2006 (see *Sudan*), the ICRC was obliged to provide the full range of services to the some 125,000 people in Gereida IDP camp.

In countries where IDPs were returning home, such as Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Liberia and Uganda, the ICRC worked with the returnees and their communities to restore livelihoods. Returnees received basic household items, staple- and cash-crop seed to provide food and income, and, where needed, one-off food rations. In Eritrea and Liberia, communities with returnees were assisted in building homes and starting market gardens, and in Eritrea received vouchers to hire tractors to plough their fields and had their livestock treated against parasites.

The ICRC also worked to ensure that vulnerable residents and IDPs had an adequate supply of clean drinking water and access to basic health care. By year-end, some 7.4 million people faced fewer health risks after the ICRC built or rehabilitated key urban and rural water facilities in conflict-affected Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the CAR, Chad, Congo, the DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda and Uganda. Similarly, a total catchment population of 1.1 million people had access to health care at over 100 ICRC-supported clinics. Most of those clinics offered curative and mother and child care, as well as vaccination, malaria and hygiene programmes. In Darfur and North and South Kivu, they also provided treatment and counselling for victims of sexual violence.

Tens of thousands of refugees and IDPs restored or maintained contact with family members through the tracing and RCM services. In Africa, during 2007, some 159,000 messages of family news were collected from people for distribution to their relatives, and over

149,000 such messages were delivered. A total of 836 vulnerable people were reunited with their families, over half of them children. The tracing and RCM networks were reduced where security conditions and transportation and communication services had improved, such as in Angola, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Southern Sudan. The ICRC also assisted in the voluntary repatriation of 2,482 civilians across the Eritrea-Ethiopia border, which remained closed.

The ICRC visited just over 157,000 people held in 976 detention facilities in Africa. Delegates followed the individual cases of 5,620 security detainees, including 3,270 registered during 2007, monitored general detention conditions, and informed the authorities confidentially of their findings and recommendations for improvements. Despite ongoing efforts, the ICRC had not yet gained or regained access to all detainees falling within its mandate in certain countries, including Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea and Sudan. In countries such as Chad, Niger and Sudan, the organization, at the request of all parties, acted as a neutral intermediary in facilitating the release and handover to the relevant authorities of people, usually government soldiers, held by armed groups. In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC also followed up with the relevant authorities the few cases of former POWs pending from the 1998–2000 international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Detainees were offered the tracing and RCM network to contact families and received any basic items, mainly hygiene products, they lacked. Where necessary, the ICRC stepped in to improve detention conditions. Just over 135,800 detainees benefited from the ICRC's rehabilitation of infrastructure, mainly water and sanitation, in detention facilities in countries such as Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Chad, the DRC, Guinea, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda. In emergencies, the ICRC ensured inmates received medical treatment and initiated therapeutic feeding programmes to save detainees' lives. In Côte d'Ivoire, for example, 552 malnourished detainees received monthly supplementary food aid during 2007, which helped stabilize prison mortality rates. In parallel, delegations encouraged and supported the authorities in their initiatives to upgrade detention conditions. For example, as advocated by the ICRC, a health department was set up within Rwanda's National Prison Service, with financing from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In Uganda, as part of a joint Health Ministry, Prison Service and ICRC project, detainees in three prisons gained access to HIV/AIDS voluntary counselling and testing services provided by NGOs, and prisons received mesh and spraying equipment, which reduced the exposure to malaria of over 5,000 detainees.

To improve treatment of the wounded and the sick in conflict-affected countries, the ICRC supported an average of 16 hospitals a month, which treated some 68,950 inpatients during 2007, including over 5,000 weapon-wounded in Somalia. The hospitals received, as needed, funds, supplies, training, and help with infrastructure rehabilitation and maintenance. ICRC expatriate staff were working in hospitals in Chad, the DRC, Eritrea, Somalia, Southern Sudan and Uganda. In Darfur, a mobile ICRC surgical team flew out on 32 missions to operate on fighters and civilians without access to medical care. Somali hospitals received over 200 tonnes of ICRC medical supplies, and a Qatar Red Crescent Society surgical team, working in partnership with the ICRC, joined Mogadishu's Keysaney Hospital. In Uganda, Kitgum Government Hospital began a three-year project with the ICRC to improve patient care, while in Southern Sudan, 14 years of ICRC support to the 500-bed Juba Teaching Hospital ended, as planned, in December 2007.

To boost the availability of physical rehabilitation services, the ICRC supported a total of 21 prosthetic/orthotic centres in Angola, Chad, the DRC, Ethiopia and Sudan, which treated 22,468 war-amputees and other disabled people. In coordination with the authorities, the ICRC also began building Southern Sudan's first physical rehabilitation referral centre, located in Juba.

IHL promotion remained a cornerstone of ICRC activities in Africa. The aim was to prevent IHL violations and ensure that the authorities and all weapon bearers supported the mandates, Fundamental Principles and activities of the Movement's components.

Delegations maintained a dialogue on IHL and humanitarian issues with the national, regional and international authorities concerned, including the African Union, African regional economic communities and the diplomatic community. The ICRC lent governments its expertise to ratify IHL treaties and adopt national laws incorporating their provisions, and sponsored ministry officials to participate in regional and international IHL events abroad. Such initiatives contributed in 2007 to Gabon's ratification of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols I and II, South Africa's passing of a law on the protection of the red cross emblem and Sudan's adoption of a new Armed Forces Act incorporating sanctions for IHL violations.

Armed, security and police forces worked with the ICRC to integrate IHL, international human rights law and humanitarian principles into their training, doctrine and operations, while African and other troops deployed as peacekeepers on the continent were briefed on IHL. With ICRC support, for example, Burundi's Defence Ministry approved new regulations integrating IHL into all armed forces instruction and Chad established a national school for military IHL instructors. Regular contact with armed groups in countries in conflict helped ensure that they too were familiar with IHL.

Initiatives were also developed to broaden support for IHL among civil society sectors with an influence on public opinion and policy decisions, such as traditional and religious leaders, the media, academics, women's groups and NGOs. The ICRC was assisting Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa in integrating the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into their secondary school curricula. In parallel, in universities throughout Africa, delegations ran seminars and competitions, gave presentations and provided teaching materials to spark interest in and support the teaching of IHL.



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 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 National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,281
Assistance	1,568
Prevention	1,323
Cooperation with National Societies	242
General	-

► **8,414**

of which: Overheads 514

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
153	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- collected 8,006 RCMs and distributed 8,061 RCMs, in cooperation with the Angola Red Cross
- reunited 47 unaccompanied/separated children with their families
- supported 3 physical rehabilitation centres that provided services to 3,935 patients
- visited detainees in Cabinda province
- supported the mine-risk reduction and education activities of the Angola Red Cross for almost 200 communities in 6 provinces

CONTEXT

Angola was still recovering from the political, economic and social consequences of the armed conflict that lasted from independence in 1975 until the signing of the Luena peace agreement in April 2002.

President dos Santos announced that legislative elections would be held at the start of September 2008. Isaias Samakuva, president of the opposition National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), criticized some aspects of the proposed process and called for increased funding for electoral bodies and political parties. Just over 8 million voters had been registered by the time the registration process was completed in September 2007. International observers expressed their concern over signs of political intolerance, including the detention of journalists, human rights activists, and members of UNITA and other political parties. The government's Civil Defence Organization was further accused of committing acts of political intolerance against opposition parties. UNITA claimed that there had been an attempt to assassinate its president in March.

The number of UNITA fighters who had benefited from aid to reintegrate into civil society was disputed, so the joint Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola/UNITA consultative mechanism agreed to establish a verification system.

The formal programme of refugee repatriation to Angola was completed at the end of March, with 400,000 refugees having returned to the country since 2002. An estimated 193,000 refugees remained in neighbouring countries.

Within the framework of the peace agreement signed in 2006 between the government of Angola and Bento Bembe, leader of one wing of the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave (FLEC), 824 former members were integrated into the army or police. A FLEC faction led by N'zita Tiago continued to reject the agreement. Attacks on the army were reported and government military operations persisted. In October 2007, the faction announced that the security of private company staff would no longer be ensured.

Angola's international influence continued to grow, with the country playing key roles in regional bodies. It was also elected to the UN Human Rights Council.

Despite oil and diamond revenues and strong economic growth, poverty remained widespread. Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to kill and mutilate, restrict movement and limit the use of cultivable land.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Detainees visited	5	Physical rehabilitation				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	5	Patients receiving services	Patients	3,935	783	870
Number of visits carried out	15	Prostheses delivered	Units	708	136	22
Number of places of detention visited	5	Orthoses delivered	Units	158	19	102
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications						
RCMs collected	8,006					
RCMs distributed	8,061					
People reunited with their families	47					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1,570					
	of whom females					497
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance					129
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	332					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	23,886					
	of which for females					6,617
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance					1,195
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers						
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	87					
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	47					
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	248					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	3					

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to scale down its activities, in preparation for the eventual closure of its delegation in Angola.

The ICRC/Angola Red Cross tracing service worked to reunite separated family members and continued to offer the RCM network, mainly to people in rural areas who had no other means of contacting their relatives in Angola or abroad.

In Cabinda province, the ICRC maintained contact with the military authorities to remind them of their obligations under IHL towards the civilian population.

The departure of most of the international organizations working in the field of physical rehabilitation and the continuing lack of a coherent national policy exacerbated the difficulties already faced by the country's physical rehabilitation centres. The ICRC went on providing on-the-job training and financial support to three Ministry of Health centres, but focused its efforts on building their autonomy, so that they could continue to function after the ICRC's departure.

In terms of mine-risk education, the ICRC kept up its financial and technical support to Angola Red Cross programmes in six provinces. It also helped the national mine-action authority organize a workshop for mine-risk education organizations to learn about the methodology and standards laid out in the National Mine Action Strategic Plan 2006–2011.

The delegation acquainted military and civilian authorities, members of the armed and security forces, traditional and religious leaders, and civil society with IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

The new secretary general of the Angola Red Cross launched a series of internal reforms.

CIVILIANS

Protection activities in Cabinda

Sporadic clashes occurred in Cabinda between the opposition Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda-Armed Forces of Cabinda (FLEC-FAC) and the Angolan army. The substantial army presence in the enclave led to occasional incidents involving the civilian population, mainly attributable to ill-disciplined soldiers. When necessary, the ICRC collected allegations of IHL violations and made representations to those concerned with a view to ending such abuses. It continued to familiarize church and traditional leaders and civil society representatives with its mandate.

Mines and ERW

Residents of the provinces of Benguela, Bié, Kuando Kubango, Kwanza Norte, Moxico and Zaire benefited from the mine-risk reduction activities of the Angola Red Cross, for which it received ICRC financial and technical support. Such activities included broadcasting mine-risk education messages via radio, helping over 200 communities to mark off dangerous areas, and working with teenagers to paint walls in their communities with maps of known dangerous areas, pictures of different types of mines/ERW, and messages of advice for those at risk.

National Society volunteers also collected information on mine/ERW incidents and shared it with the army, the police, the National Intersectoral Commission for Demining and Humanitarian Assistance and the National Institute of Demining, as well as with demining NGOs Halo Trust, the Mine Advisory Group

and Norwegian People's Aid. Using this information, these agencies cleared 11 minefields in 6 provinces and destroyed over 2,000 ERW.

Angola Red Cross volunteers were trained in techniques to help affected communities develop their own mine/ERW-risk reduction plans. Volunteers in health programmes in Kuando Kubango also received training so that they could support the provincial branch in its effort to reduce mine/ERW-related accidents.

Mine-risk education organizations participated in a workshop organized by the national mine-action authority, with ICRC support, aimed at improving the management and monitoring of the risk-reduction plans that they had developed with affected communities. During the workshop, they were familiarized with national standards, based on the work of the Angola Red Cross and the ICRC and laid out in the national mine strategy.

Restoring family links

Despite improved communication networks, the rural population still needed to use the RCM network, either to restore contact with their families or to maintain contact to share important news. Where appropriate, unaccompanied children were reunited with their families through the tracing network run jointly by the Angola Red Cross and the ICRC. Children reunited with their families received a kit containing basic items to ease their reintegration. Similar supplies were given to centres and orphanages caring for unaccompanied children. The countrywide photo-tracing programme, which used posters and picture books of unaccompanied children, was promoted and made available to community leaders and people living in remote areas.

The *Red Cross Gazette* was widely consulted across the country. It listed 18,575 people, including many unaccompanied children, who were either seeking or being sought by their relatives. The names of 44,737 such people were published on the ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org.

The number of missing persons sought by relatives continued to grow. The initial findings of a study launched in March 2007 identified families' immediate requirements in terms of legal or social recognition of their situation to help them deal with the administrative aspects of their daily lives. The study aimed to form the basis for specific recommendations to the authorities, upon completion in 2008.

- 8,005 RCMs collected from and 8,061 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 64 from and 37 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 1,570 people (including 497 females and 129 minors at the time of disappearance); 332 people located; 23,886 people (including 6,617 females and 1,195 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 87 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 47 reunited with their families; 248 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 3 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Cabinda, all 12 of the detainees whom the ICRC had been visiting were released under an amnesty law passed on 24 December 2006. The ICRC nevertheless continued to visit municipal and provincial prisons under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior, in order to register any persons newly detained for reasons related to State security. The ICRC continued to follow up recommendations submitted to the provincial prison authorities in April.

The ICRC also carried out visits to military facilities to register any detainees, in particular people held on suspicion of being FLEC combatants. The organization continued discussions with the military authorities to gain access to further facilities where people linked to the Cabinda situation were allegedly detained.

- 5 detainees visited and monitored individually and 5 newly registered during 15 visits to 5 places of detention
- 1 RCM collected from a detainee

WOUNDED AND SICK

According to official figures, there were an estimated 105,000 physically disabled people in Angola, including some 70,000 mine victims. Prosthetic/orthotic services were provided by 11 State physical rehabilitation centres, three of which, in Luanda, Huambo and Kuito, continued to receive ICRC support.

In view of its planned withdrawal from physical rehabilitation activities and the limited nature of alternative sources of support, the ICRC concentrated its efforts on helping the centres improve their management and administrative capacities and so build their autonomy. The centres introduced new procedures, and staff learned how to develop accurate budgets. Further training was provided on procurement and stock management procedures.

Since the start of 2006, the ICRC had been supporting seven prosthetic/orthotic technicians taking a three-year distance-learning diploma course, conducted in cooperation with the Don Bosco University in El Salvador. In July 2007, the ICRC ended this support owing to the extremely slow progress made and the lack of improvement in the quality of prostheses produced.

The lack of public transport and/or high transportation costs frequently prevented amputees from attending physical rehabilitation centres, as a result of which the centres did not operate at full capacity. To address this problem, over 400 destitute patients from Huambo and Kuito had their transport costs reimbursed by the ICRC.

- 3,935 patients (including 783 women and 870 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 170 new patients (including 31 women and 6 children) fitted with prostheses and 81 (including 9 women and 52 children) fitted with orthoses
- 708 prostheses (including 136 for women, 22 for children and 492 for mine victims), 158 orthoses (including 19 for women and 102 for children), 1,868 crutches and 44 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

With the political establishment focused on the national elections, ratification of IHL treaties received little attention. However, following its election to the Human Rights Council, the Angolan government committed itself to ratify several international human rights treaties, including the Convention against Torture.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In February, 20 instructors from the High Institute of Military Education participated in a week-long IHL course organized by the ICRC.

In March, the air force received an IHL reference library comprising some 550 different books and publications.

- ▶ 770 military personnel attended 8 information sessions on IHL and ICRC activities
- ▶ 177 police officers attended 6 sessions on human rights standards and humanitarian principles

CIVIL SOCIETY

The press, radio and television networks covered humanitarian issues and ICRC activities, having received press releases, newsletters and interviews from the delegation.

- ▶ 3 international media organizations ran stories about the ICRC's activities

Community, political and religious leaders in a number of provinces, as well as traditional authorities, teachers and NGO representatives, attended regular ICRC information sessions aimed at eliciting their support for the organization's activities.

- ▶ 8,157 people took part in 75 sessions on the ICRC and its operations in Angola

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Angola Red Cross played an important role in mine-awareness activities across the country and was a key partner of the national mine-action authority (see *Civilians*). It continued to receive technical and financial support from the ICRC for these activities.

Support for the Angola Red Cross tracing department was maintained. National and provincial staff attended an ICRC-organized tracing workshop to improve skills, share best practices and prepare objectives for the following year.

The new secretary general of the Angola Red Cross launched a series of reforms and recruited new staff to the management team. New statutes were approved and sent to the Ministry of Justice for publication.

The secretary general participated in the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Sao Tome and Principe Red Cross held its general assembly in May and retained the members of its governing body for another term.



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 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 are treated according to internationally recognized standards. It rehabilitates water and sanitation systems for vulnerable groups. It reunites children separated from their parents with their families and restores family links. It also supports training in IHL for the armed and security forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,393
Assistance	3,091
Prevention	1,101
Cooperation with National Societies	443
General	-

► **7,028**

of which: Overheads **429**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

19 expatriates
130 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited and monitored individually 779 detainees during 333 visits to detention facilities
- provided support to increase the number of detainees receiving antiretroviral treatment
- covered the costs of hospital treatment and food for 51 weapon-wounded patients and provided 18 medical kits to enable medical personnel to treat people injured in armed clashes
- ensured access to safe water for 168,700 people in urban and rural areas
- organized IHL sessions for over 2,500 members of the armed and police forces
- trained 200 Burundi Red Cross volunteers in first aid and emergency response

CONTEXT

Implementation of the comprehensive ceasefire agreement, aiming to bring an end to the non-international armed conflict between the government and the Parti pour la libération du peuple hutu-Forces nationales pour la libération (Palipehutu-FNL), stalled. In July, the FNL withdrew from the Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism, the body charged with overseeing the implementation of the agreement.

By year-end, some 2,800 alleged FNL dissidents had reportedly come forward requesting demobilization or integration into the security forces. The last quarter of 2007 witnessed sporadic armed clashes, including the first clashes between the National Defence Forces (FDN) and FNL elements since the ceasefire came into effect in 2006, as well as attacks by the FNL on the alleged dissidents.

In April, Hussein Radjabu, having been deposed as president of the ruling Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie-Forces pour la défense de la démocratie (CNDD-FDD) in February, was detained on charges of threatening national security. His detention deepened internal divisions within the ruling party, leading to the loss of its parliamentary majority. Despite attempts by President Pierre Nkurunziza to form a new government and restore confidence in his administration, the main opposition parties and a faction of the CNDD-FDD boycotted the work of parliament, resulting in legislative paralysis. An agreement between the ruling party and the main opposition parties paved the way for the formation of a government of national unity in November.

The price of basic commodities rose sharply and food deficits persisted throughout the year, with many people remaining dependent on WFP distributions. This, combined with the government's failure to deliver announced salary increases, led to social discontent and periodic strikes.

The security situation deteriorated markedly, with an increased incidence of armed robbery and other violent criminality.

The UN and the government held discussions on the establishment of transitional justice mechanisms and agreed to set up a truth and reconciliation commission and a special tribunal. With the support of the government and the newly established UN Integrated Office in Burundi, the UN Peacebuilding Commission approved a peacebuilding plan and began implementing projects in priority areas.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	9,158	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	779	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	172,438	27% 44%
of whom females	16				
of whom minors	33				
Number of visits carried out	333				
Number of places of detention visited	90				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	5,456				
RCMs distributed	5,174				
People reunited with their families	5				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	262				
of whom females	125				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	114				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	83				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	216				
of which for females	105				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	85				
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	23				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	5				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	69				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	9				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2				

At the regional level, Burundi became a member of the East African Community. It ratified the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region and participated in a number of regional security coordination meetings with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Uganda.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC intensified its visits to detainees in temporary and permanent detention facilities to check on their treatment and living conditions and, where necessary, made confidential recommendations for improvements to the authorities. Specific emphasis was placed on the need to improve the conditions of detention of women and children and to rehabilitate dilapidated facilities. The delegation sustained its drive to mobilize support for the national authorities' efforts in these areas from certain members of the international community.

Hundreds of thousands of Burundian refugees, most of whom were in the United Republic of Tanzania, and foreign refugees living in Burundi could use the tracing and RCM services to restore and maintain family links. The ICRC devoted particular effort to reuniting unaccompanied children with their families, in close cooperation with partner institutions in Burundi.

Public and private hospitals, as well as the Palipehutu-FNL, were able to treat people injured in armed clashes, thanks to the provision of ICRC medical support.

Given the destruction or deterioration of water infrastructure, the ICRC continued to work with the urban and rural water boards to

rehabilitate a number of installations so that thousands of families would have clean drinking water.

In response to the authorities' increasing interest in IHL, the ICRC provided information and guidance on the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments. The armed and security forces participated in IHL sessions and requested support for the integration of IHL into military training at all levels and of IHL and human rights standards into police training.

The ICRC developed its dialogue with members of the Palipehutu-FNL and familiarized them with its mandate, activities and core principles of independence and neutrality, to ensure safe access of its delegates to people in need.

In cooperation with other Movement partners, the ICRC provided technical, material and financial support to boost the capacity of the Burundi Red Cross and to strengthen its communication and disaster management departments.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with the Burundi Red Cross and other Movement partners active in Burundi and provided them with regular security updates. It also cooperated with UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication of effort.

The ICRC closed the sub-delegation in Rumonge in June and transferred the majority of its staff to the Bujumbura delegation or the Gitega sub-delegation to ensure the continuity of the ICRC's protection and assistance activities in the south of the country.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC maintained contact with the military authorities with a view to promoting respect for IHL and, in particular, the protection of civilians (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Rural communities whose water supply had been damaged during the conflict benefited from repairs to essential infrastructure carried out by the ICRC, working in partnership with the Direction Générale de l'Hydraulique et des Energies Rurales, Burundi's rural water board. Residents of Buhiga, Matongo, Mubone, Mwumba and Nyamugari had their water supply restored or extended. The water and sanitation facilities of local health centres and schools were also upgraded. More than 76,000 residents of Butihinda, Gihofi, Giteranyi, Isale, Kije and Rwanzari were set to gain clean water following feasibility studies in their communities. A training programme to teach local committees how to maintain systems rehabilitated since 2004 continued, complemented by ad hoc ICRC assistance to aid with the systems' upkeep.

Thousands of residents of towns in Bujumbura, Gitega and Makamba provinces looked forward to improved access to safe water and the resulting beneficial effect on general health and hygiene following repairs to dilapidated water systems performed by the ICRC, working closely with Regideso (the urban water and electricity board). Residents of Mutaho, in Gitega province, were also set to benefit from improvements to the water and sanitation facilities and electricity system of a local hospital. A feasibility study for a rehabilitation and development project in Cibitoke town was performed, with work set to begin in 2008.

- 168,700 people benefited from water/sanitation/shelter/habitat projects

Public and private hospitals received direct support from the ICRC to deal with surgical and medical emergencies, and medical personnel were provided with first-aid and dressing kits to treat people injured in armed clashes.

- 51 weapon-wounded treated and fed in public and private hospitals with ICRC support
- medical personnel received 18 first-aid and dressing kits

Many Burundians remained refugees outside the country, in particular in the United Republic of Tanzania, although some 40,000 of them returned during the year. Burundi continued to host refugees from countries elsewhere in the region, with 10,000 citizens of neighbouring DRC crossing into Burundi to seek refuge from instability in the east of the DRC. They joined some 22,000 of their compatriots already hosted by Burundi. Many of them restored or maintained contact with relatives through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services, including residents of Gasorwe and Mwaro camps, thanks to volunteer-run tracing posts, and, from October onwards, 300 Rwandan refugees in Giharo camp. Overall, the number of RCMs relayed in 2007 decreased slightly from 2006, while the proportion of messages re-establishing family links increased slightly to around 20% of the total collected.

Wherever possible, unaccompanied children and vulnerable adults were reunited with their families in their countries of origin. In Burundi, the ICRC and the International Rescue Committee, a UNHCR implementing partner, cooperated to monitor the reintegration of such people into their communities.

- 5,206 RCMs collected from and 4,944 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 199 from and 161 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 262 people (including 125 females and 114 minors at the time of disappearance); 83 people located; 216 people (including 105 females and 85 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 23 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 2 demobilized children); 5 reunited with their families; 69 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 1 demobilized child) still being handled
- 9 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visiting detainees

Following a presidential decree in December 2006, some categories of sentenced detainees were released. The full impact of the decree had yet to be seen, as implementation was not completed during the year. Many of the demobilized members of the FNL interned in a temporary centre were released in April, but others continued to be held, and some new arrests were made. The arrest of Hussein Radjabu was followed by a wave of arrests of his supporters. The total number of people deprived of freedom in relation to the conflict or for reasons of State security thus remained significant, and the ICRC continued to follow their cases individually.

The general prison population fell slightly during the first half of the year, owing to the presidential decree. However, high rates of criminality, aggravated by a strike by Ministry of Justice civil servants, drove up the numbers detained, and by year-end there were some 8,200 inmates in Burundi's 11 prisons. Temporary detention facilities were also affected by increasing overcrowding. More than 100 places of temporary detention under the responsibility of the National Police of Burundi, the FDN and the Service National de Renseignement housed an estimated 2,500 inmates.

The ICRC increased the frequency of its visits to detainees in both central prisons and temporary detention facilities and held confidential discussions with the relevant authorities regarding their treatment and detention conditions. It backed up this dialogue with an increased number of written reports to the authorities, emphasizing the need to respect judicial guarantees.

The ICRC also reminded the authorities of the specific needs of vulnerable detainees and stressed the need to separate women and minors from adult males. The delegation persevered with its attempts to enlist support from the international community for the prison authorities' efforts to improve conditions of detention for women and children and to rehabilitate prison facilities.

Detainees were able to restore or maintain contact with their relatives through the RCM service and, where necessary, the ICRC notified foreign embassies of the detention of their nationals in Burundi.

- 9,158 detainees visited, of whom 779 monitored individually (including 16 females and 33 minors) and 655 newly registered (including 16 females and 27 minors), during 333 visits to 90 places of detention
- 250 RCMs collected from and 230 RCMs distributed to detainees

Improving detention conditions

Cooperation continued with the prison authorities and the relevant government ministries to improve prison living conditions, access to water, and hygiene facilities. Detainees benefited from the rehabilitation of a dispensary in Mpimba prison and a kitchen in Muyinga prison and from improved access to water and sanitation in Muyinga and Rumonge prisons. Also in Muyinga, work began on infrastructure to separate male adult detainees from women and children. Detainees from seven prisons received basic electrical and plumbing training.

Representatives of the Ministries of Health and Justice participated in an ICRC-organized coordination seminar, which recommended the establishment of a formal interministerial agreement and the creation of the position of medical coordinator within the penitentiary administration. In February, both ministries also attended an ICRC-organized round-table on mental health in detention involving all the main stakeholders in the field of detention in Burundi.

All prisons had a functional dispensary to provide primary health care, staffed by Ministry of Health nurses and stocked with drugs and equipment co-funded by the ICRC. Free medical referral schemes were in place for detainees. The ICRC visited all prisons at least once a month to provide assistance and check on the quality and accessibility of health care, including services for patients suffering from malaria, tuberculosis and onchocercosis (river blindness).

HIV/AIDS remained a major problem in Burundian prisons. The ICRC took measures to reinforce coordination on the issue and, where necessary, provided support to ensure that detainees' access to preventive and curative services in this respect was equivalent to that of the rest of the Burundian population. As a result, the number of detainees undergoing antiretroviral treatment increased from 19 in January to 48 in December.

The ICRC organized seminars on hygiene and health promotion in six prisons for about 120 detainees and 100 staff of local health and detention authorities. Levels of mortality and morbidity remained low; no significant outbreak of communicable disease was recorded.

All 8,200 detainees received a monthly supply of soap from the ICRC and, where necessary, other items, such as blankets. As in 2006 insecticide and spraying and protective materials were donated to the prison, administration to enable it to carry out pest control campaigns in all prisons, in cooperation with the ICRC. Detainees in temporary detention facilities regularly received soap and occasionally other hygiene articles.

- ▶ 3,738 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- ▶ 22 people held in relation to the conflict provided with financial assistance to return home upon their release

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with national authorities, including with representatives of parliament and the senate, was further developed, in order to promote the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments.

One priority was the finalization of legislation implementing the Ottawa Convention. The revised penal code awaited parliamentary approval, following drafting by the relevant commissions, which drew upon ICRC technical support and legal expertise. Legislation implementing the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Chemical Weapons Convention also awaited parliamentary approval.

The director general of the Ministry of Justice, with financial assistance from the ICRC, attended the launch of the French-language version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL in Paris, France.

Meetings of the Steering Committee for Peacebuilding in Burundi, which aimed to develop a strategic framework for peacebuilding in the country, were attended by the ICRC in an observer capacity.

- ▶ 40 participants, including representatives of relevant ministries and the senate, attended a workshop co-organized with the University of Burundi to promote IHL and discuss IHL-related issues, such as the possible creation of a national IHL committee

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Burundi's former armed movements had been either incorporated into the national army or police force or demobilized or were in the process of being disbanded, with the main exception of the Palipehutu-FNL.

Military instructors organized IHL sessions, with ICRC support, for all ranks countrywide. Troops departing on peacekeeping missions attended briefings on IHL and the ICRC and received relevant literature. The Ministry of Defence approved new armed forces regulations, drafted with ICRC support, providing for the integration of IHL into military instruction.

In a significant development, the police authorities formally requested ICRC support in the integration of IHL and human rights standards into police training.

- ▶ 588 army officers and 580 rank and file attended IHL sessions throughout the 5 military regions
- ▶ 31 army officers participated in a two-week IHL train-the-trainer course
- ▶ 80 army officers joining the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia briefed on IHL and the ICRC's activities in that country
- ▶ 3 army officers attended two-week IHL courses abroad
- ▶ 1,300 police officers and 275 sergeants briefed on IHL, human rights standards and humanitarian principles

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media continued to learn about IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities through press releases, events, promotional material and interviews. The inauguration of completed water projects, the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols and IHL workshops received good coverage, as did events to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), which featured an exhibition on Movement activities and a joint press conference with the Burundi Red Cross.

Education authorities and the ICRC met to discuss the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the secondary school system. A network of eight universities throughout the country continued to receive support for their efforts to include IHL in their curricula.

- ▶ some 70 officials attended a seminar on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme
- ▶ more than 250 students attended 2 conferences on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Burundi Red Cross received increased support from the ICRC and Movement partners to reinforce its capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies.

- stocks of essential household items for up to 1,000 families, 40 first-aid kits, sanitation materials, office equipment and 3 vehicles donated to the National Society
- 80 volunteers trained to form part of emergency response brigades in 4 provinces
- 120 volunteers instructed in first aid in 6 provinces
- 10 volunteers trained in stock management
- the head of the emergency response department participated in training abroad on the Safer Access approach

The National Society continued to receive ICRC support for its programmes to increase awareness of IHL and the Movement and thereby build public support for its activities and facilitate its role as an auxiliary to the public authorities.

- 120 representatives of the provincial and communal authorities attended 4 dissemination sessions in 4 provinces
- 5 media briefings jointly organized by the National Society and the ICRC to publicize events such as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day and Movement activities

Regular meetings between Movement partners enhanced coordination and helped develop the skills and activities of the National Society. Movement partners working in Burundi received security updates and advice from the ICRC.



chad

The ICRC has been operating in Chad since 1978. It focuses on protecting and assisting people internally displaced, detained or otherwise affected by internal armed conflict or violence, or by the spillover of hostilities in the neighbouring Darfur region of Sudan. It provides emergency aid, supports treatment for the wounded and amputees, visits detainees and restores family links, primarily for Sudanese refugees. The ICRC also pursues longstanding programmes to promote IHL among the authorities, armed forces and civil society and supports the Red Cross of Chad.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,266
Assistance	16,459
Prevention	1,815
Cooperation with National Societies	1,016
General	-

► **24,556**

of which: Overheads **1,395**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

51 expatriates
158 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- assisted tens of thousands of IDPs, their host residents and nomadic herders in boosting their economic security by providing them with food, relief goods, seed and tools and implementing quick-impact agricultural and veterinary projects
- improved access to water for 120,000 residents, IDPs and returnees
- visited inmates in detention facilities countrywide, following up the cases of 520 security detainees and stepping in, where necessary, to improve detention conditions
- improved treatment for the weapon-wounded by fielding 2 surgical teams, delivering supplies to medical and health facilities, and supporting Chad's 2 physical rehabilitation centres
- restored family links between Sudanese refugees and their relatives and between children formerly associated with fighting forces and their parents through the tracing and RCM services
- assisted the Chadian armed forces in establishing a national school for IHL instructors

CONTEXT

Eastern Chad remained volatile. By year-end, there were some 140,000 people displaced in the region, forced from their homes by nearly two years of armed conflict, communal violence and sporadic cross-border raids from Sudan's conflict-affected Darfur province. The violence had also disrupted the subsistence economy and public services in a region already marked by chronic poverty. In addition, some 240,000 Sudanese refugees from Darfur were still sheltering in eastern Chad.

A number of peace deals were brokered, then broken, between the government and armed groups active in the east. Military confrontations were sporadic and of a low intensity until the last two months of 2007 when heavy fighting erupted.

Communal clashes, mainly between sedentary and nomadic groups, increased in number and intensity in the first half of 2007, but subsided in July at the start of the rainy season. Tensions persisted, however, as herders moved through clash-affected areas.

Relations between Chad and Sudan remained tense. Cooperation agreements between the two countries to restore order along their common border were not followed up, and each country accused the other of sheltering armed groups dedicated to overthrowing their respective governments.

In September, the UN approved a peacekeeping force for Chad and the Central African Republic, comprising some 3,700 European Union troops and 300 UN police mandated to assist in protecting the civilian and refugee populations. By year-end, the force had not yet been deployed.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	3,849	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	520	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	77,788	22% 63%
	<i>of whom females</i>	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	62,343	24% 60%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	102,547	24% 60%
Number of visits carried out	147	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	120,190	35% 25%
Number of places of detention visited	71	<i>Health</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	9	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	2,608	
RCMs collected	8,640		<i>of which curative</i>		225 859
RCMs distributed	6,203		<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		768
People reunited with their families	12	Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	17,922	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	2	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	4	
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	1,083	184 62
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	58	Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	884	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	122	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
	<i>of which for females</i>	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	3,432	625 1,618
	<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	278	40 10
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	479	68 258
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	20				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	5				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	471				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	3				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	107				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC stepped up its activities in Chad, staying focused on protecting and assisting people directly affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence. Resources were concentrated along the Chad-Sudan border and in remote villages in eastern Chad where few organizations were working because of security constraints. The delegation opened six operational posts along the border and in May appealed for an additional CHF 9.47 million to assist the larger-than-anticipated number of IDPs and wounded.

The delegation intensified its dialogue with the authorities, the armed forces and armed groups, reminding them of their obligations under IHL and other applicable laws. It also stressed the ICRC's strict principles of independence and neutrality to ensure that its staff had safe access to people in need. Delegates documented alleged IHL violations and made any necessary representations to the relevant parties.

The ICRC maintained its strategy of assisting IDPs in their host communities. The aim was to help displaced families regain a measure of self-sufficiency, thus favouring their return home, security permitting, rather than their placement in a camp, which could increase dependency on aid and further disrupt the social fabric. Tens of thousands of IDPs and their host residents received a combination of food aid, relief goods, seed and tools. The ICRC also initiated quick-impact agricultural projects to help improve the economy in communities hosting IDPs, and rehabilitated water and health services to meet increased demand. Struggling nomadic communities benefited from a veterinary training programme to boost livestock productivity.

To improve treatment for the weapon-wounded, ICRC surgical teams trained staff and performed operations in two main referral hospitals, while numerous hospitals, clinics and health posts received emergency supplies. The teams also flew to various locations to treat the wounded and held war-surgery seminars for Chadian medical staff working in the east and in N'Djamena. In addition, the ICRC maintained support to Chad's two physical rehabilitation centres.

Delegates continued to follow the individual cases of security detainees and monitor general conditions in detention facilities countrywide. They discussed their findings and recommendations with the authorities, stepping in, where necessary, to improve living conditions. The ICRC, for example, provided malnourished inmates with food and ensured that released detainees who were minors had access to social services and could contact their families. It also acted as a neutral intermediary in facilitating the repatriation of Sudanese soldiers released by armed groups in Chad.

Sudanese refugees continued to contact relatives through the tracing and RCM services. A priority for the ICRC, in coordination with UNHCR and international child protection agencies, was to put child refugees and children formerly associated with fighting forces back in touch with their parents and, where appropriate, reunite the families.

Longstanding programmes to promote IHL progressed as planned, with the focus on the authorities, armed forces, other weapon bearers and influential civil society sectors. Backed by long-term ICRC support, the armed forces established a school for IHL instructors.

The Red Cross of Chad, with ICRC support, boosted its emergency response activities and developed its tracing and communication programmes. The delegation also ensured the coordination of the activities of Movement partners active in Chad.

The ICRC continued to cooperate with UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest in order to maximize impact, identify uncovered needs and avoid duplication, including through its attendance at UN cluster meetings. WFP and the ICRC agreed on a cost-effective joint mechanism to transfer or exchange stocks.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The ICRC stepped up its dialogue with the national and local authorities, the armed forces and armed groups, reminding them of their obligation under IHL to protect those not or no longer taking part in the hostilities. Allegations of IHL violations were rare, although the recruitment of minors into fighting forces was a concern. Delegates collected and documented alleged incidents of abuses and, where necessary, made representations to the parties concerned.

In cooperation with the ICRC, an expert from the Swedish Rescue Services Agency assessed the risk to civilians posed by mines and explosive remnants of war in eastern Chad following the heavy fighting in late 2007. At a subsequent meeting in N'Djamena convened by the ICRC, the national authorities and relevant organizations were informed of the expert's recommendation that clearance operations begin immediately.

Providing emergency aid and livelihood assistance

About 50% of the estimated 140,000 IDPs in eastern Chad had fled to villages near their homes and fields along the Chad-Sudan border. Few organizations, apart from the ICRC, were working in this area because of security constraints. Many households had been displaced more than once, having to abandon crops, food stocks and personal belongings. Communities who took in displaced families were generous, but most had few resources to spare. A small number of IDPs returned home in the latter part of 2007.

IDPs in the Assoungou, Dar Sila and Dar Tama border regions were able to set up makeshift homes with shelter materials and basic household items delivered by the ICRC. Needy IDPs, host residents and returnees also received food rations to last until the next harvest, and those with access to arable land, which was the majority, were given seed and tools. Post-distribution monitoring in late 2007 showed that the resulting cereal crop of the displaced beneficiaries would cover their needs until at least April 2008, barring another displacement.

IDPs and their host communities also worked with the ICRC on implementing small-scale agricultural projects designed to improve their economic situation. Villagers in Dogdoré (Dar Sila) and Goungour (Assoungou) received pedal-operated pumps to irrigate vegetable gardens, which provided food and income. Associations of market gardeners from 10 villages in Assoungou and Dar Sila were also able to boost and diversify their vegetable production after attending a three-day course on cultivation methods and receiving seed and tools. The course was organized with the National Rural Development Office. Allacha (Dar Sila) village built a communal grain warehouse, with the ICRC providing materials and expertise.

To improve livestock productivity, 95 pastoralists in Dar Sila were trained and equipped by the ICRC and the Animal Husbandry Ministry to provide basic veterinary services in their nomadic communities.

- ▶ 77,494 people (16,259 households), including 58,898 IDPs, received food
- ▶ 62,240 IDPs and 103 residents (13,161 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 102,547 people (21,026 households), including 90,747 IDPs, benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 72,112 people from distributions of seed and tools
 - 23,750 pastoralists from a veterinary training programme
 - 6,685 people from micro-economic projects

Improving water and health services

Some 55,000 IDPs, residents and returnees in the Assoungou region had access to health care at four centres (Arkoum, Borata, Goungour and Kawa), which received ICRC supplies, back-up for immunization campaigns, and staff training in the diagnosis and treatment of malaria. In addition, the Arkoum and Borata centres were rebuilt, with improved sanitation facilities. Several other health centres in violence-affected areas received ad hoc medical supplies to cope with an influx of IDPs or returnees, or to fill gaps between deliveries of stock.

In the 4 health centres that received regular ICRC support:

- ▶ 2,608 people given consultations, including 768 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 1,840 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 17,922 vaccine doses administered (15,681 to children aged five or under and 1,946 to women of childbearing age)

The supply of drinking water also improved in the border region after the ICRC upgraded systems in Adé, Adré, Biltine and Iriba and dug or rehabilitated 17 rural wells.

- ▶ 120,000 people benefited from water projects

Restoring family links

Several thousand Sudanese refugees living in 12 camps in eastern Chad restored or maintained contact with relatives through the tracing and RCM services run by the ICRC and Chadian Red Cross and refugee volunteers. In coordination with UNHCR, UNICEF and other child protection agencies, a small number of vulnerable refugees, including children, were reunited with their families in another refugee camp or in Sudan. Similarly, children in Chad formerly associated with fighting forces were offered the RCM and tracing services to contact and, where possible, rejoin their parents.

On 25 October, the Chadian authorities halted the operation and arrested members of the French charity Zoe's Ark who had planned to fly 103 children from Abéché to foster parents in France. The Chadian authorities assumed responsibility for identifying the children and locating their parents. The ICRC offered to trace any parents believed to be in Sudan and, upon request by all authorities concerned and the families, reunite them with their children.

- ▶ 8,488 RCMs collected from and 6,169 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 525 from and 381 to unaccompanied/separated children, of which 318 from and 84 to children formerly associated with fighting forces

- new tracing requests registered for 2 people (including 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 58 people located; 122 people (including 44 females and 37 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 12 people reunited with their families, including 5 unaccompanied/separated children
- 20 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 471 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC visited inmates in government-run detention facilities countrywide, monitoring the individual cases of security detainees and general living conditions and treatment. The authorities were informed, in confidence, of the ICRC's findings and recommendations.

Inmates were offered the RCM service to contact their families and received any essential items they lacked, such as soap, brooms and buckets.

Where necessary, the ICRC stepped in to help the authorities improve detention conditions. After receiving a month's worth of ICRC food rations in January, malnourished detainees held in N'Djamena in connection with the 2006 attack on the capital regained a normal nutritional status. When the majority of these detainees were released in February, the 40 minors were placed, at the ICRC's instigation, in a reintegration centre, where most contacted relatives through RCMs. Following the November 2007 fighting in eastern Chad, 26 wounded detainees were treated by ICRC surgeons, and the detaining authorities received medical supplies. In addition, inmates in two detention facilities faced fewer health risks after the ICRC upgraded sanitation facilities.

The delegation visited some people held in Chad by armed groups. In April, 94 such detainees were released and repatriated to Sudan, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

- 3,849 detainees visited, of whom 520 monitored individually (including 8 females and 16 minors) and 371 newly registered (including 8 females and 14 minors), during 147 visits to 71 places of detention
- 152 RCMs collected from and 34 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 107 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 294 detainees received food
- 190 detainees benefited from sanitation projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the weapon-wounded

Staff at N'Djamena's Liberty Hospital and Abéché District Hospital improved their surgical skills through training programmes run by two four-person ICRC teams, who also performed emergency operations. The Abéché training programme ended in June. Both hospitals also received drugs, dressing kits, surgical instruments, tents and beds, and in Liberty Hospital a physiotherapy department was established and the water and sewerage systems rehabilitated. In another initiative, a total of 60 Chadian staff from various medical facilities participated in two ICRC war-surgery seminars held in N'Djamena and Abéché.

At year-end, when heavy fighting erupted in eastern Chad, a second ICRC surgical team was flown in to help out at Abéché Hospital, then deployed to the Military Teaching Hospital in N'Djamena, where the remaining casualties had been transferred.

During 2007, various health posts in eastern Chad received ad hoc supplies to treat the wounded, and several hundred people, including the wounded, children, pregnant women and the elderly, were evacuated by the ICRC from conflict zones to hospitals or other safe places.

In the 2 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 1,083 patients (including 184 women and 62 children) admitted: of whom 675 weapon-wounded (including 75 women, 22 children, and 36 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war) and 408 other surgical cases
- 884 surgical operations performed

Providing services for amputees

People continued to lose limbs in mine incidents and other conflict-related situations, especially in the east and north of Chad.

Patients at Chad's two physical rehabilitation centres, the Kabalaye Physical Rehabilitation Centre in N'Djamena and Maison Notre Dame de la Paix in Moundou, were fitted with artificial limbs or other mobility devices produced with ICRC equipment and materials. Personnel at both centres also received on-the-job training during three- to five-month missions by two ICRC experts, and five staff members attended an ICRC prosthetics/orthotics course in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Through the ICRC's referral system, 52 war amputees from eastern and northern Chad were treated at the Kabalaye centre, with the delegation funding their transport, accommodation and treatment.

- 3,432 patients (including 625 women and 1,618 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 127 new patients (including 18 women and 5 children) fitted with prostheses and 105 (including 4 women and 65 children) fitted with orthoses
- 278 prostheses (including 40 for women, 10 for children and 181 for mine victims), 479 orthoses (including 68 for women, 258 for children and 15 for mine victims), 1,179 crutches and 49 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The Chadian authorities and the ICRC met on several occasions to discuss protection issues related to the conflict and the status of Chad's ratification and implementation of IHL treaties.

To assist the implementation process, around 100 members of parliament took part in a one-day session in May on the integration into national law of the provisions of IHL treaties ratified by Chad. The relevant ministries also received a draft law on the protection of the red cross emblem for their review. A law establishing a national IHL committee, drawn up with ICRC support at the end of 2006, awaited presidential approval.

In eastern Chad, civil authorities and traditional leaders learned more about IHL and the ICRC through a series of introductory presentations, which stressed the protection that IHL afforded civilians and humanitarian organizations.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Chadian armed forces and the ICRC continued to work together to ensure that IHL was integrated systematically into military operations and training at all levels.

The Defence Ministry's IHL reference centre, which coordinated IHL instruction at the country's 12 military training institutions, was converted in September into a school for IHL instructors. To assist this initiative, the new head of the school participated in August in the two-week senior workshop on International Rules governing Military Operation, on the integration of IHL into military operations. Senior officers from 60 countries attended the event, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, and hosted by the Swiss army and the ICRC. One military IHL instructor also took part in an advanced IHL course in San Remo, while 57 experienced or new instructors reinforced their teaching skills at ICRC courses held in Chad. The school also received IHL materials and, in December, held its first course, attended by senior staff officers of the armed and security forces.

Other military training establishments renewed their working relations with the ICRC. For example, recruits in the national police force and at the National School for Non-Commissioned Army Officers attended briefings on IHL as part of their training.

Delegates in the field in eastern Chad took every opportunity to remind armed forces personnel and members of armed groups of their obligations under IHL and, where possible, gave formal presentations on the subject.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Given the volatile situation in Chad, it was important that the public, especially influential sectors of civil society, supported IHL, including the principle of humanitarian access to conflict victims.

A first-time contact between the national association of traditional leaders and the ICRC was especially fruitful. The leaders learned more about IHL but also explained their concerns and local dynamics, which put the ICRC in a better position to protect and assist needy communities. In another successful initiative, law lecturers from Chad's four main institutions of higher education, as well as magistrates, lawyers and journalists, took part in the ICRC's first ever national course held in Chad on teaching IHL. Over eight days in February, the 21 participants updated their knowledge of IHL and discussed teaching techniques and course plans.

In eastern Chad, diverse audiences, including medical staff, women's and youth groups, and UN and NGO workers, were briefed on IHL and its application in Chad. In parallel, the general public learned about humanitarian issues through national and international media coverage generated by regular ICRC updates.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Strengthening capacity

During 2007, the Chadian Red Cross significantly boosted its emergency response skills, helping the ICRC deliver relief goods and care for the wounded and the sick. With the help of ICRC funds, training, materials, and technical and logistics back-up, the National Society also worked to develop its tracing and communication programmes, drafted new statutes in line with Movement standards and expanded its infrastructure.

With ICRC support, the Chadian Red Cross:

- ▶ trained personnel in first aid, the Safer Access approach, tracing, and the promotion of IHL, the Movement and the Fundamental Principles
- ▶ fielded an efficient network of first-aiders in conflict-affected areas
- ▶ deployed nursing aides during emergencies at Abéché Hospital and N'Djamena Military Teaching Hospital
- ▶ established a contingency plan to assist the ICRC-supported Liberty Hospital in N'Djamena in the event of an influx of weapon-wounded
- ▶ set up a horse-and-cart service to transport patients to medical facilities from the remote Adré border region
- ▶ constructed a northern branch (Faya Largeau) and added a four-wheel drive vehicle for tracing and dissemination work
- ▶ initiated tracing activities in southern Chad

Coordinating Movement activities

To maximize the impact of aid, the ICRC convened regular coordination meetings with Movement partners in Chad and assisted them with security management, logistics and public communication. With ICRC support, for example, the International Federation defined a plan to evacuate its staff working in refugee camps in eastern Chad should the situation there deteriorate.



Congo

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	631
Assistance	2,451
Prevention	1,623
Cooperation with National Societies	390
General	-

► **5,094**

of which: Overheads 304

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
82	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- conducted projects in urban and rural areas of the Pool region to provide some 39,000 people with access to safe drinking water
- supported 8 health centres in Pool through the provision of medical supplies, supervision and training
- helped build the economic security of over 30,000 people in Pool
- pursued activities to promote IHL among the armed and security forces, academic circles and civil society
- helped the National Society reinforce its capacities in the fields of water and sanitation, economic security, restoration of family links, HIV/AIDS awareness and first aid
- closed its office in Mindouli and gradually reduced its assistance activities

CONTEXT

Legislative elections dominated the political scene in 2007, with the creation of numerous parties and the formation of new alliances, notably between the ruling Congolese Labour Party (PCT) and the Congolese Movement for Democracy and Integral Development (MCCDI) of Bernard Kolelas. A coalition led by President Sassou Nguesso emerged victorious, although the elections drew criticism from international observers and opposition political parties. In December, two members of the MCCDI were appointed to the cabinet.

The transformation of the National Resistance Council into a political movement called the National Council of Republicans (CNR) gave new momentum to its dialogue with the authorities, easing the deadlock that had prevailed for several years over the situation in the Pool region. Frédéric Bintsangou, alias Pasteur Ntoumi, the leader of the CNR, was named as a general delegate in the office of the head of State, charged with the promotion of peace and post-conflict reconstruction.

In September, a failed attempt by Bintsangou to assume his post in Brazzaville was marked by armed incidents. Tension between the government and the CNR mounted, and by the 31 December deadline set by President Sassou Nguesso, Bintsangou still had not taken up his functions. The disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of militia members was thus delayed, since its start was conditional upon Bintsangou assuming his post. Nevertheless, a UNDP programme was under way in Pool to help ex-combatants learn vocational skills and earn an income.

The security situation in Pool stabilized further, despite occasional acts of banditry. The rehabilitation of the Brazzaville-Kinkala road, financed by the European Union (EU), was a significant positive development, increasing the freedom of movement of people and goods and opening up the south of the region to increased trade. However, the area around Kindamba, in the north of Pool, remained cut off. Throughout the region, lack of infrastructure, much of which had been damaged or destroyed during the conflict, and inadequate access to basic services continued to cause problems for residents. The population received assistance from a handful of humanitarian agencies and from a growing number of development organizations.

On 22 and 23 March, clashes broke out in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), between the country's armed forces and troops loyal to its former vice-president, Jean-Pierre Bemba. Some two hundred DRC

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS					
Detainees visited	598	Economic security, water and habitat					
Detainees visited and monitored individually	10	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	30,115	40%	25%	
Number of visits carried out	14	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	38,610	40%	20%	
Number of places of detention visited	6	Health					
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	Structures	8			
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Consultations	Patients	35,367			
RCMs collected	1,689		of which curative	Patients		8,847	14,171
RCMs distributed	1,652		of which ante/post-natal	Patients		3,633	11
People reunited with their families	2	Immunizations	Doses	15,419			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons							
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	8						
	of whom females						
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance						
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	2						
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	8						
	of which for females						
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance						
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers							
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	4						
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	2						
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	11						
DOCUMENTS ISSUED							
People to whom travel documents were issued	5						
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	7						

nationals, including more than a hundred militia members, many of them accompanied by their wives and children, sought refuge in Brazzaville, and were later transferred by the Congolese authorities to a site north of the capital.

A cholera epidemic affected more than 7,000 people in the south of the country, claiming about a hundred lives.

The Chinese government and the London Club (a group of private creditors) agreed to cancel some of the debts owed to them by Congo, and the World Bank pledged to finance projects in the health and agriculture sectors.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC gained a clear picture of living and security conditions in the Pool region through its programmes to improve the civilian population's economic security and access to health care and safe drinking water. With the security situation in Pool improving, the ICRC encouraged the authorities and other organizations to meet the needs of the local population and began to gradually reduce certain of its own activities in the region. It closed its office in Mindouli in January, while maintaining a presence in the region through its sub-delegation in Kinkala.

The ICRC continued to work with the authorities, the armed forces and other weapon bearers, academic circles and the general public to build an environment in which IHL was respected and the organization's mandate and activities were understood and accepted.

Delegates made regular visits to detainees in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, chiefly those held for reasons of State security, to check that conditions of detention and the treatment of detainees met internationally recognized standards.

The ICRC carried out a number of activities in cooperation with the Congolese Red Cross, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of the National Society and ensuring it was able to continue programmes begun by the ICRC as the latter organization progressively reduced its operational presence in the country. It commenced support to the Brazzaville branch for the collection and distribution of RCMs, following the success of a similar exercise in Pointe-Noire. The National Society also received training in first aid, hygiene and sanitation and support for its efforts to raise public awareness of HIV/AIDS. The construction of the National Society's office in the Pool region was completed.

Following the fighting in Kinshasa in March, the ICRC provided material assistance to the Congolese Red Cross to help it attend to the needs of people who had sought refuge in Brazzaville. It also furnished the National Society with first-aid kits and relief items, to complement aid provided by the government, and facilitated the restoration of family links.

The ICRC participated in regular coordination meetings of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other aid or development organizations, particularly those working in Pool.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

It remained difficult for people living in the Pool region, particularly the most vulnerable, to access essential services. Despite the general improvement in the security situation, the civilian population was reportedly subjected to occasional incidents of theft or acts of violence by weapon bearers. Members of the CNR's militia had yet to return to civilian life, following the group's conversion into a political movement, while the authorities' capacity to provide law and order in the region remained limited.

The situation of residents of volatile parts of the Pool region was monitored by the ICRC, which aimed to assist those in need while obtaining a clear picture of their security and living conditions. The organization regularly spoke with the authorities and weapon bearers to remind them of their obligations towards the civilian population, in particular the necessity of allowing access to essential services.

Restoring family links

Refugees used the RCM service to restore or maintain contact with family members in their home countries, as did people living in remote areas, without other means of communication, to keep in touch with relatives abroad. In particular, people who had sought refuge in Brazzaville from the fighting in Kinshasa in March used the service to re-establish links with their relatives in the DRC.

The cases of unaccompanied children, mainly of Congolese and Rwandan origin, continued to be followed by the ICRC, which worked to reunite them with their relatives, where appropriate. Regular contact with government authorities, UNHCR and various other partners facilitated the exchange of information on the children's situation and ensured activities were properly coordinated. UNHCR concentrated on support to children separated from their parents, while ICRC efforts focused on children not accompanied by any family members.

- 1,680 RCMs collected from and 1,635 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1 from and 2 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 8 people (including 3 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 2 people located; 8 people (including 3 females and 3 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 4 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 2 reunited with their families; 11 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 5 people issued with ICRC travel documents

Building food and economic security

At the start of the year, an evaluation of the ICRC's activities to revive agriculture and fish-farming in the Pool region since 2003 revealed that they had achieved strong results. More than 70% of households that had received ploughing tools and mosaic-resistant cassava cuttings before the end of 2005 had cultivated a second field without ICRC help, or had redistributed or sold cuttings. The evaluation estimated that more than 4,000 households had thus received mosaic-resistant cuttings, helping slow the spread of the virus. From 85 fish-farming ponds rehabilitated with ICRC assistance in the south of Pool, an estimated 320 ponds in total had been created and stocked. This ensured a ready supply of fingerlings for further fish farming, while adult fish could be sold in markets, boosting household income and community food security.

The most severe form of the mosaic virus remained a threat. Domestic varieties having proved vulnerable to the virus, local agricultural authorities imported, propagated and distributed six high-yielding, mosaic-resistant varieties of cuttings. Their staff worked with the rural population, with material and logistical support from the ICRC. A further four varieties were imported and being propagated. The full engagement of the authorities, already aware of the severity of the threat, was sought, in order that they might progressively take charge of the programme.

Members of communities in which agricultural or fish-farming projects were taking place, including residents who were not directly associated with ICRC projects, participated in training sessions to learn improved farming techniques.

- 30,115 people benefited from agricultural inputs
- 6,473 people participated in 172 training sessions
- 5,076 brochures distributed, of which 2,449 on methods to combat the mosaic virus and 2,627 on fish-farming techniques

Water and sanitation

Despite the activities of humanitarian and development actors working in the Pool region, access to safe drinking water remained difficult in certain areas. The ICRC therefore endeavoured to impress upon the authorities the need to provide adequate resources to the water sector and continued to seek the involvement of other actors active in this domain. In line with the planned reduction of its activities, the ICRC ended its water and sanitation projects in December 2007, apart from two sites where work was set to continue until February 2008.

Residents of the Pool region benefited from the completion of a gravity-fed network, three spring capture projects, and repairs to eight wells with hand pumps. Work on two further networks was still under way. Preference was given to the protection of water sources and the maintenance or repair of gravity-fed systems over the drilling of new wells, in order to limit maintenance requirements.

Some 10,000 residents of Kinkala saw the completion of works to rehabilitate their water treatment plant, carried out in conjunction with the national water authorities, with the plant scheduled to be put into service in January 2008.

Local management committees took charge of the maintenance of each water system, following training, while rural and urban residents continued to learn about hygiene in sessions organized by the ICRC.

- 38,610 people benefited from water and sanitation projects
- 5,885 people attended 51 hygiene promotion sessions
- 10 staff of water treatment plants rehabilitated by the ICRC since 1998 participated, with ICRC financial support, in a training workshop in Kinshasa, DRC

Health care

Integrated health centres received regular support from the ICRC in the form of medical and other supplies, as well as supervision and training. The health authorities worked closely with the ICRC, which urged them to allocate sufficient resources to respond to the health needs of the population. To improve the functioning of the health centres and build the capacity of the health authorities to assume responsibility for them, the ICRC provided logistical support for joint supervisory visits made with the Pool regional

health department and the Support Project for the Congo Brazzaville Health System (PASCOB), an EU-funded initiative. Training in the management of integrated health centres, organized jointly with the health department, aimed to strengthen administrative capacity.

A cost-recovery system was introduced in the integrated health centres, within the framework of the ICRC's progressive withdrawal of direct support for health care in the country.

Residents of Pool also benefited from ICRC logistical support to the Expanded Programme on Immunization and the completion of construction work on the Kimanika health centre, the Madzia maternity centre and the sanitation block of the Massembo-Loubaki health centre.

Regular contact with other actors running or supporting health programmes in Pool, such as Médecins Sans Frontières and the EU, aimed to identify gaps and to coordinate activities.

Five patients wounded during past conflicts were treated at the Central Military Hospital in Brazzaville with medicines and medical materials donated by the ICRC. A medical kit to treat up to 10,000 people was dispatched from Brazzaville to Kinshasa following the March events. The ICRC kept surgical and medical materials in stock for the treatment of up to 100 wounded people.

In the 8 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 60,000):

- ▶ 35,367 people given consultations, including 3,644 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 31,723 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 15,419 vaccine doses administered (12,910 to children aged five or under and 2,509 to women of childbearing age)

In addition:

- ▶ 13 people attended a course on health centre administration
- ▶ 24 members of health committees attended training sessions to reinforce their management capacities
- ▶ 8 health centre managers participated in training on the treatment of malnutrition and sexual violence
- ▶ 23 supervisory visits conducted jointly by the health department and the ICRC, some of which attended by PASCOB staff

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in places of temporary and permanent detention in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, under the jurisdiction of the Ministries of Justice, Defence and Public Order, continued to receive visits from the ICRC. Particular attention was paid to detainees held for reasons of State security. Delegates monitored detainees' treatment and detention conditions and, where necessary, made recommendations for improvements as part of a confidential dialogue with the authorities.

- ▶ 598 detainees visited, of whom 10 monitored individually and 1 newly registered, during 14 visits to 6 places of detention
- ▶ 9 RCMs collected from and 17 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 7 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

An interministerial committee met to establish the steps necessary to create a national IHL committee. The Supreme Court returned a favourable opinion on a draft decree to establish the prospective committee, and on a law implementing the Rome Statute.

- ▶ a member of the interministerial committee attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families
- ▶ a member of the same committee participated in a technical meeting on the national implementation of IHL, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon
- ▶ with reforms to the penal code under consideration, the Ministry of Justice received technical advice from the ICRC on appropriate sanctions for IHL violations
- ▶ an interministerial committee considered, with input from the ICRC and the National Society, a draft law to protect the emblem
- ▶ legislation relating to the Ottawa Convention finalized with input from the ICRC
- ▶ the Congolese Red Cross received support in preparing for its participation in the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In February, the president decreed that a committee on the integration of IHL and human rights principles into the training and operations of the armed and security forces should be established. The authorities' efforts in this respect received ICRC support, with military personnel and members of the police and *gendarmerie* briefed on IHL and/or humanitarian principles. Instructors previously trained by the ICRC contributed to many of these sessions, and further train-the-trainer sessions were conducted by the ICRC.

- ▶ 9 *gendarmes*/police officers participated in a workshop on the integration of humanitarian and human rights principles into training curricula
- ▶ 2 army officers sponsored to attend IHL training abroad
- ▶ 22 military legal advisers trained in IHL, and 174 military, police and *gendarme* instructors participated in relevant train-the-trainer sessions
- ▶ 352 members of the presidential guard/other units, 1,602 people attending military training institutions and 148 members of units deployed in the Pool region briefed on IHL and the ICRC
- ▶ 800 police officers or cadets briefed on human rights and relevant IHL rules
- ▶ 79 soldiers/observers assigned to peacekeeping missions in the Central African Republic and Sudan briefed on IHL and the ICRC's activities in those countries

More than 220 members of the CNR's militia were among some 22,300 residents of communities in the Pool region who attended a play raising awareness of humanitarian values.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Promoting IHL among the media and civil society organizations

- 33 representatives of human rights NGOs participated in a workshop to raise awareness of IHL and ICRC activities, helping to establish a platform for the discussion of topics of common interest
- journalists learned about IHL and the ICRC at a seminar in Brazzaville

Teaching IHL in schools and universities

- a team of 4 Congolese students were runners-up in a regional IHL moot court competition in Burkina Faso
- 158 students at Marien Ngouabi University, the Free University of Congo and the national school of public administration participated in 2 events to raise their awareness of IHL and the mandates and activities of the Congolese Red Cross and the ICRC
- 41 teachers from 12 colleges in the Pool region participated in training sessions on IHL, the ICRC and the use of an educational comic book on humanitarian values entitled *The battle of the villages*; more than 1,000 students followed the programme

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Congolese Red Cross held its general assembly, with financial support from the International Federation and the ICRC, and elected a new president. Representatives attended the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva.

Construction of the National Society's office in Kinkala was completed, helping provide the operational capacity needed for it to take over activities in Pool as the ICRC withdrew from the region.

The Congolese Red Cross distributed assistance to people who had fled the fighting in Kinshasa in March. It received first-aid kits and other relief items from the ICRC to complement aid provided by the government.

The National Society operated the RCM service in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, with ICRC financial and technical support (see *Civilians*).

With ICRC support:

- 80 volunteers learned first aid, and some 100 trained in HIV/AIDS awareness-raising techniques
- 25 volunteers conducted a day of HIV/AIDS awareness-raising activities for the population of Kinkala
- 18 volunteers from the Pool region received hygiene training to help ensure the sustainability of ICRC water and sanitation programmes
- 97 volunteers from Pool briefed on the Movement, its components and their respective roles
- over 300 volunteers participated in a range of activities to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May)

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM					
Detainees visited	6,900	Economic security, water and habitat					
Detainees visited and monitored individually	771	Food	Beneficiaries	935	16%	1%	
	of whom females	29					
	of whom minors	34	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	80,490	29%	16%
Number of visits carried out	134	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	51,935	43%	4%	
Number of places of detention visited	45	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	993,255	30%	40%	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health					
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Health centres supported	Structures	26			
RCMs collected	61,488	Consultations	Patients	31,783			
RCMs distributed	54,270		of which curative	Patients		3,570	12,721
People reunited with their families	465		of which ante/post-natal	Patients		3,601	8,461
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Immunizations	Doses	20,043			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	664	WOUNDED AND SICK					
	of whom females	341	Hospitals supported	Structures	27		
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	438	Admissions	Patients	22,661	10,104	8,047
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	409	Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	481	Operations	Operations performed	4,000	
	of which for females	233		Physical rehabilitation			
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance	319	Patients receiving services	Patients	947	156	87
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers			Prostheses delivered	Units	778	121	77
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	561		Orthoses delivered	Units	387	79	39
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	465						
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	354						
DOCUMENTS ISSUED							
People to whom travel documents were issued	3						
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	27						

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC maintained its presence in the field in order to assess and respond to the needs of the local population. It concentrated on the volatile North and South Kivu provinces and parts of Katanga, and to a lesser extent Province Orientale and Western and Eastern Kasai. While shifting security constraints opened up access to some areas during the first half of the year, Ituri, where six of the ICRC's staff members were killed in 2001, remained off-limits.

The resurgence of conflict in North Kivu in the second half of the year triggered massive suffering and displacement, gave rise to allegations of widespread IHL abuses, and rendered access to the victims extremely difficult for humanitarian workers. Although constrained by the security situation, the ICRC reinforced its field presence, opening a base in the south of Lubero and extending its logistics network to Butembo so that it could reach conflict-affected areas in the north of the province.

In both North and South Kivu, the ICRC, often working closely with the Red Cross of the DRC, carried out a range of assistance and protection activities for people affected by conflict. Activities included: supporting hospitals and health posts, for instance through the deployment of a surgical team to Goma military hospital; distributing essential household items; briefing weapon bearers on IHL and making representations to the parties to conflict regarding their obligations towards the civilian population. Physical rehabilitation centres received materials, training and technical supervision so that they could treat amputees and others with impaired mobility as result of conflict.

Victims of sexual violence also benefited from a multidisciplinary approach, and the ICRC's programme of medical and psychological

support for them was extended to areas where IDPs had congregated. Furthermore, through representations to the authorities, dissemination activities for weapon bearers, and community awareness campaigns, the ICRC endeavoured to reduce the incidence of rape and the stigma and discrimination faced by victims.

The ICRC and the DRC Red Cross helped family members separated by conflict stay in touch through the RCM service, and made the tracing network available for them to locate relatives whose whereabouts were unknown.

In regions where the security situation had become more stable, ICRC water supply projects, along with agricultural and fishing programmes designed to build economic self-sufficiency, helped to improve the population's living conditions.

Delegates followed the individual cases of people detained in relation to the conflict or for security reasons and monitored conditions in places of detention more generally. Food rations were provided when nutritional levels fell particularly low, and medicines and hygiene items were supplied in certain prisons. Delegates also visited people held by Laurent Nkunda's forces in North Kivu.

The ICRC continued to work closely with the National Society, in particular in responding to emergencies, and provided it with material, technical and financial support.

The ICRC kept in regular contact with other humanitarian agencies operating locally, including those participating in the UN cluster system, in order to ensure activities were coordinated and to avoid gaps or duplication.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The situation of civilians, especially in conflict-affected areas of North and South Kivu, was monitored by the ICRC. Dialogue was strengthened with armed groups and the FARDC, and allegations of IHL violations, including murder, sexual violence and looting, collected from victims and direct witnesses, were, where necessary, made known to them so that they could bring such abuses to an end.

More than 430 people, including weapon bearers and their families, took refuge with MONUC following fighting in Kinshasa in March. They received visits from ICRC delegates, who discussed their situation with MONUC and made the RCM service available to them.

Restoring family links

In most of the country, stability increased, communications improved, and the number of RCMs exchanged and unaccompanied minors registered fell progressively.

Unaccompanied and vulnerable children, including children formerly associated with armed forces or groups, were reunited with their families, as appropriate. When this involved repatriation, the ICRC worked in coordination with the authorities concerned and UNHCR.

- ▶ 58,416 RCMs collected from and 51,948 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 821 from and 572 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 664 people (including 341 females and 438 minors at the time of disappearance); 409 people located; 481 people (including 233 females and 319 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 561 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 185 demobilized children); 465 reunited with their families; 354 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 62 demobilized children) still being handled

Assisting conflict-affected people

Families displaced by fighting in North and South Kivu received essential household items from the ICRC and the National Society, reducing the burden on the communities hosting them and helping them resume their lives on their return home. Certain households received seed and tools to enable them to grow more food. Eighty households received food rations.

Farming associations in North and South Kivu and Katanga benefited from training and material assistance, including the supply of mosaic-resistant manioc cuttings and cash-crop seed. This increased members' agricultural production and food security and enabled them to propagate mosaic-resistant manioc varieties and make them more widely available. An agricultural institute conducted research into the best-adapted crop varieties for the different regions, with ICRC financial support.

Households received vegetable seed for market gardening projects, helping improve their food and economic security and increasing the availability of seed on local markets.

Fish-farming associations received fingerlings, tools and training. The local population thus gained better sources of protein, fish-farming expertise increased and there was a better supply of fingerlings for other fish farms.

- ▶ 74,395 people (14,888 households/families) received essential household items
- ▶ 200 people (80 households) received food
- ▶ 51,755 people (10,363 households) benefited from agricultural/fish-farming initiatives, including:
 - 5,500 people from distributions of seed and tools for IDPs, host families and returnees
 - 39,430 people from distributions of mosaic-resistant manioc cuttings, cash-crop seed and vegetable seed for market gardening
 - 6,825 people from distributions of fish-farming inputs

Strengthening health care

Many civilians in North and South Kivu suffered limited access to health care owing to conflict, gaps in coverage, and delays in implementing the national health strategy. Health centres in North and South Kivu and elsewhere in the DRC received medicines and other supplies, staff training, and support for specific programmes such as anti-malaria and immunization campaigns from the ICRC, often working jointly with the National Society.

Twenty-two health facilities, mostly in North and South Kivu, benefited from ICRC ad hoc medical assistance, increasing their capacities to respond to an influx of IDPs or weapon-wounded. Medical supplies for up to 20,000 people, including HIV/AIDS post-exposure prophylaxis kits, were positioned near conflict areas to facilitate the rapid provision of health care in emergencies.

Medical care for victims of sexual violence was made available in accessible health facilities, and communities learned about the importance of ensuring that victims received treatment promptly. Victims of sexual violence also gained improved access to counselling and psychological and socio-economic support, facilitating their recovery and reintegration into their communities, through ICRC assistance to counselling centres, nine of which were directly supported by the organization. The programme was extended to areas where IDPs had congregated, such as the camps around Goma and in Minova in South Kivu.

In the health centres receiving regular ICRC support (catchment population: 46,000):

- ▶ 31,783 people given consultations, including 12,062 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 19,721 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 20,043 vaccine doses administered (18,255 to children aged five or under and 40 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 269 health education sessions held

In addition:

- ▶ 600 unaccompanied children benefited from medical consultations in the centres accommodating them
- ▶ 874 victims of sexual violence received at ICRC-supported counselling centres and referred to health facilities where necessary, 99 of whom given post-exposure prophylaxis within 72 hours of being raped

Improving water supply

Almost 1 million people had their access to clean water restored through the ICRC's rehabilitation of water facilities in towns and rural areas. As a result, IDPs and local communities, particularly in North and South Kivu, faced fewer health risks. Town pumping stations were repaired, rural water networks improved and

extended, and boreholes rehabilitated and equipped with hand pumps. One hospital and four health facilities benefited from repairs to their water and sanitation systems and other infrastructure. In case of emergency, water supply equipment to respond to the needs of up to 30,000 people was kept in Goma. Wherever possible, work was done in coordination with the water authorities. In Kinshasa, 13 engineers and technicians received technical training as part of institutional support to Regideso, the urban water board.

- 988,884 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 200,000 people from the rehabilitation of the Goma town pumping station (North Kivu)

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People arrested in relation to ongoing or past conflicts or for reasons of national security received visits from ICRC delegates, who followed their cases individually. The conditions of detention and treatment of the general prison population were monitored, with particular attention paid to the situation of women and children, and recommendations were made for improvements, where necessary. In the last months of the year, delegates also visited people detained by Laurent Nkunda's forces.

- 6,900 detainees visited, of whom 771 monitored individually (including 29 females and 34 minors) and 518 newly registered (including 23 females and 34 minors), during 134 visits to 45 places of detention
- 3,072 RCMs collected from and 2,322 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 27 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Limited resources and severe overcrowding adversely affected detainees' access to safe water and their health and nutritional status.

Detainees in Goma and Kinshasa benefited from work to upgrade the central prisons' water and sanitation facilities.

Over 20,000 consultations took place in the 7 prison dispensaries receiving medical supplies from the ICRC and 117 detainees were transferred to hospital. Ministry of Health staff began supervising the dispensaries, and the EU included the Goma prison dispensary in its financing of the North Kivu health system. Inmates of Goma prison learned about HIV/AIDS through an ICRC-supported awareness programme.

In certain instances, where nutritional levels were particularly low, detainees received food directly from the ICRC. In Buluo prison, detainees received assistance in implementing a kitchen garden project to increase access to fresh food.

Inmates of prisons in Katanga and Kinshasa received monthly rations of soap to improve hygiene, while inmates of Goma prison benefited from training in safe hygiene. Detainees in many prisons received blankets and buckets.

- 4,371 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- 6,095 detainees received essential household items
- 735 detainees received supplementary food rations
- 180 detainees benefited from agricultural projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Twenty-seven hospitals in North and South Kivu and Kinshasa received medical and laboratory supplies, including kits to treat weapon wounds, on a regular or ad hoc basis. Weapon-wounded patients received improved treatment from Congolese surgical teams thanks to the support of an ICRC surgeon.

The number of consultations delivered at Uvira hospital doubled in 12 months, owing largely to ICRC material assistance and capacity building.

After an initial delay, Panzi hospital began treating osteomyelitis. Patients benefited from the hospital's new operating theatre and physiotherapy service and its newly equipped laboratory.

In the 8 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 22,661 patients (including 10,104 women and 8,047 children) admitted: of whom 1,521 weapon-wounded (including 97 women, 64 children, and 3 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 3,914 other surgical cases, and 11,149 medical and 6,077 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 4,000 surgical operations performed
- 51,614 outpatients given consultations, including 40,516 attending surgical or medical consultations and 11,098 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

In addition:

- 252 patients received 2,520 physiotherapy sessions
- 75 police doctors and nurses attended 3 seminars organized by the ICRC surgeon
- 4 trainee doctors, 6 laboratory technicians and 3 physiotherapists trained and supervised

Civilians and military weapon-wounded in need of physical rehabilitation had access to treatment, reimbursed by the ICRC, in five centres in Bukavu, Goma, Kinshasa and Mbuji Mayi.

- 947 patients (including 156 women and 87 children) received services at 5 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 572 new patients (including 91 women and 46 children) fitted with prostheses and 217 (including 43 women and 22 children) fitted with orthoses
- 778 prostheses (including 121 for women, 77 for children and 116 for mine victims), 387 orthoses (including 79 for women, 39 for children and 32 for mine victims), 1,170 crutches and 15 wheelchairs delivered
- 3 prosthetic/orthotic technicians attended polypropylene technology training in Ethiopia

AUTHORITIES

The establishment of the Third Republic presented a fresh opportunity to implement IHL treaties in national law.

- the president of the National Assembly introduced a draft law implementing the Ottawa Convention
- the DRC Red Cross received input from the ICRC on a draft law to protect the emblem, including provisions incorporating Additional Protocol III, and submitted the bill to the Ministry of Health

- ▶ the authorities pledged to adopt a draft law implementing the Rome Statute
- ▶ 25 national deputies from key parliamentary commissions participated in a seminar on IHL implementation

Government ministers, provincial and local officials, and other relevant authorities met the ICRC regularly. Information sessions on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities were held for:

- ▶ 758 officials from provincial/local authorities
- ▶ 240 magistrates, in conjunction with the NGO *Avocats Sans Frontières*

With ICRC support:

- ▶ a Congolese legal expert participated in the launch of the French-language version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL in Paris, France
- ▶ the media visited a physical rehabilitation centre in Kinshasa to mark the 10th anniversary of the Ottawa Convention

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The military participated in information sessions designed to increase awareness of IHL and prevent violations. Police briefings focused on the humanitarian and human rights principles applicable in operations to maintain public order. Members of armed groups learned the basic rules of IHL during sessions organized in the field. MONUC officers attended IHL briefings in case they had to participate directly in hostilities. All participants also learned about the ICRC, so that they would understand its role as a neutral and independent actor and facilitate access to areas where civilians were in need of humanitarian assistance.

Sessions were held for:

- ▶ 5,668 FARDC officers/other ranks in training/integration centres and operational bases in regions where the ICRC was active, with emphasis on brigades that included former members of armed groups
- ▶ 1,329 members of the Republican Guard
- ▶ 949 police officers/other ranks
- ▶ 79 members of armed groups in North Kivu
- ▶ 218 members of MONUC contingents in Katanga and South Kivu

Circumstances were not conducive to the full integration of IHL into military/police doctrine, training and operational procedures. However, one course was organized to help pave the way for IHL integration at a later date.

- ▶ 21 officers participated in an IHL train-the-trainer course at the *Groupe des Ecoles Supérieures Militaires*

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public and influential figures learned about ICRC activities through regular media coverage, aided by press releases, information bulletins and articles on the ICRC website. Radio stations in Goma and Kinshasa broadcast weekly programmes on the Movement's activities, in cooperation with the Red Cross of the DRC. The media reported on a touring photo exhibition on the humanitarian consequences of the conflict in the country and the ICRC's response. "Friends of the Red Cross" clubs for journalists in Goma and Kinshasa received ICRC support, and visits to see ICRC programmes were organized for journalists from international media.

Some 120 people attended an ICRC-produced play to raise awareness of the problem of sexual violence.

Relations between civil society organizations, particularly those in North and South Kivu, and the ICRC were greatly strengthened. Such organizations regularly invited the ICRC to participate in events in view of its IHL expertise.

Law students from Goma University and the Protestant University of Kananga, the *Institut Supérieur Pédagogique* of Bukavu and the *Uélé University* of Kisangani attended IHL sessions. Students, lecturers and researchers approached the ICRC periodically for specific information on IHL.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The DRC Red Cross, in coordination with and supported by the ICRC and other Movement partners, responded effectively to emergencies, epidemics and natural disasters countrywide. Its volunteers helped provide first aid and medical care, distribute relief and handle the collection of human remains.

- ▶ 155 emergency response team leaders and 43 first-aid instructors trained

The DRC Red Cross continued to receive technical, material and financial support for its activities to restore family links and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles. This included ICRC support for:

- ▶ the tracing and family-links network, comprising 16 provincial offices, 189 tracing posts and almost 320 volunteers
- ▶ the training of 460 dissemination officers and 22 provincial instructors
- ▶ certain management positions at headquarters
- ▶ vehicle maintenance

The National Society assumed greater responsibility for the management of activities to restore family links in five provinces, to prepare the way for the broader assumption of such responsibilities at a later date.

The DRC Red Cross continued to receive ICRC support in its restructuring process, as well as in the organization of provincial assemblies and central committee meetings and in the training of committee members.

Movement partners active in the DRC continued to meet regularly to coordinate their activities.



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 humanitarian needs remaining from the two-year war. Its priority is to protect and assist 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 supports the development of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,739
Assistance	6,664
Prevention	395
Cooperation with National Societies	257
General	-

► **9,055**

of which: Overheads 553

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

17	expatriates
98	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- assisted over 100,000 border residents and returnees in boosting their economic security through livelihood-support projects
- improved access to water for more than 42,000 border residents, favouring solar-powered water systems, which needed no fuel and less maintenance
- distributed shelter materials and essential household items to some 41,000 IDPs and recent returnees in the border region
- restored and maintained family links across the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border by collecting and distributing RCMs and, at their request, repatriating people to Ethiopia or Eritrea
- monitored the situation of detainees and former POWs of Ethiopian origin, visiting 40 detention facilities
- helped boost surgical capacities in border region hospitals and assisted physical rehabilitation centres in meeting demand

CONTEXT

Ethiopia and Eritrea remained deadlocked over issues that had now stalled the physical pegging out of their new border for five years. On 30 November, the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission in The Hague said that it considered the line it had drawn in its 2002 ruling as the official border and its own mandate fulfilled. The UN further reduced its Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), leaving 1,700 peacekeepers from January 2007 to monitor the buffer zone, known as the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ), along the border. UNMEE's mandate was extended until 31 January 2008.

Relations between Eritrea and Ethiopia remained tense, with both sides increasing their military presence in the border area.

By year-end, the vast majority of people displaced by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia had returned home or been resettled in or near the TSZ as part of a government programme. Some 4,600 were still living in camps.

Harvests had been fair to good in most parts of Eritrea since 2005, and the government pursued its policy of promoting self-reliance and building infrastructure. However, daily life remained a struggle for families living along the isolated southern border, their chances of economic recovery hampered by past conflicts and drought and the boundary stalemate, which stifled trade.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	443	Economic security, water and habitat				
<i>of whom females</i>	37	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	41,061	60%	25%
<i>of whom minors</i>	36	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	108,045	61%	24%
Number of visits carried out	72	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	49,032	29%	51%
Number of places of detention visited	40	WOUNDED AND SICK				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Hospitals supported	Structures	3		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Admissions	Patients	401	113	114
RCMs collected	6,467	Operations	Operations performed	403		
RCMs distributed	7,200					
People reunited with their families	90					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	26					
<i>of whom females</i>	12					
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	5					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	24					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	253					
<i>of which for females</i>	77					
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	72					
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers						
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	24					
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	40					
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	3					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	4					

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC, in accordance with its mandate, remained focused in 2007 on meeting the needs of people still affected by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Ethiopia. It worked mainly in the southern border regions of Debub and Gash Barka, where it was the only international aid organization with a permanent field presence.

As more displaced people returned home or resettled in the TSZ, the ICRC shifted from relief distributions to carrying out livelihood-support projects designed to improve the economic situation of border communities. Eighty-five percent of the beneficiaries were women and children, owing to the number of men either killed or disabled during the war or fulfilling their national service requirement. The projects included treating livestock against disease, hiring tractors to plough fields, and helping resettled families build homes. The worst-off families received donkeys to help transport water and goods, or goats or treadle-operated irrigation pumps to generate income. More beneficiaries than planned were included in the tractor-ploughing programme after evaluations confirmed that this initiative had helped boost food security in 2006. The delegation also worked with the authorities to improve access to water for communities, favouring solar-powered systems because they needed no fuel and less maintenance.

In parallel, the delegation provided over 40,000 IDPs in camps or returnees with any shelter materials and essential household items they lacked.

Delegates followed the situation in the border area, ready to document any alleged incidents of violence against civilians. The ICRC also visited detainees of Ethiopian origin and the few remaining

former POWs who declined repatriation in 2002, and monitored the situation of the Ethiopian community in Eritrea. The aim was to ensure that the rights of those populations regarding living conditions and repatriation were respected, in accordance with international humanitarian standards and the 1949 Geneva Conventions. The ICRC helped complete clearance procedures for those who wished to return to Ethiopia, assisted in their voluntary repatriation and, when requested, reunited children and other vulnerable people with their families across the border. It also maintained the tracing and RCM services so that relatives could communicate across the closed border.

The surgical training programme for general practitioners and anaesthetists in three Gash Barka hospitals was expanded to include nurses. The initiative helped increase surgical capacity, improve patient care and reduce the number of costly referrals to Asmara. In close coordination with the authorities, the ICRC also began providing materials, equipment and training to help Eritrea's three physical rehabilitation centres meet demand.

Small-scale programmes to raise awareness of IHL progressed as planned with the Eritrean armed forces and UNMEE. The ICRC also staged some well-attended events that drew public attention to IHL, the work of the Movement and related humanitarian issues.

At the government's request, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea suspended its activities from early February, pending the outcome of an investigation into its internal affairs. All Movement partners active in Eritrea offered support to clarify the situation. Tracing and RCM services were disrupted until May, when the ICRC stepped in to take over the tasks previously carried out by the Society.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with those of UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The ICRC followed the situation in the border area, maintaining relations with the Eritrean authorities and UNMEE staff, and stood ready to document any alleged incidents of violence against civilians.

Delegates also monitored the situation of civilians of Ethiopian origin living in Eritrea and made any necessary representations on their behalf to the authorities. Eighty-four such people obtained or renewed their Eritrean residence permits with ICRC financial assistance. These were the last beneficiaries promised this type of aid before it had to be discontinued in March 2006 owing to a change in government procedures.

Providing clean water

The lack of clean drinking water posed serious health risks for rural communities in the Debub and Gash Barka border regions, where water points had been damaged by past conflicts and the groundwater depleted by recurring drought.

To improve access to water, communities helped the ICRC upgrade 3 town water delivery systems (reservoirs and public fountains) and drill 8 boreholes and equip 12 wells with solar-powered pumps in rural areas. Each project was designed to provide the Eritrean standard of 20 litres of water a day per person. The use of solar-powered systems, which needed no fuel and reduced maintenance, combined with community training in hygiene and the management and maintenance of water sources, contributed to the long-term sustainability of the new facilities.

The amount of water available for livestock and crops was also increased, in cooperation with the Agriculture Ministry, by constructing three small dams or ponds to collect and store rainfall. The efficient use of rainwater also helped the water table recover.

To boost technical capacity, 24 Eritrean Water Resource Department engineers were trained by the ICRC either in the maintenance of solar-powered water systems or in the use of a geographic information system, known as GIS, to manage water sources. In addition, the department received 20 hand pumps and spare parts, which were unavailable in Eritrea, as well as tool kits.

► 42,057 people benefited from water projects

Restoring and improving livelihoods

Returning or resettled families set up home in the TSZ with shelter materials, blankets and soap provided by the ICRC. The assistance was coordinated with the authorities, UNDP, which financed the transport of the returnees, and UNICEF, which rehabilitated health posts and schools. The few thousand IDPs still in camps also received any shelter materials and essential household items they lacked.

Over 2,400 IDPs who had been resettled in regions with insufficient housing built new homes with the aid of ICRC materials, expertise, and funds to hire masons and carpenters.

Some 4,500 residents and returnees also received materials and training to replace their traditional cooking ovens with energy-saving ones promoted by the Agriculture Ministry. The new ovens were designed to burn up to 30% less wood. This helped to slow deforestation and saved women and children time and energy collecting firewood. The ovens also produced less smoke, which reduced health risks.

To boost crop production in the Debub region, struggling families, many of them headed by women, had their land ploughed by tractors hired by the ICRC. Lacking farm equipment or men to do the ploughing, the families would otherwise have had to leave their land fallow or share it with others, thereby reducing their already meagre income. It also saved the households from having to sell assets, usually livestock, to hire tractors. After assessments showed that the 2006 tractor-ploughing initiative had helped boost food security, 7,000 more beneficiaries than planned were added to the 2007 programme.

In targeted areas of the Debub and Gash Barka regions, residents' and returnees' livestock were inoculated against parasites, in cooperation with government veterinarians. The level of herd infestation subsequently dropped from 81% to 18%, which helped improve the productivity of livestock. Healthier animals were also more resistant to drought, so families would be better able to survive economically in difficult times.

Struggling rural families who lived far from a water point received donkeys and large water bags. This allowed women and children to fetch more water in a shorter time, which freed them up for other productive activities. The donkeys were also used to harvest crops, collect firewood and fodder, and transport produce to market.

Small animal husbandry and market gardens were common ways of generating income, especially for women, but many households had lost those assets through conflict, displacement and drought. A total of 48 families each received 5 goats, an asset which needed little upkeep and increased quickly in value as the herd multiplied. Another 100 villagers were provided with a total of 10 treadle-operated irrigation pumps to boost vegetable production. They had been using watering cans because they could not afford fuel.

- 41,061 IDPs (10,250 households), 36,485 of them returnees or resettled people, received essential household items
- 108,045 people (21,609 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 77,030 from the inoculation of 396,923 animals against parasites
 - 27,375 from the ploughing by tractors of 3,703 hectares
 - 3,300 from the provision of donkeys and water bags
- 6,975 people benefited from habitat projects, including:
 - 4,550 from the installation of 910 fuel-saving cooking ovens
 - 2,425 from the construction of 485 permanent housing units

Restoring family links

Thousands of people communicated with relatives on the other side of the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border through the tracing and RCM services. At their request, people of Eritrean or Ethiopian origin were repatriated and children, the elderly and the sick reunited with relatives across the border, under ICRC auspices. This was their only legal means of returning to their country of origin. Their official documents were also forwarded so that they could apply for further studies or jobs. Prior to repatriation, 71 needy people obtained their exit visas from Eritrea with ICRC financial support.

The RCM service was disrupted between early February, when Eritrean Red Cross activities were suspended (see *ICRC action*), and May when the ICRC temporarily stepped in to take over the tasks previously carried out by the Society.

- ▶ 6,260 RCMs collected from and 6,966 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 26 people (including 12 females and 5 minors at the time of disappearance); 24 people located; 253 people (including 77 females and 72 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 90 people in Eritrea reunited with family in Ethiopia (including 40 unaccompanied/separated children), and 72 people in Ethiopia reunited with family in Eritrea (including 61 unaccompanied/separated children)
- ▶ 24 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 3 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 2,360 people voluntarily repatriated from Eritrea to Ethiopia and 122 from Ethiopia to Eritrea
- ▶ 42 official documents relayed from Eritrea and 6 from Ethiopia across the border

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC visited detainees of Ethiopian origin held in Eritrea and informed the local detaining authorities confidentially of its findings and recommendations, in accordance with humanitarian principles and the relevant provisions of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. Personnel in prisons and police stations were also briefed on IHL and the ICRC. Inmates received, where necessary, blankets, clothing, shoes and hygiene items and were offered the RCM service to communicate with their families.

In coordination with UNHCR, the ICRC also monitored the situation of the few remaining former POWs who had declined repatriation in 2002. During 2007, 24 former POWs resettled in a third country.

- ▶ 443 detainees of Ethiopian origin visited and monitored individually (including 37 females and 36 minors) and 343 newly registered (including 32 females and 31 minors), during 72 visits to 40 places of detention
- ▶ 207 RCMs collected from and 234 RCMs distributed to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

Boosting surgical capacity in hospitals

Decades of armed conflict had disrupted medical training, leaving Eritrea short of surgeons.

To boost surgical capacities, general practitioners and anaesthetists at three main hospitals in the Gash Barka border region (population 800,000) were improving their skills through a training programme initiated by an ICRC surgeon and anaesthetist in 2006, in cooperation with the Health Ministry. By mid-2007, patient care had improved, there were fewer costly transfers to Asmara, and the general practitioners in Agordat and Tesseney hospitals needed only supervisory visits. The 2007 programme, therefore, focused on Barentu hospital, the region's referral facility. With the arrival of 2 ICRC nurses in April, 15 operating theatre and ward nurses and some 150 students at Barentu Nursing School also began benefiting from courses and on-the-job supervision.

The hospitals received their drugs from Asmara central pharmacy, with the ICRC helping to organize transport and providing additional anaesthesia supplies. Agordat and Tesseney blood banks were also reinforced with solar-powered storage fridges, and Barentu hospital received surgical equipment.

In addition, a total of 49 personnel from various medical facilities took part in two one-week courses in trauma management, and 34 civil and military medical staff participated in a workshop on treating gunshot wounds and mine injuries.

In the 3 ICRC-supported hospitals:

- ▶ 403 surgical operations performed under ICRC supervision, involving 14 weapon-wounded patients (including 3 women, 5 children, and 8 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war) and 387 other surgical cases (including 110 women and 109 children)

Supporting physical rehabilitation services

Eritrea's three physical rehabilitation centres (Asmara, Assab and Keren) lacked the materials to produce enough mobility devices to meet demand. According to government estimates, there were some 58,000 disabled people in the country, many of them war amputees.

In an ICRC programme initiated in late August with the Labour and Human Welfare Ministry, the centres received raw materials, components and physiotherapy equipment, and 12 staff participated in an eight-week prosthetics/orthotics course. Asmara centre's water system was also upgraded with a new reservoir and solar-powered pump. At year-end, the authorities and the ICRC were discussing plans for longer-term ICRC support.

AUTHORITIES

As in other countries, the ICRC's ability to protect and assist populations affected by conflict depended on the national and local authorities' support for IHL and the related mandate of the ICRC.

During 2007, the Justice Ministry received a standard set of IHL reference materials to use as a resource in drafting laws implementing key IHL provisions. Members of relevant ministries and the ICRC also discussed the need for the government to endorse the ICRC's Tigrinya translation of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. Eritrea acceded to the Conventions in 2000 but had not yet implemented their provisions.

At the local level, authorities in various regions received promotional materials on IHL and the ICRC. In addition, 60 civilian and military medics in the border regions of Debub and Gash Barka took part in a specialized session on IHL and medical care.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

As agreed, the Eritrean Defence Forces and the ICRC held three courses for armed forces personnel during 2007 as part of an ongoing, small-scale programme aimed at integrating IHL into all military training. The highlight was the participation of 24 high-ranking officers in an advanced course, which initiated discussions about appointing military legal advisers for army divisions.

A total of 41 armed forces instructors took part in the other two IHL events, an introductory and a refresher course. A Ministry of Defence official also attended the two-week Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, hosted by the Swiss army and the ICRC in Geneva, Switzerland, in August.

In other positive developments, the military gave the ICRC the green light to distribute IHL publications to its main training centres and began translating the IHL instructor's manual into Tigrinya. In addition, an increasing number of officers approached the ICRC for information and documentation on IHL.

Contacts were also fostered with UNMEE, with 283 headquarters and field personnel taking part in briefings on IHL and the ICRC.

CIVIL SOCIETY

To raise general awareness of IHL, the ICRC staged or participated in various popular public events.

To mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), over 200 invitees, including government, military and diplomatic officials, attended a screening in Asmara of a film on the Movement's history. In parallel, hundreds of members of the general public visited an exhibition of photographs and videos illustrating ICRC and Eritrean Red Cross activities. In addition, Eritrea's English-language newspaper published an extensive article on the Movement, the first

such press coverage since the ICRC opened its Eritrea delegation in 1998. Numerous visitors also stopped by to enquire about the Movement at the ICRC's stand at the 10-day National Book Fair in Asmara.

Following the closure of Asmara University in September 2006, the director of Eritrea's main college was offered ICRC assistance in teaching IHL. Teachers, students and members of the general public who walked into the ICRC's offices were also provided with IHL leaflets and publications.

Outside Asmara, community leaders and the general public, particularly in the border area, received a variety of promotional materials. Calendars conveying key IHL messages were especially popular.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

At the government's request, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea suspended its activities in early February, pending the outcome of an investigation into its internal affairs. The International Federation and the ICRC worked together to clarify the situation within the Eritrean Red Cross and with the authorities, and stood ready to resume planned activities with the Society when the suspension was lifted. Partner National Societies supporting the Eritrean Red Cross also expressed their readiness to help. The suspension was still in force at year-end.



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, and supports physical rehabilitation services. It visits detainees, restores family links, particularly for relatives separated by the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border and for refugees, promotes IHL and supports the Ethiopian Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,812
Assistance	10,158
Prevention	2,512
Cooperation with National Societies	1,012
General	-

► **19,494**
of which: Overheads **1,190**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	71%
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PERSONNEL

64	expatriates
340	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- followed individually the cases of over 1,200 detainees during visits to 122 regionally run places of detention and made recommendations for improvements to detention conditions, which several regional authorities acted upon
- assisted in the voluntary cross-border repatriation of 2,482 civilians to Eritrea and Ethiopia, reuniting the most vulnerable with relatives
- improved access to water or health care for over 98,000 people living in violence-prone regions and provided relief goods to some 37,000 IDPs
- deplored being unable to resume work to protect and assist conflict victims in the Somali Regional State after the authorities expelled its delegation from the region in July
- helped 8 physical rehabilitation centres improve patient care by providing materials and training
- contributed to Ethiopia's preparation for the November meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention by hosting a workshop for government officials on implementing the Convention

CONTEXT

The Ethiopian government faced a number of challenges in 2007.

Clashes between government forces and armed groups continued in the Somali Regional State (SRS), with civilians killed, wounded, arrested and displaced. Military operations intensified in the region after the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) attacked a Chinese oil installation in April, killing 74 workers.

Low-intensity violence, springing from a mix of political, ethnic and religious grievances, erupted sporadically in other regions, including Afar, Oromia and Tigray, sometimes involving the armed forces. In Gambella, internal violence had subsided and IDPs began returning home.

By year-end, all the people, mainly opposition party members, held in connection with the 2005 post-election violence had either been released or sentenced, with many later pardoned.

Despite favourable agricultural conditions over the past four years, the government estimated that over 8 million people remained dependent on food aid.

On the international front, Ethiopian troops stayed on in Somalia to help the Somali transitional federal government counter attacks by armed groups. Ethiopia had intervened militarily in Somalia in late December 2006 to support the interim government in ousting the Supreme Islamic Courts Council from central and southern Somalia. Ethiopia stated publicly that it had detained "terrorism" suspects in connection with the Somalia conflict.

Ethiopia and Eritrea were still deadlocked over issues that had now stalled the physical pegging out of their new border for five years. On 30 November, the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission in The Hague said that it considered the line it had drawn in its 2002 ruling as the official border and its own mandate fulfilled. Relations between Eritrea and Ethiopia remained tense, with both sides increasing their military presence in the border area.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,232	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
<i>of whom females</i>	45	Food <i>Beneficiaries</i>	10,860	20%	60%
<i>of whom minors</i>	60	Essential household items <i>Beneficiaries</i>	37,188	20%	60%
Number of visits carried out	177	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives <i>Beneficiaries</i>	40,746	20%	60%
Number of places of detention visited	122	Water, sanitation and habitat projects <i>Beneficiaries</i>	112,134	22%	44%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Hospitals supported <i>Structures</i>	9		
RCMs collected	8,742	Admissions <i>Patients</i>	126		1
RCMs distributed	9,818	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
People reunited with their families	72	Patients receiving services <i>Patients</i>	10,209	2,594	1,569
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Prostheses delivered <i>Units</i>	2,316	353	127
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	226	Orthoses delivered <i>Units</i>	3,870	1,094	1,134
<i>of whom females</i>	104				
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	94				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	197				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	660				
<i>of which for females</i>	175				
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	144				
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	65				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	61				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	54				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	177				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	527				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC retained its focus in Ethiopia on protecting and assisting people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence and on meeting the humanitarian needs remaining from the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Eritrea. In early 2007, the delegation reassessed both the situation in Ethiopia and its operations and redistributed its resources and activities accordingly, closing down the Harar sub-delegation and Awasa office.

The ICRC reminded the authorities and armed groups of their obligations under IHL and alerted government officials to the needs of people affected by the conflict in the SRS or situations of violence elsewhere. Where necessary, the delegation stepped in to distribute relief goods to IDPs and returnees, while hospitals and clinics received supplies to treat the weapon-wounded. Eight limb-fitting centres also continued to receive substantial ICRC support.

In parallel, the ICRC carried out scheduled assistance programmes designed to help farmers and herders in violence-affected regions (Afar, Gambella, the SRS and Tigray) to improve their economic situation. The veterinary training programme was expanded in the SRS to support struggling pastoralists, while micro-economic initiatives were phased out in Gambella as the economic situation improved.

ICRC activities in the SRS were suspended from July, when the delegation was expelled from the region. The government publicly accused the ICRC of supporting armed groups. The organization denied the accusation, reaffirming that its activities were carried out in strict accordance with its mandate and principles of neutrality and independence. The ICRC initiated a dialogue with the authorities to clarify the matter, but the situation remained unchanged at year-end.

Despite efforts, the ICRC did not regain access to federal detention facilities, denied since December 2005 following the post-election unrest, or manage to establish a dialogue with the government regarding people detained in connection with the Somalia conflict. Delegates visited regionally run detention facilities, monitored conditions and respect for inmates' judicial guarantees, and mobilized the authorities to act on its findings. With ICRC support, several regions acted to upgrade prison infrastructure and medical care, while the delegation stepped in to improve conditions in 18 prisons. Given access restrictions, the ICRC was unable to follow individually the cases of all security detainees, and therefore concentrated, where possible, on the most vulnerable.

In accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC followed up the small number of remaining cases of former POWs related to the conflict with Eritrea. It also assisted in the voluntary cross-border repatriation of civilians to Eritrea and Ethiopia, reuniting vulnerable people with their families, and delivered RCMs sent between relatives separated by the closed border.

The promotion of IHL remained a priority, with the focus on the authorities, armed forces, universities and influential civil society sectors. The armed forces suspended their IHL programme with the ICRC after the organization's expulsion from the SRS.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society received substantial support to reinforce its emergency response, tracing and dissemination programmes, and the ICRC continued to facilitate coordination within the Movement. It also coordinated its activities with the UN agencies and NGOs working in fields of common interest, including through its attendance as an observer at UN cluster meetings.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

Until its expulsion from the SRS in July, the ICRC documented allegations of IHL violations committed against civilians and captured fighters in the region and took them up confidentially with the parties to the conflict. The relevant authorities received a written report in May. The dialogue with the parties was sometimes difficult, and field access increasingly restricted. In April, nine civilians captured by the ONLF, including seven Chinese nationals, were released and handed over to the authorities, with the ICRC acting as neutral intermediary.

Elsewhere, the ICRC monitored the situation of IDPs, mainly in Gambella, and of Somalis and people of Eritrean origin. The authorities were informed of ICRC concerns, in accordance with humanitarian principles and IHL.

Providing emergency aid

IDPs and residents affected by armed conflict or violence began rebuilding their lives with the help of ICRC relief goods. The Ethiopian Red Cross distributed some of the aid. The ICRC stepped in only after close coordination with the authorities in charge of humanitarian assistance.

- ▶ 10,860 people (1,810 households) received food, including one-week rations for 3,000 residents in the SRS and one-month rations for 7,860 IDPs in Oromia (Borena zone)
- ▶ 37,188 IDPs (6,198 households) in Gambella, Borena zone, and the SRS received essential household items
- ▶ 19,434 IDPs (3,239 households) in Gambella and Borena zone received seed and tools

Preserving community livelihoods

Rural communities in areas affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence worked with the ICRC on a range of projects designed to improve their economic situation and avoid long-term aid dependency.

After ICRC training, 209 livestock owners in the SRS (Degehabur and Fik zones) were able to boost their herds' productivity by treating common livestock diseases. To reduce health risks in those regions and the neighbouring Korahe zone, communities and the ICRC constructed or repaired reservoirs, wells and latrines and promoted hygiene.

In Afar, communities continued to benefit from a five-year ICRC assistance programme initiated in 2004 in Boromodaitu district (population 44,000). With training, materials and supervision, 40 farmers increased animal fodder production in six zones, then began teaching their neighbours, with the ICRC providing the necessary seed and tools to another 320 farmers. In other initiatives, ICRC-trained community animal health care workers treated some 15,000 head of livestock in the district, over 2,000 families received vouchers to treat their livestock (around 41,000 animals) against parasites, and a system was organized in the new ICRC-built pharmacy to provide veterinary supplies. The pharmacy also ensured an affordable drug supply for the 56 ICRC-trained community health workers and traditional birth attendants who, with ongoing training, offered primary health care services throughout the district. To improve public health, communities also received 401 household water filters, and the ICRC constructed four wells. Sufferers of a cholera outbreak in early 2007 were treated at an emergency centre set up by the ICRC, while six other centres were supplied with water and sanitation and hygiene items.

In Gambella and Tigray, villagers faced fewer health risks after the ICRC constructed or repaired vital water facilities and two health posts (Gambella) and organized hygiene-promotion training.

To aid economic recovery in Gambella, 83 livestock owners from areas with returning IDPs completed a basic veterinary course, and 8 of the 20 Gambella cooperatives assisted in 2006 received additional training and materials on the basis of their improved productivity.

- ▶ 21,312 people (3,516 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 12,336 people from the distribution of veterinary treatment vouchers in Afar
 - 4,320 people from the provision of basic materials to cooperatives in Gambella
 - 2,256 people from livestock management training courses in Gambella and the SRS
 - 2,400 people from training and distributions of seed and tools to improve fodder production in Afar
- ▶ 98,424 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Restoring family links

Thousands of people communicated with relatives on the other side of the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border through the tracing and RCM services. At their request, people of Eritrean or Ethiopian origin were repatriated and children, the elderly and the sick reunited with relatives across the border, under ICRC auspices. This was their only legal means of returning to their country of origin. Their official documents were also forwarded so that they could apply for further studies or jobs.

- ▶ 7,793 RCMs collected from and 8,218 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 64 from unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 49 people (including 22 females and 13 minors at the time of disappearance); 36 people located; 417 people (including 110 females and 80 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 72 people in Ethiopia reunited with family in Eritrea (including 61 unaccompanied/separated children), and 90 people in Eritrea reunited with family in Ethiopia (including 40 unaccompanied/separated children)
- ▶ 65 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 32 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 122 people voluntarily repatriated from Ethiopia to Eritrea and 2,360 from Eritrea to Ethiopia
- ▶ 6 official documents relayed from Ethiopia and 42 from Eritrea across the border

Many refugees in Ethiopia still relied on the tracing and RCM network to contact family members left behind. Restoring contact between child refugees and their parents and, if possible, reuniting the families remained a priority: all but three such children on the ICRC's register had contacted relatives by year-end.

- ▶ 874 RCMS collected from and 1,570 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 14 from and 66 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 177 people (including 82 females and 81 minors at the time of disappearance); 161 people located; 243 people (including 65 females and 64 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 22 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 177 Somalis issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC's expulsion from the SRS in July further curtailed the organization's detention activities. The authorities had already denied the ICRC access to the central investigation department since August 2004 and to federal prisons since December 2005, as well as to some other key detention facilities.

Visiting detainees

Throughout 2007, the ICRC followed up with the authorities a small number of pending cases of former POWs of Eritrean origin, and also visited detainees held in regionally run prisons. Delegates were no longer in a position to follow up systematically the cases of all security detainees, so from March focused, where access permitted, on those considered most vulnerable. They also assessed general detention conditions and respect for inmates' judicial guarantees and informed the authorities confidentially of their findings and recommendations. This contributed to some detainees' cases moving more quickly through the legal process and to improvements in prison conditions (see below).

Improving detention conditions

Inmates received hygiene and other essential items from the ICRC and could correspond with their families through RCMs, while prison authorities were assisted in improving water, sanitation and kitchen facilities and accommodation for women. With ICRC support, regional coordinators responsible for prison infrastructure were appointed in Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Regional State and began implementing projects. In parallel, staff from 49 prisons in three of the regions were trained in operating and maintaining infrastructure.

Prisons also received medical supplies, and ICRC staff stepped in, where necessary, to address health problems. At ICRC-organized round-tables, prison and local authority personnel in Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz and Tigray agreed on ways to improve medical care in detention facilities. With ICRC support, a Ministry of Health psychiatric nurse initiated prison rounds in Tigray, and the Addis Ababa psychiatric hospital assessed some 100 detainees' mental states, which was a precondition for their trial.

- 1,232 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 45 females and 60 minors) and 465 newly registered (including 36 females and 30 minors), during 177 visits to 122 places of detention
- 75 RCMs collected from and 30 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 527 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 13,710 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects in 18 places of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the weapon-wounded

A total of 126 people injured as a result of armed conflict or violence in Afar, Gambella and the SRS were treated at 9 medical facilities, with the ICRC supplying surgical and dressing materials and drugs. Those patients transferred to Addis Ababa had their transport and hospital fees covered.

Supporting physical rehabilitation services

To improve care for disabled people, eight physical rehabilitation centres (Addis Ababa, Arba Minch, Asela, Bahir Dar, Dessie, Harar, Mekele and the Cheshire facility near Menegesha) received ICRC materials to produce mobility devices. Five of the centres also benefited from on-the-job training and physiotherapy services provided by ICRC specialists. In addition, two ICRC-sponsored Ethiopian students who graduated in July from a three-year course at the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists joined the Bahir Dar and Harar centres. Internal management problems at the Harar centre led to the suspension of ICRC support there in October.

The year 2007 also saw the Ethiopian authorities, with ICRC input, launch a process to define a national strategy to upgrade rehabilitation services.

- 10,209 patients (including 2,594 women and 1,569 children) received services at 8 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 1,430 new patients (including 219 women and 96 children) fitted with prostheses and 2,849 (including 854 women and 805 children) fitted with orthoses
- 2,316 prostheses (including 353 for women, 127 for children and 813 for mine victims), 3,870 orthoses (including 1,094 for women, 1,134 for children and 385 for mine victims), 7,317 crutches and 591 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

With its energies focused on military engagement in Somalia and internal issues, the government did not consider IHL implementation a priority.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed an interest, however, in reactivating the interministerial IHL committee, which had last met in 1998. To support this initiative, a ministry representative participated in the ICRC's Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees, held in Geneva, Switzerland, in March. At the three-day event, 150 experts from over 80 States discussed legal measures to include in national legislation to prevent disappearances during armed conflict, clarify the fate of missing persons and better assist their families.

In September, government representatives and Ethiopian and international mine experts evaluated Ethiopia's implementation of the Ottawa Convention during a two-day workshop hosted by the ICRC. This contributed to Ethiopia's preparation for the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention, held in Jordan in November.

Another positive development was the government's publication in April of the ICRC's Amharic translation of the 1977 Additional Protocols, ratified by Ethiopia in 1994.

Outside the capital, local authorities in violence-prone areas learned about IHL during 16 ICRC presentations.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF) and police worked with the ICRC to integrate IHL and international human rights standards into training programmes for all ranks. The ENDF was already teaching IHL, using its own instructors. The police achieved the same level of autonomy in April following a week-long evaluation course organized by the ICRC for 22 instructors at the Police College.

In parallel, 632 military personnel were briefed on IHL and 1,112 female ENDF officers took part in workshops on the impact of armed conflict on women. In the field, some 5,200 police and civilian militia members stationed in violence-prone regions participated in one- to two-day information sessions on human rights and good policing.

Other planned activities were postponed owing to internal military priorities and the ENDF's suspension of cooperation with the ICRC following the organization's expulsion from the SRS.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Public attention was drawn to humanitarian issues and IHL through the ICRC's participation in events to mark International Women's Day, World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day and World Water Day, as well as media coverage generated by the delegation's press releases and interviews. In violence-prone areas, elders and other community leaders learned about IHL and the ICRC during numerous presentations by field staff.

Most of the main universities taught IHL, but there was a shortage of instructors. At Addis Ababa University, postgraduate law students were able to take their final examination thanks to an ICRC legal adviser who stepped in to teach the compulsory IHL course. Mekele (Tigray) and Haremaya (Harar) university law faculties reinforced their capacities to teach IHL by sending lecturers, sponsored by the ICRC, to November's pan-African course on IHL (see *Pretoria regional*) and by drawing on ICRC materials and expertise to run their courses. A team of 3 Haremaya University law students, also sponsored by the ICRC, participated in the pan-African IHL competition in the United Republic of Tanzania (see *Nairobi regional*), and finished second.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society, as the country's largest humanitarian organization (with some 1,000 staff and 90,000 volunteers), helped run the tracing and RCM network and took part in some ICRC relief distributions and activities to promote IHL. Its newly appointed secretary-general initiated management reforms, and the National Society continued to develop its first-aid, assistance, tracing and communication programmes through the range of initiatives below, directly supported by ICRC funds, materials and expertise.

Strengthening infrastructure and management

- ▶ the salaries covered of 23 staff in 11 branches, 2 headquarters staff and 12 tracing officers
- ▶ 1 branch rehabilitated
- ▶ 11 branches received office supplies and funds to help cover running costs
- ▶ headquarters representatives sponsored to participate in ICRC meetings abroad on economic security and tracing
- ▶ activities monitored in 8 regional branches

Providing first aid and assistance

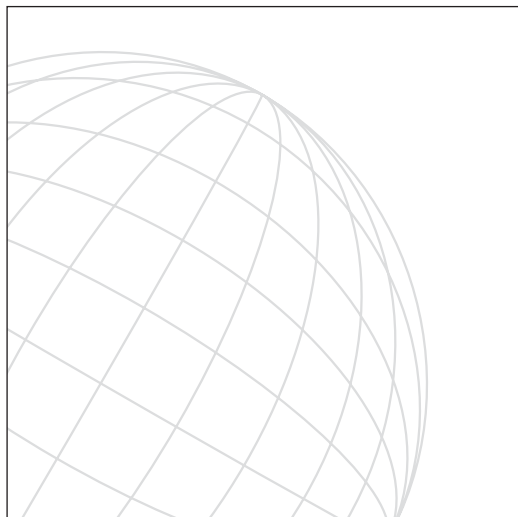
- ▶ 24 branch heads trained in disaster management
- ▶ 24 personnel trained as first-aid instructors and 2,022 as first-aiders
- ▶ 18 ambulances, 20 service vehicles and 2 motorbikes added to the fleet
- ▶ relief goods delivered regularly to branches for redistribution

Restoring family links

- ▶ 2 tracing staff trained in management
- ▶ an introductory and a refresher tracing course held for volunteers
- ▶ headquarters and branches received 200 tracing manuals and 3,000 brochures
- ▶ branches provided with 15 bicycles and 1 computer

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

- ▶ 2,047 local government and religious leaders in 7 regions and 6,562 university students participated in dissemination sessions
- ▶ 33 programmes about the Movement broadcast on radio and television
- ▶ branches provided with dissemination brochures, leaflets and posters



african union

The ICRC's mission to the African Union (AU) aims to achieve better understanding and wider acceptance of the ICRC within the AU Commission and other AU bodies. It works with AU member States to draw attention to problems requiring humanitarian action, to promote greater recognition and much wider implementation of IHL throughout Africa and to raise awareness of the ICRC's role and activities. It also endeavours to build strong relations with AU-accredited intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and UN agencies.

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 KCHF)

see Ethiopia

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

see Ethiopia

PERSONNEL

see Ethiopia

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- ▶ lent its expertise to the African Union (AU), together with other international agencies, to draft a convention on IDPs and prepare for a special summit on refugees, returnees and IDPs, scheduled for 2008
- ▶ updated the AU Peace and Security Council on ICRC humanitarian concerns and activities during monthly meetings and through the ICRC president's first ever address to the council
- ▶ reviewed with the AU Peace and Security Department the status of implementation of the Ottawa Convention in Africa and offered its expertise to support the convention's application on the continent
- ▶ agreed in a meeting with the Peace and Security Department on guidelines for ICRC input to AU initiatives concerning conflict prevention, conflict management and post-conflict reconstruction
- ▶ stressed the need to safeguard the neutrality and independence of humanitarian action during bilateral meetings with AU officials and at meetings attended by AU representatives
- ▶ made recommendations relating to AU member States' implementation of IHL, which were adopted by the Pan-African Parliament

CONTEXT

Conflict resolution remained high on the agenda of the African Union (AU) throughout 2007, with the organization repeatedly calling for additional support from its member States and the international community to meet the challenges.

The largest AU peacekeeping missions were in Somalia and Sudan's Darfur region. In Darfur, the AU and the UN were in the process of setting up their first ever joint mission, a 26,000-strong hybrid force which would replace the 7,000 AU peacekeepers present in the region. The AU also played a prominent role in 2007 in initiatives to restore political stability in the Comoros and carried out several missions to assess the situation in conflict-affected countries, including the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Sudan.

At the policy level, the two AU summits in 2007 addressed various issues pertaining to conflict prevention.

The January summit adopted the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, aimed at averting unconstitutional changes of government and preventing election fraud, and appointed the five members of the Panel of the Wise, a new AU body established to advise on conflict prevention. The summit also urged member States to consider the environment in their development plans, noting that climate change could trigger population displacements, fighting over resources and political instability.

At the July summit, member States agreed on the need for pan-African political and economic integration but were divided on the process and timeframe. The summit also promoted greater cross-border cooperation as a means to reduce conflict and boost economic growth.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC pursued its efforts to spread knowledge of IHL among AU Commission staff and representatives of member States and to draw attention to humanitarian issues, focusing on the need to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict. Its permanent mission to the AU 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 IHL. To this end, the ICRC continued to strengthen its relations with the AU Commission and its departments, as well as AU and AU-associated bodies, and, when requested, participated in meetings and lent technical assistance in integrating IHL into relevant policy documents.

During 2007, the AU, with ICRC input, began drafting a Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa. The ICRC was also helping the AU prepare for its first Special Summit of Heads of State and Government on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, scheduled for 2008.

In November, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger addressed the AU Peace and Security Council for the first time. President Kellenberger emphasized the need for greater respect for IHL by all parties to conflict on the African continent, both to protect civilians and to allow aid workers to help people in need. Shortly after, at a round-table, the ICRC and the AU Peace and Security Department defined areas of mutual cooperation, thus allowing the ICRC to contribute more systematically to AU initiatives related to conflict prevention, conflict management and post-conflict reconstruction. In another meeting with department officials, the ICRC reviewed the status of implementation of the Ottawa Convention by AU member States and offered its legal expertise in this field.

The ICRC also participated in conferences in Addis Ababa that were not convened by the AU but drew a large number of AU officials and representatives of AU member States. At two such meetings on the theme of peacekeeping, the ICRC expressed its concern about the blurring of lines between political and military mandates and the delivery of humanitarian aid, stressing the need to safeguard the neutrality and independence of humanitarian action. President Kellenberger underlined the same message during his two-day visit to the AU.

In parallel, the ICRC endeavoured to forge closer links with African NGOs, both to deepen its understanding of humanitarian issues in Africa and to promote IHL. It also maintained contact with UN agencies and international organizations based in Addis Ababa to spread knowledge of IHL and coordinate activities in areas of common interest.

Through its network of delegations in Africa, the ICRC strove to consolidate and coordinate its efforts to promote IHL both among AU member States and African regional economic communities, which, in coordination with the AU, played an increasing role in promoting peace and security on the continent.

AUTHORITIES

Protecting and assisting IDPs

The AU, with input from the ICRC and other international organizations, began drafting a Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa to submit for adoption at its first ever Special Summit of Heads of State and Government on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, scheduled for 2008.

To help draft the convention, the ICRC submitted a detailed report on the rights of IDPs under IHL to a consultative meeting convened by the AU Department of Political Affairs. Legal experts of AU member States then considered the draft convention at a three-day meeting, soliciting further comment from the ICRC, which attended as an observer.

The Department of Political Affairs also invited the ICRC to consultative and task force meetings convened to prepare the 2008 special summit. Taking into account ICRC suggestions, the AU selected five main themes for the event, asking the ICRC to help draft the policy papers on "Preventing forced displacement" and "Meeting the specific needs of displaced women and children". The AU also accepted ICRC proposals to involve the International Federation in drafting the paper on "Meeting the specific needs of victims displaced by natural disasters" and to include a table of African States party to the main IHL treaties in the summit documents.

In addition, at the Department of Political Affairs' request, the ICRC provided a report on its activities on behalf of IDPs in Africa covering June–November 2007. The information would accompany a report by the Permanent Representatives Committee's Sub-Committee on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs to be submitted to the AU Executive Council in January 2008.

ICRC president's address to the AU Peace and Security Council

On 9 November, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger gave his first address to the AU Peace and Security Council. He outlined the ICRC's activities on behalf of IDPs and highlighted the difficulties faced by humanitarian organizations in accessing conflict victims and the challenges posed by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. President Kellenberger called on all parties to conflict to show greater respect for IHL. He stressed the importance of safeguarding neutral and independent humanitarian action in conflict situations.

During his two-day visit, the ICRC president also discussed the relevance of IHL in today's armed conflicts and ways of enhancing its application during meetings with the AU Commission chairperson, Alpha Oumar Konaré, and other high-ranking AU officials.

Implementing the Ottawa Convention

The AU was working on unifying its policies on disarmament, small arms and light weapons and landmines. To assist with this process, the ICRC organized a meeting with members of the AU Peace and Security Department and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining to review the status of implementation of the Ottawa Convention by AU member States. The ICRC also offered its expertise to help member States implement the convention and apply its provisions.

Working with the AU to promote IHL

The AU Peace and Security Department and the ICRC held their first joint meeting outside Addis Ababa on 10 November to define areas of mutual cooperation in promoting IHL. The department invited the ICRC to help ensure that IHL was integrated into the doctrine, operations and training of African standby forces. They agreed to work with the ICRC to encourage AU member States to implement IHL treaties and to establish AU guidelines on the application of IHL in post-conflict situations. The participants also acknowledged the need for mechanisms that allowed the ICRC to systematically provide input for AU initiatives addressing humanitarian issues linked to armed conflict.

On 13 November, the ICRC convened a meeting of the informal group of AU-accredited ambassadors to discuss various topics pertaining to conflict prevention, IHL promotion and humanitarian action. The ambassadors called on the ICRC to reinforce its efforts to ensure that IHL was integrated into policies and laws adopted by African governments and regional economic communities.

In parallel, AU Commission members and AU-accredited ambassadors regularly met the ICRC to share analyses of humanitarian issues and received IHL materials and updates on ICRC activities. In addition, the rotating presidency of the Peace and Security Council and the ICRC had monthly meetings to exchange views on conflict and post-conflict situations.

To further strengthen cooperation with the AU in the promotion of IHL, the ICRC attended the two AU summits held in 2007 and other relevant AU meetings. At the 9th and 10th meetings of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the ICRC stressed its readiness to share its expertise and field experience in issues relating to IHL and children affected by armed conflict.

To better coordinate humanitarian diplomacy and IHL-promotion activities across Africa, the ICRC's permanent mission to the AU kept ICRC delegations abreast of AU activities through meetings, newsletters and bilateral discussions. This led, for example, to the 8th Ordinary Session of the Pan-African Parliament adopting a recommendation by the ICRC's Pretoria regional delegation that governments establish, with ICRC support, national committees tasked to ratify and implement IHL treaties.

The ICRC also participated in various conferences in Addis Ababa that were not convened by the AU but drew a large number of AU officials and representatives of AU member States. The need to make a clear distinction between political and military mandates and the delivery of humanitarian aid was underlined by the ICRC at a workshop held by the organizers of the Reinforcement of African Peacekeeping Capabilities (RECAMP) V exercise. Similarly, the ICRC emphasized the importance of safeguarding neutral and independent humanitarian action at a seminar on UN multi-dimensional and integrated peace operations, hosted by the Norwegian Foreign Affairs Ministry.

African Parliamentary Union

During the annual Conference of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), the Union's secretary general assured the ICRC that measures would be taken both to encourage its member States to accede to and implement IHL treaties and to reactivate the APU committee established to monitor their progress. Both initiatives pertained to the APU's Niamey and Cotonou declarations, adopted in 2002 and 2004 respectively.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC and UN agencies and NGOs represented at the AU maintained regular contact to broaden their expertise and coordinate humanitarian diplomacy on issues of common interest. During UNHCR's meeting on the "Sub-cluster on Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development", the ICRC confirmed its offer to assist the AU in drafting humanitarian guidelines pertaining to countries emerging from conflict. It also participated in a workshop organized by the pan-African NGO African Humanitarian Action and Oxfam on "The AU and the responsibility to protect".



The ICRC has worked in Guinea since 1970 and opened its operational delegation in Conakry in 2001. Since then, the ICRC has been extensively involved in protection activities, 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, the media and the public. It works with the Red Cross Society of Guinea to strengthen its capacities to respond to emergencies and restore family links.

Protection	2,800
Assistance	2,957
Prevention	1,039
Cooperation with National Societies	1,564
General	-

of which: Overheads **510**

Expenditure/yearly budget	102%
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23 expatriates

KEY POINTS

- ▶ provided the Red Cross Society of Guinea with substantial support, enabling it to assist over 1,600 people injured during demonstrations
- ▶ in coordination with the authorities and other actors, provided support to 10 hospitals countrywide
- ▶ visited 2,540 detainees under the jurisdiction of the Justice and Interior Ministries and continued seeking access to detainees held by the Defence Ministry
- ▶ set up emergency nutritional programmes for 499 malnourished detainees
- ▶ held two-day IHL seminars for military personnel in 2 regions
- ▶ supported a National Society campaign to enhance public knowledge and acceptance of the Red Cross

Nationwide demonstrations in January and February, led by trade unions demanding social, political and economic reform, caused widespread political and social upheaval in Guinea, with the armed and security forces allegedly firing on civilians. The protests left more than 150 people dead, over 1,600 wounded, hundreds temporarily arrested, and property, particularly public buildings, destroyed or damaged. The local authorities in some regions were intimidated or forced to flee, leaving an administrative and security void that was filled in certain areas by local vigilante committees.

Although the political developments ended the unrest, enormous social, economic, political and other challenges lay ahead. The appointment of new governors and prefects in mid-year restored State authority in the regions. A restructuring of ministries at the end of the year sparked further political tension, with the trade unions once again threatening to call a nationwide strike.

May saw violent army protests that left several people dead and 200 injured. In the wake of the protests, the new defence minister and several army chiefs were dismissed.

The upheavals, both in January/February and in May, confirmed fears that the country's medical facilities lacked the capacity to provide wounded people in an emergency with adequate care.

Guinea's economy continued to perform weakly. However, macroeconomic development and the progress of reforms led to an agreement with the International Monetary Fund on assistance through the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility and the Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative. Urban water and electricity supply improved somewhat, but the economic situation of most households remained grim as essential commodity prices continued to rise. This created frustration, and the new government's critics became increasingly vocal.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	2,540	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	59	Food	Beneficiaries	499	
Number of visits carried out	132	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	5,400	
Number of places of detention visited	36	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	2,503,049	50% 30%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	89				
RCMs distributed	206				
People reunited with their families	13				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	11				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	10				
<i>of which for females</i>					
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>					
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	5				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	11				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	39				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	12				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC expanded its protection and assistance activities to respond to the effects of the upheavals, which required appealing for an additional CHF 1.9 million not originally budgeted for. The organization initiated activities to raise awareness among the authorities and the armed and security forces of their responsibility to protect civilians from the effects of violence, in conformity with humanitarian principles.

During the unrest, the ICRC provided various hospitals with medical and surgical supplies and equipment, logistics backup and human resources to cope with the influx of wounded. Once the violence had subsided, it launched a new programme to provide 10 major hospitals with equipment and specialized training in war surgery, nursing and first aid to help them cope better in future emergencies. Plans for water, sanitation and rehabilitation projects were implemented in eight of the hospitals. Communities in Basse Guinée whose homes had been destroyed during intercommunal violence received material assistance from the ICRC.

The ICRC provided the Red Cross Society of Guinea with logistical, financial and human resources that enabled it to carry out a rapid and effective assistance operation for civilians caught up in the upheavals. Earlier efforts to raise public awareness of the Movement and help the Guinean Red Cross train volunteers enabled the National Society to work without incident, often in areas where no other humanitarian workers felt it safe to operate. Other ICRC support to the National Society centred on strengthening its external communication capacity and, in particular, its ability to mobilize funds from the government, partner National Societies and other potential donors.

With attention focused on dealing with the unrest, the promotion of IHL among the authorities and the armed and security forces

was put on hold. However, during the second half of 2007, two major IHL seminars were organized for the army.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees to monitor their detention conditions and treatment and encouraged the authorities to improve prison conditions, where necessary. It repeatedly requested access to security detainees held under the authority of the Ministry of Defence, but to no avail. Damage to 14 prisons and a number of temporary detention places inflicted during the unrest aggravated the already difficult situation in prisons. Rather than cut back as planned, therefore, the ICRC stepped up its assistance, putting in place emergency nutritional programmes for 499 malnourished detainees in 7 prisons.

As more refugees returned to their countries of origin and means of communication in the region returned to normal, the demand for family-links services continued to drop. The ICRC scaled back its tracing activities further to reflect this. The number of children separated from their families also declined, so the ICRC pursued initiatives to resolve outstanding cases, either through family reunification or other lasting solutions.

CIVILIANS

Following the violent repression of strikes that left hundreds dead or wounded, activities were initiated to raise awareness among the authorities and the armed and security forces of their responsibility to protect civilians from the effects of armed violence. The justice minister and other key national and local players met the ICRC to discuss the activities. Contacts with other actors, notably local human rights NGOs, were intensified in order to gather information on the general situation and on specific events related to the strikes and to coordinate activities with them.

Victims and witnesses of alleged violations of IHL were interviewed confidentially to gain a better understanding of the pattern of abuses and the identities of the alleged perpetrators. The purpose of this was to identify groups among whom to promote human rights and acceptance of the Movement so as to facilitate access to victims of future crises.

Improving water supply

The economic standstill resulting from the protests worsened the situation of civilians impoverished by years of hardship and adversely affected public services. Urban residents had a safe supply of water for three months thanks to the provision of 111 tonnes of chemicals by the ICRC, enabling the national water board to operate 24 water treatment plants countrywide. Materials were ordered for the repair of two plants in 2008.

- ▶ 2.5 million people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Assisting victims of violence

With the administration weakened countrywide, intercommunal violence resurged in certain regions. In Boké and Kindia, some 5,400 people (900 households) received essential household items from the ICRC to replace possessions lost when their homes were destroyed.

Restoring family links

Guinea's border areas remained generally calm. With political stability taking hold in the sub-region, most refugees were returning home or establishing new communication patterns. Thus, apart from the distribution of the few pending RCMs, the RCM service for families separated by the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire became unnecessary.

Following the arrests, injury and deaths of civilians during the strikes, the National Society and the ICRC assessed the level of disruption to family links, but identified no specific tracing needs. Nevertheless, the medical authorities were reminded of their responsibility to inform the families of deceased persons.

Tracing activities were reduced, restricting new cases to requests from victims of the recent events in Guinea or from vulnerable individuals. As decided in 2006, no more refugee children or vulnerable adults separated from their families were registered. People registered previously were still monitored individually and helped to restore family links. Among those monitored, several children and vulnerable adults facing specific problems – including exploitation or medical or economic difficulties – received particular attention. Consultation with these individuals' foster families, neighbourhoods or communities and referral to local NGOs or international organizations were among the efforts made to find lasting solutions.

Appropriate lasting solutions, including repatriation and integration into local communities, were also sought for children and vulnerable adults whose families were untraceable. Accordingly, the ICRC participated in the meetings of the various governmental and non-governmental actors who made up a taskforce responsible for finding such solutions, and exchanged information on individual cases.

- ▶ 83 RCMs collected from and 203 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 45 from and 78 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ 11 people located; 10 people (including 5 females and 3 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 13 people reunited with their families, including 11 unaccompanied/separated children

- ▶ 5 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 2 demobilized children); 39 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 22 children and vulnerable adults visited to monitor their reintegration into their families
- ▶ 12 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held under the jurisdiction of the Justice and Interior and Security Ministries continued to benefit from ICRC visits to assess their detention conditions and treatment, and the findings and recommendations were shared with the authorities. Repeated requests for access to detainees held for security reasons in facilities under the Defence Ministry were unsuccessful.

- ▶ 2,540 detainees visited, of whom 59 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 4 newly registered, during 132 visits to 36 places of detention
- ▶ 6 RCMs collected from and 3 RCMs distributed to detainees and 32 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- ▶ 3 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Damage to 14 prisons, combined with lack of funds for prison management, created immense problems for the authorities in meeting detainees' needs, particularly in terms of food supply. Accordingly, malnourished detainees in 7 prisons were assisted through emergency nutritional programmes initiated by the ICRC. In Conakry Central Prison, where the nutritional situation was critical, inmates benefited from an additional emergency feeding programme, implemented jointly with local NGOs, to provide them with complete food rations for three months. Subsequent surveys confirmed that the inmates had regained good health. Medical officers working in the prisons were actively involved in the programmes so as to enhance their capacities to conduct nutritional assessments and encourage the authorities to assume their responsibilities. Additionally, detainees benefited from the support of the ICRC and other organizations in containing cholera outbreaks in two prisons and keeping down the number of deaths caused by the disease, and from an ICRC campaign to eradicate scabies in another prison.

Inmates in 18 prisons, including 7 damaged ones, lived in improved conditions following repairs to kitchens and water supply and sanitation systems. Plans to raise hygiene awareness among inmates and prison staff and ensure the maintenance of facilities previously restored or constructed by the ICRC were postponed so that the organization could focus on repairing damaged infrastructure. Detainees received basic hygiene and recreational items, distributed by local partners in cooperation with the prison authorities.

- ▶ 499 detainees benefited from emergency nutritional programmes
- ▶ 2,339 detainees benefited from water/habitat projects

Concurrently, the authorities and the ICRC maintained a dialogue on coordination between the Health and Justice Ministries, the food and medical supply systems and a legal framework for prison personnel. The Justice Ministry agreed to create a legal framework, appoint a medical representative within the national penal administration and allocate funds for detainee health care in its 2008 budget.

Ministry representatives, including ministers, medical authorities, prison directors and health workers, and local authorities participated in regional round-tables, organized with ICRC support, to consolidate coordination. Members of the judiciary, the penal and health authorities, and the ICRC continued seeking other ways of identifying and resolving detention-related problems.

A local NGO received office materials to assist in its project to improve the provision of legal aid to detainees.

WOUNDED AND SICK

During the upheavals, the National Society, assisted by the ICRC, played a crucial role, giving first aid to the injured and/or evacuating them to hospitals in Conakry and N'Zérékoré and transferring human remains to mortuaries.

With hundreds of wounded people requiring hospitalization and the remains of over 150 people needing proper handling, medical facilities were overwhelmed. The crisis underscored the perennial problems in the Guinean health system – lack of adequate human, medical and material resources and logistical means.

Medical facilities in Boké, Conakry, Kankan, Lola, Macenta and N'Zérékoré received sufficient specialized medical supplies, dressing materials and first-aid kits to treat and hospitalize weapon-wounded patients. One hospital also received fuel for its ambulances and formaldehyde for the preservation of dead bodies. The activities were conducted in coordination with the Health Ministry and other humanitarian organizations.

An assistance programme was launched, primarily to improve emergency and trauma departments and thereby strengthen hospital capacity countrywide to cope with any renewed influx of victims. Ten hospitals received equipment and specialized training – including in war surgery – for some 150 doctors, nurses and stretcher-bearers. The University Hospital Centre was supported in maintaining and monitoring medical equipment, marking the revival of such assistance.

Plans to repair emergency and trauma departments, water supply systems and sanitation facilities in eight hospitals were modified to concentrate on needs occasioned by the unrest. Repairs completed in Kankan and Kissidougou hospitals included the installation of a solar-powered water-supply system in the former. Similar work neared completion in Labé hospital and progressed in five other hospitals. As a result, the population had improved health services closer by.

Contingency medical supplies comprising kits for the treatment and hospitalization of weapon-wounded patients were restocked and medical materials donated to the hospitals supported.

- hospitals with beds for 710 patients benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- the Health Ministry and WHO received input from the ICRC in the preparation of guidelines for the treatment of cases of sexual violence

AUTHORITIES

Owing to the political developments and other impediments, the ratification of IHL treaties and their incorporation into national laws were not priorities for the authorities. For this reason, scheduled projects were put on hold.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During the strikes early in 2007, the military and security forces were mobilized to restore law and order, which necessitated the postponement of training in IHL and human rights law until 2008.

Despite recurrent difficulties, over 60 military personnel participated in 2 information sessions on IHL, the Fundamental Principles, and the ICRC's mandate and activities. The military personnel were thus made aware of IHL and the specific role of the Movement in emergency situations so that they would support it and facilitate its field operations in the event of violence. With ICRC input, the army's IHL office published and distributed the *Soldier's Handbook*.

Over 90 police personnel were acquainted with the Fundamental Principles, aspects of human rights law applicable to police operations, and the ICRC's mandate and activities, thereby enhancing their support for the Movement and facilitating access to victims in the event of an emergency.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC met trade union and civil society leaders to raise their awareness of the specific role of the Movement in emergency situations in order to gain acceptance and security guarantees for field operations in the event of violence.

Over 200 students from Guinea's three main universities participated in the third interuniversity IHL competition organized by local academics and the ICRC.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Strengthening the National Society's emergency response capacity

The Guinean Red Cross, acting promptly, efficiently and often as the only humanitarian player in volatile security conditions, assisted hundreds of civilians caught up in the violent upheavals. With ICRC support, over 700 first-aid workers deployed country-wide evacuated and/or treated 1,636 wounded people, 683 of them seriously, and transferred human remains to mortuaries. The National Society received funds, medical supplies and materials, 5 HF/VHF radio sets and other communication equipment. It also benefited from logistic backup, including 11 vehicles and drivers and 27 motorcycles and bicycles.

Following an in-depth assessment, the National Society received 50 first-aid kits to cover its material needs, while plans got under way to provide it in early 2008 with training in first aid during armed conflict or violence, the handling of human remains, and stress management.

While the focus was on carrying out a rapid and effective assistance operation for civilians caught up in the unrest, the Guinean Red Cross also implemented scheduled programmes. With the support of the ICRC, the National Society:

- ▶ conducted training in first aid for 14 trainers, registration of vulnerable people, and use of ICRC emergency water-treatment kits for 23 trainers of emergency response teams deployed in Guinée Forestière
- ▶ organized 5 regional competitions for 37 Red Cross brigades based on simulated unrest scenarios
- ▶ organized 3 meetings and 3 workshops for 440 tracing coordinators and volunteers
- ▶ organized debriefing and stress management sessions for 112 volunteers
- ▶ recruited and trained a legal adviser
- ▶ enabled 36 of its 38 branches to hold their general assemblies
- ▶ drafted a code of conduct for its members and volunteers

Promoting IHL and the Movement

The National Society received financial, material, logistic and technical support to strengthen its capacity to promote IHL and respect for the emblem so as to ensure the safety of Red Cross personnel during any future upheavals.

Forty-three senior staff attended courses on communication and writing techniques, while over 1,000 volunteers were trained in methods of relaying humanitarian messages to the public. Radio announcements on IHL and respect for the emblem were made countrywide in local languages.

The Guinean Red Cross organized information sessions in Conakry for over 250 national and local government officials on the Red Cross and its activities. It produced and distributed newsletters on IHL and the assistance provided to victims of the strikes.

Some 180 primary and secondary school teachers were trained in humanitarian values and 60 others in first-aid modules to include in school curricula. A Youth Red Cross caravan left Conakry heading for the border with Mali, spreading awareness of humanitarian principles and values along the way.

The National Society also staged activities to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May.

Coordinating with Movement partners

Movement partners and the ICRC regularly shared information on their operations and security matters. The staff of 27 National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC attended a two-day workshop on the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, organized to enhance understanding of partners' respective roles and improve the coordination of their activities.



liberia

The ICRC has worked in Liberia since 1970 and opened its operational delegation in Monrovia in 1990. Following intense fighting early in 2003 and the subsequent signing of a peace agreement, the ICRC stepped up its operations in Liberia. Since 2005, assistance and protection activities have focused 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 runs programmes to promote IHL among armed forces present in Liberia.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,306
Assistance	10,920
Prevention	1,061
Cooperation with National Societies	2,369
General	-

► **19,657**
of which: Overheads 1,201

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

43	expatriates
311	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- provided some 130,200 people with food, 124,000 with seed and tools, and 28,000 with essential household items
- improved some 109,000 people's access to water and sanitation in Lofa, Grand Kru and Montserrado counties
- facilitated 140,200 outpatient consultations and the administration of 44,000 vaccine doses by 13 health facilities in Lofa and Grand Kru counties
- supported children previously reunited with their families in readjusting to family and community life
- visited some 1,400 detainees in 29 detention places

CONTEXT

January 2007 marked the first anniversary of Liberia's new government under President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. Despite progress towards recovery, the country still depended heavily on support from the international community. In July, three individuals were arrested on charges of plotting a coup d'état.

The UN Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) for one year, until September 2008. Thus, UNMIL civilian personnel and over 14,000 troops continued to assist different branches of government and maintain security. NGOs and other organizations remained the principal providers of basic services. Most government institutions were still weak, and the lack of progress in re-establishing the rule of law and the judicial system remained of particular concern.

After a difficult start, the new army achieved its recruitment and training goals, with 1,125 recruits out of the projected 2,000-strong army trained.

Little progress was made in the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the reintegration of demobilized fighters. Two years after the end of the disarmament and demobilization process, several thousand people still awaited implementation of the promised programmes to help them readjust to family and community life.

The government's Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, focusing on economic recovery, national security, governance and the rule of law, and essential services, was well received by donors. The UN Security Council lifted its ban on Liberian diamonds, satisfied that Liberia complied with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme designed to ensure that diamonds originated from sources free of conflict. Several countries cancelled USD 3.7 billion of foreign debt owed to them by Liberia.

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare developed a national health policy and began defining guidelines for health facilities on the Basic Package of Health Services and developing county action plans. Nevertheless, the health situation remained fragile as county health teams and the majority of health facilities suffered the consequences of a chronic shortage of qualified staff.

Since 2005, some 150,000 Liberian refugees had returned to their places of origin, two-thirds of them with the assistance of UNHCR, which concluded its repatriation of refugees in the region at the end of June.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	1,387	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	130,212	30% 50%
Number of visits carried out	81	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	27,651	20% 75%
Number of places of detention visited	29	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	124,106	30% 50%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	109,019	25% 50%
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health			
RCMs collected	216	Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	13	
RCMs distributed	89	Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	140,252	
People reunited with their families	8	of which curative	<i>Patients</i>		55,040 47,669
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		of which ante/post-natal	<i>Patients</i>		11,176 840
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	27	Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	43,890	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	13				
of which for females	8				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	10				
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	2				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	7				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	28				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3				

ICRC ACTION

With the transition from conflict to peace and development, and greater involvement of other organizations in Liberia, the ICRC scaled back its operations. It remained focused on meeting the residual needs of the most vulnerable victims of the past conflict, particularly communities in Lofa and Grand Kru counties.

The ICRC continued its water and sanitation programmes in Monrovia and its environs by rehabilitating wells and improving community sanitation facilities. In Lofa and Grand Kru, the ICRC concentrated on medium-term assistance programmes notably for recent returnees and vulnerable people, combining material and technical support to primary health care facilities with the promotion of basic health and hygiene. It constructed and rehabilitated wells and latrines and implemented income-generating community-based agricultural programmes. Recent returnees and vulnerable families in Lofa, especially those headed by an elderly person or a widow, were provided with tools, food and essential household items to assist them in rebuilding their livelihoods. To help the recipients reconstruct their homes, the ICRC enlisted the support of other community members, providing them with food and/or cash in return for their work.

Given the improved communications in the sub-region, the ICRC restricted its RCM service to helping vulnerable adults and children restore contact with their families. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and several child-protection agencies, the ICRC also sought lasting solutions for children whose families had not been located despite years of tracing efforts. For children reunited with their families but experiencing problems in readjusting to life in their communities, the organization looked for solutions tailored to individual cases.

The ICRC continued visiting ordinary detainees in various places of detention throughout Liberia, sharing its findings and

recommendations with the authorities. It offered support to the Ministry of Justice and improved water and sanitation facilities in Harper and Zwedru prisons. The ICRC also continued providing technical advice to UNMIL's Corrections Advisory Unit.

The ICRC maintained technical support to the national authorities in their efforts to incorporate the provisions of IHL treaties into national legislation and to integrate IHL and humanitarian principles into police and military training, doctrine and practice. It also kept up efforts to promote the inclusion of IHL in the law curriculum of the University of Liberia. Dissemination sessions were organized to raise awareness of IHL and the Red Cross among various sectors of civil society.

The Liberian Red Cross Society continued to receive ICRC support in adapting its programmes as it shifted its focus from emergency response to structural development.

The ICRC pursued dialogue with other humanitarian actors present in Liberia to share information on the humanitarian situation and to coordinate activities.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Given the improved communications in the sub-region, only vulnerable adults and children still separated from their families by past conflicts in the sub-region were assisted in restoring contact with their relatives through the RCM service. Working together, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, several child-protection agencies and the ICRC sought lasting solutions for children whose families had not been located despite strenuous tracing efforts. With ICRC support, scores of children and vulnerable adults got back in touch with their families. A number of them were subsequently reunited with their relatives.

The search continued for the families of a number of children in Liberia. For four children whose families could not be located, the quest turned to finding lasting solutions, including integration into local communities, reintegration into their communities of origin or placement in children's institutions.

Some 160 children previously reunited with their families, including 64 children formerly associated with fighting forces, were visited to monitor how they had readjusted to family and community life. Children encountering difficulties benefited from tailor-made solutions, including support for their education or vocational training, referral to other organizations for counselling, or medical assistance. The children's families were given material support and involved in income-generating projects.

- 52 RCMs collected from and 40 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 28 from and 16 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 1 person (a female and minor at the time of disappearance); 27 people located; 13 people (including 8 females and 10 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 8 people reunited with their families
- 2 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 7 reunited with their families; 28 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 3 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Assisting civilians

Some 150,000 Liberian refugees had returned home since 2005, and with that UNHCR concluded the voluntary repatriation of refugees in West Africa. With fewer refugees returning to Liberia, there was less pressure on the communities absorbing them. Even so, infrastructure remained run-down and resources scarce.

Economic security

In Voinjama and Kolahun districts of Lofa County, recent returnees and single-parent households received farm tools and vegetable and rice seed, as well as food to prevent the consumption of the seeds. They resumed farming, produced their own food, sold the surplus and built a seed stock for the next planting season. This helped ease pressure on communities and reduced dependence on external assistance.

With ICRC support, families in Lofa cleared their plantations and began reviving cash-crop farming. Working in groups supervised by community representatives, farmers cleared plantations overgrown by bush and received food and/or cash in return. A local cooperative society and the ICRC signed a deal to cooperate in easing farmers' access to markets for their produce. Thanks to a pilot project launched to guarantee farmers the sale of a portion of their yield through the cooperative, they sold 23 tonnes of cocoa beans.

In Lofa County, vulnerable people, mainly recent returnees, widowed mothers and other lone heads of families, benefited from a new shelter programme. Building materials were provided, as well as rice for community members doing the construction. Local traders also gained by supplying traditional roofing materials. In light of the dwindling number of returnees, the ICRC concluded its assistance to people to rebuild their homes. Rice paddies left fallow were cleared for indigent families by workers, who received food and/or cash in return.

In Grand Kru, households revived traditional economic activities after receiving technical support, vegetable and cash-crop

seed, farm tools and other implements. A further 14 families who received fingerlings started breeding fish for household consumption and sale.

In Monrovia and Nimba County, women affected by conflict benefited from projects run by ICRC-supported associations. Through tailoring courses and other vocational training, the women learned new skills and gained social and psychological benefits that helped them recover from their traumatic experiences. On completing training, they were hired by ICRC-supported workshops or given starter kits to set up their own income-generating activities.

For 185 vulnerable young people affected by conflict, a youth centre in Bong County set up by the ICRC in collaboration with the National Society offered a safe environment where they could participate in various activities and enhance their chances of integrating into the community.

- 130,212 people (15,359 households) received food
- 27,534 people (3,251 households) received essential household items
- 124,106 people (19,134 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 60,870 people (10,145 households) from distributions of seed, tools and fertilizer
 - 46,032 people (16,720 households) from cash-crop seed
 - 8,822 people benefited from a shelter programme (the supply of building materials)
 - 8,244 people (1,374 households) benefited from community projects

Water and sanitation

Some 100,000 vulnerable people in Grand Kru and Lofa counties, Monrovia and Harper benefited from an ICRC programme to improve their water supply and sanitation facilities. Through the programme, 120 wells and 367 latrines in homes and institutions were constructed or rehabilitated and communities learned good hygiene practices and how to maintain and manage the facilities.

Nearly 340 mechanics affiliated with 96 committees created to maintain and manage water and sanitation facilities underwent training. Through radio and other outreach activities, including drama, thousands of people in five counties heard key messages on basic hygiene and the importance of maintaining water and sanitation facilities built or restored by the ICRC. Community members in Grand Kru actively participated in clean-up competitions organized between villages and school clubs.

- 108,959 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 52,736 people from the construction of latrines
 - 61,118 people from the construction of wells
 - 21,872 people from hygiene information sessions

Primary health care

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare continued to receive direct support in overhauling the health system. County authorities and the ICRC defined their respective roles and responsibilities. County health teams consolidated their capacities to meet their responsibilities but still needed support in managing, supervising and organizing their activities and staff. A national laboratory supervisor, appointed at the ICRC's suggestion, regularly conducted supervisory visits and trained staff in the company of ICRC delegates. This enabled the person to take over full responsibility for supervising laboratories from the ICRC, as planned.

A new health post in Kpotomai raised to 13 the number of ICRC-supported facilities (including 4 laboratories) in Lofa and Grand Kru counties. The facilities received drugs, medical and laboratory equipment, technical support and incentives for around 200 staff. Additionally, 11 incinerators and pits for burning waste were constructed. This enhanced the quality of much-needed health services in remote areas with high concentrations of recent returnees.

Student nurses and midwives were offered internships in ICRC-supported health facilities so as to attract qualified personnel to remote areas, where a shortage of such staff frustrated efforts to improve public health services. These efforts paid off, as some of the 26 students thus deployed stayed on after their internships ended.

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare certified 180 traditional midwives, after they had completed a six-month course. Sixty others started a similar course. Refresher courses were also conducted regularly.

In coordination with the National Aids Control Program, the ICRC organized a workshop on sexually transmitted infections. The ministry and the ICRC organized a workshop for all laboratory technicians on bacteriology and microscopy. Ministry personnel attended refresher and on-the-job training courses organized by ICRC staff.

Ministry staff attended courses on vaccination and the treatment of malaria, organized by various actors with ICRC support. The ministry received support in carrying out mass vaccination campaigns and other initiatives to immunize people in the two counties. Over 18,500 mosquito nets were distributed in areas served by ICRC-supported clinics, preceded by health education sessions. This helped reduce the number of cases of malaria and other preventable diseases.

Over 390 patients (including 109 obstetric patients) were referred by the ICRC to a second level of care, and 65 were airlifted to tertiary health facilities in Monrovia. Pregnant women could deliver their babies more safely thanks to these activities and to trained traditional midwives deployed in communities served by ICRC-supported facilities.

In the 13 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 120,000):

- ▶ 140,252 people given consultations, including 12,016 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 128,236 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 43,890 vaccine doses administered (30,406 to children aged five or under)
- ▶ 2,584 health education sessions held

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit prisons and share with the relevant authorities its findings and recommendations on the inmates' treatment and detention conditions. Detainees were offered the opportunity to communicate with their families through the RCM service and provided with hygiene products as needed. The embassies concerned were notified of the detention of their nationals, if the detainees in question so wished.

Detainees in Harper and Zwedru prisons had improved access to water following the completion of a well with a water supply back-up system and repairs to pumps.

The Corrections Advisory Unit of UNMIL was provided with technical advice on the construction of prison facilities and wells in three towns to support the rehabilitation of prisons. The judicial authorities received office supplies and equipment to support UN-led judicial reforms.

- ▶ 1,387 detainees visited, of whom 3 monitored individually and 3 newly registered, during 81 visits to 29 places of detention
- ▶ 164 RCMs collected from and 49 RCMs distributed to detainees and 41 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- ▶ 60 detainees benefited from water/sanitation projects
- ▶ 117 detainees received hygiene products

AUTHORITIES

The national authorities and the ICRC continued discussing the need to ratify IHL treaties and incorporate their provisions into national legislation. A bill on the Ottawa Convention, prepared with ICRC support, awaited adoption by the legislature.

- ▶ a government representative attended the Council of Delegates and the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva, Switzerland
- ▶ over 100 civil servants attended sessions on IHL and the ICRC

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Still undergoing reforms, including recruitment and training, the armed forces benefited from the training of 20 instructors in IHL and the briefing of 123 recruits on IHL and the ICRC.

Police training by UNMIL neared completion, and recruitment continued. The police hierarchy, UN Civilian Police instructors and the ICRC coordinated their activities. Nearly 600 police and correctional recruits attended sessions on humanitarian values and the ICRC. Some 30 Bangladeshi and new UNMIL contingents were briefed on IHL and the ICRC, while over 560 UN military observers and high-ranking UNMIL officers from 24 countries attended sessions on similar topics and the application of IHL to UN peace-support operations and civil-military cooperation.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The local and international media, academics and other civil society members continued to benefit from efforts to promote IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

Following the participation of a dean and a lecturer from the University of Liberia in an IHL moot court competition in Sierra Leone, the academic authorities obtained an IHL curriculum from the ICRC for adaptation to local needs.

The screening of the ICRC film *Liberia: hope at last*, portraying ICRC activities in post-conflict Liberia reached over 3,680 people. Four local journalists visited an ICRC sub-delegation to gain a better understanding of ICRC operations.

- 55 staff of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission briefed on IHL
- 20 journalists trained in IHL
- over 40 international and local journalists attended press conferences on ICRC activities
- articles on IHL published in a local military publication
- a survey on the effectiveness of ICRC activities conducted in 5 counties
- 22 students briefed on the Movement by the National Society and the ICRC
- over 940 elders, religious leaders, youths and midwives attended sessions on the ICRC and the Movement

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Liberian Red Cross continued receiving ICRC logistics back-up and technical and financial support as the focus of its operations shifted from relief to development. It drew up a five-year strategic plan – adopted by its general assembly in February – and revised and printed its statutes. It reviewed its branches' performance and enhanced their participation in planning activities. It completed construction of two branch offices and renovated another.

Assistance

With ICRC support, the National Society:

- provided 1,885 households with agricultural tools, rice seed and food
- provided 100 women with gardening tools and vegetable seed
- provided 196 families affected by floods with material assistance
- chlorinated 100 wells, rehabilitated 8 water pumps and promoted ownership of water points in 58 communities
- trained 1,649 of its staff members and staff of the ICRC, Africare and Plan International, in first aid and hygiene promotion
- trained 15 staff in motorbike maintenance to strengthen its logistical capacity
- revised and printed its first-aid manual
- distributed some 30 tonnes of clothes to vulnerable people

Restoring family links

The National Society reduced the number of staff involved in tracing activities, the need for which decreased as refugees regionwide returned to their home countries and communications improved. It received ICRC support in further developing its tracing criteria and revising its tracing handbook and conducted a nationwide campaign to promote the programme on restoring family links. It improved its mobility thanks to a donation of 14 motorcycles from the ICRC.

Promoting IHL and the Movement

With ICRC support, the National Society:

- promoted the Movement through 93 Red Cross school clubs
- produced and distributed its newsletter and brochures to government ministries and other stakeholders
- distributed 3,000 copies of the comic book *The Battle of the Villages*, sports equipment and other items to youth clubs
- printed 5,000 copies of its new statutes and conducted IHL sessions for 339 of its members
- together with the International Federation and the ICRC, held a press conference to launch celebrations in May, which the government had declared Red Cross Month
- issued press releases on Red Cross activities

Coordination of Movement activities

Four meetings held by Movement partners to coordinate their activities resulted in more cohesive support to the Liberian Red Cross. The National Society's five-year strategic plan was well received by eight supporting National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation. Its water and sanitation, disaster response and organizational development initiatives were supported by the ICRC, the International Federation and other Movement partners.

rwanda



The ICRC opened a delegation in Rwanda in 1990. It focuses 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 during 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 KCHF)

Protection	3,626
Assistance	3,812
Prevention	631
Cooperation with National Societies	787
General	-

► **8,855**

of which: Overheads 540

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

22 expatriates
129 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited more than 96,000 detainees and made recommendations to the authorities, where necessary, for improvements to detention conditions
- submitted a report to the authorities summarizing observations made during visits to people held in police stations
- reunited 48 children with their families
- in conjunction with the local authorities, improved access to safe water for some 33,000 people
- together with the Rwanda Defence Forces, held a five-day advanced IHL course for 20 military instructors
- conducted workshops on the Safer Access approach for 140 emergency brigade volunteers from the Rwandan Red Cross

CONTEXT

During the year, the country made considerable progress in processing the cases of people accused of crimes related to the genocide. By the end of the year, *gacaca* jurisdictions throughout the country had heard over 1 million cases and delivered judgment on over 800,000 of them. A revision to the 2004 Organic Law on Gacaca Jurisdictions and a resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers allowed people who had been convicted by the *gacaca* courts, who had pleaded guilty, and whose repentance and remorse had been accepted by the courts to serve the public work portion of their sentences before imprisonment.

The government announced that *gacaca* trials would continue into 2008, allowing the remaining cases to be heard, and that the courts might also try those accused of Category I crimes (i.e. the most serious charges, including planning, organizing or leading the genocide, mass murder and rape).

The government formally abolished the death penalty in July, thus removing one of the objections to the transfer of cases from the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to the country's own courts. In further preparation for the proposed transfers, a transit facility had been built in Kigali and cells in Mpanga prison made ready to receive the accused.

Rwanda continued to benefit from international support. Improving regional relations were demonstrated by the country's participation in a meeting in April to revive the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries, as well as by its formal accession to the East African Community in July. Many people continued to suffer poverty, especially in rural areas.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	96,533
Detainees visited and monitored individually	394
of whom females	31
of whom minors	10
Number of visits carried out	294
Number of places of detention visited	122
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	4,705
RCMs distributed	6,514
People reunited with their families	56
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	90
of whom females	50
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	51
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	17
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	75
of which for females	46
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	47
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	98
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	48
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	506
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	11

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	96,938	3%	
Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	138,283	13%	16%

ICRC ACTION

The first part of 2007 saw a rise in the prison population, reaching 98,000 by the end of May. As a result, conditions of detention in central prisons worsened. Physical infrastructure was far overstretched, and in most prisons the deterioration in inmates' nutritional status and hygiene conditions created serious health hazards. The ICRC monitored these conditions closely and addressed regular reports to the authorities concerned, calling for a significant and rapid reduction in the prison population. To adapt its activities to the needs of the growing prison population, the ICRC increased deliveries of hygiene products and materials and contributed to the building of four outdoor kitchens. It continued to make the RCM service available to newly imprisoned detainees so that they could make contact with their relatives.

The steady reduction of the prison population in the second half of the year had an overall positive effect on health, hygiene and other conditions of detention. The focus of discussions with the authorities therefore shifted from the need to reduce overcrowding to other concerns over detention conditions.

The ICRC systematically visited police jails throughout the country. It submitted a summary report to the police authorities based on the visits it had made during the previous two years.

To provide the population of rural areas with access to safe drinking water, the ICRC completed five projects for almost 49,000 people and initiated one further project.

The ICRC was engaged in various initiatives to help build an environment that favoured the promotion, adoption and implementation

of IHL. These included working with the Rwanda Defence Forces to organize a training module on IHL for military instructors and with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in the holding of a technical workshop on the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons for legal advisers from the principal ministries and institutions concerned.

Where children had been separated from their families by conflict in the region, the ICRC helped to trace their relatives, reunite them if appropriate, and monitor and support their reintegration. The Rwandan Red Cross continued to receive ICRC financial and technical support to run the RCM service, for which it had assumed responsibility (apart from in detention facilities) at the end of 2006. It also began to take over the handling of tracing requests. The ICRC remained committed to supporting the development of the National Society's family-links activities, as well as its programmes to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles and build its conflict preparedness and response capacity. When needed and on request, the ICRC provided logistical support for the National Society's emergency response programmes.

Movement partners working in Rwanda met regularly to share information and coordinate their activities.

CIVILIANS

People separated from their relatives were able to restore or maintain contact through the tracing and RCM services provided by the Rwandan Red Cross, with ICRC support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Weapon bearers demobilized and

repatriated to Rwanda by the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were able to use these services at the Mutobo demobilization camp.

Where appropriate, children were repatriated to Rwanda, mostly from the DRC, and reunited with their families. The names of children seeking their parents were broadcast on local radio bulletins. A total of 124 children who had been reunited with their families received visits from ICRC staff to see how they were settling back into society. Eighty-two families with social or economic problems received support mobilized by the ICRC from local authorities or associations.

- ▶ 4,393 RCMs collected from and 6,364 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 88 from and 56 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 90 people (including 50 females and 51 minors at the time of disappearance); 17 people located; 75 people (including 46 females and 47 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 56 people reunited with their families, including 48 unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ 98 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 18 demobilized children); 506 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 37 demobilized children) still being handled
- ▶ 374 names of children seeking their relatives broadcast
- ▶ 174 vulnerable orphans' school fees paid

After more than a decade of activity, as a result of which several hundred thousand Rwandans had benefited from improved access to safe water, ICRC water supply projects in the country neared conclusion. People living in rural areas where other organizations were absent were still the principal focus of the ICRC's remaining activities. The organization continued to work directly with the local authorities on construction/rehabilitation projects, while simultaneously building their capacities to provide safe water and manage the water supply system.

Residents of Gasasa, Gihogwe, Kabarondo, Kabaya and Ndiza gained access to an improved supply of safe water with the completion of five projects in those areas. For each project, the local authorities also received ICRC support to help them transfer management of the water supply to the private sector or to the community itself.

A project in the Mbazi rural area was initiated to improve access to safe water for approximately 10,000 people.

Some 15,000 people in Nyagatare had access to safe water during a cholera outbreak thanks to National Society and ICRC water trucking and delivery.

- ▶ 48,736 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visiting detainees

The population of Rwanda's 16 central prisons reached 98,000 by the end of May. The rapid, significant and continual increase seriously worsened conditions of detention, to the point where they were dramatically below all recognized standards, whether international or those prescribed by national legislation. In the second

half of the year, the prison population decreased substantially, to 59,000 at the end of December, with some limited corresponding improvements in conditions of detention.

Whether held in places of permanent or temporary detention, detainees received regular visits from ICRC delegates, who checked on their treatment, living conditions, nutritional status, health and access to health care. Observations regarding detention conditions were regularly conveyed to the relevant authorities. Newly imprisoned detainees were given the opportunity to make contact with their relatives through the RCM service. Minors and women received particular attention, and the ICRC insisted on their strict separation from male adults. The organization also submitted cases of prolonged detention without trial to the judicial authorities and provided school materials to support educational programs for underage detainees.

Conditions of detention and standards of treatment in police stations were the subject of a confidential summary report transmitted to the Rwandan authorities, conveying observations made by the ICRC over a two-year period.

- ▶ 96,533 detainees visited, of whom 394 monitored individually (including 31 females and 10 minors) and 330 newly registered (including 25 females and 9 minors), during 294 visits to 122 places of detention
- ▶ 312 RCMs collected from and 150 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 650 minors in prison provided with school supplies

Helping improve detention conditions

At the beginning of the year, the ICRC finished its phased withdrawal from the provision of essential medicines in prisons. Nevertheless, it continued to monitor detainees' access to health services through visits by its delegates and conveyed their observations to the prison authorities.

In February 2007, a health department was set up within the National Prison Service, with financing from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and as advocated by the ICRC. The department aimed to ensure health coordination and monitoring in the prisons and consisted initially of a medical doctor, later joined by two nurses. The new medical team met ICRC delegates regularly and underwent on-site training.

In collaboration with the prison service health department, the delegation ensured that epidemiological surveillance of communicable diseases in prisons was in place. During cholera and typhus epidemics in five prisons, detainees benefited from ICRC logistical and technical support to the prison service. In order to improve detainees' access to mental health services, the prison service health department organized a two-week mental health training session for 17 prison nurses in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and with ICRC support.

The nutritional status of detainees continued to be monitored by the ICRC through measurement of their Body Mass Index. The results of the assessments carried out in 16 prisons were shared with the authorities, so that they could take corrective action. Sick detainees in 12 prisons had a better diet, thanks to seed, fertilizers and tools supplied by the ICRC to the prison authorities, enabling the cultivation of vegetables and pulses.

Detainees' living conditions in a number of prisons were enhanced through ICRC engineering projects, carried out in conjunction with the authorities. These included measures to improve water supply

through water catchment and rainwater collection systems. Biogas systems (wastewater management combined with energy production) were being built in order to improve sanitation facilities and reduce wood consumption. One new kitchen facility was completed and four were under construction.

To maintain hygiene standards in view of the rising number of detainees, prisons received an increased supply of chlorine, liquid soap, soap bars, and hygiene products for women. Pest-control campaigns were conducted in 10 prisons.

- 89,547 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- 96,938 detainees received hygiene items
- minors in 3 places of detention were able to move into newly constructed separate accommodation blocks

AUTHORITIES

State bodies continued to receive information and advice from the ICRC concerning the ratification and national implementation of IHL instruments.

Having completed its consultations with the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation requested ICRC legal and technical support in clarifying the exact responsibilities that ratification of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its five protocols would entail. Together with the ICRC, the ministry subsequently organized a one-day technical workshop, bringing together legal advisers from the principal ministries and institutions concerned to discuss the implications of ratification of the Convention.

The authorities received input from the ICRC on IHL aspects of the new draft penal code.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Rwanda Defence Forces received ICRC assistance in their efforts to integrate IHL into military procedures and training.

- 20 military instructors refreshed and deepened their knowledge of IHL during a five-day advanced course run by the ICRC
- officers on the Grade 3 staff course followed an IHL component facilitated by the ICRC

Information sessions on IHL and the ICRC were organized for:

- more than 600 newly promoted cadets
- over 600 soldiers prior to their deployment on peacekeeping duties in Sudan

CIVIL SOCIETY

Journalists were regularly invited to cover ICRC events, such as the inauguration of water supply projects, family reunifications, IHL training sessions in military academies, and IHL workshops. The media regularly published articles on ICRC activities and broadcast several events on national television.

Preparation and revision of the new secondary school political education course manual, which included a chapter devoted to human rights and IHL, neared fruition. French and English versions of the text were completed in April and November, and the printing process got under way.

University students researching IHL-related topics continued to receive advice and help in obtaining access to appropriate source materials. A team from the National University of Rwanda participated in an international IHL competition in the United Republic of Tanzania, with ICRC technical and financial support.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Rwandan Red Cross responded to emergencies and worked to fight poverty, confirming its position as a major humanitarian actor in Rwanda, while decentralizing its 30 district committees. It received ICRC support for its programmes to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, prepare for and respond to crisis situations in the country, and restore family links.

Following the transfer to it of responsibility for the running of the RCM service (excluding in places of detention) at the end of 2006, the National Society distributed and collected RCMs countrywide and formed part of the international RCM network. Through further ICRC support, the National Society developed other elements of its family-links programme and began to handle tracing requests in 10 of Rwanda's 30 districts.

- 2 permanent tracing staff and 20 volunteers trained in the handling of tracing requests

The Rwandan Red Cross received ICRC technical support in the preparation of a bill protecting the name and emblems of the Movement, for adoption by the government. It drafted a national communication policy, a communication strategy and a five-year plan of action with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC. Through dissemination activities and continued media coverage, the mission and activities of the National Society were better known to and appreciated by the authorities and the population.

- dissemination volunteers delivered information sessions on the Movement and the basic rules of IHL for local authorities and Red Cross volunteers
- 50 radio programmes and frequent press releases on Rwandan Red Cross activities broadcast/issued

During natural disasters, the Rwandan Red Cross was able to respond rapidly and efficiently thanks in part to ICRC training and material and logistical support. The Safer Access approach was integrated into the National Society's emergency response training course.

- 140 emergency brigade members attended 5 workshops on the Safer Access approach

Movement partners working in Rwanda met regularly to share information and coordinate their activities. The National Society participated in the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva, Switzerland, with ICRC support.



sierra leone

The ICRC has maintained a presence in Sierra Leone since 1991. Since the end of the armed conflict in 2002, the organization has adapted its operations in the country. It monitors the conditions in which detainees are held and provides the authorities with substantial technical support in promoting respect for IHL and its integration into national legislation. It also focuses on ensuring the welfare of the children who remain separated from their families, and supports the development of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,487
Assistance	19
Prevention	909
Cooperation with National Societies	1,603
General	-

► **5,018**

of which: Overheads 307

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94%
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PERSONNEL

10	expatriates
82	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- helped strengthen the capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society to take the lead in Red Cross matters and to fulfil its traditional peacetime role
- promoted IHL and the incorporation of relevant IHL treaties into national law
- addressed the needs of unaccompanied minors by helping them to restore family links disrupted by past conflict
- visited 2,001 detainees, monitoring 40 of them individually, and discussed detention conditions with the authorities concerned
- supported penal reforms by providing technical input in the areas of water and sanitation

CONTEXT

Sierra Leone held parliamentary and presidential elections in August, which were pronounced fair by international and national observers, although sporadic election-related violence was reported in the south-east. The former opposition party, the All People's Congress, emerged the victor, and the transfer of power to the new president, Ernest Bai Koroma, and his administration went smoothly.

The socio-economic situation remained precarious, with widespread poverty and unemployment, particularly among youth. Government efforts to provide basic services to the population still fell short of the needs. Various initiatives, including a youth employment scheme and small-scale, countrywide development projects, brought little in the way of sustained improvement.

The international community continued helping prevent a relapse of conflict and supporting government efforts to tackle the underlying causes of past conflicts. Multi- and bilateral funding schemes were maintained or stepped up. The UN Peacebuilding Commission adopted a peacebuilding cooperation framework for Sierra Leone to guide partnerships and address challenges crucial to sustaining and consolidating peace. The mandate of the UN Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) was extended to 2008.

Trials for crimes against humanity and IHL violations committed during the 1991–2002 conflict continued at the Special Court for Sierra Leone and, in the case of the former Liberian president Charles Taylor, in The Hague.

The Sierra Leonean authorities kept a close eye on the situation in neighbouring Guinea. The heads of State of the Mano River Union continued to seek a peaceful solution to the dispute between Guinea and Sierra Leone over the border town of Yenga.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	2,001
Detainees visited and monitored individually	40
Number of visits carried out	46
Number of places of detention visited	20
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	640
RCMs distributed	734
People reunited with their families	5
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13
<i>of whom females</i>	8
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	6
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	24
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	6
<i>of which for females</i>	4
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	2
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	2
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	5
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	23
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	3
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5

ICRC ACTION

Over five years having passed since the conflict ended, the ICRC had substantially reduced its presence in Sierra Leone and prepared to wrap up its operational programmes by the end of 2008.

Alongside other Movement partners, the ICRC concentrated on helping to strengthen the capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society to take the lead in Red Cross matters within Sierra Leone and to conduct traditional National Society peacetime activities. In coordination with other components of the Movement, the ICRC supported the National Society in implementing major internal reforms. In anticipation of possible election-related violence, the ICRC helped train staff and volunteers in the Safer Access approach and first aid. It extended financial support to National Society programmes for victims of past conflicts, including the Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation Programme.

Years of work with the armed forces paid off with the full integration of IHL into training at all levels, and sound knowledge of IHL became a precondition for military promotion. At the army's request, the ICRC provided expertise for the re-establishment of a military court. To complement the work of other organizations, the ICRC provided the police force with technical support in incorporating human rights law and IHL principles into the training of all recruits and officers. Together with the authorities, the ICRC raised the awareness of private security companies of their responsibilities as weapon bearers.

To boost the country's expertise in IHL, the ICRC promoted the introduction of IHL in university curricula and familiarized civil society and the media with this body of law. It helped foster good working relations between all stakeholders and IHL experts, focusing

on the nascent cooperation between military IHL instructors, universities, the Justice Ministry and the Special Court.

While still visiting security detainees and monitoring prison conditions, the ICRC shifted its attention to providing expertise to support penal reforms. It worked closely with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Justice Sector Development Programme of the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and the UN programme of support to the prison administration. The ICRC concentrated on building prison staff's technical capacities concerning health, water and sanitation in detention. It advised other stakeholders on adjustments to be made in the prison administration and helped forge links between ministries to optimize the government's management of health, water and sanitation in prisons.

The ICRC continued dealing with humanitarian issues related to the past conflict. It was the only organization providing country-wide and cross-border tracing services for families separated by conflict. With little chance of resolving the few remaining tracing cases, it intensified dialogue with the authorities and child protection agencies to find lasting solutions for children whose relatives could not be found.

Guided by a 2006 assessment, the ICRC sought to raise the authorities' and communities' awareness of the plight of families of people still missing in relation to the conflict (notably households headed by women). It identified organizations offering specific services needed by these families – including psychological and social support – and promoted the creation of a support network to which families could be referred. It discussed with the government and the military the need to put in place measures to prevent the disappearance of people in future conflicts.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC remained the sole organization offering tracing services to people affected by conflict. However, the demand for such services dropped, given the gradual improvement in freedom of movement throughout the sub-region, the completion of UNHCR's repatriation of refugees and the closure, at year-end, of refugee camps.

UNHCR convoys repatriating over 11,000 Liberian refugees were screened by the ICRC before their departure so that it could identify and register any unaccompanied children for follow-up in Liberia.

The ICRC cooperated closely with international and national child protection agencies and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, to whom children could be referred for further assistance, such as vocational training, help with schooling and psychological support. Some 200 previous beneficiaries of the ICRC's family reunification programme continued to receive visits to monitor their well-being and ensure their successful reintegration into their families and communities.

- ▶ 206 RCMs collected from and 447 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 12 from and 20 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 13 people (including 8 females and 6 minors at the time of disappearance); 24 people located; 6 people (including 4 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 2 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 1 demobilized child); 5 reunited with their families; 23 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 3 people issued with an ICRC travel document

A study on missing persons in Sierra Leone carried out by the ICRC in 2006 established that little was known at government and community level about the particular needs of families with relatives unaccounted for in connection with conflict. In 2007, the study's main findings and recommendations were shared broadly with the national and local authorities, urban and rural communities, and NGOs. Families across the country had taken advantage of visits by ICRC field officers to break their silence, asking questions about the fate of their loved ones and discussing their situation. The National Commission for Social Action, which presided over the government's reparation fund for war victims, promised to look into the possibility of including families of the missing in their definition of a war victim, thereby entitling them to reparation grants.

During discussions with the ICRC, women's organizations deepened their understanding of the constraints and challenges facing women heading households that had lost the main breadwinner.

Through advocacy efforts targeting the Centre for Victims of Torture, Handicap International, the International Rescue Committee and other NGOs, agreements were reached whereby the organizations would include in their existing programmes initiatives to address the psychological, social and economic needs of families with missing relatives.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The authorities made progress, albeit slowly, in reforming the penal system, with international support, notably from DFID, the UN and the ICRC. With the authorities' go-ahead, the ICRC shared selected findings on prison health-related issues with DFID and the UN, to help ensure that these were taken into account in their programmes.

Technical staff of the health department and prison administration and the ICRC jointly conducted 11 visits to prisons. The visits provided an opportunity to increase the staff's capacities to assess health services and water and sanitation facilities in prisons. They learned how to identify shortfalls and solutions, prioritize them and report their findings to their supervisors. Five ICRC workshops on water and sanitation in prisons, supported by DFID, enabled the staff to broaden their newly acquired knowledge, leading to the formulation of strategies for the way forward. Furthermore, the prison administration, the Ministries of Health and Internal Affairs, and the ICRC held several working sessions and two round-table discussions, which resulted in the compilation of a standard list of drugs for prisons and the initiation of a dialogue on cooperation between the two ministries.

Detainees continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates. A number of security detainees held in Pademba Central Prison were followed individually for protection purposes, while the material conditions of all inmates were monitored. The eight detainees held at the detention facility of the Special Court for Sierra Leone on charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity and IHL violations allegedly committed during the conflict were also followed individually. When appropriate, detainees were given the opportunity to communicate with their families through the RCM service.

- ▶ 2,001 detainees visited, of whom 40 monitored individually, during 46 visits to 20 places of detention
- ▶ 434 RCMs collected from and 287 RCMs distributed to detainees and 2 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- ▶ 5 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

The installation of a new government brought changes in parliamentarians and political authorities, most of whom were not familiar with the ICRC's work or objectives. The delegation nonetheless maintained contacts with officials in the Foreign and Justice Ministries to prepare the ground for the incorporation of IHL treaties into national legislation.

- ▶ a government representative attended an Economic Community of West African States/ICRC seminar on IHL in Abuja, Nigeria (see *Abuja regional*)
- ▶ the relevant sectors of UNIOSIL and the ICRC maintained good working relations
- ▶ Mongolian soldiers attached to the UN Mission in Liberia contingent based in Freetown attended a session on IHL and peacekeeping

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces

In line with the objective of developing a pool of IHL instructors from different military units, 23 officers attended a refresher course on IHL to prepare them to take over responsibility for teaching the subject independently. Plans were laid to produce an IHL instructor's manual and establish an IHL office within the Defence Ministry. With these developments, the ICRC began phasing out its IHL training support.

As recommended in the ICRC study on missing persons, the army launched an initiative to provide its personnel with identification tags so that families could be informed of relatives killed in action. It began adapting its operating procedures to prevent disappearances during future conflict. International donors were encouraged to support the process.

The Special Court, supported by the ICRC, organized a moot court competition for the police and army, with the National Society's legal adviser acting as judge. Some 680 officers and troops attended sessions organized by the ICRC and the National Society on IHL, war crimes, the ICRC and the Movement.

Police

With ICRC support, the police force integrated human rights and humanitarian principles into all staff training. Thirty-eight officers attended a course on human rights and humanitarian principles. In conjunction with the National Society, 941 officers and recruits countrywide, including 20 earmarked for peacekeeping in Darfur, Sudan, were briefed on humanitarian principles, the ICRC, the Movement and peacekeeping.

Security companies

Over 50 security guards from private agencies were briefed on IHL and the ICRC, in coordination with the Sierra Leone Office of National Security and the Union of Private Security Companies.

CIVIL SOCIETY

With the continuing downsizing and phasing out of ICRC operational programmes, mechanisms were put in place for the Sierra Leonean Red Cross to take over responsibility for interacting with civil society on IHL and Red Cross matters. With ICRC support, the National Society made introductory visits to media outlets leading to increased coverage of the Movement. A group of journalists, created specifically to cover Red Cross activities, participated with the National Society and the ICRC in national and local radio discussions on IHL and humanitarian issues.

Over 50 college and university students participated in an IHL lecture and in the third annual ICRC moot court competition. The winning team was sponsored to participate in the Pan-African moot court competition in Arusha, Tanzania (see *Nairobi regional*). Subsequently, more colleges expressed an interest in taking part in future competitions.

- 756 college students and auxiliary nurses attended sessions on the ICRC and the Movement
- academics and members of the Special Court mobilized to advocate IHL inclusion in university curricula

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

As part of internal reforms supported by Movement partners, the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society appointed a new secretary general and personnel responsible for communication and fundraising. Following an ICRC-sponsored meeting for key field and headquarters staff, the National Society integrated its tracing service into its disaster management programme.

With the International Federation closing its delegation in Sierra Leone in 2008, Movement partners began reassessing their support strategies to the National Society and future Movement coordination.

With ICRC support, the National Society:

- trained 150 personnel in first aid and the Safer Access approach and deployed 300 volunteers countrywide during the elections
- through 2 Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation Centres, trained and counselled 300 children affected by conflict
- constructed 13 wells and latrines and organized communities to discuss development projects
- familiarized over 20,000 civil society members with IHL and the Movement and adapted a dissemination handbook for use in Sierra Leone
- trained 84 staff and volunteers on presentation techniques and devised a tool to streamline communication activities
- assumed ownership of the programme on restoring family links and consolidated tracing skills, including through staff and volunteer training
- reviewed tracing services and transferred tracing cases to branches, freeing headquarters for its supervisory role
- produced and distributed 2,000 brochures on tracing
- organized a workshop for 40 members of its governance and management and a youth camp for volunteers
- participated in the Council of Delegates and the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Number of visits carried out	2	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	456,690	17% 66%
Number of places of detention visited	1	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	865,938	17% 63%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	879,996	17% 66%
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	515,251	20% 60%
RCMs collected	6,322	Health			
RCMs distributed	10,725	Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	24	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	222,342	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1,061	<i>of which curative</i>		<i>Patients</i>	62,820 88,705
<i>of whom females</i>	551	<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		<i>Patients</i>	44,980
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	560	Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	99,279	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	367	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	1,488	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	13	
<i>of which for females</i>	788	Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	7,602	1,419 946
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	816	Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	10,255	
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	102				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC remained one of the few humanitarian organizations operational in Somalia. As conflict intensified, the delegation stepped up its relief operations throughout central and southern Somalia. In May, it appealed for additional funds to assist the growing number of conflict victims.

Together with the Somali Red Crescent Society, the ICRC distributed relief goods to some 866,000 IDPs (nearly three times the budgeted number) and food rations to some 456,600 IDPs and near destitute farmers (over seven times the budgeted number). The majority of IDPs were women and children, as many men had stayed behind in Mogadishu to protect their homes against looters. Alongside the emergency distributions, the ICRC ran 60 scheduled water and livelihood-support projects aimed at helping the worst-off resident communities boost food production and income and reduce health risks.

ICRC-supported medical facilities treated over 5,000 weapon-wounded, compared with some 3,600 in 2006. Hospitals, clinics and first-aid posts received 206 tonnes of medical supplies (40% more than in 2006). An ICRC surgical team helped out at four key Mogadishu and district hospitals, and a Qatar Red Crescent Society surgical team, working in partnership with the ICRC, joined Keysaney referral hospital in Mogadishu from August.

Free primary health care was available to some 260,000 IDPs and residents through 24 ICRC-supported Somali Red Crescent clinics in the countryside. The ICRC also helped contain a cholera epidemic by assisting the National Society in running five rehydration centres and chlorinating wells and by improving access to clean water for some 500,000 people.

The delegation fostered a dialogue with all parties to the conflict, stressing their obligations under IHL to protect and respect civilians, wounded or captured fighters, and medical staff and infrastructure. Through its contacts with the media, the ICRC also frequently appealed for respect for IHL, deploring the high number of civilian casualties.

The delegation followed up with the relevant stakeholders all information related to people allegedly detained in connection with the Somalia conflict. The interim government authorized ICRC visits to detainees, but such visits were not possible, mainly because of security constraints.

Thousands of uprooted Somalis restored contact with relatives at home and abroad through the tracing and RCM services run by the ICRC and the Somali Red Crescent. The network was evaluated and plans approved to implement the recommendations.

Despite the increasingly difficult security environment, the ICRC remained operational throughout 2007, mounting large-scale emergency actions relatively rapidly and effectively. To do so, the organization benefited from its regular contact with all the parties to conflict, the in-depth local knowledge of its field officers and the Somali Red Crescent, its longstanding presence in the country, and its strict principles of neutrality, independence and impartiality. Flexibility was also key. Operations were constantly adapted to the scale and urgency of needs and based on a realistic assessment of the delegation's own capacity and the activities of other organizations.

With substantial ICRC support, the Somali Red Crescent developed its emergency response capacities and strengthened its tracing and dissemination programmes. As lead agency for the Movement in Somalia, the ICRC also ensured the coordination of the activities of all Movement partners. To further maximize the impact of humanitarian efforts, the delegation remained in close contact with aid organizations in the field and attended the meetings of Nairobi-based Somalia coordination mechanisms comprising donors, UN agencies and international NGOs.

CIVILIANS

Delivering food and relief goods

Hundreds of thousands of people fled Mogadishu in 2007 amid the resurgence of armed conflict. The majority were women and children, as many men stayed behind to guard the family homes against looters. Many IDPs sought safety with their clans, some

travelling as far as Galkayo or even Somaliland, hundreds of kilometres away. Most host communities, however, had few resources to spare. Large numbers of displaced families, especially those near Mogadishu, were living in the open, with no shelter, or crowded together under trees for protection. Many who returned to the capital had to flee again amid renewed fighting.

Through large-scale relief operations, some 866,000 IDPs throughout central and southern Somalia were able to set up makeshift homes using shelter materials and mats, blankets, kitchenware, clothing and jerrycans delivered by the ICRC aided by over 400 Somali Red Crescent personnel. Just over one-third of the beneficiaries also received three months' worth of food rations. This allowed them to feed themselves and share food with their host communities or even return to Mogadishu, security permitting.

During 2007, families displaced by the November 2006 floods, by clan clashes or by the fighting between Puntland and Somaliland also received relief goods to help them get back on their feet.

With media attention and international aid focused on IDPs, another potentially life-threatening crisis went virtually unnoticed. In September, following sporadic rains and a harsh dry period, poorer farmers in central and southern Somalia had little food and insufficient seed for the upcoming planting season. To help them survive until the next harvest, 26,750 needy families received seed, farm tools and a two-month food ration.

- ▶ 865,938 IDPs (144,019 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 296,190 IDPs (49,365 households) received three-month food rations
- ▶ 160,500 people (26,750 households) affected by both conflict and drought received two-month food rations and seed and tools

Providing clean water and health care

The precarious state of public health was further threatened in 2007 by the resurgence of conflict, large population displacements and the lingering effects of the 2006 floods. Those developments put added pressure on already scarce drinking water and health facilities.

Some 260,000 residents and IDPs in conflict-affected areas of central and southern Somalia had access to free health care at 24 Somali Red Crescent clinics supported by the ICRC. These included a new clinic which opened in July in Afgoye, about 30 kilometres west of Mogadishu. The clinics received funds to cover salaries, as well as drugs, dressing materials and staff training for curative care, while UNICEF supported mother-and-child care.

In the 24 ICRC-supported health centres:

- ▶ 222,342 people given consultations, including 44,980 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 177,362 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 99,279 vaccine doses administered (84,673 to children aged five and under and 14,606 to women of childbearing age)

Reports of cases of acute watery diarrhoea in the south were followed in March by a cholera epidemic in Mogadishu, the first in two years. To stem the spread of disease, tens of thousands of people along the four main IDP routes out of Mogadishu received survival rations of 3 to 5 litres of chlorinated water per person a

day for 60 days, trucked in by the ICRC. Medical facilities across central and southern Somalia were provided with large quantities of oral rehydration salts, while four radio stations broadcast ICRC-produced cholera-prevention messages. In Mogadishu, a total of 4,169 patients were treated and received household water treatment chemicals at five ICRC-supported Somali Red Crescent rehydration centres, which reopened between March and June. In addition, over 360 wells, mainly in Mogadishu and Kismayo, were chlorinated. The epidemic subsided in late May.

When cholera resurfaced in November in the town of Baidoa, the district hospital treated 250 victims using ICRC medical supplies, and the two ICRC-supported Somali Red Crescent clinics provided oral rehydration treatment, reinforced by cholera-prevention messages on the radio.

Communities also faced fewer health risks after the ICRC completed various scheduled projects to rehabilitate vital water points and systems along nomadic migration routes and in main towns.

- ▶ 515,251 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 58,000 from water trucking
 - 305,624 from the rehabilitation of 52 wells, 24 rainwater catchments, 10 boreholes and 2 water treatment plants
 - 142,500 from the cleaning and/or chlorination of wells

Improving economic security

Somali farmers battled for daily survival against a host of problems, including a chronic lack of security, recurring drought and flash floods, and crumbling infrastructure. The worst-off communities in the agricultural hubs of central and southern Somalia received a variety of ICRC support designed to help them improve their economic situation and avoid destitution.

Farmers in the Juba and Shabelle river regions were better able to protect their homes and fields against seasonal floods and to irrigate their crops after the ICRC repaired collapsed riverbanks and sluice gates and distributed some 280,000 sandbags. Some 100 communities also received irrigation pumps. Families whose harvests had failed were given staple-crop and vegetable seeds to provide food and income. Over 6,000 near-destitute families received cash in return for their labour in rehabilitating rainwater catchments and irrigation channels. Those cash-for-work projects contributed to some communities doubling their amount of land under cultivation. Families who fished to supplement their diet or income, especially after poor rainy seasons, but could not afford new hooks and nets, were given fishing gear.

- ▶ 719,496 people (119,916 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 426,600 from distributions of staple- and/or cash-crop seed and tools
 - 194,256 from distributions of sandbags and irrigation pumps and the repair of sluice gates and riverbanks
 - 36,330 from cash-for-work projects
 - 60,000 from distributions of fishing gear

Restoring family links

Somalis uprooted by conflict, natural disaster, economic necessity or a combination thereof located and exchanged news with their families at home and abroad through the tracing and RCM network. Somalis worldwide could have the names of missing relatives read out on the ICRC-supported "Missing Persons"

programme broadcast by the BBC's shortwave Somali Service. They could also click on www.familylinks.icrc.org and read the names of relatives sought through the radio programme or registered by the Red Cross and Red Crescent network.

An ICRC-Somali Red Crescent evaluation showed that the tracing and RCM services were still in demand, met current needs and were used equally by women and men. A plan of action was agreed on to implement the survey's recommendations, especially to speed up the response following sudden, large population displacements.

- 6,322 RCMs collected from and 10,725 RCMs distributed to civilians
- tracing requests registered for 1,061 people (including 551 females and 560 minors at the time of disappearance); 367 people located; 1,488 people (including 788 females and 816 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 8,642 names of people sought broadcast by the BBC and 9,673 registered on the ICRC's website
- 102 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC made every effort to monitor and follow up with the relevant stakeholders all information related to the capture, detention and transfer of detainees held in connection with the Somalia conflict. It also offered its services as a neutral intermediary to all sides to facilitate the release and handover of detainees.

The Somali interim government accepted the ICRC's offer to visit detainees, but few such visits occurred because of security constraints. The security situation and fluctuating chains of command also made it difficult to collect and verify information on the identity and whereabouts of detainees.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the weapon-wounded

ICRC-supported hospitals and clinics in and outside Mogadishu treated over 5,000 weapon-wounded, 40% more than in 2006. A total of 206 tonnes of ICRC medical supplies, compared with 140 tonnes in 2006, were distributed to help facilities cope.

Over 4,000 weapon-wounded were admitted to the hospitals of Keysaney (run by the Somali Red Crescent) and Medina (community-run) in Mogadishu, the two main referral facilities for central and southern Somalia. As in past years, both hospitals received ICRC funds for salaries and running costs, as well as medical supplies, equipment, training, on-the-job supervision and help with general maintenance. During heavy fighting, the two hospitals set up tents to accommodate an extra 300 patients and hired more staff. A two-person ICRC surgical team helped out at both hospitals over seven days in May to relieve staff who had been working around the clock. From August, two surgeons and an anaesthetist from the Qatari Red Crescent, working in partnership with the ICRC, joined Keysaney hospital.

Most of the other ICRC-supported hospitals were located far from the capital, lacked the resources to perform war surgery and faced security and logistic constraints in transferring wounded patients to Mogadishu. ICRC surgical staff worked briefly, for example, at Baidoa and Galkayo district hospitals, while Garowe and Las Anod hospitals and Hargeisa health officials received medical supplies following fighting in September between Puntland and Somaliland forces.

In the 11 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 7,602 patients (including 1,419 women and 946 children) admitted: of whom 5,143 weapon-wounded (including 799 women, 432 children, and 134 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 1,673 other surgical cases, and 740 medical and 46 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 10,255 surgical operations performed
- 12,813 outpatients given consultations, including 12,805 attending surgical or medical consultations and 8 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

People with injuries, including weapon wounds, also had access to treatment at five first-aid posts situated in the regions of Bay, Galgudud, Lower Juba and Middle Shabele, which regularly received ICRC supplies. A small number of other first-aid facilities were given ad hoc supplies to meet demand.

In the 6 ICRC-supported first-aid posts that provided data:

- 4,910 patients with injuries (including 1,268 women and 1,673 children) treated

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with all parties involved in the conflict in Somalia, reminding them of their obligations under IHL. It stressed the duty to protect civilians and medical staff and infrastructure and to take every precaution to avoid harming them during military operations and to respect the rights of wounded or captured fighters. ICRC updates for the media frequently deplored the high number of casualties and appealed to all parties to conflict to respect IHL. The ICRC also explained to all sides its mandate and strict principles of neutrality and independence to ensure safe access of its staff to people in need.

Security constraints prevented the ICRC from holding formal IHL presentations for armed forces and other weapon bearers, and plans to reach them through radio broadcasts had to be postponed (see *Civil society*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

The conflict in Somalia and its humanitarian consequences were widely covered by the media. International and national journalists were regularly informed about IHL, humanitarian issues, and ICRC and Somali Red Crescent activities through bulletins, press releases and interviews. Three video documentaries on the life-saving work of surgeons at Keysaney and Medina hospitals in Mogadishu, the situation of IDPs and ICRC relief distributions were picked up by several international news agencies and television stations. Another documentary, with Arabic subtitles, on ICRC operations in Somalia was set for distribution in North Africa and the Middle East in early 2008.

The security situation and the authorities' closure of some radio stations meant that the ICRC had to postpone plans to broadcast basic messages on humanitarian principles on local radio, Somalis' main source of information. However, during two workshops with local journalists, programmes linking IHL and the traditional Somali code of conduct were produced, ready for broadcast on Mogadishu's Radio HornAfrik and the Universal Television station.

Security constraints also forced the ICRC to postpone planned IHL-promotion activities with secondary schools.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Somali Red Crescent continued to be the ICRC's main operational partner in the medical field, the distribution of relief goods, and the collection and delivery of RCMs.

In an increasingly difficult environment, all 19 branches remained operational and united. As in past years, the leadership was based in Nairobi, Kenya, while the Mogadishu and Hargeisa coordination offices oversaw branch activities.

The situation in Somalia forced the cancellation of the National Society's planned general assembly, but the executive committee met in December in Nairobi. The Somali Red Crescent secretary-general resigned after being named as new prime minister of the Somali transitional federal government in November.

The National Society made steady progress in strengthening its management skills and health, tracing and dissemination programmes, assisted by ICRC funds, training, materials, equipment and logistic back-up.

Providing emergency aid

Over 2007, the Somali Red Crescent's emergency response capacity improved. Hundreds of National Society personnel took part in ICRC-led operations, providing food, relief goods, and medical, health and water services to hundreds of thousands of conflict victims. With ICRC support, the National Society increased the capacity of its Keysaney hospital (see *Wounded and sick*), ran 24 health centres and reopened its five Mogadishu rehydration centres to treat cholera victims (see *Civilians*).

Restoring family links and promoting IHL

After completing a countrywide evaluation of the tracing and RCM services with the ICRC, the Somali Red Crescent drew up a plan of action to implement the report's key recommendations. It also agreed on a new communication strategy to promote IHL, the Movement and the Fundamental Principles. The December executive committee meeting adopted both initiatives for implementation in 2008.

Coordinating Movement activities

Movement partners involved in Somalia met regularly. As the conflict intensified, the ICRC, as the Movement's lead agency in Somalia, convened additional meetings to ensure that activities to aid the Somali population and to support the Somali Red Crescent were coordinated. Movement partners active in the field also received ICRC support with logistics, management and security. In partnership with the ICRC, a Qatari Red Crescent surgical team joined Keysaney hospital from August to help treat the growing number of weapon-wounded.

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 early 2004, it has been responding to needs arising from the hostilities in Darfur. 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.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	15,661
Assistance	66,798
Prevention	6,830
Cooperation with National Societies	4,757
General	-

► **94,045**

of which: Overheads **5,739**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

161 expatriates
1,610 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- made frequent appeals to all parties to conflict in Darfur to respect and protect the civilian population and halt IHL violations, a message reinforced by the ICRC president during his visit to Sudan
- assisted several hundred thousand farmers and nomadic herders across Darfur in preserving their economic security through livelihood-support projects, the rehabilitation of water facilities and support to health care
- took over responsibility for providing all essential services to the some 125,000 IDPs in Gereida camp and delivered relief goods to over 264,000 other conflict victims in remote areas of Darfur
- supported 3 physical rehabilitation centres in Sudan and began constructing a prosthetic/orthotic referral centre in Juba
- deployed a mobile surgical team in Darfur that treated 345 civilians and fighters without access to medical care and supported Juba Teaching Hospital, which admitted some 25,700 patients
- as a neutral intermediary, facilitated the release and handover to the government of 157 Sudanese soldiers held by weapon bearers

CONTEXT

Southern Sudan remained relatively stable during 2007, supported by international aid, including the 17,000-strong UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). The January 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement held, although Southern Sudan withdrew from the government of national unity in October, then rejoined in December after negotiations with Khartoum addressed some concerns. There was still no agreement, however, on key issues such as the demarcation of the north-south border and the status of the oil-rich Abyei region. After the 21-year conflict, Southern Sudan remained poverty-stricken. Ethnic clashes persisted, and some militias had yet to be demobilized or join regular forces. The ongoing presence of Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army was another destabilizing factor, although peace talks between the armed group and the Ugandan government were ongoing.

In Darfur, communal clashes over resources increased, military confrontations persisted, and armed groups continued to splinter and shift alliances. More people fled their homes, adding to the some 2 million already displaced during the four-year conflict. The widespread lawlessness also stifled the economy and hampered aid delivery. Towards year-end, the violence threatened to spill over into the neighbouring Kordofan region.

The security situation also deteriorated along the border between Darfur and eastern Chad, while Sudan and Chad accused each other of sheltering armed groups dedicated to overthrowing their respective governments.

International initiatives to forge a new peace deal in Darfur faltered. In July, Sudan approved the deployment in Darfur of a 26,000-strong hybrid African Union (AU)/UN force, known as UNAMID, to replace the some 7,000 AU peacekeepers. On 31 December, the start of UNAMID's mandate, the new force was seriously under strength.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS				
Detainees visited	110	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	77	Food	Beneficiaries	222,759	17%	67%
Number of visits carried out	24	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	388,733	18%	66%
Number of places of detention visited	16	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	219,500	17%	68%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	848,638	18%	66%
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Health				
RCMs collected	17,634	Health centres supported	Structures	6		
RCMs distributed	14,893	Consultations	Patients	126,408		
People reunited with their families	16	of which curative		Patients		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		of which ante/post-natal		Patients		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	266	Immunizations	Doses	72,704		
of whom females		WOUNDED AND SICK				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance		Hospitals supported	Structures	1		
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	409	Admissions	Patients	25,737	9,317	9,980
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	604	Operations	Operations performed	5,479		
of which for females		Physical rehabilitation				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance		Patients receiving services	Patients	3,945	895	793
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Prostheses delivered	Units	1,440	307	95
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	6	Orthoses delivered	Units	1,159	282	640
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	7					
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	37					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	26					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	51					

ICRC ACTION

Sudan remained the ICRC's largest operation for the fourth consecutive year, with activities firmly focused on protecting and assisting conflict victims.

The ICRC, as a neutral and independent organization, fostered relations with the authorities, communities and all weapon bearers and was thus able to work in most conflict-affected regions of Darfur. It even managed to resume operations in some areas where it had suffered security incidents. Activities were constantly adapted to the scale and urgency of needs, and the delegation seized every window of opportunity to move into areas to help needy people.

The ICRC continued to work mainly in Darfur's rural and remote regions to complement the large international aid effort in urban areas. The aim was to help resident communities be self-sufficient so that they would not have to move to urban centres for aid. ICRC assistance focused, therefore, on quick-impact livelihood-support projects and the rehabilitation of key water facilities. Conflict-affected families also received any shelter and basic household items they lacked. As planned, there were no large-scale food distributions, as almost three years of ICRC assistance had contributed to some improvement in the economic situation in rural areas, although harvests were still below pre-conflict levels. The delegation also deployed a mobile surgical team in Darfur, which treated wounded civilians and fighters in remote areas, supported rural health clinics and services for amputees, and ran the tracing and RCM services for family members separated by conflict.

In addition, the ICRC was obliged to resume responsibility throughout 2007 for providing all essential services, including monthly food rations, to the some 125,000 IDPs in Gereida camp (South Darfur). It appealed in March for an additional CHF 32.4 million to do so. Most

aid agencies had withdrawn from the camp following a serious security incident in late December 2006. Similarly, the ICRC stepped in briefly to assist over 30,000 IDPs in three camps in Tawila (North Darfur).

ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger visited Sudan in February, reinforcing the organization's appeal to all parties to the conflict in Darfur to respect IHL. ICRC field delegates stressed the same message to all sides, documented allegations of IHL violations and made representations to the relevant parties to halt the abuses.

The ICRC visited some people held by armed groups in Darfur, while negotiations continued with Khartoum aimed at obtaining authorization to visit all detainees, according to the organization's standard procedures. It also acted as a neutral intermediary in facilitating the release and handover to the government of Sudanese soldiers held by weapon bearers.

In Southern Sudan, the delegation further streamlined its operation to reflect the post-conflict situation. The Malakal and Wau sub-delegations closed, and 14 years of support to Juba Teaching Hospital ended in December 2007, as planned. Activities focused on ensuring the south had adequate physical rehabilitation services.

Ongoing programmes to promote IHL contributed to the authorities' revision of the Armed Forces Act and Southern Sudan's initiation of a military training programme in IHL.

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society received substantial ICRC support to strengthen its assistance, tracing and communication programmes and to expand its capacity in Southern Sudan. The ICRC also provided leadership in facilitating coordination within the Movement and stayed in close contact with UN and other agencies in the field to further maximize the impact of aid.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

During his visit to Sudan in February, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger appealed to all parties to the conflict in Darfur to respect IHL and ensure security for civilians and the humanitarian workers there to help them.

In Darfur, delegates documented allegations of IHL violations and made representations to the relevant parties to halt the abuses. The allegations ranged from attacks on villages and the looting and destruction of property to sexual violence and forced displacement. In parallel, the ICRC developed its dialogue on IHL with local authorities, traditional leaders and all weapon bearers. In Gereida, for example, during regular meetings convened by the ICRC, women and traditional leaders agreed on ways to minimize the risk of sexual violence and ensure that victims sought help and were not ostracized. This, combined with the ICRC's increased presence in the camp outskirts and representations to potential perpetrators, had a dissuasive effect.

Delivering relief goods

Conflict-affected families in Darfur were able to set up makeshift homes with tarpaulins, blankets, kitchenware, sleeping mats and jerrycans supplied by the ICRC. Over 1,000 families displaced by an attack on Haskanita village (North Darfur) in September also received food rations to help them survive until the November harvest. This was the ICRC's only emergency food distribution in Sudan in 2007.

- 264,031 people (55,370 households), including 207,073 IDPs, received essential household items
- 5,560 IDPs (1,112 households) received food

Preserving livelihoods

The security situation in Darfur restricted farmers' access to their fields, while erratic rainfall in some areas, including floods, also hampered crop production. To preserve their economic security, needy families received seed and farm tools for the next planting season and, if necessary, a one-off food ration. A small number of villages were also given items such as donkey carts, pedal-operated irrigation pumps and wheelbarrows to help them generate income or to ease their workload, thus freeing up time for productive activities. To slow down deforestation, communities were provided with fast-growing tree saplings and fuel-efficient cooking ovens.

Nomadic communities depended on livestock for survival, but the conflict had disrupted veterinary services and access to pasture, water and markets, putting their livelihoods at risk. To improve livestock health, 94 nomadic herders and farmers were trained and equipped to provide basic veterinary services in rural areas and some 250,600 animals in North Darfur were vaccinated against common diseases. The initiatives were carried out together with the Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries.

- 82,140 people (14,095 households) received one-off food rations
- 219,500 people (44,805 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic projects, including:
 - 137,026 people from distributions of seed and tools
 - 59,293 people from veterinary training and vaccination programmes

Improving water and sanitation

People across Darfur faced fewer health risks through the ICRC's rehabilitation and maintenance of some 350 rural and urban water facilities in 165 locations. Wherever possible, local authorities or water committees worked with the ICRC. For example, many villagers who, prior to the conflict, had been trained and equipped by the Darfur Water Corporation to maintain hand pumps were able to resume work in areas now inaccessible to the authorities, with the help of ICRC spare parts and supervision.

- 723,638 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 586,977 people in rural areas from the repair/upgrading/maintenance of 219 hand pumps, 71 wells and 52 mechanized water points
 - 102,500 people from the repair/upgrading/maintenance of 5 urban water networks
 - 34,161 people from the emergency construction of 512 latrines and repair of hand pumps in 3 IDP camps around Tawila (North Darfur)

Ensuring primary health care

Tens of thousands of residents and IDPs had access to primary health care in ICRC-supported clinics in Nena (North Darfur), Gereida IDP camp (North Darfur) and Abata, Fase, Golol and Gorne (West Darfur). ICRC mobile teams also carried out vaccination campaigns in areas inaccessible to the Health Ministry and, in West Darfur, provided basic curative and ante-natal services to communities that could not reach a clinic.

In the 6 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 167,900):

- 126,408 people given consultations, including 15,280 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 111,128 attending curative consultations
- 72,704 vaccine doses administered (64,040 to children aged five or under and 8,664 to women of childbearing age)

Providing services in Gereida IDP camp

Following a security incident in December 2006 (see *ICRC action*), some 125,000 IDPs in Gereida camp were provided with monthly food rations, as well as shelter materials, essential household items, and health, water and sanitation services, by the ICRC.

Malnourished children in the camp were treated at two ICRC feeding centres run in partnership with the British and Australian Red Cross societies. The number of such children decreased in comparison with 2006, mainly because of improvements in hygiene promotion and water and sanitation facilities. For example, with the help of Sudanese Red Crescent volunteers, 1,000 new latrines were built, the existing 5,000 latrines regularly maintained, and a new system established to collect and dispose of rubbish and solid waste.

- 126,791 IDPs (27,399 households) received food rations
- 8,268 children fed at therapeutic feeding centres
- 124,702 IDPs (26,989 households) received essential household items
- 125,000 IDPs benefited from water and sanitation projects

Restoring family links

Thousands of Sudanese uprooted by conflict contacted relatives through the tracing and RCM network, run by the ICRC and the Sudanese Red Crescent. This included families in Sudan who

exchanged RCMs and verbal greetings with relatives detained in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. The network was extended in Darfur and reduced further in Southern Sudan, as more people returned to the south and had increasing access to other means of communication.

- ▶ 17,625 RCMs collected from and 14,886 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 91 from and 80 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 266 people (including 116 females and 105 minors at the time of disappearance); 409 people located; 604 people (including 166 females and 233 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 16 people reunited with their families, including 7 unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ 6 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 37 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 26 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Negotiations with the Sudanese government were still under way at year-end on a draft agreement authorizing ICRC visits to all detainees, according to the organization's standard procedures.

A small number of people held in Darfur by armed groups were visited by the ICRC, but security constraints and the splintering and movement of groups hampered access to detainees.

At the request of all parties, a total of 63 Sudanese soldiers held in Darfur by armed groups or previously detained in the south by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were released and/or handed over to the government, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. Similarly, the delegation facilitated the handover to the government of 94 Sudanese soldiers released in Chad and repatriated under ICRC auspices (see *Chad*).

- ▶ 110 detainees visited, of whom 77 monitored individually and 68 newly registered, during 24 visits to 16 places of detention
- ▶ 9 RCMs collected from and 7 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 51 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

Treating the wounded in Darfur

Despite the security situation, 345 wounded fighters and civilians without access to medical facilities were treated by a four-person ICRC field surgical team during 32 missions to remote and rural areas. To further reduce fatalities, a total of 250 Sudanese medical staff and 97 members of armed groups participated in ICRC workshops and courses in trauma management organized in all three of the region's capitals. In the field, 160 fighters and civilians attended first-aid sessions.

Supporting hospital and physical rehabilitation services

Fourteen years of continuous ICRC support to the 500-bed Juba Teaching Hospital (JTH) came to an end in December 2007, as agreed with JTH management and the authorities. During the year, the JTH received all its medical and surgical supplies from the

ICRC, including an additional three-month supply in December, while the 14 ICRC hospital and Nursing School staff withdrew in phases. In parallel, more Sudanese personnel were hired and Khartoum transferred responsibility for the JTH to the Southern Sudan Health Ministry. By year-end, JTH staff were able to perform 500 operations a month.

- ▶ 25,737 patients (including 9,317 women and 9,980 children) admitted: of whom 133 weapon-wounded (including 4 women, 29 children, and 4 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 1,386 other surgical cases, and 19,559 medical and 4,659 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- ▶ 5,479 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 27,593 outpatients given consultations, including 22,944 attending surgical or medical consultations and 4,649 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

In Southern Sudan, demand for physical rehabilitation services increased after the ICRC closed its Kenya-based centre in 2006, which had treated disabled Sudanese during the north-south conflict. As agreed with the Southern Sudan authorities, the existing Juba centre boosted its capacity over 2007 with the help of ICRC funds, materials, staff-on-loan and improvements to infrastructure, while the ICRC began constructing a new physical rehabilitation referral centre in the town.

In the north, the National Authority for Prosthetics and Orthotics continued to benefit from ICRC funds, materials, staff and training to run its Khartoum centre and Nyala workshop, the only such facility serving Darfur.

To create a base of skilled personnel, 14 students completed a three-year prosthetics/orthotics diploma course taught by the ICRC, while 36 Sudanese technicians attended refresher courses. With ICRC funding, another 17 Sudanese were studying in prosthetic/orthotic training institutions in Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

- ▶ 3,945 patients (including 895 women and 793 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 675 new patients (including 142 women and 34 children) fitted with prostheses and 511 (including 125 women and 259 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 1,440 prostheses (including 307 for women, 95 for children and 135 for mine victims), 1,159 orthoses (including 282 for women, 640 for children and 1 for a mine victim) and 1,696 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

Members of the Sudanese government and the ICRC met regularly to discuss humanitarian issues and review the status of Sudan's ratification and implementation of key IHL treaties. With ICRC input, Khartoum adopted a new Armed Forces Act incorporating, for the first time, sanctions against IHL violations. In Southern Sudan, members of parliament participated in an ICRC round-table on integrating IHL into laws the government would be drafting.

Local authorities across Darfur took part in IHL briefings and received updates on ICRC activities. This helped generate support for IHL, which was crucial both for the protection of the civilian population and to ensure the ICRC's safe access to conflict victims.

International and regional authorities and the diplomatic community involved in the peace processes in Sudan were also regularly updated on the ICRC's humanitarian concerns and operations through newsletters, bilateral meetings and the organization's participation as an observer in aid coordination meetings.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL presentations in the field for the armed forces and armed groups in Darfur remained a priority. In parallel, Sudan's revision of the Armed Forces Act provided fresh impetus for longer-term ICRC initiatives to help the military, security and police forces integrate IHL and human rights standards into all training, doctrine and operations. To move this process forward, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) named its military justice department as IHL coordinator.

In Southern Sudan, the SPLA and the ICRC agreed on a three-year IHL training programme.

- the SAF army chief-of-staff issued an order to respect IHL and integrate it into training and adopted revised IHL instruction manuals
- 32 SAF military justice department officers participated in five-day IHL courses
- 116 SAF officers and instructors trained to teach IHL
- over 2,500 SAF and SPLA personnel and 1,200 AU and UNMIS peacekeepers briefed on IHL
- 448 officers of the Sudanese and Southern Sudan police and security services trained to teach international human rights law and humanitarian principles
- in Darfur, 1,596 police and security personnel and members of armed groups attended IHL presentations

CIVIL SOCIETY

Amid ongoing armed violence in Darfur, grassroots dissemination of IHL remained an effective way of getting key humanitarian messages across to opinion-makers in civil society. During 2007, a total of 1,563 such people in Darfur, from traditional and religious leaders to trade union members and young people, participated in 42 ICRC presentations on IHL. One such talk to an NGO was broadcast live on the Al Jazeera news network.

Journalists and other opinion-makers also regularly received ICRC press releases, bulletins and audiovisual material updating them on the humanitarian situation in Darfur. Through the Sudanese and international media, the ICRC consistently advocated that all parties to the conflict assume their responsibilities in preventing IHL violations and creating a secure environment for civilians and aid workers. The organization also stressed the importance of safeguarding neutral and independent humanitarian action.

To further broaden support for IHL, staff and students at higher-education institutions took part in ICRC-led discussions on the subject. One presentation generated articles explaining IHL in six leading Sudanese newspapers. Following a two-day ICRC workshop on IHL, members of university communication faculties in Khartoum also set up a working group to integrate IHL into media courses and promote informed reporting on that body of law.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Sudanese Red Crescent mounted an operation to aid flood victims. It also helped the ICRC distribute relief goods, run the tracing and RCM network, implement sanitation projects and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles. In parallel, the National Society was establishing a Southern Secretariat to expand its capacity in Southern Sudan. Throughout 2007, it received ICRC funds, materials, training and logistics back-up to develop all these activities.

With ICRC support, the Sudanese Red Crescent:

- assisted over 25,000 flood victims in North Darfur, Kordofan and Unity state
- trained first-aid instructors for its 4 southern branches and over 1,000 first-aiders covering Darfur and South Kordofan
- held an emergency preparedness and response course for 30 personnel in South Kordofan
- ran 2 tracing workshops for volunteers in North Darfur
- held a national workshop in dissemination for personnel from across Sudan and introductory courses for 118 personnel in Darfur
- covered the salaries of 7 headquarters and 4 Southern Sudan Secretariat staff and 72 branch personnel, and the running costs and volunteer incentives in 10 branches in conflict-affected areas

Movement coordination

To ensure the effective coordination of Movement activities, the Sudanese Red Crescent, the International Federation and the ICRC renewed a memorandum of understanding defining their roles and responsibilities in Sudan, including the support of partner National Societies. Movement partners active in Darfur regularly held coordination meetings and received ICRC support with logistics, security and communication.

uganda



With the exception of the period following the killing of six ICRC staff members in April 2001 in neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo, the ICRC has been continuously active in Uganda since 1979. Late in 2003, given the dramatic needs of the victims of armed conflict in the north of the country, the ICRC resumed its field action, with a view to protecting and assisting those affected. These activities soon expanded into a major operation which has continued ever since. The ICRC also visits detainees falling within its mandate and strives to raise awareness of IHL and humanitarian principles among the armed and police forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,303
Assistance	18,440
Prevention	1,380
Cooperation with National Societies	1,487
General	-

► **22,610**

of which: Overheads 1,380

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

33 expatriates
200 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- provided essential household items, seed and tools to more than half of Acholiland's estimated 1.1 million IDPs
- drilled or rehabilitated 109 boreholes and supported the construction of 2,003 pit latrines
- provided 14 health centres and 9 hospitals with medical supplies and other support
- continued to visit detainees in 71 places of detention countrywide to monitor their treatment and living conditions
- began to strengthen HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria control in 3 prisons, together with the Ugandan Prison Service and the Ministry of Health
- briefed more than 6,000 military/police personnel on IHL/human rights law

CONTEXT

Peace talks between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) resumed in Juba at the end of April. The parties reached agreement on a number of issues, prolonged the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement into 2008 and began to tackle the sensitive and crucial issues of accountability, reconciliation and justice. For the first time, an LRA delegation came to Kampala, met President Museveni and toured the country for consultations with the people, local leaders and victims of the conflict. However, internal problems within the LRA in the second half of the year brought the talks to a standstill. Delayed implementation by the LRA of core measures agreed by the negotiating parties brought the armed group under increasing political and military pressure.

Across northern Uganda, improved security enabled people to leave the main IDP camps and move to new sites, usually in their parishes of origin, where they enjoyed greater access to cultivable land. However, repeated cattle-rustling incursions by Karamajong warriors into Kitgum and Pader districts hampered the return of IDPs.

Military operations by the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) to disarm traditional warriors in the Karamoja region and to curb ongoing intertribal cattle raiding continued, leaving casualties on both sides. Highway robbery remained another factor of insecurity throughout the region.

In March, the UPDF claimed it had defeated a group of Allied Democratic Forces fighters who had entered Uganda from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Towards the end of the year, thousands of Congolese refugees arrived in western Uganda, fleeing fighting in the DRC.

Major flooding affected people in central and eastern Uganda in September. In December, an Ebola outbreak in the western region caused more than 30 fatalities.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kampala in November raised Uganda's international profile. The country pursued increased cooperation with its neighbours, in particular through the East African Community. In response to clashes between the armies of the DRC and Uganda over oil exploration around Lake Albert, Presidents Kabila and Museveni signed the Ngurdoto Agreement to ease tensions between the two countries. Uganda deployed over 1,500 troops to Mogadishu in support of the African Union Mission to Somalia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	420	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
of whom females	15	Food	Beneficiaries	5,905	21% 62%
of whom minors	15	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	604,666	21% 61%
Number of visits carried out	176	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	618,767	21% 62%
Number of places of detention visited	71	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	336,202	25% 49%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported	Structures	14	
RCMs collected	2,242	Consultations	Patients	123,811	
RCMs distributed	1,170	of which curative	Patients		42,985 46,788
People reunited with their families	2	of which ante/post-natal	Patients		5,762
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Doses	46,673	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	36	WOUNDED AND SICK			
of whom females	18	Hospitals supported	Structures	9	
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	13	Admissions	Patients	11,344	4,778 4,885
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	37	Operations	Operations performed	972	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	9				
of which for females	3				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	2				
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	8				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	1				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	8				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	19				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	16				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC remained a key humanitarian actor in northern Uganda, where its strategy was to provide a sustainable response to the evolving needs of IDPs. It provided some 620,000 IDPs with material assistance and carried out protection activities on their behalf.

ICRC delegates monitored the protection needs of the civilian population in northern Uganda and, where necessary, made confidential representations in this regard to the relevant civil and military authorities.

As people left the main IDP camps and moved nearer to land they could cultivate, the ICRC distributed seed and tools to support agricultural production and thereby improve people's diet, income and self-sufficiency.

IDPs gained enhanced access to water through the drilling and rehabilitation of boreholes by the ICRC. In particular, the ICRC monitored the development of new transit camps and provided them with safe drinking water, as needed.

Having assessed the hygiene and public health situation in IDP camps in Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts, the ICRC, the Swedish Red Cross and the Uganda Red Cross Society began a comprehensive hygiene promotion programme.

The ICRC continued to work with the health authorities to strengthen the capacity of the health system in northern Uganda, through measures such as staff training, the rehabilitation of health centres and the supply of medicines. A pilot project in

Kitgum Government Hospital aimed to improve medical services by boosting management capacity. Meanwhile, work to rehabilitate the hospital's infrastructure was ongoing.

Detainees in civil and military places of detention countrywide received visits from ICRC delegates, who checked on their treatment and conditions of detention. Findings and recommendations were shared confidentially with the relevant authorities. In conjunction with the Ugandan Prison Service (UPS) and the Ministry of Health, a project got under way to strengthen HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria control in three prisons.

Efforts of the armed forces and police to integrate IHL and human rights principles into their training benefited from ICRC assistance. The support included conducting dissemination sessions at field level and briefings or training sessions in military or police academies.

The ICRC maintained contact with the LRA through its office in Southern Sudan and briefed LRA fighters on the basic principles of IHL and respect for the red cross emblem.

The ICRC coordinated activities with other humanitarian agencies, including those participating in the UN cluster system, in order to strengthen complementarity and avoid duplication or gaps in protection or assistance programmes.

The Ugandan Red Cross and the ICRC continued to work closely together and conducted activities in northern and eastern Uganda according to agreed guidelines on the division of labour. The ICRC continued to support the structure and programmes of the National Society through financial and technical assistance.

CIVILIANS

Protection activities for IDPs

The situation in northern Uganda remained classified as a non-international armed conflict. The victims of alleged IHL or human rights violations, their families and eyewitnesses met directly with ICRC delegates, who collected and crosschecked information. When required, oral representations were made to the relevant authorities at local, regional or national level with the aim of putting an end to such abuses. IHL seminars were also held for the military and police to remind them of the protection due to civilians (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Food, economic security and material aid for IDPs

With increased access to land, more than half a million people used seed and tools provided by the ICRC to boost agricultural production during two planting seasons and to build self-sufficiency. They also received basic household items such as clothing, hygiene products for women, soap and school kits.

Some 12,316 people (2,240 households) who had lost their belongings in fire outbreaks or storms received essential household items from the ICRC and the Ugandan Red Cross, sometimes in coordination with other humanitarian organizations. Approximately 5,900 of them (1,073 households) received WFP food rations distributed by the ICRC.

Almost 1,500 vulnerable people (270 households) received 300 goats to increase their household income, in compensation for the cancellation of a poultry project owing to concerns over avian influenza. In conclusion of a programme begun in 2005, a total of 2,481 vulnerable people (451 households) received additional soap rations in order to reduce their expenditure and provide a small surplus to be sold or bartered for other items.

- ▶ 618,767 people (112,503 households) benefited from distributions of seed and tools
- ▶ 595,978 people (108,357 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 5,905 people (1,005 households) received food

Water, sanitation and health care for IDPs

Hygiene, sanitation and access to sufficient safe water remained key concerns for the people of northern Uganda. IDPs in 64 camps in Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts gained improved access to safe water through the drilling of 31 new water sources and the rehabilitation of a further 78. People in 20 camps benefited from the installation of 2,003 pit latrines built with ICRC technical and material support. A hygiene promotion programme, launched within the framework of an integrated partnership between the Swedish Red Cross and the ICRC, and with the active involvement of the National Society, got under way with a baseline survey in 11 camps in Kitgum and Pader districts. IDPs in 17 camps learnt about hygiene and public health issues at regular information sessions supported by the ICRC. The rehabilitation of seven health centres was in progress and included the construction of three maternity wards and sanitation and waste disposal facilities.

- ▶ about 316,000 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including 26,000 from information sessions on hygiene and public health

With access to proper health services remaining a major problem for IDPs in northern Uganda, health facilities at district and

community level in Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts continued to receive regular and ad hoc ICRC support, including on-the-job training and the provision of essential medicines and basic medical equipment. Local communities thus benefited from increased access to primary health care and community-based activities, including vaccination and de-worming treatment for children, the distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets to over 24,000 households to prevent the spread of malaria, and an extensive cholera-prevention programme for the residents of five camps, conducted with the district health authorities.

In the 14 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 130,332):

- ▶ 123,811 people given consultations, including 5,762 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 118,049 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 46,673 vaccine doses administered (18,171 to children aged five or under and 28,490 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 569 health education sessions held

People who had been separated from their families, whether refugees, IDPs, unaccompanied minors or other vulnerable persons, were able to restore or maintain contact with their relatives through tracing and family-links services provided by the Ugandan Red Cross, working in close cooperation with the ICRC. The National Society received ICRC technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of these services at national and regional level. The support included the development of a training strategy for tracing staff and volunteers, updating the National Society's tracing manual, and providing close technical support in the handling of RCMs to or from detainees.

The demand for tracing and family reunification services was regularly assessed through joint Ugandan Red Cross/ICRC field trips, focusing on unaccompanied minors, so that the services provided could be tailored to specific needs. The National Society also monitored the tracing needs of women and children who had left Karamoja for socio-economic or security reasons and who had been returned to the region by the government.

- ▶ 1,668 RCMs collected from and 635 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 26 from and 15 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 36 people (including 18 females and 13 minors at the time of disappearance); 37 people located; 9 people (including 3 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 2 people reunited with their families, including 1 unaccompanied/separated child
- ▶ 8 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 8 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 19 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees falling within the ICRC's mandate continued to receive individual visits from ICRC delegates in places of temporary and permanent detention in the north and west of the country, in the Karamoja region and in Kampala. Particular attention was paid to allegations concerning persons arrested and/or detained in relation to the non-international armed conflict in the north, as well as in relation to other situations of violence, for example the arrest of

members of armed groups along the border with the DRC and Southern Sudan and those detained in relation to UPDF “cordon and search” operations in the Karamoja region.

The delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees in the places of detention visited, as well as respect for judicial guarantees, and made representations to the relevant authorities, where necessary. The ICRC reminded the authorities of their responsibility to ensure that detainees were able to maintain contact with their families. The RCM service was made available, where necessary, in conjunction with the National Society.

Overcrowding, compounded by dilapidated prison infrastructure and delays in the judicial process, continued to affect the well-being of detainees in prisons administered by the UPS. The UPS and the ICRC maintained their regular dialogue, with a particular focus on measures to be taken following the infrastructure/water and sanitation assessments and nutritional survey conducted in UPS prisons in 2006. Follow-up infrastructure rehabilitation projects were conducted in prisons in Gulu, Ibuga, Luzira and Rwimi.

Detainees’ health suffered as a result of the structural and technical deficiencies of the UPS health system and poor coordination between the UPS, the Ministry of Health and the private sector. The framework for a joint project aiming to boost the capacity of the Uganda Prison Medical Services to address HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria in three UPS prisons was agreed between the Ministry of Health, the UPS and the ICRC. The intention was to establish a model that could be replicated, with government resources, across the prison system. Having assessed health services in the three sites, plans of action were drafted and priority areas and key NGO partners identified. Inmates of two of the sites gained access to HIV voluntary counselling and testing services provided by local NGOs. Prisons received mesh to cover windows and equipment to conduct spraying campaigns, thereby reducing the exposure to malaria of more than 5,000 detainees.

Where needed, detainees benefited from ICRC distributions of blankets, uniforms, water containers, cleaning and cooking utensils, and hygiene and recreational items to complement the authorities’ efforts to improve material conditions of detention. Female detainees also received items such as sanitary pads and clothing.

- 420 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 15 females and 15 minors) and 214 newly registered (including 12 females and 13 minors), during 176 visits to 71 places of detention
- 574 RCMs collected from and 535 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 1 detainee visited by relatives with ICRC support
- 16 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- some 20,000 detainees and UPS staff and their families benefited from water/sanitation projects
- 8,688 detainees received essential household items, clothing, or hygiene or recreational materials
- 71 released detainees had their transport/accommodation costs paid to enable them to travel home

WOUNDED AND SICK

Nine hospitals in Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts were supplied with medicines on an ad hoc basis. These hospitals served as referral facilities for a catchment population of some 1.1 million people, 80% of them IDPs.

In September 2007, Matany Hospital in Karamoja received medical supplies from the ICRC. Local doctors and operating theatre staff were trained in surgical procedures for the weapon-wounded. They operated on 63 patients altogether, of whom 23 were weapon-wounded.

Kitgum Government Hospital began a three-year project to improve health services for the population by streamlining procedures and increasing management capacity. An ICRC team of three experts (a doctor, a midwife and an administrator) began to work with the hospital’s management. The hospital also benefited from work to rehabilitate its water supply and electrical systems and received ad hoc donations of medical supplies. Staff underwent clinical training.

In Kitgum Government Hospital:

- 11,334 patients (including 4,778 women and 4,885 children) admitted: of whom 10 weapon-wounded (including 1 woman, 3 children, and 1 person injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 967 other surgical cases, and 6,967 medical and 3,400 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 972 surgical operations performed
- 72,220 outpatients given consultations, including 70,163 attending surgical or medical consultations and 2,057 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

AUTHORITIES

The government of Uganda ratified Additional Protocol III.

Three parliamentary committees held introductory meetings with the ICRC regarding IHL implementation, and later received relevant legal material, including the ICRC’s comments on the draft International Criminal Court bill.

Relevant authorities received input from the ICRC on:

- a draft bill to enact the Chemical Weapons Convention
- a draft national small arms and light weapons policy
- the protection of children in armed conflict with respect to a review of the Children’s Act
- a Ministry of Defence action plan to prevent the recruitment of child soldiers in the army

A participant from the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs attended an international IHL seminar in South Africa.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Activities to promote the integration of IHL/human rights standards into military/police doctrine, training and operations continued, within the framework of agreements signed in 2005 with the UPDF and the Ugandan Police Force. Military/police instructors attended train-the-trainer courses, and some teaching sessions were facilitated by instructors who had previously received ICRC training. Both the military and the police also learned about the mandate and activities of the ICRC.

UPDF training academies, five out of seven of which had incorporated IHL into their curricula, received IHL teaching and refer-

ence materials. In total, over 4,000 military personnel participated in information/training sessions including:

- ▶ 78 UPDF instructors/legal officers attending train-the-trainer courses
- ▶ 54 officers attending IHL courses in the Karamoja and Western regions
- ▶ 6 officers attending high-level IHL workshops/courses in Switzerland/San Remo (Italy)
- ▶ 4,130 officers, soldiers and members of local defence units in northern Uganda
- ▶ 100 UPDF officers selected for future peacekeeping missions abroad

Participants in sessions for the police included:

- ▶ 48 instructors attending train-the-trainer courses
- ▶ 173 UPS officers and 1,980 special constables to be deployed in the north and north-east of the country
- ▶ 47 Ugandan police officers before deployment on peacekeeping missions abroad

Twenty-six police instructors took part in a workshop to draft a curriculum plan for the inclusion of international human rights law and humanitarian principles in future police training.

The ICRC sub-delegation in Southern Sudan pursued dialogue with the LRA and held dissemination sessions for about 100 LRA members on basic IHL and respect for the red cross emblem.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media coverage of ICRC activities was facilitated by regular contact between journalists and the delegation. Influential members of civil society learned about IHL/humanitarian principles and the ICRC and drew on the organization's IHL expertise.

- ▶ 57 news items relating to IHL and the ICRC's work featured in the media
- ▶ 3 media field visits organized to show ICRC assistance activities in northern Uganda
- ▶ over 20 journalists attended a media workshop in Kitgum district
- ▶ 80 community leaders attended 3 information sessions in the north of Uganda
- ▶ 60 lawyers attended an IHL workshop co-hosted with the Uganda Law Society
- ▶ an employee from a radio station in Gulu attended an ICRC course for broadcast journalists in Kenya
- ▶ the judges of a school essay competition on small arms proliferation consulted the ICRC

Students of law and other disciplines learned about IHL during their courses, with ICRC support.

- ▶ 315 students from 3 universities attended IHL presentations
- ▶ 2 university teams participated in a regional IHL moot court competition
- ▶ the winner of a regional IHL essay competition was one of 6 Ugandan entrants
- ▶ 3 lecturers attended the All Africa IHL Course in South Africa
- ▶ 3 lecturers attended an IHL round-table in Kenya

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Uganda Red Cross Society and the ICRC continued to work in close coordination, particularly in their complementary assistance operations in northern Uganda. National Society activities to restore family links and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles also received ICRC support (see *Civilians*).

- ▶ essential household items donated for use in National Society flood relief and Ebola response programmes
- ▶ guidelines for the distribution of relief items developed
- ▶ the Ugandan Red Cross disaster management department strengthened through training in key Movement activities and tools
- ▶ 78 volunteers received dissemination training to help raise the National Society's profile in Karamoja in advance of planned activities there
- ▶ 19 branches undertook dissemination activities
- ▶ Pader branch office constructed, with ICRC support

The Ugandan Red Cross began the implementation of its strategic plan for 2007–10, involving major restructuring and, in particular, the establishment of decentralized units to facilitate the provision of technical support to branches. It adopted a revised constitution, elected a new national board, reviewed several policy areas and developed a four-year strategy for northern and eastern Uganda on which to base its activities for IDPs.

The Ugandan Red Cross and the ICRC continued to coordinate their activities with those of other Movement partners working in the country.



abidjan (regional)

In the countries covered by the regional delegation, established in 1992, the ICRC supports the authorities in implementing IHL, encourages the armed and security forces to respect IHL, and develops protection activities particularly in the field of detention and restoring family links. It also supports the institutional development of the region's National Societies. Since the outbreak of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire in 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 detention places and monitoring the situation countrywide. The ICRC coordinates its activities with the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire.

COVERING

Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	4,038
Assistance	12,442
Prevention	2,935
Cooperation with National Societies	2,119
General	-

► **21,534**

of which: Overheads **1,291**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

50 expatriates
239 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited detainees and provided 552 inmates in 9 Ivorian prisons with life-saving therapeutic feeding
- helped ensure the supply of clean drinking water to 1.3 million people in Côte d'Ivoire
- supported 32 health care facilities that delivered 173,768 vaccine doses to women and children in Côte d'Ivoire
- provided support for agricultural and micro-economic projects benefiting 47,928 people in Côte d'Ivoire
- assisted over 13,298 people affected by heavy flooding in Burkina Faso, with the Burkinan Red Cross Society
- provided training to the Burkinan, Ghanaian, Ivorian and Togolese Red Cross Societies to develop their tracing capacities

CONTEXT

In Côte d'Ivoire, direct negotiations between President Laurent Gbagbo and Forces Nouvelles leader Guillaume Soro, brokered by the Burkinan president, culminated in March in the signing of the Ouagadougou peace agreement, ending the conflict that began in 2002. In April, Guillaume Soro was appointed prime minister and named an all-inclusive government. President Gbagbo offered amnesty for crimes committed during the conflict other than war crimes, crimes against humanity and "economic" crimes, following which the two parties released most of their detainees.

Ceremonies took place to mark the official start of the dismantling of pro-government militias in the south and of the disarmament of Forces Nouvelles fighters in the north. Efforts got under way to identify Ivorian nationals and establish a revised voter register. In November, President Gbagbo visited Forces Nouvelles-controlled regions for the first time since the conflict began, and announced that the thrice-postponed general elections would be held by mid-2008.

There were nonetheless concerns about the slow pace of the peace process. Its fragility was made evident by an attempt to assassinate the prime minister in Bouaké in June and by confrontations within the Forces Nouvelles at the end of the year. The identification of Ivorian nationals progressed slowly. In the south, pro-government militias protested against the lack of compensation received for supporting the president.

Civilians still experienced hardship linked to intercommunal tensions, notably in the west, and to increasing criminality and racketeering countrywide. From April, the gradual deployment of joint brigades in the former Zone de Confiance enhanced security, particularly in the west. While freedom of movement improved for civilians and encouraged thousands of IDPs to return to their villages of origin, checkpoints along roads still restricted access to services including health care and education and hindered essential activities such as trade.

In Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo, the ruling parties won parliamentary elections. In Togo, where the ruling party formed a government that included no other parties, political uncertainty lingered. Benin, Ghana and Togo signed a tripartite agreement on the repatriation by UNHCR of Togolese refugees.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²				
Detainees visited	20,227	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	361	Food	Beneficiaries	3,199	18%	34%
of whom females	3	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	37,942	39%	45%
of whom minors	10	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	47,928	55%	12%
Number of visits carried out	408	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	1,329,286	40%	20%
Number of places of detention visited	189	Health				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	Structures	32		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Consultations	Patients	7,614		
RCMs collected	1,867	of which curative	Patients		1,655	4,491
RCMs distributed	1,633	Immunizations	Doses	173,768		
People reunited with their families	3					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	22					
of whom females	9					
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	4					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	17					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	65					
of which for females	9					
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	2					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	4					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	96					

1. Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo

2. Côte d'Ivoire only except for essential household items also distributed in Burkina Faso

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC consolidated its operations throughout Côte d'Ivoire, upgrading its office in Guiglo to a sub-delegation. It continued to monitor the situation countrywide, including any allegations of IHL or human rights breaches, particularly in sensitive regions in the west or where few other humanitarian actors operated.

In northern and north-western Côte d'Ivoire, which had borne the brunt of the conflict in economic terms, the ICRC expanded its agricultural assistance, distributing seeds and fertilizer to impoverished households to help them cultivate vegetable gardens and regain some measure of self-reliance.

In more unstable regions, such as the former Zone de Confiance and the west, the ICRC assisted residents and IDPs and remained ready to identify civilians' protection needs. It launched preventive health and sanitation programmes, resuming vaccination campaigns in areas where they had been interrupted by the conflict. The programmes also raised public awareness of malaria prevention and treatment in urban areas, and involved rural communities in hygiene and sanitation projects.

The ICRC continued supporting the national water board, SODECI, in providing safe water to over 1.3 million people in areas still controlled by the Forces Nouvelles. SODECI resumed billing citizens in the north and west for their water supply. Concerned about possible disruption to water supply to vulnerable people in urban communities, the ICRC started restoring public water fountains in the west.

ICRC delegates continued to visit detainees throughout Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, intervening promptly when necessary to raise the authorities' awareness of inmates' detention

conditions. The organization pursued life-saving therapeutic feeding programmes for detainees in Côte d'Ivoire, keeping down prison mortality rates. As a neutral intermediary, the ICRC facilitated the release of individuals held by government forces and the Forces Nouvelles, following the declaration of amnesty.

With the majority of refugees in Côte d'Ivoire qualifying for voluntary repatriation and/or integration into local communities and with greater freedom of movement regionwide, the number of unaccompanied children monitored by the ICRC declined steadily. Because of continuing delays in the demobilization process, no new children associated with fighting forces were registered by the ICRC. The organization also restricted the RCM service to vulnerable people, in line with reduced demand.

While the number of people missing in relation to the conflict remained unknown, the ICRC maintained material and technical support to the government and the Forces Nouvelles to foster best practices in identifying and handling human remains.

The promotion of IHL remained a priority, with the focus on the authorities, armed forces, the media, universities and influential civil society sectors.

As in past years, the ICRC provided the region's National Societies with material, technical, training and other support, strengthening their capacities to assist civilians in need, to carry out tracing activities, and to promote IHL and the Movement.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians and restoring family links

The ICRC continued gathering allegations of IHL and human rights violations perpetrated against civilians by weapon bearers and taking them up with the relevant authorities in northern and southern Côte d'Ivoire.

The small number of unaccompanied children still monitored by the ICRC in Côte d'Ivoire received tailor-made support, including reunification with their families or integration into local communities. Three children formerly associated with fighting forces and reunited with their families continued relying on income-generating projects and financial support for their schooling as they readjusted to normal life.

In areas it controlled, the government, with ICRC technical support, created an interministerial committee to centralize information on missing persons and to inform the families. The Forces Nouvelles continued receiving support in identifying and handling human remains and, in 2007, identified and interred the remains of one person and marked the grave.

In the region, but mainly in Côte d'Ivoire:

- 1,586 RCMs collected from and 1,409 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 21 from and 16 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 22 people (including 9 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance); 17 people located; 65 people (including 9 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 3 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 3 reunited with their families; 3 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 4 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Enhancing medical and health care

In central and western Côte d'Ivoire, children under five and women of reproductive age were vaccinated against tuberculosis, polio, diphtheria and six other diseases in a campaign implemented jointly by the National Society, health authorities and the ICRC. This contributed to a decline in various epidemics.

Around Danané in the west, an average of 700 patients were treated monthly for malaria, diarrhoea and skin ailments at 30 health posts, which received drugs and medical supplies from the ICRC and were renovated or expanded. Some 3,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets sold to patients at subsidized prices also helped minimize the risk of malaria.

Traditional birth attendants in the former Zone de Confiance were trained in delivery techniques, with Caritas's support. This and the 2,583 delivery kits and supervision they received from the ICRC boosted maternal and child health, as evidenced by the safe birth of around 1,800 babies.

Some 180 children received treatment at the Ivorian Red Cross nutritional feeding centre in Korhogo thanks to ICRC technical, medical and material support. The centre was also renovated and expanded to accommodate convalescing children and their mothers.

Ivorian Red Cross volunteers and women's groups in Duékoué and Gagnoa attended 150 sessions on malaria prevention, organized

with the national anti-malaria programme, and received around 16,000 insecticide-impregnated nets, boosting local efforts to combat the disease.

In the 32 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 134,000):

- 7,614 people attended curative consultations
- 173,768 vaccine doses administered (136,858 to children aged five or under and 36,910 to women of childbearing age)
- 219 health education sessions held

Improving access to water

SODECI, supported by the ICRC, continued running 115 pumping stations supplying water to people in northern and western Côte d'Ivoire. The stations received chemical products and equipment and water quality was tested regularly. Emergency repairs were conducted at 31 major plants with ICRC logistic backup. Additionally, impoverished people in the west were able to get drinking water at minimum cost thanks to a new project to repair public water fountains. Some 1.3 million people benefited from these initiatives.

Over 50,000 people in 40 villages around Bouaké and Guiglo benefited from programmes to improve rural hygiene and access to water, boosted by the training of 16 Red Cross volunteers in raising community awareness of basic hygiene.

- 1,325,141 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Consolidating economic security

Côte d'Ivoire

Beneficiaries of agricultural programmes implemented in 2006 considerably improved their yields. The programmes were extended to other vulnerable households, mainly around Bouaké and Korhogo, which received crop seed, fertilizer and technical support to help them regain self-reliance. In the north and west (Ferkessedougou, Guiglo, Odienné and Touba), vulnerable households enhanced their self-reliance by developing vegetable gardens with ICRC assistance comprising seed, fertilizer, tools and technical support.

Returnees and IDPs in villages in the west also received food and material assistance.

Vulnerable people in 19 institutions in Bouaké and Man received material and technical support to run income-generating projects, while some 1,000 received food rations. The project's success and improved food security led to substantial cuts in direct ICRC food assistance at year-end to reflect the reduced need. Families left destitute by fire or natural disasters were assisted by the National Society, with ICRC support.

- 2,647 people (452 households) received food
- 24,543 people (3,038 households) received essential household items
- 47,928 people (8,752 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives

Burkina Faso

Some 13,300 victims (some 2,200 households) of flooding received blankets, tarpaulins, mats, buckets, soap and other support to help them cope with their circumstances.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In the countries where it visited detainees held in connection with conflict or on criminal charges, the ICRC reported its findings and made the necessary recommendations to the authorities. Discussions revolved around treatment, living conditions, the food situation, medical care and respect for judicial guarantees. Detainees were offered the opportunity to communicate with their families through the RCM network and, where necessary, were provided with basic hygiene items.

Following the declaration of amnesty in Côte d'Ivoire, individuals held by government forces and the Forces Nouvelles were released, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary to facilitate the process.

In Côte d'Ivoire, an average of 552 malnourished detainees in government-controlled areas benefited from monthly supplementary food aid, with the severely malnourished also receiving medical treatment, which helped stabilize prison mortality rates. Detainees affected by outbreaks of beriberi and pellagra in Abidjan's central prison and in a southern prison improved their health after receiving nutritional supplements for three months. In Forces Nouvelles-controlled Bouaké and Korhogo, detainees relied on meals provided by an ICRC-supported local association.

The Ivorian Health and Justice Ministries and the ICRC created a working group on HIV/AIDS in prisons in the south, in response to an ICRC study to determine what inmates knew about the transmission of the disease, and agreed on ways to improve medical services in three prisons.

Over 4,000 detainees benefited from projects to rehabilitate or improve prison facilities, including the installation of water-storage systems, cookers and ovens. Detainees faced fewer health risks after the ICRC disinfected and fumigated 10 Ivorian prisons, organized sessions on hygiene and helped create hygiene committees to maintain water and sanitation facilities it had repaired or constructed. Some 100 detainees received essential household items.

In Togo, a few hundred inmates benefited from initiatives to eradicate scabies and empty septic tanks, with ICRC support. Prison health staff and directors attended an ICRC presentation on hygiene in prisons.

In Côte d'Ivoire

In government-controlled regions

- ▶ 11,873 detainees visited, of whom 203 monitored individually (including 2 females and 5 minors) and 65 newly registered (including 2 minors), during 139 visits to 64 places of detention
- ▶ 43 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 552 detainees received food

In Forces Nouvelles-controlled regions

- ▶ 1,132 detainees visited, of whom 122 monitored individually (including 5 minors) and 69 newly registered (including 7 minors), during 215 visits to 87 places of detention
- ▶ 53 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

In Benin

- ▶ 2,453 detainees visited, of whom 2 monitored individually, during 4 visits to 1 place of detention

In Togo

- ▶ 3,400 detainees visited, of whom 32 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 4 newly registered (including 1 female), during 49 visits to 36 places of detention

In Burkina Faso

- ▶ 1,369 detainees visited, of whom 2 monitored individually and 1 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention

In the region

- ▶ 281 RCMs collected from and 224 RCMs distributed to detainees and 339 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative

WOUNDED AND SICK

In Côte d'Ivoire, support to hospitals in Katiola (north of Bouaké), Korhogo and Ferkessedougou shifted from drug supply to training and the renovation of vital departments. Some 60 doctors and midwives were trained in surgery and midwifery. Hospitals also benefited from the construction and/or restoration of a surgical ward, operating theatre, water supply and storage systems, water tower and sanitary blocks.

Given the relative calm in 2007, kits to treat 100 wounded people, originally kept in stock in four conflict-prone areas, were dismantled and distributed to hospitals in the north.

- ▶ 95 patients benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

AUTHORITIES

The region's national authorities and the ICRC pursued discussions on the need for countries to ratify IHL treaties and incorporate their provisions into national legislation. The authorities, including those of Burkina Faso who were revising the military code of justice, received the necessary legal expertise and documents to support their initiatives.

- ▶ the Ivorian authorities organized 3 meetings on IHL implementation
- ▶ representatives of Côte d'Ivoire and Togo attended the ICRC's Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland
- ▶ representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo attended the launch in Paris, France, of the French-language version of the ICRC study on customary IHL
- ▶ the Ivorian authorities drafted a law on the protection of IDPs
- ▶ the International Coalition for the International Criminal Court organized a conference in Côte d'Ivoire, with the participation of the ICRC, on the punishment of war crimes
- ▶ the African Parliamentary Union received IHL reference materials
- ▶ Côte d'Ivoire passed a Chemical Weapons Convention Act
- ▶ representatives of the region's authorities attended an IHL seminar co-organized by the ICRC and the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja, Nigeria

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed and security forces continued to work with the ICRC on integrating IHL, human rights law and humanitarian principles into their training, doctrine and practice and improving their knowledge of the ICRC.

- 90 Ivorian police officers familiarized with IHL principles and human rights law at workshops organized by officers in charge of police training, the *gendarmérie* and the ICRC
- 3,400 Ivorian and international military and security personnel and Forces Nouvelles members attended sessions on IHL and the ICRC
- 6,000 Togolese military and security personnel trained in IHL and human rights law ahead of legislative elections and the arrival of a UN peacekeeping mission in Côte d'Ivoire
- IHL training manuals for instructors and commanding officers produced by the Ivorian military with the ICRC
- IHL sessions organized for military units in Togo and Benin and for officer cadets in Ghana

CIVIL SOCIETY

Academics and the public learned about IHL, humanitarian principles, the ICRC and the Movement through various initiatives, some involving the media.

- over 11,000 members of Ivorian civil society attended briefings on IHL and the Movement
- 55 media representatives in Benin and Togo attended sessions on the ICRC and the Red Cross ahead of legislative elections
- 19 Ivorian media representatives briefed on the relevance of IHL in conflict situations and the ICRC
- the Ivorian public acquainted with IHL, the ICRC and the Movement through television and radio broadcasts, a documentary and an album, *Je dis "respecte"*, co-produced with local musicians

Ivorian academic authorities and the ICRC maintained contact, facilitating the organization of IHL courses for 135 lecturers from universities and other higher education institutions and UNESCO representatives. Students and researchers working on IHL topics received reference documents. Burkinan student magistrates attended a presentation on IHL and the ICRC. In Benin, participants from 14 francophone countries attended an ICRC module on IHL at UNESCO's annual regional human rights session.

The Ivorian education authorities continued to introduce the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in the curricula of secondary schools and primary teacher-training institutions, and trained 500 teachers. An assessment of the level of integration of the programme got under way in Côte d'Ivoire.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued to receive ICRC material, technical, training and other support, strengthening their capacities to provide relief to civilians in need, to carry out tracing work and to promote IHL and the Red Cross.

Providing relief and assistance

With ICRC support:

- 100 Ivorian Red Cross first-aid brigades created and given first-aid kits
- destitute households received essential household items
- over 100 Ivorian Red Cross volunteers enhanced their skills and knowledge of humanitarian work through involvement in ICRC operations
- 13 Ivorian Red Cross branches developed community initiatives on sanitation
- 45 Burkinan and Togolese volunteers trained in emergency preparedness
- 2 joint Ivorian Red Cross/ICRC field missions conducted; 24 local branches attended a workshop on security
- Sipilou branch headquarters in western Côte d'Ivoire renovated and Guiglo branch headquarters under construction
- Bouaké branch's first-aid programme for weapon bearers reoriented to concentrate on rural hygiene and sanitation
- 300 Ivorian households attended first-aid sessions

Restoring family links

With the recruitment and training of a national tracing coordinator, the Ivorian Red Cross improved the supervision of RCM distribution and the monitoring and evaluation of tracing volunteers. It held monthly discussions with the ICRC on the implementation of the Ivorian Red Cross programme on the restoration of family links and the management of resources received from the ICRC.

With ICRC support:

- over 20 staff, trainers and leaders of the Burkinan, Ghanaian, Ivorian and Togolese Red Cross Societies attended a workshop on tracing
- 30 Ivorian tracing volunteers trained in restoring family links

Promoting humanitarian values and principles

With ICRC support, the Ivorian Red Cross:

- trained 7 coordinators of Exploring Humanitarian Law clubs and organized sessions on the programme for 873 out-of-school adolescents
- trained 14 new volunteers on Red Cross principles and activities
- gave sessions on IHL, the Movement, HIV/AIDS and hygiene to some 3,000 volunteers, college students and other audiences
- held press conferences to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May)
- held a session on misuse of the emblem for 42 private health facilities, resulting in them changing their logos

The Burkinan and Togolese Red Cross Societies published and distributed IHL materials with ICRC support.

Coordination of Movement activities

Movement partners and the ICRC regularly shared information on their operations and security matters. With the support and participation of the ICRC, the International Federation organized a meeting on regional development strategies and efforts to revitalize the Red Cross of Benin and a workshop in Abidjan on disaster prevention and management for some 20 African National Societies.



abuja (regional)

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. The ICRC works to enhance the Nigerian Red Cross Society's capacity to respond to emergencies countrywide. It supports the National Society's tracing and dissemination activities and a programme to improve hygiene and sanitation in prisons. Working with the authorities, the armed forces, the police and civil society, the organization promotes awareness of IHL and its national implementation. The ICRC and the National Society work to promote the Red Cross.

COVERING
Nigeria

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	100
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,973
Cooperation with National Societies	1,283
General	-

► **3,356**

of which: Overheads 205

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
29	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- helped the Nigerian Red Cross Society prepare for and respond to emergencies, including election-related violence
- strengthened dialogue with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) leadership to improve cooperation between ECOWAS and the ICRC
- conducted train-the-trainer courses for 26 military and 42 police instructors
- gave presentations on the ICRC and IHL/human rights law for over 2,000 military/police personnel, including pre-deployment briefings for peacekeepers
- together with the National Society, conducted 3 first-aid training sessions for 62 volunteers from Muslim aid organizations
- continued to support the National Society's activities to disseminate IHL and the Movement's Fundamental Principles and to restore family links

CONTEXT

The victory of President Musa Yar'Adua and his running mate Goodluck Jonathan in the May presidential elections was still being contested at the end of the year, with the election tribunal yet to pass judgement on petitions filed by two opposition candidates. At the state level, courts ruled that two governors had been elected fraudulently and should be replaced by the real winners, and called for fresh polls in three further states where the results had been annulled.

The nation's anti-graft agency declared that 31 state governors were involved in financial corruption. The agency was investigating a further eight ex-governors for crimes including money-laundering, theft and diversion of State funds.

Although strong oil revenues continued to bolster government finances, living conditions remained difficult for the majority of the population.

Crime and violence were still running high in the Niger Delta despite government efforts to talk to armed groups in the region. A ceasefire declared by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) when President Yar'Adua took office lasted only a few months. Acts of sabotage and the kidnapping of foreign oil workers were frequent, while others were increasingly abducted for ransom. Violent clashes occurred between the security forces and militant or criminal groups, in particular in the city of Port Harcourt.

A multi-party agreement, reached under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), provided for the integration of 7,292 refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia residing in Nigeria. Under the terms of the agreement, Sierra Leone and Liberia were to issue their affected nationals with passports, while Nigeria would allow them to settle and to enjoy access to work, education and health on the same terms as Nigerians.

On 12 November, 21 Cameroonian soldiers were killed in the Bakassi peninsula. While the attackers remained unidentified, the Nigerian Senate declared that the transfer of the territory to Cameroon should be put on hold until the Nigerian legislature had been given an opportunity to ratify the Greentree Accord.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	65
RCMs distributed	64
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	8
<i>of whom females</i>	5
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	34
<i>of which for females</i>	14
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	11

ICRC ACTION

Working in close cooperation with and supported by the ICRC, the Nigerian Red Cross Society provided assistance to people affected by political violence, urban riots, religious and intercommunal clashes, and natural disasters. The ICRC helped the National Society organize workshops on conflict preparedness and response and hold information sessions for Red Cross volunteers and staff on IHL and the Fundamental Principles. It also provided material, logistic and financial support to all 37 state branches, including through the pre-positioning of non-food items and medical supplies countrywide.

The ICRC maintained its support to the National Society's prison sanitation programme, through which sanitation micro-projects were completed in two prisons and sanitation materials were distributed to detainees in nine prisons. It continued to work with the National Society to restore family links.

The ICRC pursued dialogue with the political authorities and civil society, including traditional and religious leaders, academic circles and the media, in order to gain a better understanding of the complexities of the country and region, promote awareness and implementation of IHL, exchange information on issues of humanitarian concern, and anticipate possible crises.

Train-the-trainer courses on IHL and on human rights and humanitarian principles applicable in internal disturbances aimed to support the military and police in gaining autonomy in their IHL training. Delegates also gave briefings on IHL/human rights law and on the ICRC and its activities to military and police personnel, including troops departing on peace-support operations.

Dialogue with ECOWAS aimed to gain the regional body's support in the conduct of ICRC operations and, more generally, the promotion of IHL in West Africa.

During the second half of the year, the National Society undertook a review of its activities, structure and performance, following which it formalized areas of cooperation with the ICRC through the signing of a series of agreements. With ICRC support, the Nigerian Red Cross held its General Assembly in December, at which a new president and executive board were elected.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The Nigerian Prison Service (NPS) and the ICRC maintained regular contact and generally strengthened their relationship.

- NPS staff members participated in a workshop during which they learned about the ICRC's standard procedures for visits to detainees
- medical and welfare services in Nigerian prisons were the subject of a paper presented by the ICRC at an NPS-organized workshop

AUTHORITIES

Departments within the Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs were briefed by the ICRC and the Nigerian Red Cross's legal adviser on topics linked to the draft Geneva Conventions Act and, in particular, on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. The Ministry of Justice passed the bill to the president and the Executive Council for ratification.

ECOWAS president, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, and the political affairs, peace and security commissioner met the ICRC to discuss ways to improve cooperation between the two institutions. Contact with the ECOWAS legal department was renewed with a view to bolstering its support for IHL implementation within member States.

- senior legal officials from the Justice and Foreign Affairs ministries of 13 of the 15 ECOWAS member States participated in the fourth joint ECOWAS/ICRC seminar on national IHL implementation and related issues

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The military high command and the ICRC continued to discuss IHL integration into doctrine, training and operations. The ICRC conducted training courses for instructors and pre-deployment IHL sessions for peacekeeping battalions. An officer in charge of doctrine and training participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations hosted by the ICRC and the Swiss army in Geneva, Switzerland.

The police steering committee attended a workshop on the integration of IHL and human rights principles into police procedures, and the ICRC helped produce 150,000 booklets entitled *Guide for Police Conduct and Behaviour*. The minister of the interior met the ICRC to discuss police reform.

In all, 26 military and 42 police instructors took part in train-the-trainer courses aimed at building military/police internal training autonomy. The training of IHL instructors was discussed with the heads of three combat training institutions.

Presentations on IHL/human rights law and on the ICRC's mandate and activities took place for over 2,000 military/police personnel, including:

- ▶ 60 senior army officers responsible for training and operational planning and over 120 commanding officers from operational units countrywide
- ▶ 250 students attending key military academies
- ▶ 1,600 military personnel departing on peace-support operations abroad
- ▶ 80 police officers undergoing training

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC continued to strengthen its network of contacts within the media, religious groups and academic institutions.

The media's understanding of the ICRC's work was enhanced through an IHL workshop for 23 journalists in Abuja and the sponsorship of two radio journalists to attend ICRC broadcast training.

Higher education institutions continued to receive support for the teaching of IHL, with their students taking part in a national IHL moot court competition and a Nigerian team participating in an international IHL moot court competition in Arusha, Tanzania. Two law professors attended the All African Course on IHL in Pretoria, South Africa.

- ▶ 6,000 copies of a magazine about the Red Cross in Nigeria published and distributed to key contacts
- ▶ 62 volunteers from Muslim aid organizations attended 3 first-aid training sessions, with the involvement of Nigerian Red Cross first-aid instructors
- ▶ school pupils took part in an ICRC-organized art competition and exhibition on the theme "Youths and Violence"

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Emergency preparedness and response

To help the Nigerian Red Cross respond effectively to emergencies, relief items, including first-aid materials, were pre-positioned country-wide, the radio communications network was upgraded and training was conducted for over 1,500 National Society staff and volunteers, with ICRC financial, technical, material and logistic support.

- ▶ 2,070 victims of election-related violence treated and some evacuated to hospitals by over 11,000 volunteers and trained first-aiders
- ▶ people affected by flooding in 10 states received first-aid services, food and non-food items, and hygiene materials from 428 volunteers
- ▶ 284 victims of political/religious violence in Kano and Bauchi states assisted

Promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles

With ICRC support:

- ▶ IHL workshops held for 208 governance members and 20 teachers from secondary schools in Lagos
- ▶ 1 dissemination officer participated in the All African Course on IHL in Pretoria
- ▶ 30,000 copies each of 2 brochures printed, one on the additional emblem and the other on the Fundamental Principles

Prison sanitation programme

Support to Nigerian Red Cross prison sanitation activities was maintained and the programme restructured to improve its effectiveness.

- ▶ 2 micro-projects (sewage and drainage) were completed in Agodi prison (Oyo state) and Bida prison (Niger state) respectively
- ▶ 1,647 inmates in 9 prisons in Ebonyi, Niger and Oyo states received sanitation materials

Restoration of family links

Tracing activities in the Oru refugee camp and related staff training continued to receive ICRC support up until the official closure of the camp in the middle of the year, following which most refugees returned to their home countries.

- ▶ 65 RCMs collected from and 64 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 7 to unaccompanied children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 8 people (including 5 females); 17 people located; 34 people (including 14 females and 11 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Movement cooperation

The Nigerian Red Cross Society held its General Assembly in December, with ICRC support, and elected a new president and executive board. Regular national and regional Movement coordination meetings took place, and Movement staff received training on the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures.



dakar (regional)

The Dakar regional delegation has existed in its current form since 1994. It focuses on promoting IHL among the armed forces and other bearers of weapons 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 in Casamance and in Niger, such as displaced persons in need and returnees, and visits detainees of ICRC concern, providing them with material aid where necessary.

COVERING

Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	659
Assistance	1,507
Prevention	1,721
Cooperation with National Societies	851
General	-

► **4,738**

of which: Overheads 290

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
63	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited 4,072 detainees held by the Niger authorities and 40 detainees, mainly members of Niger's army, held by the Mouvement des Nigériens pour la Justice (MNJ)
- as a neutral intermediary, facilitated the release of 33 people, mainly members of Niger's army, held by the MNJ
- supported the Red Cross Society of Niger by training 152 first-aid coordinators and volunteers in violence-prone regions
- developed dialogue with the Mouvement des Forces Démocratiques de la Casamance with a view to returning to Casamance and resuming its activities fully there
- improved access to water for people in 10 communities affected by fighting and violence in northern Guinea-Bissau in 2006
- supported the armed forces of Mali, Niger and Senegal in adopting measures to integrate IHL, and assisted the University of Niamey in incorporating IHL into its law curriculum

CONTEXT

The security situation in northern Niger deteriorated steadily, with a series of clashes between the military and the Mouvement des Nigériens pour la Justice (MNJ). Scores of people, mainly military personnel, were captured by both sides. The MNJ released over 60 of them through intermediaries. Civilians and military personnel alike were affected by an increase in anti-vehicle mine incidents and banditry along major roads linking Agadez to other urban centres.

In an effort to resolve the problem, the government of Niger issued a decree temporarily giving greater powers to security forces. Several local and international journalists were arrested following temporary restrictions on the media. Notwithstanding international efforts to mediate, a rapid resolution of the situation appeared unlikely.

In northern Mali, during clashes with the army, the Alliance Touareg Nord-Mali pour le Changement captured military personnel, ten of whom were later released. The government sought a political solution to the problem through the mediation of certain countries. The illegal traffic of humans, weapons and narcotics and the presence of radical religious groups in Mali and Niger also posed a serious challenge to the governments of the two countries.

In Senegal, the economy and the population continued to suffer the effects of steep oil prices. The peace initiative in Casamance experienced a setback with the assassination of a senior government representative involved in reviving it. Along the borders with Gambia and Guinea-Bissau, the presence of weapon bearers remained a serious security concern. This and delays in implementing the long-awaited programme to clear mines discouraged some 50,000 IDPs and 12,000 refugees (in Gambia and Guinea-Bissau) from returning to their villages of origin, and humanitarian organizations from operating in Casamance.

Guinea-Bissau still encountered difficulties linked to the unwieldy size of its army, the political and socio-economic situation, and insecurity. Like most of the region, it grappled with problems arising from illegal migration and drug trafficking.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	4,161	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	102	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives ² <i>Beneficiaries</i>			
<i>of whom minors</i>	1		5,124	31%	50%
Number of visits carried out	44	Water, sanitation and habitat projects ³ <i>Beneficiaries</i>			
Number of places of detention visited	28		35,050	20%	60%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Health⁴</i>			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported <i>Structures</i>	3		
RCMs collected	15	Consultations <i>Patients</i>	4,919		
RCMs distributed	44	<i>of which curative Patients</i>		1,234	1,991
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		<i>of which ante/post-natal Patients</i>		505	
People to whom travel documents were issued	3	Immunizations <i>Doses</i>	1,813		

1. Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal

2. Senegal

3. Guinea-Bissau and Senegal

4. Senegal

ICRC ACTION

In Niger, the ICRC opened an office in Agadez and upgraded its office in Niamey to a mission, intensifying its monitoring of the situation in the northern regions of Mali and Niger and its response to the population's needs. Upon the request of the authorities in Niger and the MNJ, the ICRC evacuated wounded and ailing military personnel released by the MNJ, confirming its role as a neutral intermediary. It strengthened its dialogue with the authorities, the MNJ and other stakeholders to ensure respect for civilians by weapon bearers and to safeguard the security of its staff and those of other Movement components operating in northern Niger. It assessed the mine risk around Agadez to find ways of identifying and meeting the needs of the population affected by the conflict and expanding its humanitarian activities without jeopardizing the safety of its staff.

In Senegal, the ICRC assistance programme in the Fogny region of Casamance, comprising market gardening projects and the rehabilitation of water, sanitation and health facilities, remained suspended following the death, in 2006, of an ICRC delegate in a mine incident. Nevertheless, the organization still implemented certain projects with the support of the Senegalese Red Cross Society and the health authorities. It reassessed the security situation and the population's needs and reinforced its dialogue with the leaders of a faction of the Mouvement des Forces Démocratiques de la Casamance (MFDC) to obtain security guarantees that would permit its return to Casamance and the full resumption of its activities there.

It continued to visit detainees in Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal to monitor their conditions of detention and treatment. It shared its findings with the authorities and supported them in ensuring that detainees' treatment and living conditions complied with internationally accepted standards. In Gambia, where access to detainees was denied following the 2006 attempted coup d'état, the organization pursued discussions with the authorities on the possibility of resuming prison visits, but so far to no avail.

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with the region's national authorities on the need to ratify IHL treaties and incorporate their provisions into domestic legislation. It continued to promote the integration of IHL and international human rights law into the

training and practice of the armed and security forces. At the MFDC's request, the ICRC organized the first-ever IHL sessions for members of the group. It carried on promoting IHL and the Movement in collaboration with other traditional partners, including regional authorities, the media and academics.

Alongside other Movement partners, the ICRC assisted victims of conflict and floods in northern Niger. It trained staff and volunteers of the National Societies of Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal to strengthen their emergency preparedness and response capacities.

The regional training unit continued to develop and coordinate ICRC strategy and provide delegations with specialist advice, training and field support. It conducted 20 courses, on topics ranging from child protection to team management, for around 280 ICRC staff.

CIVILIANS

Mali and Niger

Some 3,800 people were displaced from Iférouane in northern Niger to camps in the vicinity and to neighbouring towns owing to clashes, banditry and mine incidents and to floods that occurred in August, destroying homes and crops. Abuses against civilians, including summary executions, were reported.

The ICRC maintained or stepped up contacts with national authorities, armed forces, armed groups, local leaders, civilians and other stakeholders in northern Mali and Niger. However, security constraints, mainly the presence of mines, prevented the ICRC from making an overall assessment of the situation of IDPs. An assessment of the mine risk around Agadez, carried out at year-end, was expected to help identify measures to enhance the organization's access to victims of the armed conflict and its response to their needs.

In Iférouane, a health post was able to provide better treatment for civilians affected by the conflict and floods thanks to medical supplies received from the ICRC.

Casamance, Senegal

In Casamance, the situation remained generally calm, although the presence of weapon bearers remained a security concern for

civilians. In Fogny, the hub of ICRC activities in Casamance, the assistance programme, comprising market gardening and the rehabilitation of water, sanitation and health facilities, remained suspended (see *ICRC action*). Nevertheless, the National Society and the health authorities provided support, such as monitoring activities, to ensure the continuation of certain projects. Following the ICRC's intercession with the army and local authorities in Casamance, military personnel occupying a private house vacated it.

Providing health care

In Fogny, 50 traditional birth attendants and health and first-aid workers were trained as part of ongoing support to community health facilities. To ensure that community health facilities constructed previously by the ICRC continued to run smoothly, the heads of 16 such facilities received management training. The ensuing improvement in the quality of services enabled the facilities to cater for around 10,000 people. One health centre also benefited from the construction of latrines.

Three referral health posts in Fogny received mosquito nets treated with insecticide as part of a malaria prevention programme. The sale of 1,200 nets at subsidized prices for use by pregnant women and children under five helped the posts enhance their self-sufficiency. Within the scope of the programme, the network of health workers responsible for raising awareness of the transmission, control and treatment of malaria in 49 communities received bicycles and manuals and attended 307 sessions on malaria. This boosted local efforts to combat the disease, a major killer in Casamance.

In parallel, teachers from 20 schools in Fogny and São Domingos (in Guinea-Bissau) attended a course on basic hygiene and sanitation and, on their return, shared their newly acquired knowledge with over 2,200 pupils and their families.

In the 3 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 9,500):

- 4,919 people given consultations, including 505 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 4,414 attending curative consultations
- 1,813 vaccine doses administered (1,519 to children aged five or under and 284 to women of childbearing age)

Boosting economic security

Twenty-five vegetable gardens run by ICRC-supported women's groups continued to increase their productivity, yielding some 119,000 kg of vegetables in 2007. With 20% of the produce consumed by themselves and the remainder sold, the women improved both their households' food security and their incomes. They used their profit to purchase their own seed for the next planting season, thereby reducing their dependence on external aid.

Fifteen village communities received oxen, seed, sowers, oxcarts and farm implements to boost their production of rice and facilitate its transportation to storage and markets. The 40 tonnes of rice thus yielded enabled households to meet their basic needs and to cut their dependence on outside help.

- 5,124 people (525 households) benefited from agricultural initiatives, including:
 - 4,824 people from distributions of seed and tools
 - 300 people from a market gardening project

Improving access to clean water

Three people, after receiving appropriate training, installed hand pumps on eight wells completed by the ICRC before a mine incident halted its activities (see *ICRC action*). The wells could thus be put into service, providing a reliable water supply to surrounding communities. Likewise, 500 people in a leper colony benefited from the construction of a well.

- 20,000 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Guinea-Bissau

Fighting between Guinea-Bissau's army and MFDC factions along the border with Casamance in 2006 forced civilians to flee their villages along Guinea's border with Senegal and restricted their access to clean water, health and other services. With the construction by the ICRC of 11 wells in the border region, 10 of the affected villages (5,000 inhabitants) had improved access to water. Health centres in the towns of Suzana and Varela, in the north-eastern border region, benefited similarly from the installation of two solar-powered water pumps and were thus able to improve the quality of their services. All this encouraged some displaced people to return to their villages of origin.

- 15,000 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

In addition, a local organization, Casa Amigas Deficientes, received materials, training and funds to enable it to produce prostheses and fit 42 disabled people with prosthetic/orthotic devices. The patients, who were also provided with accommodation in Bissau while being fitted, thus acquired greater mobility and self-sufficiency.

Restoring family links

A small number of people cut off from family members by conflicts in the sub-region still relied on the RCM services to restore or maintain contact with them. A case in point was a father in Mali who, after 12 years of uncertainty about his son's fate, received news from him through an RCM sent from Côte d'Ivoire.

- 11 RCMs collected from and 37 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 3 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 7 people (including 1 female and 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 5 people (including 1 female and 1 minor at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 3 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal, the ICRC continued to visit detainees to monitor their conditions of detention and treatment. It shared its findings with the relevant authorities and supported them in bringing detainees' treatment and living conditions in line with internationally accepted standards. Detainees were offered the opportunity to communicate with their families through the RCM network and, where necessary, were given basic drugs and hygiene items.

Niger

Numerous people newly arrested by the authorities of Niger in connection with the situation of armed violence in the north of the country were registered and monitored individually by the ICRC during visits to six prisons countrywide and three places of

temporary detention in the Agadez region. The relevant embassies were notified of the detention of their nationals, if the detainees in question so wished. Inmates' conditions of detention were enhanced thanks in part to the cooperation between the prison administration and the ICRC.

Following requests by the government of Niger and the MNJ to act as a neutral intermediary between them, the ICRC made a visit to detainees, mainly military personnel, held by the MNJ in the north of the country. This made it possible for injured detainees to receive emergency medical care. Security constraints, however, prevented the ICRC from conducting regular visits to people detained by the MNJ. The group released 33 injured military personnel and a Chinese national, through the intermediary of the ICRC, which evacuated them and handed them over to the relevant authorities.

- ▶ government: 4,072 detainees visited, of whom 53 monitored individually (including 1 minor) and 38 newly registered (including 1 minor), during 29 visits to 24 places of detention
- ▶ MNJ: 40 detainees visited, registered and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention and given the opportunity to inform their families of their whereabouts by satellite phone

Guinea-Bissau

Detainees in Guinea-Bissau benefited from a series of ICRC initiatives, including the transfer of ailing inmates to hospital. Repairs were carried out on prison buildings, toilets and water supply systems. Thanks to hygiene products supplied regularly, in response to requests from the authorities, a cholera epidemic was kept in check. Additionally, nine ex-detainees, who were followed up to monitor compliance with the conditions of their release, received hygiene items every two months to help them meet their basic needs.

- ▶ 46 detainees visited, of whom 6 monitored individually, during 13 visits to 2 places of detention
- ▶ 50 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects

Senegal

Detainees visited in Casamance received mosquito nets, which contributed to a 30% drop in the incidence of malaria among them within three months.

- ▶ 3 detainees visited, registered and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 4 RCMs collected from detainees

Gambia

No progress was made in discussions with the authorities on the resumption of ICRC visits to detainees in Gambia (see *ICRC action*).

AUTHORITIES

The region's national authorities and the ICRC maintained good relations. This was borne out by the request from the government of Niger for the ICRC to act as a neutral intermediary with regard to people, mainly military personnel, detained by the MNJ.

Key national authorities in the region and the ICRC pursued discussions on the need to ratify IHL treaties and incorporate their provisions into national legislation. The authorities received the necessary legal expertise and documentation from the ICRC to support them

in this task. Seminars organized for the authorities in Mali and Niger helped them take stock of the progress made in, and renew their commitment to, the implementation of IHL treaties. As a result, the authorities in Mali overcame certain obstacles, approved a draft law on the red cross emblem and prepared to present it to the national assembly for adoption. Senegal benefited from ICRC expertise in its initiative to revise laws on the repression of IHL violations.

- ▶ government representatives from Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Senegal attended a seminar on IHL co-organized by the ICRC and the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja, Nigeria
- ▶ representatives of the Gambian and Senegalese authorities attended the ICRC's Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland

In Senegal, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and the ICRC continued to coordinate their local and regional humanitarian activities. Similar initiatives were developed in particular in Mali and Niger, where the ICRC intensified its operations in the north. This helped improve the exchange of information, knowledge and expertise.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, Mali, Niger and Senegal adopted draft directives on the integration of IHL into their armed forces' training, doctrine and practice. Their police and security forces were similarly supported in consolidating their knowledge of human rights, humanitarian principles, the ICRC and the Movement. Their capacities in these endeavours were strengthened through workshops, information sessions for IHL instructors, working sessions with the leadership of the armed and security forces, and the supply of teaching materials.

Cooperation between the military authorities in Niger and the ICRC and contact between the MNJ and the ICRC facilitated the organization's humanitarian operations in the country's northern region. These included the emergency treatment of wounded or sick detainees held by the MNJ and the evacuation of some of the detainees released by the MNJ and their handover to the relevant authorities. Through such contact, the MNJ was made aware of the ICRC, its mandate and neutral and impartial action and the importance of protecting civilians during armed conflict and of facilitating humanitarian access to them.

In Senegal, the MFDC and the ICRC developed further contacts. At the group's request, the ICRC organized the first-ever IHL sessions for its members, during which they were made aware of the ICRC, its mandate and neutral and impartial action and the importance of protecting civilians during armed conflict and of facilitating humanitarian access to them.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Journalists based in Guinea-Bissau and the Casamance region of Senegal attended a session on IHL, the Fundamental Principles and the ICRC and its activities in the two countries and along the border with Gambia. The journalists were also made aware of the reasons for the suspension of the organization's activities in the border region (see *ICRC action*). In Senegal, contact with the

media was maintained through meetings with editorial staff, directors and programme coordinators. They were briefed on the organization's activities and provided with documents on IHL, the ICRC and the Movement.

Following a session in Guinea-Bissau on the ICRC, its mandate and the Movement, 20 young members of a local association, SOS Children First, decided to join the Red Cross as volunteers.

With ICRC support, the Senegalese education authorities completed the second year of pilot-testing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools. They identified subjects in which to incorporate the programme, trained more teachers involved in it and adopted standard content. Thus, the authorities got closer to the objective of assuming full responsibility for the programme.

Universities and other institutions of higher education in Mali, Niger and Senegal carried on receiving support from the ICRC in integrating IHL in their curricula. The University of Niamey introduced the subject in the curriculum of its law faculty. The promotion of IHL among university students bore fruit, as illustrated by the number of times it was chosen as the subject of a Master's thesis in Mali and Senegal. In Dakar, students could consult an IHL library maintained by the regional delegation.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Staff and volunteers of the National Societies of Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal received training to strengthen their capacities to assist civilians affected by situations of armed violence, banditry and intercommunal violence in their countries. This was particularly needed in Niger, where the population was especially vulnerable to the growing insecurity.

While financial and other difficulties delayed the implementation of cooperation activities with the region's National Societies, the issues were resolved towards the end of the year in the case of the National Societies of Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal, enabling programmes to get back on track.

With ICRC support:

- 188 first-aid trainers, volunteers and coordinators trained in regions affected by armed violence in Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal
- the National Societies of Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Niger participated in the Council of Delegates and 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva



harare (regional)

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. 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 informs the authorities, the armed and security forces and the general public about 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 KCHF)

Protection	1,549
Assistance	2,209
Prevention	992
Cooperation with National Societies	1,035
General	-

► **5,785**

of which: Overheads 353

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	87%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
46	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- commenced support to the Zimbabwe National Water Authority to improve the water supply for Harare residents
- distributed drugs and medical assistance to 16 health facilities in rural areas of Zimbabwe
- welcomed the release from administrative detention of all 16 detainees held in Botswana in connection with an uprising in the Caprivi Strip in 1999
- conducted activities to restore family links across the region, reuniting 19 unaccompanied children with their families in Zambia
- briefed some 1,300 young people on the ICRC and humanitarian principles during 5 visits to National Youth Service camps around Zimbabwe
- co-organized a workshop for senior military officers on the integration of IHL into training curricula with the Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre of the Southern African Development Community

CONTEXT

In Zimbabwe, life continued to get harder for much of the population as the country's political, economic and social situation worsened. Key services, such as health and water, were hit by funding gaps, hyperinflation and the drop-out of critical staff, and a poor harvest left the country once again facing a food shortfall.

February to May saw increased political tension and violence, with the arrest and alleged beating of members of the opposition, as well as the petrol bombing of public places. At the request of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the South African president, Thabo Mbeki, facilitated talks between Zanu-PF and the opposition.

In September, the 18th constitutional amendment was passed by both houses, paving the way for joint parliamentary and presidential elections in 2008. During their party congress in December 2007, members of Zanu-PF confirmed President Robert Mugabe as their candidate for the elections. The opposition Movement for Democratic Change remained divided.

Provincial elections in Mozambique were postponed to allow more time for voter registration. The opposition Resistência Nacional Moçambicana (Renamo) was weakened by the defection of members to the ruling Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (Frelimo) party.

In Namibia, former president Sam Nujoma stepped down from active politics and a new opposition party, the Rally for Democracy and Progress, emerged from the ruling South West Africa People's Organization.

In Zambia, the question of constitutional reform and the pending trial of former president Frederick Chiluba on corruption charges dominated the country's political agenda.

Malawi prepared for presidential elections in 2008, while the country's agricultural sector produced a substantial surplus for export.

Botswana remained politically and economically stable, with Ian Khama, former head of the national army, set to succeed President Festus Mogae upon his planned resignation in March 2008.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS ²					
Detainees visited and monitored individually	157	Economic security, water and habitat					
Number of visits carried out	13	Food	Beneficiaries	1,104	50%	37%	
Number of places of detention visited	6	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	3,226	46%	53%	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	104,800	51%	48%	
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Health					
RCMs collected	8,126	Health centres supported	Structures	16			
RCMs distributed	6,395	Consultations	Patients	178,468			
People reunited with their families	20		of which curative	Patients		58,827	68,527
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of which ante/post-natal	Patients		15,921	1,295
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	30	Immunizations	Doses	58,495			
	of whom females						
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance						
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	30						
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	200						
	of which for females						
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance						
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers							
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	7						
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	20						
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	67						
DOCUMENTS ISSUED							
People to whom travel documents were issued	19						

1. Botswana, Namibia and Zambia

2. Zimbabwe

ICRC ACTION

In Zimbabwe, the ICRC regularly assessed the humanitarian situation in rural areas of Manicaland, Masvingo and Matabeleland North provinces and further developed its dialogue with the authorities. Victims of alleged political violence received a one-off distribution of food and essential household items after assessment of their needs by the ICRC.

Health facilities continued to receive medicines, medical equipment, and mosquito nets for distribution to patients, as well as ICRC support for vaccination campaigns and training sessions. Their infrastructure was improved through the construction of new waste-management facilities and the drilling or rehabilitation of wells. Rural communities received spare parts for the maintenance of water pumps.

ICRC visits to security detainees held in prisons in Botswana and Namibia in relation to the 1999 uprising in the Caprivi Strip continued, with the aim of assessing and improving conditions of detention through confidential recommendations to the detaining authorities and through the provision of clothing and other material assistance. In both countries, family visits to the detainees were organized and financed by the ICRC with substantial assistance from the National Societies. At the end of the year, after eight years of detention and continual discussions between the political authorities and the ICRC regarding their status, all 16 detainees in Botswana were released from administrative detention and transferred to the Dukwi refugee camp.

The ICRC kept up efforts to convince the Zambian authorities to address conditions in prisons and briefed representatives of the

international community on the situation. It continued its planned withdrawal from the country with the closure of its office in Lusaka at the end of the year.

Discussions with the Zimbabwean authorities regarding ICRC access to detention facilities continued.

The ICRC worked with the region's National Societies to operate the RCM and tracing services for refugees and detainees. Unaccompanied/separated minors and vulnerable adults were registered and efforts made to locate their relatives and, where appropriate, to reunite them with their families.

The delegation supported the efforts of countries in the region to implement IHL, helping organize a preparatory workshop in Zimbabwe ahead of a regional IHL seminar in Pretoria, South Africa, and facilitating the attendance of officials at international IHL events. It continued to encourage the region's armed and security forces to integrate IHL into training and operations and, to this end, pursued cooperation with SADC's Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre in Harare. It pursued dialogue with the Zimbabwe Republic Police and conducted dissemination sessions for police officers in some of the areas in which it was operating.

As in past years, the ICRC cooperated closely with the National Societies of the region, supporting programmes to restore family links, promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, build emergency preparedness and provide assistance to those in need. In particular, some 3,000 victims of flooding in Mashonaland Central received essential household items donated by the ICRC and distributed by the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society.

CIVILIANS

Supporting civilians in Zimbabwe

A small number of victims of alleged political violence, mainly in Harare and Masvingo, received a one-off distribution of food and essential household items after assessment of their needs by the ICRC.

To improve access of rural populations to health care, 16 rural health facilities in Makoni, Chivi and Tsholotsho (in the provinces of Manicaland, Masvingo and Matabeleland North respectively) received medicines and consumables, and medical staff received training in subjects identified by the district health authorities. Children in the most remote areas of these districts were included in national immunization programmes thanks to ICRC logistical support.

Women attending maternity clinics in the three districts were provided with insecticide-treated mosquito nets with the aim of reducing malaria-related mother and child morbidity and mortality. Furthermore, 31 nurses were trained in malaria case management, including the use of new malaria drugs and the rapid diagnosis test.

In the 16 ICRC-supported health facilities in rural areas (catchment population: some 180,000):

- ▶ 178,468 people given consultations, including 17,216 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 161,252 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 58,495 vaccine doses administered (44,612 to children aged five or under and 7,597 to women of childbearing age), including 14,696 doses of polio vaccine
- ▶ 3,712 health education sessions conducted
- ▶ approximately 25,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets distributed
- ▶ 122 nurses received training
- ▶ 800 people living with HIV received a one-off donation of food items
- ▶ 200 people living with HIV received essential household items

To ensure that health facilities had clean water in sufficient quantity to maintain adequate standards of health and hygiene, nine new boreholes were drilled and equipped with pressure pumps at clinics in the Chivi and Makoni districts, and existing pumps at clinics in Tsholotsho were rehabilitated. Ten clinics had their sanitation and waste-management facilities upgraded, with the construction of an incinerator, refuse pits and new latrines.

Rural communities were able to repair and maintain their water supply systems, thanks to the provision of spare parts and tools to local workshops belonging to the District Development Fund (Zimbabwe's rural water authority) in Chivi, Makoni and Tsholotsho districts.

A project got under way to support the Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA) in enhancing the quality and quantity of water available to residents of Harare and neighbouring towns. This involved the supply of laboratory equipment to the Morton Jaffray water treatment plant and assistance in building the capacity of the ZINWA workshop responsible for maintaining water mains and repairing leakages.

- ▶ 104,800 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Restoring family links in the region

A number of countries in the region continued to host sizeable populations of refugees of a variety of nationalities. Refugees living in camps and elsewhere often restored or maintained contact with their families through the RCM service, provided by the ICRC in conjunction with the National Societies of the region and refugee volunteers.

Unaccompanied/separated minors and vulnerable adults and their dependants were assisted in locating their relatives and re-establishing contact with them and, where desired and feasible, were reunited with them. As many refugees came from countries outside the region covered by the Harare delegation, such as Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, this often involved coordinating with other delegations and organizing the repatriation of such children and adults so that they could be reunited with family in their home countries.

- ▶ 8,116 RCMs collected from and 6,395 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 30 from and 1 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 30 people (including 12 females and 16 minors at the time of disappearance), 1 in Namibia and 29 in Zimbabwe; 30 people located, 4 in Zambia and 26 in Zimbabwe; 200 people (including 32 females and 25 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought, of whom 4 in Botswana, 37 in Namibia, 24 in Zambia and 135 in Zimbabwe
- ▶ 7 unaccompanied/separated children registered in Zambia; 20 reunited with their families, 19 in Zambia, 1 in Namibia; 67 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled (6 in Botswana, 3 in Namibia, 53 in Zambia, 5 in Zimbabwe)
- ▶ 19 people issued with ICRC travel documents
- ▶ 200 children in an orphanage in Harare benefited from an ad hoc donation of food to their orphanage

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Security detainees in Zambia continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their detention conditions and followed their cases individually. The overall prison situation remained highly problematic, with extreme overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure and poor living conditions.

The ICRC continued to call on the authorities to take the necessary action to improve conditions in Zambian prisons. Efforts to draw the attention of representatives of the international community to the situation showed an initial return when the European Union raised the matter with the Zambian prison service and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Detainees in Botswana and Namibia arrested in connection with an uprising in the Caprivi Strip in 1999 were visited by ICRC delegates. Humanitarian concerns regarding the lengthy trial proceedings in Namibia and the prolonged detention in Botswana were repeatedly raised with the ministries concerned and the diplomatic community in both countries. Dialogue also continued with UNHCR in Geneva, Switzerland, regarding 16 of the Namibians held in Botswana. In December, all 16 were released from administrative detention and transferred to the Dukwi refugee camp in Botswana.

The families of 131 inmates of Namibia's Windhoek Central Prison visited their relatives twice with financial and organizational assistance from the ICRC and the Namibia Red Cross, and the 16 Namibian detainees in Francistown Centre for Illegal Immigrants in Botswana received visits from relatives living in Dukwi refugee camp. In both Botswana and Namibia, detainees were able to maintain contact with their families through stationery and stamps provided by the ICRC. A further 143 detainees received clothing and toiletries, while all the inmates of both places of detention received leisure items.

Talks with the Zimbabwean authorities to gain access to people held in police stations and prisons continued.

- in Botswana, 18 detainees visited and monitored individually during 3 visits to 1 place of detention
- in Namibia, 133 detainees visited and monitored individually during 4 visits to 2 places of detention; 10 RCMs collected from detainees
- in Zambia, 6 detainees visited and monitored individually during 6 visits to 3 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

Government representatives from Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe, the three countries in the region with national IHL committees, attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

A draft decree to establish a national IHL committee in Mozambique was prepared.

In its capacity as chair of the interministerial sub-committee on IHL, Zimbabwe's Ministry of Defence organized a workshop in May to help prepare legislation on certain IHL and international human rights treaties in the run-up to the seventh annual regional seminar on the implementation of IHL, which was held in June in Pretoria. Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe were among the countries attending the seminar.

Dialogue and cooperation with the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre was pursued through IHL training courses and the participation of senior officers in the above-mentioned seminar.

In Malawi, a draft amended Geneva Conventions Act was presented for review to the State's legal adviser through the national IHL committee.

Regular dialogue was developed with senior representatives of the Namibian authorities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC prioritized working with regional bodies and high-level training institutions that could have an impact on the implementation of IHL in military doctrine, training and operating procedures across the entire region.

Fourteen senior officers responsible for the training of the armed forces in 10 SADC countries discussed the integration of IHL into training curricula at a workshop co-organized by the ICRC and SADC. The event was held at the Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre in Zimbabwe and was attended by the country's minister of defence and some of its highest-ranking military officers. The centre subsequently invited the ICRC to give a presentation on IHL integration to members of the SADC Brigade.

IHL training events were held for:

- 173 officers attending courses at the Zimbabwe Staff College, mostly from the Zimbabwe National Army, but also officers from the Zimbabwe Prison Service, the Zimbabwe Republic Police, and the armed or security forces of other SADC countries
- Air Force of Zimbabwe officers attending the Officers Command Course and the Junior Staff Course
- 16 legal advisers from the Zimbabwe Ministry of Defence
- non-commissioned officers at the artillery school in Kwe Kwe, Zimbabwe

In Namibia, senior prison officers participated in a workshop on human rights and humanitarian principles.

Some 50 Zimbabwean police officers were briefed on the ICRC and its operations in Rusape and Tsholotsho districts.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In Zimbabwe, journalism students at the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo attended a session on IHL and the ICRC in May. Cooperation with the law faculties of the University of Zimbabwe (Harare) and Midlands State University (Gweru) was maintained and IHL lectures given. A University of Zimbabwe team won the national IHL moot court competition and went on to win the pan-African competition in Arusha, Tanzania. Students at Zambia's National Institute of Public Administration participated in a month-long IHL module, to which the ICRC contributed.

About 1,300 young people learned about the ICRC and humanitarian principles during five visits by the ICRC to National Youth Service camps around Zimbabwe. Contact was maintained with the National Youth Service administration.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of the countries covered by the delegation continued to receive technical and practical support to build their operational capacities, to improve coordination and to strengthen their programmes to respond to emergencies, restore family links and raise awareness of IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

Ensuring effective tracing services

The Botswana Red Cross Society continued to provide services for refugees in the Dukwi camp, and the Malawi Red Cross Society pursued similar programmes in the Dzaleka and Luwani camps (until the latter's closure).

Staff from National Societies in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia participated in training sessions on tracing, and a Zimbabwe Red Cross tracing officer joined an ICRC mission to Zimbabwe's Tongogara refugee camp in December.

In Botswana and Namibia, the National Societies helped arrange family visits to detainees held in connection with the uprising in the Caprivi Strip (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

Enhancing disaster preparedness and response

Some 200 Red Cross staff and volunteers learned about the Safer Access approach, first aid in conflict, the Fundamental Principles, and the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures during 12 training sessions organized by the National Societies themselves or by the International Federation, with the participation and technical support of the ICRC.

The Malawi and Mozambique Red Cross Societies were both instrumental in the delivery of relief to thousands of people affected by floods in their countries.

- ▶ 3,000 flood victims in Zimbabwe received essential household items through a donation by the ICRC to the National Society

Promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles

- ▶ 60 branch volunteers and 30 school principals and teachers attended dissemination sessions in Botswana
- ▶ 26 volunteers from Red Cross youth clubs in Malawi attended training sessions on the Movement and the management of activities in schools
- ▶ 16 Malawi Red Cross volunteers participated in a workshop on dissemination techniques
- ▶ representatives of the Zimbabwe Red Cross governance and management and branch personnel attended 2 dissemination sessions
- ▶ 6 National Society staff members participated in an annual meeting of legal advisers in Switzerland
- ▶ World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May) marked by the region's National Societies with a variety of events, attracting media coverage and raising the profile of Movement activities

Movement cooperation

The delegation continued to coordinate its activities with the National Societies of the region, partner National Societies and the International Federation. Together with the International Federation, the ICRC helped National Societies review their statutes to ensure consistency with Movement standards and organize induction training for new board members. The delegation supported the implementation of workplace HIV/AIDS programmes.



nairobi (regional)

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, United Republic of Tanzania

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,406
Assistance	2,947
Prevention	2,333
Cooperation with National Societies	1,325
General	-

► **9,011**

of which: Overheads 550

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

32 expatriates
330 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- together with the Kenya Red Cross Society, provided over 24,000 people affected by violence in Kenya's Mount Elgon district with food, shelter materials and household items, as needed
- enabled thousands of refugees in the region to stay in touch with relatives through the tracing and RCM services
- worked with communities in Kenya to ease ethnic tensions by implementing micro-economic, veterinary and water projects
- assisted Djibouti's Justice Ministry in drafting a new prison staff training programme
- promoted IHL in the region by sponsoring government representatives to attend international and regional events, training Tanzanian military IHL instructors and organizing competitions for students
- delivered relief goods from its Nairobi-based logistics centre to ICRC delegations in conflict-torn countries in East Africa and further afield, including Iraq

CONTEXT

As stable States in a volatile region, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania together hosted a sizeable refugee population, although the number decreased significantly over 2007 as more Burundians, Congolese and Sudanese returned home. At year-end, a combined total of some 500,000 refugees were living in UNHCR camps in the two countries, while Djibouti was home to a few thousand refugees.

Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania also continued to play an important diplomatic role in the region. They assisted in mediating peace agreements and hosted the headquarters of several international and regional intergovernmental bodies. Kenya's capital Nairobi remained a regional hub for a large diplomatic and humanitarian community.

On the domestic front, sporadic ethnic and clan clashes in Kenya's remote rural areas, usually over water, pasture and cattle, continued to claim lives, displace families and disrupt the subsistence economy of the mainly pastoral population. In the Mount Elgon district (Western Province) bordering Uganda, a longstanding land dispute fuelled increasing ethnic violence, sometimes involving government forces, which by year-end had killed several hundred people and displaced up to 60,000.

The end of 2007 also saw an eruption of violence in Kenya triggered by the results of the 27 December general elections. The unrest first broke out when the count for the presidential race was delayed. It escalated when the incumbent, Mwai Kibaki, was officially sworn in as president on 30 December, while his main rival, Raila Odinga, claimed voting fraud.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS ²			
Detainees visited	515	Economic security, water and habitat			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	61	Food	Beneficiaries	24,132	19%70%
of whom females	1	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	6,000	15%70%
Number of visits carried out	4	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	14,886	23%54%
Number of places of detention visited	2	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	16,031	25%52%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications					
RCMs collected	22,620				
RCMs distributed	18,705				
People reunited with their families	20				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	109				
of whom females	48				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	52				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	125				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	259				
of which for females	126				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	103				
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	51				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	15				
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	195				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	41				

1. Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania

2. All figures include Kenya; Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania are included in the water/sanitation/habitat figures

ICRC ACTION

The regional delegation in Nairobi continued to provide support services to ICRC delegations in Africa and further afield, while carrying out activities in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Together with the Kenya Red Cross Society, the ICRC provided food, relief goods and medical supplies to meet the needs of the increasing number of people affected by the violence in the Mount Elgon district. At year-end, the delegation initiated a dialogue with the Kenyan authorities on the need to protect civilians from the effects of the clashes.

The ICRC and the Kenyan Red Cross also worked together to develop small-scale micro-economic, veterinary and water projects aimed at relieving community tensions over scarce resources in the remote northern areas around Turkwel, Marsabit and Moyale and in the southern coastal district of Lamu. Using culturally adapted videos and posters, delegates also stepped up their dialogue with weapon bearers and traditional leaders in northern Kenya, stressing the need to spare civilians during raids. The four-year assistance programme around Turkwel was completed at the end of 2007.

In the wake of the 2005 election-related unrest, the delegation continued to monitor the situation in the Zanzibar archipelago and run its longstanding project with the Tanzania Red Cross Society to improve sanitation in poorer areas prone to outbreaks of disease. In Djibouti, the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti carried out a small-scale sanitation project begun in 2006

in the impoverished Balbela suburb of Djibouti town. The project complemented the International Federation's health programme.

Thousands of refugees in all three countries continued to rely on the tracing and RCM services to communicate with their relatives. The priority remained to reunite children with their families, whenever desired and possible. In Kenya, the services were extended to Somali refugees in the coastal district and Nairobi and to families dispersed by the clashes in the Mount Elgon district.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held in Gabode prison in Djibouti and, at the Justice Ministry's request, helped draft a new prison staff training programme. It also monitored the individual cases of detainees held in the UN facility in the United Republic of Tanzania in connection with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). In addition, the delegation followed up all information, including tracing requests from families, regarding people allegedly captured and detained in Kenya or extradited in relation to armed conflict in Somalia.

Longstanding programmes to promote IHL remained a cornerstone of the regional delegation's activities, with the focus on the authorities, armed forces, police and institutes of higher education. The ICRC trained Tanzanian armed forces officers as IHL instructors, while government representatives, university lecturers and students in the region took part in international and regional IHL events where they shared their experience and strengthened their expertise.

All three National Societies received a wide range of support to build up their relief, first-aid, tracing and IHL-promotion programmes.

In parallel, the Nairobi-based logistics centre procured and delivered relief goods and other supplies by road, air and sea to ICRC delegations in and beyond the region, using the most efficient and cost-effective means. The bulk of the goods, especially medical supplies, were transported to the Central African Republic, Chad, Iraq and Somalia. At the same time, the regional assistance unit developed and coordinated ICRC strategy and provided delegations with specialist advice, training and field support. In 2007, for example, the unit organized the ICRC's first ever courses for delegates on weapon contamination, covering aspects of security and the effects on ICRC protection and assistance activities. The two five-day events, held in February and October, were hosted by the International Mine Action Training Centre in Nairobi.

CIVILIANS

Providing emergency aid

The violence that erupted in late 2006 in Kenya's Mount Elgon district escalated during 2007. In May, the worst-off families received ICRC relief goods to set up makeshift homes, including tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, kitchenware, buckets, jerrycans, soap and clothing. At year-end, the most vulnerable residents and displaced families, many of whom had had to abandon their crops before the harvest, were provided with one-month food rations. The relief operations were coordinated with the Kenyan Red Cross, which also distributed the aid.

- 6,000 people (1,000 households) received essential household items
- 24,132 people (4,022 households), including 20,004 IDPs, received one-month food rations

Easing community tensions in Kenya

Rival communities at the boundary of the Turkana and West Pokot districts (population 20,000) in north-western Kenya continued to work with the ICRC on a small-scale assistance programme initiated in 2004 to ease tensions over scarce resources. To boost income, both communities received training and materials to improve honey production. Beekeepers were, in general, the poorest community members, with 25% of them women. This project was carried out in conjunction with a Swiss-funded programme under the umbrella of the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology. To improve livestock productivity, 250 pastoralist families in each district had their goats treated against parasites, with the ICRC providing the funds. In parallel, traditional leaders and weapon bearers participated in ICRC-led discussions on humanitarian principles and their link to traditional local customs. This was reinforced by the screening of a video depicting two fictional groups who learned to share resources through community mediation, and the distribution of posters with local proverbs advocating the protection of women, children and the elderly during raids.

Assistance projects were initiated in the northern Kenyan districts of Moyale and Marsabit, where clan violence over resources also frequently claimed lives and disrupted livelihoods. Communities faced fewer health risks after the ICRC and the Kenyan Red Cross rehabilitated vital water points, mainly rainwater catchments in schools. Some 1,400 pastoralist families also each received an ICRC voucher to have 50 of their goats treated against parasites. In Moyale district, struggling farmers were paid in return for their labour on three projects to reduce soil erosion in their fields. The communities benefited from a short-term cash injection and the prospect of higher crop yields over the long term.

In Kenya's southern coastal district of Lamu, the high saline content of groundwater and irregular rainfall meant clean drinking water was scarce, creating tensions with the Swahili community. By year-end, some 3,600 people had, for the first time, year-round access to a regular flow of clean water thanks to innovative, reverse-osmosis desalination units built by the ICRC. The wind- and solar-powered units in Kizingitini and Mtangawanda delivered up to 230 litres of fresh water an hour, and the manual unit in Faza produced 70 litres an hour.

- 7,350 people benefited from water projects
- 14,886 people (2,481 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic projects, including:
 - 11,820 from the provision of veterinary vouchers to treat goats against parasites
 - 2,106 from cash-for-work projects to improve agricultural production

Improving public health

Following a cholera outbreak in 1999, communities in Zanzibar (Pemba and Unguja islands) began working with the ICRC and the Tanzanian Red Cross to improve water and sanitation facilities, primarily in schools and remote villages. By the end of 2007, some 76,000 people had benefited from the programme.

- 7,380 people benefited from the construction of 4 blocks of latrines in schools and a rainwater catchment and the installation of hand pumps for 9 wells

In Djibouti, impoverished families in the overcrowded Balbela district on the outskirts of Djibouti town faced fewer health risks after the ICRC rehabilitated and cleaned 158 household latrines. Local women's associations and Djibouti Red Crescent volunteers helped the ICRC identify the most needy families. Since the start of the project in 2006, 256 latrines had been improved. The initiative complemented the International Federation's health programme in Balbela.

- 1,301 people benefited from improved latrines

Restoring family links

Thousands of refugees in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania located and communicated with relatives through the tracing and RCM services. The ICRC ran the network in Djibouti and in UNHCR refugee camps along Tanzania's western border, while the Kenyan Red Cross, with ICRC support, offered the services in the Kakuma and Dadaab camps in Kenya. During 2007, the services were extended to refugees in Djibouti town and in Kenya to Somali refugees in Nairobi and the southern coastal district and to families dispersed by the violence in the Mount Elgon district.

The priority was to restore contact between children and their parents through RCMs and reunite the families, taking into account the security situation in the home country and the child's best interests. As repatriation processes were ongoing for Burundian, Congolese, Rwandan and Sudanese refugees, UNHCR, the ICRC and NGOs worked together closely, sharing information about such children and adhering to agreed guidelines on their registration and follow-up.

- 501 RCMs collected from and 738 RCMs distributed to civilians in Djibouti, 9,096 RCMs collected and 3,728 RCMs distributed in Kenya, including 27 from and 56 to unaccompanied/separated children, and 12,320 RCMs collected and 13,525 RCMs distributed in the United Republic of Tanzania, including 209 from and 204 to unaccompanied/separated children

- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 109 people (including 48 females and 52 minors at the time of disappearance), of whom 94 in Kenya and 15 in the United Republic of Tanzania; 125 people located; 259 people (including 126 females and 103 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 20 people (including 15 unaccompanied/separated children), all in the United Republic of Tanzania, reunited with their families
- ▶ 51 unaccompanied/separated children registered, all in the United Republic of Tanzania; 18 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled in Kenya and 177 in the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ 41 refugees in Kenya issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visiting detainees

The ICRC followed up all information, including tracing requests from families, regarding people allegedly captured and detained in Kenya or extradited in relation to armed conflict in Somalia.

Delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees held under the authority of the ICTR in the UN detention facility in the Tanzanian town of Arusha and also visited inmates in Gabode prison, Djibouti's only civilian detention facility. After the visits, the authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and recommendations for improvements. Those detainees, as well as foreigners held in prisons in the west of the United Republic of Tanzania, were offered the tracing and RCM services to contact their families. To promote the use of the services, some 350 staff in Tanzanian prisons were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and tracing activities.

People in the region also used the RCM network to communicate with family members detained/interned in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, both US detention facilities.

Improving detention conditions

The Djiboutian government renovated Gabode prison, improved health care provision in the facility and moved ahead with a judicial reform programme. The Justice Ministry, which was responsible for establishing a new prison administration, worked with the ICRC over six weeks to draft a prison staff training programme. Inmates in Gabode prison also benefited from monthly ICRC distributions of cleaning agents and soap to maintain hygiene standards.

- ▶ 456 detainees visited, of whom 4 monitored individually and 2 newly registered, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention in Djibouti
- ▶ 59 detainees visited, of whom 57 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 1 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention in the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ 49 RCMs collected from and 59 RCMs distributed to detainees in Djibouti, and 654 RCMs collected from and 655 RCMs distributed to foreign detainees in the United Republic of Tanzania

WOUNDED AND SICK

Some 50 people wounded in clashes in the Mount Elgon district were treated at the Bungoma District Hospital with the help of ICRC medical and surgical supplies delivered by the Kenyan Red Cross.

A planned war-surgery seminar for hospital staff working in remote regions of Kenya was postponed, as ICRC surgeons were diverted to respond to emergencies in Chad and Somalia.

AUTHORITIES

Kenya's active national IHL committee had revised the country's Geneva Conventions Act and drafted national legislation implementing various IHL treaties prohibiting or regulating the use of certain weapons. All the draft laws were awaiting parliamentary approval. Meanwhile, the Tanzanian authorities were working towards establishing an IHL committee. To support these initiatives, Kenyan and Tanzanian government representatives participated in three events – the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in March in Geneva, Switzerland, and the annual regional seminar on IHL implementation in June in Pretoria, South Africa, both organized by the ICRC, and the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference in August in Wellington, New Zealand.

With ICRC support, 17 Tanzanian politicians, lawyers and academics also formed a task force to lobby for a national IHL committee and held four consultative meetings with prominent government and civil society representatives. In parallel, a total of 52 members of parliament participated in two day-long sessions on IHL and the ICRC.

Discussions with the Djiboutian government on IHL implementation were set to resume after the country's parliamentary elections in early 2008.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Most military and police training centres in Djibouti, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania taught, as appropriate, IHL, international human rights law and humanitarian principles. During 2007, the armed forces in all three countries worked with the ICRC to ensure that instruction was of a uniform quality, reached the rank and file and was integrated into doctrine and operations.

- ▶ 65 Tanzanian armed forces officers trained as IHL instructors
- ▶ 21 Tanzanian military instructors and commanding officers participated in a one-day IHL course at the military academy in Monduli
- ▶ 525 Tanzanian peacekeepers attended pre-deployment briefings on IHL and the ICRC
- ▶ some 1,300 Kenyan and 300 Djiboutian military personnel attended IHL presentations in their own countries
- ▶ some 440 armed forces officers from various countries attended IHL lectures at Kenyan and Tanzanian regional military training establishments
- ▶ 75 Kenyan police inspectors and over 650 Tanzanian police personnel took part in presentations on international human rights law, humanitarian principles and the ICRC in their own countries
- ▶ 125 Tanzanian police officers in the Kigoma region attended presentations on IHL and the Movement's activities in refugee camps

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media and academics had a strong influence on public opinion in the region and so were important relays for the ICRC to generate wider support for IHL and the protection it afforded people affected by armed conflict.

- national and international media updated on IHL and ICRC activities through press releases, newsletters and human interest stories
- 49 media representatives attended one-day IHL sessions in the United Republic of Tanzania
- 21 lecturers from 7 Kenyan, Tanzanian and Ugandan universities participated in a four-day round-table and conference in Nairobi on IHL instruction and research
- an interactive IHL website set up for academic institutions in East Africa
- 60 students from 5 Kenyan universities participated in 2 national IHL debating competitions
- 36 university students from 10 African countries competed in the annual eight-day international IHL team event in the Tanzanian town of Arusha, won by the University of Zimbabwe
- 3 University of Nairobi students participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain
- students in Djibouti entered an IHL poster and poetry competition to complement the introduction of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools

Representatives of UN agencies and NGOs active in the region also attended various ICRC events to explore the relevance of IHL in their work.

- UN and NGO representatives participated in 3 courses on IHL and protection issues, organized with the support of Amnesty International, the ICTR, the Kenyan armed forces, Tanzanian academics and UNHCR
- 40 members of Kenya's National Commission on Human Rights and 32 new board members of the Tanganyika Law Society attended IHL presentations in their own countries
- to mark International Women's Day (8 March), female members of the diplomatic corps in Nairobi participated in a presentation on IHL and the plight of women affected by armed conflict

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies in the region received ICRC funds, materials, training, logistics back-up and technical advice to strengthen their emergency response and tracing skills and programmes to promote the Movement and its Fundamental Principles.

As the country's national disaster response coordinator, the Kenyan Red Cross mounted effective relief operations in 2007 for victims of floods and internal violence. With ICRC support, the National Society:

- provided food, relief goods and tracing and RCM services to people affected by violence in the Mount Elgon district
- trained 30 first-aid instructors
- boosted branch capacities in the Rift Valley Province, the Lake Victoria and Mount Elgon regions and in Isiolo (Central Province) and Marsabit and Moyale (Eastern Province), training over 300 volunteers in first aid, tracing, the Safer Access approach and dissemination techniques
- extended its RCM and tracing network
- covered the salaries of headquarters tracing, communication and branch coordination staff
- distributed promotional materials to stakeholders and the general public

The Tanzanian Red Cross and the ICRC agreed on working methods to improve cooperation to strengthen the National Society's emergency response activities, especially in the Zanzibar archipelago and Lake Victoria regions, and dissemination programme.

With ICRC support, the Tanzanian Red Cross:

- covered the salaries of the Zanzibar branch head and mainland dissemination officer
- conducted emergency response training for volunteers in the Lake Victoria and Zanzibar branches
- held dissemination sessions for media and civil society representatives

The Djibouti Red Crescent, with Movement support, continued to rebuild its infrastructure and activities in its six branches.

With ICRC support, the Djibouti Red Crescent:

- covered the salaries of disaster management, dissemination and finance officers
- trained 60 volunteers in the Safer Access approach and dissemination techniques
- conducted dissemination sessions for local authorities, women and youth and distributed a newsletter to stakeholders



pretoria (regional)

The Pretoria regional delegation has existed in its present form since 1995. 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 the Comoros, Lesotho and Madagascar.

COVERING

Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	968
Assistance	41
Prevention	1,787
Cooperation with National Societies	1,227
General	-

► **4,022**

of which: Overheads 245

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
36	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- presented recommendations to the authorities in Madagascar on improving conditions of detention
- supported the process leading to the passing into South African law of the Red Cross Recognition and Protection of Certain Emblems Act
- participated officially in the 8th Ordinary Session of the Pan African Parliament of the African Union
- coordinated the publication of the *African Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law*
- organized workshops on international human rights law and IHL principles for 110 members of the Lesotho Mounted Police Service
- trained and monitored tracing staff from the National Societies of Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland

CONTEXT

In South Africa, Jacob Zuma was elected president of the African National Congress at the leadership conference in December. With Mr Zuma continuing to fight allegations of corruption, the party had yet to name its candidate for the 2009 presidential elections. Helen Zille, the mayor of Cape Town, replaced Tony Leon as leader of the Democratic Alliance, the main opposition party. The government committed itself to increasing spending on social issues and on the police service. Land reform remained a key challenge.

The Lesotho Congress for Democracy returned to power in the country's general elections in February. These took place without major incident, but June and July saw mounting internal tensions, and industrial action crippled the country in November.

In Swaziland, the government opposed attempts to test clauses in the new constitution interpreted as permitting the formation of trade unions.

Revisions to Madagascar's constitution increased the powers of newly re-elected President Marc Ravalomanana. The presidential party won September's legislative elections, while the capital, Antananarivo, fell to the opposition in local elections in December.

The Comoros experienced a brief armed confrontation between the national army and the Anjouan *gendarmerie* during the island elections in May, which led to a standoff between the president of the union, Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi, and the self-inaugurated president of Anjouan, Colonel Mohamed Bacar. The African Union (AU) played a mediation role and sent about 250 troops to the islands, eventually imposing individual sanctions on Colonel Bacar and his entourage.

A very high HIV/AIDS prevalence in several of the region's countries continued to cause huge suffering for individuals, families and whole communities, weakening coping mechanisms, overburdening national health and social welfare services, and exacting a high economic cost.

Agriculture in Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland was plagued by persistent drought.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	885
Detainees visited and monitored individually	33
Number of visits carried out	23
Number of places of detention visited	18
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	434
RCMs distributed	359
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	24
<i>of whom females</i>	14
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	8
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	15
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	86
<i>of which for females</i>	50
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	30
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	78

1. Lesotho and Madagascar

ICRC ACTION

To convince the Malagasy government to address the situation in the country's prisons, the ICRC had reduced its structural support to the prison administration in 2006 and intensified efforts to engage the assistance of some members of the international community in persuading the government to bring detention conditions in line with internationally recognized standards. In early 2007, the ICRC embarked on a survey of the country's prisons in order to assess detention conditions and ascertain the will of the authorities to remedy the problems. It found that the authorities had taken a number of steps and that there had been some improvement in conditions of detention, although overcrowding remained a serious problem. It pursued dialogue with the main authorities with influence in the penitentiary system, conveying the findings of the assessment to them, and endeavoured to mobilize members of the international community to support efforts by the Malagasy authorities to improve the situation.

The ICRC followed the cases of detainees held in connection with the 1998 armed conflict in Lesotho, and assessed progress made in integrating prison health services into national health coverage.

Together with the region's National Societies, the delegation reinforced and extended the tracing and RCM services to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers did not lose contact with their families. These family-links services were promoted among refugee community leaders and refugee service providers. To enable refugees and asylum seekers to resettle abroad, the ICRC issued them with travel documents, at the request of various embassies and UNHCR.

As part of its continuing effort to build an environment in which action was guided by humanitarian principles and in which IHL was known and observed, the ICRC worked with a variety of stakeholders. It provided national authorities with legal and technical support in their moves to ratify IHL instruments and prepare implementing legislation. Armed and security forces from across the region were offered assistance in integrating IHL and

humanitarian principles into their doctrine, training and procedures. Support took the form of meetings with senior officers or the organization of workshops on IHL integration. Briefings on IHL and the ICRC were also conducted for different audiences, including troops departing on peace-support operations.

The ICRC continued to promote the teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Mauritius, the Seychelles and South Africa to familiarize secondary school students in these countries with humanitarian principles and IHL. It also supported the teaching of IHL in universities throughout the region and sponsored teams of students to take part in international IHL competitions. Contact with the media was maintained in South Africa and extended into Lesotho and Swaziland to increase public awareness of humanitarian issues and encourage accurate reporting on the work of the ICRC. Influential actors were briefed on IHL and the ICRC and promotional materials were produced.

As in past years, the ICRC worked closely with the region's National Societies, providing support for their emergency response, tracing and communication programmes and helping them to revise their statutes to conform with Movement standards.

CIVILIANS

Refugees and asylum seekers were able to stay in contact with relatives in other countries through the tracing and RCM services offered by the delegation and the National Societies in the region. The RCM service was also used by families in South Africa to exchange news with relatives detained abroad.

To increase awareness and use of the tracing and RCM services, refugee community leaders and various refugee service providers, including the Departments of Home Affairs in South Africa and Swaziland, NGOs and policy institutes, were briefed on these Red Cross activities at several official meetings. Networking with

Islamic community organizations helped South African Red Cross Society provincial branches contact Muslim refugee communities in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Eastern Cape.

An assessment of the needs of Zimbabweans migrating to South Africa in terms of family-links services was carried out by the South African Red Cross and the International Federation, with ICRC support.

Refugees and asylum seekers were able to resettle abroad following receipt of ICRC travel documents, issued at the request of various embassies and UNHCR. Meetings with diplomatic representatives in Pretoria helped raise their awareness of the service.

- ▶ 434 RCMs collected from and 359 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 24 people (including 14 females and 8 minors at the time of disappearance); 15 people located; 86 people (including 50 females and 30 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 78 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC visited security detainees individually in Lesotho and Madagascar, monitored detention conditions and held detailed discussions with the authorities on its findings and recommendations.

In Lesotho, the cases of 10 people still detained in connection with the armed conflict in 1998 were followed up through a visit to the Maseru Central Correctional Institution in May. To help maintain general standards of health and welfare, all inmates were provided with hygiene items and cleaning and recreational materials.

During the visit, detailed discussions on HIV/AIDS programmes in prisons were held with the prison service, government representatives and NGOs. The discussions centred on how to advance the programmes and improve the level of health services provided to detainees, including referral procedures. Recommendations were presented to the prison authorities.

At the end of the year, a medical team assessed the impact of the ICRC's HIV/AIDS-related activities in detention facilities in Lesotho between 2004 and 2007. It found that the ICRC's activities to mobilize the government and international organizations, combined with a small prison HIV/AIDS project, had helped change attitudes towards the problem of HIV/AIDS in the penitentiary environment and had gradually led towards the detainee population obtaining access to the health services available to the general population.

The ICRC also held talks with UN agencies in Lesotho and South Africa on the best ways to integrate HIV/AIDS programmes for detainees into the broader programmes and policies of the government and international organizations.

In May 2006, in light of the prevailing conditions and lack of improvement in Madagascar's prisons, the ICRC had reduced its structural support to the prison administration, while intensifying efforts to engage the assistance of some members of the international community in convincing the Malagasy government to bring detention conditions in line with internationally recognized standards.

In 2007, during its assessment of Madagascar's detention facilities, the ICRC noted that, while conditions of detention continued to fall short of internationally recognized standards, there had been some improvement. Measures taken by the Malagasy government included the maintenance of a prison task force, an increase in the 2007 Ministry of Justice budget for health and nutrition in places of detention, and initiatives to reduce prison overcrowding by, for instance, prioritizing the cases of those who had been awaiting trial for extended periods and adopting a new law in May 2007 on pre-trial detention. Nevertheless, prison overcrowding remained a serious problem. Projects to rehabilitate and build new prisons were under way, and three pilot penal camps, aimed at making the penitentiary system self-sufficient in terms of food, were being set up, but progress was slow.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the Malagasy authorities, including representatives of the Presidency, the Ministry of Justice and the prison service, presenting them with its observations and recommendations. The Presidency included improvements to detention conditions in its "Madagascar Action Plan". The organization continued to mobilize international support for the authorities' efforts to improve the situation.

- ▶ in Lesotho, 861 detainees visited, of whom 10 monitored individually, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ in Madagascar, 24 detainees visited, of whom 23 monitored individually and 8 newly registered, during 22 visits to 17 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

The countries covered by the delegation, with ICRC technical and legal support, made progress towards the ratification of IHL instruments or the implementation of those to which they were already party. In addition to legislation in preparation:

- ▶ Mauritius ratified the Hague Convention on Cultural Property
- ▶ South Africa adopted the Red Cross Recognition and Protection of Certain Emblems Act

The delegation officially participated in the 8th Ordinary Session of the Pan African Parliament and advised the AU Committee on Justice and Human Rights on ICRC activities and IHL implementation.

Government representatives from 16 countries attended the seventh annual regional seminar on the implementation of IHL, co-hosted with the South African Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria.

Representatives from all of the countries covered by the delegation attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

Representatives from Lesotho, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa and Swaziland attended the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent International Humanitarian Law Conference in New Zealand.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The chief of staff and senior officers of the Comoros armed forces met ICRC delegates to discuss the potential repercussions of the islands' political standoff in terms of IHL. The military and *gendarmérie* subsequently attended IHL briefings.

The South African minister of defence and senior officers of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) discussed IHL integration with the ICRC, and a brigadier-general was named as the focal point for the matter. South African Air Force and SANDF training courses and exercises received input from the ICRC.

High-ranking officers from Lesotho, Madagascar, South Africa and Swaziland, primarily directors of army training, participated in a five-day workshop in Zimbabwe on IHL integration. Senior military officers from the Seychelles also took part in an IHL workshop and assisted in the delivery of a two-day IHL course for military instructors.

Context-specific briefings on IHL and the ICRC were conducted for:

- personnel from SANDF peacekeeping contingents prior to their deployment in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan
- SANDF officers attending the Senior Command and Staff Course
- the chief instructor of a new SANDF training centre for peace-support operations (also supplied with IHL reference materials)
- military and civilian staff attending 2 conferences in South Africa

Twenty senior police officers from the Lesotho Mounted Police Service took part in a workshop on international human rights law and IHL principles prior to national elections in February, and a further 90 police officers participated in 3 workshops later in the year.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Contacts were strengthened with the media and other civil society sectors in order to increase public awareness of humanitarian issues and support for the ICRC's activities. Leaders of Islamic communities in the Comoros and Mauritius were informed about the ICRC's activities, as were think-tanks and journalism students in South Africa and journalists in Lesotho and Swaziland. South African print and broadcast journalists received press releases, a newsletter and interviews. Film clips highlighting issues relating to the emblem, small arms and the effects of conflict on women and children were produced.

To familiarize young people with humanitarian principles, the delegation promoted the teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools throughout the region. In Mauritius, the programme was being piloted in all public schools. In the Seychelles, where it was being integrated into the curriculum, teachers attended training sessions co-organized with the education authorities, and 25 young people were trained as focal points in youth centres. Over 50 teachers attended training sessions on the programme in South Africa.

A network of IHL lecturers at 16 universities throughout the region received support through an electronic newsletter, telephone contact, visits by ICRC delegates and the provision of relevant ICRC publications. With ICRC support:

- students from the University of Cape Town participated in the 2007 Jean Pictet IHL competition in Spain
- student teams from Lesotho and Mauritius participated in an IHL competition in Tanzania
- lecturers from 10 regional universities attended the seventh annual meeting of teachers of IHL in Pretoria
- 29 academics from 13 different countries participated in the sixth All Africa Course on IHL in Pretoria
- the *African Yearbook on International Humanitarian Law* published
- 21 people from countries worldwide participated in the 10th Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) course in Pretoria

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies in the region continued to receive material, training, funds and technical expertise to enhance their programmes to respond to emergencies, restore family links and promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

With ICRC support:

- in the run-up to national elections, Lesotho Red Cross staff trained in the Safer Access approach and branches countrywide received emergency equipment
- the Malagasy Red Cross began training 1,500 volunteers in order to reinforce its operational capacity
- over 700 students from 32 high schools participated in a three-month "Soccer against violence" project run by the South African Red Cross in Gauteng province
- South African Red Cross branch and provincial managers and tracing focal points from Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland attended tracing workshops
- dissemination sessions held by National Societies for their personnel and the general public, training materials produced, radio shows broadcast, events to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day held, newsletters distributed and the Internet used to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles and the red crystal emblem
- in South Africa, the National Society's newly recruited dissemination officer and 7 provincial dissemination focal points received training
- all of the region's National Societies sent delegations to the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Switzerland
- the Lesotho Red Cross approved revisions to its statutes

The National Societies of the Comoros and Lesotho appointed new secretaries general.

The ICRC, the International Federation, National Societies working in the region and the French Red Cross-led Plateforme d'Intervention Régionale pour l'Océan Indien (PIROI) continued to coordinate their activities.



yaoundé (regional)

The ICRC set up its Yaoundé regional delegation in 1992 but has been working in the region since 1972. It monitors the domestic situation in the countries covered, visits security detainees and restores family links for refugees. In the CAR, it protects and assists people affected by armed conflict and 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 (CAR), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,753
Assistance	7,034
Prevention	2,564
Cooperation with National Societies	1,694
General	-

► **14,044**

of which: Overheads 859

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105%
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PERSONNEL

25 expatriates
69 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- expanded its set-up and operations in the north of the CAR, delivering, together with the Central African Red Cross Society, relief goods to over 96,000 IDPs
- promoted respect for IHL in the north of the CAR by giving presentations on the subject to over 2,000 military personnel, members of armed groups, civil authorities and civilians
- monitored the cases of security detainees and general conditions in detention facilities in Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea, submitting written reports of its findings to the authorities in the latter 2 countries
- helped set up a market garden in 1 main prison in the CAR to alleviate the problem of malnutrition among inmates
- conducted the second regional workshop on IHL implementation attended by legal advisers from 5 Central African countries and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community
- assisted the Central African Red Cross in opening branches in the north and the Cameroon Red Cross Society in providing relief goods to families affected by intercommunal violence

CONTEXT

The fighting that broke out in the north-west of the CAR in late 2005 spread to central and eastern areas of the north, exacting a heavy toll on civilians.

Government troops were pitted against three main armed groups – the Armée populaire pour la restauration de la république et la démocratie (APRD), active in western and central areas of the north, the Front démocratique du peuple centrafricain (FDPC) in the north-central region, and the Union des forces démocratiques pour le rassemblement (UFDR) in the north-east. The CAR armed forces were backed by the Multinational Force in the CAR, under the command of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), and a small French contingent.

Despite peace deals signed in 2007 between the government and the FDPC and the UFDR, there were regular clashes in north-western and central areas, while the north-east was relatively calm after the army repelled a UFDR attack on Birao in March. Civilians were frequently targeted in the fighting and tens of thousands were displaced. The conflict, combined with widespread banditry in the north, also disrupted agriculture, trade and public services in a country already impoverished by decades of political instability. In September, the UN approved a multidisciplinary force for eastern Chad and the north-east of the CAR, comprising European Union troops and UN police. By year-end, the force had yet to be deployed.

Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon remained relatively stable. Cameroon experienced sporadic intercommunal violence in the north, while more refugees arrived in the country, fleeing conflict in the CAR and Chad. In Equatorial Guinea, two bank robberies attributed to Cameroonians sparked brief disturbances in early December, involving the armed forces and public looting. Poverty remained widespread in all three countries, despite strong oil revenues in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon.

General elections in Cameroon and a re-run of contested elections in 19 constituencies in Gabon confirmed the dominance of the ruling parties in both countries.

Nigeria's planned handover of the Bakassi peninsula to Cameroon progressed according to the 2006 UN-brokered agreement, although some 20 Cameroonian soldiers in the peninsula were killed by unidentified assailants in November. Equatorial Guinea and Gabon were still disputing sovereignty over the islands of Cocotiers, Congas and Mbagne.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	5,920
Detainees visited and monitored individually	151
of whom females	3
of whom minors	1
Number of visits carried out	140
Number of places of detention visited	59
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	237
RCMs distributed	127
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13
of whom females	2
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	4
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	7
of which for females	2
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	4
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5

1. Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea

2. The CAR only

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM²				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	96,430	30%	50%
Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	87,297	30%	50%
Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	49,000	31%	42%

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC expanded its set-up and operations in the north of the CAR, appealing in May for an additional CHF 5.54 million to meet the needs of conflict victims. New sub-delegations opened in Kaga Bandoro (February) and Birao (October), and the ICRC leased an aircraft in a cost-sharing agreement with Médecins Sans Frontières. These initiatives allowed the ICRC to better assess humanitarian needs and respond more rapidly. During 2007, over 96,000 IDPs received shelter materials and household items to set up makeshift homes, and the majority were also given farm tools to plant crops.

In early 2007, the ICRC informed all parties to the conflict in the north of the CAR that it qualified the situation as a non-international armed conflict and cited the applicable rules of IHL and customary IHL. The delegation expanded its network of contacts with all sides, developing a dialogue with them on their obligations under IHL. Over 1,600 military personnel and members of armed groups in the north took part in ICRC presentations on IHL. Delegates also documented alleged violations of IHL and made any necessary representations to the relevant parties. In addition, all sides were reminded of the ICRC's principles of neutrality and independence in order to ensure safe access of ICRC staff to people in need.

Elsewhere in the CAR, the ICRC and the Central African Red Cross Society maintained a community-based rural water and sanitation programme in the south-eastern provinces of Basse Koto and Mbomou, where a lack of public infrastructure posed serious health risks.

The ICRC continued to follow the cases of security detainees and to monitor general conditions in detention facilities in Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea, and informed the authorities confidentially of its findings and recommendations. In the CAR, it

monitored nutrition closely in prisons, helping to set up a market garden in a main prison, and assisted the authorities in providing medical care and improving water and sanitation facilities.

The tracing and RCM services were maintained to enable refugees, detainees and family members separated by internal violence to communicate with relatives.

Longstanding programmes to promote IHL in all four countries progressed as planned, focusing on the authorities, the armed forces and influential sectors of civil society.

With ICRC support, the Red Cross Societies in the region boosted their emergency response and tracing capacities and were building up their communication activities.

In the CAR, the ICRC involved the National Society in its assistance programmes and convened regular meetings with Movement partners to coordinate activities. To further maximize the impact of aid, the ICRC coordinated closely with the increasing number of UN agencies and international NGOs present in the country.

CIVILIANS

Protecting civilians

The conflict in the north of the CAR resulted in villages being looted and burned and civilians being harassed, arrested on suspicion of supporting armed groups, wounded or killed, with reports of extrajudicial executions.

The parties to the conflict were informed in early 2007 of the ICRC's qualification of the situation as a non-international armed conflict and of the provisions of IHL and customary IHL that applied. In the field, ICRC delegates collected and documented allegations of IHL violations, made oral representations, where necessary, to

the relevant parties to halt the abuses and handed over four written reports to the national authorities. In parallel, the delegation developed a dialogue on IHL with the national and local authorities, the armed forces and armed groups, stressing their duty to respect and protect those not or no longer taking part in the hostilities.

In early December, several people in Bata, Equatorial Guinea, who had taken refuge in the Cameroonian consulate or were being held in police stations and required medical care, were evacuated to hospital, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. The civilians had fled the disturbances, involving the security forces and the public, that broke out after Cameroonians allegedly robbed two banks.

Providing emergency aid

An estimated 150,000 to 220,000 people had been displaced in the north of the CAR since fighting broke out in late 2005. By year-end, very few had returned home owing to the volatile security situation, especially in the north-west. Some IDPs had fled because their villages were attacked, others because they feared an attack. Most were living in precarious conditions in the bush near their homes, without adequate shelter, while a minority had sought refuge with host families in urban areas. Those displaced during the rainy season were especially vulnerable to disease.

IDPs were able to set up makeshift homes, improve hygiene conditions and plant crops, with tarpaulins, mattresses, blankets, kitchenware, soap, buckets and hoes provided by the ICRC. The aid contributed to displaced communities suffering no major outbreaks of disease during 2007.

- ▶ 96,430 IDPs (19,468 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 87,297 IDPs (16,801 households) received farm tools

Improving rural water and sanitation facilities

Reflecting conditions countrywide, rural communities in the CAR's remote south-eastern prefectures of Basse Koto and Mbomou (population 220,000) faced serious health risks because water and sanitation facilities had fallen into disrepair during the country's long-term instability. As part of a pilot project initiated in 2005, communities worked with the ICRC to improve public health by building or repairing drinking water points and latrines. In parallel, residents of 124 villages (some 100,000 people) were coached by 30 ICRC-trained Central African Red Cross volunteers on how to keep water clean, from collection to consumption, and how to dispose of waste, as well as on daily personal hygiene. Most households followed the advice, improving hygiene conditions by, for example, covering their wells and a better use of water-storage facilities and latrines. The villages targeted were those with high rates of water-borne diseases or hygiene conditions below minimum standards.

- ▶ 47,500 people benefited from water and sanitation projects, including:
 - 18,000 people from the drilling of new wells in 15 villages
 - 10,000 people from the rehabilitation of shallow wells in 8 villages
 - 27,000 people from the cleaning and repair of deep wells in 23 villages
 - 9,000 people from the construction of 20 public latrines and showers in schools and health centres
 - 4,415 people from the distribution of slabs to build household latrines

Restoring family links

Refugees, asylum seekers and people uprooted by internal armed violence in the region were able to restore and maintain contact with relatives through the tracing and RCM services run by the respective Red Cross Societies, with ICRC support.

Refugees from the CAR continued to arrive in Cameroon during 2007, fleeing the fighting and banditry in the north of their country. Most families crossed the border together, while the unfortunate few who became separated from relatives were offered the tracing and RCM network to get back in touch.

The network was also available, for example, in UNHCR's Sam Ouandja camp in the north-east of the CAR, which hosted a few thousand refugees who arrived during 2007 from Sudan's Darfur region. The family-links service was wound down in the Mboki Sudanese refugee camp in the south-east of the CAR after UNHCR completed its voluntary repatriation operation to Southern Sudan in April.

- ▶ 76 RCMs collected from and 40 RCMs distributed to civilians in Cameroon, 117 and 63 in the CAR, including 12 from unaccompanied/separated children, and 1 distributed in Equatorial Guinea
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 7 people in Cameroon (including 2 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance) and 6 people in the CAR; 7 people (including 2 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought, all in Cameroon

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visiting detainees and improving detention conditions

The ICRC visited inmates in Cameroon, the CAR and Equatorial Guinea, monitoring the individual cases of security detainees and the treatment, living conditions and respect for judicial guarantees of the general prison population. A total of 82 people detained by either the APRD or the UFDR were also visited by ICRC delegates. During visits, inmates were offered the RCM service to contact their families and received any essential items, such as cleaning agents and soap, they lacked. At the request of the detainees, the appropriate consulates were also informed of the presence of their nationals in places of detention.

After visits, the authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and recommendations for improvements. This included the submission of one comprehensive written report to the authorities in Equatorial Guinea, based on ICRC visits during 2005 and 2006, and five written reports to the CAR authorities. The presidents of both countries and the ICRC also discussed detention issues during bilateral meetings, and the government of Equatorial Guinea reaffirmed its intention to set up, with ICRC support, an interministerial committee to address detention issues. In Cameroon, the authorities, as well as international donors involved, regularly received ICRC input on the country's prison reform programme.

In the CAR, prisons were often short of food, and health care and hygiene conditions were inadequate, reflecting conditions faced by the general population. The ICRC provided ad hoc medical supplies and monitored nutrition closely, ready to provide food to save detainees' lives, as it had done in 2006 in Bossangoa prison. In that prison, at the director's instigation, inmates set up a market garden in July 2007,

assisted by a government agronomist and ICRC funds, seed, tools and fertilizer. The garden helped alleviate the problem of malnutrition, while inmates also benefited from the fresh air and exercise and gained agricultural expertise. In addition, detainees in four CAR prisons faced fewer health risks after the ICRC built or repaired water and sanitation systems, a kitchen and a medical consultation room. In another initiative, representatives of the Justice Ministry and detention facilities in Bangui, Bossembélé and Sibut participated in a round-table organized by the ICRC in Bangui in October, where they discussed and agreed on ways to improve detention conditions.

In Cameroon:

- 4,070 detainees visited, of whom 25 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 12 newly registered (including 1 female), during 4 visits to 4 places of detention

In the CAR:

- 1,313 detainees visited, of whom 65 monitored individually (including 2 females and 1 minor) and 48 newly registered (including 2 females and 1 minor), during 87 visits to 38 places of detention
- 39 RCMs collected from and 21 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 1,500 detainees benefited from water/habitat projects
- 3 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

In Equatorial Guinea:

- 537 detainees visited, of whom 61 monitored individually, during 49 visits to 17 places of detention
- 5 RCMs collected from and 2 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 2 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

The authorities in Bangui and the north of the CAR participated in IHL briefings and received regular updates on ICRC activities. This helped generate support for IHL, which was crucial both for the protection of the civilian population and to ensure the ICRC's safe access to conflict victims.

In parallel, the governments in the region were encouraged and supported in their initiatives to ratify IHL treaties and adopt national laws incorporating their provisions. At the regional level, legal advisers from the governments of Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon and from CEMAC gained further expertise in IHL implementation during a two-day ICRC workshop in Yaoundé in April.

Gabon, with ICRC input, ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols I and III in October. To support implementation, a total of 115 members of Gabon's parliament and managerial staff at the Foreign Affairs Ministry participated in IHL presentations in November.

To help the CAR establish a national IHL committee, government representatives received a report on the country's IHL implementation to date, and one official attended the ICRC's Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, in March.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

IHL presentations in the field for the armed forces and armed groups in the north of the CAR were a priority. In parallel, the armed forces in the region worked with the ICRC on long-term programmes aimed at integrating IHL into their training, doctrine and operations. In Cameroon and Gabon, efforts focused on ensuring that IHL instruction, which was mandatory in military training institutions, was uniform and reached the rank and file. In Equatorial Guinea, the armed forces appointed an IHL liaison officer, while the CAR military set up an ad hoc IHL committee.

- 1,640 military personnel and members of armed groups in the north of the CAR attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC
- 12 high-ranking CAR army and police officers participated in an IHL seminar on their responsibilities in situations of armed conflict
- 1 CAR officer took part in the two-week Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, hosted by the Swiss army and the ICRC in Geneva
- 13 officers at Cameroon's regional School of Warfare participated in a four-day seminar on integrating IHL into operational strategies
- IHL instruction assessed in 9 Cameroonian military training institutions, and a status report with recommendations submitted to the Defence Ministry
- Equatorial Guinea's IHL liaison officer participated in an IHL course in San Remo
- 5 Gabonese army officers took part in a one-day workshop on integrating IHL into training
- some 150 officers from various francophone African countries attended IHL seminars and presentations at regional military training centres in Cameroon and Gabon

CIVIL SOCIETY

Influential sectors of civil society, especially the media and academics, remained a vital relay to generate support for IHL.

- media across the region regularly updated on IHL, the humanitarian situation in the CAR and Movement activities
- 16 national and international media representatives from all 4 countries covered participated in a four-day workshop on the journalist's role in reporting on IHL
- over 100 journalists in the region attended one-day sessions on IHL and the Movement
- 20 CAR media, government, university and armed forces representatives took part in an IHL round-table broadcast on national television
- 450 representatives of influential CAR civil society sectors briefed on IHL and the Movement
- some 2,000 people attended an IHL-promotion concert in Bangui to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May)
- Bangui University law faculty received standard IHL reference materials
- the public learned about IHL and the protection it affords women during armed conflict at a round-table at Cameroon's Yaoundé II University
- 208 education officials and teachers in Cameroon trained in the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, and the pilot phase evaluated in 4 secondary schools
- 513 teachers and students consulted the ICRC's IHL documentation centre in Yaoundé

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

All four Red Cross Societies in the region responded effectively to emergencies during 2007 and boosted their tracing skills during a week-long regional course in Cameroon. They continued to receive ICRC funds, materials, expertise and logistics back-up, in coordination with the International Federation, to build up these activities and their communication programmes. Central African Red Cross personnel were also involved in ICRC assistance programmes, thereby reinforcing their expertise.

The ICRC convened regular meetings with Movement partners present in the CAR to coordinate activities.

With ICRC support, the Cameroon Red Cross Society:

- ▶ delivered relief goods to 60 families affected by ethnic violence in the north
- ▶ assisted in recovering the bodies and providing psychological support to the families of 114 victims of a Kenya Airways crash near Douala
- ▶ improved hygiene conditions in prisons housing some 6,000 inmates
- ▶ trained 60 first-aid instructors and 639 first-aiders
- ▶ promoted IHL and the Movement through an emblem-awareness campaign, workshops for journalists and Red Cross youth clubs, and a newsletter

With ICRC support, the Central African Red Cross:

- ▶ opened 2 new branches in the north and rehabilitated 3 provincial offices
- ▶ trained 112 first-aid instructors
- ▶ established 2 first-aid teams (120 volunteers each) in Paoua
- ▶ provided relief goods and water and sanitation for flood victims in Bangui and Bossangoa

With ICRC support, the Equatorial Guinea Red Cross Society:

- ▶ promoted hygiene and constructed/rehabilitated latrines and water points in rural communities
- ▶ mounted emergency actions in response to a fire and to a private plane crash
- ▶ trained 180 volunteers on assessing needs and registering beneficiaries
- ▶ conducted workshops for personnel on the Movement and the Fundamental Principles

With ICRC support, the Gabonese Red Cross Society:

- ▶ assisted landslide victims
- ▶ helped the government carry out a campaign to fight an outbreak of disease
- ▶ conducted courses on first aid, the Safer Access approach, tracing and hygiene promotion, training 20 first-aid instructors and 165 first-aiders
- ▶ established Red Cross youth clubs
- ▶ conducted workshops for personnel on the Movement and the Fundamental Principles



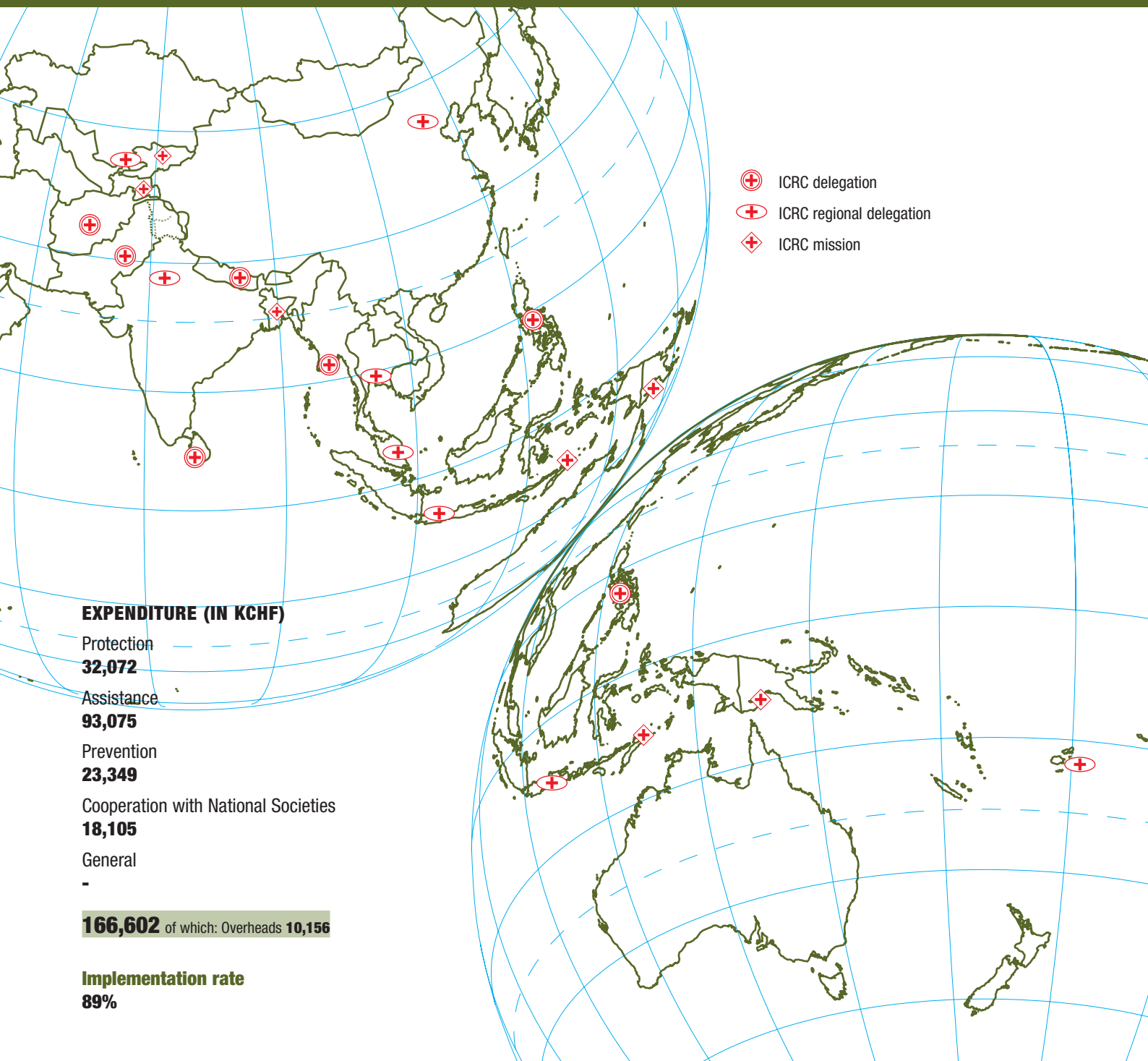
DELEGATIONS

Afghanistan
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Sri Lanka

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Bangkok
Beijing
Jakarta
Kuala Lumpur
New Delhi
Suva
Tashkent

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

32,072

Assistance

93,075

Prevention

23,349

Cooperation with National Societies

18,105

General

-

166,602 of which: Overheads **10,156**

Implementation rate

89%

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

In 2007, the ICRC continued to respond to the needs of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence in the Asia and Pacific region. The National Society was the ICRC's key operational partner in each of the countries covered, particularly in Afghanistan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. The ICRC continued to cooperate closely with National Societies in host countries in carrying out its tracing, health and assistance activities and to provide them with technical, financial and material support to strengthen their capacities to respond to violence or conflict.

The year saw a further deterioration of the situation in Afghanistan, with the conflict spreading to hitherto unaffected areas. Violence continued in Pakistan and spilled over into areas that had previously been calm. In Sri Lanka, too, the situation in the north and the east worsened. In these contexts, and in all others where IHL applied, the ICRC reminded the parties to the hostilities of their obligation to protect those not or no longer taking part in the fighting.

With the exception of the major cities, the ICRC's movements in Afghanistan remained severely impeded, and large parts of the south and east were off-limits to its staff. The organization relied, therefore, on the network of Afghan Red Crescent volunteers to support its activities in those areas. ICRC staff in Pakistan were still not able to travel to areas directly affected by military operations in Waziristan and Baluchistan. In Sri Lanka, as elsewhere, security remained a serious concern for the ICRC and other humanitarian agencies.

Despite the security constraints, the ICRC ran major assistance operations in these three countries, while pursuing dialogue with all the parties concerned with a view to securing safe access for its staff to populations in need. Here, as well as in the Philippines and elsewhere in the region, the ICRC assisted people whose lives had been disrupted by conflict, including IDPs and their host communities. The aim was to meet the urgent needs of the most vulnerable displaced families (in terms of clean water, essential household items, shelter, health care and occasionally food), while helping them to regain a measure of self-sufficiency that would enable them to return home, security permitting, and avoid becoming dependent on aid.

In Afghanistan, the ICRC focused on monitoring the conduct of hostilities and, through protection and assistance programmes, on efforts to mitigate the effects of IHL violations and to prevent their recurrence. It did so, in particular, by improving general health conditions and care of weapon-wounded people in conflict-prone areas where very few organizations were present owing to security concerns or the remoteness of the location. Primary health care clinics run by the Afghan Red Crescent received medical supplies, equipment, training and maintenance support from the ICRC, enabling them to treat more than 86,000 people and immunize more than 73,000 children under five and women of childbearing age. In parallel, the ICRC continued to support the efforts of the Ministry of Public Health to carry out hospital reform and implement the Essential Package of Hospital Services. ICRC medical assistance focused on three provincial hospitals, while other hospitals received ad hoc support, enabling a total of some 34,000 inpatients to receive treatment. In addition, more than 288,000 people benefited from improvements to water supply and sanitation infrastructure, which also had a favourable effect on general health.

Medical assistance was also high on the agenda in Pakistan, where the ICRC covered the treatment costs of weapon-wounded patients, provided supplies and equipment to some 16 medical and health care facilities, and trained surgeons, doctors and nurses. This was in addition to meeting the most urgent needs of more than 45,000 people through the distribution of essential household items and providing more than 172,000 people with a safe water supply and adequate sanitation facilities.

In Sri Lanka, as well as providing food, essential household items, hygiene products and shelter materials to up to some 400,000 conflict-affected people, mainly IDPs, the ICRC ran a major water and sanitation programme. It disinfected existing wells and built new ones, repaired hand pumps, built latrines, constructed bladders for water storage and trucked in water. It also provided logistical and financial support to the water board.

Livelihood-support projects were implemented in several contexts to help families restore their traditional sources of income. For example, vulnerable returnees in the Philippines and more than 109,000 returnees and residents hosting IDPs in Sri Lanka benefited from seed and tool distributions, agricultural training, and veterinary and micro-economic initiatives.

Similar projects helped victims of past conflicts and natural disasters to get back on their feet. In Indonesia's Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam province, the ICRC ran a voucher scheme to enable returnees who had left their villages during the former conflict to purchase farming implements and seed. The system allowed farmers to choose the type of support that was of most benefit to them. The ICRC also provided training in farming techniques. In Nepal, micro-economic initiatives aimed to revive the livelihoods of the most vulnerable households affected by the former conflict, and in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, more than 220,000 people benefited from livelihood-support programmes launched after the 2005 earthquake.

In 2007, the government of Myanmar maintained the restrictions imposed on the ICRC, preventing the organization from discharging its internationally recognized mandate according to its customary working procedures. Meanwhile, repeated attempts by the ICRC to re-establish a substantive dialogue with the authorities failed. At the operational level, the deadlock meant that the ICRC was unable to resume monitoring of detention conditions or the provision of assistance to the civilian population in conflict-affected border areas. In March, having exhausted all bilateral means at its disposal and in line with the specific conditions under which it could break with its strict policy of confidentiality, the ICRC decided to speak out publicly on the difficulties it had encountered in restoring a meaningful dialogue with the government of Myanmar. This was followed by another public statement in June, denouncing major and repeated violations of IHL identified by the ICRC. In light of the lack of progress made in this context, the ICRC continued scaling down its field presence, and by the end of the year activities were limited to physical rehabilitation services and the family visits programme for detainees.

In many of the countries covered by the ICRC in the Asia and Pacific region, delegates continued to visit detainees, particularly those held for reasons of State security, and sought access to others not yet visited. After conducting private interviews with the detainees, the ICRC submitted confidential reports to the authorities containing, where necessary, recommendations for

improving the detainees' treatment or living conditions. A total of 192,671 detainees in the region benefited from ICRC visits, including more than 9,000 who were monitored individually.

In 2007, the ICRC gained access to detainees in Pakistan and carried out the first visits to more than 30,000 people held in 19 places of detention. It also visited detainees transferred back to Pakistan from Afghanistan or from the US detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

In Afghanistan, the ICRC visited detainees/internees held in Afghan or US custody in connection with the conflict. Together with the ICRC delegation in Washington, the delegation in Afghanistan continued to urge the United States of America to establish an adequate legal framework for people held in connection with the "global war on terror". The ICRC also maintained contact with the NATO/International Security Assistance Force authorities and supported the Afghan authorities in their efforts to respect judicial guarantees.

In many places of detention, the ICRC provided occasional material assistance and carried out ad hoc repair and construction work on prison infrastructure to improve detainees' living environment, water supply and access to medical care. In Kyrgyz prisons, emphasis was placed on controlling tuberculosis. Wherever possible, however, the ICRC endeavoured to boost the capacities of prison administrations to perform these tasks themselves, as in Indonesia. In the Philippines, the ICRC continued to assist the prison administration in its efforts to mobilize the support of the government and local experts in alleviating the severe overcrowding in prisons. As a result, the prison authorities were allocated a budget for improving prison infrastructure, and the health and food budgets were increased. Furthermore, the local authorities of Quezon City announced plans to build a new jail there in order to alleviate overcrowding.

All delegations in the Asia and Pacific region pursued the ICRC's core activity of restoring and maintaining contact between family members separated by armed conflict. Through the National Societies, the ICRC continued to impress upon the governments of the Korean peninsula the importance of finding a solution to the prolonged anguish endured by families separated as a result of the Korean war. The organization also pursued efforts to improve the capacities of governments and local actors to respond to the issue of persons missing in relation to conflict. It focused particularly on those missing in connection with the conflicts in Nepal, Sri Lanka and the former East Timor, in the last case pursuing its dialogue with the governments of Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

The ICRC remained a leading player in the provision of physical rehabilitation services in Asia, running or supporting centres in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan. The construction of a new physical rehabilitation centre in Muzaffarabad in Pakistan-administered Kashmir was completed in 2007, and disabled people, including those injured in the 2005 earthquake, began to benefit from its services. In some of these countries, the ICRC, in cooperation with the National Society, ran outreach programmes to identify, transport and accommodate vulnerable amputees, particularly those living in remote areas, to enable them to obtain prosthetic/orthotic services. A total of 84,287 people (including 12,931 women and 16,157 children) received services at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres throughout the region.

A large part of ICRC activities consisted of promoting IHL, and the challenge in much of the region was to make humanitarian principles relevant in local contexts. The ICRC maintained contact with governmental authorities with a view to encouraging accession to and national implementation of IHL instruments. With ICRC support, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a regional seminar to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, which was attended by representatives of 16 countries of the Asia and Pacific region and focused on accession to and national implementation of those instruments.

The ICRC also worked with armed and security forces to advance the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operations. In Tajikistan, the Ministry of Defence expressed its intention to establish a steering committee to oversee the process. As several countries in the region were contributing troops to international peacekeeping missions, the ICRC gave pre-deployment briefings on IHL for many of these troops. In Fiji, the armed forces established a dedicated training unit for peacekeepers. The ICRC also held dissemination sessions for several armed groups in the field in order to increase their awareness of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and ensure the security of its staff.

The ICRC promoted IHL among influential members of civil society, notably the media, NGOs and religious leaders, to enhance their understanding of and respect for IHL and to gain their support for ICRC activities. Young people, as future leaders, were another key target audience, and the ICRC worked with the authorities to incorporate IHL and humanitarian principles into academic curricula. The ICRC worked not only with university law faculties but also with international relations and journalism faculties. Implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to develop in schools in China, India, Malaysia and Mongolia and was being pilot-tested in Japan and Thailand.

As in the past, ICRC activities were coordinated with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to maximize impact and avoid gaps or duplication.



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 wounded and 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 KCHF)

Protection	4,544
Assistance	37,259
Prevention	3,464
Cooperation with National Societies	4,483
General	-

► **49,751**

of which: Overheads **3,024**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	103%
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PERSONNEL

67 expatriates
1,132 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- monitored the conduct of hostilities and made confidential representations regarding alleged IHL violations to the parties concerned
- visited and monitored individually 3,203 people held by the Afghan authorities and the US authorities in connection with the armed conflict
- supported 3 key hospitals and 8 Afghan Red Crescent Society clinics and ran 6 physical rehabilitation centres
- improved water supply and sanitation for 288,658 people
- with the Afghan Red Crescent, provided food to some 54,000 and essential household items to some 42,000 conflict-affected people
- expanded contacts with representatives of armed groups in an effort to increase acceptance of the ICRC

CONTEXT

The armed conflict in Afghanistan spread considerably in 2007, although the massive spring offensive announced by armed groups did not materialize. However, fighting between armed groups and national and international forces occurred regularly in more than half of Afghanistan's provinces, while provinces not directly affected by fighting endured roadside bombs, targeted killings, suicide bombings and deliberate intimidation of civilians. Military operations by international forces included aerial bombardments in the south and east. While the south remained the region worst affected by the conflict, the south-eastern provinces of Ghazni, Paktia, Paktika and Zabul saw a marked deterioration in the security situation. Fighting between national and international forces and armed groups also spread into western and central areas.

Rising numbers of civilian casualties and weapon-wounded were admitted to hospital, adding to the death and injury toll from mines and explosive remnants of war. People moved to urban areas or over the border to Pakistan to escape violence or intimidation or as a result of disruption to security and trade.

The long-awaited peace *jirga* between Afghanistan and Pakistan took place in August and the two countries released a joint statement outlining their future cooperation. Political developments in Pakistan towards the end of the year further destabilized the region.

The United States continued to transfer to Afghan authority internees previously held in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and the Bagram Theater Internment Facility, as did several countries in the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) holding internees in field detention sites.

CIVILIANS

Civilian security

In 2007, violence took a heavy toll on civilians. Bilaterally and in ICRC press releases, all parties were reminded of the need to respect IHL. The ICRC collected allegations of IHL violations and, when appropriate, transmitted them to the parties concerned to encourage them to take corrective action and to prevent any recurrence.

Restoring family links

Family members separated by armed conflict stayed in touch or traced relatives with whom they had lost contact with the help of the ICRC and the Afghan Red Crescent.

The parties to the armed conflict received ICRC guidelines on the handling of human remains, and several ISAF contingents revised standard operating procedures accordingly. The ANA sought the ICRC's assistance in managing cases of unidentified human remains handed over by international forces.

- 6,638 RCMs collected from and 8,266 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 291 people (including 84 females and 79 minors at the time of disappearance); 132 people located; 188 people (including 50 females and 49 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 3 people reunited with their families
- 2 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 5 official documents relayed between family members across front lines
- 5 sets of human remains transferred to the appropriate authorities to be returned to their families and 1 set of human remains repatriated

Health care and emergency relief

Increased violence in 2007 made it more difficult for civilians to access basic health care. The eight Afghan Red Crescent primary health care centres located in conflict-affected areas provided low-cost care with the ICRC's support. The ICRC worked with the National Society and the Ministry of Public Health to improve and monitor the services provided.

In the 8 ICRC-supported Afghan Red Crescent health centres:

- 86,066 people given consultations, including 4,764 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 81,302 attending curative consultations
- 73,748 vaccine doses administered (56,890 to children aged five or under and 16,858 to women of childbearing age)

The water authorities of Herat, Jalalabad, Kabul, Kandahar and Mazar-i-Sharif received ICRC technical and material support. Poor neighbourhoods that had grown up on the edge of cities and in which no other organizations were working benefited from most of the water and sanitation projects. Support was maintained to projects undertaken by water boards in semi-urban and rural areas. Community members learned how to improve hygiene in sessions held in their homes, mosques and other public places.

- 281,815 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 232,235 people from water/sanitation projects in major cities
 - 9,320 villagers from rural water projects in villages in Bamiyan province

Families who had been displaced or whose property had been destroyed were better able to cope with the effects of violence or natural disaster after receiving emergency assistance from the ICRC and the National Society.

- 54,457 people (7,555 households) received food
- 42,270 people (5,814 households) received essential household items

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Persons in US custody

Internees in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility received regular ICRC visits. Delegates assessed their treatment and detention conditions both in the facility and, through interviews, in the places where they had previously been held. Confidential reports of the findings and recommendations were then submitted to the US authorities. Discussions continued with the US authorities on the implementation of a family visits programme and preparations were made for the installation of a video-telephone conference system, which would allow internees to maintain contact with relatives.

- 958 internees visited and monitored individually (12 minors) and 367 newly registered (7 minors), during 13 visits to 1 place of detention
- 8,366 RCMs collected from and 4,521 RCMs distributed to internees
- 6 detention certificates issued to former internees or their families

The ICRC monitored the handover by US or other coalition forces of internees released from Guantanamo Bay, Bagram and other internment facilities to Afghan authority. Released internees received clothing, accommodation and financial support for their journey home.

Persons in NATO/ISAF custody

The NATO-led ISAF arrested people as part of its military operations. The ICRC conducted visits to people in four detention facilities operated by ISAF contingents in the south and south-east of the country to monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of detainees during the short stay before their transfer to Afghan authority, in accordance with ISAF's standard operating procedures. The ICRC continued to work with ISAF on matters of humanitarian concern, such as the transfer of detainees to other security forces.

Persons in Afghan custody

Security detainees in Afghan custody were monitored individually through regular ICRC visits. They had the opportunity to correspond with their families via RCMs and, upon release, received clothing and their fares home. Because of their vulnerability, detained foreigners, regardless of the charges against them, were also followed individually. All detainees in facilities visited by the ICRC benefited from assistance to improve their material conditions of detention.

A new detention facility under the authority of the Afghan Ministry of Defence housed Afghan nationals previously held in Bagram and Guantanamo Bay. With ICRC support, the families of transferred internees visited their relatives for the first time since their arrest.

Detainees benefited from projects to improve water supply, kitchens, sanitation and medical facilities in prisons. The Central Prison Department and the ICRC continued with implementation of a project begun in 2006 to improve detainee health care through the provision of medical supplies and equipment, the rehabilitation of prison clinics, hygiene education for detainees, the training of health personnel and the promotion of more efficient management at central and provincial level.

- ▶ 12,151 detainees visited, of whom 2,245 monitored individually (including 31 females and 56 minors) and 1,381 newly registered (including 16 females and 48 minors), during 304 visits to 77 places of detention
- ▶ 1,096 RCMs collected from and 496 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 122 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 29 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 5,733 detainees benefited from water/sanitation projects (e.g. in Pul-i-Charki and Mazar-i-Sharif) and from the rehabilitation of kitchen and health facilities (e.g. in Sarpoza)

Other forms of detention

Foreigners detained by armed groups, including 14 Korean citizens, were released with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary and then handed over to their respective governments.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Support to hospital services

The Afghan authorities, with the ICRC's support, endeavoured to provide health care services in urban and provincial health establishments. Jalalabad Public Health Hospital 1 and Mirwais Hospital in Kandahar, the main surgical facility in the south, continued to administer inpatient care with the aid of medical supplies, surgical and management training, and other support provided by the ICRC. The Mirwais Hospital received support for the implementation of the government's Essential Package of Health Services. In Jalalabad, projects to improve the quality of reconstructive surgery and the care of paraplegic patients were undertaken. The infrastructure of both hospitals gained from the drilling of new boreholes equipped with pumps and the extension of the surface drainage network in Jalalabad and the rehabilitation of the sewage system and the construction of a fence at the main entrance of Mirwais.

The Shiberghan provincial hospital in the north received material assistance and had repairs made to its infrastructure. After undergoing ICRC training on mass casualty management, hospital staff were better able to manage a sudden influx of patients.

The blood transfusion services in Jalalabad, Mirwais and Shiberghan hospitals and the Herat blood bank received ICRC support. Blood donation campaigns increased the capacity of Mirwais Hospital's blood bank to deal with emergency cases.

In the aftermath of violence, the Kabul emergency hospitals and several provincial hospitals received ad hoc support. Some 125 doctors participated in ICRC-organized war-surgery seminars held in Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar and Mazar-i-Sharif.

In the 4 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 34,308 patients (including 8,095 women and 12,884 children) admitted: of whom 1,621 weapon-wounded (including 125 women, 313 children, and 286 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 22,603 other surgical cases, and 7,601 medical and 2,483 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- ▶ 19,306 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 176,657 outpatients given consultations, including 168,274 attending surgical or medical consultations and 8,383 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations
- ▶ 1,110 patients benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 380 from repairs to the waste disposal system and cleaning of the septic tank in Mirwais Hospital
 - 480 from improvements to the water supply and drainage system and cleaning of the septic tank in Jalalabad Public Health Hospital 1

First-aid services

First-aid activities in conflict-affected areas increased in response to the escalation of the fighting. Health workers in the south and east received basic medical supplies. The quality of care provided improved after health workers attended training sessions, including one on pre-hospital care for the weapon-wounded. They also received manuals in Pashto on first aid for weapon-wounded patients and on basic surgical care. A new transport system in the south enabled weapon-wounded who could not afford to pay transport costs to access appropriate surgical care in Mirwais Hospital. The first ICRC-run first-aid post was opened in Deroshan, Uruzgan province.

Rehabilitation of the disabled

Of the estimated several hundred thousand physically disabled people in Afghanistan, some 81,000 were registered by the ICRC. Of these, some 33,000 had lost limbs as a result of mine incidents. Disabled people were provided with physiotherapy and mobility aids and devices at the ICRC's six physical rehabilitation centres. Four rehabilitation centres run by other organizations received mobility devices, components and raw materials. The ICRC-run facilities employed 600 disabled people and organized schooling, vocational training, micro-credit schemes or job placements for some 2,000 people. Infrastructure repairs were carried out in the centres in Herat, Jalalabad, Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif.

People with spinal cord injuries and children affected by cerebral palsy and their carers received medical assistance, equipment/appliances, physiotherapy and counselling at the ICRC-run centres and during home visits by ICRC teams. Particularly vulnerable families received economic support.

Prosthetic/orthotic technicians received on-the-job and formal training at the centres.

- ▶ 60,153 patients (including 9,320 women and 13,816 children) received services at 6 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 829 new patients (including 74 women and 66 children) fitted with prostheses and 4,483 (including 1,136 women and 1,530 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 4,217 prostheses (including 293 for women, 175 for children and 2,905 for mine victims), 9,819 orthoses (including 1,648 for women, 4,567 for children and 67 for mine victims), 9,459 crutches and 956 wheelchairs delivered

- 4,678 home treatments for patients with spinal cord injuries administered
- 153,257 physiotherapy sessions given
- 30 prosthetic/orthotic technicians attended training courses
- 2,530 patients received support through the socio-economic reintegration programme

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the authorities at central and local level to promote implementation of IHL and wider acceptance of and support for the ICRC's mandate and activities. Regional branches of major political parties, local *shuras* and provincial councils were kept up to date on ICRC activities and concerns through meetings and information sessions and the distribution of newsletters, fact sheets and publications.

Regular contacts with international organizations and diplomatic missions helped to ensure efficient coordination of humanitarian action.

The 1977 Additional Protocols were translated into Pashto as part of the ICRC's efforts to promote Afghanistan's accession to IHL treaties. Government representatives attended a regional symposium on the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols in China (see *Beijing regional*).

- 147 members of provincial authorities participated in 10 dissemination sessions

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The integration of IHL into the ANA's training programmes progressed, with assistance from the ICRC in close cooperation with ISAF's special training units. The ICRC maintained regular contact with NATO forces in Europe and US forces in the United States and participated in pre-deployment exercises.

Good relations were fostered with the Afghan National Police (ANP) and the ANAP during ICRC visits to police stations.

Developing contacts with armed groups remained a priority for the ICRC. These contacts were important in gaining acceptance of the work of the ICRC and the National Society, in ensuring the safety of their staff and in improving access to conflict victims.

- 110 ANA instructors participated in 4 IHL train-the-trainer courses
- 36 ANA senior officers participated in IHL dissemination and education sessions at the ANA Command and General Staff College
- 186 ANA and air force officers and soldiers participated in 5 IHL dissemination sessions
- 230 ANA military police officers, sergeants and guards attended 3 IHL dissemination sessions
- 2 instructors and 27 management personnel of the National Directorate of Security participated in 2 dissemination sessions on IHL and international human rights law
- some 200 ANA, Ministry of Defence and NATO/ISAF officers attending the ANA Corps Commanders Conference briefed on the integration of IHL into ANA doctrine, education and training
- 1,327 ANP/ANAP personnel attended IHL dissemination sessions at the Regional Training Centre in Kandahar

CIVIL SOCIETY

Regular briefings, newsletters, fact sheets, press releases and other publications in English, Dari and Pashto kept representatives of the major international and local media in Kabul and NGOs abreast of the ICRC's activities.

To promote its working principles and explain its approach, the ICRC relied on direct contact with beneficiaries and influential community leaders through its programmes. It developed new contacts and nurtured existing ones with traditional sectors of civil society, such as local *shuras*, elders and tribal leaders. In particular, the ICRC forged closer contacts with religious leaders throughout the country. It also resumed contacts with law faculties around the country to promote the teaching of IHL in these institutions.

- 374 religious leaders, 1,621 students, 118 journalists and 6,241 members of the general public attended information sessions on the ICRC and basic IHL rules

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Afghan Red Crescent benefited from ICRC support for a range of activities, including: the monitoring and collection of data relating to mine incidents; mine-risk education; community-based first aid; food-for-work schemes; vocational training; dissemination and tracing. Cooperation between the National Society and the ICRC enhanced access to conflict victims beyond the reach of other humanitarian actors.

The National Society neared completion of a long-term revision of its statutes and installed a national governance board for the first time in decades. The National Society continued to reform its transportation and financial management structure with ICRC technical, financial and material support provided in cooperation with its leadership and the International Federation.

The National Society was the ICRC's main operational partner in Afghanistan, distributing ICRC assistance to conflict-affected IDPs (see *Civilians*). It continued to expand its community-based first-aid programme for weapon-wounded people.

With funding and/or technical/material assistance from the ICRC, the Afghan Red Crescent Society:

- trained and equipped 1,460 new community-based first-aid volunteers, bringing the total number of volunteers to 12,218
- carried out mine-risk education and incident data-collection in accordance with the memorandum of understanding concluded with the ICRC and the UN Mine Action Centre
- promoted IHL by distributing publications to and conducting dissemination sessions for religious leaders, teachers, students, community elders and its own staff



myanmar

The ICRC began working in Myanmar in 1986, providing physical rehabilitation for mine victims and other disabled people. Between 1999 and 2005, delegates visited detainees, assisted and protected civilians in conflict areas, and provided supplies to hospitals treating the wounded. By the end of 2005, restrictions imposed by the authorities on the ICRC's ability to work according to its standard procedures had led to a progressive downsizing of activities. The ICRC actively seeks dialogue with government authorities with a view to resuming its priority activities. It also works with the International Federation to enhance the effectiveness of the National Society with which it continues to run a prosthetic/orthotic facility.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,711
Assistance	2,667
Prevention	781
Cooperation with National Societies	439
General	-

► **5,598**

of which: Overheads 342

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	74%
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PERSONNEL

12 expatriates
185 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- pursued efforts to re-establish a substantive dialogue with the Myanmar authorities on the resumption of crucial humanitarian activities but was unable to do so
- in view of this situation and in accordance with the specific conditions under which it may break with its strict policy of confidentiality, publicly denounced major and repeated violations of IHL alleged to have been committed by the Myanmar authorities against civilians in conflict-affected border areas and detainees
- enabled 642 detainees to receive visits from family members
- continued to support 6 government-run physical rehabilitation centres and, in cooperation with the Myanmar Red Cross Society, supported the Hpa-an physical rehabilitation centre
- continued, at a reduced pace, to build the capacity of the Myanmar Red Cross to act in line with the Movement's Fundamental Principles

CONTEXT

Low-intensity armed conflict between government forces and various armed groups continued to affect the population in various areas of Shan and Kayin states and eastern Bago division. As a result of the military campaign which peaked during the dry season, people continued to flee across the border to Thailand or to IDP camps within Myanmar.

In January, days after the death of the Karen National Union's former president, General Bo Mya, elements of the group's armed wing, the Karen National Liberation Army, split and formed a new group, the KNU Peace Council. The latter agreed a truce with the government of Myanmar.

In August and September, an increase in the price of fuel sparked major street demonstrations in Yangon and other cities. The protests ended with the intervention of the security forces, resulting in an official death toll of 13 and, as acknowledged by the authorities, the arrests of several thousand people, many of whom were eventually released. Members of the international community expressed concern, either directly or through regional or international inter-governmental organizations, over the government's handling of the protests.

In early September, the National Convention charged with laying the foundations for a future constitution completed its work. A committee appointed to begin drafting the constitution convened in December.

Following a visit to Myanmar by the UN secretary-general's special envoy, the leader of the opposition National League for Democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi, was allowed to meet a government representative. However, she remained under house arrest and did not participate in the transitional process initiated by the government.

The government continued to impose restrictions on humanitarian organizations, limiting their capacities to respond to humanitarian needs.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total					Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		WOUNDED AND SICK						
Detainees visited	0	Physical rehabilitation						
Number of visits carried out	0	Patients receiving services	Patients	5,945	706	408		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Prostheses delivered	Units	2,255	160	78		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	194	Orthoses delivered	Units	1,228	282	519		
of whom females	29							
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	7							
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	79							
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	163							
of which for females	20							
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	1							
DOCUMENTS ISSUED								
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	48							

ICRC ACTION

In 2007, the government maintained the restrictions imposed on the ICRC, preventing the organization from discharging its internationally recognized mandate according to its customary working procedures, which the Myanmar authorities had accepted in previous years. Meanwhile, repeated attempts by the ICRC to re-establish a substantive dialogue with the authorities failed. The authorities also did not respond to the humanitarian concerns raised by the ICRC, in particular in two summary reports submitted in 2006.

At the operational level, the deadlock meant that the ICRC was unable to resume monitoring of detention conditions or the provision of assistance to the civilian population in border areas affected by armed conflict.

In March, having exhausted all bilateral means at its disposal and in line with the specific conditions under which it may break with its strict policy of confidentiality, the ICRC decided to speak out publicly on the difficulties it had encountered in restoring a meaningful dialogue with the government of Myanmar and in addressing serious humanitarian issues in accordance with IHL. This was followed by another public statement in June, denouncing major and repeated violations of IHL identified by the ICRC.

In light of this situation, the ICRC continued scaling down its field presence. It closed its Keng Tong, Taunggyi and Moulmein field offices during the year and significantly reduced the numbers of expatriates and national staff. The Mandalay and Hpa-an field offices remained open, enabling some physical rehabilitation activities and the family visits programme for detainees to continue.

Given the lack of access to medical facilities for people living in border areas, the ICRC stopped covering the treatment costs of weapon-wounded patients and providing medical assistance within Myanmar's borders.

IHL promotion among the authorities and civil society remained extremely limited. However, the ICRC supported and participated in dissemination sessions on the Movement's Fundamental Principles, together with the Myanmar Red Cross Society, at some of the National Society's internal training sessions or information sessions for township officials.

CIVILIANS

In some areas along the Thai-Myanmar border, civilians continued to suffer the effects of the ongoing low-intensity armed conflict.

Owing to restrictions on its movements, the ICRC was unable to carry out its mandate in the sensitive border areas. As a consequence, activities for civilians in these areas, notably improving access to basic health care and to safe water, on hold since October 2006, did not resume. The ICRC could not engage the Myanmar authorities in a dialogue on the protection of civilians in conflict-affected areas. In June, in line with its relevant policy, the ICRC publicly denounced IHL violations against civilians in areas affected by armed conflict along the Thai-Myanmar border.

- new tracing requests registered for 194 people (including 29 females and 7 minors at the time of disappearance); 79 people located; 163 people (including 20 females and 1 minor at the time of disappearance) still being sought

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

At the beginning of 2007, the Myanmar authorities released some 2,800 detainees after their sentences had been remitted, bringing the official total of detainees released since November 2004 to around 23,000.

According to the Myanmar authorities, more than 2,000 people were arrested during demonstrations in September. In some cases, families were unaware of the whereabouts of their detained relatives. At the families' request, the ICRC approached the authorities in order to obtain information. According to the authorities, most of those detained in relation to the demonstrations had been released by the end of the year, while around 100 remained in detention.

Since December 2005, owing to the lack of respect for some of its standard working procedures, the ICRC had not been able to visit people in detention facilities in order to properly monitor their treatment and living conditions. Meanwhile, the authorities had yet to respond to a summary report – handed over in 2006 – on the ICRC's findings on the conditions of detention observed during visits to people held in prisons and labour camps from 1999 to 2005. In June, in line with its relevant policy, the ICRC publicly

denounced IHL violations against detainees used as porters in some of the conflict-affected border areas.

Previously registered detainees continued to receive monthly family visits with the ICRC's support. However, no RCMs could be exchanged between detainees and their relatives owing to the suspension of ICRC visits to places of detention.

Contacts with Prison Department health staff were interrupted. The ICRC was not informed of any activity by the Joint Working Group, which aimed to mobilize public health actors and advocate changes in the prison health care system.

- ▶ 642 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 48 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 17 released detainees returned home with ICRC support

WOUNDED AND SICK

Owing to the lack of independent access to areas outside state or division capitals, the ICRC could not assess medical facilities located in sensitive border areas or conduct any rehabilitation work. Payment of the medical costs of weapon-wounded patients in Myanmar also ceased because the ICRC could not monitor the activity. Through its delegation in Bangkok, the ICRC continued to cover the costs of patients from Myanmar receiving medical care on Thai territory.

The ICRC cancelled the planned training course for surgeons.

In cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC continued to support the Hpa-an physical rehabilitation centre. In June, the ICRC ended its assistance to three physical rehabilitation centres managed by the Ministry of Health and three centres managed by the Ministry of Defence. However, the six centres received enough material from the ICRC to continue running for about a year.

The ICRC/National Society outreach prosthetic programme continued, but owing to the ICRC's reduced support, the programme was limited to the south-east, the area with the most landmines.

- ▶ 5,945 patients (including 706 women and 408 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- ▶ 994 new patients (including 85 women and 27 children) fitted with prostheses and 542 (including 160 women and 159 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 2,255 prostheses (including 160 for women, 78 for children and 1,436 for mine victims), 1,228 orthoses (including 282 for women, 519 for children and 2 for mine victims), 3,185 crutches and 20 wheelchairs delivered
- ▶ 729 patients benefited from improved access to prosthetic services through the outreach prosthetic programme

AUTHORITIES

Although the Myanmar government's decision to close down ICRC field offices was rescinded, the ICRC did not resume visits to detainees or its other activities in sensitive border areas in accordance with its standard working procedures. The ICRC tried to overcome differences with the Myanmar government and to clarify possible misunderstandings.

In spite of its attempts to engage with the authorities, the restrictions on the ICRC remained in place, preventing the organization from discharging its internationally recognized mandate. These restrictions were incompatible with the ICRC's independent and neutral approach to assessing the need for humanitarian action and to assisting people falling within its mandate. Subsequent official representations and meetings with government officials did not change the situation. The restrictions also limited ICRC activities carried out in cooperation with or in support of government officials.

Seven government officials followed the distance-learning post-graduate diploma in IHL from the NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad, India. Two of the seven sat the exam.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

At the invitation of the Directorate of Medical Services under the Ministry of Defence, the ICRC participated in the 15th Military Medical Conference, setting up an exhibition booth on ICRC activities, with emphasis on the physical rehabilitation programme.

Junior army officers, junior police officers and some civilian officials attended an IHL presentation given by the ICRC at the Training Workshop on the Prevention of Recruitment of Children into the Military organized by the Department of Social Welfare.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC issued a press release in March related to the closure of two field offices and the difficulties in carrying out its mandate. The press release raised interest among local, regional and international media. The ICRC's public denunciation of the Myanmar government's major and repeated violations of IHL also received extensive international media coverage.

The media in Myanmar continued to pick up press releases about ICRC activities locally and elsewhere in the world. Contacts with representatives of local media and foreign correspondents were initiated and maintained.

A total of 14 individuals, including teachers and students from Yangon and Dagon universities majoring in law and international relations, as well as government officials from the Attorney General's Office and the Supreme Court, consulted ICRC and IHL literature available at the delegation's resource centre.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The delegation held a series of discussions with the Myanmar Red Cross leadership about the ICRC's role, mandate and joint activities. The executive committee attended a specially tailored presentation on the ICRC's mandate. The ICRC gave financial and technical support to the National Society in carrying out activities to raise awareness of the Fundamental Principles on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May). To mark the occasion, the National Society organized a series of events, including information sessions, first-aid competitions for volunteers, and media programmes.

In June, the National Society distributed a public report on the ICRC's activities in Myanmar without prior consultation with the ICRC. The ICRC did not agree with the contents of the report, which it felt were factually inaccurate. After the report's distribution, the National Society and the ICRC held discussions on the roles of each component of the Movement.

The Myanmar Red Cross remained an important operational partner for the ICRC in the implementation of the outreach prosthetic programme (see *Wounded and sick*). After the completion of the first centralized training session for National Society project officers in September 2006, volunteers in the Shan state participated in the first decentralized training workshop on physical rehabilitation. A total of 18 representatives from 16 townships participated.

The ICRC continued to support capacity-building in the fields of communication and dissemination in order to promote proper understanding of and respect for the Fundamental Principles among the National Society's leadership, staff and volunteers. Township volunteers and police officers regularly attended basic dissemination workshops on the Fundamental Principles.

The National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC held regular tripartite meetings to strengthen Movement coordination, share information and discuss issues of common concern.

The ICRC, in cooperation with the International Federation, participated in the process of strengthening the National Society's legal base.

- 181 National Society volunteers and police officers participated in 4 IHL workshops at township level in 3 different states and divisions
- 200 National Society volunteers attended a presentation on the ICRC's mandate and activities



nepal

The ICRC initially worked in Nepal out of its regional delegation in New Delhi, opening a delegation in Kathmandu in 2001. Until the May 2006 ceasefire agreement, its primary aim was to protect and assist people directly affected by the armed conflict between the government and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist. Since the agreement, the ICRC has focused on clarifying the fate of missing persons and adapted its assistance activities to the new situation of internal disturbances. It serves as a neutral intermediary between relevant actors, takes action on behalf of people deprived of their freedom, promotes greater compliance with IHL and improves medical care for the wounded. It works closely with the Nepal Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,013
Assistance	3,382
Prevention	1,025
Cooperation with National Societies	1,309
General	-

► **8,729**

of which: Overheads 533

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	107%
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PERSONNEL

26	expatriates
100	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- supported families of missing persons by collecting information on their relatives who were unaccounted for, by mobilizing the authorities, civil society and the media to address the issue, and by providing the families with assistance
- with the Nepal Red Cross Society, assisted the victims of internal disturbances and floods in the Terai region
- rehabilitated water supply systems in prisons and isolated villages
- promoted IHL among the authorities, resulting in the establishment of a national IHL committee
- supported the Nepalese Red Cross in strengthening its capacity to assist victims of violence or natural disaster

CONTEXT

During 2007, an interim constitution was promulgated, an interim legislature that included the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) was convened, and an all-party government was formed. Despite these encouraging developments, post-conflict Nepal remained fragile. There were frequent interruptions in the supply of oil, gas and electricity, damaging the already weak economy. The CPN-M left the interim government in September. Political instability, sporadic intercommunal and interreligious violence, and nationwide strikes continued in the run-up to the constituent assembly elections, which were postponed twice. In December, an agreement was reached on the establishment of a federal system, including an end to the monarchy, and the introduction of proportionality in elections, enabling the CPN-M to rejoin the government and a new election date to be set for April 2008.

In the eastern and central Terai region, an increasing number of political and sometimes armed groups demanded more rights for the Madhesi population living in the area, and violent clashes erupted throughout the year. The violence displaced thousands of people, while some 130 people were reportedly killed and hundreds more injured. Several influential Madhesi parliamentarians left the government to form new political alliances.

Although formal discussions on security sector reform had yet to begin, the former parties to the conflict agreed in principle that members of the Maoist People's Liberation Army (PLA) would eventually be integrated into the Nepal Army (NA). Some 30,000 PLA fighters were contained in 7 main and 21 satellite quartering areas, and some 3,500 weapons were registered during the first UN registration phase. The long-awaited second registration phase that would confirm or invalidate the status of the fighters was repeatedly interrupted by the CPN-M on different grounds. Without this process of registration, it remained difficult to determine the number of children present in the quartering areas who would eventually need to be reunited with their families and reintegrated into their communities of origin.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	5,046
Detainees visited and monitored individually	43
<i>of whom females</i>	4
Number of visits carried out	51
Number of places of detention visited	34
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	102
RCMs distributed	29
People reunited with their families	16
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	337
<i>of whom females</i>	29
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	54
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	70
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	1,128
<i>of which for females</i>	105
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	138
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC	2
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC	17
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	15
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	13

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	5,567	29%	51%
Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	51,483	29%	51%
Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	10,159	25%	71%
Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	14,217	26%	34%
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	16		
<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>				
Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	1,144	314	133
Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	85	26	6
Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	125	27	58

ICRC ACTION

While hostilities between the government and the CPN-M had ended, new situations of internal violence prompted the ICRC to maintain a flexible approach in carrying out its activities in relation to people deprived of their freedom, missing persons, assistance to conflict-affected people, IHL promotion, contingency planning, and capacity building of the National Society. The ICRC was able to travel freely and its staff worked safely throughout the country. Owing to newly emerging needs in this fragile post-conflict environment, the ICRC adapted its activities and decided not to reduce further the number of staff working in the country.

In cooperation with the Nepal Red Cross Society, the ICRC kept up efforts to help families clarify the whereabouts of relatives still unaccounted for. This included the publication of a list of missing persons, support to their families and the mobilization of relevant sectors of society. Discussions with the authorities and humanitarian organizations were ongoing on the ICRC's role in restoring family links for children thought to be present in the quartering areas for PLA members.

During the internal disturbances in the Terai, the ICRC reacted quickly to help the victims and tried to increase its understanding of the region by developing contacts with armed groups, political actors and members of civil society. In doing so, it was able to act as a neutral intermediary and facilitate the Nepalese Red Cross's access to the affected populations.

The ICRC, in cooperation with the National Society, undertook various assistance activities. These included: support to hospitals treating the wounded; rehabilitation services for amputees; the distribution of essential household items and vital productive

assets to victims of the past conflict and ongoing internal disturbances; and the implementation of water supply and sanitation projects in jails and remote villages.

The armed forces pursued their efforts, supported by the ICRC, to integrate IHL into army and police doctrine, training and sanctions. Dialogue between the authorities and the ICRC led to the creation of a national IHL committee in February.

The ICRC coordinated with other humanitarian agencies operating locally in order to strengthen complementarity and avoid duplication or gaps in protection and assistance programmes for those most in need.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

In February, the ICRC, in cooperation with the Nepalese Red Cross, published a list of 812 people unaccounted for in connection with the armed conflict. The publication of the list aimed to encourage people to come forward with information about these cases, to bring new cases to the ICRC's attention, and to raise awareness of the issue of missing persons and acknowledge the suffering of their families.

The ICRC made bilateral representations to the relevant authorities, asking for clarification of the fate of those people still missing. Following ICRC-organized round-tables on the issue (see *Authorities and Civil society*), the newly created Ministry for Peace and Reconstruction requested the ICRC's advice on the relevant legal framework for the creation of a commission on missing persons, for which the ICRC also provided model terms of reference. The commission had yet to be created by the end of the year.

With the ICRC's support, a forensic scientist from the National Forensic Science Laboratories took part in a course on forensic genetics in the United Kingdom and a forensic pathologist participated in the International Forensic Congress in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

To prepare for its eventual involvement in ante-mortem data collection, the Department of Forensic Medicine of Tribhuvan University received tools and equipment.

Children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups were reunited with their families with the ICRC's help. The ICRC remained ready to fulfil its traditional mandate of tracing and, where appropriate, reuniting separated family members by ensuring the safe return of children to 22 districts not covered by other organizations. The process of identifying these children progressed slowly.

- ▶ 86 RCMs collected from and 17 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 9 from and 5 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 337 people (including 29 females and 54 minors at the time of disappearance); 70 people located; 1,128 people (including 105 females and 138 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ a list of 812 missing persons published in a book and on the ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org
- ▶ 16 people reunited with their families
- ▶ 2 demobilized children registered; 17 reunited with their families; 15 cases of demobilized children still being handled
- ▶ 13 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Threats to civilian security and livelihoods

During the unrest in the Terai region, the ICRC focused its efforts on ensuring the free movement of ambulances and on assisting medical staff in carrying out their work, including accessing and evacuating the injured and facilitating victims' access to medical services. District chapters of the Nepalese Red Cross dispensing first aid during the violence were given medical supplies and petrol. Displaced people received essential household items and food from the ICRC, in cooperation with the Nepalese Red Cross. The ICRC maintained contacts with relevant actors, collected information on alleged violations of IHL and human rights, and made representations to the parties responsible, where necessary.

The most vulnerable households affected by the past conflict received essential household items to help them to get back on their feet. The ICRC conducted livelihood assessments and, on the basis of its findings, initiated agricultural and livestock projects in 23 districts for families of missing persons and female-headed households.

During the summer, there was severe flooding in the Terai region. The National Society's flood relief operation received ICRC support in providing essential household items to affected people and in the deployment of staff and vehicles. The ICRC's role as a neutral intermediary was also important in ensuring access for the Nepalese Red Cross and the safety of its staff operating in insecure areas. Some 43,000 flood-affected people received assistance.

- ▶ 5,567 people (1,012 households) received food
- ▶ 51,483 people (8,631 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 10,159 people (1,640 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives

Improving water and sanitation facilities

Isolated conflict-affected villages had been cut off from government and development support for many years owing to the destruction or lack of maintenance of existing infrastructure. People in seven villages in Jumla district had access to safe drinking water after pipes were laid and reinforced water storage tanks and tap stands constructed through a programme implemented by the Nepalese Red Cross and the ICRC. In cooperation with the local water authorities, the National Society and the ICRC conducted a four-day training session for water committee members and caretakers on the operation and maintenance of water systems and on hygiene promotion. Participants received tool boxes. The training improved the practical and theoretical skills of the participants and increased the sustainability and their ownership of the rehabilitated water supply schemes. A similar project began in August in Dailekh.

People in the Kailali and Rolpa quartering areas benefited from the installation of an emergency rainwater harvesting system, which temporarily increased the water supply. Some 30 people participated in training on the construction of improved cooking stoves, and four new stoves were built. The local population in Kalikot district benefited from improvements to the water supply of the district hospital.

- ▶ 13,424 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 9,644 people from improvements to the water system in Jumla district
 - 3,700 people from the installation of an emergency rainwater harvesting system in Kailali and Rolpa quartering areas

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit people held in connection with the past conflict. Most of them were still awaiting release and faced the same conditions and problems as ordinary detainees. The unrest in the Terai led to some short-term arrests. Delegates visited some of these people while in custody, but they were not followed up individually.

Overcrowding remained a major problem in Nepali jails. A lack of resources continued to constrain the efforts of the prison authorities to make improvements. A total of 26 prison officials participated in a four-day workshop organized by the ICRC and the OHCHR, during which they deliberated and proposed measures to improve detention conditions. These proposals were then discussed with a parliamentary commission and forwarded to the relevant authorities. On the ICRC's recommendation, the prison authorities provided medicines to mentally ill detainees in Dhulikhel jail, and the ICRC covered the costs of regular visits by a psychiatrist to 35 mentally ill detainees. Three prisons received supplies for scabies treatment.

The first sessions of first-aid training adapted to prisons were organized by the ICRC, in cooperation with the Nepalese Red Cross, for 22 detainees involved in health activities in the Central and Bhadra jails, and more sessions were planned for jails around the country.

Water and sanitation activities shifted from performing emergency repairs to finding long-term solutions using local resources and experts and adapted technologies to ensure sustainability. Projects

aimed to integrate renewable and environmentally friendly energy sources such as biogas and solar power. In nine jails, water supply systems, sanitation, drainage facilities and kitchens were upgraded. The jails also received new stoves. In three district jails, biogas plants were under construction to improve sanitation conditions. The gas produced would be used for cooking purposes and reduce firewood and kerosene consumption.

- 5,046 detainees visited, of whom 43 monitored individually (including 4 females) and 6 newly registered, during 51 visits to 34 places of detention
- 16 RCMs collected from and 12 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 4 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 793 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Medical care for the weapon-wounded

ICRC medical activities focused on supporting the treatment of victims of violence and unrest and key medical facilities. Cases of weapon-wounded patients from the former conflict and victims of explosive remnants of war continued to need surgical treatment in hospitals. A total of 16 hospitals and 2 first-aid posts received medical equipment and supplies.

Early in the year, National Society branches in the Terai received first-aid materials to help them cope with the influx of people injured in clashes. In addition, the ICRC visited eight hospitals in the Terai in order to monitor the status of and treatment given to injured people and to ensure that they received treatment free of charge. The ICRC continued to monitor health needs by visiting other medical facilities around the Terai region during clashes later in the year.

In December, Surkhet district hospital and the Nepalese Red Cross ambulance service received medical supplies and body bags in the aftermath of a bridge collapse.

- 96 weapon-wounded patients undergoing medical treatment in various hospitals had their transport costs covered
- 44 post-surgery patients received financial support for follow-up visits, including 18 cases requiring secondary surgery

Rehabilitation of the disabled

The training programme at the prosthetic/orthotic workshop in Green Pastures Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre in Pokhara continued. Staff benefited from the technical expertise and training provided by an ICRC prosthetic/orthotic technician. Three prosthetic/orthotic technicians and three physiotherapists from the centre were sponsored to attend six weeks of training in Cambodia.

- 1,144 patients (including 314 women and 133 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 73 new patients (including 23 women and 5 children) fitted with prostheses and 114 (including 24 women and 51 children) fitted with orthoses
- 85 prostheses (including 26 for women, 6 for children and 3 for mine victims), 125 orthoses (including 27 for women, 58 for children and 2 for mine victims) and 168 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

A national IHL committee was created and began to review national laws in preparation for the integration of IHL. Government representatives attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

In May, 30 government officials and members of political parties/parliamentarians participated in ICRC-organized round-tables on the ratification of the 1977 Additional Protocols and the creation of a national commission on missing persons. Ongoing dialogue between the authorities and the ICRC focused on measures to address the needs of families of missing persons and the establishment of the commission.

Government representatives attended a regional symposium in China to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols (see *Beijing regional*) and other regional IHL events.

- 27 government officials attended an interministerial round-table on the implementation of IHL
- 35 government officials participated in an IHL dissemination session organized by the Ministry of Law and Justice and the ICRC

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The NA, the Armed Police Force (APF) and the ICRC met during the year to discuss the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training, education and sanctions. To increase the NA's capacity to conduct its own training, the ICRC provided technical and material support for an IHL train-the-trainer course for 35 officers, including 10 from the APF. These trainers, originally trained in 2006 by the ICRC, conducted these sessions on their own, while others began conducting IHL courses autonomously within their respective headquarters and units with minimal ICRC supervision. The chief of the NA's Human Rights Directorate participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Geneva. Officers from the NA and the APF participated in regional IHL events and training sessions.

A working group consisting of staff from the NA, APF, the Nepal Police, OHCHR, the Kathmandu School of Law and the ICRC created a standard IHL training manual for all the security forces in the country.

A total of 540 Nepali peacekeepers being deployed on UN peace-keeping missions attended IHL dissemination sessions. During the unrest in the Terai, the ICRC developed new contacts with armed groups active in the region.

- 956 officers and other members of the NA attended IHL presentations and dissemination sessions
- at the request of the UN Mission in Nepal, 55 UN arms monitors participated in IHL dissemination sessions
- 150 APF officers participated in IHL and international human rights law training sessions conducted by ICRC-trained instructors and organized by the OHCHR and the ICRC
- 364 APF personnel (including 26 from the Nepal Police) attended IHL presentations

CIVIL SOCIETY

Members of civil society and human rights organizations participated in events on IHL and missing persons. In May, 30 civil society representatives attended an ICRC-organized round-table on the ratification of the 1977 Additional Protocols and the creation of a national commission on missing persons. Law and journalism students attended national and international IHL events.

The ICRC produced public communication tools, including press releases, leaflets, and web-based information on the issue of missing persons. Journalists participated in national and international IHL events. Before the publication of the list of missing persons, an ICRC-produced radio spot was broadcast nationwide and a video highlighting the plight of missing persons' families was produced and shown locally.

- 5 candidates sat the exam for the ICRC-sponsored distance-learning IHL diploma run by NALSAR University, India (see *New Delhi regional*)

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Nepalese Red Cross continued its dissemination, family-links and mine-risk education activities with the ICRC's support, including for staff training. A review, partly financed by the British Red Cross, of the National Society's emblem protection campaign showed that the campaign had been successful in reducing emblem misuse.

- 35 district chapters conducted IHL dissemination sessions for some 25,000 students, teachers and members of the general public
- newsletters in Nepali and English published, a weekly radio programme broadcast, events to celebrate World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May) organized
- guidelines, a handbook and a training module on tracing developed
- 46 district chapters conducted 300 mine-risk education sessions for some 33,000 students and members of the general public

With the ICRC's support, the National Society responded to the violence and disturbances in the Terai by providing first-aid and ambulance services and increased its capacity to respond to emergencies through workshops and the establishment of mobile first-aid posts.

- 23 district chapters in the Terai received emergency first-aid kits and gave first aid to 450 people injured during the unrest

The ICRC also supported the National Society in its contingency planning for natural disasters. Regular coordination meetings took place between Movement partners present in Nepal.



pakistan

The ICRC began working in Pakistan in 1981 to assist victims of the conflict in Afghanistan. Its operations now focus on the situation in Pakistan and include: visiting security detainees; assisting victims of conflict and natural disaster; improving care of the weapon-wounded and the disabled; promoting compliance with IHL among officials and military forces; fostering dialogue with religious leaders, academic institutions and the media on IHL-related issues, the conduct of hostilities and neutral and independent humanitarian action; and supporting the Pakistan Red Crescent Society in enhancing its response capacity.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,463
Assistance	15,274
Prevention	1,671
Cooperation with National Societies	1,088
General	-

► **21,496**

of which: Overheads 1,312

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

56	expatriates
463	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited 32,620 detainees in 19 places of detention after receiving authorization to begin visiting people held under the authority of the Ministry of Interior
- followed up detainees repatriated from Afghanistan and the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba
- supported the medical care of people wounded in military confrontations and rehabilitation services for the disabled
- carried out rehabilitation work in earthquake-affected communities, including livelihood-support and water and habitat programmes
- developed dialogue with religious leaders to promote understanding of the ICRC's mandate and IHL
- assisted the Pakistan Red Crescent Society in developing and improving its first-aid programme

CONTEXT

In March, the chief justice of Pakistan was suspended by President Pervez Musharraf, sparking protests in major cities. He was reinstated by the Supreme Court in July. After President Musharraf was re-elected in October, he imposed a state of emergency and suspended the constitution. The state of emergency was lifted in December, after legal measures were adopted to protect decisions taken while the constitution had been suspended.

Former prime ministers Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif returned from exile to contest parliamentary elections. Benazir Bhutto was killed on 27 December during a rally in Rawalpindi, increasing political turmoil in the country ahead of the elections planned for January 2008.

Law and order deteriorated in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), particularly in the southern districts of Tank and Bannu bordering Waziristan. The stand-off in Islamabad between militants in the Lal Masjid (Red Mosque) and the government ended in July when security forces launched an assault on the mosque. An upsurge in violence ensued in NWFP, including several bomb attacks that killed or wounded a large number of people. In response, the military targeted militant hideouts in tribal areas, particularly in North and South Waziristan, and later in the Swat Valley in NWFP, leading to some displacement of civilians. In the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), sectarian strife led to violent clashes between Shias and Sunnis in the Kurram agency, and a confrontation between supporters of rival religious leaders killed dozens in the Khyber agency.

After a winter lull following the killing of Baluch nationalist leader Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti in 2006, armed groups stepped up attacks on security forces, government officials, and private companies perceived to be exploiting the province's rich natural resources. The number of rocket, bomb and hand grenade attacks in Quetta increased and the violence spread to other areas of the province. The border areas of Baluchistan were affected by the armed conflict in Afghanistan, with large numbers of wounded people crossing the border. In June, some 200 people died and tens of thousands were made homeless by severe flooding throughout Baluchistan in the wake of cyclone Yemyin.

Recovery and reconstruction continued in the earthquake-affected areas of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, including the Neelum and Jhelum valleys. These were areas that before the ceasefire at the end of 2003 had long been affected by crossfire at the Line of Control between India and Pakistan and had been hardest hit by the 2005 earthquake.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	32,620	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	338	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	45,155	28% 44%
		Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	220,157	28% 44%
	of whom females 13	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	172,348	28% 44%
	of whom minors 11	<i>Health</i>			
Number of visits carried out	30	Health centres supported	Structures	3	
Number of places of detention visited	19	Consultations	Patients	18,137	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of which curative	Patients	4,951 6,761
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>			of which ante/post-natal	Patients	2,640 4
RCMs collected	1,708	Immunizations	Doses	14,219	
RCMs distributed	1,726	WOUNDED AND SICK			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Hospitals supported	Structures	13	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	89	Admissions	Patients	711	96 70
	of whom females 26	Operations	Operations performed	1,318	
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance 31	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	39	Patients receiving services	Patients	2,157	437 354
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	75	Prostheses delivered	Units	501	66 32
	of which for females 16	Orthoses delivered	Units	502	42 267
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance 23				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	12				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC pursued its activities for victims of armed confrontations in Pakistan. It followed the cases of detainees repatriated from Afghanistan and the US detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, helped families in Pakistan maintain contact with relatives detained abroad, supported hospitals treating the wounded and improved access to physical rehabilitation services for disabled people living in areas affected by security operations or by the 2005 earthquake.

Following dialogue with federal and provincial authorities, the ICRC began to visit people held in places of detention under the Ministry of Interior. During the year, delegates visited detainees in 19 prisons in all four provinces and shared confidential reports on the findings and recommendations with the relevant authorities.

The start of visits to detainees, along with a reduction in earthquake-related activities, reflected a shift in the ICRC's priorities to focus more on protection issues. The ICRC maintained close contact with the relevant authorities to facilitate its detention-related work.

The ICRC continued to cover the costs of the medical treatment of weapon-wounded people along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Security constraints in the FATA prevented the ICRC from gaining access to many places in those areas, but patients were brought to Bannu, Peshawar, Quetta and Tank. Hospitals in Bannu and Saidu Sharif received medical supplies following periods of intense violence in North Waziristan and Swat respectively. Two minor bomb explosions at the ICRC sub-delegation and workshop in Peshawar caused a temporary slowdown in the assistance programme for weapon-wounded.

The running of two basic health care units and one rural health centre in Pakistan-administered Kashmir was handed over to the Ministry of Health. The ICRC completed repair work on the three

health centres and construction of the new physical rehabilitation centre in Muzaffarabad, which began providing services for the disabled in July.

The rehabilitation of water supply and irrigation schemes continued to provide significant benefits to rural and urban communities. Programmes to help restore the livelihoods of earthquake victims, including distributions of livestock and saplings and the repair of irrigation canals, were implemented in spite of logistical constraints. Difficult road conditions, unpredictable weather and landslides were constant operational challenges and risks, requiring a strict approach to safety and security.

Cooperation with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society continued in the field of tracing, in the earthquake-affected areas and in regions hit by flooding. A review of the National Society's first-aid strategy was carried out.

CIVILIANS

Assisting residents and displaced people

Victims of the October 2005 earthquake continued to recover. Many of the camps housing displaced people closed and the occupants returned to their villages. Livelihood-support projects for earthquake-affected people continued.

The livestock project run jointly with the German Red Cross was completed, with nearly 2,000 cows with calves distributed between May and November. Improvements made after a review of the 2006 distributions reduced calf mortality and doubled milk production. The beneficiaries had enough milk for their families and a surplus, which was either shared within the community or sold. The 26 ICRC-trained community animal health workers improved the animal health care system and contributed to the cows' increased productivity. Ten local people were trained in artificial insemination and given equipment.

Some 24,000 people had better access to milling facilities after the ICRC provided financial and material assistance for the repair of nine local water mills. The local mills charged less than mills in large towns, and further savings could be made on travel time and costs. Since some farmers had given the lack of local milling facilities as a reason for not planting as many crops, this development encouraged them to plant more. Earthquake-affected people also received walnut saplings. After three to four years, the nuts produced by the mature trees would increase vulnerable families' incomes by up to 30%.

After fleeing violent clashes in the Swat Valley in December, some 3,500 IDPs received blankets and soap. People affected by floods in Baluchistan received shelter materials, clothing and soap from the Pakistani Red Crescent with ICRC logistical and material support.

- 45,155 people (6,581 households) received essential household items
- 220,157 people (31,451 households) benefited from agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 13,139 people from the provision of livestock
 - 166,257 people from the community animal health worker training programme
 - 16,562 people from distributions of walnut saplings
 - 24,199 people from repairs to water mills

Rural residents in Muzaffarabad district continued to build gravity-fed water schemes for irrigation and home consumption with ICRC materials and technical support, provided in consultation with village water committees. By the end of the year, some 100 rural water supply schemes and one urban scheme were completed, providing safe water to approximately 80,000 people. Four irrigation schemes were rehabilitated, allowing some 2,000 people to increase their crop yields.

The ICRC continued to support the Ministry of Health in its efforts to ensure access to health care for victims of the earthquake. People in the Jhelum and Neelum valleys benefited from services provided by the primary health care units in Chinari, Dhanni and Pattika. The reconstruction of three health care centres in the earthquake-affected area was completed. In parallel, local health teams received the necessary training to run the health facilities themselves. As a result, by mid-July, Ministry of Health staff were running all of the health facilities. The ICRC monitored the health facilities until December, when support to the health programme ended.

- 172,188 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 88,000 people from repairs to primary health care centres aimed at restoring medical services disrupted by the earthquake

In the 3 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 25,700):

- 18,137 people given consultations, including 2,644 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 15,493 attending curative consultations
- 14,219 vaccine doses administered (including 11,840 to children aged five or under and 1,433 to women of childbearing age)
- 294 patients referred to secondary care, including 145 obstetric cases
- 122 health education sessions held

Tracing missing persons and helping maintain family links

Family members dispersed as a result of armed confrontations or separated by detention continued to use RCMs to keep in contact with one another. When approached by people who suspected that their relatives had been detained in neighbouring countries, the ICRC crosschecked its records of detainees visited and sought verification from the authorities concerned, informing the families of the results. In partnership with the Pakistani Red Crescent, the ICRC sought to determine the fate of persons reported missing after the earthquake. This involved checking official records, interviewing potential witnesses, keeping in close contact with families searching for relatives and conducting various media and awareness campaigns. Efforts to build the capacity of the National Society's tracing service continued.

- 1,568 RCMs collected from and 1,706 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 89 people (including 26 females and 31 minors at the time of disappearance); 39 people located; 75 people (including 16 females and 23 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 case of an unaccompanied/separated child still being handled
- 12 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Since 2002, detainees repatriated from Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay had been receiving ICRC visits while in Pakistani detention facilities pending their release. After their release, the ICRC conducted follow-up visits to them at home and assisted those who needed help in accessing medical care or returning to work. These home follow-up visits also included people released from detention facilities in India.

After obtaining the necessary authorization, the ICRC began to visit people held under the authority of the Ministry of Interior. Based on its observations during these visits, the ICRC pursued a confidential dialogue with the relevant authorities.

- 32,620 detainees visited, of whom 338 monitored individually (including 13 females and 11 minors) and 328 newly registered (including 13 females and 10 minors), during 30 visits to 19 places of detention
- 140 RCMs collected from and 20 RCMs distributed to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

Care for people wounded in violence

Despite having limited access to areas of North and South Waziristan affected by fighting, the ICRC maintained its support to 13 hospitals treating weapon-wounded patients transferred from those areas, and covered the costs of their surgical and medical treatment. Hospitals in the area received medicines and medical materials. The number of patients supported in these hospitals was relatively low during the first five months of the year, owing partly to a lull in the fighting and partly to two security incidents at the ICRC's Peshawar sub-delegation, after which routine activities were put on hold. The assistance continued until the end of the year. To improve health care for the wounded, local surgeons and

health workers received war-surgery and first-aid training. Other hospitals in NWFP received medicines and medical materials on an ad hoc basis.

- ▶ 38 surgeons and 59 nurses in Peshawar and Quetta trained in war-surgery techniques
- ▶ 20 health workers in Peshawar trained in first aid

In the 10 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 711 patients (including 96 women and 70 children) admitted: of whom 668 weapon-wounded (including 88 women, 61 children, and 22 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 28 other surgical cases and 15 medical patients
- ▶ 1,318 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 182 outpatients given consultations, including 317 attending surgical or medical consultations

Physical rehabilitation

Amputees and other disabled people were fitted with artificial limbs or other mobility devices through the ICRC's comprehensive referral system for patients from earthquake-affected and isolated conflict-affected areas. The Pakistan Institute for Prosthetic and Orthotic Sciences in Peshawar and the Christian Hospital in Quetta fitted patients referred to them by the ICRC, which reimbursed the costs. To improve the quality and sustainability of services, the centres began to introduce polypropylene technology and provide staff with further training, with support from the ICRC. Direct ICRC support to the Fauji Foundation in Rawalpindi ceased in May, when ICRC-trained staff moved to the new ICRC physical rehabilitation centre in Muzaffarabad. In September, the Ministry of Health and the ICRC signed a five-year memorandum of understanding with respect to the Muzaffarabad centre, which was to provide services to 160 disabled people. The Pakistani prime minister opened the centre on the second anniversary of the earthquake in October. As part of the centre's micro-economic assistance programme, in a pilot project, disabled people received grants to help them start small businesses and become more self-sufficient.

People with spinal cord injuries faced difficulties in receiving home care upon their discharge from medical facilities. To respond to these needs, the ICRC established a home care programme in Peshawar, setting up mobile outreach services for ongoing training and support for local carers.

- ▶ 2,157 patients (including 437 women and 354 children) received services at 4 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 464 new patients (including 57 women and 30 children) fitted with prostheses and 308 (including 33 women and 137 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 501 prostheses (including 66 for women, 32 for children and 240 for mine victims), 502 orthoses (including 42 for women, 267 for children and 21 for mine victims), 385 crutches and 17 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Discussions continued between the authorities and the ICRC on IHL implementation. The ICRC also maintained contacts with relevant government officials in order to ensure support for its activities and mandate.

With the ICRC's support, three officials from the Ministries of Law, Justice and Human Rights, Defence and Foreign Affairs attended a symposium in Beijing, China, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols (see *Beijing regional*).

The Research Society of International Law and the ICRC continued to plan workshops for various ministries within the framework of efforts to incorporate the 1949 Geneva Conventions into Pakistan's national legislation.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Pakistan armed forces continued to integrate IHL into their doctrine, training and operations. Discussions began with the army and air force to establish a formal basis for the teaching of IHL using the 2003 curriculum or a modified version of it. Pakistan's air force renewed efforts to integrate IHL fully into its training programmes. A train-the-trainer programme at the Pakistan army's Military Academy began in April.

- ▶ 247 army instructors participated in IHL train-the-trainer courses
- ▶ 43 instructors from the Frontier Force Infantry Regional Training Centre participated in an IHL train-the-trainer course
- ▶ 134 air force officers participated in IHL seminars
- ▶ 23 navy officers participated in an IHL train-the-trainer course
- ▶ 896 army, air force and navy officers and non-commissioned officers attended IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ some 450 graduating cadets of the Pakistan Military Academy attended an IHL presentation

Negotiations on launching an IHL programme with the police continued.

- ▶ some 150 police personnel attended dissemination sessions on IHL and international human rights law

CIVIL SOCIETY

Journalists from both religious and secular print and electronic media in Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Rawalpindi participated in workshops and dissemination sessions on the ICRC and humanitarian issues. In cooperation with the National Society and the International Federation, the ICRC also sponsored an award for journalists.

The ICRC and faculties relevant to IHL in universities discussed opportunities and ways to introduce IHL as a credit course in their curricula.

- ▶ 40 students sponsored to attend the national round of the Henry Dunant moot court competition
- ▶ a winning team from the national round sponsored to represent Pakistan in the regional Henry Dunant moot court competition in India
- ▶ a team from Pakistan participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain
- ▶ members of religious circles attended 5 seminars on IHL and Islamic law
- ▶ 3 lecturers sponsored to attend the 10th South Asian Teaching Session on IHL held in Hyderabad, India (see *New Delhi regional*)

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society consolidated its activities in relation to the emergency phase of the earthquake response, developing a three-year plan to phase out these activities and move to longer-term programmes, mainly in disaster management and health. As part of this process, the National Society was able to focus on developing its first-aid and tracing capacities.

The Red Crescent branch in Pakistan-administered Kashmir moved into new premises donated by the Turkish Red Crescent Society, and the National Society extended its presence to two more districts. With ICRC support, it established a branch in Bannu in order to be able to reach conflict-affected people in the FATA.

Some 50 National Society staff participated in tracing workshops in Karachi, Lahore and Muzaffarabad organized by a joint team of National Society and ICRC staff and designed to reinforce their skills and response capacities.

A review of the National Society's first-aid programme, supported since 2004 by the ICRC, was carried out by an expert from the British Red Cross, who drafted a three-year strategy to standardize, strengthen, publicize and broaden the action of the National Society in this field. The National Society was in the process of reviewing the draft strategy with a view to adopting and implementing it. The recommendations included upgrading first-aid training and developing first-aid response teams in communities vulnerable to natural disaster and conflict.

Some 20 National Society volunteers received training in proper hygiene and sanitation practices. This training would be put to use in areas of Pakistan-administered Kashmir where people had benefited from the ICRC's rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems in order to increase the health benefits of the programme.

Coordination with all Movement partners working in Pakistan took place on a regular basis.



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 KCHF)

Protection	1,783
Assistance	2,603
Prevention	1,044
Cooperation with National Societies	626
General	-

► **6,055**

of which: Overheads 370

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94%
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PERSONNEL

15	expatriates
79	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- monitored the situation in conflict-affected areas and endeavoured to increase knowledge of and respect for IHL and the ICRC among weapon bearers
- provided food to some 64,000 civilians and essential household items to some 67,000 civilians, in cooperation with the Philippine National Red Cross
- carried out water and sanitation projects for some 113,000 IDPs, with the National Society
- shared a summary detention report with high-level authorities to raise their awareness of prison conditions and to mobilize support for prison reform
- visited some 62,000 detainees in 95 places of detention

CONTEXT

The year 2007 was dominated by the national elections held on 14 May and by ongoing political instability stemming from new allegations of corruption against the president. The UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions conducted a fact-finding mission in the country in February and submitted his findings to the authorities in October. Targeted killings of opposition party leaders, journalists and human rights activists persisted, as did conflict-related incidents, albeit of low intensity.

The civilian population living in conflict-prone areas continued to be affected by armed clashes between government forces and armed groups, which often caused displacement. Encounters between the military and the New People's Army (NPA) caused further deterioration of living conditions in remote areas inhabited by chronically vulnerable groups who often had access to few, if any, public services. Clashes between government forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in Mindanao continued, while ongoing peace talks between the two parties had yet to yield results. On the island of Sulu, violence between the military and factions of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) resulted in the displacement of some 12,000 families, while implementation of the 1996 peace agreement between the two parties was still pending. The activities of the Abu Sayyaf Group and other armed groups presented a further challenge to State security.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	62,001	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	520	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	64,201	15% 70%
		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	92,330	13% 43%
	<i>of whom females</i>	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	2,142	7%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	127,155	34% 33%
Number of visits carried out	197	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Number of places of detention visited	95	Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	181	44 19
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	37	4
RCMs collected	2	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	30	4 1
RCMs distributed	6				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC's main focus in the Philippines was to address the impact of armed conflict and internal violence on the civilian population by improving its access to the victims and reinforcing understanding of IHL among civilians and respect for that body of law by the armed forces and other weapon bearers.

The ICRC concentrated its presence in conflict-affected areas in order to monitor the situation, assist victims and make direct representations to weapon bearers regarding alleged violations of IHL. In cooperation with the Philippine National Red Cross, the ICRC provided conflict-affected people with food and essential household items, worked to ensure access to safe water and proper sanitation facilities for IDPs and initiated livelihood-support projects in remote communities in Mindanao. It covered the medical costs of people wounded in conflict-related incidents, supplied hospitals with medical materials to treat such cases, mobilized external resources and stakeholders, and provided specialized surgery training to civilian and military medical professionals.

Visits to people detained in connection with the armed conflict and to military officials held in connection with attempted insurrection continued. Delegates assessed detainees' treatment and conditions of detention, paying special attention to the needs of women and minors. Urgent ad hoc improvements were made to prison infrastructure, such as increasing ventilation and installing bunk beds to alleviate the effects of severe overcrowding, and hygiene and recreational items were distributed. Recommendations made to the prison authorities included the rehabilitation of water supply systems and the provision of improved energy-saving stoves, and progress was made in implementing these measures. The ICRC also assisted the prison administration in mobilizing government support for further improvements. A summary detention report was finalized and handed over to the relevant authorities. Following the distribution of the report, the authorities began to address its recommendations.

The ICRC pursued efforts to promote knowledge of and respect for IHL among the armed forces, the police and various armed groups, concentrating on dissemination at field level. Field contacts with other humanitarian organizations and local NGOs were expanded to enhance coordination in responding to the needs of conflict victims. Dissemination sessions were also held for representatives of these organizations to explain the ICRC's role and mandate.

Sessions on IHL were conducted for local authorities and for college and university students. Law students and lecturers from various higher-education establishments participated in national and regional IHL events. The ICRC participated in national fora on the legal aspects of recruitment of child soldiers and initiated bilateral discussions with relevant authorities to support the implementation of the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, which entered into force in May 2006.

The National Society continued to be an essential partner for the ICRC in its operations. Cooperation with the Philippine Red Cross was consolidated through a sustained dialogue and operational meetings. In addition, the ICRC continued to assist the National Society's capacity-building efforts.

CIVILIANS

Regular contact was established and maintained with the military, armed groups, local government authorities, residents, religious representatives and other influential members of civil society to gain a better understanding of the humanitarian situation as it evolved in violence-affected areas. Whenever possible, and on a case-by-case basis, the ICRC communicated its concerns regarding the increased regularity of armed incidents to weapon bearers and civilian authorities and reminded them of their obligations under IHL. Thousands of civilians living in conflict-affected and conflict-prone areas participated in dissemination sessions on IHL.

Assisting IDPs and residents

The ongoing armed conflicts in the Philippines continued to affect the lives and livelihoods of civilians, who sought refuge from the fighting in places where they could stay for days or months. Frequent, repeated and long-term displacement in Mindanao meant that families had little or no access to their farms and the most vulnerable faced food insecurity. During armed clashes, homes were sometimes looted or burned and farm animals killed, leading to further deterioration of the economic security of these vulnerable communities.

Combined protection and economic-security missions enabled the ICRC and the National Society to monitor closely the needs of IDPs and residents affected by armed violence throughout the country. The ICRC coordinated with local authorities in delivering assistance to conflict-affected people. Concurrently and in cooperation with the respective local Red Cross chapters, the ICRC assisted IDPs where

the authorities could not provide for the population. Civilians in Mindanao, Luzon and Visayas with no or limited access to their means of livelihood received food and essential household items. IDPs in evacuation sites in Maguindanao, Sulu, North Cotabato and Samar provinces had access to safe water and proper sanitation facilities.

To help people in conflict-affected areas cope with the effects of violence, the ICRC initiated livelihood-support projects, following an assessment by an agronomist. At the end of March, the first project started in eastern Mindanao province. The beneficiaries received basic tools for cultivation, rice and corn seed, and training. Implementing these projects also helped the ICRC to better understand and respond to the needs of people living in conflict-affected areas.

- ▶ 64,201 conflict-affected IDPs (11,498 households) received food
- ▶ 67,105 conflict-affected IDPs (12,206 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 2,142 conflict-affected IDPs (400 households) benefited from agricultural and veterinary initiatives
- ▶ 113,250 conflict-affected IDPs benefited from water and sanitation projects

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held in facilities under the responsibility of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), the provincial authorities, the Bureau of Corrections, the armed forces and the police. Confidential reports were submitted to the authorities following the visits. Particularly vulnerable detainees, such as minors, women, the elderly, the sick and the mentally ill, were closely monitored by the ICRC. The prison authorities used ICRC recommendations to implement improvements. Detainees who were monitored individually received visits from their relatives thanks to a programme run jointly with the Philippine Red Cross.

The ICRC completed a summary detention report focusing on the humanitarian consequences of judicial shortcomings and overcrowding and on health in prisons. In May, the ICRC started to distribute the report to the authorities concerned in order to raise their awareness of the conditions in most prisons. It was hoped that the report would support the BJMP by initiating a dialogue with the authorities and mobilizing the government and local experts to improve the prison system. High-level discussions between the relevant authorities and the ICRC continued throughout the year. The ICRC mobilized the support of members of the international community present in the Philippines in advancing the process of prison reform. The different branches of government expressed their willingness to follow the report's recommendations and to allocate more resources for prison reform. In November, plans to build a new jail in Quezon City to alleviate overcrowding were announced. Moreover, the BJMP made known its intention to allocate a budget to improve prison infrastructure and to increase both the health and the food budgets for detainees.

- ▶ 62,001 detainees visited, of whom 520 monitored individually (including 35 females and 14 minors) and 110 newly registered (including 21 females and 10 minors), during 197 visits to 95 places of detention
- ▶ 246 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Improving living conditions

Detainees benefited from ICRC-supported water and habitat projects carried out in cooperation with the BJMP and the Bureau of

Corrections to improve living conditions in prisons (a series of assessments in 30 jails was conducted and followed up by technical recommendations). Special attention was paid to improving ventilation, safe water supply and sleeping conditions. The health of detainees in 56 jails in Luzon, Mindanao and Visayas was monitored by the ICRC, and the authorities were alerted to any problems, with special emphasis on tuberculosis, nutritional diseases and mental illness. In some cases, jail infirmaries received medicines, medical equipment and cleaning materials and detainees received hygiene items. In particular, detainees displaying symptoms of scabies were treated accordingly. The ICRC repeatedly stressed the importance of a balanced diet and preventive health care for detainees, as well as the need to check for possible cases of tuberculosis. Prison staff received training in food safety, food economics and monitoring detainee health and were given guidelines for identifying and treating nutritional illnesses.

With the aim of improving conditions in jails, the BJMP and the ICRC agreed to launch two projects introducing biogas in prisons, which would also reduce the consumption of fuel in kitchens.

Detainees in prisons benefited from the distribution of hygiene and/or cleaning materials, games, books, other recreational items, medical supplies and/or kitchen utensils.

- ▶ 13,905 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 4,404 detainees from the construction of septic tanks and a biogas plant in Manila City Jail
 - 2,207 detainees from improvements to the ventilation system in Bulacan Provincial Jail
 - 1,026 detainees from the installation of a centrifugal water pump and the construction of bunk beds in Davao City Jail
- ▶ 25,225 detainees received essential household items

WOUNDED AND SICK

Armed clashes and other violent incidents often occurred in remote areas where the population had very limited access to health care. Expertise in war surgery and burn management was mainly only available in urban centres and victims rarely had the financial means to make the journey. In Mindanao, the ICRC assessed the medical needs of weapon-wounded people, mobilized and coordinated with the health authorities and relevant organizations, and provided first-aid training to health workers and direct assistance to conflict victims, including the weapon-wounded and amputees, where necessary. Essential drugs, vaccines, medical materials and supplies were pre-positioned in selected Philippine Red Cross chapters and hospitals.

- ▶ 300 people attended the 17th Asia-Pacific Military Medicine Conference, where the ICRC gave a presentation on its activities
- ▶ 181 weapon-wounded patients received medical care thanks to ICRC support for their transport and treatment costs
- ▶ 37 amputees received physical rehabilitation and prosthetic support (including the provision of 30 prostheses, 91 orthopaedic assistive devices and 2 wheelchairs)
- ▶ some 300 health professionals (civilian and military) attended 2 war-surgery seminars
- ▶ a staff member of the Davao Jubilee Centre sponsored to attend a three-year training course at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics

AUTHORITIES

The authorities and the ICRC discussed the ratification of Additional Protocol I and a potential national law on IHL implementation. The Office of the Executive Secretary and the Supreme Court Chief Justice expressed their willingness to address the shortcomings of the criminal justice system mentioned in the ICRC's summary detention report (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

The Philippine Red Cross-led national IHL committee received ICRC support, including sponsoring the participation of committee members in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, during which participants shared best practices and exchanged their experiences of national IHL implementation. At the committee's request, the ICRC began researching the compatibility of IHL and the new anti-terrorism law.

The House of Representatives gave the ICRC the opportunity to share its expertise during a round-table on small arms and light weapons and the proposed arms-trade treaty.

During the Philippine chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ICRC lent its expertise to ASEAN members during their discussions on the new charter. IHL principles were included in the charter adopted at the end of the year.

Government representatives attended the regional symposium in China commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols (see *Beijing regional*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Dialogue with the armed forces and insurgent groups regarding their obligations under IHL continued. Field dissemination sessions aimed to remind members of the armed forces, the police and armed groups of the need to respect civilians and to ensure the security of humanitarian workers.

The following groups participated in IHL dissemination sessions in the field and at their headquarters:

- 3,819 officers and soldiers from the armed forces
- 112 members of a paramilitary group in Mindanao
- 87 officers about to be deployed with UN peacekeeping forces
- 521 police officers in Calabarzon, Mindoro and Mindanao
- 2 senior police officers during an event on law enforcement in peacekeeping operations, held in Melbourne, Australia
- 30 senior police officers participating in a forum on IHL and international human rights law organized by the ICRC and the newly created Police Human Rights Affairs Office
- fighters from the MNLF, the MILF and the NPA

In parallel, military authorities worked to integrate IHL into their training and operations, with the ICRC's support. Some 300 IHL teaching kits were produced for the armed forces with the ICRC's financial support. The armed forces established a human rights office in January to help with the process of integrating IHL into their training.

- 37 military officers participated in IHL train-the-trainer courses
- 47 military officers completed an IHL workshop at the Western Mindanao Command

- 2 officers from the armed forces participated in the regional training seminar on peace-support operations, held in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur regional*)
- some 130 officers from countries in the region participated in the staff exercise, with the ICRC's input, which took place before the multinational Balikatan exercise

CIVIL SOCIETY

Extensive communication in the field continued, aimed at raising awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities, including dissemination to influential religious leaders.

- 454 college and university students and teachers attended 4 IHL sessions organized by the ICRC in Mindanao
- 50 lawyers based in Mindanao studied IHL
- law students and lecturers sponsored to attend national and international IHL events and competitions
- members of the Philippine Association of Law Schools attended a presentation on the ICRC's activities

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Philippine Red Cross was a key operational partner for the ICRC, and cooperation between the two organizations enhanced the ICRC's proximity to conflict-affected people (see *Civilians*).

The National Society's Disaster Management Services and the ICRC worked on projects such as the development of appropriate assessment forms for natural disaster and conflict situations and safer access to victims for National Society staff. The ICRC also supported conflict-preparedness training for Philippine Red Cross chapters in conflict-affected areas, enhancing their capacities through field exercises and case studies.

The National Society's capacity to respond to emergencies was reinforced through the donation of 10 water and sanitation kits and emergency-response training, focusing on the assessment of water supplies during emergencies. The training facilitated use of the water equipment following the damage caused by typhoon Lando in northern Mindanao, benefiting some 9,000 IDPs in evacuation centres.

The Philippine Red Cross also facilitated family visits for detainees and carried out IHL dissemination to local government officials and health workers.

The ICRC's cooperation with the National Society included participating in a series of "IHL on the Air" radio broadcasts and co-organizing events to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols.

Coordination with Movement partners present in the Philippines took place on a regular basis.

- 25 Philippine Red Cross emergency-response and 50 technical staff participated in water and sanitation training sessions held jointly by the ICRC, the International Federation, the Spanish Red Cross and the German Red Cross
- staff of the National Society participated in a training session organized by the ICRC and the International Federation on assessing economic security needs in conflict-affected areas



sri lanka

The ICRC has worked in Sri Lanka since 1989. Operations focus on: protecting civilians from violations of IHL, including the recruitment of minors; ensuring the safe passage of civilians across ceasefire lines; visiting detainees; boosting water supply and economic security for IDPs and conflict-affected communities; improving access to physical rehabilitation facilities; supporting military training in IHL; and helping the parties resolve the issue of missing persons. In the north and east, the ICRC also coordinates the Movement response for victims of the conflict and victims of the 2004 tsunami.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	6,870
Assistance	19,672
Prevention	1,974
Cooperation with National Societies	1,673
General	-

► **30,189**

of which: Overheads **1,842**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	78%
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PERSONNEL

77 expatriates
471 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- made high-level representations regarding alleged IHL violations and cases of disappearances to the parties concerned
- visited some 24,000 detainees, following up 2,705 individually in 158 places of detention
- provided assistance, sometimes in cooperation with local branches of the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, to some 300,000 conflict-affected people in the east, including food, essential household items, shelter materials and improved water facilities
- increased its emergency assistance to medical facilities, which treated thousands of weapon-wounded patients
- in its role as a neutral intermediary, facilitated the safe passage of civilians at various crossing points and the transfer of human remains across lines
- maintained its operational partnership with the Sri Lankan Red Cross

CONTEXT

Although the ceasefire agreement was nominally still in place, the fighting along the east coast and on the edges of the Vanni that began in summer 2006 between the Sri Lankan armed forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) persisted. Initially, clashes were concentrated in the Trincomalee area and at the forward defence line south of Jaffna, but they spread to Ampara and Batticaloa, and later to Mannar and Vavuniya districts. In January, government forces took control of the Vakkarai area in the north of Batticaloa district. The following month, the army started an offensive against the LTTE-controlled part of Batticaloa district, triggering a serious displacement crisis. By July, the army had taken control of the last LTTE-controlled areas on the east coast. By the end of the year, many of the displaced had returned to their homes.

Shelling between the Jaffna peninsula and the Vanni continued throughout the year, isolating the peninsula from the rest of the island and hampering the flow of essential supplies and the freedom of movement of the population. Aerial bombardments of the Vanni intensified and military activities on the southern edge of the Vanni in Mannar and Vavuniya districts increased. The LTTE carried out its first ever aerial bombardments. No progress towards peace was made.

With fighting continuing, there were allegations of attacks against civilians, targeted killings, disappearances and child recruitment throughout the country. During 2007, the estimated number of IDPs peaked at 300,000 but had decreased to 187,000 by the end of the year. These IDPs, as well as the residents of the communities hosting them, were in dire need of emergency relief. The presence of a large number of IDPs burdened the overstretched infrastructure, which in some cases had been damaged by years of armed conflict and natural disaster.

The presence of armed groups in the east was an additional destabilizing factor in the country.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS			
Detainees visited	24,277	Economic security, water and habitat			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	2,705	Food	Beneficiaries	416,808	45% 10%
	of whom females	181	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	255,764 45% 10%
	of whom minors	210	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	109,300 45% 10%
Number of visits carried out	633	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	86,083	36% 38%
Number of places of detention visited	158	Health			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	Structures	18	
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Consultations	Patients	6,211	
RCMs collected	2,371		of which curative	Patients	2,000 3,000
RCMs distributed	2,125		of which ante/post-natal	Patients	211
People reunited with their families	3	Immunizations	Doses	538	
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		WOUNDED AND SICK			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1,322	Hospitals supported	Structures	23	
	of whom females	Admissions	Patients	400	50
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Physical rehabilitation			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	1,134	Patients receiving services	Patients	231	55 9
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	7,635	Prostheses delivered	Units	67	21 2
	of which for females	Orthoses delivered	Units	23	10 5
	of which for minors at the time of disappearance				
	1,024				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	3				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	629				

ICRC ACTION

As humanitarian needs increased during the first half of the year, the ICRC stepped up its protection and assistance activities. The ICRC issued a budget extension appeal in May to cover the expanded activities. As the armed conflict shifted from the east to the north, the delegation closed its Akkaraipattu office.

Two workers of the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society were abducted in Colombo and murdered on 1 June and a volunteer was abducted and killed on 14 December. These incidents highlighted the difficult security conditions in which humanitarian workers were operating in Sri Lanka. Having ended its presence at the Muhamalai crossing point in August 2006, the ICRC withdrew from Uylankulam crossing point in September 2007 after repeated fighting and shelling in both these areas.

Humanitarian organizations, the ICRC included, faced difficulties in gaining access to conflict victims as they often lacked authorization and security guarantees from the parties to the conflict. The procurement of essential supplies was occasionally blocked, hampering the effective implementation of certain projects. Owing to the consequences of the armed conflict, it was decided in June – in consultation with the partner National Societies concerned and the Sri Lankan Red Cross – to end the community-based health programmes begun in the north and north-east after the 2004 tsunami.

The ICRC collected allegations of IHL violations and reminded all parties of their obligations under the applicable rules of IHL, making confidential representations, where necessary, to the parties regarding specific cases brought to its attention. Detention visits continued, with a focus on security detainees held under the Emergency Regulations and former LTTE fighters held in custody after surrendering to government forces. Visits also took place to people detained by the LTTE.

Sometimes in cooperation with local branches of the Sri Lankan Red Cross, the ICRC provided water, sanitation and shelter to IDPs throughout the north and east. It also upgraded the water and sanitation facilities in three referral hospitals. It was further able to help restore the livelihoods of more than 255,000 people by providing essential household items, agricultural supplies, fishing nets and boats. On three occasions, the ICRC stepped in to replenish WFP rice stocks when they ran low. WFP then distributed the rice to some 322,000 IDPs.

As the security situation deteriorated, support to medical facilities increased and greater numbers of medical evacuations of the wounded and the sick were carried out. Following an assessment in March, the ICRC decided to support the Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation in the second half of the year.

Despite the ongoing armed conflict, IHL promotion continued among the armed forces and armed groups, the public, the media, academic institutions and other audiences.

Cooperation with and capacity-building of the Sri Lankan Red Cross continued, and various conflict-related activities of the National Society and the ICRC in the areas of relief, health and shelter assistance were coordinated and some jointly implemented in the field. The ICRC was lead agency for the Movement on security-related issues. It also coordinated its activities with those of the UN and other humanitarian actors working in Sri Lanka in order to avoid duplication or gaps in relief.

CIVILIANS

Civilian security and family links

Civilians continued to suffer the consequences of the armed conflict between government forces and the LTTE, mainly in the north and east of the country, but also in Colombo. From June

onwards, IDPs in the east gradually returned home. By year's end, some 110,000 IDPs had returned to their homes, while 20,000 were still living in camps or with host families. During the second half of the year, civilians living in the north were increasingly affected by the armed conflict as the hostilities shifted to those areas.

The ICRC collected allegations of IHL violations against the civilian population and made representations to the parties to the armed conflict in an effort to bring them to a halt. It also pressed for the demobilization of recruited minors and followed up children who had been captured, detained and then released by the government but were unable to return to their home villages for fear of reprisal.

Separated family members, including demobilized minors, kept in touch with one another through RCMs. Some 360,000 people and 55,000 vehicles passed safely between government- and LTTE-controlled areas, facilitated by the ICRC's presence at crossing points.

People came to the ICRC seeking help to find family members who had disappeared or allegedly been arrested. The ICRC discussed cases with the parties to the armed conflict, requesting information to transmit to the families or proposing measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

Government forces and the LTTE approached the ICRC for help with the transfer of human remains across lines.

- ▶ 1,355 RCMs collected from and 1,531 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 1,322 people (including 77 females and 413 minors at the time of disappearance); 1,134 people located; 7,635 people (including 378 females and 1,024 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 3 people reunited with their families
- ▶ 3 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 252 sets of human remains transferred
- ▶ 80 forensic practitioners participated in workshops on the identification and management of human remains

Assisting conflict victims

IDPs, returnees, and resident and host communities received emergency assistance to help them cope with the effects of the armed conflict.

IDPs in camps and in host communities in Batticaloa, Kilinochchi, Mannar and Trincomalee received, as needed, essential household items, such as kitchen sets and hygiene kits, and shelter materials. IDPs housed in overcrowded public buildings without facilities and services were provided with shelter. In order to preserve IDPs' privacy and provide them with a safe refuge, the ICRC built single-family shelters. IDPs also had improved access to clean water and sanitation facilities after the ICRC trucked in water, disinfected existing wells, repaired existing and built new water systems and latrines. The water and sanitation systems of health and education structures used to accommodate IDPs were rehabilitated.

In January, April/May and December, the ICRC supplied WFP with rice, which was subsequently distributed to some 322,000 IDPs in Batticaloa and Trincomalee districts.

Some 94,000 IDPs and returnees in Batticaloa, Jaffna, Trincomalee and Vavuniya received food parcels from the ICRC to supplement

their diet. Returnees also received shelter materials and benefited from the rehabilitation of wells and the construction of latrines.

Conflict-affected residents and host communities, mainly in Ampara, Jaffna and Trincomalee, benefited from the rehabilitation of water systems and the construction of latrines. Links with the National Water Supply and Drainage Board and local authorities were developed in order to implement projects such as long-term manual hand pump maintenance and repair, especially in areas where the conflict had receded.

- ▶ 416,808 IDPs and returnees (104,202 households) received food
- ▶ 255,764 people (64,541 households), including 223,852 IDPs and returnees (56,563 households), received essential household items
- ▶ 86,083 people, including 54,330 IDPs and returnees, benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 21,489 IDPs from repairs to wells and water distribution systems camps
 - 30,686 IDPs from the construction of sanitation systems and the provision of shelter materials in camps
 - 2,155 IDPs from repairs to water and sanitation systems in welfare centres
 - 24,431 people from repairs to hand pumps and wells in rural areas
 - 7,323 people from repairs to water systems in health referral facilities
 - 6,000 people from upgrades to the pumping station in Jaffna

Helping to restore livelihoods

The majority of conflict-affected families displaced in the east faced difficulties in resuming their livelihoods in their villages of origin. The most vulnerable received help in doing so in the form of agricultural supplies, fishing material or other assistance from the National Society and the ICRC.

People in Jaffna and the Vanni suffered from the closure of the main north/south road due to ongoing fighting. The closure resulted in decreased employment opportunities and rising inflation. Civilians in these areas received agricultural supplies and livestock support.

- ▶ 109,300 people (27,325 households), including 66,584 IDPs and returnees, benefited from micro-economic initiatives

Improving health care

In its role as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC assisted the authorities in carrying out health activities by facilitating access of health workers to conflict areas and supporting health centres. Vaccination campaigns and maternal health activities in Vavuniya district, partly controlled by the LTTE, benefited in particular from this support.

In the 18 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 27,600):

- ▶ 6,211 people given consultations, including 211 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 6,000 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 538 vaccine doses administered (282 to children aged five or under and 256 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 584 patients referred to secondary care
- ▶ 503 health education sessions held

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Government-held detainees

Visits to detainees enabled ICRC delegates to monitor the detention conditions and treatment of people arrested in relation to the armed conflict, in particular those held in police stations under the Emergency Regulations, which allowed for extended custody in places of temporary detention without a court appearance. Visits were also regularly conducted to security detainees in Boosa Detention Camp and to former LTTE fighters who had surrendered to the security forces.

Some 20,000 detainees received recreational items, such as indoor/outdoor games and books. With ICRC financial support, families visited detained relatives, and detainees returned home following their release.

- 24,118 detainees visited, of whom 2,670 monitored individually (including 178 females and 205 minors) and 2,163 newly registered (including 151 females and 166 minors), during 609 visits to 148 places of detention

LTTE-held detainees

Dialogue with the LTTE on a memorandum of understanding on detention resumed during the second half of the year but did not reach a conclusion. The ICRC had sporadic access to detainees in LTTE custody, most of whom were being held on criminal charges. The only security detainees visited were six members of the government armed forces. Detainees received recreational items.

- 159 detainees visited, of whom 35 monitored individually (including 3 females and 5 minors) and 9 newly registered (including 1 female and 3 minors), during 24 visits to 10 places of detention

Family links for all detainees

- 1,016 RCMs collected from and 594 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 880 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 629 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

The ICRC provided medical supplies and medicines to 23 hospitals and 31 first-aid posts, mainly in the north and east, and maintained an emergency stock for the treatment of 100 weapon-wounded patients in the Vanni. It was unable to obtain permission to deploy a surgical team to Kilinochchi Hospital.

- in the 7 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data, 400 weapon-wounded admitted
- in the 31 ICRC-supported first-aid posts that provided data, 5,373 wounded people treated

The transfer of patients from Jaffna Teaching Hospital by ICRC-chartered aircraft continued. The aircraft also carried medical cargo from the Ministry of Health, such as sensitive medical equipment and vaccines requiring a cold chain.

- some 600 patients in need of specialized treatment transported to Colombo and some 500 discharged patients transported back to Jaffna

As one of the few organizations able to work in the area of Eachchilampattai in Trincomalee district, the ICRC ensured access to health care for the resident population by transporting nine patients to referral health facilities in Serunuwara or Trincomalee. In Batticaloa district, 15 people in need of medical or surgical treatment were evacuated from IDP camps to Valaichenai Base Hospital and Batticaloa Teaching Hospital. Some 8,000 patients crossed the lines from rural and district hospitals in the Vanni to reach Vavuniya General Hospital.

Physical rehabilitation

A total of 28 amputees in IDP camps in Batticaloa and Trincomalee with no access to physical rehabilitation facilities, including one child, were transported from the camps to a prosthetic/orthotic workshop in Batticaloa, provided with food and fitted with orthopaedic appliances.

An assessment was undertaken of the Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation, the only facility in Jaffna providing physical rehabilitation services. Owing to Jaffna's isolation, the NGO that had previously supported the centre was unable to continue. The ICRC decided to resume the material and technical support that it had stopped in 2002. Most patients at the centre were land-mine victims, as the peninsula remained the most heavily mined area in the country.

- 231 patients (including 55 women and 9 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 11 new patients (including 5 women) fitted with prostheses and 14 (including 7 women and 1 child) fitted with orthoses
- 67 prostheses (including 21 for women, 2 for children and 31 for mine victims), 23 orthoses (including 10 for women and 5 for children), 37 crutches and 9 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Contacts with the authorities were intensified in an effort to remind them of their obligations under IHL and to promote and obtain support for the ICRC's activities.

In April, the national IHL committee met for the first time since the adoption of the Geneva Conventions Act to discuss the possible ratification of the Additional Protocols. In August, the faculty of law of Colombo University and the ICRC hosted a national awareness-raising seminar to mark the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the 1977 Additional Protocols, which was attended by 100 senior government officials, members of the judiciary and academics. Some 40 members of the attorney general's office participated in a seminar on IHL and issues of accountability.

Government officials attended international IHL events with the ICRC's support.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Sri Lankan army ran its IHL teaching and training programme, which had been developed with ICRC assistance. The ICRC intensified its cooperation with the army and increased the number of dissemination sessions in the field, after taking on additional staff. It reviewed the army's IHL and human rights law training syllabus and sponsored officers to attend IHL courses in San Remo.

IHL training for the navy resumed in August. Dialogue on training for the air force continued, but no agreement was reached.

To increase their awareness of IHL and international human rights law, police in conflict-affected areas attended ICRC-run dissemination sessions.

The Special Task Force (STF) and the ICRC worked on a memorandum of understanding on joint IHL training activities.

Discussions with a view to establishing a formal agreement with the LTTE on IHL training did not reach a conclusion.

For the first time, various armed groups present in the east attended ICRC-led IHL dissemination sessions.

- ▶ 3,543 members of the Sri Lankan armed forces attended 52 IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ over 1,000 navy personnel attended IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ 31 STF personnel attended IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ 1,229 members of the police and Home Guards attended IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ 66 LTTE cadres attended 2 IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ 332 members of armed groups attended IHL dissemination sessions

CIVIL SOCIETY

The accuracy of reporting by the national media on the ICRC and its activities improved and the media regularly used ICRC public communication products.

The University of Colombo developed a new IHL postgraduate course with ICRC support.

A total of 22 lecturers from nine Sri Lankan universities participated in a three-day teacher-training workshop. The event helped to expand the ICRC's academic contacts, to introduce the subject of IHL to the participants and to encourage them to take steps to develop an IHL curriculum.

Dissemination sessions were organized at the Eastern University of Trincomalee and at the University of Jaffna, which also received an IHL library. The Eastern University requested the ICRC's advice in developing an optional IHL course for 70 students.

- ▶ 50 journalists attended 3 dissemination sessions
- ▶ 77 journalism students from the Institute of Journalism in Colombo attended 3 dissemination sessions
- ▶ 220 representatives of local NGOs attended 7 dissemination sessions
- ▶ 70 students participated in the first ever moot court competition in Sinhalese and Tamil, jointly organized by the University of Colombo and the ICRC
- ▶ 7 law lecturers from the University of Colombo participated in the South Asian Teaching Session on IHL (see *New Delhi*)
- ▶ 330 students and teachers at undergraduate level attended 8 awareness-raising sessions on IHL in Vavuniya and Trincomalee districts

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society remained a key humanitarian organization active in the country. Island-wide capacity-building efforts carried out by the ICRC in cooperation with the International Federation focused on boosting National Society assistance to conflict victims, the restoration of family links and dissemination.

At district level, the National Society implemented projects covering community health, emergency relief, first aid and the transfer of human remains, with ICRC funding, staff training and technical support. Branches in Batticaloa, Jaffna and Vavuniya established night-time ambulance services to ensure safe access to emergency medical treatment benefiting around 150 people each month. With the increase in conflict-related needs, eight branches in the north and east expanded and upgraded their vehicle fleets with ICRC support.

The National Society worked on strengthening its tracing programme, for which it received financial and technical support at headquarters and branch level from the ICRC.

Movement partners implementing tsunami recovery projects in the north and east enhanced their security, communications, and contacts with the authorities with help from ICRC sub-delegations. The ICRC remained the lead agency for matters pertaining to Movement security in Sri Lanka.



bangkok (regional)

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 Cambodia and Thailand and to work towards protecting and assisting vulnerable population groups. The ICRC prosthetic/orthotic project in Cambodia contributes to meeting the need for affordable, good-quality prostheses.

COVERING

Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Viet Nam

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,270
Assistance	2,696
Prevention	1,488
Cooperation with National Societies	767
General	-

► **7,221**

of which: Overheads **441**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

20	expatriates
60	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- expanded detention-related activities in Cambodia and Thailand
- monitored the humanitarian situation of the civilian population affected by the ongoing violence in southern Thailand
- provided financial assistance for the treatment of 128 weapon-wounded patients along the Thai-Myanmar border
- in cooperation with the Lao Red Cross, improved water and sanitation conditions for displaced minority populations in the Lao People's Democratic Republic
- remained a major provider of physical rehabilitation services in the region

CONTEXT

Violent incidents continued to occur almost daily in southern Thailand, with civilians increasingly suffering the effects. According to media reports, nearly 1,000 people died and more than 1,800 were injured during the year as a result of the violence, the majority of them civilians. The Thai authorities extended the Emergency Decree, deployed additional troops to the area and arrested suspected members of armed groups. General elections took place in December.

The conflict in Myanmar continued to cause a spillover effect in border areas of Thailand.

In Cambodia, communal election results confirmed the dominance of the Cambodian People's Party. After delays, the Khmer Rouge trial made significant progress and five of the most prominent former Khmer Rouge leaders still alive were arrested.

The Lao and Thai authorities concluded a bilateral agreement whereby the Lao People's Democratic Republic would take back Hmong people from Thailand whose Lao nationality had been established.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	9,381
Detainees visited and monitored individually	381
<i>of whom females</i>	1
<i>of whom minors</i>	1
Number of visits carried out	54
Number of places of detention visited	33
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	53
RCMs distributed	37
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	14

1. Cambodia and Thailand

2. All figures include Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic

3. Cambodia

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM²				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	9,920		
Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	7,540	7%	12%
WOUNDED AND SICK³				
<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>				
Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	10,841	1,337	1,030
Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,793	129	38
Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,657	287	617

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to monitor the violence in southern Thailand and intensified its contacts with government representatives and educational, religious and community leaders in order to inform them about the ICRC's mandate and activities and enhance the protection of the civilian population. Delegates carried out visits to people detained in connection with the violence in the southern provinces to check on their treatment and living conditions. They submitted confidential reports on their findings to the authorities and discussed authorization to visit places of temporary detention under the responsibility of the security forces.

On the Thai-Myanmar border, the ICRC monitored the situation of civilians and the spillover effects of the armed conflict in Myanmar and pursued contacts with armed groups present in the area in order to promote respect for IHL. It assisted more weapon-wounded patients from Myanmar than in 2006 and continued to participate in coordination meetings with other humanitarian organizations working in the area.

The ICRC expanded its visits to security detainees in Cambodia to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention and to report confidentially to the authorities on its findings. It was able to visit additional places of detention thanks to increased staff. For persistent problems that required an urgent response, the ICRC, in cooperation with the prison authorities, built new wells and carried out other ad hoc repairs to improve ventilation and access to drinking water.

The ICRC continued to play a major role in the provision of physical rehabilitation services in Cambodia, supporting two regional centres and the factory that produced prosthetic/orthotic components for the entire country.

In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the ICRC pursued its efforts, in cooperation with the Lao Red Cross, to monitor the situation and improve the living conditions of Hmong populations.

ICRC support was maintained to the various training programmes run by the region's armed forces. Promotion of IHL among the authorities, members of the media, NGOs and academic circles also continued.

The ICRC pursued programmes to strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies, particularly in the areas of IHL promotion and restoring family links.

CIVILIANS

Protecting and assisting vulnerable civilians

In southern Thailand, the ICRC further developed its network of contacts with local communities, religious leaders and education authorities and familiarized them with its protection mandate and activities. Thanks to numerous field trips to the area, the delegation gained a better understanding of the behaviour of weapon bearers and the situation of those affected by the ongoing violence. The improved knowledge helped the ICRC to strengthen dialogue with its contacts. The ICRC also assessed support given to people affected by the violence and gave some assistance to help children return to school.

The ICRC continued to monitor the situation of Myanmar citizens seeking refuge in Thailand.

Civilians were able to restore and maintain contact with relatives through the RCM and tracing services. Individuals of various nationalities were issued with travel documents, enabling them to leave their host countries legally.

- 23 RCMs collected from and 25 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 14 people issued with an ICRC travel document

The ICRC monitored the living conditions of resettled ethnic minorities in the eastern region of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Following assessments by the Lao Red Cross and the ICRC, vulnerable Hmong groups in three villages in the former Xaysomboun area (now Vientiane province) benefited from a comprehensive water, sanitation and hygiene-promotion project. In addition, a small group of Hmong who had left the remote area where they were living received basic household items.

- 670 people benefited from water and sanitation projects
- 800 people received essential household items

Khmer archives

Between 1975 and 2004, the ICRC had compiled records of family members separated as a result of the past conflict in Cambodia. With the ICRC receiving tracing requests from Cambodians abroad and having gained access to other organizations' records, these archives proved invaluable in shedding light on the fate of missing persons. Therefore, the ICRC decided to preserve these archives digitally, a process that was completed in November 2007.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Thailand

ICRC delegates visited places of detention run by the Department of Corrections to monitor the treatment and conditions of detention of people arrested in relation to the violence in the south. Their findings and recommendations were discussed with the directors of the centres and included in a confidential report handed to the relevant authorities.

Meetings took place with Royal Thai Police commissioners regarding visits to people detained under police authority. As a result, the ICRC gained access to one temporary place of detention, the Yala Police Academy.

- 261 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 1 minor) and 89 newly registered (including 1 minor), during 24 visits to 10 places of detention
- 30 RCMs collected from and 12 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 18 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Cambodia

With the help of additional staff in Cambodia, the ICRC increased the number of visits to detainees, including to places not visited in the past, to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention and report confidentially to the authorities on its findings. The ICRC also visited the new detention facility of the Khmer Rouge Trial. Inmates' general health and access to water improved after the construction of a rainwater harvesting system, the repair and replacement of water filters and taps, the administration of scabies treatment, the cleaning and repair of sewage and drainage systems, the construction of latrines, and other ad hoc repairs to improve ventilation, kitchen equipment and infrastructure. All detainees visited received hygiene products, including specific items for female detainees.

- 9,120 detainees visited, of whom 120 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 11 newly registered, during 30 visits to 23 places of detention
- 6,870 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Physical rehabilitation

According to official estimates, there were some 60,000 disabled people in Cambodia, among them 36,000 mine victims. People in need of artificial limbs and physiotherapy had access to these services in two regional physical rehabilitation centres in Battambang and Kompong Speu, both directly supported by the ICRC. The Cambodian Red Cross Society, with ICRC support, identified disabled people from remote villages and assisted

them in obtaining transport to and treatment in the centres. Prosthetic/orthotic components for the whole country were manufactured at the national component factory in Phnom Penh, managed jointly with the ICRC.

- 10,841 patients (including 1,337 women and 1,030 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 507 new patients (including 40 women and 13 children) fitted with prostheses and 606 (including 122 women and 197 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,793 prostheses (including 129 for women, 38 for children and 1,562 for mine victims), 1,657 orthoses (287 for women, 617 for children and 41 for mine victims), 3,840 crutches and 602 wheelchairs delivered

The prosthetic/orthotic team carried out 46 field trips of four to five days each from Battambang and 175 trips of one or half a day each from Kompong Speu to assess the needs of amputees who found it difficult to travel. During the trips, the teams:

- assessed the condition and needs of 9,441 patients
- repaired 3,977 prostheses and 558 wheelchairs
- delivered 1,030 pairs of crutches and 380 wheelchairs
- arranged appointments at the Battambang or Kompong Speu centres for 834 patients

AUTHORITIES

Government representatives from Viet Nam, with the ICRC's support, attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

The Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the Lao Red Cross, organized the largest ever seminar on IHL in the country in April, with the support of UNDP and the ICRC. The seminar brought together some 150 participants, including representatives of various ministries and law students.

Government representatives from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand attended a regional symposium in China to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols (see *Beijing regional*).

In Thailand, members of the authorities and the armed forces participated in a workshop on the implementation of IHL co-organized by the ICRC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The workshop presented an opportunity for the ICRC to work with the Thai authorities towards the further implementation of IHL in Thailand, where few pieces of legislation implementing IHL existed.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces in the region continued to integrate IHL into their training programmes with ICRC support.

Officers from the Royal Thai Armed Forces (RTAF) preparing to serve as military observers with the UN participated in an IHL dissemination session. Participants in courses for UN military

observers at the RTAF Peace Support Operations Centre also attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC's role and mandate. During the Thai-US 10-day regional training exercise, Cobra Gold, participants learned about the ICRC's role and activities through peacekeeping and peace-support simulations. The director of the RTAF's Army Training Command met the ICRC regularly to discuss the integration of IHL into the training institution's curricula.

Owing to the high turnover of commanding officers and to procedural issues, it was difficult for the ICRC to develop contacts with members of the Thai security forces based in the south. The ICRC met the chief of the Royal Thai Police to discuss future IHL dissemination for police posted in southern Thailand. The ICRC was unable to contact the armed groups operating in southern Thailand.

The Viet Nam People's Army conducted a train-the-trainer course for IHL instructors with ICRC support.

Leaders of armed groups from Myanmar present in Thailand were periodically briefed on ICRC activities and the need to respect and promote IHL.

- ▶ 2 officers from the Thai military and 1 officer from the Viet Nam military attended the regional training seminar on peace-support operations held in Malaysia (see *Kuala Lumpur regional*)
- ▶ a senior officer from the Thai military attended the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations co-hosted by the ICRC and the Swiss army in Geneva, Switzerland

CIVIL SOCIETY

Journalists throughout the region learned about the ICRC's activities by participating in relevant events and through press releases and leaflets, while other publications for the general public were translated into local languages and distributed.

In Thailand, the first basic textbook on IHL was being written by a lecturer from Thammasat University, with the ICRC's support. The drafting of model IHL syllabuses for universities continued in Thailand and Viet Nam.

- ▶ 40 teachers and members of the Thai education authorities participated in a three-day teacher-training seminar on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme organized jointly by the Thai Red Cross, the Ministry of Education and the ICRC
- ▶ in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 58 participants from academic circles and the authorities attended an IHL seminar co-organized by the Lao Red Cross and the ICRC

In order to enhance the ICRC's activities for civilians along the Thai-Myanmar border and in southern Thailand through a better understanding of the local context, NGOs and the ICRC maintained links with each other and discussed relevant issues on a regular basis. In southern Thailand, the ICRC developed its contacts with influential members of the community in order to improve understanding of IHL and the ICRC's specific mandate.

- ▶ in southern Thailand, 98 religious and community leaders attended 3 information sessions on the ICRC's activities and mandate and humanitarian principles, with a similar event organized for 57 teachers from the main Islamic school in southern Thailand

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC technical and financial support, the region's National Societies enhanced their capacities to promote the Fundamental Principles and the basic rules of IHL. They continued to produce dissemination material in their respective languages, with the ICRC lending its support for translation, editing and printing.

The ICRC's working relationship with the Thai Red Cross was strengthened in order to improve dissemination to the media of key messages about the Movement and the ICRC's specific mandate.

Operational cooperation between the ICRC and the Lao Red Cross continued to benefit vulnerable minority communities (see *Civilians*).

With the ICRC's guidance and support, staff and volunteers of the Red Cross of Viet Nam and the Cambodian Red Cross Society implemented outreach programmes to assist disabled people from remote villages in obtaining treatment.

The Cambodian Red Cross and the Red Cross of Viet Nam worked closely with the ICRC to foster contacts and promote IHL with their respective armed forces.

With ICRC support:

- ▶ the Thai Red Cross Society organized a consultation meeting for the region's National Societies on the future implementation of family-links activities
- ▶ the Red Cross of Viet Nam prepared a draft emblem law that was submitted to the parliamentary committee for an initial consultation
- ▶ the Red Cross of Viet Nam organized family-links training for its staff, to discuss tracing activities and enhance the skills of tracing officers
- ▶ the Cambodian Red Cross carried out mine-risk education activities focusing on awareness raising, data collection and emergency assistance and organized 277 dissemination sessions on the Movement's Fundamental Principles attended by some 2,500 people, including government officials, teachers and students
- ▶ the Cambodian Red Cross organized its annual tracing workshop to discuss strategies and share experiences
- ▶ the Lao Red Cross organized IHL sessions attended by some 700 government officials, members of the armed forces and police, and members of the public



beijing (regional)

The ICRC opened its Beijing regional delegation in July 2005. As of 1987, it covered the region from Hong Kong and, as of 1996, 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 in the DPRK contribute to meeting the need for affordable, good-quality prostheses.

COVERING

China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, Republic of Korea (ROK)

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	145
Assistance	2,577
Prevention	2,401
Cooperation with National Societies	1,094
General	-

► **6,217**

of which: Overheads 379

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

15	expatriates
28	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- together with the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, held a regional seminar in Beijing to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols
- published the Chinese-language version of the ICRC study on customary IHL
- organized the first ever national IHL moot court competition in China
- conducted pre-deployment briefings for Chinese and ROK peacekeepers
- began operating a mobile unit for prosthetic/orthotic repairs in the DPRK so as to be able to carry out follow-up home visits to beneficiaries

CONTEXT

East Asia continued to enjoy peace and speedy development in all areas, which contributed to its growing importance worldwide. Nevertheless, there remained a number of unresolved issues that could pose a threat to the region's future stability, such as the situation on the Korean peninsula and the standoff over Taiwan.

In February, the six-nation talks on the DPRK's nuclear programme resumed in Beijing, during which the DPRK pledged to shut its nuclear reactor in return for fuel aid.

A summit between the leadership of the DPRK and the ROK took place in October, during which it was agreed that the two countries would enhance bilateral relations.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

		Total	Women	Children
WOUNDED AND SICK¹				
<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>				
Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	1,752	280	32
Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,310	207	25
Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	15	1	5

1. China and the DPRK

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to promote IHL in the countries covered, concentrating on the authorities, the armed forces, the media and academic circles. It maintained its support for the governments' efforts to implement IHL at national level, and to this end advocated the establishment of national IHL committees.

Representatives of China, Mongolia and the ROK attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, following which the government of China set up an IHL committee.

The ICRC supported the Chinese government in holding a number of events to promote IHL and humanitarian issues, such as a seminar on health in detention and a regional seminar on the 1977 Additional Protocols. The delegation also sponsored the publication and launch of the Chinese-language version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL.

The ICRC consolidated its contacts with the armed forces of the region, focusing on China and the ROK. It worked with them to heighten their awareness of IHL or to support the integration of IHL into their training programmes. Several training events were held either by the ICRC or with ICRC support, including seminars and pre-deployment briefings for peacekeepers departing on mission abroad.

The regional delegation continued to strengthen and expand its interaction with the media, focusing on China and the ROK. Via articles, live interviews and its Chinese-language website, the ICRC raised awareness of IHL and issues of humanitarian concern.

The ICRC expanded its contacts with Chinese universities by organizing training sessions and delivering lectures. It again supported the annual regional IHL moot court competition organized by the Hong Kong Red Cross (Branch of the Red Cross Society of China), and held China's first ever national moot court competition.

Introduction of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools throughout Mongolia continued in cooperation with the Mongolian Red Cross Society. In China, the programme remained at the pilot stage, but teachers and the National Society were keen to extend it to more schools.

In addition to IHL promotion, the ICRC continued to play a key role in the provision of physical rehabilitation services in China and the DPRK. In cooperation with the respective National Society, it ran two centres and a new mobile repair unit in the DPRK, and one centre and two repair workshops in China. As well as supplying raw materials, the ICRC provided on-the-job training and supervision to prosthetists/orthotists and physiotherapists.

The regional delegation continued to support the National Red Cross Societies of the region, focusing on dissemination of IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

Little progress was made in finding lasting solutions to the plight of families separated for more than half a century by the Korean war. The ICRC continued to advocate a clear separation between political considerations and humanitarian obligations regarding communication and meetings between separated family members. It maintained dialogue with the National Societies concerned and reiterated its readiness to play a role in facilitating such contacts.

CIVILIANS

Hundreds of thousands of Korean families were split up during the 1950–53 Korean war. Since 2000, some 15,000 people had been able to meet relatives face to face during 14 family meetings at Mount Kumgang in the DPRK, but were not allowed any further contact thereafter. Similarly, some had been able to speak via television screens, but were subsequently prohibited from applying for face-to-face meetings and from exchanging news. Measures to improve the links between separated families were agreed upon during a summit between the leaders of the two countries that took place in October. These included the creation of a permanent structure in 2008 to increase the scale of the meetings.

The ICRC kept in close touch with both National Red Cross Societies and with the authorities on the Korean peninsula in order to share its concerns about the process, which it considered to be a cause of additional anxiety for those concerned. The organization remained ready and willing to assist in finding a long-term solution to the plight of the separated families.

In April, families in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China received RCMs bringing news of relatives held in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Physical rehabilitation in China

Physically disabled people continued to benefit from the services provided by the physical rehabilitation centre at the Yunnan Red Cross branch in Kunming. The centre and its two repair workshops in Kaiyuan and Malipo near the Vietnamese border received additional raw materials and components as needed.

Two prosthetic/orthotic technicians, three bench technicians, three physical rehabilitation assistants and four repair technicians received further on-the-job supervision and training. Two ICRC-sponsored students graduated from the Chinese Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists and resumed their work at the physical

rehabilitation centre in Kunming under the supervision of an ICRC specialist. The Yunnan Red Cross branch finished fitting amputees in the prefectures and districts bordering Myanmar and started working in Wenshan and Honghe prefectures, also near the Vietnamese border, replacing lower-limb prostheses that had suffered wear and tear. Some 250 amputees had their artificial limbs repaired or adjusted at the Malipo and Kaiyuan workshops or during outreach visits conducted by the repair technicians.

- 617 patients (including 114 women and 13 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre and 2 repair workshops
- 237 new patients (including 41 women and 7 children) fitted with prostheses
- 290 prostheses (including 55 for women, 10 for children and 22 for mine victims), 1 orthosis, 51 crutches and 3 wheelchairs delivered

Physical rehabilitation in the DPRK

Disabled people in Pyongyang and other parts of the country continued to receive services from the Songrim and Rakrang physical rehabilitation centres, with support from the ICRC and the National Society. Ten technicians attended an advanced training course at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics, with the aim of boosting the centres' capacities and helping them to become increasingly independent and self-sustainable. Meanwhile, on-the-job training given by ICRC prosthetists/orthotists and physiotherapists continued at both centres.

A new mobile repair unit began operating. Nearly 100 patients benefited from its services during two field trips organized with the support of the National Society and the Ministry of Health. Some were referred to Songrim for further treatment.

- 1,135 patients (including 166 women and 19 children) received services at the 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 682 new patients (including 96 women and 6 children) fitted with prostheses and 16 (including 1 woman and 7 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,020 prostheses (including 152 for women, 15 for children and 14 for mine victims), 14 orthoses (including 1 for a woman, 5 for children and 1 for a mine victim), 1,494 crutches and 60 wheelchairs delivered

In addition to fitting amputees with high-quality prostheses, the Rakrang centre was equipped with a surgical annex where stump revision surgery could be carried out. In 2007, some 160 patients were thus treated.

AUTHORITIES

In 2006, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in China and Mongolia had expressed interest in setting up national IHL committees. Representatives of the two countries therefore attended, as observers, the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva in March 2007. Representatives of the ROK, which had established such a committee, participated fully. Afterwards, one of the Chinese participants briefed the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry, armed forces and National Society on the meeting, and the ICRC explained the structure and function of a national IHL committee. In November, China established a national IHL committee, comprising the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Defence, the army, the Cultural Property Administration Bureau and the National Society, which was designated chair.

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the ICRC, organized a symposium to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, bringing together representatives of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, the DPRK, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, the ROK, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The meeting focused on accession to the 1977 Additional Protocols for countries that were not yet party, and implementation of the protocols at national level for those that were.

With ICRC support, the Chinese Ministry for Public Security, responsible for remand prisons, organized a seminar on health in detention. Sixty-six Chinese prison staff, including some 15 prison doctors and health workers, discussed, in particular, the management of HIV and tuberculosis in the detention environment.

The ROK IHL committee held a workshop to promote IHL implementation among representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Defence and Education, the National Society and academic circles.

Twenty-five diplomats from the DPRK attended a seminar aimed at improving their understanding of the ICRC's role in IHL implementation.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, the region's armed forces pursued their efforts to integrate IHL into their training and operations.

The ROK armed forces worked on intensifying IHL training within their legal branches. To this end, the judge advocates general of the three forces, legal advisers to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Combined Forces Command, and the general counsel of the Ministry of Defence sought the ICRC's advice.

In China, relations were established with a number of Chinese military education and research institutions. An understanding was reached regarding the initiation of ICRC briefings for Chinese military and police before their deployment on UN peacekeeping operations abroad. Two such briefings were conducted at China's Civilian Police Peacekeeping Training Centre in 2007. Chinese military officers also participated in various IHL-related events in China and abroad.

The Mongolian General Staff's IHL training programme continued to receive technical support and limited financial contributions for the production of training and reference materials.

Peacekeepers and other military personnel at the ROK's National Defence University attended pre-deployment briefings.

Six officers from China, the ROK and Mongolia attended an ICRC workshop in Malaysia on peace-support operations (see *Kuala Lumpur regional*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of humanitarian issues among the general public

Strengthened contacts with Chinese and ROK media representatives led to increased coverage of IHL-related issues on television and in the press. Chinese journalists sought interviews with ICRC staff, and secured the organization's participation in a live television debate on the situation in Iraq. The content of the ICRC's Chinese-language website continued to grow and included multimedia content generated in cooperation with the Chinese media. Students of journalism attended the first ever ICRC presentation at the China Communication University.

Promoting IHL among academic circles

The ICRC stepped up its efforts to promote IHL among universities in China. Nearly 70 university lecturers from 32 law schools attended teacher-training sessions organized together with the universities of Wuhan and Beijing, and 8 teams of students took part in the first ever national IHL moot court competition. Furthermore, 16 teams from across the Asia-Pacific region competed in the fifth annual IHL moot court competition organized by the Hong Kong Red Cross (Branch of the Red Cross Society of China).

With ICRC support, the China Law Press published the Chinese-language version of the study on customary IHL, which had been translated with the help of Chinese universities. The launch of the study brought together representatives of the authorities, the military, universities and civil society.

Teaching secondary school children humanitarian principles

In China, the pilot version of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to be implemented in schools in Shanghai and Sichuan provinces in cooperation with the National Society. Preparations were under way to extend the programme to more schools.

Two representatives of the Hong Kong Red Cross (Branch of the Red Cross Society of China) participated in one of the teacher-training sessions in Shanghai. Subsequently, they approached the Hong Kong education authorities, which expressed an interest in implementing the programme.

In Mongolia, implementation of the tripartite agreement between the Ministry of Education, the National Society and the ICRC was in full swing. Teacher-training and the translation of the teaching materials continued, in preparation for the full integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the official school curriculum by September 2008.

After expressing an interest in implementing the programme, representatives of the ROK Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Education and Defence and a group of teachers attended an ICRC presentation to learn more about the programme and its benefits.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies, with ICRC financial and technical support and training, continued to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles among their own staff and volunteers and among external audiences.

Following the signing of an agreement between the Red Cross Society of China and the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, 350 National Society staff and volunteers were trained in first aid and security management in mass emergencies, in preparation for the 2008 Games. The ICRC's first-aid manual was translated into Chinese.



jakarta (regional)

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and has been present in Timor-Leste since its independence in 2002. In each country the ICRC works closely with the National 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 current or past conflict or internal disturbances in both countries, and works to broaden understanding and acceptance of IHL. It promotes implementation of that law, supports its inclusion in training programmes for armed forces (and police personnel in Indonesia) and develops activities with universities to promote the study of IHL.

COVERING
Indonesia, Timor-Leste

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,608
Assistance	3,963
Prevention	2,078
Cooperation with National Societies	2,242
General	-

► **10,891**
of which: Overheads **665**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

27 expatriates
166 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- improved the economic security of people affected by the former conflict in Indonesia's Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) province
- conducted water and sanitation projects to improve the general health and hygiene conditions of people in NAD and Papua provinces, the Maluku islands and the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia
- worked to improve the quality of health care in NAD and Papua provinces
- continued to visit detainees in both countries and to provide structural support to the Indonesian prison authorities
- strengthened cooperation with the Indonesian authorities to heighten awareness of the need to teach IHL in military and academic institutions
- intensified its support to the National Societies of the two countries, focusing on branches in violence-prone areas

CONTEXT

The year 2007 began and ended with a series of disasters in Indonesia: boat and plane accidents claimed hundreds of lives; earthquakes and volcano eruptions caused extensive destruction; and severe floods and landslides hit parts of the country.

January 2007 saw violence in Poso, Central Sulawesi, when the police arrested people accused of being armed members of hard-line Islamist movements. In South Maluku, a pro-independence demonstration, bomb explosions and a subsequent wave of police raids, along with the arrest of people accused of separatist activities, led to renewed insecurity and tension between neighbouring communities. In Papua province, tension and confrontations between the Indonesian security forces and a faction of the Free Papua Movement (OPM) caused civilians to flee their villages. The situation in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) province remained generally calm, but corruption and criminality were reportedly on the rise. Attacks on public officials were also reported.

Presidential and parliamentary elections were held in Timor-Leste following a peaceful electoral process with no major incidents. Jose Ramos-Horta stepped up to the post of president and Xanana Gusmão became prime minister. During the long process of forming a majority government, however, groups of youths triggered riots on several occasions in Dili and in some areas in the east of the country. An estimated 10% of the population remained displaced following the violence in 2006 and did not feel that it was safe enough to return home.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	37,166
Detainees visited and monitored individually	470
<i>of whom females</i>	1
<i>of whom minors</i>	4
Number of visits carried out	110
Number of places of detention visited	66
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	2,638
RCMs distributed	2,229
People reunited with their families	1
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	7
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	2,719
<i>of which for females</i>	469
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	628
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	6
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1

1. Indonesia and Timor-Leste

2. Indonesia

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Essential household items ¹	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	14,758	30%	43%
Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives ²	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	26,269	30%	43%
Water, sanitation and habitat projects ²	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	43,924	29%	25%
<i>Health</i>				
Health centres supported ²	<i>Structures</i>	7		
WOUNDED AND SICK²				
Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	8		
Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	7,572	2,274	3,673
Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	476		

ICRC ACTION

In Indonesia and Timor-Leste, the ICRC continued in its endeavour to address the needs of civilians whose livelihoods and safety had been or were still affected by conflict or tensions. Interdisciplinary teams carried out several field trips to parts of Timor-Leste and to the Indonesian provinces of NAD, Maluku, Papua and Sulawesi, where they conducted activities alongside volunteers of the Indonesian Red Cross Society and the Timor-Leste Red Cross, thus helping to build the National Societies' capacities.

The large number of humanitarian actors in Indonesia's NAD province running programmes for victims of the 2004 tsunami allowed the ICRC to focus its attention on isolated areas affected by the past conflict and the recent return of IDPs. In cooperation with local authorities and National Society branches, the ICRC assessed the basic needs of the most vulnerable communities and discussed ways to address them with the beneficiaries themselves. Based on the results of this process, it provided people with essential household items, basic agricultural inputs and agricultural training. The organization also pursued its efforts to revitalize the health system in selected sub-districts by providing specialized training and material assistance to local medical facilities.

In various parts of Indonesia, including NAD, the ICRC conducted extensive construction and rehabilitation work to improve access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities. It also supported hospitals in Indonesia and trained their staff with a view to improving the quality of the services provided.

The ICRC continued to visit people deprived of their freedom in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. It provided multidisciplinary structural support to the prison authorities in Indonesia to help them improve the management of prison services, conducted training workshops on protection, health, water and sanitation issues, and carried out minor rehabilitation work.

As part of its IHL promotion activities, the ICRC maintained strong relations with national, military and academic authorities. This enabled it to raise their awareness of IHL issues and the ICRC's operational concerns. Members of the armed and security forces were the main targets of efforts, which included support to existing training modules and the conduct of specialized seminars. Other IHL-related events were held for university students and political authorities.

Both National Societies remained key operational partners of the ICRC in many fields. The ICRC offered its help to the Indonesian Red Cross to increase the impact of aid delivery during natural disasters, an area in which the National Society was already strong and experienced. Support to branches in violence-affected areas enabled local structures to be established or revived. The ICRC continued to accompany the Timor-Leste Red Cross, one of the world's youngest National Societies, in its efforts to build a strong organization, emphasizing the importance of a solid legal and knowledge base for its operations. Training events held for personnel of both National Societies significantly enhanced capacities in the fields of restoring family links and the management of human remains.

CIVILIANS

Boosting economic security

ICRC assistance programmes continued in four previously conflict-affected districts of Indonesia's NAD province, where few, if any, other humanitarian actors were working. Isolated communities, comprising residents and returning IDPs, were consulted on the best ways to improve their living conditions, on the basis of which they were given essential household items, construction tools and shelter materials. They also received vouchers that they could exchange for basic agricultural inputs, such as fertilizers, pesticides, tools and seed. The vouchers enabled the farmers to choose for themselves

the type of productive support that would be most effective in helping them to resume, improve or increase farming activities and thus boost their household incomes. The local economy also benefited because the programme involved working with local markets.

Victims of floods in Indonesia and families displaced by civil unrest in Timor-Leste were able to set up temporary homes using essential household items provided by the ICRC and distributed by the respective National Society.

- 14,758 people (2,943 households), of whom 14,380 in Indonesia and 378 in Timor-Leste, received essential household items
- 26,269 people (2,265 households) in Indonesia benefited from agricultural initiatives

Improving health care

The availability and quality of primary health care services in NAD improved as community health workers and midwives in 43 villages attended training sessions run by ICRC-trained instructors. A total of 7 health centres in the area also received essential drugs and medical equipment, boosting services for a catchment population of 650,000 people. Three District Health Offices also received supplies.

Some 170 health workers, government officials, members of security forces, community activists and religious leaders from Papua attended the last of the series of medical ethics seminars co-organized since 2002 by the ICRC, the National Society and the local health authorities. They discussed the rights of the population to non-discriminatory access to health facilities and proper treatment, the protection of health workers serving in disasters and the sustainability of health services in disrupted situations.

Improving water supply and sanitation

In Indonesian provinces such as NAD, Maluku and Papua, increased availability of clean drinking water and proper sanitation contributed to a general improvement in public health. IDPs and residents benefited from the rehabilitation or construction of community-based water and sanitation facilities and of classrooms for primary school children. The work was carried out jointly by ICRC specialists, the National Society and the local authorities.

The improvements also had a significant impact on the welfare of Indonesian women, who were traditionally responsible for providing water for drinking and household tasks. Increased access to safe water and sanitation facilities allowed them to dedicate more time to other pursuits, such as food production, income-generating activities and school attendance.

Timely restoration of a clean drinking water supply following the floods in NAD helped prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases. Wells were cleaned and disinfected, and the water authorities received a one-month supply of chemicals for the treatment of drinking water for up to 20,000 people, along with water pumps to fill water tankers.

- 36,545 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Restoring family links and missing persons

People in Indonesia and Timor-Leste continued to use the tracing and RCM services to restore or maintain contact with relatives from whom they had become separated, either within the country or abroad. Families received ICRC assistance in their quest to ascertain the fate of missing relatives.

A census of mass graves of tsunami victims drew to a close at the end of the year. The ICRC and the Indonesian Red Cross assessed some 300 graves containing some 97,000 tsunami victims as part of a project supported by the Canadian Red Cross. The final report on the findings was due to be handed over to the NAD authorities in 2008 to help them address the needs of the relatives of persons missing in the context of the tsunami.

Efforts to build the capacity of the Indonesian Red Cross to provide effective services for separated family members continued throughout 2007 as part of an ICRC-project supported by the Swedish Red Cross. Staff and volunteers attended training sessions on centralized management of the programme and on practical implementation of activities at local level. The National Society received technical support and advice in drafting guidelines regarding tracing procedures in conflict and disaster situations.

Given the ongoing political process in Timor-Leste relating to the presidential and parliamentary elections, the ICRC decided to conduct an internal review of the files pertaining to missing persons, in order to be ready to transmit them to the authorities at an opportune moment.

Indonesia

- 1,359 RCMs collected from and 913 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 7 people located; 178 people (including 34 females and 69 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 6 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Timor-Leste

- 951 RCMs collected from and 1,122 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 1 person; 2,541 people (including 435 females and 559 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 unaccompanied/separated child reunited with his family

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued to visit detainees to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention, confidentially reporting its findings and recommendations to the Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities concerned.

Indonesia

- 36,871 detainees visited, of whom 351 monitored individually (including 2 minors) and 144 newly registered (including 1 minor), during 98 visits to 62 places of detention
- 45 RCMs collected from and 8 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 54 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee

Timor-Leste

- 295 detainees visited, of whom 119 monitored individually (including 1 female and 2 minors) and 61 newly registered (including 1 female and 2 minors), during 12 visits to 4 places of detention
- 283 RCMs collected from and 186 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 3 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Improving conditions in prisons

In response to ICRC recommendations, the detaining authorities in Timor-Leste undertook major rehabilitation work in two national prisons, greatly improving the conditions of detention there.

Conditions for detainees in a number of Indonesian prisons also saw an improvement as a result of ICRC-run projects. New water treatment units, septic tanks and boreholes increased the supply of clean water, and incinerators improved waste disposal. During hygiene awareness sessions, detainees learned of the part they could play in maintaining adequate sanitation conditions and the positive impact their actions could have on their health.

More than 100 prison service executives from all major regions of Indonesia attended one of five workshops to learn about ways to improve material conditions, health care, and water and sanitation facilities in prisons. The Food and Health Directorate of the General Directorate of Corrections of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights set up a working group on the management of tuberculosis (TB) in prisons to serve as the reference body for the planning, coordination and implementation of the activities of the multitude of organizations active in this field.

The Food and Health Directorate authorized the printing of 5,000 copies of an ICRC-produced leaflet on the promotion of hygiene and sanitation in prisons and 500 books on TB management for use by detainees and prison staff.

- ▶ 7,379 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/shelter/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Eight Indonesian public hospitals, in Jakarta, East Java and NAD, received drugs and medical equipment to help them cope with an influx of patients. In the aftermath of the floods in Jakarta in early February, the Ministry of Health redeployed part of the former ICRC field hospital that had been used to treat victims of the 2004 tsunami. The hospital had been handed over to the Indonesian government in 2006 at the end of the tsunami operation to boost its emergency preparedness. Deployment of the modular hospital structure, along with injection kits and infusion sets provided by the ICRC, helped the health authorities respond to an outbreak of gastroenteritis and increased rates of dengue fever triggered by the floods.

In the 8 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 7,572 patients (including 2,274 women and 3,673 children) admitted: of whom 141 weapon-wounded (including 20 women, and 2 children), 801 other surgical cases, and 5,644 medical and 986 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- ▶ 476 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 25,750 outpatients given consultations, including 25,113 attending surgical or medical consultations and 637 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

In Papua, 94 residents of remote areas of the Central Highlands recovered their sight following two rounds of cataract operations. Furthermore, with ICRC and National Society support, the Papua Provincial Health Office organized a three-day workshop for 20 doctors, nurses and National Society volunteers to improve their capacities to prepare for and respond to health emergencies in the province.

An Indonesian physiotherapist completed a three-year ICRC-run training course in Cambodia and returned to the rehabilitation unit of Sulawesi hospital to put his new skills into practice.

AUTHORITIES

As part of the ongoing dialogue between the Indonesian government and the ICRC, two seminars were co-organized with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights: one to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols and the other on customary IHL. Some 140 participants from various government institutions, parliament, the military, the police, universities and NGOs attended the two events, at which they discussed, respectively, accession to the Protocols and the obligation to abide by IHL principles established as a result of long-term State practice. The ICRC translated into Bahasa Indonesia and distributed the summary findings of its study on customary IHL to assist in future discussions on the applicability of customary IHL in situations of non-international armed conflict.

The Ministry of Defence and the ICRC organized an IHL seminar to enable 40 mid-level military and civilian officials to discuss issues relating to national IHL implementation and to the legal status of military and defence activities.

Two officials from the Indonesian Ministries of Justice and Defence took part in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in March in Geneva, Switzerland, to share best practices and exchange their experiences of incorporating IHL into domestic legislation. The meeting focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

The Ministry of Justice and parliament's Legal Commission requested and received legal advice and technical support from the ICRC in preparing draft laws on the protection of the red cross and red crescent emblems and on disaster management.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Promoting IHL among the armed forces

Several military establishments in Indonesia, representing all three forces, received advice and technical support as they worked towards the inclusion of IHL in the teaching and training of their officers and soldiers. Instructors, officers, soldiers and students took part in training events tailored to the depth of knowledge required for their functions. These ranged from week-long advanced IHL courses abroad for senior staff officers to short dissemination sessions for students at a naval college. Troops departing on UN peacekeeping missions attended pre-deployment briefings on IHL.

In Timor-Leste, the ICRC maintained contact with the Timor-Leste Defence Force, Australian Defence Force and the leader of an armed group to ensure that all parties knew and understood the ICRC's mandate and their obligation to respect IHL and protect medical personnel.

Familiarizing the police with IHL and international human rights law

Cooperation with the Indonesian police authorities was strengthened to improve training in IHL and international human rights law. The deputy head of the police unit responsible for public order

control and counter-insurgency took part in a four-day regional seminar in Australia on law enforcement in peacekeeping operations (see *Suva regional*). The Mobile Brigade worked with the ICRC to produce a new training film relating to the use of force in the maintenance of law and order.

With ICRC support, the police anti-“terrorism” unit organized three round-table events that brought together 46 senior police officers. Participants discussed the correct treatment of suspects during arrest, detention and interrogation and learned more about the ICRC’s working methods during its visits to detention facilities.

At field level, police officers and students continued to learn about the ICRC, IHL and international human rights law. In order to amplify the impact of dissemination sessions, participants were given *aide-mémoire* cards, containing 10 basic human rights rules applicable to policing, and Indonesian-language versions of the pocket book for police officers *To serve and to protect*.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Throughout the year, university lecturers and students in Indonesia and Timor-Leste continued to expand their knowledge of IHL and became increasingly aware of the importance of integrating it into law and international relations curricula. During a two-day workshop, co-organized with Jayabaya University in Jakarta, 20 senior lecturers from the faculties of social and political sciences of various Indonesian universities explored possible means of introducing the basic tenets of IHL into the curriculum of international relations studies. The event came as a follow-up to the first workshop that took place in 2006 in Yogyakarta. The issue was also discussed by 40 international relations lecturers from 20 universities following a presentation on IHL teaching given by Jayabaya University.

Hundreds of other lecturers and students attended presentations, seminars and workshops, including some held abroad, with a view to stimulating interest in the teaching of IHL in Indonesia. Teams from seven law faculties and one sharia law faculty participated in a national IHL moot court competition conducted in cooperation with the Indonesian Society of International Law.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC support, the Indonesian Red Cross continued to expand its activities in several fields, such as emergency preparedness, IHL promotion, water and sanitation, restoring family links and tracing. It received technical assistance in developing training curricula, guidelines and manuals for many of its activities. With a view to boosting the capacities of branches in conflict-prone areas, joint National Society and ICRC teams conducted visits to Papua and Central Sulawesi. Four branches in Papua and two in Central Sulawesi received financial support from the ICRC, and staff and volunteers attended intensive training courses on both operational and administrative topics.

Cooperation between the National Societies of Indonesia and Timor-Leste for the cross-border exchange of RCMs continued. Coordination between the two organizations improved as a result of an ICRC field trip to Indonesia’s East Nusa Tenggara province to monitor the cross-border transfer of RCMs to Timor-Leste.

Coordinators and volunteers from both National Societies attended several training seminars and workshops to hone their skills in areas such as: assessment in conflict-prone areas; management of human remains; planning of water and sanitation activities; and implementation of the Safer Access approach. With ICRC support, the two National Societies also conducted dissemination sessions on IHL-related topics for external audiences.



kuala lumpur (regional)

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

Brunei Darussalam, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	129
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,084
Cooperation with National Societies	183
General	-

► **1,397**

of which: Overheads 85

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	78%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
15	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- expanded contacts with the region's political authorities and academic circles to broaden exchange and cooperation in the area of humanitarian action and IHL
- supported the first ever Inter-Varsity Debate Tournament on IHL for students in Malaysia and Singapore
- increased cooperation with the Japan Self-Defense Forces and the Malaysian armed forces
- cooperated with the National Societies of Japan, Malaysia and Singapore on the dissemination of IHL in various fora
- facilitated the exchange of greetings and RCMs between detainees, mainly those held in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, and their families in Malaysia

CONTEXT

Natural disasters and the issue of "terrorism" remained high on the agenda in Japan, Malaysia and Singapore, as well as in regional fora.

The three countries pursued their aim of becoming centres for international disaster relief. For example, training for members of the Japan Self-Defense Forces was adapted to include a greater focus on disaster relief, and the Malaysian authorities expressed a wish to set up a coordination centre for disaster relief.

In January, the Japan Defense Agency was upgraded to a ministry, and in the following months defence pacts were signed with Australia and the United States of America.

Demonstrations in Malaysia took place during the run-up to general elections due to be held in early 2008.

Singapore assumed the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the ASEAN Charter, including provisions on IHL, was signed by its member States in November.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	170

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC delegation's activities continued to focus on raising awareness of and increasing compliance with IHL. It maintained contact with the region's authorities to encourage accession to and national implementation of IHL instruments and continued working with the armed forces to advance the integration of IHL into their doctrine and training. It also expanded its network of media and civil society contacts and pursued efforts to promote IHL in schools and academic circles as a way of reaching future decision-makers.

The delegation's Regional Resource Centre, established in 2003, continued to support the efforts of ICRC delegations in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific to enhance their preventive activities. These included promoting the implementation of IHL in the region, intensive networking with Track II diplomacy stakeholders in the region, and participation in meetings of Asian regional organizations.

As in past years, the ICRC worked with the National Societies of Japan, Malaysia and Singapore to develop the promotion of IHL, including through joint dissemination programmes and seminars.

The regional delegation continued to help the Malaysian Red Crescent Society build its tracing capacity by providing training, material and financial support. It also co-organized a tracing seminar in Japan with the Japanese authorities and the Japanese Red Cross Society.

CIVILIANS

Families of Malaysian nationals detained/interned in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba were able to stay in touch with their relatives through RCMs.

Refugees and asylum seekers were issued with travel documents enabling them to travel to countries that had accepted them for resettlement.

To help the Malaysian Red Crescent build its family-links capacity, training sessions were held for staff and volunteers at branch and chapter level, including for the new field officer in charge of restoring family links at the national headquarters. As an indication of the National Society's increasing ownership of the family-links programme, several branches organized their own training courses.

- 170 people issued with an ICRC travel document

AUTHORITIES

In all countries covered by the regional delegation, contacts with the political authorities intensified. Many of those who participated in events with the ICRC showed an increased interest in issues relating to IHL.

In Malaysia, progress was made in the creation of a national IHL committee.

Government representatives from Japan and Malaysia attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

Japan became party to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and the Rome Statute.

- the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japanese Society of International Law, the Japanese Red Cross and the ICRC organized a seminar on customary IHL in Tokyo
- in Singapore, discussions began with the Ministry of Defence and the National Society on the joint organization, in 2008, of a regional seminar on peace-support operations, family links and complex emergencies
- 25 members of the Malaysian Attorney General's Office and 2 members of the Brunei Attorney General's Office participated in 2 IHL training sessions
- in Japan, 90 representatives of the cabinet secretariat, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other ministries and local government participated in a tracing seminar organized jointly by the cabinet secretariat, the Japanese Red Cross and the ICRC

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Malaysian armed forces and the ICRC co-hosted a regional training seminar on peace-support operations held in Kuala Lumpur in March. The seminar highlighted issues relating to victims of armed conflict and peace-support operations, the role of the ICRC, and civil-military relations. The Malaysian air force continued reviewing existing training curricula in preparation for IHL integration. Following periodic ICRC briefings on IHL, the army medical services included IHL in their junior career course and final exams.

In Japan, representatives of the Joint Staff Office and officers in the Central Readiness Force met with the ICRC for the first time to initiate a dialogue on IHL.

In Singapore, the Ministry of Defence and the Singapore armed forces maintained an operational dialogue with the ICRC. The armed forces of Malaysia and Singapore learned about IHL during regional military exercises run with the ICRC's support, such as the annual Five Power Defence Arrangements.

- Malaysian and Singaporean officers departing on peacekeeping and security operations attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC as part of their pre-deployment briefings
- a basic IHL course and subsequent train-the-trainer course organized by Malaysia's Joint Warfare Training Centre

- members of the Japan Self-Defense Forces participated in a two-day presentation and classroom exercise on IHL and the ICRC at the Kodaira School

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising public awareness of IHL and humanitarian issues

The ICRC continued to produce the quarterly *ICRC Bulletin*, a Japanese-language newsletter containing features on the ICRC and humanitarian topics of interest to readers in Japan. Recipients included members of the public and private sectors, think-tanks, academia and civil society.

The ICRC was regularly invited to speak on IHL issues at international and national events in Malaysia.

Media contacts were increased to focus attention on themes such as the use of cluster munitions and anti-personnel landmines and to promote the inclusion of IHL in academic programmes.

Academic circles and secondary schools

Academics in Japan responded favourably to ICRC efforts to promote the integration of IHL into law courses.

In Singapore, members of academic circles participated in a range of events, including a symposium on IHL.

Following extensive preparations and teacher training in previous years, IHL began to be taught in schools in Malaysia as part of the new national civics and citizenship education subject. The ICRC also participated in teacher-training sessions on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme organized by the Malaysian Ministry of Education.

A regional seminar on the programme was organized, bringing together representatives of education authorities from all over Asia. Participants provided updates on the status of the programme's implementation in their countries and exchanged experiences.

- in Malaysia, academics and students from 4 universities participated in a national forum on IHL, co-organized by the MARA University of Technology and the ICRC
- some 200 students from 53 universities and colleges in Malaysia and Singapore participated in the first Inter-Varsity Debate Tournament on IHL, co-organized by the MARA University of Technology and the ICRC
- the International Islamic University and the Malaysian Red Crescent jointly launched an IHL course with the ICRC's technical support
- some 80 members of Japanese academic circles participated in a seminar on customary IHL

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation with the region's National Societies and the International Federation was stepped up in 2007.

The Malaysian Red Crescent received support in building its capacity to provide tracing and family-links services so that it could continue to play its part in national and international disaster-management operations. In addition, existing internal IHL dissemination programmes that aimed to build up a pool of qualified IHL instructors and trainers to staff the National Society's training institute continued to receive financial and other support.

Some 70 young people took part in a role-playing event organized by the Malaysian Red Crescent with ICRC support. Recognizing the event's effectiveness in increasing knowledge of and interest in IHL among young people, the National Society expressed its intention to hold it annually.

Cooperation with the Japanese Red Cross increased, in particular on tracing issues and the promotion of IHL.

- 18 staff members and volunteers from the Malaysian Red Crescent and the International Federation participated in a training session on the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, jointly organized by the International Federation and the ICRC



new delhi (regional)

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. 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. It also supports the development of the National Societies in Bangladesh and India and supports some of their assistance programmes in the field.

COVERING
Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,188
Assistance	1,284
Prevention	2,426
Cooperation with National Societies	1,729
General	-

► **8,628**

of which: Overheads 527

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

28	expatriates
83	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- conducted visits to detainees in Bhutan, India and the Maldives and helped them stay in touch with their families
- supported a seminar on health in detention organized by the Indian Medical Association
- increased knowledge of IHL among students and authorities in the region through the organization of two moot court competitions and the 10th and 11th South Asian Teaching Sessions on IHL
- maintained support to the Bone and Joint Hospital in Srinagar and a physical rehabilitation centre in Jammu, in conjunction with the Indian Red Cross Society
- supported the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society's tracing activities following cyclone Sidr

CONTEXT

Violent bomb attacks occurred in many areas of India. In February, 64 people were killed in explosions on a train bound for Lahore, Pakistan. Worshippers and protesters were killed in a bomb attack and its aftermath in Hyderabad. Tensions continued to simmer in India's north-eastern states, fuelled by friction between ethnic or tribal groups and related movements seeking autonomy or independence, as well as in areas where Naxalite armed groups were present.

The governments of India and Pakistan pursued their dialogue on Kashmir, where low-level violence flared up.

In Bangladesh, the caretaker government was dismissed amid increasing tension in January. A state of emergency was declared and remained in force under the second interim government, with support from the armed forces. General elections were postponed. Some 100,000 people were arrested in a drive to eradicate corruption and crime, and members of banned Islamist groups were also detained. After street violence in August, a curfew was imposed in major cities. Mass evictions of slum dwellers took place. The situation was calmer towards the end of the year as voter registration began. cyclone Sidr hit Bangladesh in November, with devastating effects as the country was still recovering from severe flooding.

In Bhutan, mock elections took place to test the readiness of the population and of the country's institutions responsible for ensuring a smooth transition to democracy.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	1,213
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,213
<i>of whom females</i>	22
<i>of whom minors</i>	28
Number of visits carried out	49
Number of places of detention visited	26
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	252
RCMs distributed	289
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	442

1. Bhutan, India and the Maldives

2. India

		Total	Women	Children
WOUNDED AND SICK²				
<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>				
Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	809	207	51
Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	139	31	7
Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	34	8	10

ICRC ACTION

Visits to detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir remained the primary focus of the regional delegation in New Delhi. While visits were blocked for a few months, activities for detainees continued, including family-links programmes and release checks on former detainees. The ICRC's director of operations continued high-level discussions on detention issues in June during the follow-up visit to the one he made in 2006. A seminar on health in detention took place in April, organized by the Indian Medical Association with the support of the ICRC and the World Medical Association. Prison doctors from all over India attended.

The ICRC developed its cooperation with the Indian Red Cross Society and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, including on programmes to restore family links. Its support to the tracing programme in Bangladesh proved to be crucial after cyclone Sidr struck in November, affecting some 6 million people. The ICRC carried out a survey of the Bangladeshi Red Crescent's water projects in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in order to provide technical advice on the projects' implementation. It also conducted a comprehensive review of the National Society's emblem campaign. In India, support was maintained to physical rehabilitation programmes in Jammu and Srinagar.

The ICRC maintained contact with the authorities in Bhutan and the Maldives and visited security detainees in both countries.

The regional delegation kept up a variety of activities to promote IHL among government officials, armed and security forces, and universities throughout the region. These included organizing IHL events and activities at national and regional level, making presentations or running sessions on IHL during events organized by others, and sponsoring the participation of leaders, students and teachers in IHL events abroad. The ICRC supported instruction in IHL and international human rights law for the military and police in India.

CIVILIANS

Refugees and stateless persons who did not have passports or other forms of identification were issued with ICRC travel documents, at the request of the embassies concerned and in coordination with UNHCR, enabling them to travel to countries granting them asylum or resettlement.

- in India, 17 RCMs collected from and 193 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 442 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

India

Owing to procedural and personnel changes, the ICRC was unable to visit detainees in Jammu and Kashmir during a period of a few months, after which the visits resumed. Detainees were able to exchange news with their families via RCMs and received visits from relatives living far away, who had their travel costs covered by the ICRC. Release checks were carried out on former detainees, with special attention paid to their health. To help foreign detainees, contacts with the relevant embassies were developed, and in one case, these efforts led to the release and repatriation of a Lebanese national. The findings of ICRC visits relating to living conditions and the treatment of detainees were shared with the detaining authorities through meetings and confidential working papers. The findings were also the focus of the dialogue between the ICRC's director of operations and senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign and Home Affairs in June.

- 1,109 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 13 females and 27 minors) and 464 newly registered (including 7 females and 19 minors), during 44 visits to 21 places of detention
- 159 RCMs collected from and 19 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 99 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 483 release checks made and 562 confirmation of release letters sent

A seminar on health and medical ethics in places of detention took place in April under the auspices of the Indian Medical Association, with the support of the ICRC and the World Medical Association.

Prison doctors from all over India exchanged their experiences and discussed issues such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in prisons, ethical dilemmas and the respective roles of the Indian and World Medical Associations.

Bhutan

The ICRC visited security detainees and relayed RCMs between detainees and their families. Families living in neighbouring countries received financial assistance to help them cover the costs of visiting their relatives held in Bhutan.

- 78 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 9 females and 1 minor) and 41 newly registered (including 9 females and 1 minor), during 2 visits to 2 places of detention
- 76 RCMs collected from and 67 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 6 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Maldives

The ICRC visited security detainees held in the Maldives.

- 26 detainees registered and monitored individually during 3 visits to 3 places of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

In India, the physical rehabilitation centre at the Government Medical College in Jammu was run by the state branch of the Indian Red Cross and supported by the ICRC. The support involved providing training, materials and equipment to improve the quality and sustainability of services through the use of polypropylene technology and improvements in management and care.

- 809 patients (including 207 women and 51 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 124 new patients (including 29 women and 5 children) fitted with prostheses and 31 (including 7 women and 8 children) fitted with orthoses
- 139 prostheses (including 31 for women, 7 for children and 17 for mine victims), 34 orthoses (8 for women and 10 for children), 40 crutches and 20 wheelchairs delivered

The Bone and Joint Hospital in Srinagar renovated the physiotherapy department. The ICRC donated a generator and provided the centre with the necessary electrotherapy equipment and training.

AUTHORITIES

Some 100 delegates from Indian civil society and the government participated in a conference on the International Criminal Court organized by legal institutions, including the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) and the ICRC. They discussed the responses of South Asian countries to the Court.

Delegates from Bangladesh, India and the Maldives participated in the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference on IHL held in New Zealand in August.

Government representatives from Bangladesh attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland. Participants shared best practices and exchanged their experiences of incorporating IHL into domestic legislation.

Particular emphasis was placed on addressing the issue of persons missing in connection with conflict. After this meeting, the Bangladeshi authorities indicated their intention to establish a national IHL committee.

In Bangladesh, work progressed on draft national legislation to implement the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols.

- 150 government representatives attended a national seminar jointly organized by the ISIL and the ICRC in India marking the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols
- government officials from Bangladesh and India attended a regional seminar marking the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols in China (see *Beijing regional*)
- 42 participants from 9 countries representing government departments, academic institutions, civil society and the military attended the 10th South Asian Teaching Session, organized for the first time with NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad
- 40 participants attended the 11th South Asian Teaching Session held in Bangalore
- in the Maldives, 40 government officials, members of the police and security forces, and representatives of the penitentiary authorities attended an IHL seminar

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Discussions on incorporating IHL into army teaching and training continued with the Indian army training command. The Army War College and the National Defence College institutionalized IHL dissemination sessions for officers. The National Defence Academy incorporated 36 hours of IHL training into its curriculum for cadets.

- some 4,500 members of the Indian armed forces attended 30 IHL dissemination and training sessions
- members of the Indian armed forces departing on UN peacekeeping missions attended 8 IHL presentations
- some 650 officers from the Indian police and border security forces participated in 12 ICRC dissemination sessions, including in violence-prone areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and Chhattisgarh

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media in Bangladesh and India reported on IHL-related topics. Work began with the Press Institute of India on setting up a resource and training centre for journalists reporting on armed conflict.

After participating in ICRC-organized IHL programmes, seminars and events throughout India, teachers promoted IHL within their universities and students showed increased knowledge of and interest in studying IHL-related subjects. ISIL and the ICRC increased their cooperation and organized several lectures and seminars for law lecturers and launched the first edition of the *Handbook of International Humanitarian Law in South Asia*. In addition to the 75 colleges and universities already teaching IHL, 20 new institutions were in the process of updating their curricula to introduce IHL.

The Ministry of Education in Jammu and Kashmir expressed its support for the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. Principals and teachers from 18 pilot schools in Jammu and Kashmir participated in a coordination meeting in Srinagar. Two monitoring teams were set up to review the first phase of the pilot project.

In recognition of its expert status on issues relating to IHL, think-tanks and NGOs invited the ICRC to participate in relevant events.

- ▶ some 200 journalists from across India participated in 4 ICRC-organized seminars on conflict reporting and IHL
- ▶ 22 editors from countries in South Asia participated in an ICRC-organized workshop in Dhaka at which they discussed reporting on armed conflict, journalists' security, the protection of civilians and IHL
- ▶ some 450 lecturers in law, political science and mass communication and hundreds of students attended ICRC-organized IHL training programmes, seminars and workshops throughout India
- ▶ 56 teams participated in the Indian round of the Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition and 6 teams participated in the South Asian round
- ▶ some 150 students, members of the armed forces, government officials and members of NGOs visited the ICRC delegation's IHL documentation centre in New Delhi
- ▶ a review of NALSAR University's distance-learning postgraduate diploma in IHL began

Assistance to conflict- and disaster-affected populations

National Societies and their branches, with specially trained volunteers and ICRC support, implemented assistance programmes for communities affected by violence or natural disaster. The Indian Red Cross completed an assessment in Srinagar that highlighted the need for socio-economic support among families affected by the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and started to plan accordingly. First-aid training for National Society volunteers continued in violence-affected areas, with the incorporation of the Safer Access approach.

The Bangladeshi Red Crescent completed the construction of 15 wells and 750 latrines and distributed 1,500 mosquito nets in three districts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Mine-risk education

Mine-risk education continued in Punjab and Rajasthan. In Jammu and Kashmir, a local NGO produced a film about the Indian Red Cross's mine-related activities.

With ICRC support, a conference marking the 10th anniversary of the Ottawa Convention was organized by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its Indian counterpart, with the Indian Red Cross's participation.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Family links

With ICRC help, the National Societies of Bangladesh and India strengthened their tracing services. Post-tsunami capacity-building tracing projects continued in India.

The family-links activities of the Indian Red Cross were strengthened through training for staff and volunteers and the introduction of procedural guidelines. The National Society demonstrated its enhanced capacity during the floods in Bihar.

With ICRC support, the Bangladeshi Red Crescent continued to distribute RCMs and help families keep in touch, including those with relatives detained abroad. Following cyclone Sidr, the National Society and the ICRC assisted people who had lost touch with relatives, including by sharing a list of missing people through a poster campaign in the affected areas. National Society volunteers received training on the proper management of human remains.

IHL promotion

The National Societies of Bangladesh and India continued their activities to promote IHL and the Movement's Fundamental Principles, with ICRC support. The Indian Red Cross carried out door-to-door visits, press conferences and seminars as part of its campaign to prevent misuse of the red cross and red crescent emblems.

The ICRC's evaluation of the Bangladeshi Red Crescent's emblem campaign concluded that a strategy shift was needed to achieve the campaign's objectives.

- ▶ 22 Red Cross branch representatives from across India participated in a workshop for communication staff organized by the International Federation and the ICRC



suva (regional)

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 and the Solomon Islands. It also 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, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and autonomous states, territories and colonies of the Pacific

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	293
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,340
Cooperation with National Societies	1,441
General	-

► **3,074**

of which: Overheads 188

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
25	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- provided technical support to governments in acceding to IHL treaties and implementing them at national level
- for the first time, visited a detainee in Australia following his transfer from the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba
- responded to a request from the armed and police forces in Tonga for support in training their personnel in IHL and international human rights law
- welcomed the establishment within the Fijian armed forces of a dedicated training unit for peacekeepers
- closed its mission in the Solomon Islands, and opened a new mission in Papua New Guinea to enable it to better respond to internal violence in the country
- supported the region's National Societies in strengthening their capacities to promote humanitarian principles and to respond to emergencies

CONTEXT

In Papua New Guinea, political continuity was ensured when prime minister Michael Somare was re-elected in August. Violence remained rife in the Highlands, as did criminality in the capital, Port Moresby.

The Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) remained in the Solomon Islands, despite calls from ex-prime minister Manasseh Sogavare to reduce its role.

Following the coup d'état in Fiji in December 2006, interim prime minister Commodore Frank Bainimarama launched a wide consultation to address inequities between Fijians and Indo-Fijians, allegedly the root cause of the instability in the country. The interim prime minister announced the holding of elections using a new non-racial system in early 2009, thereby committing to a return to democratic rule as soon as feasible.

Australia went to the ballot, electing Kevin Rudd as the country's new prime minister. He immediately sought to improve relations with Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

In Tonga, the state of emergency declared after the 2006 riots remained in effect in the capital Nuku'alofa.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS²			
Detainees visited	185	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	86	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	290	
Number of visits carried out	5				
Number of places of detention visited	5				

1. Australia, Fiji and Solomon Islands

2. Papua New Guinea

ICRC ACTION

In 2007, the ICRC mission in the Solomon Islands moved to Papua New Guinea to enable the ICRC to better understand the situation of violence-affected communities in the Highlands and to provide increased support to the National Society in addressing humanitarian needs.

The ICRC continued to visit people detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji and the Solomon Islands. In Australia, a former internee transferred from the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba received an ICRC visit before his release later in the year.

Work with the governments of the region on accession to and implementation of IHL instruments progressed well. The year saw a number of treaty ratifications and enactments of national laws incorporating IHL provisions. The ICRC continued to organize or participate in IHL-related events with a view to spurring on the authorities to further promote and implement IHL. Following one such event, the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference in New Zealand, the governments of the Cook Islands and Samoa were inspired to establish national IHL committees.

Promotion of IHL among the region's armed and security forces continued. The ICRC not only conducted seminars and gave presentations on theoretical elements of IHL, but also helped forces and training institutes plan and carry out practical training exercises, ensuring that humanitarian aspects were duly incorporated into these exercises. The ICRC also conducted pre-deployment briefings for Fijian soldiers bound for Iraq and for Papuan troops to be assigned to RAMSI.

As in past years, the ICRC fostered relations with the media, academic circles, NGOs and think-tanks, to enlist their support for the promotion of IHL and for ICRC activities.

Cooperation with the region's National Societies and the International Federation remained a priority for the delegation. Although technical support and advice were given to many of the region's National Societies in 2007, the ICRC focused on the Red Cross Societies of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu with a view to boosting their ability to respond to any unrest in their countries. Support for the National Societies also involved strengthening their IHL-promotion capacities.

CIVILIANS

To keep abreast of the situation in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands and to identify needs as they arose, the ICRC made regular field trips and conducted various needs assessments with the relevant National Society. As a result, in Papua New Guinea, 150 victims of violence in Bougainville and 140 IDPs in settlements in Port Moresby received essential household items to help them cope with their losses or displacement.

During these trips, the ICRC spoke to various representatives of the authorities and other relevant contacts to explain its mandate and enlist their support in ensuring that the needs of vulnerable populations were met.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji and the Solomon Islands continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and living conditions and made confidential reports to the relevant authorities.

In Australia, the ICRC visited a detainee before his release later in the year. He had previously been interned by the United States of America at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

The ICRC offered its services to the Tongan authorities to visit the 500 or so people charged with arson, sedition and disruption of public order during the November 2006 riots. The organization was informed, however, that most of those arrested had been released on bail until their trials and that only a few trials had been conducted in 2007.

Fiji

- 29 detainees visited, of whom 26 monitored individually and 1 newly registered, during 3 visits to 3 places of detention

Solomon Islands

- 155 detainees visited, of whom 59 monitored individually and 5 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention

AUTHORITIES

With the technical support and advice of the ICRC, the Pacific States made headway in acceding to IHL instruments and in incorporating their provisions into domestic legislation:

- the Cook Islands passed legislation to implement the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Ottawa Convention

- Fiji promulgated a new Geneva Conventions Act to implement the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their three Additional Protocols
- Samoa passed legislation to implement the Rome Statute
- Australia and New Zealand acceded to Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons on explosive remnants of war
- Palau acceded to the Ottawa Convention
- Vanuatu became party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- New Zealand released a consultation paper on possible accession to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its protocols

The New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, in conjunction with the New Zealand Red Cross, hosted the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference, in which the ICRC participated. Some 150 delegates from Commonwealth countries and non-Commonwealth Pacific States came together to discuss IHL implementation. Following the conference, the Cook Islands and Samoa established national IHL committees to assist in their countries' implementation efforts. The ICRC made a presentation to lawyers at the national conference of the Advocate General's Office in Fiji to promote the creation of an IHL committee in that country.

Decision-makers and opinion-leaders throughout the region were informed about IHL and humanitarian issues through the ICRC's participation in various events. For example, participants in a regional seminar on the International Criminal Court hosted by the Australian government and in meetings of the Pacific Island Law Officers' Network in Kiribati and the Cook Islands heard presentations on the importance of acceding to the Rome Statute.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The region's armed and security forces continued to increase their knowledge of IHL by attending ICRC workshops, seminars and presentations, including those held at the Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law. The armed and police forces in Tonga requested ICRC support in training their personnel in IHL and international human rights law.

The Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law and the ICRC jointly organized a seminar in Australia on law enforcement in peace-keeping operations. Thirteen high-ranking police officers from nine countries in the Asia-Pacific region and from the secretariat of the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police took part. Participants shared their experiences and contributed to a working paper to provide guidance to police training institutions throughout the region. The Fijian police force subsequently formed a dedicated training unit for their peacekeeping personnel. Fijian peacekeepers bound for Iraq and personnel of the Papua New Guinea armed forces to be assigned to RAMSI attended pre-deployment briefings.

Participants in Talisman Sabre, a major biannual US-Australia command post exercise, benefited from the ICRC's participation in role-play simulating humanitarian responses in situations of armed conflict. The Australian Command and Staff College had the benefit of ICRC expertise in designing and running one of its training exercises so that humanitarian aspects were included.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Given their capacity to reach and influence a wide audience, the region's print, radio and television journalists were regularly briefed on IHL and ICRC activities of specific interest to encourage them to give greater and more accurate coverage to issues of humanitarian concern. In Australia, in particular, the media approached the ICRC for information on such topics.

A wide variety of people attended awareness-raising events in Australia and New Zealand to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols and to highlight the specific needs of women in war. Photo exhibitions and seminars attracted government officials, diplomats, academics and journalists, who gave the events media coverage.

Various higher-education establishments in the region continued in their efforts to promote IHL teaching. Students at the Australian National University, the University of New South Wales and the University of the South Pacific attended ICRC lectures.

A number of NGOs working in areas of concern to the ICRC, such as conflict resolution or demilitarization, attended presentations given by the organization aimed at heightening their awareness of the organization's mandate and activities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation with the region's National Societies remained an ICRC priority. Efforts focused on boosting the capacities of the Red Cross Societies of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and on cooperation with the Red Cross Societies of Australia and New Zealand, which were very active internationally. In addition, the ICRC visited the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa and Tuvalu to discuss the action plans of established National Societies, to support the Tuvalu Red Cross Society in its efforts to gain recognition as a National Society, and to discuss the creation of a National Society in the Marshall Islands.

Responding to emergencies

The National Society of the Solomon Islands carried out tracing activities in the aftermath of the tsunami that hit the country in April. In New Caledonia, following the creation of a regional intervention platform for the South Pacific by the French Red Cross, more than 60 volunteers were recruited and trained with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC.

Promoting IHL

The National Societies of Fiji and Papua New Guinea boosted their dissemination capacities with the recruitment of extra staff and volunteers. Representatives of the National Societies of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tonga attended a workshop in Honiara that focused on promoting IHL among the media.

All National Societies attended the Second Commonwealth Red Cross and Red Crescent IHL Conference (see *Authorities*), at which they renewed their commitment to promote implementation of and respect for IHL. The IHL committees of the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies continued to actively promote IHL implementation in their own countries and in the Asia-Pacific region in general. The ICRC attended meetings of both bodies, providing expertise where required.



tashkent (regional)

The regional delegation for Central Asia was opened in 1992 to enable the ICRC to step up its activities for victims of the Tajik civil war. In all the countries covered, it assists governments in ratifying IHL instruments and adopting implementing legislation, and promotes the integration of IHL into armed forces' training and secondary school and university curricula. The ICRC helps build the capacities of the region's National Societies, in particular to promote IHL and to restore family links. It also endeavours to protect and assist people detained for security reasons; in Kyrgyzstan, where the ICRC conducts regular visits to detainees, it supports the efforts of the authorities to control tuberculosis in prisons.

COVERING

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,055
Assistance	1,699
Prevention	2,572
Cooperation with National Societies	1,031
General	-

► **7,355**

of which: Overheads 449

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

16 expatriates
91 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued to visit detainees in Kyrgyzstan and to support the government's programme for tuberculosis control in prisons
- welcomed the creation of an interministerial working group by the Kyrgyz authorities to follow up the ICRC's report on the conditions of detainees in police custody
- endeavoured to resume visits to detainees in Uzbekistan and continued dialogue with the authorities to this end, but no progress had been made by the end of the year
- downgraded the mission of Dushanbe to an office after the withdrawal of its head of mission in October owing to lack of progress in negotiations with the Tajik authorities on the resumption of ICRC visits to detainees
- pursued its dialogue with the government of Turkmenistan with a view to starting visits to detainees, but no progress was made
- welcomed the Tajik Ministry of Defence's initial agreement to establish a steering committee for the integration of IHL into military doctrine, education and training

CONTEXT

Uzbekistan's president, Islam Karimov, was re-elected in December. Human rights issues strained relations with a number of countries.

In Kyrgyzstan, a new constitution extending the president's powers was adopted by referendum. In December, the presidential political party won a majority of the seats contested in the parliamentary elections.

Tajikistan strengthened its cooperation with regional organizations to combat "terrorism", extremism and drug trafficking. Alleged members of banned Islamist groups continued to be arrested.

The president of Kazakhstan's political party won all of the contested seats in August's general elections. The country's economic growth continued and it further developed relations and military cooperation with neighbouring States. In November, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced that Kazakhstan would hold the presidency of the organization in 2010.

Following the death of the president of Turkmenistan at the end of 2006, the new government worked to normalize relations with neighbouring countries and opened the country to more international contact, seeking to diversify export routes for its energy resources.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM²			
Detainees visited	7,674	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	76	Water, sanitation and habitat projects			
		<i>Beneficiaries</i>			
	<i>of whom females</i>		2,540	50%	
	<i>of whom minors</i>				
Number of visits carried out	82	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
Number of places of detention visited	44	Patients receiving services			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			<i>Patients</i>	1,218	271
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					324
RCMs collected	378	Prostheses delivered			
RCMs distributed	431		<i>Units</i>	410	85
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					41
People to whom travel documents were issued	75	Orthoses delivered			
			<i>Units</i>	131	15
					93

1. Kyrgyzstan only

2. The water, sanitation and habitat figures include Kyrgyzstan and the physical rehabilitation figures include Tajikistan

ICRC ACTION

ICRC visits to places of detention continued in Kyrgyzstan but remained on hold in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, while ongoing dialogue with the Turkmen authorities on detention-related activities failed to produce an agreement. In Uzbekistan, the ICRC discussed resuming its visits to detainees, suspended since December 2004, with the ministries concerned. The visits resumed in May but had to be stopped again owing to non-respect for the ICRC's standard working procedures. In Tajikistan, the ICRC endeavoured to reach an understanding with the authorities on the resumption of visits to detainees, suspended since September 2004. No progress had been made by the end of the year, and the head of mission was withdrawn from Dushanbe in October and the mission downgraded to an office with 21 national staff members pursuing IHL promotion and supporting the National Society.

In Kyrgyzstan, the regional delegation continued to assess detainee treatment and conditions of detention in prisons, police stations and pre-trial institutions. Following visits, the ICRC submitted confidential reports on its observations to the government, including recommendations for the authorities' penitentiary reform plans. In response to a summary report on conditions in police detention, the authorities decided to establish an interministerial working group tasked with proposing measures to implement the ICRC's recommendations. The regional delegation worked with other international organizations to support the Kyrgyz government's tuberculosis (TB) programme in prisons and provided limited assistance to detainees, in particular during the winter. It also endeavoured to mobilize donor support for the government's reform plans. The prison authorities received assistance in drafting an application to WHO for the expansion of the directly observed treatment, short course-plus (DOTS-plus) programme to treat multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) in the civilian sector and to include prisons. After obtaining the WHO's approval, the authorities, with ICRC support, started to introduce DOTS-plus in TB colony 27. The ICRC also rehabilitated prison medical infrastructure and sanitary facilities to improve conditions for detainees undergoing treatment for TB.

To ensure the sustainability of the only physical rehabilitation centre in Tajikistan, the ICRC met the minister of labour and social welfare to discuss the centre's future and gradually decreased its support, while maintaining essential technical assistance to ensure proper running of the centre and the quality of services provided.

Cooperation was strengthened and expanded with many universities, secondary schools, military lyceums and training institutions in Central Asia. IHL events, courses and competitions were organized at national and regional level, and the ICRC sponsored the participation of Central Asian military personnel, academics and government officials in IHL conferences and events abroad.

The regional delegation worked closely with the International Federation to help Central Asian National Societies develop stronger institutional bases and to harmonize existing Movement programmes and procedures. In addition, the ICRC organized various national and regional training seminars for the leadership, staff and volunteers of the National Societies.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC was not in a position to resume dialogue with the relevant authorities in Uzbekistan with a view to carrying out humanitarian activities in favour of the civilian population affected by internal disturbances.

Plans to work with the region's police and security forces on training in international standards applicable to policing got under way (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Families in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan benefited from the ICRC's family-links service.

- 68 RCMs collected from and 230 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 75 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Kyrgyzstan

People held in 44 places of detention in Kyrgyzstan received visits from ICRC delegates and exchanged RCMs with their families. The ICRC made recommendations for improvements in their conditions of detention where needed, particularly in the case of female detainees, minors and foreign nationals. Visits to facilities under the authority of the State security services were suspended in July owing to non-respect for some of its standard working procedures.

The ICRC made high-level representations to the relevant authorities, but the situation had not changed by the end of the year.

People held in police stations also received ICRC visits. In July, the ICRC presented the authorities with a summary report on the treatment, conditions of detention and respect for judicial guarantees of detainees in police custody. Following this, the minister of foreign affairs announced the creation of an interministerial working group tasked with proposing measures to implement the ICRC's recommendations.

Detainees received assistance such as mattresses, blankets and warm jackets to help them through the winter months, as well as hygiene items, cleaning products and stationery.

TB remained a serious threat to public health, and prisons continued to be a primary breeding ground for the disease. The Ministries of Health and Justice pursued their efforts to bring the disease under control, with ICRC support. In TB colony 27, the ICRC assisted the authorities in the daily supervision of TB diagnostic and treatment activities, drug management and staff training. These activities were also carried out in colony 2 for women and the colony for minors and in other places of detention. The authorities in charge of the national TB programme, with ICRC assistance, drafted an application to WHO for the expansion of the DOTS-plus programme for the management of MDR-TB in the civilian sector and its introduction in prisons. Following the application's approval, the authorities introduced DOTS-plus for detainees with MDR-TB in colony 27, with the ICRC's assistance.

X-ray screening for TB in prisons took place throughout the year, with ICRC support. Rehabilitation of medical infrastructure, particularly the TB hospital in colony 27, and of sanitary installations continued, improving conditions of detention and making prison facilities more conducive to the treatment of detainees with TB. Additional rehabilitation work was carried out in colony 14 for minors, colony 2 for women and SIZO 1.

With ICRC support, prison health staff participated in national and international seminars and conferences on TB and TB/HIV co-infection. Educational support was provided on TB, HIV and drug use to detainees and custodial personnel, in cooperation with other national and international partners.

- ▶ 7,674 detainees visited, of whom 76 monitored individually (including 2 females and 5 minors) and 53 newly registered (including 2 females and 5 minors), during 82 visits to 44 places of detention
- ▶ 217 RCMs collected from and 118 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 2,540 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Uzbekistan

ICRC visits to detainees in Uzbekistan resumed temporarily in May, but the first visit since December 2004 had to be suspended after a few hours because the ICRC's working procedures were not respected. Dialogue was pursued with the relevant authorities, but no tangible progress was made.

Following a meeting with the head of the penitentiary administration of the Ministry of the Interior in November, the ICRC received written feedback on its summary report submitted in 2006. Former detainees received limited ad hoc assistance.

Tajikistan

Dialogue between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice and the ICRC on resuming visits to places of detention in Tajikistan, interrupted since September 2004, yielded no breakthroughs. As a consequence, the ICRC's head of mission in Dushanbe was withdrawn in November and the mission downgraded to an ICRC office.

- ▶ 93 RCMs collected from and 83 RCMs distributed to detainees

Turkmenistan

The dialogue with the Turkmen authorities initiated in 2005 to gain access to security detainees failed to produce a result. In December, the ICRC vice-president was invited to Ashgabat by the minister of foreign affairs to attend a conference on preventive diplomacy and to pursue negotiations on access to places of detention. However, he was not received by the minister, for which no explanation was provided.

WOUNDED AND SICK

The Tajik Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, with ICRC support, ran the physical rehabilitation centre in Dushanbe, with satellite workshops in Khojand, Khorog and Kulyab. The government kept up its efforts to take more financial responsibility for running the facility as the ICRC gradually scaled back its funding. The authorities and the ICRC discussed ways to increase staff salaries in order to retain trained technical personnel and issues related to the status and overall management of the centre.

- ▶ 1,218 patients (including 271 women and 324 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- ▶ 149 new patients (including 26 women and 8 children) fitted with prostheses and 51 (including 5 women and 40 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 410 prostheses (including 85 for women, 41 for children and 42 for mine victims), 131 orthoses (including 15 for women and 93 for children), 252 crutches and 1 wheelchair delivered

AUTHORITIES

In Kyrgyzstan, the Administrative Liability Code was amended to include provisions on the misuse of the red cross and red crescent emblems. Members of the national IHL committee attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

With ICRC support, a group of Tajik experts completed a compatibility study on the Ottawa Convention and national legislation. The Tajik Mine Action Centre – the initiator of the study – planned to use the study's conclusions to improve overall compliance with the convention.

The second revised Uzbek translation of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols was published with the ICRC's advice and financial support. On the 30th anniversary of the Additional Protocols, the ICRC and the Uzbek Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented the translation to representatives of the authorities, academic circles and civil society.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In 2007, the ICRC focused on working with the region's Ministries of Defence to integrate IHL into the doctrine, education and training of the armed forces.

After some 400 Tajik military officers attended ICRC-organized IHL training, the Tajik Ministry of Defence responded favourably to a proposal to establish a steering committee for the permanent integration of IHL into military doctrine, education and training.

Teams from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan participated in the fifth al-Farabi IHL competition in Kazakhstan organized by the Kazakh Ministry of Defence with the ICRC's support.

A delegate in charge of relations with police and security forces began work in October. Relevant information was gathered in order to evaluate to what extent international standards applicable to policing, in particular regarding the use of force, had been integrated into the national legislation of the countries in the region and into the training programmes and standard operating procedures of their police and security forces.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Secondary schools

The ICRC focused on the integration of IHL into pre-military education in schools, military lyceums and in-service training institutes in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Following the Kazakh authorities' approval of the Exploring Humanitarian Law modules as an additional learning tool, the ICRC established contacts with the country's military lyceums and supported the signing of an agreement between the Ministry of Education and the Kazakh Red Crescent Society to pilot the programme in selected schools.

Students in secondary schools and military lyceums participating in military exercises learned about IHL and the ICRC. Students in the military faculty of the Tashkent Pedagogical University participated in IHL competitions, and pupils in summer camps in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan attended ICRC-led IHL information sessions.

Representatives of the region's Ministries of Education and Defence and military lyceums attended the 3rd regional seminar on military lyceums held in Bishkek and organized by the ICRC. The participants exchanged their experiences and concerns about the incorporation of IHL into pre-military training in Central Asia.

In Uzbekistan, an electronic textbook including IHL, designed for pre-military training in schools and military lyceums, was prepared jointly with the Ministry of Defence.

- 9 national seminars for representatives of education authorities, teachers of pre-military training schools and military lyceums conducted in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

Universities

A network of 21 Central Asian universities continued to cooperate with the ICRC in developing courses and research in IHL. In cooperation with the ICRC and in order to reinforce the teaching of IHL and other international law disciplines, the Kyrgyz-Russian Slavonic University established an international law chair. University students and lecturers attended the following IHL events and activities during the year:

- national IHL courses in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- a national IHL competition in Tajikistan
- the second Central Asian IHL essay contest for undergraduate and postgraduate students in Almaty, Kazakhstan
- the Jean Pictet IHL moot court competition in El Escorial, Spain (a Kyrgyz team)
- the 8th annual Central Asian IHL competition in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan
- international IHL courses in Warsaw, Poland, and Moscow, Russian Federation
- the 3rd Central Asian advanced IHL course in Tashkent
- several undergraduate students completed diploma papers on IHL

Media

The ICRC kept in touch with the region's media to improve coverage of humanitarian issues and activities. National newspapers, radio stations, television channels and websites in Central Asia reported on ICRC activities and events. Four episodes of the "From the Field" series were dubbed in Uzbek. The ICRC film *In the heart of action* was dubbed in Tajik and Uzbek and broadcast on the Kyrgyz national television channel. An updated version of the *Discover the ICRC* brochure was translated and printed in Tajik, Turkmen and Uzbek. Some 3,000 copies of Henry Dunant's *A Memory of Solferino* in Uzbek were distributed through the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan. A brochure on the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols in Russian was reprinted locally and translated and printed in Turkmen.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of the region continued to build their institutional capacities with financial support and advice from the ICRC and the International Federation. They remained ready to assist victims of armed conflict, other situations of violence and natural disaster, while working on national and regional contingency planning. They also helped restore and maintain family links and contributed to the dissemination of IHL and humanitarian values, particularly in secondary schools and among armed forces. In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the National Societies were also involved in mine incident data collection and mine-risk prevention and education in sensitive areas.

With guidance and financial assistance from the ICRC and the International Federation, the Central Asian National Societies revised and strengthened their legal bases and organizational structures. For the National Societies of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, this included revising and adopting new statutes.

- staff of the Central Asian National Societies participated in training sessions on IHL, the Seville Agreement and the Movement's Fundamental Principles
- 60 volunteers from the region's National Societies attended an ICRC-organized regional seminar where they exchanged working experiences and increased their response capacities in case of crisis
- the Movement and its Fundamental Principles promoted through a variety of events organized by the National Societies for World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May)
- some 20 IHL lecturers from the Central Asian National Societies received special training to equip them to carry out dissemination sessions for the region's armed forces
- 9 leaders of the region's National Societies took part in the leadership development course in Geneva, Switzerland, updating and exchanging their knowledge and skills on issues relating to the Movement, governance and management





EUROPE DELEGATIONS

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Georgia

EUROPE REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Belgrade
Budapest
Kyiv
Moscow

Ankara
Brussels
International Tracing Service
London
Paris

THE AMERICAS DELEGATIONS

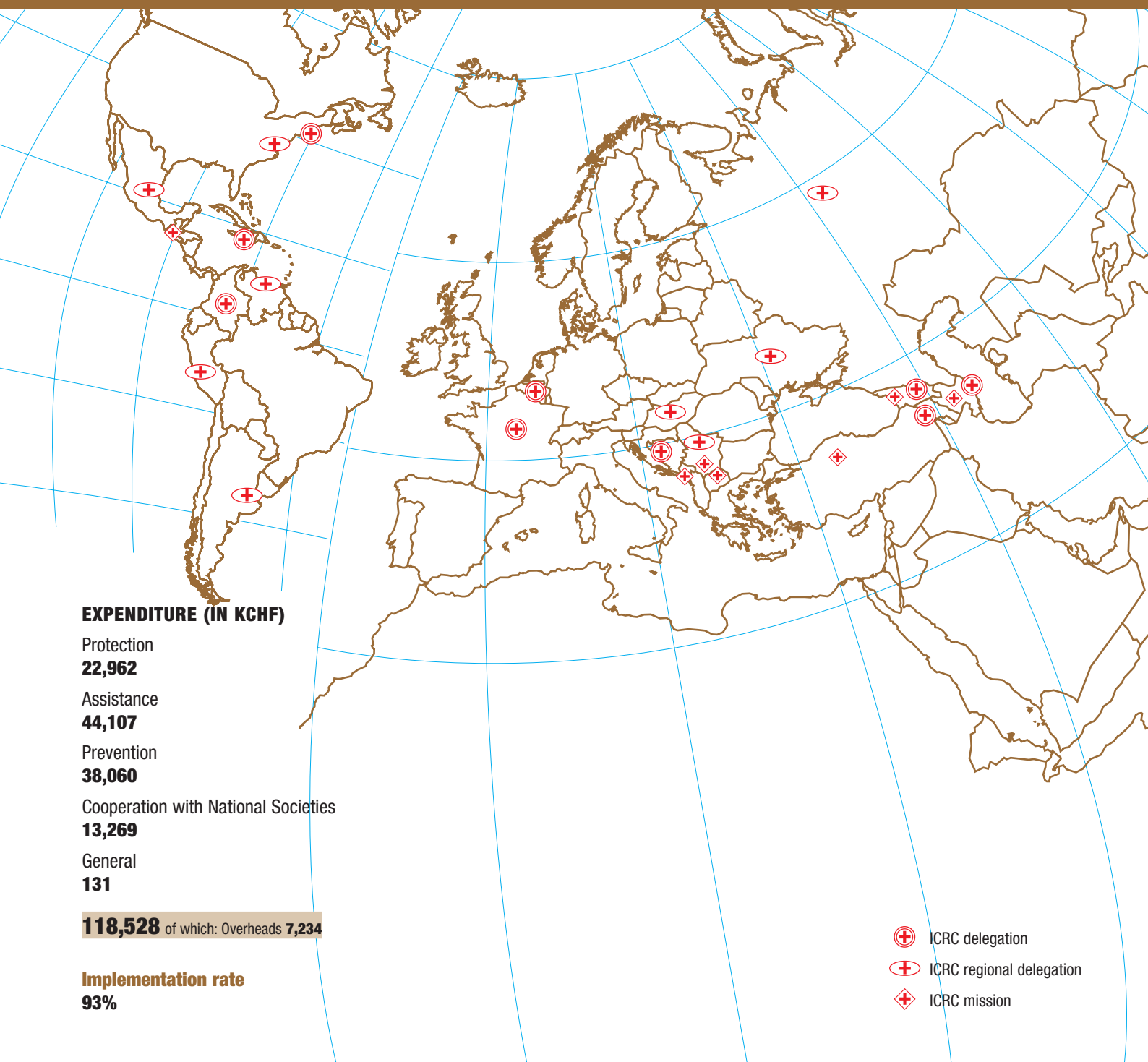
Colombia
Haiti

THE AMERICAS REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Buenos Aires
Caracas
Lima
Mexico City
Washington

New York

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

22,962

Assistance

44,107

Prevention

38,060

Cooperation with National Societies

13,269

General

131

118,528 of which: Overheads **7,234**

Implementation rate

93%

⊕ ICRC delegation

⊕ ICRC regional delegation

⊕ ICRC mission

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

In 2007, across this region spanning two continents, the ICRC's main priorities were to protect people deprived of their freedom, to seek clarification of the fate of people unaccounted for from past and current conflicts, and to assist and protect people directly affected by ongoing armed conflict, particularly in Colombia. The ICRC also continued to promote IHL and foster a deeper understanding of the organization's role and activities among the region's authorities, armed and security forces, universities and schools.

National Societies were the ICRC's main operational partners in many domains. They continued to benefit from ICRC support to strengthen their capacities, in particular in the areas of disaster preparedness, the Safer Access approach, restoring family links, and IHL dissemination. In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC also supported the efforts of National Societies in adapting their statutes and structures to Movement requirements.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication.

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

The region covered in the present chapter comprises three sub-regions: Eastern Europe and Central Asia; North America and Western, Central and South-Eastern Europe; and Latin America and the Caribbean. The main ICRC activities in each sub-region in 2007 are summarized below.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Throughout the Caucasus, the ICRC continued to work with the authorities, the National Societies and other relevant actors to determine the fate of missing persons and to provide support to their families. In Armenia and Azerbaijan, the authorities and the ICRC continued to consolidate the lists of persons missing in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict and to work on a framework agreement on the collection and management of ante-mortem data by the respective State Commissions on Missing Persons. In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC provided the authorities with detailed allegations of arrest and disappearances and submitted to them a position paper highlighting the issue of missing persons. The dialogue between the Abkhaz and Georgian authorities on missing persons was revived, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. Unfortunately, a coordination meeting between the parties due to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, was cancelled.

In Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova, the ICRC pursued its visits to people detained in relation to armed conflict and for reasons of State security, who were able to keep in touch with their families using the RCM network whenever necessary. The ICRC continued to monitor their conditions of detention and treatment, as well as to advocate for improvements to their living environment and access to medical care. It distributed material assistance and carried out small-scale prison repairs or construction work. National authorities continued to work with the ICRC to screen and treat tuberculosis (TB) in prisons and to build the necessary national capacities to enable them to take over responsibility for TB control programmes. In Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, the gradual handover of the programme to the authorities was in progress. The ICRC visited seven POWs or civilian internees detained in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, of whom five were repatriated, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

The Belarusian authorities turned down the ICRC's offer to discuss its request to have access to detainees in accordance with its standard visiting procedures. In the Russian Federation, where visits to detainees had been suspended because of the authorities' opposition to its standard procedures, the ICRC continued to organize family visits for sentenced detainees held far from their homes.

In the northern Caucasus, as reconstruction picked up, the ICRC moved from emergency assistance to livelihood-support programmes. Some 38,000 destitute people received one last distribution of material assistance, and some 5,000 people in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia benefited from micro-economic projects launched by the ICRC. The organization also provided expertise and equipment for the rehabilitation of water infrastructure serving some 1.2 million people. Work focused on supporting water boards in rural Chechnya and limited direct interventions in centres housing IDPs in all three republics. ICRC medical assistance to hospitals decreased gradually over 2007 and ceased at the end of the year. Nevertheless, an existing agreement between a medical equipment company in Nalchik and the ICRC was extended, following which 4 tours of 13 Chechen facilities were conducted to lend them technical support.

In Chechnya and Azerbaijan, mine-affected communities continued to benefit from mine-risk education programmes, and additional safe play areas were built for children. Disabled people, including mine victims, received physical rehabilitation services in Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation.

Efforts to promote the inclusion of IHL in the doctrine, training and operations of the armed forces achieved some breakthroughs. The Russian Ministry of Defence made IHL a compulsory component of its civic training curriculum. In Armenia and Georgia, the respective ministers of defence and the ICRC signed agreements outlining future cooperation in the promotion of IHL instruction.

NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

ICRC activities in North America remained focused on issues related to US detention at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, as well as on ensuring adequate coordination on similar issues regarding persons detained under US authority in Afghanistan and Iraq. The ICRC maintained its request for the US authorities to define more clearly the status and rights of individual internees/detainees and to ensure they fitted into a proper and adequate legal framework providing more robust procedural safeguards. This matter was at the heart of discussions between the US authorities and ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger during his mission to Washington in April. Although differences of opinion persisted, the ICRC continued to regularly engage with the United States on a variety of other legal issues.

In the Western Balkans, the ICRC monitored the detention conditions of people under investigation or sentenced for war crimes and visited people held by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague.

Resolving the issue of the some 18,000 people still unaccounted for remained a priority for the ICRC in the Western Balkans. The organization continued to remind all the parties of their obligations in this respect, to support the exhumation and identification process, to maintain dialogue with the families of missing persons and to support their associations. In Kosovo, it chaired six sessions of the Working Group on Missing Persons, the only forum for dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina on the issue of missing persons. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the ICRC helped reinforce the effectiveness and accountability of the Missing Persons Institute. In Croatia, the first *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* was published, acknowledging the suffering of the families.

In Kosovo, the ICRC monitored the situation, in particular that of minority groups, and maintained its capacity to act in case of renewed violence or any other potential emergency related to the issue of Kosovo's future status.

The ICRC's presence in Brussels, Budapest, London, Paris, New York and Washington provided a favourable environment to develop dialogue on IHL, the ICRC and the Movement, in particular with intergovernmental organizations and their member States, and to enlist their support in promoting greater respect for IHL and independent humanitarian action. In Brussels, for example, implementation of the European Union (EU) Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL and ongoing and planned European Security and Defence Policy missions were among the issues of common interest discussed with the Council of the EU and the EU presidencies. In New York, in addition to conveying the ICRC's humanitarian concerns in meetings of various UN bodies, the ICRC actively contributed to debates and reports on the protection of civilians and children during armed conflict. In Washington, cooperation was enhanced with the Organization of American States and other inter-American institutions. From its bases in Brussels, London and Paris, the ICRC strengthened its network of contacts with the authorities, NGOs, the media, universities, think-tanks and other influential sectors of society to promote IHL and gain support for ICRC action.

Efforts to promote the inclusion of IHL in the doctrine, training and operations of the armed forces saw progress in Montenegro and Serbia, where the highest military authorities decided to organize IHL training courses for all military services at all levels. In Brussels, NATO troops participating in exercises prior to their deployment as part of peace-support operations were briefed by the ICRC. In preparation for the future deployment of the joint EU-UN force in Chad/Central African Republic, the ICRC established relations with the mission's command structure, as well as with EU military staff.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In Latin America and the Caribbean, respect for IHL, notably the protection of people not participating in armed conflict, remained a major ICRC concern, particularly in Colombia. The ICRC continued to monitor the situation of the civilian population. It documented allegations of violations of IHL and urged the parties concerned to put a stop to such practices.

On several occasions in Colombia, the ICRC acted as a neutral intermediary between the parties to the conflict, facilitating medical evacuations, the release of people held by armed groups, or the recovery of human remains.

A study conducted with WFP and an internal assessment of the needs of IDPs in Colombia allowed the ICRC to streamline the content of its assistance package and better advocate on behalf of IDPs. Over 66,000 IDPs and conflict-affected residents benefited from ICRC assistance programmes – including projects to improve self-sufficiency and to rehabilitate infrastructure in conflict-affected communities – which were coordinated with the authorities or other organizations and implemented mainly with the National Society. Communal water and sanitation facilities were upgraded and access to health services improved through ICRC support to individual patients or to health structures. Vulnerable communities were alerted to the dangers of mines and how to lessen the risks through safe behaviour. The results of a survey conducted in three departments in Colombia helped increase the authorities' awareness of the scope of the weapon contamination problem and facilitated the development of appropriate mine-action programmes by all stakeholders.

In Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru, where poverty and inequality continued to lead to recurrent outbursts of internal violence, the ICRC worked with police forces regarding the use of force during such incidents, and acted jointly with the National Society to address the needs of the most vulnerable victims of violence. In Haiti, taking advantage of its role as a neutral and independent intermediary, the ICRC, together with the National Society, continued to develop humanitarian activities in major shantytowns in Port-au-Prince, evacuating the wounded and the sick, conducting sanitation and hygiene projects, and facilitating cooperation between all actors involved. In Rio de Janeiro, preparations were made for similar activities in the *favelas* to be carried out with the National Society.

The ICRC worked with national mechanisms for missing persons in Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Peru and encouraged better coordination among authorities, as well as among national organizations working on the issue. It provided technical support for the exhumation and identification of human remains or assistance to families of missing persons. With the Argentinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ICRC co-organized a regional conference on the identification of human remains in connection with armed conflict, internal violence and natural disaster, which was attended by forensic experts from 11 countries.

In Chile, Colombia, Grenada, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela, ICRC delegates visited some 13,000 detainees to monitor their detention conditions and report to the authorities concerned. To supplement the ICRC support provided at national level to help address problems affecting penitentiary health care, some 70 prison health care professionals from 9 countries attended a seminar in Chile, organized with ICRC support. In Bolivia, the penitentiary authorities considered embarking on reforms to address structural problems in line with ICRC recommendations. In Haiti, the government, together with UN organizations and members of the international community, established a six-year strategic development plan for prison reforms, to which the ICRC contributed.

In Mexico and Venezuela, the ICRC continued to explore with the authorities ways to conclude a comprehensive agreement on visits to detainees. In Colombia, efforts to obtain access to people held by armed groups remained unsuccessful at this stage.

The inclusion of IHL in the doctrine, training and operations of the armed forces continued throughout Latin America. Troops of the region were briefed by the ICRC prior to their deployment as part of peacekeeping operations in Haiti (MINUSTAH). The ICRC also participated in conferences, briefings and meetings of the US Southcom in the United States of America as well as in El Salvador and Ecuador.



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, or for security reasons, or who are otherwise vulnerable, and monitors the situation of communities along the Line of Contact. It supports the authorities in bringing the spread of tuberculosis under control in prisons. 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 KCHF)

Protection	834
Assistance	1,110
Prevention	726
Cooperation with National Societies	294
General	-

► **2,964**

of which: Overheads 181

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
55	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- reached a consensus with the authorities on the text of a framework agreement on ante-mortem data collection and management by the State Commission on Missing Persons
- trained personnel from the Armenian Red Cross Society in preparation for the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing as a result of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- visited and facilitated the repatriation of POWs and civilian internees detained in connection with the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- maintained support to the prison tuberculosis control programme in preparation for its handover to the authorities
- welcomed the Defence Ministry's establishment of a working group in charge of the IHL integration process in the armed forces
- co-organized with the Russian-Armenian State University the 1st International Students' Conference on IHL in Yerevan

CONTEXT

After the sudden death of the incumbent prime minister in March, the former defence minister, Serge Sarkisian, took over leadership of the government, a position he retained following the May parliamentary elections.

The economy continued to grow and the Armenian dram to appreciate against the US dollar and other currencies, the latter making exports expensive and life difficult for families dependent on remittances from abroad.

To make progress towards a settlement of the 19-year Nagorno Karabakh conflict before the presidential elections in Armenia and Azerbaijan in 2008, the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents met on the sidelines of the June summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in St Petersburg, Russian Federation, while the foreign ministers met on four occasions in the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Serbia and Spain. In June, for the first time since the beginning of the conflict, representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijani intelligentsia, led by the two countries' ambassadors to the Russian Federation, made a joint trip to Baku, Stepanakert/Khankendi and Yerevan in an endeavour to promote dialogue and foster trust between people affected by the conflict.

In November, the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe presented a set of Basic Principles for the Peaceful Settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh Conflict to the Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers. The parties to the conflict were urged to endorse them prior to negotiating a comprehensive peace agreement, although few expected consensus to be found in the short term. On the ground, while there were no major incidents, tensions were rife along the front line and there were more reports of ceasefire violations and military casualties than in recent years.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	2,269	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	17				
Number of visits carried out	87	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	2,336	
Number of places of detention visited	12				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	19				
RCMs distributed	18				

ICRC ACTION

Tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan and their impact on the population living along the international border continued to elicit the ICRC's attention. Through regular field missions, the organization reinforced its dialogue with representatives of local communities, the authorities, National Society branches and the families of missing persons and addressed humanitarian issues linked to the conflict. Residents of border villages received training in first aid from the National Society, supported by the ICRC.

Dialogue between the State Commissions on Missing Persons and the ICRC resulted in a consolidated list of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Moreover, the ICRC and the Armenian authorities cooperated closely to finalize a framework agreement regarding the collection and centralized management of ante-mortem data by the State Commission.

The ICRC continued to monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of people deprived of their freedom, visited people held in connection with the conflict and tackled issues of humanitarian concern with the relevant authorities. It facilitated the transfer or repatriation of POWs and civilian internees.

As in past years, the ICRC supported the authorities in integrating the prison tuberculosis (TB) control programme into the national TB programme. As the Justice Ministry's TB working group developed its capacity and civilian TB services strengthened links with detention facilities, the gradual handover of the programme to the authorities began.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the relevant authorities to familiarize them with IHL issues and obtain their cooperation in the ratification and further implementation of IHL treaties. Special emphasis was placed on creating national legislation on missing persons.

By providing technical expertise and training, the ICRC continued to support the work of IHL instructors in military education institutions. It welcomed the Defence Ministry's creation of an IHL working group and signed an agreement on further promoting IHL training.

The ICRC helped enhance knowledge and understanding of IHL in the media and academia. It signed an agreement with the Education Ministry setting out the roles and responsibilities of partners in the integration of IHL into education programmes and teacher training and co-organized with the ministry the 1st International Students' Conference on IHL.

Cooperation with the Armenian Red Cross Society continued to focus on boosting its capacity, in coordination with the International Federation. The ICRC provided training to National Society personnel in preparation for the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict.

CIVILIANS

People living along the international border with Azerbaijan continued to face security problems stemming from ceasefire violations, mines and explosive remnants of war. In order to monitor the situation faced by conflict-affected populations and to remind the authorities of their obligations under IHL, the ICRC conducted regular field missions and expanded contacts with the local communities and the civilian and military authorities in the front-line regions.

Seventy-three residents of border villages were trained in first aid by Armenian Red Cross instructors, financed by the ICRC. Most of these qualified first-aid responders became volunteers of the National Society.

Clarifying the fate of missing persons

The lists of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict were consolidated by the Armenian and Azerbaijani State Commissions on Missing Persons and the ICRC. By the end of the year, 4,413 people from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorny Karabakh were still recorded by the ICRC as unaccounted for.

The authorities and the ICRC reached a consensus on the text of a framework agreement on ante-mortem data collection and management by the respective State Commissions. Preparations for ante-mortem data collection entailed the training of Armenian Red Cross personnel and cooperation with the State Commission to identify sources of information on missing persons and possible gravesites.

A round-table took place to explore ways of drafting and adopting national legislation on the missing (see *Authorities*).

- in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, new tracing requests registered for 229 people (including 59 females and 11 minors at the time of disappearance); 1 person located; 4,413 people (including 358 females and 108 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Support to families of missing persons

Legal and psychological support services to help families of missing persons deal with loss and grief, as well as with more practical issues, were identified and the information circulated by the ICRC. Six mental health professionals learned about the challenges faced by families of the missing from an ICRC psychologist, while a psychologist employed by an NGO working to support families of the missing received training in counselling.

Restoring family links

RCMs remained the only means for some family members separated by conflict to communicate with each other.

- 13 RCMs collected from and 13 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 2 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom received visits from the ICRC in accordance with the organization's mandate. Among those visited were two Azerbaijani civilian internees detained in Armenia, who were offered the possibility to re-establish contact with their families through RCMs and one of whom was later repatriated by the ICRC. Detainees' living conditions and treatment were monitored and contact with their families preserved. The authorities were kept informed of the ICRC's observations and recommendations through confidential oral and written reports.

Some particularly vulnerable detainees, such as women, minors and foreigners, were monitored and provided with modest material assistance with a view to improving their physical and mental well-being.

Thanks to rehabilitation projects implemented by the ICRC in three detention centres, detainees enjoyed better health and sanitary conditions. Workshops were set up in six detention centres to enable minor repairs to and regular maintenance of the installations.

In November, the Justice Ministry co-organized a two-day workshop with the ICRC with the aim of reinforcing the capacities of the penitentiary system's social, psychological and legal services. The discussions, which brought together criminal investigation department staff, lawyers, social workers, academics, and national and international NGOs, as well as former prisoners, focused on judicial guarantees and the reintegration of former detainees into society.

Armenia

- 2,267 detainees visited, of whom 15 monitored individually and 3 newly registered, during 28 visits to 10 places of detention
- 6 RCMs collected from and 5 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 3 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 2,336 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects

In relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, in Armenia

- 2 civilian internees visited and monitored individually, of whom 1 newly registered

TB control programme

TB in prisons remained a major challenge for the medical services of the Justice Ministry. The Armenian authorities continued to receive ICRC support in strengthening the medical services' managerial capacity and integrating the prison TB control programme

into the national TB programme. The TB working group of the Justice Ministry held regular meetings and, as its capacity developed with ICRC support, the gradual handover of the TB control programme to the authorities began.

Medical and laboratory staff of the penitentiary service attended local, national and international training programmes in coordination with the national TB programme. For example, Justice Ministry staff attended a three-day seminar on database software designed to improve the reporting system used by the national TB programme. Meetings, workshops and round-tables served to cultivate partnerships with other organizations and reinforced links between detention facilities and nearby civilian TB services.

In order to support TB control in prisons and the HIV/AIDS prevention programmes of the Justice Ministry, bio-safety and infection control standards were improved with ICRC assistance.

Released TB patients benefited from a pilot project, implemented by the Justice Ministry, the national TB programme and the ICRC, whereby they continued to attend consultations and receive the necessary treatment. The project was scheduled to be handed over to the Armenian Red Cross in 2008.

- 541 detainees and 184 staff from 11 detention centres attended 21 health education sessions on TB
- 15,000 copies of publications on TB and HIV/AIDS and 2,000 copies of general health education materials produced
- books and periodical subscriptions donated to the medical library of the Justice Ministry's training and resource centre
- a public awareness campaign organized on World TB Day (24 March)

WOUNDED AND SICK

To acquire basic war-surgery techniques, two surgeons from the Defence and Health ministries participated in a war- and emergency-surgery seminar in Nalchik, Russian Federation, with ICRC support.

AUTHORITIES

The Armenian authorities pursued their dialogue with the ICRC regarding accession to various IHL treaties and their implementation in domestic law and practice. Consultations took place notably regarding ratification of Additional Protocol III and the creation of national legislation to prevent forced disappearances and to protect the rights and interests of the missing and their families. Parliamentarians and representatives of the government and NGOs participated in a round-table on the means of drafting and adopting national legislation on missing persons co-hosted by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Armenian Association of International Law and the ICRC.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Defence Ministry and the ICRC maintained a high-level dialogue to foster the incorporation of IHL into military doctrine, education and training. In January, an IHL working group comprising officers from the operations, combat training and international military cooperation departments was established and tasked with

assisting the Defence Ministry in taking measures to integrate IHL. In July, the minister of defence and the ICRC signed an agreement outlining future cooperation in promoting IHL training.

- 3 members of the IHL working group attended a Senezh IHL train-the-trainer course in the Russian Federation
- a team of officer cadets participated in the Skobelev IHL competition in the Russian Federation
- 29 army officers attended 2 courses for IHL instructors co-organized with the Defence Ministry
- 34 Armenian peacekeepers set to leave for Kosovo attended a pre-deployment IHL information session conducted by the ICRC

CIVIL SOCIETY

Several initiatives targeting the media and academia were undertaken to cultivate awareness of and support for IHL. Thus, there was increased and more accurate coverage of IHL issues, while future leaders and decision-makers benefited from efforts to integrate IHL into school and university curricula.

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

- journalists and the general public attended a photo exhibition on the issue of missing persons and the plight of their families
- 2 newsletters produced on the ICRC's mandate and activities
- media representatives participated in a workshop on social, psychological and legal issues in penitentiary institutions co-organized with the Justice Ministry
- 13 journalists from across the Caucasus attended a two-day seminar on IHL and the protection of journalists in armed conflict co-organized with the Armenian branch of the Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

- a cooperation agreement signed with the Education Ministry stipulating the roles and responsibilities of partners in the integration of IHL into education programmes and the teacher-training system
- 256 military education teachers attended 12 seminars on the ICRC and IHL for 7th grade students
- 548 teachers attended 54 seminars on the use of the ICRC's *Man to man* 7th grade textbook
- 1,300 copies of a CD-ROM entitled "Teach yourself IHL" distributed to secondary schools

Promoting IHL among students

- law students from 13 Western European and CIS countries participated in the 1st International Students' Conference on IHL held in cooperation with the Russian-Armenian State University in Yerevan in April
- a team of Armenian students participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain
- Armenian university lecturers participated as experts in the 10th Martens IHL competition in Moscow, Russian Federation
- 22 law students participated in an IHL summer school

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation between the Armenian Red Cross and the ICRC continued to focus on enhancing the National Society's capacity, in coordination with the International Federation. A strategic work plan for 2008–10 was approved by the National Society's general assembly. Senior staff attended a training session on the Seville Agreement, and the Movement's statutory documents were translated into Armenian and distributed to the participants.

Following preparations for ante-mortem data collection, the National Society was set to become involved in efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons (see *Civilians*).

Armenian Red Cross representatives met their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts in Tbilisi, Georgia, to discuss dissemination and tracing, share experiences and establish best practices.



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 adequate limb-fitting services. The ICRC promotes the 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 KCHF)

Protection	2,115
Assistance	2,281
Prevention	1,355
Cooperation with National Societies	448
General	-

► **6,198**

of which: Overheads 378

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
72	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- reached a consensus with the authorities on the text of a framework agreement on ante-mortem data collection and management by the State Commission on Missing Persons
- trained personnel from the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan in preparation for the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing as a result of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- visited and facilitated the repatriation of POWs and civilian internees detained in connection with the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- welcomed the Justice Ministry's implementation of the directly observed treatment, short course-plus pilot project for detainees with multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis
- transferred responsibility for all physical rehabilitation services to the authorities
- cooperated with the authorities in integrating IHL basics into compulsory secondary school curricula

CONTEXT

Oil-rich Azerbaijan sought to maintain a balanced foreign policy with regard to its neighbours and the United States and the rest of Europe, while the unresolved Nagorno Karabakh conflict and growing inflation generated frustration on the domestic scene.

Law enforcement agencies stepped up efforts to limit the influence of religious groups. In October, the National Security Ministry reported that it had thwarted the plans of an Islamist group to attack foreign embassies and government buildings in Baku.

In Nagorno Karabakh, a new *de facto* president was elected in July. Unrecognized by the international community, the elections caused considerable controversy.

To make progress towards a settlement of the 19-year Nagorno Karabakh conflict before the presidential elections in Armenia and Azerbaijan in 2008, the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents met on the sidelines of the June summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States in St Petersburg, Russian Federation, while the foreign ministers met on four occasions in the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Serbia and Spain. In June, for the first time since the beginning of the conflict, representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijani intelligentsia, led by the two countries' ambassadors to the Russian Federation, made a joint trip to Baku, Stepanakert/Khankendi and Yerevan in an endeavour to promote dialogue and foster trust between people affected by the conflict.

In November, the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe presented a set of Basic Principles for the Peaceful Settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh Conflict to the Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers. The parties to the conflict were urged to endorse them prior to negotiating a comprehensive peace agreement, although few expected consensus to be found in the short term. On the ground, while there were no major incidents, tensions were rife along the front line and there were more reports of ceasefire violations and military casualties than in recent years.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	10,700	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	73	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	300	70%
Number of visits carried out	35	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	300	70%
Number of places of detention visited	24	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	963	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Health</i>			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	66	
RCMs collected	122	WOUNDED AND SICK			
RCMs distributed	108	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	19,068	1,273
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	229	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,342	95
of whom females	59	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	2,065	205
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	11				1,589
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	4,413				
of which for females	358				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	108				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	4				

ICRC ACTION

Tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan and their impact on the population living along the Line of Contact and the international border continued to elicit the ICRC's attention. Through regular field missions, the organization reinforced its dialogue with representatives of local communities, the authorities, National Society branches, IDPs and the families of missing persons and addressed humanitarian issues linked to the conflict. Given the continuing problem of mines, the ICRC pursued its programme, conducted in partnership with the National Society, to create mine-free play areas for children.

Dialogue between the State Commissions on Missing Persons and the ICRC resulted in a consolidated list of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Moreover, the ICRC and the Azerbaijani authorities cooperated closely to finalize a framework agreement regarding the collection and centralized management of ante-mortem data by the State Commission.

The ICRC continued to monitor the conditions of detention and treatment of people deprived of their freedom, visited people held in connection with the conflict and tackled issues of humanitarian concern with the relevant authorities. It facilitated the transfer or repatriation of POWs and civilian internees.

As in past years, the ICRC supported the Justice Ministry in strengthening its services in the prison tuberculosis (TB) control programme. In particular, it supported a national directly observed treatment, short course-plus (DOTS-plus) pilot project to fight multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) in prisons.

The ICRC maintained its dialogue with the authorities, particularly the judiciary, to obtain their support for IHL implementation. A review of national legislation in relation to the missing persons issue was completed in order to see where amendments were required.

Activities were carried out with the armed forces and interior troops aimed at the integration of IHL into military training, with ICRC support. The subject was also broached with the police and border guard service.

The ICRC helped enhance knowledge and understanding of IHL in the media and academia. It cooperated with the education authorities in integrating IHL basics into compulsory secondary school curricula.

Cooperation with the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan continued to focus on its tracing, dissemination and mine-action programmes. The ICRC provided training to National Society personnel in preparation for the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict.

CIVILIANS

The half a million or so people living in 11 conflict-affected districts along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia continued to face security problems stemming from ceasefire violations, mines and explosive remnants of war. Given problems of access to safe drinking water, two villages were assessed by the ICRC with a view to improving their water supply. In order to monitor the situation faced by conflict-affected populations and to remind the authorities of their obligations under IHL, the ICRC conducted regular field missions from its office in Barda and expanded contacts with the local communities and the civilian and military authorities in the front-line regions.

A mine incident involving a child in Gedabay confirmed the need to pursue the programme to create mine-free play areas for children. To this end, 27 mine-affected communities were assessed in May, and by October 10 of them had safe playgrounds constructed by the ICRC in partnership with the Azerbaijani Red Crescent.

Vulnerable people in urban areas of Nagorny Karabakh continued to cope in difficult conditions thanks to assistance from the ICRC.

Sixty-six rural health centres in Nagorny Karabakh received essential drugs and medical disposables. Epidemiological services welcomed a donation of drugs for a campaign against intestinal parasites among schoolchildren in Stepanakert/Khankendi, as

well as a donation of anti-pediculosis drugs. To promote hygiene, 30,000 leaflets on the top four communicable diseases were published with ICRC support.

- ▶ 300 people received food and essential household items

Clarifying the fate of missing persons

The lists of persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict were consolidated by the Armenian and Azerbaijani State Commissions on Missing Persons and the ICRC. By the end of the year, 4,413 people from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorny Karabakh were still recorded by the ICRC as unaccounted for.

The authorities and the ICRC reached a consensus on the text of a framework agreement on ante-mortem data collection and management by the respective State Commissions. Preparations for ante-mortem data collection entailed the training of Azerbaijani Red Crescent personnel and cooperation with the State Commission to identify sources of information on missing persons and possible gravesites.

In Nagorny Karabakh, discussions with the State Commission were pursued with a view to implementing the proposals regarding more efficient action to ascertain the fate of missing persons outlined by the ICRC in a 2005 memorandum. Accordingly, a working group within the commission was scheduled to be set up early in 2008.

- ▶ in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, new tracing requests registered for 229 people (including 59 females and 11 minors at the time of disappearance); 1 person located; 4,413 people (including 358 females and 108 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Support to families of missing persons

The capacities of psychologists and existing psychological support services continued to be assessed for the possible referral of families of missing persons. Psychologists from Nagorny Karabakh participated in an ICRC workshop on helping missing persons' families deal with loss and grief.

Restoring family links

RCMs remained the only means for some family members separated by conflict to communicate with each other.

- ▶ 64 RCMs collected from and 50 RCMs distributed to civilians, of which 58 collected and 42 distributed in Nagorny Karabakh
- ▶ 4 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom received visits from the ICRC in accordance with the organization's mandate. Among those visited were one Armenian POW and one civilian internee from Nagorny Karabakh detained in Azerbaijan, the latter being released with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. In Nagorny Karabakh, one Azerbaijani serviceman and two Azerbaijani civilian internees received ICRC visits and re-established contact with their families through RCMs and were later transferred to the Azerbaijani authorities. Detainees' living conditions and treatment were monitored and contact with their families preserved. The authorities were kept informed of the ICRC's observations and recommendations through confidential oral and written reports.

To improve the living conditions of detainees and assist the authorities in addressing detainees' basic needs, a water and habitat assessment was undertaken by the ICRC in Penal Colony 4, a women's detention facility, and inmates received a one-off distribution of hygiene items. Detainees held in the security remand facility of the National Security Ministry enjoyed a greater variety of reading matter with the donation of books to the renovated facility's library.

Police and penitentiary officials, as well as senior members of the armed and security forces, attended information sessions on the ICRC's detention-related activities.

Azerbaijan

- ▶ 10,550 detainees visited, of whom 68 monitored individually and 17 newly registered, during 33 visits to 19 places of detention
- ▶ 23 RCMs collected from and 11 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 963 women detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects

In relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, in Azerbaijan (including Nagorny Karabakh)

- ▶ 150 detainees visited, of whom 5 monitored individually (including 2 POWs and 3 civilian internees) and 4 newly registered (including 1 POW and 3 civilian internees)
- ▶ 35 RCMs collected from and 47 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 4 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

TB control programme

MDR-TB remained a serious problem in Azerbaijan's prisons. The authorities pursued their efforts to tackle it, with technical and financial support from the ICRC. To allow DOTS treatment to start in Penal Colony 3, a joint project to renovate the MDR-TB ward was completed in May, with the Justice Ministry bearing 80% of the cost and the ICRC 20%. Four indoor sputum booths and an incinerator were built and a TB ward rehabilitated to strengthen infection control measures and ensure proper disposal of sanitary waste. Two civilian laboratories serving two remote penitentiaries were partly renovated. Biomedical construction engineers working for the Justice Ministry received technical assistance, focusing on the prevention of communicable diseases.

The establishment of a national DOTS-plus expert commission comprising civilian and penitentiary health-care providers was facilitated by the ICRC, thereby strengthening cooperation between the Health and Justice ministries. In April, the Justice Ministry launched the first DOTS-plus pilot project for detainees with MDR-TB. Previously, 30 health professionals had received local training in MDR-TB from WHO experts. Ancillary drugs for the management of side-effects of second-line TB drugs were paid for by the ICRC.

The bacteriological laboratory at the prison TB hospital (STIDT) performed 14,277 sputum smear examinations, grew 2,881 cultures and undertook 768 drug sensitivity tests. With the support of the ICRC, the blood biochemistry/serology department of the STIDT laboratory became fully functional. Techniques allowing for biochemical identification of mycobacteria and second-line drug susceptibility testing were introduced in the STIDT laboratory. TB diagnostic services were decentralized to civilian laboratories in Ganja and Salyan, which started serving detainees from Pre-trial Centre 2 and Penal Colony 5.

A comprehensive TB manual for prisons was developed and officially endorsed by the medical department of the Justice Ministry.

- 777 detainees commenced DOTS treatment
- 66 detainees commenced DOTS-plus treatment
- 490 detainees completed treatment
- 11 health professionals of the Justice Ministry took part in 8 international conferences/study tours/seminars on TB treatment
- Justice and Health Ministry staff and National Society volunteers attended 21 training courses on TB treatment

WOUNDED AND SICK

Amputees and other people with disabilities continued to need access to quality rehabilitation services. The Ahmedly Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre in Baku and the prosthetic/orthotic centres in Ganja and Nakhichevan received material and training support from the ICRC till the end of June, when responsibility for all physical rehabilitation services was transferred to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. A plan of action for national physical rehabilitation services was finalized with the authorities, and the implementation of the recommendations concerning the accessibility of disabled people to such services set to be monitored by the ICRC.

Ten technicians, a physiotherapist and a doctor attended three technical seminars on ankle-foot orthoses.

To acquire basic war-surgery techniques, two surgeons from the Defence Ministry participated in a war- and emergency-surgery seminar in Nalchik, Russian Federation, with ICRC support.

- 19,068 patients (including 1,273 women and 4,867 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 211 new patients (including 28 women and 6 children) fitted with prostheses and 707 (including 63 women and 580 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,342 prostheses (including 95 for women, 29 for children and 124 for mine victims), 2,065 orthoses (including 205 for women, 1,589 for children and 11 for mine victims), 3,243 crutches and 428 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

In view of the forthcoming collection of detailed data on missing persons, a review of the ICRC study on the compatibility of national legislation with IHL rules governing the legal status of missing persons and their families and the exhumation and identification of human remains was completed with a view to encouraging the authorities to adopt the required complementary measures.

- 27 judges participated in a round-table on the repression of IHL violations
- a military court judge sponsored to attend a regional seminar in Budapest, Hungary, focusing on the role of the judiciary in the implementation of IHL

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Cooperation with the armed forces

The Defence Ministry and the ICRC pursued cooperation in the field of IHL integration and discussed the responsibility of the military authorities in this regard. Military instructors continued to receive training in IHL from the ICRC.

- 4 military instructors attended a Senezh IHL train-the-trainer course in the Russian Federation
- 35 army officers participated in a five-day IHL course

Cooperation with the interior troops, police and border guards

Together with the ICRC, the commander of the interior troops and members of the working group on IHL implementation examined issues such as the incorporation of IHL into military doctrine, teaching and training. High-ranking officers continued to undergo intensive IHL training.

An introductory meeting with the police academy prepared the ground for IHL and international human rights law to be included in the academy's curricula at a future stage.

The border guard service and the ICRC initiated a dialogue to gauge the need for the organization's support in integrating IHL and international human rights law into training.

- 30 officers of the interior troops participated in a five-day IHL course

CIVIL SOCIETY

Several initiatives targeting the media and academia were undertaken to cultivate awareness of and support for IHL. Thus, there was increased and more accurate coverage of IHL issues, while future leaders and decision-makers benefited from efforts to integrate IHL into school and university curricula.

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

- journalists and the general public attended a photo exhibition on the issue of missing persons and the plight of their families
- an information leaflet produced on ICRC activities in Nagorny Karabakh

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

- in Azerbaijan, 459 teachers from 289 schools attended training courses as part of plans to integrate basic elements of IHL into school curricula
- in Nagorny Karabakh, 126 teachers attended 11 IHL seminars

Promoting IHL among students

- international law teachers and NGO legal experts attended a seminar on IHL and human rights held in cooperation with the Eurasian Lawyers Association
- 18 students attended an IHL summer school
- in Nagorny Karabakh, students attended an IHL dissemination session on the ICRC's mandate and activities
- in Nakhichevan, university lecturers and students attended IHL presentations

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Azerbaijani Red Crescent continued to receive ICRC support for its tracing, dissemination and mine-action programmes, three priority areas included in the National Society's strategic work plan for 2008–10. Its legal base was strengthened by a law on the National Society adopted by Azerbaijan in May.

Children living in 10 villages along the front line had access to safe play areas thanks to the operational partnership between the ICRC and the Azerbaijani Red Crescent (see *Civilians*). The National Society and the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action signed an agreement on the collection of incident data and mine survivors' needs, which defined the National Society's role within the National Mine Action Plan.

Following preparations for ante-mortem data collection, the National Society was set to become involved in efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons (see *Civilians*).

Azerbaijani Red Crescent representatives met their Armenian and Georgian counterparts in Tbilisi, Georgia, to discuss dissemination and tracing, share experiences and establish best practices.



bosnia and herzegovina

The ICRC has been present in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1992, opening a delegation in the country 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 KCHF)

Protection	1,225
Assistance	197
Prevention	1,342
Cooperation with National Societies	806
General	-

► **3,570**

of which: Overheads 218

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
42	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- encouraged and financed the full functioning of the Missing Persons Institute and implementation of the Law on Missing Persons
- supported the drafting of a regional handbook on psychological support to families of the missing
- assisted the National Society in developing its working relationship with the Missing Persons Institute and supporting families of the missing
- carried out a full round of visits to people detained on war-crime and security-related charges
- welcomed the education authorities' agreement on a common strategy for the official integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula
- organized a regional IHL moot court competition for university teams from 7 countries

CONTEXT

After the elections in October 2006, the formation of a government was delayed until April 2007. Legislative reforms entailing the transfer of responsibilities from entity to State level, including police reform, were also held up.

The closure of the Office of the High Representative was postponed by one year. The new high representative announced a return to the reform agenda and, in October, issued measures aiming to streamline voting rules and prevent further blockages in the Council of Ministers and parliament. The Serb political parties from Republika Srpska rejected the measures, claiming that they disrupted the interethnic balance established by the Dayton Peace Agreement and undermined their community's rights and influence. After the resignation of the Serb chair of the Council of Ministers, the Office of the High Representative addressed Serb concerns in consultation with Republika Srpska legal experts, enabling parliament to function and talks on the new Council of Ministers to take place. The European Union (EU) initialled the Stabilization and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina in December.

Uncertainty over the status of Kosovo contributed to destabilizing the region's fragile balance. The UN Security Council extended the mandate of the 2,500 troops of the EU Force (EUFOR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina until the end of 2008.

In the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina *versus* Serbia and Montenegro, the UN International Court of Justice found Serbia not responsible for planning or committing genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but responsible for not preventing genocide in Srebrenica and for not punishing or handing over war-crime suspects to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. Following an initiative by returnees requesting a special administrative status for Srebrenica, a special body, headed by a former US ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina and made up of State and entity representatives, was established to coordinate economic assistance and improve the security, social and interethnic situation in the area.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	98
Detainees visited and monitored individually	87
Number of visits carried out	20
Number of places of detention visited	12
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	40
of whom females	11
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	1,214
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	12,832
of which for females	1,402
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	715
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	789

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC worked closely with all parties concerned to determine the fate of persons unaccounted for as a result of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It maintained contact with the relevant national authorities and the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP). It supported the full functioning of an effective, sustainable and independent Missing Persons Institute, with the aim of transferring all its data on missing persons to the Institute. The ICRC encouraged implementation of the Law on Missing Persons and urged that the Fund for Financial Support to the Families of Missing Persons be allowed to move ahead. It promoted the right of missing persons' families to know what had happened to their relatives and provided the means to offer psychological support to the families.

The ICRC carried out its annual visit to detainees, focusing on people under investigation or sentenced for war crimes or in the context of the fight against "terrorism". It visited detainees on hunger strike and organized a round-table for prison management, security and medical staff on dealing with hunger strikes.

As authorities continued to prosecute war-crime suspects, the ICRC organized and participated in IHL seminars for legal professionals at State and entity levels, during which it took the opportunity to explain its mandate and its immunity from testifying in court proceedings. It facilitated dialogue among the stakeholders involved in establishing a national IHL committee.

The ICRC maintained a constructive dialogue with senior representatives of the Bosnian armed forces, EUFOR and NATO. It participated in training activities for the armed forces, including those organized for Bosnian and other officers by the internationally run Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) in Sarajevo.

The education authorities agreed on a common strategy for the official integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula, and increasing numbers of schools began to teach the programme. The ICRC supported training courses for teachers and teacher trainers. University students learned about IHL as three law faculties offered courses in it. The ICRC organized a regional IHL moot court competition for university teams from seven countries.

The ICRC continued to support the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its efforts to become unified, functional and self-sustained. It supported the development of working relations between the National Society and the Missing Persons Institute. It provided the National Society with technical, financial and training support in tracing, IHL dissemination, first aid and mine-risk education.

CIVILIANS

Clarifying the fate of missing persons

Thousands of people who had disappeared during the conflict and whose relatives had approached the ICRC for assistance in locating them remained unaccounted for. Their families were still waiting to receive recognition and compensation. Since 1996, the ICRC had collected 22,387 tracing requests and reports of death, of which 9,555 had been resolved, mostly through exhumations, often supplemented by DNA-based identifications organized by the ICMP. Data on missing persons continued to be collected by the ICRC and relayed to the authorities with the request that they provide information regarding the fate of the people in question. The names of those still being sought were published on the ICRC website. Acknowledging the suffering of families, the eighth edition of the *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina* was published in April.

DNA-based identification, managed by the ICMP, remained the main source of information on the fate of missing persons. To help confirm the identity of human remains, forensic experts were provided with data from the ICRC's ante-mortem database containing 15,592 identities. In November, 18 members of the expert team for exhumations, forensic medicine and identifications (prosecutors, forensic experts, crime technicians and workers) from Tuzla Canton were helped to cope with the stress caused by the nature of their difficult work during a workshop financed by the ICRC.

- ▶ 14,069 names of people still being sought published on the ICRC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org)
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 40 people (including 11 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance); 1,214 people located; 12,832 people (including 1,402 females and 715 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 96 certificates of various types issued to families

Following the appointment of the steering board of the Missing Persons Institute in June, all governing, managing and supervisory bodies of the Institute were put in place. The adoption of the regulations of the Institute by the Council of Ministers in November created the conditions for the full functioning of the Institute and preparations were made to transfer the ante-mortem database to it.

The Working Group on the Implementation of the Law on Missing Persons established by the Bosnian Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees continued to meet, with the ICRC's participation. The Council of Ministers was urged to resolve the disagreement between the two entities regarding the location of and financial participation in the Fund for Financial Support to the Families of Missing Persons.

The Federal Commission on Missing Persons and Republika Srpska's Office for Tracing Detained and Missing Persons provided regular updates on exhumations and identifications to the authorities with a view to providing families with news of the fate of their missing relatives.

Two regional cooperation meetings on the issue of missing persons, jointly organized by the ICMP and the ICRC, were attended by representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia.

Support to families of the missing

The family associations received financial and technical support as needed from the National Society and the ICRC. Families' transport costs were covered so that they could visit exhumation sites and identification centres, where they also received psychological support.

Supported by the ICRC, National Society staff and members of family associations worked together on drafting a regional handbook for non-professionals on how to give psychological support to missing persons' families through a community-based approach. Fifteen members of the National Society's tracing service attended train-the-trainer courses on psychological support to families of missing persons.

The conditions in which families were received during the identification of human remains in the country's 10 identification centres were assessed by the National Society and the ICRC. This led to the improvement of conditions in 5 identification centres through the furnishing of the reception areas.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom were visited by ICRC delegates, including a doctor, in accordance with the ICRC's mandate. Contacts with the relevant authorities were regular, and access to detainees in places of detention under the jurisdiction of the Ministries of Justice at State and entity levels was unrestricted. The yearly round of detention visits, which took place in May and June, focused on people under investigation or sentenced for war crimes or in the context of the fight against "terrorism". The visits were followed up by confidential reports to the authorities concerned containing the ICRC's findings and recommendations.

In January, 12 detainees on hunger strike received visits from the ICRC, as did another 26 detainees on hunger strike in October. The

penitentiary management and medical staff of the six places of detention concerned were advised by an ICRC doctor on how to deal with hunger strikes humanely in accordance with international provisions. Twelve prison directors, security and medical staff, and two representatives of the Council of Europe took part in a round-table on hunger strikes in prisons with a view to preventing them and reacting humanely to those occurring.

- 98 detainees visited, of whom 87 monitored individually and 25 newly registered, during 20 visits to 12 places of detention
- 1 RCM distributed to 1 detainee
- 789 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

Representatives of the international community, including the Office of the High Representative, and the ICRC maintained a dialogue, enabling the ICRC to mobilize support for its activities.

The dialogue between stakeholders involved in the establishment of a national IHL committee was facilitated by the ICRC.

The judiciary, prosecutors, defence lawyers and interns involved in war-crime prosecution at State and entity levels were provided with IHL expertise at seminars organized by the ICRC. They learned about the organization's mandate, confidential working methods and immunity from being summoned to testify.

- 100 defence lawyers representing or potentially representing people accused of war crimes before the State War Crimes Chamber and entity courts participated in 6 IHL seminars organized in cooperation with the Registry of the State Court
- 25 lawyers and interns from the State War Crimes Chamber and the State Prosecutor's Office participated in an IHL seminar organized by the ICRC
- 42 lawyers and interns from courts and prosecutors' offices in Republika Srpska participated in 2 IHL seminars organized in cooperation with the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Senior representatives of Bosnian and international armed forces (EUFOR and NATO) maintained contact with the ICRC with a view to further incorporation of IHL into doctrine, education and training. The PSOTC in Sarajevo organized IHL training courses in cooperation with the ICRC and, in November, was recognized as a NATO Partnership for Peace training centre.

- 6 national and international instructors from the PSOTC trained in IHL
- 65 officers from Bosnia and Herzegovina and other countries involved in NATO's Partnership for Peace attended a two-day IHL course at the PSOTC
- 60 officers from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe and the United States interacted with the ICRC during Exercise "Blue Beret" organized by the PSOTC
- 30 legal advisers from Bosnia and Herzegovina and EUFOR discussed the ICRC's role in peace-support operations at a conference held by EUFOR

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

The media ensured broad coverage of ICRC activities, in particular those involving cooperation with the ICMP. A fact sheet on the organization's work in Bosnia and Herzegovina was published and distributed.

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

The Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to develop, with the education authorities agreeing on a common strategy for the official integration of the programme into all secondary school curricula. All secondary schools in Zenica-Doboj Canton and in Brcko District integrated the programme into their curricula.

Programme teachers and teacher trainers continued to receive relevant training supported by the ICRC.

- ▶ 14 coordinators of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme from the Ministries of Education and 8 teaching institutes attended 2 meetings to prepare the pilot phase and analytical process in both entities

Promoting IHL among students

Three university law faculties (Sarajevo, Mostar Bosniak and Mostar Croat) offered IHL courses with input from the ICRC. Among other IHL literature, the ICRC-published *Compendium of case studies of international humanitarian law* was translated into Bosnian, printed and distributed.

- ▶ 30 students, 4 lecturers and 3 assistants from 7 countries participated in a regional IHL moot court competition
- ▶ 100 students attended IHL training sessions run by the ICRC
- ▶ students and lecturers from the Islamic studies and law faculties of Sarajevo University participated in a one-day conference on Islam and IHL

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to receive ICRC support in its institutional and operational development in a coordinated approach with the International Federation.

The National Society received help from the ICRC in developing its working relationship with the Missing Persons Institute and worked closely with the ICRC on gathering information and providing answers and support to missing persons' families.

IHL dissemination training modules were updated. Local branches at entity level set up four university IHL documentation centres with ICRC support. Two additional centres were funded by the Empress Shôken Fund.

With ICRC support, the National Society purchased material for 99 first-aid cabinets and repaired equipment in seven branches.

The National Society continued to provide the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre with data on victims of mines or explosive remnants of war and demining accidents. In October, the National Society, with the technical support of the ICRC, signed an agreement with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to implement a project on the revision of the National Mine Victims Database. The National Society and the ICRC participated in the definition of the new Mine Action Strategy for 2009–19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- ▶ 25 tracing staff familiarized with the ICRC's ante-mortem database and the ICMP's identification facilities in Tuzla
- ▶ 26 mine-risk education volunteers produced plans of action for 25 communities and started implementing them after approval by the Mine Action Centre
- ▶ 8 mine-risk education workers trained by the Mine Action Centre to inspect community-based National Society programmes



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 KCHF)

Protection	1,738
Assistance	5,635
Prevention	1,208
Cooperation with National Societies	239
General	-

► **8,820**

of which: Overheads 538

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

21	expatriates
183	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- acted as a neutral intermediary between the Abkhaz and Georgian sides to re-establish the dialogue on the issue of missing persons
- continued to share confidentially with the authorities concerned recommendations about the treatment and living conditions of detainees in Georgia proper, Abkhazia and South Ossetia
- ended its relief programme in Abkhazia and western Georgia for destitute residents and IDPs
- undertook rehabilitation work in collective centres for IDPs
- supported the Georgian authorities in improving health care and tackling tuberculosis in prisons
- signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Defence concerning the promotion of IHL

CONTEXT

In Georgia, an internal political crisis sparked by the demotion, resignation and then arrest of defence minister Irakli Okruashvili in September came to a head in November when allegations made against President Mikhail Saakashvili and his government triggered a wave of protests. There followed the imposition of a state of emergency lasting 10 days, the closure of private media and the calling of early presidential elections for January 2008.

The Georgian government accused the Russian Federation of being behind the November crisis, fuelling confrontational rhetoric between the two countries, while the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia also remained a contentious issue.

Georgia's relations with the two regions remained tense as they continued to express the wish to obtain independence. In Abkhazia, armed clashes and security incidents prevented any constructive dialogue between the parties, despite mediation efforts by the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. In South Ossetia, the establishment of the Temporary Administrative Unit in Kurta by the Georgian government further complicated prospects for dialogue between the parties. Negotiations in the contexts of both Abkhazia and South Ossetia, suspended in mid-2006, thus remained deadlocked.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
Detainees visited	24,009	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	72	Food	Beneficiaries	2,164	60%	11%
of whom females	4	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	2,164	60%	11%
Number of visits carried out	76	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	108	40%	40%
Number of places of detention visited	27	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	3,165	44%	17%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Physical rehabilitation				
RCMs collected	5,030	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,170	136	348
RCMs distributed	4,905	Prostheses delivered	Units	337	37	23
People reunited with their families	2	Orthoses delivered	Units	718	71	585
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	47					
of whom females	13					
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	8					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	26					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	7					
of which for females	2					

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to provide assistance and protection to the civilian population in the conflict zones of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, for which purpose it maintained a permanent presence in Sukhumi, Gali, Zugdidi and Tskhinvali. In light of its observations of the effects of the conflict on the civilian population, it reminded the authorities of their obligations under IHL.

Clarifying the fate of persons unaccounted for in connection with the different conflicts and providing support to their families remained uphill work. After expressing its concern about the lack of progress on this issue in position papers submitted in September 2006 to the highest authorities in Tbilisi and Sukhumi, the ICRC offered in 2007 to act as a neutral intermediary to revive the dialogue between Georgia's Commission on Missing Persons and its equivalent in Abkhazia. The offer was accepted, and the ICRC organized a study trip to Cyprus for both commissions in September. Unfortunately, the planned coordination meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, was cancelled.

With the authorities taking over responsibility for support to the most vulnerable, the ICRC ended its assistance programme for western Georgia's poorest IDP families and residents. Likewise, it phased out its assistance programme in Abkhazia. In partnership with the Red Cross in Abkhazia, the ICRC continued to seek funding support for the home assistance programme for the remaining housebound beneficiaries.

In view of IDPs' need for improved housing, the ICRC made its database of all IDP collective centres available to government authorities to enable them to determine which ones needed rehabilitating as a priority. Meanwhile, the organization continued to undertake repairs on the centres most in need.

The ICRC pursued its visits to people deprived of their freedom. Delegates had access to detainees arrested in relation to the November events, as well as to those detained following armed clashes in Abkhazia. The organization again alerted the authorities to severe overcrowding in Georgia's prisons and to poor prison infrastructure in Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Work to upgrade prison buildings and water supply systems continued.

Tuberculosis (TB) screening and treatment in prisons and the gradual handover of the programme to the authorities went ahead. Experience gained through the TB control programme was used to support the authorities in developing penitentiary health care. Prior to the planned prison health reform, a comprehensive health needs assessment was undertaken as from May, conducted in cooperation with the authorities and using methodology proposed by the ICRC, to enable the authorities to prioritize tasks and establish a plan of action.

The ICRC maintained its financial and technical support to the physical rehabilitation services in Tbilisi and Gagra, while preparing for a gradual withdrawal.

The Defence Ministry signed a memorandum of understanding with the ICRC to promote IHL among the armed forces. Work on introducing IHL in secondary school and university teaching continued.

In cooperation with the International Federation, the ICRC continued to support the National Society's statutory reform process.

CIVILIANS

Clarifying the fate of missing persons

More than 13 years on, some 2,000 people remained missing in relation to the conflict in Abkhazia and about 120 in relation to the conflict in South Ossetia.

In April, the minister of refugees and accommodation approached Abkhazia's *de facto* authorities with a proposal to resume talks on the missing persons issue, which had been suspended since July 2006 when Tbilisi deployed security forces in the Kodori Gorge. The ICRC was invited to act as a neutral intermediary between the parties. Work continued towards adopting new statutes for the Abkhaz Commission on Missing Persons. In September, both commissions participated in a study trip to Cyprus organized by the ICRC. In October, Abkhazia's *de facto* authorities suspended talks following an incident between Georgian and Abkhaz troops, and a planned coordination meeting in Geneva was cancelled. In November, they expressed readiness to restart the dialogue, but no cases were resolved during 2007.

With a view to boosting local forensic capacities, 12 Georgian forensic experts were trained in the recovery, analysis and identification of human remains at a one-week workshop organized in April by the ICRC forensic adviser in Tbilisi. In July, one-day workshops on exhumation techniques were organized in Tbilisi and Sukhumi.

The Mothers of Abkhazia association produced a book in memory of missing relatives to coincide with the International Day of the Disappeared (30 August). A Georgian family association, the Molodini Fund, mounted a television and poster campaign to mark the occasion in Georgia. Both projects acknowledged the suffering of the families and were financed by the ICRC.

Restoring family links

Through RCMs, people too poor to afford the telephone service between Georgia and Abkhazia kept in touch with family members living on the other side of the ceasefire line.

- 3,754 RCMs collected from and 3,477 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 2 people reunited with their families
- new tracing requests registered for 47 people (including 13 females and 8 minors at the time of disappearance); 26 people located; 7 people (including 2 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 67 official documents relayed between family members

Assistance to the most vulnerable

In Abkhazia, given the improved socio-economic conditions, ICRC assistance programmes were discontinued in August. Local authorities and international NGOs took over where the ICRC left off, providing destitute former ICRC beneficiaries with monthly cash allowances. Prior to that, just over 2,000 beneficiaries – mostly elderly women living alone – received a final distribution of food and essential household items from the ICRC. Vulnerable households received productive assets, mostly livestock, and technical coaching from the ICRC, enabling them to become more self-sufficient. Some 270 housebound elderly people received personal care services through the home assistance programme run by the Red Cross in Abkhazia with ICRC support.

In western Georgia, following the end of a four-year assistance programme to boost income-generation, former ICRC beneficiaries were transferred in March to the State cash assistance programme.

The ICRC database of IDP collective centres, identifying the technical specifications of all 1,271 centres in western and eastern Georgia, was made available to government authorities. In western Georgia and Tbilisi, following the signing of an agreement between the Refugees and Accommodation Ministry and the ICRC, IDPs benefited when collective centres were rehabilitated and shower and latrine blocs installed. In South Ossetia and Shida Kartli, IDPs benefited from similar work in centres.

Assistance in Abkhazia and western Georgia

- 2,164 people (1,344 households) received food and essential household items
- 108 people (42 households) benefited from micro-economic initiatives
- 2,715 people benefited from water and sanitation projects

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in Georgia proper, Abkhazia and South Ossetia were visited by ICRC delegates, and people arrested for security reasons were monitored individually. Confidential reports with the ICRC's findings and recommendations were submitted to the detaining authorities. Detainees and their relatives were able to keep in touch through RCMs.

Georgia proper

- 23,508 detainees visited, of whom 61 monitored individually (including 3 females) and 14 newly registered, during 63 visits to 20 places of detention
- 1,239 RCMs collected from and 1,399 RCMs distributed to detainees

Abkhazia

- ▶ 394 detainees visited, of whom 7 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 3 newly registered, during 8 visits to 5 places of detention
- ▶ 37 RCMs collected from and 29 RCMs distributed to detainees

South Ossetia

- ▶ 107 detainees visited, of whom 4 monitored individually and 4 newly registered, during 5 visits to 2 places of detention
- ▶ 2 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Improving detainee health

Overcrowding and the resulting poor conditions of detention remained a serious problem in Georgia's prisons, despite new places of detention being built and existing ones enlarged. Following confidential ICRC reports, the authorities implemented several recommendations benefiting the detainee population. The authorities took steps to tackle prison health as a matter of priority and to include it in the national health policy being developed under the auspices of the State Commission for Reform. With the aim of enabling the authorities to set priorities and draft an action plan for improving prison health services, a comprehensive health needs assessment was undertaken in Georgia's prisons as from May, conducted in cooperation with the Ministries of Justice and of Health, Labour and Social Affairs and using methodology proposed by the ICRC.

In South Ossetia, people detained at the Tskhinvali pre-trial facility were provided with easier access to health care and improved hygiene through the construction of a new medical unit, toilets and showers.

In Abkhazia, 400 detainees at the Dranda prison, as well as the community living in the vicinity, were assured of clean water through the rehabilitation of the water supply system.

- ▶ 450 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects

TB control programme

With a view to bringing the TB epidemic in the penitentiary system under control, the government continued to implement the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS) strategy for detainees with active TB. Coordination mechanisms between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Affairs still needed to be strengthened to ensure that detainees could complete their treatment after release.

The Ministry of Justice conducted mass TB screening in detention facilities, with the technical support of the ICRC and the national TB programme. Plans were made to include the new Gldani prison in the TB control programme, ensuring that all people detained in Georgia had full access to proper diagnosis and treatment of TB.

- ▶ 19,143 detainees screened for TB in 15 detention facilities
- ▶ 705 detainees commenced DOTS treatment
- ▶ 584 patients completed treatment
- ▶ 449 detainees still under treatment

WOUNDED AND SICK

According to official estimates, there were 5,000 amputees in Georgia. In Abkhazia, there were around 600, most of whom were weapon-wounded.

The physical rehabilitation centre in Tbilisi run by the Georgian Foundation for Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (GEFPOR) had about 50% of its costs reimbursed by the ICRC. Aiming to become operationally and financially independent, GEFPOR continued to apply for funding to various potential donors and developed income-generating activities.

Abkhazia's *de facto* health authorities increasingly found the financial resources to purchase raw materials for the Gagra Orthopaedic Centre, intended to be self-sustainable by the end of 2008.

Thanks to a cooperation agreement between the ICRC and South Ossetia's *de facto* health authorities and a contract signed with the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre, disabled Ossetian patients had the opportunity to be fitted with prosthetic/orthotic appliances.

- ▶ 1,170 patients (including 136 women and 348 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 107 new patients (including 15 women and 7 children) fitted with prostheses and 302 (including 35 women and 243 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 337 prostheses (including 37 for women, 23 for children and 66 for mine victims), 718 orthoses (including 71 for women, 585 for children), 489 crutches and 1 wheelchair delivered

AUTHORITIES

As part of the process of Georgia's accession to the Ottawa Convention, the Foreign Affairs Ministry requested the ICRC's assistance in organizing a meeting of the authorities concerned to review the provisions of the treaty and related implementation measures. Consultations were carried out by various ministries in preparation for Georgia's accession to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property.

The 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols were translated into Georgian to facilitate their national implementation.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, the Defence Ministry pursued its plans to integrate IHL into Georgian armed forces training. In March, the ministry and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding on the dissemination of IHL rules, and a working group was set up to oversee IHL integration.

Armed personnel in Abkhazia and South Ossetia enhanced their understanding of the ICRC's mission and the basic rules of IHL through briefings and information sessions.

In Abkhazia, 30 cadets of the Sukhumi Combined Arms Command Institute participated in an IHL competition.

Information sessions on the ICRC and IHL were held for:

- Commonwealth of Independent States peacekeeping troops in Abkhazia
- 36 observers of the Joint Peacekeeping Force in the Georgian-South Ossetian conflict zone
- 9 UNOMIG officers in Zugdidi
- 76 army officers in western Georgia

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

The Georgian, Abkhaz and South Ossetian media were provided with a range of printed and audiovisual materials on the ICRC's mandate and activities. In western Georgia, journalists attended round-tables and briefings, as well as a photo exhibition, organized by the ICRC to encourage greater coverage of IHL issues.

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

As Georgia's education reform progressed, the Education Ministry introduced IHL-related topics into new curricula and education manuals with ICRC support. The basics of IHL were reflected in the new secondary school standards and featured in 8th grade history, geography and civic education textbooks. Teacher training was organized and a CD-ROM for teachers entitled "Basics of IHL" produced.

- 270 teachers trained in IHL in 11 regions of Georgia
- 70 schoolchildren participated in a "Play by the rules!" football tournament in Zugdidi
- 35 schoolchildren participated in a "What do we know about the basics of IHL?" competition in Sukhumi

Promoting IHL among students

The law faculty of Tbilisi State University organized an essay competition to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols and received IHL-related publications from the ICRC. Zugdidi University held an IHL dissemination event and was provided with IHL-related publications.

- a team of Georgian students participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain, in April
- 1 student from Tbilisi State University took part in the 1st International Students' Conference on IHL in Yerevan, Armenia, in April
- 3 student teams participated in a national IHL moot court competition

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Red Cross Society of Georgia, with the support of the ICRC and the International Federation, established new internal regulations and procedures. The National Society's governance, as well as financial and appeal commission members, were elected at a general assembly in conformity with the new statutory provisions. The recommendations of the organizational capacity review, jointly supported by the ICRC and the International Federation in 2006, were integrated into the National Society's strategic development plan for 2007–11.

Georgian Red Cross representatives met their Armenian and Azerbaijani counterparts in Tbilisi to discuss dissemination and tracing, share experiences and establish best practices.



belgrade (regional)

The ICRC has been working in the countries of the region since 1991. The regional delegation in Belgrade, together with the ICRC's independent mission in Pristina, works to assist the families of missing persons throughout Serbia, including Kosovo, and Montenegro in their efforts to shed light on the fate of their relatives. It also monitors the situation of minority communities, IDPs and returnees facing security problems, and lobbies the authorities and other international organizations in the country to support them. Throughout the region, the ICRC visits detainees, promotes the implementation of IHL and supports the development of the National Societies.

COVERING

Albania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia), Montenegro, Serbia (including Kosovo)

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,993
Assistance	1,300
Prevention	2,351
Cooperation with National Societies	1,838
General	-

► **8,482**

of which: Overheads 518

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
96	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued to chair the Working Group on Missing Persons in Kosovo, enabling Belgrade and Pristina to maintain a structured dialogue on the issue
- referred security issues to the authorities following an assessment of the humanitarian situation of minority communities in Kosovo
- pre-positioned relief assistance in isolated minority enclaves in Kosovo in order to respond to an emergency situation in the case of an outbreak of violence or restrictions on movement
- carried out a full round of visits to people detained on war-crime and security-related charges
- welcomed the decision of the highest military authorities in Montenegro and Serbia to organize IHL training courses for all military services at all levels
- organized a national IHL moot court competition in Serbia and a regional one in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the participation of teams from the FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia

CONTEXT

In Serbia, a three-month-long political crisis was resolved in May with the establishment of a democratic coalition government. As a result, the European Union (EU) resumed Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) talks with Serbia, suspended in 2006 because of the country's non-cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Following the arrest and handover of two more war-crime fugitives, the EU initialled the SAA with Serbia in November. Presidential elections were called for early 2008.

With respect to the issue of Kosovo's final status, the president and the prime minister of Serbia reasserted that under no circumstances would Serbia accept Kosovo's independence. The process itself saw two cycles of talks between Belgrade and Pristina. The first, mediated by the UN special envoy, resulted in a proposal for Kosovo's future status based on supervised independence. Although supported by the United States and the EU, the plan was opposed by the Russian Federation. In the hope that direct talks between the two sides could overcome the impasse, a second, 120-day cycle of negotiations was initiated in September. It, too, failed to bring about the desired result, as the two sides remained entrenched in their initial positions.

In Kosovo itself, the overall security situation was stable but fragile and volatile. Minorities, IDPs and returnees continued to face difficulties in going about their daily lives, with discrimination and security problems persisting. As a result, few members of minority groups returned to Kosovo.

Despite tensions, Albania and the FYR Macedonia remained relatively stable and on track for NATO membership. However, reform processes slowed down and EU membership negotiations were postponed.

Montenegro was stable, became a member of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, signed an SAA as a first step towards eventual EU membership, was admitted to the Council of Europe and made progress towards joining NATO.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	148
Detainees visited and monitored individually	122
Number of visits carried out	20
Number of places of detention visited	16
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	10
RCMs distributed	9
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	26
of whom females	2
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	168
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	1,990
of which for females	296
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	176
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	10

1. The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia), Montenegro and Serbia, including Kosovo

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC remained committed to resolving issues related to missing persons. It maintained contact with the relevant national and international authorities in the region, with the aim of providing families with answers on the fate of their missing relatives. As chair of the Working Group on Missing Persons in Kosovo, the ICRC facilitated communication between Belgrade and Pristina in order to help them move forward in this slow and fragile process.

The ICRC pursued its visits to people deprived of their freedom, focusing on those held on war-crime or security-related charges.

In Kosovo, the ICRC conducted an assessment of the security situation and continued to refer to the authorities issues affecting minority communities so as to improve their living conditions and safety. To be able to respond to the immediate needs of minority communities potentially at risk in the case of an outbreak of internal violence, in particular during or after the status definition process, the ICRC pre-positioned relief stocks in the most isolated and vulnerable minority enclaves.

Within the framework of preventive activities aimed at improving awareness, implementation and integration of IHL, the ICRC gave presentations on IHL and supported training sessions and similar events throughout the region for representatives of academia and relevant military and police structures. Student competitions contributed to the advancement of IHL teaching at universities in the region. In all four countries covered, further progress was made in integrating the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into formal school systems.

The ICRC worked with the National Societies in the region to strengthen their structures and capacities in dissemination, the restoration of family links and conflict preparedness. Support was given to the Red Cross of the FYR Macedonia in sharing its Promoting Human Values dissemination programme with other National Societies in the region. In Kosovo, the ICRC supported the programmes of the two local Red Cross units.

Scaled-down activities in Montenegro no longer required a permanent presence, leading to the closing of the ICRC mission in Podgorica, as planned, in December.

CIVILIANS

Clarifying the fate of missing persons

Kosovo conflict

The ICRC-chaired Working Group on Missing Persons in Kosovo continued to meet, but with limited results. Very few sets of human remains were exhumed in Kosovo following an exchange of information between the delegations. Despite the pressure associated with the ongoing discussions on Kosovo's status, the dialogue at the Working Group escaped politicization and remained within its humanitarian framework. Representatives of the Contact Group and of both Kosovo Albanian and Serb family associations participated in two closed sessions as observers. The ICRC-chaired Sub-Working Group on Forensic Issues continued to meet, facilitating information exchange between the parties involved in the identification process.

By the end of the year, the number of cases of missing persons still open with the ICRC dipped below 2,000 for the first time. This was the result of forensic work to identify already exhumed human remains. Lack of progress in obtaining fresh information regarding locations of gravesites slowed down new exhumations and prevented clarification of the fate of any more individuals. The ICRC nevertheless pursued its search for further information in the archives of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the ICTY.

The ante-mortem data of 34 individuals were collected from their families living in Kosovo and Serbia proper. Exhumations took place at 4 locations following the submission of information on 22 gravesites for assessment by the Office on Missing Persons and Forensics of the UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). A total of 214 sets of human remains (including those of 25 females) were handed over to their families, specifically: 24 from Kosovo to Serbia, 1 from Kosovo to Montenegro and 189 within Kosovo.

A psychological support handbook was finalized by the ICRC for use by non-professionals in dealing with families of the missing. Representatives of the Serbian State Commission on Missing Persons, the Red Cross of Serbia and family associations attended workshops on how to support families of the missing during the identification process. Members of the National Society's psychological support working group attended train-the-trainer courses.

- 1 public and 5 closed sessions of the Working Group on Missing Persons in Kosovo, 3 meetings of the Sub-Working Group on Forensic Issues and 6 teleconferences held

The new State Commission on Missing Persons established in Montenegro held its constitutive meeting. A comprehensive briefing and relevant materials were provided by the ICRC.

Croatia conflicts 1991–95, Bosnia conflict 1992–95

Cooperation between the respective State Commissions on Missing Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, although improved, did not yield satisfactory results for the families, who found the process too slow.

In February, the first *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* was published, listing a total of 2,384 individuals recorded as missing by the ICRC and the Croatian Red Cross and acknowledging the suffering of the families (see *Budapest regional*).

Exhumations took place at 3 gravesites near Belgrade where 23 sets of human remains were dug up for DNA bone sampling. The antemortem data of 101 individuals missing in relation to the conflicts in Croatia and of 9 in relation to the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina were collected from families in Serbia.

Two six-month projects were supported financially by the ICRC, enabling commemoration ceremonies to be held and preparatory meetings to take place with the families of missing persons prior to their travel to Croatia to identify remains. Thirty-five family members from Serbia were assisted in travelling to Croatia to confirm identification of 21 bodies. Fourteen family members from Serbia were assisted in travelling to Croatia to bury the bodies of 5 of their relatives.

Restoring family links

While a number of people sought by their families were located, new tracing requests were opened, and the names of those still being sought were published on the ICRC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org). Separated family members continued to keep in touch by means of RCMs.

- 8 RCMs collected from and 6 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests related to Kosovo registered for 13 people (including 2 females and 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 155 people located; 1,976 people (including 296 females and 175 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- new tracing requests registered in Macedonia for 13 people; 13 people located; 14 people (including 1 minor at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 55 certificates of various types issued to families

Providing assistance in Kosovo

The uncertainty over the future status of Kosovo was a source of concern for minority communities, be they residents, IDPs or returnees. The ICRC took the decision to pre-position essential food and non-food items in selected locations after undertaking an assessment of the humanitarian situation of these minority communities, which identified actual and perceived insecurity and limited freedom of movement and access to public services as the main issues of concern. Security incidents were documented and reported to the relevant authorities, which took into consideration recommendations made for remedial action.

In order to ensure an emergency supply of basic commodities was available on the spot in the event of an outbreak of violence or severe restrictions on movement in minority enclaves, the ICRC pre-positioned assistance items, i.e. food, hygiene and baby parcels, to partially respond to the needs of 12,600 beneficiaries for one to two weeks. The minorities concerned thus benefited from an enhanced sense of security.

The most vulnerable IDP and minority communities within Kosovo received small assistance from the ICRC. In total, 188 households from urban Roma communities and IDP families headed by either women or disabled people were provided with 2 cubic metres of firewood. Isolated social cases among minority communities also received basic material assistance.

To ensure a coherent protection approach, close coordination was maintained with other organizations monitoring the security situation of minority communities, such as the Kosovo Police Service (KPS), the OSCE and UNHCR.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Throughout the region, people deprived of their freedom received visits from ICRC delegates, including a doctor, in accordance with the organization's mandate. The focus was on those detained on war-crime or security-related charges. The authorities were kept informed of the ICRC's observations and recommendations through confidential oral and written reports.

Eight ex-detainees from the US detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, who had been transferred to Albania to be given refugee status and then integrated into local society, were visited. Measures were taken, in cooperation with the Interior and Foreign Ministries and UNHCR, to improve the ex-detainees' living conditions in the Tirana refugee centre and to streamline the integration process.

- in Serbia, 48 detainees visited, of whom 23 monitored individually and 18 newly registered during 5 visits to 4 places of detention; 1 RCM distributed to 1 detainee
- in Kosovo, 54 detainees visited and monitored individually of whom 12 newly registered, during 8 visits to 8 places of detention; 2 RCMs collected from and 2 RCMs distributed to detainees
- in the FYR Macedonia, 33 detainees visited, of whom 32 monitored individually and 14 newly registered, during 3 visits to 2 places of detention
- in Montenegro, 13 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 1 newly registered, during 4 visits to 2 places of detention
- 10 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

In order to solicit their support, international decision-makers in Kosovo and representatives of the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG) were regularly briefed on the ICRC's work to elucidate the fate of missing persons and on its activities related to the protection of the civilian population. Contact was maintained with UN agencies to coordinate contingency plans in response to humanitarian consequences potentially arising in Kosovo during and after the status definition process.

Serbia continued to advocate the introduction of measures to limit the humanitarian consequences of cluster munitions and, to this end, hosted in October an international conference of States affected by cluster munitions.

The new national IHL committee of the FYR Macedonia met to establish its rules of procedure and draft a plan of action.

In Montenegro, parliamentarians learned about IHL during a presentation of the publication *Respect for international humanitarian law: Handbook for parliamentarians*.

- the chairperson of the Macedonian IHL committee attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, in March
- in the FYR Macedonia, judges, prosecutors and legal staff attended an IHL training course organized in cooperation with the Justice Ministry and the OSCE

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Cooperation with the armed forces

In both Montenegro and Serbia, the highest military authorities issued instructions for IHL training courses to be put in place for all military services at all levels as of 2008, and preparatory steps were taken to this effect. The General Staff of the Serbian armed forces hosted a round-table on the integration of IHL into military training. Fifteen Montenegrin army officers participated in an IHL train-the-trainer workshop organized in cooperation with the Defence Ministry. One representative each of the Montenegrin and Serbian armed forces participated in the San Remo course for directors of IHL teaching programmes sponsored by the ICRC. In Serbia, cooperation on the development of an IHL handbook for the armed forces continued.

Albanian and Macedonian armed forces personnel regularly attended IHL briefings by the ICRC prior to deployment on peace-support missions abroad.

The Danube Guard 07 military exercise, bringing together the armed forces of Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia, took place with the participation of the Red Cross of Serbia and the ICRC, which contributed expertise on practical IHL matters.

Contacts between the NATO-led Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the ICRC at headquarters and regional level focused on humanitarian activities related to missing persons and the security of minority communities.

- 15 Albanian military instructors participated in an IHL train-the-trainer workshop
- 12 Macedonian army officers and non-commissioned officers from the Special Forces Regiment unit engaged in Iraq participated in an IHL workshop
- 25 Slovenian KFOR officers based in Peja/Pec attended a presentation on IHL

Cooperation with the police and security forces

UNMIK police officers and KPS and Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) commanders were briefed on the ICRC's humanitarian activities related to missing persons and security concerns of minority communities.

- Macedonian border police and army officers participated jointly in 2 IHL seminars as part of their pre-deployment training for missions in Afghanistan and Iraq
- 20 KPS officers operating in the Peja/Pec region attended a presentation on the ICRC's activities related to the protection of the civilian population
- 70 newly recruited KPS officers attended IHL presentations
- 120 KPC officers participated in 8 IHL training courses

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

Regular contact with media representatives enabled them to better promote the ICRC's mandate and raise awareness of IHL. A *Guide to IHL* booklet targeting journalists, NGOs and other elements of civil society was produced in cooperation with the IHL Centre of the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade.

On the International Day of the Disappeared (30 August), all major media in Belgrade and Pristina highlighted the plight of families of the missing. In Kosovo, a reception was organized on the occasion of the launch of the 4th edition of the *Book of Missing Persons in Kosovo*, bringing together the main stakeholders from the international community, the PISG and civil society. Members of human rights, veterans' and women's organizations attended presentations on ICRC activities related to missing persons and the security concerns of minority communities.

- in the FYR Macedonia, 15 representatives of the national media took part in a training course on the ICRC's mandate and activities organized in cooperation with the Macedonian National Society

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

The Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to develop throughout the region.

In Albania, the FYR Macedonia and Montenegro, the decision to integrate the programme into primary school curricula was officially confirmed. In Serbia, the education authorities decided to integrate the programme into secondary school curricula.

Teachers of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to receive relevant training supported by the ICRC.

Promoting IHL among students

Key universities across the region pursued their cooperation with the ICRC on issues of IHL dissemination. Practically all the major academic centres offered IHL courses at undergraduate and/or postgraduate levels.

- ▶ a national IHL moot court competition held in Serbia, and a regional one held in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the participation of teams from the FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia
- ▶ Belgrade University participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain, in April
- ▶ 30 students from the western Balkans attended a regional IHL course in Belgrade

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation with the region's National Societies continued to focus on capacity building in dissemination, tracing and conflict preparedness.

The Red Cross of the FYR Macedonia shared its Promoting Human Values dissemination programme with other National Societies in the region.

In Kosovo, the two local Red Cross units continued to receive ICRC support through training in the Safer Access approach, mine-risk education, tracing and dissemination.



budapest (regional)

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 KCHF)

Protection	281
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,629
Cooperation with National Societies	855
General	-

► **2,765**

of which: Overheads 169

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	101%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
16	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- through a visit to Slovakia by President Jakob Kellenberger, discussed contemporary challenges facing IHL and Slovakia's contribution to humanitarian action worldwide
- provided the Croatian Red Cross with training and technical support to boost its capacity to address the missing persons issue
- launched the *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* to advance the quest to shed light on the fate of people unaccounted for and acknowledge the suffering of their families
- carried out a full round of visits to people detained in Croatia in relation to past conflicts
- assisted the national education authorities in implementing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme by providing expertise and financing the translation of the education pack
- promoted IHL among students in the region's higher-education institutions by organizing the Friedrich Born IHL moot court competition in Warsaw

CONTEXT

Bulgaria and Romania gained European Union (EU) membership in January, leaving Croatia the only country of the 11 Central European States covered by the delegation still neither an EU nor a NATO member. During the year, Croatia made significant progress towards EU membership, including receiving a supportive resolution from the European Parliament. In the second trimester, however, progress slowed because of the political actors' shift of attention to the campaign for parliamentary elections and the prolonged formation of a new government. Croatia's insistence on applying a Protected Ecological and Fishery Zone in the Adriatic despite protests from neighbouring coastal EU members also affected the negotiations adversely. NATO repeatedly signalled its readiness to invite the country to join at its 2008 summit. Slovenia, assuming the EU presidency as of January 2008, set as its humanitarian priority the issue of children and women in armed conflict.

In a majority of countries in the region, there were elections or cabinet reshuffles, many of which led to changes in ICRC government contacts.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	72
Detainees visited and monitored individually	65
Number of visits carried out	12
Number of places of detention visited	12
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	31
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	28

1. Croatia

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC pursued a dialogue with State authorities to encourage the ratification and national implementation of IHL treaties. President Jakob Kellenberger's visit to Slovakia and ICRC discussions with ministerial representatives in Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia helped to foster greater understanding of IHL implementation issues and to secure the authorities' commitment to comply with their obligations in this respect.

Having closed its permanent base in Croatia at the end of 2006, the ICRC concluded an agreement with the Croatian Red Cross to hand over responsibility for all issues concerning the missing to the National Society. The ICRC nonetheless continued to provide financial, technical and training support to the Croatian Red Cross's tracing service. The first *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* was launched in February as a tool to help shed light on the fate of people still unaccounted for in relation to past conflicts in Croatia and acknowledge the suffering of the families.

In Croatia, a team of ICRC delegates carried out the annual visit to people detained in relation to past conflicts.

The ICRC provided the national authorities with legal expertise and support, in particular in the drafting of legislation on the protection of cultural property in time of armed conflict and on the use and protection of the emblem, and IHL training for military legal advisers. The role of judicial and prosecutorial bodies in the implementation of IHL, as well as the importance of training judges and prosecutors in IHL-related topics, was the theme of a regional seminar organized in Budapest.

In its prevention activities targeting civil society, the ICRC focused on consolidating its established network of media and think-tanks in the region that could act as relays in raising awareness of IHL and humanitarian issues among the general public. The implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools progressed well, notably in Estonia and Slovenia. Cooperation with the region's leading universities was maintained. Nine university teams from the region participated in the Friedrich Born IHL moot court competition in November in Warsaw, organized in cooperation with the law faculty of the University of Warsaw and the Polish Red Cross.

CIVILIANS

In Croatia, despite the ongoing process of exhumation and identification carried out by the Department for Detained and Missing Persons (DDMP), the whereabouts of more than 2,000 people recorded by the ICRC as missing in connection with the conflicts between 1991 and 1995 remained unknown.

In February, the first *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia* was published, listing the names of 2,384 individuals recorded as missing by the ICRC and the Croatian Red Cross and acknowledging the suffering of the families.

Following the closure of the ICRC mission in Zagreb at the end of 2006, the Croatian Red Cross officially took possession in April of the files containing data collected by the ICRC on all missing persons in Croatia. The National Society, working in close cooperation with the DDMP, thus assumed the task of continuing to collect and process tracing requests and to register additional information pertaining to existing cases provided by families.

The National Society's tracing service continued to receive capacity-building support from the ICRC in the handling of cases of missing persons, and ICRC Belgrade provided monitoring. Families of the missing and their associations pursued dialogue with the authorities, facilitated by the ICRC. The State Commissions on Missing Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia continued to benefit from the ICRC's role as facilitator.

By the end of the year, the ICRC was still processing the cases – not related to the above-mentioned conflicts – of 31 people (including 5 females) still being sought.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in Croatia in relation to past conflicts received visits from an ICRC team, including a doctor, in September and October. The report of the yearly round of visits was subsequently submitted to representatives of the Croatian Ministry of Justice and fuelled discussions with them on the conditions and treatment of detainees and relations with prison authorities.

- 72 detainees visited, of whom 65 monitored individually (including 2 females) and 12 newly registered, during 12 visits to 12 places of detention
- 15 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 28 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

The ratification and national implementation of IHL treaties remained at the centre of discussions with representatives of relevant ministries, particularly in Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia, and, most notably, during the official visit of President Jakob Kellenberger to Slovakia in May. While the focus was on ratification of Additional Protocol III and the protocols to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, discussions also took place on national measures concerning the repression of IHL violations, respect for the emblem and the availability of legal advisers to advise military commanders.

National IHL committees continued to receive ICRC support in carrying out their tasks. In Romania, the newly created national IHL committee began work. In Croatia, representatives of the Foreign Affairs Ministry shared their deliberations with the delegation regarding reshaping and reinvigorating the national IHL committee.

To counter widespread misuse of the emblem in Hungary, the ICRC broached the need to enhance the emblem's protection with the authorities and the National Society. In addition, to encourage respect for the emblem by pharmaceutical companies, it sent a letter to the European Medicines Agency, which regulated the trade of medical products in the EU, requesting its support in preventing the distribution of medicines displaying the red cross emblem on packaging and promotional materials.

Estonian legal experts visited Vienna, Austria, to study their counterparts' experiences in the practical application of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property. Hungarian Culture Ministry officials were extensively briefed by the ICRC on means of achieving the national implementation and application of existing legislation relating to the Hague Convention.

Military legal advisers from the region attended IHL training seminars in Austria, Hungary and Slovakia and learned from the ICRC about the organization's mandate and activities and the relevance and applicability of IHL in operations abroad.

- a national seminar on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict conducted in cooperation with the Hungarian Culture Ministry in Budapest
- judicial experts from 15 countries attended a regional seminar focusing on the implementation of IHL conducted in cooperation with the Hungarian Judicial Academy in Budapest

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

Members of the media and various think-tanks continued to receive publications and briefings on the ICRC's mandate and activities. The handover of ICRC-collected data on missing persons to the Croatian Red Cross and the organization's continued support to the National Society's tracing service received good media coverage and provided an opportunity to highlight the ICRC's key role in promoting the rights of families of the missing. Journalists, having undergone a thorough briefing on the topic by the ICRC, also reported on the opening of the archives at the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, Germany, to the public. The news had special significance not only for the survivors of Nazi persecution and the families of the victims but also for Second World War researchers.

As a contribution to the efforts of the government of Slovenia to bring to the fore the issue of children and women in armed conflict during its presidency of the EU, two Slovenian journalists took a field trip to Uganda organized by the ICRC, enabling them to report on practical aspects of the issue. Apart from increased coverage of IHL-related topics in the media, the trip resulted in a round-table discussion on children and war staged by the Foreign Affairs Ministry with the participation of the ICRC, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office and Slovenian NGOs.

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

National authorities and National Societies, aided by the ICRC, further consolidated the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into national curricula. Priority for ICRC support was given to States committed to assuming full ownership of the programme. The testing phase of the programme in real school environments started in Estonia and Slovenia. Hungary and Romania included the programme in their school curricula. Representatives of governmental authorities and National Societies from Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia attended regional meetings in Budapest and Ohrid, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to map out their strategies and plans of action with clear objectives and timelines. Materials were translated into Estonian and Romanian.

Promoting IHL among students

Partner universities received the latest publications on IHL, for both graduate and undergraduate courses, and support in organizing IHL events to encourage those who had yet to do so to incorporate IHL into their courses.

- 9 teams from the region participated in the Friedrich Born IHL moot court competition in Warsaw in November
- 3 teams from the region participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain, in April
- a round-table focusing on the ICRC's study on customary IHL held in cooperation with the law faculty of Nicolae Titulescu University in Bucharest
- expert contributions and printed materials given to: the Annual Tallinn IHL Seminar organized by the Law Institute of the University of Tartu; the Baltic Summer Academy on IHL organized by the Lithuanian Red Cross; and the "Law better than war" university course in Bucharest

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The tracing and dissemination services of the 11 National Societies continued to benefit from ICRC technical and financial support for capacity building. The Croatian Red Cross received further extensive financial, technical and training support to boost the capacity of its tracing service, reflecting its increased responsibilities stemming from the transfer of data pertaining to missing persons in Croatia.

The regional network of disseminators was extended considerably, contributing to the improvement of communication and cooperation with the media and local authorities on Red Cross values, the emblem and IHL.

- ▶ 100 Croatian Red Cross branch staff attended 6 regional training sessions on dealing professionally with tracing procedures and processing cases relating to past conflict
- ▶ dissemination officers from 8 National Societies attended a regional round-table to discuss self-reliance and best practices
- ▶ 500 National Society staff and volunteers from 6 countries participated in 19 IHL dissemination events with ICRC support



kyiv (regional)

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 Republic of Moldova and seeks access to 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, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	24
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,288
Cooperation with National Societies	522
General	-

► **1,833**

of which: Overheads 112

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
10	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- proposed, unsuccessfully, to hold high-level meetings with the Belarusian authorities to discuss its request to visit detainees
- visited the last detained members of the "Ilascu group" in the Republic of Moldova's breakaway region of Transnistria before their release in June
- organized round-tables on customary IHL in all three countries, in cooperation with the respective IHL committees
- welcomed the opening of 2 IHL training facilities for armed forces in the Republic of Moldova
- concluded a tripartite agreement with the Belarusian Ministry of Education and the National Society regarding IHL teaching in schools and universities
- organized national IHL moot court competitions in the 3 countries covered

CONTEXT

In Ukraine, a political crisis was resolved after early parliamentary elections were held in September, leading to the formation of a democratic coalition and the appointment of President Viktor Yushchenko's "Orange Revolution" ally Yulia Tymoshenko as prime minister. The political instability had little effect on the country's economy. Real GDP remained strong, with growth at 7.2%, but inflation continued to mount at a rate approaching 16%. Tensions rose in the Crimea between the Crimean Tatars and the local authorities over land issues. On several occasions, the Tatars blocked the peninsula's main highways in protest. Clashes between extremist groups of ethnic Tatars and Slavs also increased.

Belarus improved its ties with Russia, strengthening cooperation in military and energy affairs. The country remained relatively isolated from the West despite some attempts on both sides to foster European integration. Some people were detained during opposition protests. NGOs operating in the country faced problems obtaining official registration from the local authorities. Economic growth remained slow.

In the Republic of Moldova, the political situation grew more unstable after general elections in June. Relations with Romania became tense towards the end of the year, with the expulsion of a number of Romanian diplomats. Increasing numbers of Moldovans applied for Romanian citizenship. The country continued to contend with weak economic results. It was kept afloat primarily by remittances from Moldovan workers abroad and income from the agricultural sector. President Vladimir Voronin outlined a new approach to settling the issue of the unrecognized Republic of Transnistria, aimed at the demilitarization and integration of the region. International mediation to resolve the issue continued.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	5
Detainees visited and monitored individually	4
Number of visits carried out	5
Number of places of detention visited	4
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	45

1. Republic of Moldova

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC visited people deprived of their freedom in the Republic of Moldova and in the breakaway region of Transnistria. In Transnistria, the organization lobbied successfully for the release of one detainee on humanitarian grounds and visited the remaining two “Ilascu group” members before their release in June. In Belarus, the ICRC pursued its dialogue with the authorities regarding visits to people detained in connection with the 2006 election process, but high-level officials declined a proposal to meet.

The delegation continued to advise the authorities of the three countries covered on IHL implementation. The intention of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to move towards accession to the European Union provided the ICRC with a good opportunity to promote the ratification and national implementation of IHL treaties. Round-tables on customary IHL were held in all three countries, in cooperation with the respective national IHL committees.

In all three countries, the ICRC maintained a dialogue with the Ministries of Defence and the relevant institutions regarding the integration of IHL into military training. In the Republic of Moldova, two new IHL training facilities began operating.

For the first time, an international IHL competition was held in Ukraine for officer cadets and civilian students of military departments of major Ukrainian universities.

The ICRC signed a tripartite agreement with the Belarusian Ministry of Education and the National Society providing a framework for the integration of IHL into school and university curricula. National IHL moot court competitions were held in the three countries.

The ICRC continued to support the National Societies, in particular their restoring family links services and implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. In particular, it supported the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in re-establishing contacts between illegal migrants held in places of temporary detention in western Ukraine and their families.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in the Republic of Moldova and in Transnistria received visits from ICRC delegates. All of those visited had been detained in relation to the internal security situation. The visits, carried out in accordance with the ICRC's standard procedures, were followed by confidential reports to the authorities concerned. In Transnistria, one elderly and sick detainee was

released on humanitarian grounds after the ICRC made representations to the authorities on his behalf. Also in Transnistria, the last two members of the “Ilascu group” were visited prior to their release at the beginning of June having served their 15-year sentences. A person detained for opposition activities in the Republic of Moldova was also visited.

In Belarus, the ICRC continued to seek access to people detained in connection with the election process in 2006. In order to engage in discussions on this issue and on the ICRC's mandate in situations of internal violence, the organization proposed to hold high-level meetings with the Belarusian authorities, but the proposal was declined.

- ▶ in the Republic of Moldova, 5 detainees visited, of whom 4 monitored individually, during 5 visits to 4 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

In Belarus and the Republic of Moldova, the national IHL committees and the ICRC pursued cooperation.

In Ukraine, despite the absence of regular meetings of the national IHL committee, two IHL events were organized under the auspices of its secretariat.

- ▶ 2 representatives of the Belarusian Justice Ministry' including the minister of justice in his capacity as chairperson of the national IHL committee, and 2 representatives of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs and Justice Ministries attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, in March
- ▶ the national IHL committees in the 3 countries assisted the ICRC in organizing round-tables on the ICRC's study on customary IHL
- ▶ representatives of all 3 countries attended an international conference on the protection afforded by IHL to civilians' the emblem and cultural property, convened under the auspices of the Belarusian IHL committee in Minsk in September
- ▶ the judiciary participated in a seminar on IHL and on adherence to Additional Protocol III, the Rome Statute and other key IHL treaties, co-hosted with the Moldovan IHL committee in Chisinau in November
- ▶ the Ukrainian IHL committee hosted a round-table in Kyiv in December on domestic law related to missing persons and national measures aimed at the prevention of disappearances

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Cooperation with the armed forces

In all three countries, the Defence Ministries and armed forces training institutions maintained a dialogue with the ICRC on the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and education, with a view to their assuming ownership of the programmes.

The Moldovan and Ukrainian armed forces moved towards adoption of NATO standards and were briefed on IHL by the ICRC prior to deployment on military missions abroad.

Two IHL training facilities for armed forces opened in the Republic of Moldova. The military officials of Transnistria pursued dialogue with the ICRC and scheduled joint activities for 2008.

IHL training was included in the curricula of Belarusian and Moldovan peacekeeping forces.

The Ukrainian IHL Centre became an integral part of the armed forces training system.

- 400 instructors, officers and officer cadets received IHL training in 12 courses across the region
- military cadets (with 1 observer from Transnistria) participated in the 7th International Cadet Competition on IHL in Ukraine
- an updated criminal code, with new IHL provisions relating to the armed forces, adopted in Belarus

Cooperation with the police and security forces

In Ukraine, the Interior Ministry and the ICRC continued to conduct joint training in IHL/international human rights law for law enforcement officers about to be sent on UN and Europol missions abroad. Cooperation was also strengthened with the police special forces.

Cooperation with the police and security forces was pursued in Belarus and the Republic of Moldova. In particular, efforts were made to integrate the basic norms and principles of human rights law and IHL into the training of Moldovan law enforcement officers.

- 150 officers due to join the UN Mission in Kosovo trained in IHL/human rights law at the Centre for Peace Support of the Ukrainian Interior Ministry
- commanding officers of the police special forces attached to the Ukrainian Interior Ministry attended an IHL seminar
- Ukrainian police cadets participated in an international competition on IHL/international human rights law
- instructors at the Belarusian police academy received training in IHL and human rights law
- commanders of *carabinieri* brigades in the Chisinau region in the Republic of Moldova attended an IHL seminar

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

Press releases distributed to the region's media provided journalists with information on the ICRC's mandate and raised awareness of IHL among the general public. Think-tanks were sent IHL publications, including the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law.

- representatives of Ukraine's main press agencies attended a seminar on the ICRC and its activities

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

The Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued to develop throughout the region. In Belarus, a tripartite agreement on the integration of IHL into school and university curricula was signed by the Education Ministry, the National Society and the ICRC.

- 89 teachers attended summer schools on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in the Republic of Moldova and in Ukraine
- 254 teachers received advanced training and 34 teachers received basic training in the programme in Belarus

Promoting IHL among students

Key universities across the region continued to work with the ICRC to promote the teaching and study of IHL.

- national IHL moot court competitions held in all three countries
- national IHL essay competitions for university students held in Belarus and in the Republic of Moldova
- 3 Ukrainian students participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain, in April
- 2 Belarusian, 1 Moldovan and 2 Ukrainian postgraduate students attended the 1st International Students' Conference on IHL in Yerevan, Armenia, in April
- 2 Belarusian, 1 Moldovan and 2 Ukrainian postgraduate students attended an IHL summer school in Moscow, Russian Federation, in August
- 1 Moldovan university assistant professor and 1 Belarusian civil servant (secretary of the Belarusian IHL committee) attended an IHL summer school in Warsaw, Poland, in July

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation with the region's National Societies continued to focus on restoring family links and supporting implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

In Ukraine, detained migrants benefited from the restoring family links service provided by the National Society in cooperation with the ICRC.

- 2,460 telephone calls made by detained migrants to their relatives from 5 places of detention
- 45 people seeking resettlement in third countries issued with an ICRC travel document

Eleven staff members of the Ukrainian Red Cross received mine-risk training focusing on data collection and mine-risk education.



moscow (regional)

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. In the Russian Federation, the ICRC assists vulnerable populations affected by the conflict in Chechnya, in cooperation with the National Society, and supports capacity building 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

Russian Federation, with specialized services for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and parts of Central Asia

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,999
Assistance	12,702
Prevention	5,564
Cooperation with National Societies	2,342
General	-

► **22,608**

of which: Overheads 1,380

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	81%
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PERSONNEL

25	expatriates
309	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- was still unable to resume visits to detainees in the Russian Federation
- enhanced its dialogue on missing persons with the federal and Chechen authorities after submitting a position paper on the topic to them
- ended its emergency relief programme in the northern Caucasus and its assistance to medical facilities in Chechnya
- supported an increased number of micro-economic initiatives in the northern Caucasus to boost the self-sufficiency of particularly vulnerable people
- provided expertise and equipment for the rehabilitation of water infrastructure in the northern Caucasus
- supported the Russian Defence Ministry in making IHL a compulsory component of its civic training programme

CONTEXT

On the international scene, President Vladimir Putin continued to affirm the Russian Federation's position. Topics such as the status of Kosovo, the planned US anti-missile shield in Central and Eastern Europe, relations with Iran, gas price increases and global energy issues caused disagreements and raised tensions between the Russian Federation and other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as well as with the European Union (EU) and the United States.

In Chechnya, Ramzan Kadyrov was appointed president. Reconstruction gathered pace, investments were made in the health sector, cooperation was discussed with several foreign countries and regular air and rail traffic resumed, all with positive effects on the local economy. Many people who had been displaced by the hostilities returned to Chechnya or found new homes within the republic. Nonetheless, many vulnerable people remained without income and some lacked adequate shelter or sufficient access to water, gas and electricity.

While the "counter-terrorism operation" was declared over, there were still skirmishes, armed attacks on law enforcement agencies, and "special operations" by the security forces. Although the number of accidents declined, mines and explosive remnants of war continued to pose a risk to the civilian population, especially in farm and forest areas.

In neighbouring Dagestan and Ingushetia, attacks by armed elements and counter-strikes by the security forces increased in the second half of the year, perpetuating a feeling of instability. Incidents also occurred in Kabardino-Balkaria, and sporadic intercommunal unrest flared up in southern Russia. The Prigorodny district remained a bone of contention between North Ossetia and Ingushetia, and passions over the 2004 Beslan school hostage crisis resurfaced.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total					Total	Women	Children
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Economic security, water and habitat						
RCMs collected	116	Food	Beneficiaries	26,299	32%	45%		
RCMs distributed	174	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	38,075	34%	42%		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	4,937	30%	37%		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	176	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	1,210,450	30%	40%		
of whom females	14	WOUNDED AND SICK						
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	4	Hospitals supported	Structures	7				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	30	Admissions	Patients	39,425	18,259	15,971		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	1,428	Operations	Operations performed	8,545				
of which for females	52	Physical rehabilitation						
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	42	Patients receiving services	Patients	799	122	285		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Prostheses delivered	Units	206	40	19		
People to whom travel documents were issued	42	Orthoses delivered	Units	349	65	223		

ICRC ACTION

In addition to its regional delegation in Moscow, the ICRC maintained offices in seven locations in the northern Caucasus and southern Russia. With the gradual return of ICRC expatriates made possible since June 2006 by improved security, the organization decided to maintain a permanent presence of expatriates in Grozny. This placed the ICRC in a better position to monitor the situation and needs of the civilian population, particularly in remote areas of Chechnya.

As the federal authorities had still not agreed to the ICRC's standard visiting procedures, the organization was unable to resume visits to people arrested in connection with the situation in Chechnya, suspended since September 2004. However, the ICRC's family visits programme to places of detention across the Russian Federation continued.

With the federal and Chechen authorities showing some interest in tackling the problem of the missing and providing answers to the families, the ICRC pursued its dialogue with them on this vital humanitarian issue. It provided them with detailed allegations of arrest and disappearances and submitted a position paper highlighting the issue of missing persons.

As reconstruction picked up, the ICRC moved from the provision of emergency assistance to the implementation of programmes promoting recovery and self-sufficiency. Following the screening of all of its beneficiaries, the ICRC concentrated its last distributions of direct assistance on the destitute and launched micro-economic projects to help boost the incomes of an increasing number of beneficiaries in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia.

Support to water boards shifted from Grozny to rural Chechnya, while a limited number of water and habitat projects were carried out at temporary accommodation centres and collective centres housing IDPs in the three republics.

As the Chechen health system was increasingly funded by the federal and local authorities, the ICRC gradually reduced its deliveries of medical supplies to hospitals, ending them altogether at the end

of the year. Support to the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre and training of Chechen technicians continued.

The ICRC further developed mine-risk education throughout Chechnya and continued to build safe play areas in mine-affected communities.

The ICRC's Moscow-based regional communication centre supported long-term communication and preventive action programmes in the Russian Federation and elsewhere in the CIS.

In the Russian Federation, the ICRC pursued its long-term programme of disseminating IHL to the authorities and the armed and security forces and promoted the implementation of IHL treaties. It also targeted secondary schools, universities, military academies, and NGOs and think-tanks concerned with IHL and humanitarian issues, aiming to influence leaders and decision-makers and encourage the establishment of regional IHL centres.

The Russian Red Cross Society continued to receive support in strengthening its capacities, both at headquarters and in the northern Caucasus.

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with the authorities regarding the enquiry into the assassination of six of its delegates in Novye Atagi (Chechnya) in December 1996. A film was produced to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the incident. The organization 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

Restoring family links

In Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia and North Ossetia, allegations of arrest and disappearances were collected by the ICRC, which urged the authorities to investigate the incidents and provide answers to the relatives. The families of 7 people who went missing in 2007 and of 20 who had gone missing in previous years were informed of the fate of their relatives. In addition, the federal and Chechen authorities received a detailed report on persons

unaccounted for after arrest or presumed dead, describing the phenomenon of enforced disappearances and listing 1,267 cases documented by the ICRC since 1999 (this figure does not reflect the total number of persons unaccounted for but the number of cases submitted to the ICRC by the families concerned). An update on persons unaccounted for in Daghestan since 1999 was prepared for the Daghestani authorities upon their request.

The various stakeholders maintained a dialogue with the ICRC on missing persons. In Moscow and Grozny authorities concerned took part in two high-level round-tables following the submission of an ICRC position paper on the topic which, together with the above-mentioned report, served as the basis for discussions. The aim was to achieve a constructive and meaningful dialogue on the issue and to find a way forward in resolving the remaining cases of missing persons, primarily to relieve the anguish of the families.

Family members separated by conflict continued to use the RCM network. On request, refugees and asylum seekers received documents to facilitate their resettlement in host countries.

- ▶ 66 RCMs collected from and 100 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 176 people (including 14 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance); 30 people located; 1,428 people (including 52 females and 42 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 42 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Protection of the civilian population

The situation of civilians, especially IDPs living in temporary accommodation centres in Chechnya and Daghestan, which the authorities started to close in the latter half of the year, was monitored by the ICRC. Dialogue on the issues was maintained with the local authorities and UNHCR.

The humanitarian consequences for the civilian population of “special operations” by security forces in populated areas were assessed by the ICRC. In Daghestan seven families in Khasavyurt whose houses and property were damaged during one such operation received emergency material assistance, and the protection needs of civilians were raised with the relevant authorities. Monitoring of the situation of the civilian population in southern regions of Chechnya, which had previously been off-limits to the ICRC, also took place.

Assistance to the most vulnerable

With stability returning to Chechnya and job prospects improving, the ICRC’s entire caseload of beneficiaries was screened to determine the extent of remaining needs. As a result, their number dropped by more than half, leaving about 16,800 individuals (approximately 3,700 households) assisted in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia. The number decreased further between the two rounds of distributions following further screening and the participation of more beneficiaries in micro-economic projects. This meant that the relief programme could be wound up by the end of the year.

Vulnerable people increased their self-sufficiency thanks to micro-economic projects initiated in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia. On average, beneficiaries of these projects saw a 50% rise in their monthly incomes.

In Chechnya, Daghestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia, thousands of vulnerable individuals who were not regular ICRC beneficiaries received clothing, food and essential

household items in one-off distributions organized, *inter alia*, through the Russian Red Cross.

- ▶ 26,299 people (4,934 households), of whom 5,263 IDPs (1,045 households), received food
- ▶ 38,075 people (7,629 households), of whom 5,263 IDPs (1,045 households), received essential household items
- ▶ 4,937 people (853 households) benefited from micro-economic initiatives, of whom 3,229 people (542 households) in Chechnya, 555 IDPs (118 households) in Daghestan and 1,153 IDPs (193 households) in Ingushetia

Improving general living conditions

In Chechnya, with the water boards in Grozny and rural areas still struggling to maintain and restore the water and sewage infrastructure, 42 villages were assessed by the ICRC and seven water supply projects were initiated, targeting 9,300 people. As planned, the PS-1 water pumping station in Grozny, operated by the ICRC since 1995, was handed back to the water board. The Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre was reconnected to the municipal water supply system, after being cut off for three years, and the sewage network was rehabilitated. Water supply systems were renovated in the central blood bank, a home for the deaf, a home for the blind, a diagnosis centre and a kindergarten. In anticipation of winter, social institutions and medical facilities in remote villages received gas heaters.

In Daghestan, some 5,400 IDPs, enjoyed access to cleaner water following rehabilitation work on water distribution networks in three remote villages. The living conditions of some IDPs accommodated in collective centres or living in the vicinity of Khasavyurt were improved by rehabilitation work.

In Ingushetia, some 3,000 IDPs benefited from improved access to safe water following completion of the second phase of the Karabulak water supply project. Some 1,300 IDPs in Gamurzievo and Nesterovskaya benefited from two projects to improve the water supply. About 300 IDPs benefited from renovations to water supply systems in six temporary centres.

- ▶ 1,210,450 people benefited from water/sanitation/shelter/habitat projects, including:
 - 1,200,000 people in Chechnya
 - some 5,400 IDPs in Daghestan
 - some 5,000 IDPs in Ingushetia

Mine action

In Chechnya, mines continued to pose a risk to the civilian population, with 26 incidents recorded in 2007. The Chechen authorities made the issue a priority, conducting mine clearance and establishing a coordination centre involving the relevant ministries. ICRC technical advice and financial support were given to the mine-risk education activities conducted by the Chechen branch of the Russian Red Cross, schools and children’s clubs.

- ▶ 15 safe play areas established
- ▶ 20 rural schools participated in the “Danger: mines” murals project
- ▶ 25 journalists attended a seminar on mine-risk education
- ▶ 19 representatives of district and village administrations attended two round-tables on mine-risk education
- ▶ 4 children’s publications and 31 media items published on mine-related topics

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Having suspended visits to detainees in September 2004, the ICRC made written representations to the authorities on behalf of people detained in relation to the situation in Chechnya, especially regarding their health, and received some favourable replies. With the ICRC family visits programme and RCM service still in operation, families were able to maintain contact with relatives detained in penal colonies across the Russian Federation. Information sessions to promote the family visits programme took place in villages in Chechnya.

- 50 RCMs collected from and 74 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 337 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

WOUNDED AND SICK

As health services were overhauled as part of Chechnya's national health programme, the number of hospitals assisted by the ICRC decreased to seven. The Grozny central blood bank continued to receive quarterly supplies of tests and materials. At end-2007, assistance to medical facilities in Chechnya ceased. An agreement between a Nalchik medical equipment company and the ICRC was extended, enabling four technical support tours to be made to 13 Chechen health facilities.

Training support was maintained to all of Chechnya's health facilities. Eighteen head nurses upgraded their management skills at a training course in Rostov-on-Don. Twenty-five surgeons from around the Caucasus attended a war and emergency surgery seminar in Nalchik.

In the 7 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 39,425 patients (including 18,259 women and 15,971 children) admitted: of whom 25 weapon-wounded (including 1 woman, 4 children, and 6 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 11,496 other surgical cases, and 14,331 medical and 13,573 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 8,545 surgical operations performed

Disabled people, including mine victims, received physical rehabilitation services at the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre. Three workshops on the production of better-quality appliances were held for technicians. Four ICRC-sponsored Chechen students completed their second year of training in physical rehabilitation.

- 799 patients (including 122 women and 285 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 69 new patients (including 11 women and 9 children) fitted with prostheses and 236 (including 44 women and 141 children) fitted with orthoses
- 206 prostheses (including 40 for women, 19 for children and 155 for mine victims) and 349 orthoses (including 65 for women and 223 for children) delivered

AUTHORITIES

The federal authorities maintained a high-level dialogue with the ICRC. Although no progress was made on detention matters, some progress was achieved on the issue of missing persons. A representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry participated as an observer in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, in March, which focused on legal measures to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families. Representatives of the federal authorities, NGOs and the Russian Red Cross participated in two round-tables on the missing held in Moscow and Grozny in December. Discussions centred on the ICRC's position paper and on means to respond to families with missing relatives.

The CIS Interparliamentary Assembly continued to cooperate with the ICRC and to receive ICRC support in finalizing a draft law on the missing, which it was due to adopt early in 2008. Other areas of cooperation included preparatory work for the organization of a first CIS regional seminar on the implementation of IHL to be held under the Assembly's auspices, as well as for the 140th anniversary of the 1868 St Petersburg Declaration.

Stronger contacts were forged between the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the ICRC, with both organizations expressing the wish to formalize relations within a structured framework of cooperation, allowing the ICRC to disseminate IHL to a future peacekeeping force. The CSTO submitted a draft agreement to the ICRC at the end of 2007.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Cooperation with the armed forces

Cooperation between the Russian Defence Ministry and the ICRC continued in the areas of training and IHL integration, and there was an increased level of IHL integration within the Ministry. The Ministry invited the ICRC to participate in the meetings of its working group on IHL integration, included compulsory IHL instruction in its civic training curriculum and received support for both centralized and decentralized IHL train-the-trainer activities.

- military instructors attended 6 Senezh IHL train-the-trainer courses
- 33 officers attended an IHL train-the-trainer course at the headquarters of the Russian armed forces in the Siberian military district in Chita
- 37 senior military officers and representatives of the Russian Defence and Foreign Ministries and National Society attended a seminar entitled "IHL and the armed forces in the 21st century" in Moscow

Cooperation with the police and security forces

Despite the ICRC's persistent efforts, no structured dialogue could be established with the Russian Interior Ministry at the central level in Moscow. However, contacts were pursued with training units deployed in the field, and representatives of the federal interior troops and police militia attended IHL dissemination sessions organized by the ICRC in the northern Caucasus.

- 19 officers from the interior troops and militia attended Senezh IHL train-the-trainer courses

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL among the general public

Specific media coverage of ICRC activities was promoted by the Moscow-based regional communication centre. Contacts were maintained with the media at both federal and local levels and journalists attended five press conferences on the ICRC's activities in the Russian Federation and the northern Caucasus.

- ▶ 2,000 visitors attended the "Apotheosis of war" photo exhibition touring the northern Caucasus
- ▶ 10 university teams participated in an IHL competition for journalism students
- ▶ local branches of the Russian Red Cross held "Play by the rules!" football championships in Chechnya and Ingushetia
- ▶ a "From the field" film produced in Chechnya

Teaching humanitarian values to schoolchildren

The reform process launched by the Russian Education Ministry advanced, with the ICRC lobbying for the integration of IHL into teacher training, education standards and school curricula. An electronic version of the IHL course books for 5th to 8th grades was distributed and a CD-ROM entitled "IHL: self-education" produced for teachers. IHL teaching materials for 9th grade were distributed in the northern Caucasus.

- ▶ 600 pupils took part in 5 IHL events organized by local education authorities
- ▶ 23,837 teachers attended IHL teacher-training courses
- ▶ 53 Education Ministry regional coordinators attended 2 seminars on IHL in Moscow

Promoting IHL among students

Cooperation was pursued with the Russian Association of International Law and with leading universities in the Russian Federation with a view to integrating IHL into third-level teaching.

- ▶ a national IHL essay competition for university students held
- ▶ 70 students in 18 teams participated in the 10th Martens IHL competition in Moscow
- ▶ 35 students and assistant lecturers attended an IHL summer school in Moscow

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The headquarters of the Russian Red Cross, its tracing service and the capacity-building programmes of 19 branches, including 13 in the northern Caucasus, continued to receive ICRC support. In order to increase their effectiveness, a review of all programmes supported by the delegation was undertaken. Thirty-two branch leaders participated in two IHL dissemination workshops, focusing on Additional Protocol III and the Fundamental Principles.

In the northern Caucasus, the National Society's home-visiting nurses programme was one of those reviewed. As IDPs in Chechnya returned home, some of the 18 children's playrooms started to be closed down.

Pending a review of the psychological support programme for IDPs, the ICRC's financial support to this activity was suspended. Youth recreation centres in Chechnya and Ingushetia continued to operate with ICRC support. The Chechen branch of the Russian Red Cross launched an income-generating project targeting young women to be trained in tailoring and initiated a computer training scheme for unemployed young people, while other branches started recruiting young volunteers.

- ▶ 2,784 elderly housebound people received home care administered by 219 Red Cross nurses
- ▶ 37,648 young people involved in dissemination programmes in 17 regions of the Russian Federation
- ▶ 5,814 food and hygiene parcels distributed among the most needy elderly in Chechnya and Ingushetia



ankara

On the basis of 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. The mission in Ankara also provides logistic support for ICRC assistance programmes in the region. Other ICRC activities in Turkey include supporting the authorities in the promotion of IHL and assisting the armed forces in integrating IHL into their training programmes. In addition, the ICRC conducts a number of joint programmes with the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	71
Assistance	-
Prevention	508
Cooperation with National Societies	213
General	-

► **792**

of which: Overheads 48

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
3	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- strengthened its dialogue with the Turkish authorities and with the Turkish armed forces
- reinforced its cooperation with the Turkish Red Crescent Society on implementing the Safer Access approach
- started implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme for secondary school children with the Turkish Red Crescent
- continued to restore family links in connection with the situation in Iraq
- pursued a dialogue with the Turkish authorities with a view to concluding a headquarters agreement

CONTEXT

The year 2007 was marked by political tensions linked to presidential and parliamentary elections. A standoff in May and June between the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) and secularists, triggered by the nomination in April of foreign minister Abdullah Gül to the presidency, brought hundreds of thousands of protesters to the streets. The demonstrations prompted the government to dissolve parliament and stage early legislative elections on 22 July. The AKP won almost 50% of the vote, giving it a majority in parliament. Abdullah Gül was sworn in as the country's new president after winning a third round of voting in parliament at the end of August.

In December, the Turkish armed forces conducted military operations in northern Iraq following authorization granted by the Turkish parliament in October.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC maintained its temporary presence in the Turkish capital and strengthened its relations with the national authorities and the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

Dialogue with the Turkish authorities and with the National Society centred mainly on operational matters related to the conflict in Iraq. Activities carried out by the ICRC in relation to the situation in Iraq included notifying the authorities of the detention of Turkish nationals in Iraq and enabling such detainees to exchange news with their families through RCMs.

Following the conclusion of a cooperation agreement between the Turkish Red Crescent and the ICRC on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and a similar agreement between the National Society and the Turkish Board of Education, implementation of the programme began with the training of a first group of 30 teachers.

As part of its ongoing cooperation with the Partnership for Peace Training Centre in Ankara, the ICRC gave presentations on IHL at several of its training events.

CIVILIANS

Protection activities in relation to the situation in Iraq continued in 2007 and included notifying the authorities of the detention of Turkish nationals in Iraq.

Turkish families seeking news of relatives detained/interned abroad were able to send and receive RCMs, and requests to locate family members were processed through the worldwide Red Cross and Red Crescent tracing network, with ICRC support. In February, family members were able to visit, for the first time, a Turkish internee in Iraq. The visit was repeated in September.

Following a workshop organized in 2006 by the Council of Europe for medical personnel working in Turkish prisons, the course material, available on the Internet, was translated into Turkish with ICRC support.

AUTHORITIES

A core working group comprising representatives of the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Justice, and the Interior and of the Turkish Red Crescent, under the leadership of the Turkish General Staff, neared completion of a study on the compatibility of the domestic legal framework with the country's obligations under IHL. One member of the group attended the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, in March, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, to clarify the fate of missing persons and to assist their families.

All relevant authorities received an article on customary IHL, translated into Turkish and published in the first Turkish edition of the *International Review of the Red Cross* available on the ICRC's webpage for wider dissemination.

In September, the government of Turkey received for consideration a model headquarters agreement based on similar agreements concluded between the ICRC and States in which it has a permanent presence.

In December, representatives of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey in Geneva and the ICRC examined the legal implications of Turkish military operations in northern Iraq.

- 20 staff members of the Istanbul governorate in charge of relations with the European Union briefed on ICRC activities worldwide

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Turkish General Staff received 100 copies of the Turkish version of an article on customary IHL (see *Authorities*), to be used for training purposes.

Representatives of the Turkish General Staff participated in a Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council/Partnership for Peace round-table on the relevance to the armed forces of customary IHL and in a Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, both held in Geneva.

As part of ongoing ICRC cooperation with the Partnership for Peace Training Centre in Ankara, the Turkish armed forces, together with representatives of more than 50 countries, underwent training in IHL and related issues. The ICRC gave presentations at 10 different training events and handed over sets of IHL publications.

In line with a memorandum of understanding concluded with NATO, the ICRC participated in two seminars in Istanbul organized by NATO's Rapid Deployable Corps-Turkey.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public learned about the ICRC, its history, mandate and activities around the world through an interview with ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger published in the *Sabah* newspaper. It was the first time since the opening of the ICRC's temporary mission that a major Turkish newspaper had carried an article on the organization's work.

In December, academics and lecturers of the Maltepe University law faculty in Istanbul attended a conference on "terrorism in armed conflicts and IHL", co-hosted by the university and the ICRC to mark Human Rights Day.

Following the conclusion in December 2006 of a cooperation agreement between the Turkish Red Crescent and the ICRC on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, the National Society and the Turkish Board of Education signed a similar agreement in May 2007, launching the implementation phase of the programme. At the end of May, representatives of the Ministry of Education, the National Society and the ICRC participated in a regional meeting in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. Thirty teachers took part in a teacher-training course on the programme held in Ankara in December.

Nine articles were translated for the Turkish-language version of the *International Review of the Red Cross*, which was printed in December.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

On the recommendation of the ICRC and the International Federation, the Turkish Red Crescent drafted new statutes to be submitted for approval to the relevant authorities.

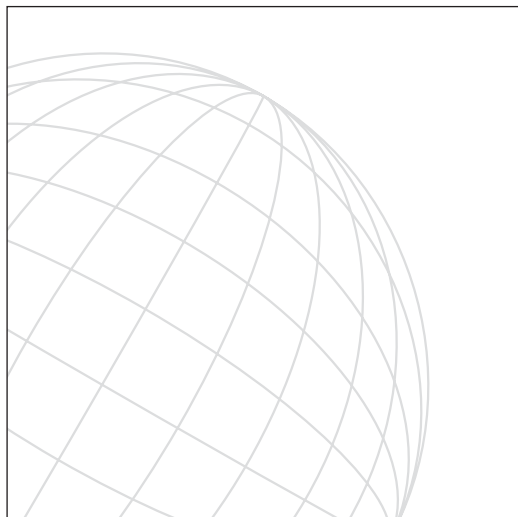
To enhance its capacity to work in situations of violence, the National Society, with ICRC support, set up a working group to develop security regulations and training modules on the Safer Access approach.

The National Society printed an additional 2,500 copies of an article on customary IHL (see *Authorities*), which it distributed to its staff and branches. With ICRC support, the National Society reviewed training material on the emblem, the Seville Agreement, IHL and the ICRC.

Representatives of the Turkish Red Crescent attended a UNHCR conference on Iraqi refugees and IDPs held in Geneva in April.

The president of the Turkish Red Crescent and the ICRC president met at the 7th European Regional Conference of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Istanbul in May and discussed ways of strengthening cooperation between their two organizations.

As a follow-up to the Movement coordination meeting held in Istanbul in July 2006, the Turkish Red Crescent, the Iraqi Red Crescent and the ICRC met in June 2007. The Turkish Red Crescent was also involved in Movement coordination activities in Central Asia, Georgia, Kosovo, Lebanon, and the Palestinian territories.



brussels

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

COVERING

Institutions of the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), NATO, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and key armed forces in Western Europe

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,556
Cooperation with National Societies	364
General	131

► **3,051**

of which: Overheads **186**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
9	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- further developed its dialogue with EU institutions through the EU Presidency (held by Germany and Portugal in 2007), the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, and the European Commission, and by following the work of the European Parliament
- pursued its high-level dialogue on crisis management and conflict prevention with the European Commission's Directorate-General for External Relations through meetings between ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger and European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy Benita Ferrero-Waldner
- established a dialogue on humanitarian aid through meetings between President Kellenberger and Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Louis Michel
- pursued the high-level dialogue on operational and topical issues between President Kellenberger and the EU Political and Security Committee, as well as with NATO
- promoted the EU Guidelines on improving compliance with IHL

CONTEXT

The idea of a shortened treaty to replace the failed EU Constitution gained momentum at the meeting of the European Council in June. The signature of the resulting Lisbon Treaty on 13 December paved the way for a new ratification process in all 27 member States. Many of the provisions of the original Constitution relating to the Common Foreign and Security Policy remained in the modified version, including the creation of the post of EU Foreign Affairs Minister.

Twelve European Security and Defence Policy field missions were under way at the end of 2007: three in the Western Balkans; two covering Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia; three in the Middle East; three in Africa; and one in Central Asia. A police mission launched in Afghanistan in June met various setbacks, preventing its full deployment. Other missions were being planned for Chad/Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Kosovo.

A consultation process launched by the European Commission with its main humanitarian partners (including the ICRC) culminated on 18 December in the adoption by the Council of the EU, the European Commission and the European Parliament of the *European Consensus for Humanitarian Aid*. The document set out the EU's policy, guiding principles and financial approach with respect to humanitarian aid and reaffirmed the value of its partnerships with UN agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and NGOs. It also stated that civil defence and military forces would complement and support the work of humanitarian organizations only as a last resort and in areas where their role clearly had an added value.

To improve the EU's response to major crises, a civil protection mechanism (applicable within the EU) and a "stability instrument" (applicable outside the EU) were strengthened, with their combined budget amounting to €2.3 billion for the period 2007–13.

In a memorandum of understanding concluded in May between the Council of Europe and the EU, the Council of Europe was declared the benchmark for human rights, the rule of law and democracy. The Council of Europe also adopted a significant resolution on people unaccounted for in connection with conflict situations, and their families, in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, confirming the role of the ICRC in dealing with these matters.

ICRC ACTION

In accordance with its specific mandate, the ICRC continued to strengthen its dialogue with EU institutions, in particular the EU Presidency (held by Germany and Portugal in 2007), the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, and the European Commission. The dialogue focused on the humanitarian aspects of major operational contexts, particularly in light of EU initiatives in the framework of the European Security and Defence Policy and of the implementation of the EU Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL. The ICRC's aim was to ensure that its priorities on and analysis of specific issues of humanitarian concern, such as the situations in Afghanistan, the Balkans (Kosovo in particular), the Horn of Africa, central and southern Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, were taken into account.

ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger travelled to Berlin and Lisbon for talks with the German and Portuguese authorities during their respective EU presidencies and to Brussels to discuss issues of common concern with European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy Benita Ferrero-Waldner and Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Louis Michel.

In July, the ICRC shared with all EU institutions its position regarding the European Commission's initiative to develop a European consensus on humanitarian aid, stressing the importance of upholding the principles of independence, impartiality and neutrality at the core of its humanitarian action.

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with European organizations in charge of crisis management and pursued discussions on specific operations and general humanitarian issues with NATO. President Kellenberger addressed a meeting of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council in June. In July, senior NATO officials visited ICRC headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, to discuss IHL and operational issues related to such contexts as Afghanistan, the Balkans (Kosovo in particular) and Sudan. In its relations with the Council of Europe, the ICRC focused on the issue of missing persons in the southern Caucasus.

The delegation pursued its cooperation with European National Societies and the International Federation through the Red Cross/EU Office and its participation in various networks' including the Platform for European Red Cross Co-operation on Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers, the European Legal Support Group and the Disaster Management Working Group.

The ICRC organized IHL courses for College of Europe students at the campuses in Bruges, Belgium, and Natolin, Poland, as well as the annual Bruges Colloquium on IHL, at which law lecturers and IHL experts discussed current challenges in regulating the conduct of hostilities.

AUTHORITIES

EU Council

The implementation of the EU Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL and ongoing and planned European Security and Defence Policy missions were foremost among the issues of common interest discussed with the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU and the German and Portuguese EU presidencies.

President Kellenberger addressed the Political and Security Committee (PSC) on the ICRC's humanitarian priorities and exchanged views with PSC ambassadors on the humanitarian situation in Darfur (Sudan), Iraq, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, and Somalia.

EU civil servants and staff of the permanent representations to the EU participated in an annual seminar on IHL organized in June by the German Presidency of the EU and the ICRC.

European Commission

The ICRC took part in consultations organized by the European Commission with partner humanitarian organizations to develop a European consensus on humanitarian aid and reiterated the importance it attaches to the principles of independence, impartiality and neutrality underpinning its humanitarian action. It shared its position on the outcome of the process with, among others, the European institutions. Although it welcomed many of the conclusions of the process, the ICRC reaffirmed that only humanitarian organizations, as opposed to intergovernmental organizations and their secretariats, could operate according to those principles.

President Kellenberger and Commissioner Louis Michel discussed the humanitarian situation in various contexts. Discussions with the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) led to the establishment and implementation of an ECHO/ICRC plan of action on public communication targeting decision-makers, opinion-leaders and youth.

Talks between President Kellenberger and Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner centred on ways to strengthen respect for IHL by the EU and on coordination of ICRC and EU action in a range of operational contexts.

To highlight its activities in contexts in transition, the ICRC participated in the Commission's working group on linking relief, rehabilitation and development. It also contributed to a consultation launched by the Commission on so-called "fragile" States.

- staff from European Commission delegations learned about IHL and ICRC activities in contexts in transition at a training workshop in July

European Parliament

ICRC participation in hearings and debates of the sub-committees on human rights and on defence and security of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee and in debates of the Civil Liberties Committee ensured that its analysis of specific humanitarian contexts was taken into account.

Researchers from the European Parliament attended an IHL workshop for the first time.

NATO and IHL

Discussions with NATO's Assistant General Secretary for Political Affairs and Security Policy focused on operational issues in Afghanistan. At ICRC/NATO staff talks held in Geneva, senior members of each institution shared their views on operational and topical issues.

Members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council attended President Kellenberger's annual address in June.

At NATO's Parliamentary Assembly spring session in Madeira, Portugal, participants heard the ICRC's viewpoint on Afghanistan. IHL-related issues were raised by the ICRC at NATO's annual session in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Council of Europe

During sessions of selected commissions of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, commission members and the ICRC exchanged views on a range of humanitarian themes, including persons unaccounted for in the Caucasus and Europe's response to crises worldwide.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

NATO

The Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) and the ICRC held discussions on legal, operational and training issues.

Troops participating in exercises prior to deployment in peace-support operations were briefed by the ICRC. In the framework of the NATO Response Force "Steadfast Jaw" exercise, the General Staff of the Allied Joint Force Command in Naples, Italy, were familiarized with the ICRC's neutral and independent humanitarian action.

Students and military legal advisers at the NATO school for senior officers in Oberammergau, Germany, and NATO civil-military liaison officers learned about the ICRC's mandate and activities at various information sessions.

The Allied Joint Force Command in Brunssum, Netherlands, maintained its dialogue with the ICRC on operational and legal issues regarding the conduct of hostilities by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. Senior NATO officers attending a mission-specific training session in Norway prior to deployment to ISAF's Regional Command South (covering the region of Kandahar) were briefed on IHL and the ICRC.

US European Command/African Command

The US European Command and the ICRC pursued their dialogue on IHL in the context of the fight against "terrorism". Contacts were initiated with the newly established US African Command.

European Union Force (EUFOR)

In preparation for the future deployment of EUFOR Chad/Central African Republic, the ICRC established relations with the mission's command structure, as well as with the EU Military Staff.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Participation in events organized by various think-tanks enabled the ICRC to share its views on issues of humanitarian concern with a wide range of audiences.

University students learned about IHL at ICRC-supported courses at the College of Europe's two campuses (Bruges and Natolin) and at the Institut Supérieur du Management Public et Politique in Brussels.

In October, some 100 law lecturers and IHL experts attending the 8th Bruges Colloquium on IHL organized by the College of

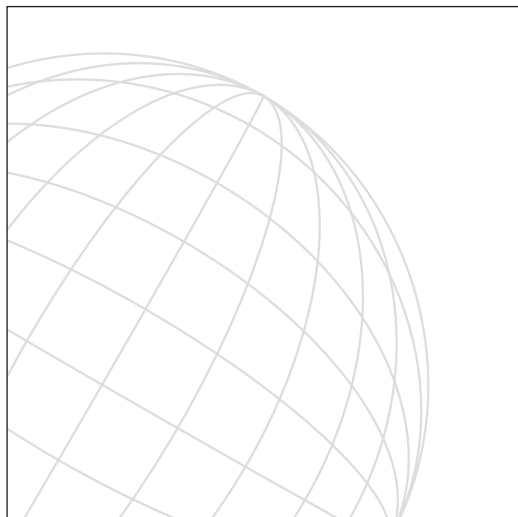
Europe and the ICRC, discussed current challenges in regulating the conduct of hostilities.

Decision-makers and opinion-leaders in Europe were informed of the ICRC's current challenges and humanitarian concerns through interviews given by President Kellenberger to the media in Brussels and Portugal. A special report on water published by *European Voice*, a publication widely read by European decision-makers, carried an ICRC article on the issue of access to water during armed conflict.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The International Federation, the Red Cross/EU Office and the ICRC jointly provided input to the European Commission's consultation on humanitarian aid (see *Authorities*) and made joint presentations to the European Commission on recent developments in rapid response.

By participating in meetings of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers, the European Legal Support Group and the Disaster Management Working Group, the ICRC kept abreast of their deliberations on relevant national and international issues and contributed to discussions on matters related to its specific mandate and expertise. The 7th European Regional Conference of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Istanbul, Turkey, in May reaffirmed that the development of a Movement policy on migration would benefit from the ICRC's expertise in the areas of protection and restoring family links.



international tracing service

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	585
Assistance	-
Prevention	-
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **585**

of which: Overheads 36

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	81%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
0	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ITS:

- opened its archives to historical research, giving researchers access to more than 30 million documents
- began to transfer digital copies of documents to member States to afford researchers in those countries direct access to the information
- sent 132,214 replies to enquirers
- amended the procedure for processing new enquiries to ensure that an answer could be given within two months of receipt of the enquiry

CONTEXT

In 2007, the ITS remained an invaluable resource for civilians persecuted under the Third Reich and for their families. It used its archive of documents to record and confirm the incarceration of individuals and their subjection to forced labour, and undertook worldwide searches for missing persons.

Following its ratification by all 11 member States of the International Commission for the ITS, the May 2006 Protocol on the amendment of the 1955 Bonn Agreement Constituting an International Commission for the International Tracing Service entered into force on 28 November 2007, paving the way for the opening of the ITS archives to the public and for historical research.

ITS ACTION

CIVILIANS

Victims of persecution under the Third Reich, and/or their family members, continued to approach the ITS seeking confirmation and official recognition of their deportation, incarceration, subjection to forced labour or time in displaced persons camps, or information on an individual's death. Using its extensive archive of documents and data, the ITS was able to provide legally binding certificates attesting to individual cases of persecution. The ITS also attempted to locate victims of Nazi persecution who had gone missing on the territory of the Third Reich during the war or who had lost contact with their next of kin in the immediate post-war years. For this, the ITS cooperated with third parties.

In 2007, the ITS provided 132,214 replies to enquirers and reduced its backlog of enquiries from 194,872 to 92,869. Of these, 47,929 enquiries came from victims and/or their families and the other 44,940 came from other enquirers, such as memorial associations and universities. In 2007, the ITS amended its procedure for processing new enquiries to ensure that an answer could be given within two months of receipt of the enquiry, provided that the information sought could be found in the Bad Arolsen archives. External research demanded a longer turn-around time.

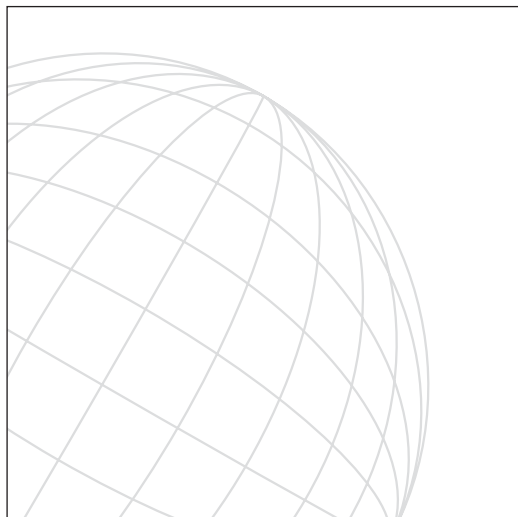
In order to preserve the historically precious documents stored in its archives for future generations, the ITS continued its conservation and restoration work. A total of 193,681 documents were thus conserved in 2007. More than 1.65 million documents had been conserved and restored since the beginning of the process.

In May, at its annual meeting, the International Commission for the ITS laid down detailed rules governing access to the archives in Bad Arolsen and agreed on the procedure for transferring the

digital copies of documents to member States to enable them to store the data on their own computer systems and so afford researchers in those countries direct access to the information. Participants agreed unanimously that, even before all States had formally agreed to the changes, data could be transferred to those that had finished the ratification process. This would enable States to begin processing the files and making technical preparations for the opening of the archives.

The scanning and indexing of all documents regarding detention (concentration camps, prisons and transport) was completed in 2007. In August, electronic copies of these documents were delivered to member States that had already ratified the protocol, benefiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Yad Vashem in Israel and the Institute of National Remembrance in Poland. In November, digital copies of 50 million index cards relating to 17.5 million people were transferred to the same institutions.

On 28 November 2007, the ITS archives were opened to the public. Future researchers were required to adhere to the strict access procedures, which included supplying proof of identity and agreeing in writing to treat as confidential personal information contained in the documents.



london

In October 2003, an ICRC spokesperson was posted to London to work with the British Red Cross Society in developing contacts with London-based media and institutions with an international scope. Since then, in cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC has enlarged its outreach to include the British authorities and armed forces, members of parliament, think-tanks and major international NGOs, with a view to improving understanding of and securing broad support for IHL and ICRC and Movement operations.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	515
Cooperation with National Societies	84
General	-

► **599**

of which: Overheads 37

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	76%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
0	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued to work closely with the British Red Cross
- increasingly known and recognized in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was regularly called upon to consult with the government and the military on issues relating to its mandate and to participate in think-tanks and other fora
- with the British Red Cross, developed a basic IHL training package for use by UK-based private security companies and their personnel being deployed to contexts where IHL was applicable
- published the 2007 People on War survey in Great Britain, as well as a newspaper supplement highlighting the ICRC's work in key contexts and with private military companies

CONTEXT

In 2007, the commitment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the stabilization of Afghanistan was accompanied by increased deployment of military and development personnel. In Iraq, the last of the four provinces controlled by British forces was handed over to the Iraqi administration. The new British prime minister, Gordon Brown, made the troubled Sudanese region of Darfur a foreign policy priority and championed a UN Security Council resolution that led to the decision to deploy a hybrid African Union-UN peacekeeping force to Sudan.

As one of the world's foremost media centres, London remained a focal point for international debate on current global issues. It was home to a large number of news organizations with worldwide reach and a high concentration of foreign media from around the world, including all major transnational satellite broadcasters. It also hosted a variety of academic institutes, think-tanks and NGOs influential in humanitarian discourse. Issues and debates surrounding the deteriorating situation in Iraq featured regularly in the media, as did the conflict in Afghanistan.

ICRC ACTION

In 2007, the London office further developed its links with key stakeholder groups so as to enhance the ICRC's network for humanitarian diplomacy, promote IHL, increase understanding of its mandate, gain support for its operations in the field and stimulate debate on issues of humanitarian concern. Such groups included the British authorities and armed forces, UK-based private security companies, the broad range of influential media operating in the country, think-tanks, NGOs and other humanitarian actors. Efforts by the UK armed forces to train personnel in IHL received ICRC support in the form of lectures and classroom and role-playing exercises.

By 2007, the ICRC's presence in London had assumed a more permanent character and the organization was increasingly well known and recognized in UK political, military, media and NGO circles. The ICRC was regularly called upon to consult with the government and the military on issues relating to its mandate and to participate in think-tanks and other fora. The British media increasingly sought interviews and briefings on ICRC activities.

December saw the publication of a newspaper supplement on ICRC activities and of the 2007 People on War survey in Great Britain, the launch of which was attended by representatives of the media, NGOs and the authorities.

ICRC activities were closely coordinated with the British Red Cross.

AUTHORITIES

Working with the British Red Cross, the ICRC strengthened its contacts with key decision-makers, in particular parliamentarians and civil servants dealing with issues relating to the organization's mandate. As part of its efforts to raise its profile in relevant parliamentary processes, the ICRC participated in a number of meetings of committees concerned with the UK contribution to the global security environment. Senior government ministers met the ICRC president to discuss issues of mutual concern.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Military officers continued to learn about IHL in their training programmes, with support from the ICRC. Officers of three different levels of seniority and participants in civil-military liaison courses attended lectures on IHL given by the ICRC and took part in classroom exercises on operational planning in contexts experiencing complex humanitarian emergencies.

UK military personnel preparing for deployment in Iraq benefited from the participation of ICRC staff in role-playing exercises, reinforcing the practical implications of IHL in the conduct of hostilities. A similar exercise for troops to be deployed in Afghanistan drew directly on support from the ICRC's sub-delegation in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Members of the British Association of Private Security Companies were set to benefit from a new basic IHL training package, developed in association with the British Red Cross, to help them prepare staff being deployed to contexts in which there was an armed conflict or other situation of violence. In addition, the British Red Cross and

a variety of key Whitehall departments, such as the Ministry of Defence, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Department for International Development, discussed the importance of legislation to ensure the accountability of UK-based private security companies working in armed conflict and other situations of violence. The ICRC lent its support and provided advice on the issue to the British Red Cross, as required.

CIVIL SOCIETY

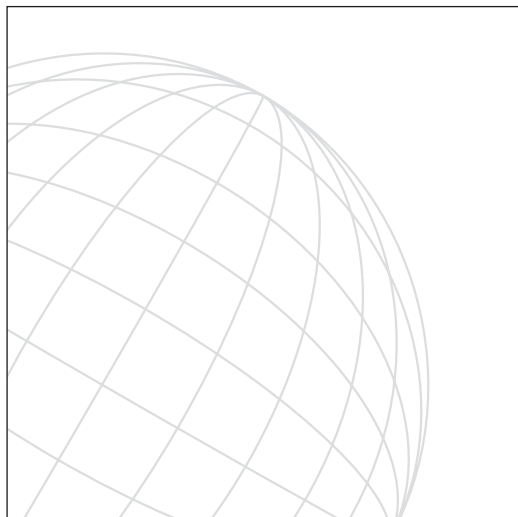
Throughout the year, various UK-based think-tanks and research institutions, such as the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) and the London School of Economics, formalized their relationships with the ICRC London office. Together, the institutions and the ICRC were able to identify discussions and fora in which the ICRC might participate, to mutual advantage. Furthermore, media contacts were strengthened and new links forged with foreign correspondents based in London and with BBC World television and radio. Through accurate media coverage, decision-makers, opinion-leaders and the general public were made aware of issues such as the 10th anniversary of the Ottawa Convention and kept abreast of ICRC activities in Chad, the Gaza Strip, Iraq and Myanmar.

The publication of the 2007 People on War survey in Great Britain, commissioned by the ICRC to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols, was launched by the ICRC's director of communication on 12 December at a British Red Cross seminar for members of the UK media and humanitarian community. Members of the British public had been asked for their opinions on a number of issues such as acceptable tactics in war, the treatment of enemy combatants, and UK military interventions abroad. The survey and the publicity it generated were used to raise the awareness of the British public with regard to IHL-related issues and to keep those issues high on the agendas of the country's decision-makers.

Also in December, *The Independent* newspaper published a supplement on ICRC activities in key contexts (Afghanistan, Colombia, Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, and Somalia), on the legal position of private military companies, and on the work of the British Red Cross with refugees and asylum seekers in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Most of the activities of the ICRC's London office were closely coordinated with the British Red Cross. A number of other collaborative efforts took place, including ICRC participation in a British Red Cross seminar on IHL, and a British Red Cross media trip and fundraising campaign for ICRC and British Red Cross projects in Darfur.



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, military and academic circles, the diplomatic community, representatives of third countries, economic interest groups, the media, and the French Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	44
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,028
Cooperation with National Societies	83
General	-

► **1,155**

of which: Overheads 70

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
3	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- held in-depth discussions with key government ministries on humanitarian issues in a number of countries and strengthened contact with the new French authorities
- through public debates on humanitarian affairs and a newly launched blog, strengthened its reputation as a key reference on IHL and proponent of neutral and independent humanitarian action
- launched the French-language version of its study on customary IHL and promoted it among academic circles, think-tanks, NGOs and government ministries
- continued to promote IHL, particularly among members of the armed forces and academic circles
- continued to cooperate closely with the French Red Cross

CONTEXT

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. Following the election of Nicolas Sarkozy as president in May and the appointment of Bernard Kouchner, co-founder of Médecins Sans Frontières, as foreign minister, France endeavoured to raise its international profile further through a number of diplomatic interventions on the world stage.

Given its large Arabic-speaking community and traditionally close ties with many African countries, France was an important venue for humanitarian diplomacy, offering opportunities for intercession on behalf of conflict victims in parts of Africa and the Middle East.

ICRC ACTION

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 humanitarian issues. In France, this network included the French authorities, foreign opposition movements based in the country, NGOs, international organizations such as the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), UNESCO, the media and opinion-makers.

The delegation continued to give IHL presentations for the armed forces and worked on various projects aimed at improving the public's grasp of humanitarian issues and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

AUTHORITIES

The French authorities and the ICRC held in-depth discussions on operational issues related to the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Chad, Iraq and Darfur (Sudan). Following presidential and legislative elections in the first half of the year, the new authorities continued to meet members of the ICRC delegation to discuss issues of common concern. The delegation monitored the progress of a draft bill on the incorporation of the repression of war crimes into France's criminal justice code.

The Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme continued to discuss IHL and related themes with the delegation, in accordance with the commission's national advisory role in IHL-related matters.

International organizations based in France maintained good relations with the ICRC. A constructive relationship with the OIF was established during preparations for the international seminar on the ICRC's study on customary IHL, and in December the ICRC participated in UNESCO meetings on the protection of cultural property.

In March, at the France-Africa summit in Cannes, several African heads of State and the vice-president of the ICRC shared their concerns over various issues. Foreign opposition groups based in France and the ICRC maintained regular contact. This contact, including discussions on the location of civilian victims of conflict and detainees and on ICRC staff security, often aided the implementation of ICRC operations in the field.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Close contacts with the Ministry of Defence ensured that French military forces in general received relevant training in IHL and that forces deployed outside France were aware of the ICRC's mission and mandate. Senior officers and army cadets from prestigious military establishments such as the Collège Interarmées de Défense and the Ecole de l'Air, military legal advisers, and members of the *gendarmérie* due for deployment outside France were briefed on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

CIVIL SOCIETY

To mark the launch of the French-language version of the ICRC's landmark study on customary IHL, some 300 people, including legal experts, academics and civil servants, discussed the relevance of customary IHL in the 21st century at a seminar co-organized in March by the Centre de recherches et d'études sur les droits de l'Homme et le droit humanitaire and the ICRC. The study was widely disseminated among universities, think-tanks, NGOs and government ministries.

To promote IHL principles among the French-language media and academic institutions, such as the school of journalism in Lille and the Sorbonne's law faculty, the ICRC organized training workshops, held information sessions and distributed press releases and publications.

In March, in order to encourage the broadcasting of programmes dedicated to humanitarian issues in general and to IHL in particular, the ICRC became a member of the Paris-based International Radio and Television University, an NGO aiming to promote culture through the distribution of audiovisual products internationally.

In June, the Monte Carlo Television Festival once again featured an ICRC-sponsored prize for a documentary promoting IHL and presenting conflict from the victims' perspective. The daily lives of Israelis and Palestinians were the subject of a photographic exhibition organized by the ICRC on the fringe of the festival.

Internet users benefited from the initiation in September of an ICRC blog, hosted by *Le Monde's* website, dedicated to the discussion of humanitarian issues and the provision of information about the ICRC.

In November, politicians, academics, journalists and representatives of humanitarian organizations participated in the first of a series of quarterly public debates, aiming to provoke discussion on humanitarian affairs and reinforce public perception of the ICRC as a key reference on IHL and as a proponent of neutral and independent humanitarian action. Footage of the debate was streamed on the France Info website.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The French Red Cross and the ICRC met regularly to discuss areas of cooperation. Particular attention was paid to:

- ▶ government plans to set up a Prisoners of War Information Bureau in line with Article 122 of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949
- ▶ preparations for the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent



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 operational procedures of the Colombian armed forces. The ICRC also visits security detainees, provides emergency relief to 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 KCHF)

Protection	5,819
Assistance	18,572
Prevention	5,087
Cooperation with National Societies	1,140
General	-

► **30,618**

of which: Overheads **1,869**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	108%
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PERSONNEL

61 expatriates
235 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- together with the Colombian Red Cross Society, provided emergency aid to over 66,000 newly displaced people and residents affected by the conflict and improved access to health care for civilians in conflict-affected areas
- published with WFP a study on the socio-economic needs of IDPs in 8 cities
- visited more than 5,500 people detained in connection with the conflict, monitoring up to 3,485 individually in 418 places of detention
- helped more than 2,300 victims of threats reach safer areas
- conducted three knowledge, attitude and practice surveys to gain a better understanding of the behaviour of people living in areas contaminated by mines and explosive remnants of war and thereby improve mine-action programming
- acted as a neutral and independent intermediary on numerous occasions, notably in connection with the release of people held by armed groups and in the recovery of the remains of 11 parliamentarians who had been held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia

CONTEXT

The Colombian government faced a major political crisis in 2007, sparked by the confessions of paramilitary leaders demobilized within the framework of the Justice and Peace Law, which revealed alleged links between the paramilitaries and senior civil servants and military personnel. An investigation by a special Supreme Court commission led to many arrests, among them the brother of the foreign affairs minister, forcing her resignation. Multinationals and members of the business community were also implicated in the scandal.

In October, elections were held for mayors and governors. Thirty candidates were killed and many more received threats. However, the elections attracted more voters than those held in 2003.

Talks between the Colombian government and the National Liberation Army (ELN) in Havana, Cuba, made little progress.

In spite of the completion of a formal demobilization process involving former paramilitary groups, new armed groups had emerged in several of the country's departments. Clashes between armed groups and the armed forces continued in Antioquia, Caldas, Caquetá, Meta, and southern Tolima and flared up in central and southern Chocó, close to the border with Panama. Fighting between the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the ELN resumed in the south (Nariño) and close to the Venezuelan border (Arauca). Population displacements continued.

Community leaders, sometimes entire communities, were subjected to numerous threats, often leading to displacement. Medical staff were frequently targeted, restricting the population's access to health care in some areas. The number of casualties from mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) was among the highest in the world.

The issues of people unaccounted for and of people held by armed groups remained high on the political agenda. An initiative by Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez to mediate the release of three "high-profile" hostages held by the FARC had not produced results by 31 December.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	5,552	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,485	Food	Beneficiaries	49,066	24% 56%
		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	66,720	24% 56%
	242	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	17,666	24% 56%
of whom females		Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	3,168	50% 30%
of whom minors	8	<i>Health</i>			
Number of visits carried out	780	Health centres supported	Structures	21	
Number of places of detention visited	418	Consultations	Patients	2,806	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	91	of which curative	Patients		958 1,091
RCMs distributed	59	of which ante/post-natal	Patients		103 7
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	Doses	2,274	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	500	WOUNDED AND SICK			
		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
of whom females	75	Patients receiving services	Patients	41	4 6
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	94	Prostheses delivered	Units	39	4 7
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	123	Orthoses delivered	Units	4	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	304				
of which for females	49				
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	43				

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC shared its analysis of the country's humanitarian situation with the relevant authorities and other humanitarian organizations. It maintained a dialogue with all the parties to the conflict to seek respect for the civilian population in accordance with IHL and to secure unhindered access to conflict-affected areas. It discussed documented allegations of IHL violations with weapon bearers with a view to ending such practices. On several occasions, the ICRC acted as a neutral intermediary between the parties to the conflict, facilitating medical evacuations, the release of people held by armed groups and the recovery of human remains.

ICRC field activities were concentrated in some 20 priority zones. The organization provided food and essential household items to IDPs and residents and implemented agricultural and other projects to boost their self-sufficiency. It upgraded communal water and sanitation facilities and improved access to health services, directing beneficiaries to public health facilities and accompanying public health personnel on their rounds. Assisting resident communities in ever more remote areas proved to be a major security and logistical challenge.

A study conducted with WFP and an internal ICRC assessment of the socio-economic needs of displaced populations contributed to better-documented arguments when advocating on behalf of IDPs and to the fine-tuning of assistance to them.

The results of a knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) survey in mine/ERW-affected communities, conducted by the ICRC in three departments, helped mobilize the authorities and improve mine-action programming. The sharing of information with the national mine-action body, thanks to a memorandum of understanding concluded with the ICRC, contributed to improving knowledge of the scale of the problem and the location of mines/ERW.

The ICRC provided expertise and support to the various organizations involved in the issue of persons unaccounted for, particularly to those working in the field of forensics. It organized workshops to help family members and forensic workers cope with the psychological trauma associated with exhumations.

The ICRC continued to visit people detained in connection with the conflict throughout the country and to monitor their treatment and living conditions. It assisted the national penitentiary authorities in improving planning and the overall efficiency of the prison health care system.

Recognized as the institution of reference on IHL matters, the ICRC continued to provide technical advice to the Ministry of Defence and assisted the police in completing and publishing a teaching manual integrating IHL principles into core instruction and operational training procedures.

The Colombian Red Cross Society and the ICRC worked together on several programmes, among them assistance to IDPs, HIV/AIDS capacity-building for local health authorities, and mine/ERW-risk education. The National Society improved its response to the psychological and social needs of IDPs on the basis of a study conducted with the Canadian Red Cross Society and the ICRC.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with those of Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in areas of common interest, with a view to maximizing impact, filling gaps and avoiding duplication.

CIVILIANS

Protection

The ICRC documented allegations of IHL violations and made representations to weapon bearers with a view to ending such practices. Disappearances, threats, summary executions and forced displacements represented the bulk of the cases. Allegations of sexual violence perpetrated by weapon bearers, cases of people

injured by mines/ERW and of minors subjected to forced recruitment were also documented. Victims of alleged abuses often received ICRC assistance:

- over 2,300 victims of threats received material assistance and help to reach safer areas
- the families of over 300 victims of summary executions or of persons who had died in connection with the armed conflict received financial support for funeral-related expenses
- 130 victims of sexual violence directed to appropriate health structures (86 supported financially)
- 5 children formerly associated with fighting forces taken to the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare

The ICRC acted as a neutral intermediary between the parties to the conflict on several occasions, facilitating:

- the recovery of the remains of 11 parliamentarians, killed after being held by the FARC for several years
- the release of 23 people and 2 police officers held by armed groups
- the medical evacuation of 7 wounded people
- access to conflict-affected areas by local health teams

Persons unaccounted for in connection with the conflict

The government approved a plan to improve coordination among organizations trying to locate missing persons or their remains. Over 1,100 sets of human remains were reportedly discovered in several mass graves, 118 of which were handed over to their relatives.

Government entities, including the State Prosecutor's Office, received ICRC technical advice, and associations of families of missing persons were strengthened. Colombian forensic specialists attended an international conference on forensic medicine in Buenos Aires, Argentina (see *Buenos Aires regional*). Members of Colombian NGOs and family associations, some of whom attended ICRC-organized conferences abroad, met regularly to share experiences and best practices. Government officials carrying out exhumations and the families concerned learned coping mechanisms during four workshops organized by the ICRC and Dos Mundos, a local foundation specializing in psychological assistance to conflict victims. Findings resulting from these workshops were compiled and circulated among relevant stakeholders.

- 64 RCMs collected from and 46 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 500 people (including 75 females and 94 minors at the time of disappearance); 123 people located; 304 people (including 49 females and 43 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Assistance

The ICRC worked in some 20 priority zones, its assistance programmes targeting mainly IDPs. Programmes were implemented together with the National Society and in coordination with the government and other stakeholders concerned. One-third of displaced people in six cities received ICRC assistance through the Colombian Red Cross.

The authorities and other relevant stakeholders welcomed the publication of an ICRC/WFP study on the socio-economic situation of IDPs in eight cities and planned to use it to improve assistance to IDPs. This study, and a complementary internal assessment, enabled the ICRC to fine-tune the content of its assistance package and better advocate on behalf of IDPs. It took the

opportunity to do so during a national campaign marking 10 years of ICRC assistance to IDPs in Colombia, during which period it assisted over a million IDPs.

Economic security

IDPs, 23% of whom were female-headed households, received emergency assistance consisting of food rations for up to three months (six months for particularly vulnerable households) and essential household items. The success of an ICRC voucher programme in three cities to promote IDPs' self-sufficiency prompted the government's Acción Social to implement a similar programme countrywide.

Assisting resident communities in conflict-affected areas became more difficult as the front line shifted to more remote areas.

People with particular vulnerabilities (e.g. facing threats, intimidation, mine/ERW risks or sexual violence) received ad hoc emergency relief.

In total:

- 49,066 people (11,735 households), of whom 48,753 IDPs, received food
- 66,720 people (15,948 households), of whom 66,382 IDPs, received essential household items
- 17,766 people (4,203 households), of whom 17,629 IDPs, benefited from a food voucher programme

Agricultural projects launched in 2006 for some 700 resident and IDP families were monitored in 2007.

Community infrastructure projects

Schools and health centres benefited from repairs to their water and sanitation systems.

- 3,168 people benefited from water and sanitation projects

State entities increased their support to IDPs in 35 reception centres and strengthened their presence in some of them through an Acción Social/ICRC plan of action, which included:

- the training of 69 staff members in management techniques
- the equipment of 10 centres with computers
- the improvement of water/sanitation facilities in 2 centres

Health care for IDPs and conflict-affected residents

In line with national legislation, the authorities were encouraged to provide health care to IDPs and residents in conflict-affected areas and assistance to victims of sexual violence. Two health posts were reopened in priority zones.

Over 5,000 weapon-wounded and sick civilians living in conflict-affected rural areas received medical assistance in health centres from public health staff supported by the Canadian Red Cross. Mobile health units reached hard-to-access areas accompanied by the ICRC. In areas where the security of national health staff could not be guaranteed, the ICRC sent its own medical staff.

In the 21 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population 19,000):

- 2,806 people given consultations, including 110 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 2,696 attending curative consultations

- ▶ 2,274 vaccine doses administered (including 1,140 to children aged five or under and 715 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 51 patients referred to secondary care
- ▶ 198 health education sessions held

The ICRC referred some 82,300 IDPs in need of health care to appropriate health services and, on occasion, paid for medical costs not covered by the national health system.

Dealing with weapon contamination

Vulnerable communities in 10 departments benefited from mine/ERW-risk education activities implemented by the National Society with ICRC support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Six government mine-action committees received support to improve their services to affected communities.

The results of the ICRC's KAP survey conducted in three departments increased the authorities' awareness of the scope of the weapon contamination problem and facilitated mine-action programming by all stakeholders. The exercise – the first of its kind in Colombia – prompted NGOs working in mine action and UNICEF to plan on using the same methodology elsewhere in Colombia.

Through a memorandum of understanding concluded with the ICRC, the national mine-action body gained access to the ICRC's mine/ERW incident database, thus improving the accuracy of national incident statistics. Other relevant organizations received training in the use of the ICRC database, a key step towards improving coordination and standardization of data gathering.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in connection with the conflict were regularly visited by ICRC delegates, who made confidential reports to the penitentiary authorities (INPEC) on conditions of detention.

- ▶ 5,552 detainees visited, of whom 3,485 monitored individually (including 242 females and 8 minors) and 1,492 newly registered (including 157 females and 7 minors) during 780 visits to 418 places of detention
- ▶ 1,845 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 27 RCMs collected from and 13 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 21 detainees fitted with prosthetic/orthotic appliances based on a cost-sharing agreement with INPEC

INPEC continued to run community health programmes, including HIV/AIDS prevention. It received ICRC technical support in the areas of planning and training to improve its health care system. Through such support:

- ▶ 2 INPEC staff and 1 from the Ministry for Social Protection participated in the second Latin American seminar on health in prisons, held in Chile (see *Buenos Aires regional*)
- ▶ 51 prison health staff participated in a national seminar on public health
- ▶ university medical faculties, providing free health services to detainees through ICRC-supported pilot projects, ensured the long-term sustainability of their programmes
- ▶ INPEC established a list of standard minimum technical requirements for providers of prosthetic/orthotic appliances

Efforts to obtain access to people held by armed groups remained as yet unsuccessful.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Patients needing specialized health care, including victims of mines/ERW, were referred to hospitals and physical rehabilitation centres. They received ICRC support for costs not covered by the national health system.

- ▶ 401 weapon-wounded patients, including 257 injured by mines or ERW, referred to appropriate health facilities, of whom 263 given financial support

The Ministry for Social Protection and the ICRC carried out quality checks in 10 hospitals treating weapon-wounded patients and undertook the necessary follow-up. National health staff working in conflict-affected areas improved their skills in first aid and the care of weapon-wounded patients during training courses organized with the Colombian Red Cross, the Ministry for Social Protection and regional medical faculties.

- ▶ 232 health promoters and auxiliary nurses received first-aid training
- ▶ 126 nurses and doctors from 57 hospitals/health facilities trained in the clinical management of weapon-wounded patients

Government services established quality standards in physical rehabilitation and set up internationally recognized training programmes for prosthetic/orthotic technicians. The quality of products used for patients improved after cooperation agreements, extended for another two years with three rehabilitation centres, allowed workshop facilities to be upgraded, the management of service providers improved and technicians to be trained.

The Centro Don Bosco, Bogotá, established the country's first programme to train prosthetic/orthotic technicians.

Five physical rehabilitation centres received ICRC support for the services provided to 41 patients (including 4 women and 6 children) referred to them:

- ▶ 36 new patients (including 4 women and 6 children) fitted with prostheses and 2 fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 39 prostheses (including 4 for women, 7 for children and 25 for mine victims), and 4 orthoses delivered

AUTHORITIES

The ratification and implementation of IHL treaties progressed. With ICRC support:

- ▶ a new decree was passed, strengthening the rights of mine/ERW victims
- ▶ the Ministry for Social Protection reviewed national guidelines on the respect owed to medical staff and facilities
- ▶ the Constitutional Court decided to recommend the ratification of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and to consider additional measures in favour of missing persons and their families
- ▶ government officials agreed to study a working paper on the challenges and benefits of ratifying Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons

The ICRC contributed to the coordination of humanitarian action in Colombia. Its involvement in the recovery of human remains and in international efforts to release two “high-profile” hostages highlighted its role as a neutral and independent humanitarian organization.

At round-tables organized by the international community, the ICRC provided expertise on IHL, mine action, missing persons, IDPs, the release of hostages and the exchange of detainees.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces completed the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operating procedures. They continued to receive technical advice and support on the practical integration of IHL at field level. Field units attended dissemination sessions, which raised their awareness of the need to respect medical facilities and personnel and the importance of granting the ICRC regular and safe access to areas most affected by the armed conflict. The vice-minister of defence, the chiefs of staff and police commanders evaluated specific operations from the perspective of compliance with IHL through two “after-action review” sessions conducted with the ICRC.

Police special forces participating in military operations incorporated humanitarian norms and principles into their core instruction and operational training procedures through an IHL teaching guide completed with the cooperation of the Colombian Red Cross.

Dialogue with all the parties to the conflict facilitated access to conflict-affected areas and bolstered the ICRC’s role of neutral intermediary. Dialogue with representatives of armed groups included sessions on IHL and first aid and reviews of the humanitarian consequences of their actions.

- over 14,600 members of the armed forces and 2,800 members of the national police and its special forces attended dissemination sessions on IHL and the ICRC’s mandate and activities
- members of armed groups learned basic IHL principles

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media published hundreds of articles and broadcast radio interviews and television reports on the humanitarian situation in Colombia thanks to regular briefings, press releases and documentation provided by the ICRC. Some 160 journalists attended workshops on IHL principles. Media coverage of the plight of IDPs increased with the national campaign marking the 10th anniversary of ICRC assistance to IDPs in Colombia.

Following meetings with the ICRC, the national education authorities decided to include IHL and the respect due to medical staff and facilities in the curricula of medical and nursing schools.

Large companies operating in conflict-affected regions were briefed on basic IHL principles, ICRC activities and the humanitarian consequences of the conflict.

Victims and physical rehabilitation service providers stood to benefit from two information leaflets: one on the rights of mine victims to obtain appropriate surgical treatment and physical rehabilitation, produced in cooperation with the National Society, and another on self-care for victims with amputations.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Colombian Red Cross remained a key operational partner for the ICRC, providing assistance to IDPs in six cities – representing 31% of the ICRC’s overall assistance to IDPs in those cities. It also supported the ICRC in running HIV/AIDS capacity-building programmes for local health authorities, conducting mine/ERW-risk education activities and assisting mine/ERW victims.

With support from the ICRC and the Norwegian Red Cross, the Colombian Red Cross developed new methodologies and teaching materials to sensitize target audiences, such as community leaders, local authorities and local health teams, to mine/ERW risks. Health personnel and affected communities became aware, through information leaflets, of the rights of mine victims to receive appropriate surgical treatment and physical rehabilitation.

The Colombian Red Cross defined its response strategy to the psychological and social needs of IDPs on the basis of the results of a study conducted with the Canadian Red Cross and the ICRC.

With ICRC support, the Colombian Red Cross reviewed its security rules in line with the Safer Access approach. Its multi-year cooperation with the ICRC in the field of tracing was fine-tuned on the basis of an assessment of operational opportunities and constraints.

Movement partners working in Colombia significantly improved their coordination.

- 187 mine/ERW-risk education sessions held for children, teachers, local authorities and health personnel
- volunteers in 12 branches enhanced their ability to provide psychological and social support to IDPs



haiti

The ICRC's involvement in Haiti began in 1994, when it started 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 continues its humanitarian endeavours there. It focuses on implementing 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 Red Cross.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	748
Assistance	1,857
Prevention	1,149
Cooperation with National Societies	1,017
General	-

► **4,771**

of which: Overheads 291

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

13	expatriates
43	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- regularly monitored the conditions of detention and treatment of detainees in prisons and police stations throughout the country
- contributed to measures taken by the authorities and international stakeholders to initiate a reform of the penitentiary system and improve the situation in places of detention
- carried out emergency repairs to selected infrastructure and water and sanitation systems in prisons
- received security guarantees from all weapon bearers prior to starting a project with the Haitian National Red Cross Society, scheduled for 2008, whereby wounded and sick people from the violence-prone shantytown of Martissant could be safely evacuated
- completed, together with the local water board, the rehabilitation of water fountains in Cité Soleil to facilitate access to water for some 250,000 beneficiaries
- helped the Haitian Red Cross respond to the emergency needs of thousands of people affected by hurricanes and tropical storms

CONTEXT

The social and economic situation of most Haitians remained dire, prompting many to flee the country in makeshift boats. In 2007, hurricanes Dean and Olga and tropical storm Noel reportedly killed 136 people and destroyed close to 6,000 homes. Food security was affected when the already fragile agricultural sector was disrupted.

Although the level of violence remained high in Haiti, the general security situation in Cité Soleil, one of the most violence-affected neighbourhoods in Port-au-Prince, improved significantly following the arrest of many gang leaders allegedly responsible for violence and instability inside and outside the shantytown. The arrests were carried out during operations conducted in February by the Haitian police, in collaboration with the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), whose mandate was extended to 15 October 2008. The security situation in the capital, however, remained volatile, particularly in other deprived neighbourhoods, such as Carrefour and Martissant. Located in the city's southern outskirts on hilly terrain with difficult access, these shantytowns remained in the grip of armed gangs. Few of their residents had access to health care or water and some were killed as they tried to cross gang-controlled areas to reach health facilities or to fetch food and water.

The government of President René Préval focused on achieving political stability and institutional normalization. It also adopted a five-year plan on prison reform. The recommendations of a committee mandated to address the issue of prolonged detention without trial led to the release of a limited number of detainees whose preventive detention had gone beyond the time they would have served for their alleged crime.

A vetting process to weed out corrupt or violent elements within the ranks of the national police was under way. The number of police officers on the streets rose significantly as the pace of training increased, and special motorized brigades were created, contributing to lowering crime rates. Although the number of kidnappings was still high (227 cases reported in 2007), it was half the annual figure recorded in the previous two years.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total				Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM					
Detainees visited	6,570	Economic security, water and habitat					
Detainees visited and monitored individually	421	Water, sanitation and habitat projects					
	of whom females	1	Beneficiaries	253,586	59%	39%	
	of whom minors	22	WOUNDED AND SICK				
Number of visits carried out	61	Physical rehabilitation					
Number of places of detention visited	20	Patients receiving services					
		Patients	4,021	1,732	1,060		
		Prostheses delivered	Units	21	6	1	
		Orthoses delivered	Units	88	22	48	

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to monitor conditions of detention in civilian prisons and police stations throughout the country and maintained a confidential dialogue on its findings and recommendations with the authorities at all levels. The delegation completed a comprehensive campaign to combat the most frequent skin diseases in the main prison of Port-au-Prince and continued to carry out ad hoc repairs to water and sanitation infrastructure to improve hygiene in the country's prisons. By raising awareness of detention conditions among the authorities, UN agencies and members of the international community, the ICRC contributed to the development by the government of a strategic plan to overhaul the penitentiary system.

Taking advantage of its role as a neutral and independent intermediary, the ICRC continued to focus on assisting victims of armed violence in urban settings by helping the local branch of the Haitian National Red Cross Society evacuate wounded and sick people from Cité Soleil. With the National Society, it laid the groundwork for carrying out similar activities in Martissant, obtaining support and security guarantees from the police and gang leaders, conducting community outreach sessions to explain the project to residents, and recruiting and training Red Cross volunteers. The ICRC also placed more emphasis on monitoring the use of force by members of the Haitian police and MINUSTAH and briefing them on IHL, international human rights law, the ICRC's mandate and the Fundamental Principles.

A water and sanitation project initiated in 2005 mitigated to some extent the increasing marginalization of Cité Soleil's residents as communal water fountains were rehabilitated and pumping stations repaired. Apart from carrying out repairs, the ICRC accompanied the city water board to Cité Soleil and was instrumental in persuading it to improve its services to the shantytown. The ICRC also helped a committee of residents improve its management of communal water fountains. A sanitation programme in support of the local rubbish collection service had to be cancelled owing to internal problems within the service.

The ICRC continued to strengthen the Haitian Red Cross's capacity to respond to emergencies, including natural disasters. Through training, material, technical and financial support, particularly to Red Cross branches, the ICRC increased the National Society's ability to support the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with those of Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in areas of common interest in order to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

During operations conducted by the national police and MINUSTAH at the beginning of the year in Cité Soleil, civilians benefited from an ongoing dialogue between the ICRC and all weapon bearers, including armed gangs. In some instances, the ICRC negotiated a truce to facilitate the evacuation of wounded and sick people (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

The general situation of Cité Soleil residents improved significantly, owing not only to the arrest of gang leaders but also to the presence of the ICRC, Haitian Red Cross volunteers trained in first aid (see *Wounded and sick*) and a medical facility run by Médecins Sans Frontières-Belgium (MSF-Belgium). Other humanitarian organizations, taking advantage of improved security as of April 2007, also started establishing programmes there. To avoid duplicating efforts, the ICRC coordinated closely with them.

Although many other deprived neighbourhoods in the capital were also affected by urban violence, government services and humanitarian and development organizations were generally able to access them. In Martissant, however, fighting between rival gangs for control of the shantytown severely limited access by government services, with adverse consequences for civilians, particularly regarding their access to health care and water. The ICRC, therefore, took advantage of its role of neutral and independent intermediary to lay the groundwork, together with the Haitian Red Cross, for activities in Martissant similar to the ones implemented in Cité Soleil (see *Wounded and sick*).

Improving water supply and sanitation

Residents of Cité Soleil enjoyed an increased supply of drinking water as the ICRC contributed to the repair of equipment and assisted the city water board in operating two pumping stations, the second of which started functioning in August after the ICRC rehabilitated it.

In order to get closer to the goal of supplying Cité Soleil residents with 20 litres of water per person per day, the city water board and the local water management committee were assisted in maintaining and repairing the water distribution system. Of 53 communal water fountains that had become operational by the end of 2006, 37 underwent further refurbishments in 2007, including works to protect their immediate environment. A water tower, which was damaged in February during clashes between MINUSTAH and armed groups, was partially repaired and resumed functioning.

The city water board and the ICRC helped the Cité Soleil water management committee improve its management and organizational structure. The ICRC also rehabilitated the committee's office.

In the first half of the year, the local waste collection service received ICRC assistance in repairing the first 9 rubbish skips out of a total of 20 that were to be repaired or constructed by the end of the year. However, the project had to be cancelled owing to internal problems within the service, prompting the ICRC to shift its strategy to persuading the relevant authorities to take responsibility for Cité Soleil's waste management.

- ▶ 250,000 people benefited from water and sanitation projects

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

By the end of the year, there were almost 6,500 detainees in the country's 17 prisons and 3 police stations serving as permanent places of detention, 84% of whom were awaiting trial. The average occupancy rate was between 400% and 600%.

In the second half of the year, prompted in part by the ICRC's work to raise awareness of the situation in Haiti's places of detention, the government, MINUSTAH, UN agencies and members of the international community showed an unprecedented willingness to tackle the necessary reform of the penitentiary system, including the construction of additional penitentiary space. In meetings with government representatives, the prison administration, UN representatives and potential donors, the ICRC contributed to the mobilization of resources and to the establishment of a strategic development plan for 2007–12. The plan envisaged an overhaul of the entire penitentiary system, the refurbishment of 10 prisons and the construction of another 13. In order to provide the penitentiary authorities and various stakeholders with clear recommendations, the ICRC started an assessment of prison infrastructure in all of the country's permanent places of detention.

Regular visits by ICRC delegates, including health and water and sanitation specialists, led to some improvements in detention conditions and ensured that better nutrition contributed to stemming an outbreak of beriberi, a potentially fatal illness brought on by vitamin B1 deficiency.

Health and hygiene in places of detention remained top priorities. At eight round-tables organized for the first time with representatives of the Ministries of Justice and Health in Port-au-Prince and Cap Haïtien, the ICRC discussed ways of improving health in prisons and reducing mortality rates. As a result of the meetings in Cap Haïtien, detainees in that city received bi-monthly visits from a doctor.

From March to September, all 3,156 inmates of the main prison of Port-au-Prince were treated for scabies, mycosis, other skin conditions and intestinal worms. Detainees saw an improvement in the quantity and quality of food they received after the food storage facilities in Port-au-Prince's main prison and the kitchen and food storage facilities in the Cap Haïtien prison were refurbished. Inmates also faced fewer health risks following improvements to the water distribution systems of the prisons in Port-au-Prince, Anse-à-Veau, Cap Haïtien and Petit Goâve and following emergency repairs to prison infrastructure.

- ▶ 6,570 detainees visited, of whom 421 monitored individually (including 1 female and 22 minors) and 408 newly registered (including 1 female and 22 minors), during 61 visits to 20 places of detention
- ▶ 3,586 detainees benefited from ongoing water and sanitation projects

- ▶ 30 nurses working in prisons attended refresher courses on prison health care
- ▶ prison guards in Saint Marc and in Port-au-Prince's main prison learned about the mandate and activities of the ICRC and its standard working procedures and were briefed on internationally recognized detention standards

WOUNDED AND SICK

Wounded and sick people in Cité Soleil continued to benefit from better access to health care thanks to the services provided by the Haitian Red Cross branch in the shantytown, with the support of the ICRC. As before, they were evacuated in local taxis fitted out as ambulances and marked with the red cross emblem and were taken to a medical facility inside Cité Soleil or to hospitals outside the shantytown. With the improvement of the security situation, the number of wounded and sick people evacuated dropped significantly, with a total of 284 for the year. In addition, some 600 people were treated for minor injuries in two first-aid posts run by some 30 Haitian Red Cross volunteers trained in first aid.

Health services in Martissant had improved thanks to a health centre and mobile clinics run by MSF-Belgium since the end of 2006. It remained dangerous, however, for residents to cross borderlines between neighbourhoods to reach health services. In response to this situation, and in coordination with the health authorities and MSF, the Haitian Red Cross and the ICRC started setting up a project to improve first-aid and medical evacuation services in the shantytown. Preparatory work included choosing appropriate locations for first-aid posts, pinpointing the areas to be covered by the medical evacuation services, initiating the recruitment and training of volunteers, informing the population about the project (see *Civil society*) and obtaining the necessary security guarantees to begin implementation (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

The Healing Hands for Haiti International Foundation received polypropylene materials to produce prosthetic/orthotic components for patients; five of its technicians were trained for two months in the appropriate use of the polypropylene technology developed by the ICRC.

- ▶ 4,021 patients (including 1,732 women and 1,060 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- ▶ 45 new patients (including 18 women and 3 children) fitted with prostheses and 95 (including 21 women and 57 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 21 prostheses (including 6 for women, 1 for a child and 1 for a mine victim), 88 orthoses (including 22 for women, 48 for children and 11 for mine victims), 64 crutches and 35 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The Haitian authorities were encouraged to ratify Additional Protocol III, which they had signed in December 2006, and to prepare a draft law on emblem protection. Additional Protocols I and II entered into force in June 2007.

The Haitian authorities and relevant international stakeholders responded to the ICRC's efforts to publicize the need to reform the

penitentiary system by convening high-level meetings resulting in the establishment of a 2007–12 strategic development plan for the penitentiary authorities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

MINUSTAH and the Haitian police gained a better understanding of basic humanitarian principles and the role and mandate of the National Society and the ICRC through a regular dialogue with staff officers in Port-au-Prince and the provinces, resulting in higher levels of cooperation during medical evacuations from Cité Soleil and immediate commitments to support an ICRC/Haitian Red Cross project in Martissant.

During law enforcement operations conducted in Cité Soleil early in the year, members of the national police and MINUSTAH troops on the ground were in regular contact with the ICRC, which discussed with them the importance of allowing wounded people to be evacuated, the need to respect the population, and the principle of proportionality in the use of force. These contacts, and those with gang leaders, made several medical evacuations by the Haitian Red Cross possible.

Following information meetings to explain the ICRC/Haitian Red Cross medical evacuation/first-aid project, gang leaders in Martissant provided full security guarantees in support of the project.

- 633 police trainees, and police officers based in Martissant, briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities and on basic humanitarian norms relevant to policing
- 21 cadres from special police units took part in training in IHL, international human rights law and the use of force in situations of internal violence
- MINUSTAH battalions, including those based in Cité Soleil and Martissant, briefed on the ICRC's mandate and the Fundamental Principles, as were troops from 8 countries prior to their deployment with MINUSTAH

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media, radio stations in particular, carried messages in Creole urging the population and armed gangs to respect medical facilities and the red cross emblem, proving especially useful when Cité Soleil was gripped by violence. Leaders and representatives from Martissant expressed their support for the ICRC/Haitian Red Cross medical evacuation and first-aid project during information sessions held by the ICRC and the National Society at the end of the year (see *Wounded and sick*).

The Haitian public learned more about the plight of Cité Soleil residents and the Red Cross role in alleviating it through an ICRC documentary aired on national television. Journalists attracted international attention to the plight of Cité Soleil residents in particular, following a visit to the shantytown facilitated by the ICRC. Media representatives attending a seminar organized by the European Union, as well as staff of 40 local human rights organizations attending a train-the-trainer course run by MINUSTAH, learned more about IHL, basic humanitarian principles, and the ICRC's mandate and activities in Haiti through the participation of the ICRC in both events.

From mid-March, law students at Quisqueya University followed a compulsory IHL course taught by a law lecturer who had participated in an IHL course organized in 2006 in Sion, Switzerland. In April, some 250 students from other universities attended a one-day IHL workshop held at the State University in Port-au-Prince.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Haitian Red Cross remained a key operational partner of the ICRC. The National Society received ICRC training, material, technical and financial support, particularly the Western Metropolitan Regional Branch, responsible for carrying out first-aid activities and medical evacuations from Cité Soleil and for establishing, through community liaison, a similar project in Martissant.

- volunteers working in Cité Soleil upgraded their first-aid techniques, and some 30 radio operators countrywide enhanced their radio-operating skills
- volunteers trained in community liaison carried out dissemination sessions in Martissant
- regional and local branches received some 200 first-aid kits
- regional branches received office materials/equipment and dissemination materials on the Fundamental Principles and the history of the Movement
- the branch office in Port-de-Paix was refurbished

Members of local and regional committees produced a guide to help Red Cross volunteers develop income-generating community projects in the provinces.

The Haitian Red Cross, with support from the ICRC, the International Federation and other Movement partners, assisted tens of thousands of people affected by hurricanes and tropical storms, evacuating people before the storms hit, administering first aid, taking wounded and sick people to hospital and distributing household essentials to vulnerable families and individuals.

At a meeting to discuss the implementation of the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, Movement partners agreed that the ICRC would keep its lead role in Haiti in relation to security matters.



buenos aires (regional)

The ICRC regional delegation in Buenos Aires, established in 1975, visits security detainees in Chile and Paraguay and monitors the situation in selected prisons in Brazil. It focuses on promoting the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, into the doctrine, manuals and training programmes of the armed forces and into the curricula of academic institutions. Similarly, it works with police forces on the integration of human rights law applicable to the use of force in situations of violence. The ICRC promotes awareness of IHL and humanitarian principles among the authorities, the media and the general public. It also reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies to respond to situations of internal strife and social unrest.

COVERING

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	616
Assistance	38
Prevention	1,766
Cooperation with National Societies	615
General	-

► **3,036**

of which: Overheads 185

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
23	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- assisted Brazilian Red Cross branches working in violence-prone neighbourhoods of Rio de Janeiro
- visited security detainees in Chile and Paraguay
- submitted to the Paraguayan authorities a comprehensive survey on health care in prisons
- launched programmes in Paraguay and extended programmes in Brazil promoting IHL and relevant humanitarian norms among the armed and police forces
- organized with the Argentinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs a regional meeting of experts on forensic medicine to define standardized protocols for the identification of human remains in emergency situations
- supported the Chilean authorities in the establishment of an ante- and post-mortem database to facilitate the identification of human remains

CONTEXT

Social and economic disparities remained a major destabilizing factor in the region. Land distribution issues and indigenous grievances prompted recurrent bouts of violence in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay. Inadequate living conditions in many of the region's prisons also contributed to episodes of violence, feeding a vicious circle in which increased violence led to more arrests which in turn led to further overcrowding.

In Brazil, urban violence, especially in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, continued to take its toll. In deprived neighbourhoods, clashes between law enforcement agents and armed gangs, or among armed gangs, often had serious humanitarian consequences for the resident population, owing to the use of heavy weaponry. One notable example was the standoff between police forces and armed gangs in May and June in the Complexo do Alemão, a *favela* (shantytown) of some 200,000 inhabitants in Rio de Janeiro. Over a period of almost 60 days, some 1,300 police officers battled armed gangs, leaving 50 people dead and scores injured. In another Rio *favela*, Correa, clashes between rival gangs forced the displacement of some 240 people, mostly women, children and the elderly. The Brazilian government, increasingly concerned by the magnitude of the problem, launched a training programme to improve the efficiency of its security forces, while also trying to tackle the socio-economic roots of the problem.

Governments in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay took a fresh look at past events, in particular the forced disappearance of thousands of people in the years of military dictatorship. Most of them passed legislation paving the way for the prosecution of the perpetrators, investigation of the fate of missing persons and some form of compensation for their relatives.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	44
Detainees visited and monitored individually	44
of whom females	7
Number of visits carried out	23
Number of places of detention visited	11

1. Chile and Paraguay

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to address the humanitarian consequences of past conflict, especially in connection with forced disappearances in Argentina and Chile, and of other situations of violence, namely in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay. It focused its activities in these countries on landless farmers (Brazil and Paraguay), indigenous groups (Brazil and Chile) and residents of marginalized urban slums (Brazil).

To address the humanitarian consequences of Brazil's urban violence, the ICRC took a number of tangible steps. On the basis of cooperation agreements concluded with them, it worked with the police forces of several Brazilian states to advance the integration of applicable human rights norms into their manuals, training programmes and operating procedures. It also drew the attention of both the police and the armed forces to the rules applicable to the use of force in the maintenance of law and order, reviewed with them specific events from the point of view of IHL and international human rights law and maintained an ongoing dialogue with both forces. It extended the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme to 26 schools located in areas of Rio de Janeiro's *favelas* where the Brazilian Red Cross was conducting activities. In addition, it started to reinforce the operational capacity of the Rio de Janeiro Red Cross branch working in troubled neighbourhoods, in particular in the fields of first aid and the Safer Access approach, and to explore, together with the National Society, ways in which the Rio de Janeiro branch could improve basic services to residents living there.

ICRC delegates continued to visit security detainees in Paraguay and Mapuche Indians in Chile sentenced under Chile's anti-terrorist laws for acts of protest against the exploitation by multinational companies of natural resources located on ancestral lands. The ICRC submitted to the Paraguayan penitentiary authorities an assessment of health care in the country's prisons and discussed with them how best to implement the report's recommendations. Initial steps were also taken towards conducting a limited assessment of conditions in selected Brazilian prisons in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo.

As in past years, the ICRC promoted the national implementation of IHL throughout the region, with emphasis on the incorporation of the repression of war crimes into domestic legislation in Brazil and Paraguay and the ratification of the Rome Statute by Chile. It also worked with the region's armed forces to advance the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operating procedures and began implementing a cooperation programme with the police in Paraguay on the basis of an agreement signed in 2006. It briefed Brazilian contingents prior to their deployment on peacekeeping missions, particularly to Haiti.

The ICRC helped strengthen the capacities of National Societies in the region, notably in Chile and Brazil, to respond more effectively to emergencies arising from situations of internal violence.

CIVILIANS

People in need of protection, including landless farmers in Brazil and Paraguay and indigenous communities in Brazil and Chile, were monitored by the ICRC. On this basis, the ICRC made representations to the relevant authorities of alleged violations of international human rights law, and law enforcement agents were reminded of the rules applicable to the use of force in the maintenance of law and order. In Brazil and Paraguay, these actions were reinforced by the programmes conducted with the security and police forces (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

The ICRC alerted the authorities concerned to the humanitarian consequences of the urban violence, particularly in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. It increased its support to the Brazilian Red Cross, in particular to its branch in Rio de Janeiro, reinforcing its capacity to operate in troubled urban contexts (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

In July, some 100 residents of a Rio de Janeiro shantytown who had fled armed violence received emergency assistance. Also in July, some 500 displaced members of an indigenous community in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul received emergency assistance in a joint operation by the Brazilian Red Cross and the ICRC.

In November, an ICRC surgeon visited three hospitals caring for people injured during armed confrontations between security forces and alleged criminals in Rio de Janeiro's Complexo de Alemão to assess their capacities to treat victims of trauma and to determine the extent of the medical and social consequences of the urban violence. It was found that, although hospital staff had the technical capacities to deal with trauma cases, access to medical facilities, located as they were outside the *favelas*, was difficult for the affected populations. Moreover, the wounded were reluctant to seek help because of the double stigma associated with the nature of their injuries and their place of residence. Taking advantage of its role as a neutral and independent humanitarian intermediary, the ICRC, together with the National Society, started to explore ways of developing first-aid services with community leaders in some of Rio de Janeiro's shanty towns.

Restoring family links and clarifying the fate of missing persons

To help people locate family members with whom they had lost contact, the delegation pursued tracing efforts in conjunction with other ICRC delegations and National Societies in the region and elsewhere.

In May, forensic experts from 11 Latin American countries gathered in Buenos Aires to discuss the identification of human remains in connection with armed conflicts, situations of internal violence and natural disasters at a conference on forensic medicine co-organized by the Argentinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC. The meeting, the first of its kind on the continent, enabled Latin American forensic institutes to strengthen their cooperation and coordination, to establish common criteria and methodologies for the identification of human remains, and to pave the way for the establishment of a regional network on forensic medicine.

Following an official request by the Chilean forensic institute for support in forensic data management to facilitate the identification of human remains, nine Chilean forensic experts underwent training in the use of software developed by the ICRC for the management of ante- and post-mortem data.

- ▶ 2 RCMs collected from and 3 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ 2 telephone calls made to restore family links

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC visited detainees in Chile and Paraguay on the basis of agreements with the respective prison authorities. A similar draft agreement was submitted to the Argentinian authorities for approval. Discussions with the Brazilian authorities in the states of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro centred on an ICRC proposal to carry out a survey of detention conditions in selected prisons.

Detainees in Chile were mainly from the indigenous Mapuche community; they had been sentenced under Chile's anti-terrorist laws for acts of protest against the exploitation by multinationals of natural resources located on ancestral land. In the second half of the year, some went on a hunger strike, five of them for more than 70 days, to protest against their detention conditions and to seek a revision of their trial, citing alleged irregularities. Their plight was discussed with the relevant authorities and their health closely monitored by an ICRC doctor.

In Paraguay, following the submission in June to the Ministries of Justice and Health of the report of a survey on health care in prisons, the authorities decided to draw up, with ICRC support, a plan of action to improve detention conditions.

To address the serious problems affecting penitentiary health care throughout the region, close to 70 prison health care professionals from 9 Latin American countries gathered in November in Chile at a seminar organized with ICRC support. They discussed the latest developments in controlling the spread of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in penitentiary environments, exchanged best practices regarding the management of mental health, addictions and violence, and identified the mechanisms to be put in place to integrate penitentiary health into a country's mainstream public health policy. Also in Chile, 35 penitentiary health care professionals participated in a workshop on tuberculosis in June.

- ▶ in Chile, 22 security detainees visited and monitored individually (including 3 females), of whom 18 newly registered (including 2 females), during 17 visits to 8 places of detention
- ▶ in Paraguay, 22 security detainees visited and monitored individually (including 4 females) during 6 visits to 3 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

After Argentina and Uruguay passed laws implementing the Rome Statute in 2006, efforts to implement the Statute focused on Brazil and Paraguay, where the ICRC assisted in the drafting of laws to be submitted to parliament. In Argentina, legal experts reviewed the military justice code with the participation of the ICRC.

Throughout the region, national IHL committees benefited from the ICRC's advice in carrying out their tasks.

Contacts with MERCOSUR, a mechanism for the economic and political integration of Southern Cone countries, were reinforced with a view to signing a memorandum of understanding aimed at fostering greater cooperation on issues of mutual interest.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces and IHL

In Brazil, chiefs of staff of the infantry were familiarized with IHL, and the Ministry of Defence issued a directive calling for IHL integration. A Canadian military manual, which was to serve as a model for the drafting of a Brazilian equivalent, was translated into Portuguese. The rules applicable to the use of force during law enforcement operations conducted by armed forces in urban settings were the subject of regular discussions with the military authorities.

In Chile, the working group in charge of IHL integration made good progress, meeting on three occasions with the ICRC's participation. The Argentinian Ministry of Defence drafted a new manual, to which the ICRC contributed comments.

The integration of IHL into the doctrine, training and operating procedures of the Paraguayan armed forces picked up pace, with students and lecturers from a school for staff officers attending two training courses on the subject.

Officers of the Brazilian armed forces and Argentinian, Brazilian and Paraguayan troops joining UN peacekeeping missions participated in training courses in which the ICRC took part as an observer.

Human rights norms relevant to policing

Given the escalating violence in Brazilian cities and the social protests linked to land distribution and indigenous issues, ensuring respect for the rules applicable to the use of force during law enforcement operations remained paramount throughout the region. In Brazil's federal political system, each state has its own police force with its own policies, manuals and procedures. On the basis of seven cooperation agreements concluded with the ICRC, police forces of Brazilian states received the support of consultants hired by the ICRC to integrate the relevant human rights norms into their manuals, procedures and training. By the end of 2007, the police forces of four Brazilian states had achieved their objectives. The cooperation agreement concluded with the police force of the state of Rio de Janeiro was extended. In view of the tense security situation there, the police force continued receiving support from a consultant, this time to facilitate the operational implementation of the revised rules and training. A national police unit recently created to assist the state police in dealing with situations of internal violence held discussions with the ICRC on the integration of relevant human rights norms.

In Paraguay, senior police officers attended a first workshop on the integration of relevant human rights norms into their training programmes and, to this end, completed a revision of their training manuals and doctrine.

CIVIL SOCIETY

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Malvinas/Falklands conflict, the humanitarian operations undertaken at the time by the ICRC, such as visiting prisoners of war and facilitating prisoner releases, were recalled in published interviews with ICRC delegates who had participated in the process. The occasion served as an opportunity to inform the public and members of civil society of the ICRC's vital work in time of war. National and regional media regularly received information on ICRC activities and humanitarian issues. Journalists in the region reported more accurately on humanitarian issues in ICRC operational contexts in Latin America and elsewhere.

In Brazil, the pilot-testing of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in 8 secondary schools located in violence-prone neighbourhoods of Rio de Janeiro was extended to 26 schools following a positive evaluation of its impact. The programme was also being taught in Chile and Uruguay. Some 300 university lecturers from across the region continued to enhance their knowledge of IHL through the receipt of updated material on the subject.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Society staff in Argentina applied the Safer Access approach in responding to the humanitarian consequences of internal violence. Brazilian Red Cross staff working in violence-prone neighbourhoods of Rio de Janeiro were trained in first-aid techniques and the Safer Access approach by an ICRC delegate based at the headquarters of the Brazilian Red Cross. The Chilean Red Cross improved its assistance to the indigenous Mapuche population through training in first aid and primary health care.

National Societies in the region continued to revise their statutes and develop their plans of action with support from the ICRC and the International Federation.



caracas (regional)

The Caracas regional delegation was first established in 1971. Throughout the region, it focuses on promoting the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, into the operational procedures, manuals and training programmes of the armed forces and into the curricula of academic institutions, as well as the inclusion of human rights standards in police manuals and training programmes. It also reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies, particularly in the fields of IHL promotion and restoring family links.

COVERING

Suriname, Venezuela 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 KCHF)

Protection	184
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,421
Cooperation with National Societies	202
General	-

► **1,807**

of which: Overheads 110

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
10	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- was able to visit people deprived of their freedom in all relevant places of detention in Grenada and Venezuela
- continued to promote IHL/human rights law among the armed/police forces in several Caribbean States and in Venezuela, in spite of difficulties linked to repeated staff turnover in Venezuelan government ministries
- signed a Cooperation and Consultation Arrangement with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat to help member States promote, ratify and implement major IHL instruments
- cooperated with the Venezuelan Red Cross, particularly with branches working in areas bordering Colombia, emphasizing the Safer Access approach
- laid the groundwork for a joint operation conducted by ICRC delegations in Colombia and Venezuela, which eventually led to the release of two "high-profile" female hostages held in Colombia by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)

CONTEXT

Having won the December 2006 presidential elections, Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez embarked on socialist reforms and a revision of the constitution, along with a major reshuffle within all ministries. In January, parliament passed an "enabling law" allowing the president to rule by decree for 18 months. The government's decision in May not to renew the broadcasting licence of Venezuela's oldest private television station and sole opposition-led channel, Radio Caracas Televisión (RCTV), sparked week-long protests in the streets of Caracas and drew condemnation from members of the international community.

University students, who played a prominent role in the demonstrations against the shutting down of RCTV, were again instrumental in the defeat in December of a referendum on a constitutional reform package. The proposed reforms would have, among other measures, abolished limits on the terms a president can serve and allowed the president to declare an unlimited state of emergency and to control Venezuela's foreign currency reserves. The rejection of the constitutional changes was the first major defeat President Chávez had suffered since he came to power in 1999.

President Chávez played a decisive role in the release of "high-profile" hostages held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). He had already been mediating with FARC for several months before his mandate was withdrawn by the Colombian authorities in November, sparking fresh tensions between the two countries.

Thousands of Colombians continued to cross into Venezuela to flee the armed conflict in their home country. The security situation in the regions bordering Colombia remained tense owing to the spillover of the Colombian conflict.

Spiralling levels of violent crime, which had prompted the government to appoint a special commission for police reform, persisted. The special commission was dissolved after it had presented its findings to the government. Progress on the introduction of a bill on police reform was slow, as responsibility for the drafting shifted between the legislative and executive powers. A final version of the bill had yet to be adopted by the government.

In the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), national parliamentary elections took place in several countries. Violent crime linked to illicit drug and arms trafficking remained major challenges for governments in the region.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited	74
Detainees visited and monitored individually	74
Number of visits carried out	12
Number of places of detention visited	6
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	38

1. Grenada and Venezuela

In June, four people, three of them Guyanan nationals and the fourth from Trinidad and Tobago, were arrested for allegedly planning a “terrorist” attack on the John F. Kennedy airport in New York. Three of them were detained in Port of Spain, pending extradition to the United States.

Natural disasters, such as hurricanes and earthquakes, affected various CARICOM States, causing infrastructural damage and some loss of life. Organizations dealing with natural disasters were strengthened, with the greater involvement of National Red Cross Societies and increased donor support.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC regional delegation in Caracas focused mainly on promoting IHL among political, military and police authorities and civil society throughout the region, on visiting security detainees and on addressing issues related to the armed conflict in neighbouring Colombia. In Venezuela, activities planned by the ICRC, including the integration of IHL and human rights law into the doctrine, training and operating procedures of the police and the armed forces, were hampered by substantive and repeated staff turnover in government ministries following presidential elections in December 2006. However, constructive meetings were held towards the end of the year with members of the president’s staff, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and high-ranking members of the armed forces, pointing towards a renewed dynamic in ICRC’s working relationship with these institutions.

In the second half of the year, to improve its response to the humanitarian consequences of the Colombian conflict in border regions, the ICRC began supporting Venezuelan Red Cross branches working in those regions and established contacts with local authorities, universities and NGOs in the area.

ICRC delegates continued to visit and monitor the living conditions of people detained for security reasons in Grenada and Venezuela.

In March 2007, the CARICOM Secretariat and the ICRC signed a Cooperation and Consultation Arrangement to enhance the promotion and implementation of humanitarian norms and principles in the region. Lecturers trained previously by the ICRC integrated IHL into courses in Venezuelan and Caribbean universities. In Trinidad and Tobago, the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education and the ICRC consolidated the prospects of integrating the ICRC’s Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary school curricula. The media in the region were kept informed of ICRC activities.

The ICRC continued to work with the International Federation to strengthen the capacities of the region’s National Societies. It supported several programmes of the Venezuelan Red Cross and organized two CARICOM regional workshops for senior National Society staff.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

ICRC delegates continued to have unhindered access to detainees in Grenada and Venezuela.

Towards the end of the year, 27 Colombian detainees held in Venezuela, and monitored by the ICRC since 2004, were released. High staff turnover in relevant ministries in Venezuela continued to impede progress on negotiations to secure a formal agreement on visits to people deprived of their freedom.

- in Venezuela, 64 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 1 female), of whom 6 newly registered (including 1 female), during 11 visits to 5 places of detention
- in Grenada, 10 detainees visited and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention

AUTHORITIES

The Venezuelan authorities were encouraged to ratify international instruments, such as Protocols IV and V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its amended Article 1 and the two Protocols to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, and to enact implementing legislation. The attorney general, the general prosecutor and members of parliament were offered support in working towards the inclusion of the repression of war crimes in domestic legislation. The Venezuelan authorities, meanwhile, came up with an initiative to approve a special law on international crimes as a way of implementing the Rome Statute. The Ministry of Defence was finalizing a draft law on emblem protection before presenting it to parliament. Government officials participated in a workshop on the CCW and the issue of cluster munitions.

In the CARICOM region, Belize ratified and Jamaica signed Additional Protocol III. Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago progressed towards the enacting of legislation on the 1949 Geneva Conventions. In Suriname, the Ministry of Justice and Police was examining a draft revision of the criminal justice code.

In order to support CARICOM member States in the promotion, ratification and implementation of major IHL instruments, the

CARICOM Secretariat and the ICRC signed, on 1 March 2007, a Cooperation and Consultation Arrangement, which created mechanisms for greater cooperation between the ICRC and the CARICOM sub-committees on legal affairs, national security and foreign affairs.

- representatives of CARICOM States, the CARICOM Secretariat and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States attended the Regional Meeting on National Implementation of IHL in the Americas organized by the ICRC in Mexico City, Mexico, in August (see *Mexico City regional*)

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

A workshop organized by the ICRC and the human rights/IHL department of the Venezuelan armed forces examined the extent to which IHL still needed to be integrated into military doctrine, training and operations. The participating army officers agreed to recommend to their hierarchy the holding of a train-the-trainer course for IHL instructors, which would include a review of existing instruction and training curricula. They also committed to organize a second workshop focusing on the further integration of IHL into military doctrine. In November, Ministry of Defence officials indicated their willingness to step up IHL integration.

In Venezuela, efforts to incorporate relevant international human rights norms into all new police legislation were hampered by sweeping changes within the Ministry of Interior and Justice following the presidential elections in December 2006. However, at the end of the year, discussions with officials in charge of drawing up the curriculum for the new national police force pointed the way to the organization of workshops to further integrate international human rights law into police manuals, training and procedures.

Meetings with the chiefs of defence and government officials of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago led to the organization in September, in Trinidad and Tobago, of a one-day follow-up workshop for G-3 staff officers of the CARICOM region on the integration of IHL into the training and operations of the armed forces.

At a conference of the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police, participants were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities and on human rights norms related to policing in a regional context. In a workshop organized in October in Trinidad and Tobago, assistant police commissioners in charge of training improved their knowledge of applicable human rights norms.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media in Venezuela and the CARICOM States covered humanitarian issues and ICRC activities thanks to: several media workshops; dissemination events targeting the media; and reinforced contacts with a network of journalists and radio and television professionals previously trained in IHL. During international efforts to secure the release of "high-profile" hostages held in Colombia, contacts with the Venezuelan media were intensified to foster a greater understanding of the ICRC's role.

To help address the humanitarian consequences of the Colombian conflict in border regions, a network of contacts was established with local NGOs, the media and academic circles in the troubled area.

Lecturers and students from academic establishments in Venezuela and Suriname, including lecturers attached to the Venezuelan Ministry of Defence and the Attorney General's Office, learned about the ICRC and IHL through workshops and briefings. Law faculties in the Bahamas and Jamaica were contacted by the delegation to promote the inclusion of IHL in their curricula.

The signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education of Trinidad and Tobago and the ICRC paved the way for the launching of an Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools. Teachers and technical staff were introduced to the programme in an initial training workshop held in July.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Venezuelan Red Cross was completing the revision of its statutes with support from the ICRC and the International Federation. Three Red Cross branches working in the regions bordering Colombia benefited from workshops on the Safer Access approach to facilitate their access to communities and individuals affected by the spillover of the Colombian conflict.

In March, staff and volunteers of the National Societies of Jamaica and Saint Lucia attended two workshops on the Safer Access approach. In April and May, senior staff of the Venezuelan Red Cross and 11 National Societies in the CARICOM region received training on the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures.



lima (regional)

The delegation in Lima opened in 1984, becoming a regional delegation in 2003. It visits detainees, endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons and assists people affected by the lingering consequences of past conflict in Peru. It reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies to respond to situations of internal strife, and works with police forces to integrate into their doctrine, operational procedures, manuals and training programmes human rights norms applicable to the use of force during social unrest. The ICRC promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into academic curricula, works to promote the dissemination of humanitarian principles in secondary schools and supports the IHL integration efforts of the region's armed forces.

COVERING

Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,064
Assistance	363
Prevention	1,453
Cooperation with National Societies	637
General	-

► **3,518**

of which: Overheads 215

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82%
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PERSONNEL

6	expatriates
33	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited more than 700 people detained in connection with past conflict in Peru
- provided structural support and advice to the Peruvian penitentiary authorities to improve their response to detainees' needs
- officially presented the Bolivian penitentiary authorities with the results of a survey on the country's penitentiary system and detention conditions
- worked with the Peruvian authorities, organizations concerned and associations of families of missing persons to help clarify the fate of some 13,000 people officially unaccounted for in connection with 20 years of armed conflict
- established a cooperation framework with the Bolivian and Ecuadorian National Societies to strengthen their emergency response capacities, particularly in situations of internal violence
- signed a cooperation agreement with the Bolivian authorities and the police with a view to integrating relevant human rights norms into the training and operations of the national police force

CONTEXT

In Bolivia, tensions remained high between farmers/indigenous people living in the highlands, who were strong supporters of President Evo Morales, and residents of the wealthier lowland departments of Santa Cruz, Tarija, Beni and Pando, who were opposed to his policies. Public demonstrations throughout the year culminated in violent clashes in Sucre in November between the police and demonstrators seeking to reinstate the city as the seat of government and parliament. Three people were reportedly killed in the violence, some 400 were injured and scores were arrested. The body in charge of drafting a new constitution finished its work without the contributions of members of the opposition, who had boycotted the process, further fuelling tensions. When the central government announced in December that tax revenues from the country's hydrocarbons would no longer be controlled by the regions, the four lowland departments threatened to declare autonomy, prompting the government to place the army on high alert.

In Ecuador, tensions persisted in oil-producing regions, with the population protesting against the perceived unfair distribution of oil revenues. Relations with neighbouring Colombia remained strained. President Rafael Correa attributed the continued influx of refugees into Ecuador to the policies of the Colombian government and voiced objections to the fumigation of land close to the Ecuadorian border under "Plan Colombia".

In Peru, thousands of people took to the streets in June and July to demand a more equitable redistribution of the country's wealth. According to reports, four people died during the protests, dozens were injured and some 300 were arrested. In the regions of Alto Huallaga, Ayacucho, Huancavelica and the Ene-Apurimac river basin, clashes between alleged members of the Shining Path and law enforcement officials reportedly resulted in the deaths of some 15 people and scores of arrests. There were also increasing reports of people caught between alleged threats by members of the Shining Path and fear of arrest by law enforcement agencies. In December, the trial began of former president Alberto Fujimori on charges of corruption and human rights violations allegedly committed during his presidency.

On 15 August, an earthquake hit the coastal regions of Peru, killing more than 500 people, injuring more than 1,600 and destroying hundreds of homes.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	745
Detainees visited and monitored individually	257
<i>of whom females</i>	45
Number of visits carried out	32
Number of places of detention visited	18
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	6

1. Peru only

ICRC ACTION

The regional delegation monitored the conditions of detention of people held for security reasons in Peru. It also provided expertise and structural support to prison authorities in Bolivia and Peru in their efforts to upgrade general conditions and health services for detainees.

The ICRC increased its presence in regions where a resurgence of activity by alleged members of the Shining Path led to a worsening of the security situation for resident communities.

In Peru, the ICRC continued to work with the authorities, organizations concerned and associations of families of missing persons to help clarify the fate of some 13,000 people officially unaccounted for in connection with 20 years of armed conflict.

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. It developed a joint strategy with the Ecuadorian Red Cross to define priorities for humanitarian action and to ensure that their roles were complementary. It also assessed six Bolivian Red Cross branches in violence-prone areas to determine how best to reinforce their operational capacities.

The ICRC continued to provide the region's armed forces with technical advice in the integration of IHL into their doctrine and training. It also supported the integration of pertinent human rights norms into the manuals and training programmes of the region's police forces, signing a cooperation agreement to this effect with the Bolivian Ministry of Interior.

The teaching of IHL in universities in the region and in secondary schools in Bolivia and Peru continued to expand, particularly in Peru. Journalists attending workshops organized by the ICRC learned about the organization's mandate and activities and the provisions of IHL and international human rights law applicable in armed conflict and other situations of internal violence. The ICRC continued to work with the region's national IHL committees to encourage legislative authorities to integrate IHL instruments in general, and the Rome Statute in particular, into national legislation.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC reinforced its presence in areas of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru affected by social unrest and strengthened its relationship with the Bolivian and Ecuadorian National Societies to be better placed to respond to the needs of victims of internal violence (see also *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

In Peru, in the region of Alto Huallaga, the ICRC maintained close contact with the Public Prosecutor's Office, with NGOs working in the area and with community leaders, in order to stay abreast of events and coordinate activities. Relevant authorities were notified of protection problems, including cases of families not informed of the whereabouts of arrested relatives or of the transfer of arrested people far from their homes. People affected by threats in the region of Alto Huallaga were offered ICRC assistance in reaching safer areas. Following violent demonstrations in Peruvian cities, and on the basis of allegations collected by the ICRC regarding abuses in the use of force, the police authorities were encouraged to take further measures to ensure the appropriate use of force in law enforcement operations.

- in Peru, 1 family affected by threats travelled to a safe area with ICRC assistance and received food and essential household items for one month

In the aftermath of the earthquake in Peru in mid-August, Peruvians living abroad were able to obtain news of their relatives in Peru by accessing specific Peruvian government websites, the addresses of which had been disseminated worldwide by the ICRC.

In Bolivia, the ICRC kept in contact with the police forces to remind them of the need to respect people no longer participating in disturbances and to use appropriate force in law enforcement operations. It supported the National Society in responding to the needs of victims of the unrest. During the November clashes in Sucre, for example, the local branch of the Bolivian Red Cross evacuated some 60 weapon-wounded people and provided first aid to another 40.

In Ecuador, the National Society had pre-positioned material and equipment to be used for first-aid activities and evacuations during potential unrest. The ICRC and the Ecuadorian Red Cross conducted a fact-finding mission in the border area with Colombia. In view of ongoing tensions in the country and the potential needs of people affected by the spillover of the conflict in Colombia, the Ecuadorian Red Cross and the ICRC developed a strategic framework to strengthen the National Society's response to the needs of victims of violence.

Persons missing in connection with past conflict in Peru

Although the Peruvian government made progress in making reparations to family members of missing persons and normalizing their legal status, more needed to be done to determine what had happened to the more than 13,000 people who, according to official figures, were unaccounted for in connection with 20 years of armed conflict in Peru. Organizations working on the issue of missing persons received support from the ICRC, including help in coordinating their activities.

The Public Prosecutor's Office and the Medical Forensic Institute stepped up their investigations and exhumations, uncovering 18 burial sites containing 121 sets of human remains, 63 of which were identified. The Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team, a local NGO, collected 1,066 completed ante-mortem forms in Ayacucho, Huancavelica, Junín and Lima. Organizations working on the identification of human remains received training and technical support in the use of the software developed by the ICRC for the management of ante- and post-mortem data.

Forensic experts from the region honed their knowledge and shared best practices with their counterparts from other Latin American countries by participating in several conferences organized with ICRC support, including:

- a sub-regional meeting of representatives of institutes of forensic medicine from Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru held in Lima in October
- a meeting of forensic experts held in May in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to discuss the identification of human remains in connection with armed conflict, situations of internal violence or natural disaster (see *Buenos Aires regional*)

People in the province of Ayacucho profoundly affected by the disappearance of family members received psychological support at home and in meetings and workshops organized by REDINFA, an NGO dedicated to helping affected children and their families. Forensic teams working in Ayacucho and Lima also learned coping mechanisms during workshops conducted by REDINFA. A Peruvian Health Ministry official and three NGO representatives travelled to Guatemala in February to attend the First International Conference on Psychosocial Work in the Exhumation Process, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth (see *Mexico City regional*), bolstering efforts on the part of members of civil society and the Ministry of Health to provide psychological support to family members.

- 26 people travelling to exhumation sites to help with identification had their travel expenses covered by the ICRC
- 155 people acted as witnesses in ongoing investigations, with ICRC support
- 6 people who received the remains of their relatives had help with transport and the purchase of a coffin
- 3 family associations participating in a national event held in June in Huancavelica for people affected by political violence received office supplies and bus fares

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Peru, several hundred people remained detained under anti-terrorist laws or for alleged acts of "rebellion". Although total numbers decreased as many were released after serving sentences dating back to the 1990s, the number of newly registered detainees rose as new anti-"terrorist" measures were enforced by the authorities. The ICRC continued to visit detainees held for security reasons and to submit confidential reports on its findings, observations and recommendations to the authorities.

Although a family-visits programme was suspended in 2005, transport costs were paid in exceptional cases to enable children or elderly parents living in remote areas to visit detained family members. Among them were two children living abroad as refugees who visited their detained mother for the first time in years.

Detainees affected by the earthquake in mid-August received 400 mattresses and 80 blankets.

- 745 detainees visited, of whom 257 monitored individually (including 45 females) and 45 newly registered (including 6 females), during 32 visits to 18 places of detention
- 10 RCMs collected from and 5 RCMs distributed to detainees and 16 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- 24 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 6 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

The maximum security prison of Challapalca, located in an isolated region 4,600 metres above sea level, was again used as a detention centre as of October 2007. In 2005, the inmates had all been transferred to other prisons following calls for its closure by the international community and human rights groups.

Structural support to the penitentiary authorities

Detainees in Bolivia and Peru benefited from measures undertaken by penitentiary authorities with ICRC support, including:

- measures taken by the Peruvian Ministry of Justice to uphold the right to a fair trial of those accused, following an ICRC study of the system of court-appointed lawyers
- a manual on human rights applicable to detention produced by the Peruvian penitentiary authorities
- consideration by the Bolivian penitentiary authorities of reforms to address a variety of structural problems following the submission of an ICRC survey on detention conditions

Improving health in prisons

Under a multi-year programme to support the Peruvian penitentiary authorities, staff working with the national coordinating body for health care in prisons continued to be trained in drug management and to benefit from ICRC technical expertise in prison health care. In addition, a total of 82 health promoters in 10 detention centres received training.

Bolivia's national body for penitentiary health, which also received technical advice from the ICRC, monitored general sanitary conditions in detention centres and developed new information systems to keep track of detainees' health status. Bolivian health professionals working in prisons who attended the fourth meeting on penitentiary health care, organized jointly by the penitentiary authorities and the ICRC, learned about the newest developments in the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in closed environments, the management of chronic illnesses, and the importance of nutrition and oral hygiene.

Prison health care professionals from Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru attended a seminar on penitentiary health care in Chile in November (see *Buenos Aires regional*).

AUTHORITIES

National IHL committees in the region worked towards the ratification of IHL instruments, such as: Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons on explosive remnants of war (in all three countries) and the Convention's amended Article 1; the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property (in Bolivia and Ecuador); and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

The ICRC encouraged national IHL committees to keep at the forefront of their work the issue of the appropriate use of force and the protection of persons caught up in situations of internal violence.

- ▶ parliaments in Bolivia and Peru examined draft laws on the inclusion of the repression of war crimes in national legislation, in line with the Rome Statute
- ▶ Bolivia and Ecuador signed the newly adopted International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
- ▶ the Ecuadorian parliament adopted in June a law on the protection of the emblem
- ▶ for the third year in a row, Peru promoted a resolution on the issue of missing persons and the assistance owed to their families at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During workshops conducted by the armed forces in all three countries, participants designed projects aimed at integrating IHL into military decision-making processes. These were submitted to the relevant authorities for approval. In Ecuador, the army, the air force and the navy introduced IHL and international human rights law into their academic courses.

Following the signing, early in 2007, of a cooperation agreement between the Bolivian Ministry of Interior, the police and the ICRC on the integration of relevant human rights norms into police manuals, training and procedures, the police conducted two refresher courses for police instructors. It also began incorporating pertinent human rights norms into its manuals. In Ecuador, police instructors started using in their courses a recently approved manual on international human rights law applicable to policing. In Peru, the police authorities were in the process of granting formal approval to a document paving the way for the integration of international human rights law into all instruction manuals and training courses. In all three countries, the dialogue between the police forces and the ICRC provided a major opportunity to share concerns about the appropriate use of force during law enforcement operations in order to prevent abuses and casualties during episodes of unrest or tension.

- ▶ 34 students from Ecuador's main police academy attended a seminar on international human rights law
- ▶ Peruvian police familiarized with a manual on international human rights law applicable to policing during 5 workshops
- ▶ law enforcement units in Quito, Ecuador and Cajamarca, Peru, attended a pilot course on human rights norms applicable to policing

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media were kept informed of ICRC activities in the region through press releases, newsletters and videos. During workshops, journalists learned about the mandate and activities of the Movement, IHL and international human rights law and the usefulness of the Safer Access approach in reaching victims during situations of violence. They understood better the human-

itarian consequences of armed conflict and internal violence, in particular the issue of persons unaccounted for, and published more accurate articles on humanitarian issues. In Bolivia, journalists occasionally alerted the Bolivian Red Cross and the ICRC to incidents of violence as they unfolded.

Over the years, 35 universities in Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru and schools for the judiciary and diplomats had been integrating the teaching of IHL into their curricula. In 2007, eight law faculties received technical advice from the ICRC on the introduction of IHL modules in the mainstream compulsory curriculum. Lecturers and students from Lima's principal universities attended presentations on the ICRC's study on customary IHL and on the UN Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

In Bolivia, staff turnover in the Ministry of Education slowed down the implementation of an Exploring Humanitarian Law programme initiated in 2005 to teach basic IHL principles to secondary school children. In Peru, the programme had progressed to the point where its implementation could be handed over to the Ministry of Education. Teacher-trainers from the nine regions of the country where the programme was being taught received advice from the ICRC on producing a plan of action for the programme's implementation to be presented to the Ministry of Education.

- ▶ 21 teachers in the northern Amazonas region of Peru affected by the presence of anti-personnel mines and 26 teachers from the Bolivian departments of Beni, Pando and Santa Cruz attended separate train-the-trainer workshops on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Owing to the potential for social upheavals in the region, the ICRC focused on strengthening the National Societies' emergency response capacities.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross reinforced its cooperation with the ICRC, drawing up a joint strategy to respond more efficiently to the humanitarian consequences of unrest. A first group of staff and volunteers received training in the rapid deployment of first-aid teams during demonstrations.

The Bolivian Red Cross was in the process of decentralizing its operations and strengthening its network of volunteers. Six branches located in violence-prone areas were assessed by the ICRC with a view to providing them with the appropriate emergency equipment and to training their staff in first aid and the Safer Access approach. At a communication workshop, staff learned how to handle public information in situations of violence.

In spite of the institutional crisis affecting the Peruvian Red Cross, volunteers managed to channel the international aid sent after the earthquake to the affected communities and were involved in reconstruction programmes. Together with the International Federation, they set up a logistics base in the earthquake-affected region, with initial on-site support from the ICRC.

The Bolivian Red Cross was in the process of revising its statutes. The Ecuadorian Red Cross was instrumental in promoting the new emblem law approved by parliament.



mexico city (regional)

The Mexico delegation opened in 1998, becoming a regional delegation in 2002. It strengthens the capacities of the region's National Societies, mainly in the areas of dissemination and tracing, assists Colombian refugees in Panama's Darién region and the local populations hosting them, monitors the conditions of detainees in Mexico and Panama, and endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons, particularly in Guatemala. The delegation hosts the Advisory Service on IHL for Latin America and the Caribbean. It also seeks to integrate IHL into academic curricula and the doctrine and training of the armed forces (human rights norms applicable to the use of force in the case of the police).

COVERING

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	568
Assistance	52
Prevention	2,595
Cooperation with National Societies	842
General	-

► **4,058**

of which: Overheads 248

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	82%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
24	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- organized jointly with a Guatemalan NGO the First International Conference on Psychosocial Work in the Exhumation Process, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth
- pursued its visits to detainees in Mexico, especially in the state of Oaxaca, and its efforts to conclude a comprehensive agreement on prison visits with the Mexican authorities
- promoted the inclusion of the repression of war crimes in national legislation throughout the region
- welcomed the enactment of a new criminal code in Panama incorporating a comprehensive chapter on the repression of war crimes
- completed the training phase of a programme enabling more than 100 university lecturers to teach IHL
- assisted the Mexican Red Cross in tracing people affected by floods in the states of Tabasco and Chiapas

CONTEXT

In El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, violence linked to the expansion of organized crime gangs or *maras*, made up of juvenile delinquents, continued to take its toll. Governments treated the problem primarily as a threat to national security, rather than as a social issue.

In El Salvador, people participating in street demonstrations or social protests risked arrest under new anti-terrorist legislation. The region's armed forces established military police battalions to support traditional police units in fighting organized crime.

Social unrest continued to simmer in the impoverished Mexican state of Oaxaca, and student protests flared up at the end of the year in the state of Guerrero. The Mexican Supreme Court ordered an investigation into human rights violations alleged to have taken place after the federal police were sent in to deal with the protests. President Felipe Calderón created a special force within the army, answerable directly to the Office of the Presidency, to support the police in law enforcement operations.

To stem the tide of Central American and Mexican migrants crossing into the United States of America, the US government went ahead with plans to build a 1,100-km fence along the US-Mexican border and to deploy National Guard troops to support border patrols. Although these measures did not deter would-be migrants from attempting the crossing, it led to an increasing number of them dying in the desert or being deported to their countries of origin, with many languishing in border towns between Guatemala and Mexico.

In Mexico, the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR) claimed responsibility for a series of explosions which damaged pipelines belonging to the State oil and gas company.

In Guatemala, some 8,000 of an estimated 45,000 families had received compensation for the death or disappearance of a relative during the non-international armed conflict that had spanned more than 30 years. In August, Congress approved the creation of an independent International Commission against Impunity in response to concerns that clandestine security organizations had continued to operate with impunity since the signing of the peace accords in 1996. Also in Guatemala, more than 50 candidates and campaign aides were murdered in the run-up to general elections held in September 2007 – the worst spate of political violence the country had seen since the end of the conflict.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	34
Detainees visited and monitored individually	34
<i>of whom females</i>	2
Number of visits carried out	9
Number of places of detention visited	7

1. Mexico only

At the end of October, heavy flooding in south-eastern Mexico affected close to 1 million people in the state of Tabasco and another 100,000 in Chiapas.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC continued to visit people detained at the end of 2006 as a result of violent clashes between demonstrators and law enforcement agencies in the Mexican state of Oaxaca and offered to visit people arrested at the end of the year during clashes between demonstrators and law enforcement agencies in the state of Guerrero. It also continued to monitor the conditions of detention of people detained for alleged links with armed groups and pursued its dialogue with the Mexican authorities with a view to signing a comprehensive agreement on prison visits.

The ICRC upgraded its office in Guatemala City to a mission with a view to supporting government authorities and relevant NGOs in efforts to address the issue of persons unaccounted for in connection with Guatemala's 36-year conflict and to assist their families.

High-level discussions with armed and police forces throughout the region and the organization of workshops on IHL and international human rights law contributed to raising awareness of the need to respect the rules applicable to the use of force during law enforcement operations.

The ICRC continued to encourage all governments in the region to integrate IHL instruments in general, and the Rome Statute in particular, into their national legislation.

Work continued with the Red Cross Society of Panama to ensure that Colombian refugees in the Darién region received adequate assistance and protection. The ICRC cooperated with National Societies in the region, supporting programmes to restore family links, particularly during the flooding in Mexico, to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, and to implement the Safer Access approach. The ICRC laid the groundwork for projects aimed at supporting the Mexican Red Cross in assisting migrants and the Honduran Red Cross in deterring children and teenagers from joining street gangs.

The ICRC completed the training of 110 university lecturers in IHL, a programme initiated in 2004 to create a pool of experts capable of promoting the integration of IHL into university courses and its dissemination among the armed forces, the authorities, National Societies, the media and academic circles.

An agreement signed with Honduras's education authorities paved the way for the implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme aimed at secondary school children.

Health professionals and humanitarian aid workers from government agencies, NGOs and the Movement throughout Latin America participated in the fifth Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) course organized by the ICRC in Cuernavaca, Mexico, in November.

CIVILIANS

Assistance to refugees and residents in the Darién region, Panama

Colombian refugees and indigenous families displaced by the spillover from the Colombian conflict, who were living in Panama's remote jungle region of Darién, were better equipped to survive in their difficult surroundings after receiving assistance from the Panamanian Red Cross. The assistance programme was supported by the ICRC. Families settled in eight communities in the upper Río Tuira received medical and dental care, food and household items. Some 150 families improved their diets after they set up vegetable gardens with seed and agricultural tools brought in by the Panamanian Red Cross. Following an assessment, several families received building materials (zinc sheeting, cement and PVC pipes), as needed, to upgrade their dwellings and/or their latrines. In addition:

- 5 children air-lifted to Panama City for specialized medical treatment or corrective surgery
- 28 health promoters from 7 communities in the upper Río Tuira upgraded their first-aid skills and received supplies to restock community first-aid kits
- 3 RCMs collected from and 6 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1 to an unaccompanied/separated child
- new tracing requests registered for 6 people (including 5 females and 3 minors at the time of disappearance); 1 person located; 5 people (including 4 females and 4 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Addressing migrants' needs and youth violence

Contacts with the Mexican Red Cross and with NGOs working in border regions with Central American and Mexican migrants attempting or having failed to reach the United States enabled the ICRC to lay the groundwork for a project, to be implemented in 2008, to help Mexican Red Cross branches take a more proactive role in addressing migrants' emergency needs.

In Honduras, the ICRC sought to address the issue of youth violence, prevalent in many Central American countries, by supporting a programme implemented by the Honduran Red Cross in a deprived neighbourhood of the capital, Tegucigalpa, to deter young people from joining street gangs. Over 250 families benefited from the programme, with training materials supplied by the ICRC.

Weapon contamination in Nicaragua

Following a review of its support to the Nicaraguan Red Cross's mine-action programme, the ICRC decided to discontinue its involvement owing to a marked reduction in the threat posed to civilians by weapon contamination in affected regions.

Clarifying the fate of missing persons in Guatemala

Draft laws on the establishment of permanent commissions for the tracing of persons unaccounted for in connection with the 36-year non-international armed conflict and compensation for their families were pending final approval in Congress.

Some 130 specialists, and government and NGO representatives from around the world, participated in February in the First International Conference on Psychosocial Work in the Exhumation Process, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth, co-organized by the Guatemalan Community Studies and Psychosocial Action Team, the leading Guatemalan NGO in this field, and the ICRC. Participants were briefed on the ICRC's recommendations on forensic science and data management as well as counselling for family members of missing persons. Forensic experts from the region shared best practices, established common criteria and methodologies for the identification of human remains, and forged stronger links with each other by attending several regional conferences on the subject. Ten forensic science students from El Salvador received further training at the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Foundation (FAFG), an NGO that conducted the majority of exhumations of victims of the armed conflict. The head of the FAFG was trained in DNA identification with a view to developing, together with the government, a DNA testing capacity in Guatemala.

With ICRC technical assistance, NGOs and national institutions working on the issue of missing persons set up a technical working group to standardize the management of forensic data. Guatemala's two major forensic NGOs, FAFG and the Centre for Forensic Anthropology and Applied Sciences, were testing software developed by the ICRC for the management of ante- and post-mortem data.

- 170 families from 23 Mayan communities buried the remains of their relatives, with ICRC support

With ICRC financial assistance, the National Commission for the Search for Disappeared Children located people who had been subjected to enforced disappearance as children during the armed conflict.

Restoring family links

Following severe flooding in the Mexican states of Tabasco and Chiapas, an ICRC team travelled to the affected area to assist the Mexican Red Cross in setting up a family-links programme (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

- 574 names placed on the ICRC family-links website, www.familylinks.icrc.org, in connection with the flooding in Tabasco and Chiapas

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Mexico, ICRC delegates continued to monitor the conditions of detention of people detained for alleged links with armed groups, as well as of people arrested as a result of clashes between demonstrators and law enforcement agencies in several Mexican states, notably Oaxaca. The ICRC continued to seek a comprehensive

agreement on prison visits to facilitate its work in the country's five high-security prisons under the authority of the federal government.

- 34 detainees visited, all of whom monitored individually (including 2 females) and 7 newly registered, during 9 visits to 7 places of detention
- 9 detainees visited by their relatives with the support of the ICRC; 1 detainee received eyeglasses

The delegation kept abreast of developments in El Salvador, where scores of people participating in street protests were arrested under recent anti-terrorist legislation.

In May 2007, the Cuban authorities informed the ICRC orally that it was still too early to consider the organization's renewed offer, made in December 2006, to visit security detainees.

AUTHORITIES

The ICRC contributed to guidelines incorporating IHL criteria into the Central American Integration System's code of conduct relative to the transfer of arms, ammunition, explosives and related materials.

At a meeting in Mexico City on IHL implementation in the Americas, jointly organized by the Mexican Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Organization of American States and the ICRC, participants agreed to push for the national implementation of IHL instruments, particularly with regard to the inclusion of the repression of war crimes in criminal codes, the prohibition/restriction of certain weapons and the issue of missing persons.

The ICRC submitted recommendations to the Panamanian government relating to legislation on missing persons, based on a comparative study to determine whether existing legislation met international norms applicable to enforced disappearance.

Countries in the region made progress in the implementation of the Rome Statute. Nicaragua and Panama included a comprehensive chapter on the repression of war crimes in their revised criminal codes, adopted by Panama in May and approved by Nicaragua's parliament in November.

With ICRC support, the national IHL committees of El Salvador and Guatemala helped Honduras set up an IHL committee and trained its members. El Salvador's IHL committee completed the first phase of a plan to protect cultural property in the event of an armed conflict.

The Cuban authorities indicated a willingness to work more closely with the ICRC on IHL implementation in the near future.

With ICRC technical support:

- Cuba ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Nicaragua signed, and Cuba and El Salvador ratified amended Article 1 to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
- Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama signed the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
- the Dominican Republic and Mexico passed a law protecting the emblem
- El Salvador ratified Additional Protocol III

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The integration of IHL into the training programmes of the armed forces of the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua intensified following the renewal of a cooperation agreement with the Conference of Central American Armed Forces and closer ties with the military in the Dominican Republic. The armed forces in the region, who participated increasingly in law enforcement operations with the police or acted in their place, were keen to learn about human rights norms relevant to policing and the appropriate use of force in law enforcement operations.

Police forces in Mexico and Nicaragua pursued training in human rights norms applicable to policing. A cooperation agreement between the Mexico City Human Rights Commission and the ICRC paved the way for police in the capital to attend courses on international human rights law. Relevant authorities in Mexico City were examining a draft memorandum of understanding submitted by the ICRC on the integration of international human rights law into police manuals, training and procedures.

- ▶ over 2,150 senior army and military police officers from the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua attended workshops on the appropriate use of force and on assistance owed to victims of violence during law enforcement operations
- ▶ army instructors from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua attended 7 IHL train-the-trainer courses
- ▶ army personnel in Guatemala and Mexico participated in exercises simulating conflict situations in which IHL was applied
- ▶ military legal advisers from the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Nicaragua deepened their understanding of IHL during a course in Nicaragua
- ▶ 3 high-ranking officers from Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua attended the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations (SWIRMO) in Geneva, Switzerland

CIVIL SOCIETY

A cooperation agreement between the Mexico City Human Rights Commission and the ICRC (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*) enabled members of civil society, including journalists, to attend workshops on IHL and basic humanitarian principles.

Following the signing of a cooperation agreement with the Honduran education authorities on implementing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, 55 teachers were trained in the programme and began teaching it to secondary school children.

By year-end, 110 university lecturers in the region had been trained in teaching IHL, thus completing the teacher-training stage of the process; 19 universities had integrated IHL into their curricula.

- ▶ 25 journalists attended a regional seminar in Costa Rica on reporting in situations of violence
- ▶ participants in an annual seminar of the National Union of Cuban Jurists learned about current challenges facing IHL
- ▶ 26 ICRC-trained lecturers participated in IHL dissemination sessions for the armed forces, national authorities, National Societies, the media and universities

- ▶ 9 university students from Costa Rica and Mexico participated in the Jean Pictet IHL competition in El Escorial, Spain

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies strengthened their capacities to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles, restore family links and respond safely to the consequences of humanitarian emergencies.

Senior management from five National Societies participated in workshops on emblem protection, the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, the Safer Access approach and the restoring family links strategy. The Guatemalan and Honduran National Societies developed their 2008–11 strategic plans with ICRC support.

A regional database developed by the ICRC facilitated the tracing by National Societies of people affected by flooding in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico and Nicaragua.

The National Societies of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Mexico prepared a safety manual for staff working in emergencies. Opinion surveys undertaken by the Panamanian and Salvadoran National Societies in 2006 enabled them to launch a campaign promoting respect for the emblem and the Fundamental Principles, in line with Safer Access guidelines, and to fine-tune their communication strategies. The Guatemalan and Honduran National Societies undertook similar surveys in 2007.

With ICRC support, the Honduran Red Cross implemented a project to prevent youth violence (see *Civilians*).

- ▶ 300 volunteers trained in the Safer Access approach during 6 workshops organized by the Mexican Red Cross
- ▶ 8,800 people in the region received basic training in IHL and the Fundamental Principles



washington (regional)

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 of America 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, Organization of American States (OAS)

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,054
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,564
Cooperation with National Societies	727
General	-

► **5,346**

of which: Overheads **326**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

11 expatriates
11 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued to urge the US authorities to establish more robust procedural safeguards for persons held in security detention as part of the "global war on terror"
- deepened and expanded the dialogue with the US authorities
- held a first IHL course for OAS staff and diplomats
- expanded activities with US military academic institutions and for troops being deployed abroad
- with American University, facilitated the development of a basic IHL curriculum for US law schools

CONTEXT

The United States of America continued to lead the way in the "global war on terror", remaining involved militarily in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere. President George W. Bush and his secretaries of defense and State all publicly expressed their desire to close the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

The Canadian parliament voted against renewing two controversial anti-"terrorism" measures that had been adopted after the attacks of 11 September 2001 in New York and Washington. These would have allowed suspects to be detained without charge for three days and could compel witnesses to testify.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	398
Detainees visited and monitored individually	355
Number of visits carried out	20
Number of places of detention visited	3
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	5,201
RCMs distributed	2,683
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	8
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	9

1. People detained/interned on US soil and people detained/interned by the United States of America in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC maintained its frank and open dialogue with the US authorities on issues related to US detention in Guantanamo Bay, Afghanistan and Iraq. It urged them to define the status and rights of individual internees/detainees and to ensure they fitted into a proper and adequate legal framework providing in particular more robust procedural safeguards. This matter was at the heart of discussions between the US authorities and ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger during his mission to Washington in April.

Discussions were pursued on a variety of other legal issues. Although differences of opinion persisted in 2007, the ICRC succeeded in building, maintaining and expanding a constructive relationship with the US authorities from working level up to the highest level, which improved the overall dialogue.

Dialogue with the Canadian government centred on the ICRC's role and activities in a variety of contexts.

Delegates carried out regular visits to people held at the US detention facility in Guantanamo Bay to monitor their treatment and conditions and to enable them to keep in touch with their families via the RCM network. Confidential reports and recommendations were submitted to the authorities following the visits.

Contacts with the international community were increased through enhanced cooperation with the OAS and other inter-American institutions. The ICRC participated in or co-hosted a number of round-tables and panel events in order to promote IHL throughout the Americas and enlist the support of national governments in doing the same.

The delegation expanded its contacts with the US armed forces. Pre-deployment briefings increased for troops heading for Afghanistan and Iraq, as did lectures on IHL at military training establishments.

Promotion of IHL in academic circles continued, with a view to reaching current and future opinion-leaders. The ICRC and American University in Washington conducted a survey of IHL teaching in US law schools to help academics develop a basic IHL curriculum. The ICRC continued to give lectures and presentations on IHL at US universities to boost interest in the subject among students, expanding its network of contacts in that regard.

Cooperation with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies continued to be a priority in terms of strengthening IHL promotion via the media and of implementing the Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The US authorities and the ICRC maintained a frank and open dialogue on issues related to US detention in Guantanamo Bay, Afghanistan and Iraq. Through contacts with agencies of the US administration at a variety of levels, the ICRC continued to encourage the US authorities to define the status and rights of individual internees/detainees and to ensure they fitted into a proper and adequate legal framework providing in particular more robust procedural safeguards. Nevertheless, fundamental disagreement on what constituted an appropriate legal framework persisted. The authorities were also urged to comply with the relevant provisions of IHL, in particular the Third or Fourth Geneva Conventions and/or other appropriate internationally recognized standards concerning the treatment of internees/detainees and their conditions of internment/detention. With regard to repatriation or transfer of internees/detainees to other countries, including their transfer within countries to national authorities, the ICRC continued to remind the US authorities of the principle of *non-refoulement* and of the government's legal and humanitarian obligations in this regard. The ICRC also reiterated its concerns about a number of people presumed to be held by the US in undisclosed locations.

The ICRC regularly visited people held in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, one person held in Charleston Navy Brig, South Carolina, and another held in Miami Federal Prison. Following these visits, the ICRC reported its findings and recommendations to the US authorities at both the operational and Washington levels.

Internees/detainees held in Guantanamo Bay were able to restore or maintain contact with family members through the RCM network, a process involving more than 25 ICRC delegations and Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies worldwide. The ICRC recommended that the internees/detainees be allowed to receive family visits or to speak directly to family by telephone. In the meantime, dozens of families of internees in the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay received visits in their home countries from ICRC

delegates who had previously visited their interned relatives. They exchanged observations with the families regarding their next of kin, thus helping to ease the anxiety caused by the lack of direct contact.

Guantanamo Bay

- 396 internees/detainees visited, of whom 353 monitored individually and 5 newly registered, during 13 visits to 1 place of detention
- 5,199 RCMs collected from and 2,679 RCMs distributed to internees/detainees
- 9 detention certificates issued to former internees/detainees or their families
- 76 internees/detainees interviewed prior to repatriation or transfer to other countries

Other US facilities

- 2 internees/detainees visited and monitored individually during 7 visits to 2 places of detention
- 2 RCMs collected from and 4 RCMs distributed to internees/detainees
- 8 people issued with travel documents

AUTHORITIES

Contacts throughout the US administration, including the Defense and State Departments and the National Security Council, maintained a regular dialogue with the ICRC on issues such as IHL and the “global war on terror”, humanitarian coordination, the role of the military in humanitarian operations and the US government’s substantial financial support to the ICRC. The US authorities and the ICRC began holding monthly inter-agency meetings, which significantly enhanced their dialogue.

The ICRC urged the authorities to define the status and rights of individual internees/detainees and to ensure they fitted into a proper and adequate legal framework providing in particular more robust procedural safeguards (see *People deprived of their freedom*). ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger reiterated this appeal during an official visit to Washington in April.

Contacts between members of Congress and the ICRC increased, enabling the ICRC to heighten awareness of issues of humanitarian concern and garner support for its operations. Key congressional staff visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo to learn more about ICRC activities there.

The Canadian authorities and the ICRC held regular discussions on the organization’s role and activities in a variety of contexts. Canada provided increased levels of support, resources and other input to the ICRC.

International institutions

Permanent representatives to and staff of the OAS and other inter-American entities discussed a range of humanitarian issues with the ICRC. They increased their knowledge of IHL-related matters during a number of events in which the ICRC participated. For example, representatives of OAS member States attending the annual session of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism heard an ICRC statement that affirmed the need to uphold IHL in anti-“terrorism” efforts. Similarly, representatives of Latin American prison authorities attending a meeting of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington benefited from the ICRC’s experience in protecting and assisting people deprived of their freedom.

For the first time, more than 100 OAS diplomats and staff took part in a one-day IHL course co-organized by the OAS Department of International Legal Affairs, the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs and the ICRC. This led to more invitations for the ICRC to speak at OAS events, thus enabling the organization to reach a wider audience.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Relations between the US military and the ICRC focused on the education and doctrine development system, and on ensuring that army and marine units being deployed abroad, particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq, were familiar with the mandate and activities of the ICRC in these contexts and elsewhere. The Army National Training Center opened its doors to the ICRC for such pre-deployment briefings.

Students of selected military schools and colleges continued to attend ICRC lectures, with several establishments offering the ICRC a regular slot. Lectures typically focused on the ICRC’s role and mandate, but were also designed to expose current and future military decision-makers to the ICRC’s perspective on humanitarian and legal matters relating to the deployment of the US military. Among the issues addressed were: the relationship between military and humanitarian actors; the use of force; the outsourcing of traditionally military tasks; and the internment of combatants and civilians during armed conflict. Instead of these standard lectures, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College requested a series of more comprehensive half-day seminars on human security and the role of the military.

On the operational front, Joint Forces Command, Central Command and Southern Command maintained regular contact with the ICRC on practical IHL-related and humanitarian issues.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Raising awareness of IHL through the media

Given their ability to influence public debate, Washington-based national and international media remained important vehicles for raising general awareness of humanitarian issues. Key reporters were regularly briefed on IHL issues and provided with press releases and audiovisual materials. As a result, they gave frequent coverage to the ICRC and IHL-related issues at local, national and international level. One such feature, based on an interview with the ICRC's president, outlined the organization's position on US detention in relation to the "global war on terror".

The Canadian media regularly solicited the ICRC's input on issues related to detention in Afghanistan, which resulted in a higher profile for the organization and its operations.

Promoting IHL among current and future opinion-leaders

Relations between leading think-tanks and the ICRC strengthened, with the organization's participating in panel discussions and presentations in an attempt to raise awareness of IHL and garner support for its position on a number of humanitarian issues.

With ICRC support, several US universities continued their efforts to develop long-term IHL teaching strategies and tools for their lecturers. To this end, American University in Washington and the ICRC conducted and published a survey of IHL teaching in 73 law schools. Leading IHL academics who had participated in the survey then took part in a round-table discussion on the survey's recommendations as the first step in developing a basic IHL curriculum for US law schools.

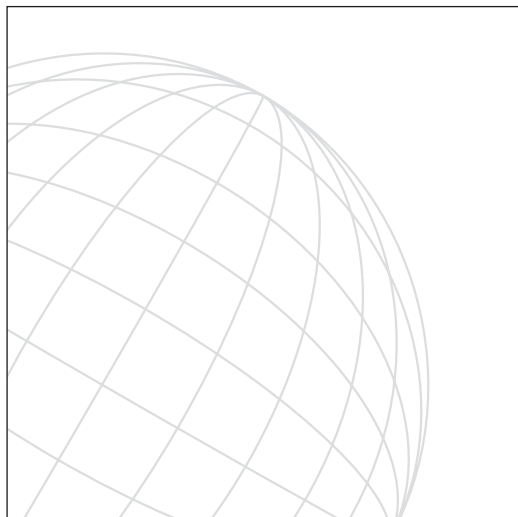
Students at several US universities learned more about IHL and the ICRC during lectures, round-tables and presentations in which the organization participated. Law students attended the first IHL course to be held at Santa Clara University, California. The University of Virginia Law School and the US Army's Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School co-hosted a first seminar on applying IHL in current conflicts for policy-makers within the US government and NGOs.

Military academic institutions received ICRC publications for their libraries. With ICRC support, the US Library of Congress made the text of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the related commentaries available on its website.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

ICRC communication staff and their counterparts in the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies proactively exchanged relevant information, including briefing notes, press releases and press lines. This resulted in increased coverage of humanitarian issues and Movement activities.

Both National Societies continued to implement the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme for secondary school children. With ICRC support, the National Societies exchanged expertise and their experiences in implementing the programme at various workshops.



new york

The multiple tasks and activities of the UN often have implications of a humanitarian nature. Operating since 1983, the ICRC delegation to the UN serves as a support and a liaison for ICRC operational and legal initiatives. The delegation conveys the ICRC's viewpoint, keeps abreast of trends and developments relating to humanitarian issues and promotes IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,955
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **1,955**

of which: Overheads 119

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

3	expatriates
6	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- president met the new UN secretary-general and members of the Peacebuilding Commission during a mission to New York and exchanged views on a range of humanitarian issues
- met high-ranking UN officials to share views on issues of common interest
- organized with New York University School of Law a two-day IHL seminar for diplomats accredited to the UN
- delivered a statement in its capacity as a briefer during a Security Council open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict
- delivered statements on topics of specific interest at the 62nd General Assembly and provided input to several resolutions with implications for the ICRC and/or IHL
- participated in meetings with components of the UN system and member States and briefed selected member States and UN staff on IHL and ICRC operations

CONTEXT

UN Security Council

The Security Council continued addressing contexts and matters of relevance to the ICRC, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. The Council – coordinating with regional and international stakeholders – established an innovative peacekeeping mission for Darfur (Sudan) and another for the Central African Republic and Chad, and monitored the situations in Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and elsewhere. Deliberations on the Middle East focused on Israel and the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories. Political problems in Lebanon hampered efforts to help restore the country's full sovereignty. The Council extended the mandates of the multinational forces in Afghanistan and Iraq and expanded that of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq.

Iran's nuclear programme and Kosovo's status remained issues of concern for the Council. Also debated were developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Haiti, Myanmar and Timor-Leste. The Council examined reports from its subsidiary bodies and continued supporting criminal justice mechanisms. Its public meetings dealt with civilians in armed conflict, security, and peacebuilding. Other debates concerned cooperation between the UN and regional organizations, the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and conflict.

UN General Assembly

The implementation of UN reforms progressed. The UN Peacebuilding Commission became operational. The General Assembly started implementing the UN counter-terrorism strategy and consulting on the recommendations of the report on UN system-wide coherence.

Member States supported the Central Emergency Response Fund. However, the debate on strengthening humanitarian coordination faltered. The General Assembly's 62nd annual session focused on the UN Millennium Development Goals, countering "terrorism", and UN management reforms. It called for a moratorium on the death penalty, adopted an institution-building package for the Human Rights Council, created the mandate of a special representative of the secretary-general on violence against children, and endorsed draft regulations to curb misconduct involving peacekeepers. High-level meetings deliberated the Middle East, Afghanistan, and Sudan, particularly Darfur. Also in the spotlight was Myanmar.

UN Peacebuilding Commission

Created to help restore peace in post-conflict countries, the UN Peacebuilding Commission became operational, established working groups for Burundi and Sierra Leone, and started taking an interest in Guinea-Bissau.

UN Secretariat

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon began his mandate, while Sir John Holmes became under secretary-general for humanitarian affairs and emergency relief coordinator. The secretary-general published a report on the recommendations of the UN High-Level Panel on System-wide Coherence. Management changes, including reforms to strengthen the Secretariat's capacity to manage peacekeeping operations, entailed the restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the creation of the Department of Field Support. Development of the DPKO's training capacity and of UN peacekeeping principles and guidelines, dubbed the "capstone doctrine", continued. Other agreed reforms included the creation of an Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and its Unit.

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC maintained contact with UN bodies, member States and observers and civil society groups. It endeavoured to ensure that the UN and its components accurately understood the ICRC's position on topical humanitarian issues, and sought to reinforce acceptance of its mandate and to encourage the UN to consider its concerns in deliberations that had direct ramifications for humanitarian action. It enhanced knowledge of IHL among UN staff and diplomats.

The ICRC regularly shared with Council members information and views regarding contexts on the Council's agenda.

At the General Assembly, the ICRC monitored developments on humanitarian and legal issues and those related to UN peacekeeping operations. It delivered statements during the 62nd annual session and informed member States and various organizations about its activities and position on specific topics. It followed negotiations on resolutions touching on IHL or the ICRC and supported preparations for the humanitarian segment of the Economic and Social Council.

The ICRC participated in meetings organized within or by the UN or its agencies, Permanent Missions or civil society groups, sharing its expertise on topical issues. President Jakob Kellenberger met Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to familiarize him with ICRC activities and discuss shared concerns. Similar meetings involved senior UN officials and the ICRC director-general and other senior ICRC personnel.

The ICRC supported the review or development of international norms governing the protection of civilians in armed conflict. It followed the debate on strengthening humanitarian coordination within the UN and with other partners and participated in inter-agency coordination mechanisms.

It pursued contacts with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Office of Legal Affairs. It strengthened ties with the DPKO and shared its concerns over peacekeepers' respect for IHL and for the ICRC's independent, humanitarian action in environments where both organizations operated.

The organization monitored the impact of the Peacebuilding Commission's pilot activities in Burundi and Sierra Leone on ICRC operations in those countries.

Contacts with the UN-accredited media included the first-ever press conference given by an ICRC president at UN headquarters.

AUTHORITIES

UN Security Council

The ICRC continued sharing its concerns on operational and thematic issues addressed by the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies. The Council president was updated monthly on humanitarian issues affecting contexts where the ICRC operated. Council members, including newcomers, were briefed on the ICRC and its activities, especially in West Africa. Council members and the Secretariat received ICRC input, including legal advice in the drafting of reports on civilians and on children and armed conflict and their protection. Member States also regularly consulted the ICRC on matters falling within its expertise.

Council debates followed by the ICRC included:

- ▶ protection of civilians in armed conflict
- ▶ children and armed conflict
- ▶ women, peace and security
- ▶ weapons of mass destruction and small arms and light weapons
- ▶ security-sector reforms and peacebuilding
- ▶ counter-"terrorism"
- ▶ punishment of war crimes and other serious IHL and human rights violations
- ▶ energy, security and climate change
- ▶ the UN and regional organizations

UN General Assembly

The General Assembly's efforts to implement decisions on UN reforms were followed, as were the plenary debates of its 62nd annual session and committees, especially on the recommendations of the UN High-Level Panel on System-wide Coherence, legal issues, peacekeeping, and resolutions on matters of interest to the ICRC.

Committees, member States, experts and observers were familiarized with the ICRC's activities and position on various issues, including through formal statements. The organization's expertise was often sought during the annual session and other meetings, including on:

- ▶ the protection of civilians, including IDPs, children, women and journalists affected by armed conflict
- ▶ its neutral, independent humanitarian action and humanitarian coordination
- ▶ accountability for crimes committed by UN peacekeepers
- ▶ cluster munitions, an arms trade treaty and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
- ▶ the draft convention on international "terrorism", the UN counter-terrorism strategy and the protection of human rights while countering "terrorism"
- ▶ the UN capacity to support the rule of law
- ▶ humanitarian action and coordination

Member States welcomed the ICRC's support in developing peacekeeping principles and guidelines and pre-deployment training. During meetings and a round-table organized, respectively, by the Military and Police Advisers Community and the Swiss Permanent Mission, over 80 military/police advisers were familiarized with the ICRC. They also reviewed the interaction between peacekeepers and humanitarian actors and respect for IHL by peacekeepers.

UN member States were briefed on ICRC operations in Gaza and West Africa and on protection of and support to IDPs.

During a meeting organized by the "Friends of the International Criminal Court" and a round-table on protecting civilians and promoting justice, the ICRC acquainted participants with its position on international criminal jurisdictions and transitional justice mechanisms. The meetings enhanced understanding of the organization's interaction with the International Criminal Court, including its immunity from testifying in judicial proceedings.

Over 80 diplomats accredited to the UN attended a seminar co-organized with New York University School of Law, at which they discussed current challenges to IHL and humanitarian action and gained a better understanding of the ICRC's mandate and working methods.

UN Peacebuilding Commission

Dialogue was initiated with the Peacebuilding Commission. Monitoring of its pilot activities in Burundi and Sierra Leone gave the ICRC a sense of their likely impact on its operations and a chance to clarify its relationship with the Commission.

UN Secretariat and associated structures

At their meeting, the UN secretary-general and the ICRC president discussed challenges to humanitarian action and the ICRC's approach to humanitarian coordination. The occasion facilitated an exchange of views on major ICRC operations. These and legal, operational and humanitarian issues were also discussed with other high-ranking UN officials.

The ICRC maintained contact with relevant departments of the UN Secretariat and attended meetings, including of inter-agency coordination mechanisms, notably the Office of Legal Affairs, DPKO, OCHA and UN agencies, to discuss common concerns, share expertise and, when necessary, agree on complementary working procedures. Topics of specific interest included:

- all topics dealt with by the Security Council and General Assembly (see above)
- legal topics, including: implementation of Additional Protocol III; promotion of IHL; preparations for the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent; cluster munitions and the possible restriction of their use; the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons; the Ottawa Convention; missing persons; international criminal tribunals; and the protection of children in armed conflicts, particularly the ICRC's position on the monitoring mechanism established by Security Council resolution 1612 on the use of child soldiers, and interaction between the secretary-general's special representative for children and armed conflict and the ICRC
- operational issues and topics, including reform of the humanitarian response system and the protection of civilians in specific contexts of armed conflict
- private military and security companies and IHL

During a workshop at the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre in Ottawa, Canada, the DPKO received technical input for the development of peacekeeping guidelines and principles.

Economic and Social Council

The ICRC's contribution on its role vis-à-vis the UN system was incorporated into the secretary-general's report for the humanitarian segment of the Economic and Social Council session on "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations".

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC attended round-tables, workshops and seminars on humanitarian issues organized by think-tanks and NGOs, including the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, the Council on Foreign Relations, Human Rights Watch and the International Peace Academy. The events provided opportunities to enhance understanding of the ICRC's mandate and working methods and to share views on common concerns.

The UN media services and media accredited to the UN were kept abreast of issues related to the ICRC mandate and its position on topics debated at the UN. They received responses to their queries and information and documentation on IHL and the ICRC, as did students, academics and institutions that consulted the organization. They had the opportunity to hear the views and concerns of the ICRC president at a press conference held at UN headquarters.



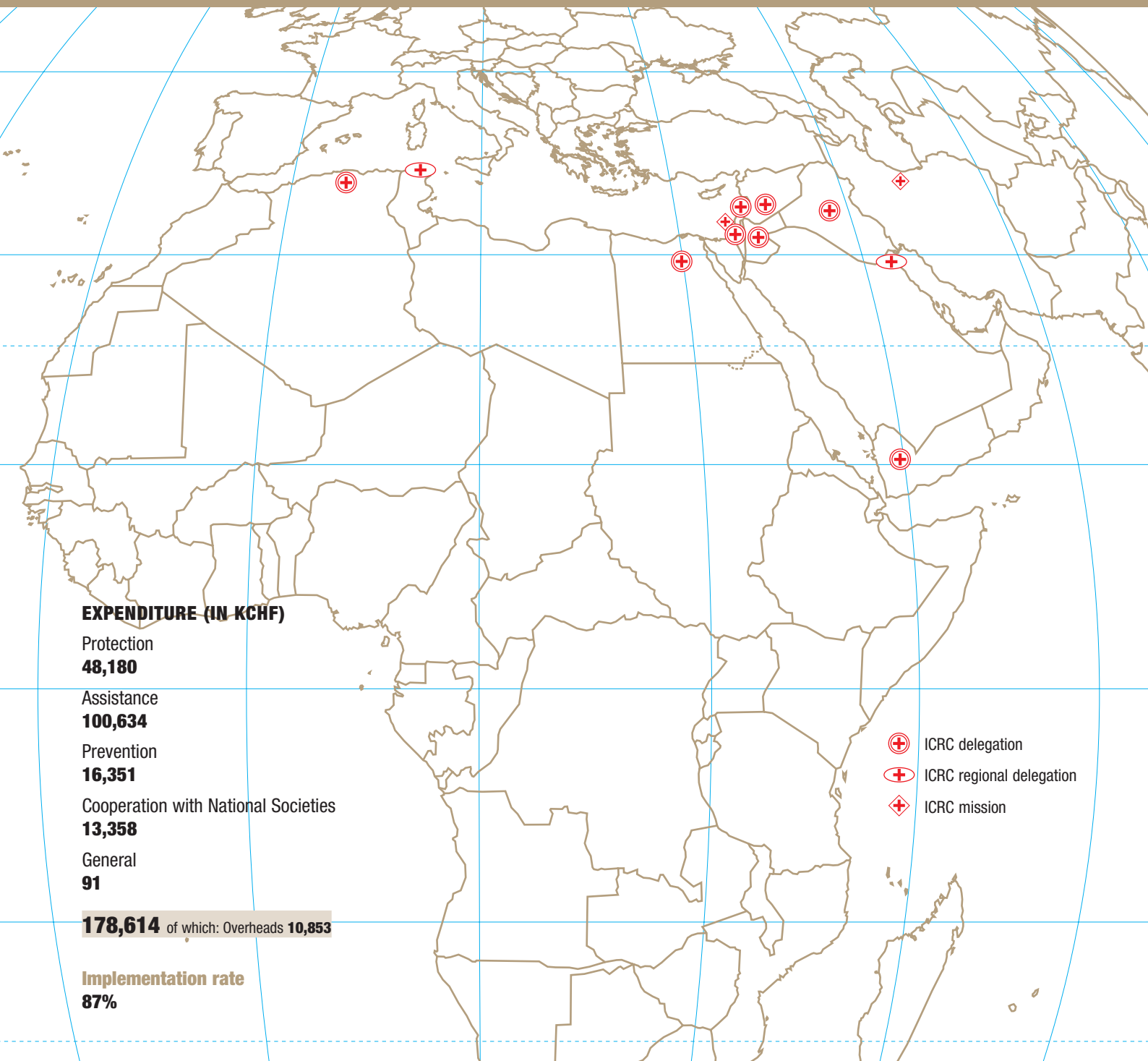
DELEGATIONS

Algeria
Egypt
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Israel, the Occupied and
Autonomous Territories
Jordan
Lebanon
Syrian Arab Republic
Yemen

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Kuwait
Tunis

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

48,180

Assistance

100,634

Prevention

16,351

Cooperation with National Societies

13,358

General

91

178,614 of which: Overheads **10,853**

Implementation rate

87%

-  ICRC delegation
-  ICRC regional delegation
-  ICRC mission

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

In 2007, the ICRC responded to the needs of millions of victims of past and present conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa. It did so through a wide range of protection and assistance activities carried out alongside preventive action based on advocacy for greater adherence to and respect for IHL. ICRC action varied according to its operational objectives in each context but in all cases was rooted in the organization's independence, neutrality and impartiality, an approach intended to gain it the widest possible access to people in need.

As a priority, the ICRC sought compliance with the provisions of IHL relative to the conduct of hostilities and/or occupation by the parties directly concerned. It also endeavoured to ensure that people directly affected by armed conflict or the consequences of occupation had access to food, water, sanitation and medical care and that people deprived of their freedom were treated humanely. Relations were reinforced with government authorities, armed groups and influential sectors of civil society, as well as with religious circles and militant groups, in order to increase acceptance of and support for the ICRC's work and to reassert the relevance of IHL in contemporary forms of armed conflict and violence.

ICRC operations in Iraq and in the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories were by far the organization's largest in the region and amongst its most extensive worldwide. Emergency operations were also mounted in Lebanon and Yemen in response to civilian needs stemming from armed conflict in both these countries.

Hundreds of thousands of people affected by the armed conflict in Iraq or by the consequences of occupation in the Palestinian territories benefited from large-scale ICRC assistance programmes covering food, household essentials, medical care, water and sanitation.

Iraq was again a challenging operational environment for the ICRC owing to the high level of insecurity in many parts of the country, which severely hampered or prevented direct access to the beleaguered population. Despite the security constraints, the ICRC was able to carry out a wide range of activities in the country, albeit at a level far below existing needs. Some 730,000 people (25% women and 50% children) displaced by the fighting or sectarian violence received emergency relief directly from the ICRC or in partnership with the Iraqi Red Crescent or other local organizations. Major hospitals struggling to cope with frequent mass-casualty emergencies received equipment and were regularly provided with medical supplies. Emergency repair and rehabilitation work carried out by the ICRC kept numerous health, water and sanitation facilities in operation, serving more than 3.3 million Iraqis.

The ICRC stepped up its emergency response in the Palestinian territories, in particular in the Gaza Strip, to ensure the continued functioning of medical facilities and access to safe water. More than half a million people had their water supply ensured or enhanced. Medical facilities were provided with drugs and consumables. The Palestine Red Crescent Society's emergency medical services, which transported some 80,000 patients in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, received funds to cover operating costs and support for training. Thousands of destitute Palestinians benefited from food aid, as well as livelihood-support and cash-for-work projects; household kits were issued to Palestinians whose homes had been levelled or confiscated by Israeli forces.

In Yemen, an emergency relief operation carried out with the Yemen Red Crescent Society was maintained to assist civilians, mainly IDPs, caught up in the conflict between government forces and armed groups in the north of the country. An emergency relief operation was mounted in Lebanon in response to the Nahr el-Bared Palestinian camp crisis, and work continued in the country to repair water and sanitation infrastructure damaged during the conflict between Hezbollah and Israeli forces in July–August 2006. The ICRC also completed an in-depth assessment of health services available to Lebanon's Palestinian refugee population and finalized a two-year programme (2008–09) to upgrade and assist existing Palestinian health facilities in the country.

In the Syrian Arab Republic, a new programme was launched to improve access to clean water in areas of Damascus housing large numbers of Iraqi refugees.

ICRC delegates continued to visit people interned or detained in Algeria, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, the Palestinian territories, Qatar and Tunisia, and started such visits in Lebanon following an agreement signed with the authorities there at the beginning of the year. The largest number of detainees followed up by the ICRC was in Iraq (some 37,000 held by the multinational forces or the central Iraqi authorities or in the custody of the Kurdish regional authorities) and in Israel (some 22,000). During ICRC visits, nearly 17,000 detainees were monitored individually in the region. Efforts were made to increase access to security detainees held in various countries in connection with the so-called "global war on terror". People imprisoned in Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen after their transfer from US detention facilities abroad received ICRC visits.

The ICRC maintained a comprehensive and confidential dialogue with the detaining authorities, sharing with them its findings during visits, making recommendations, when necessary, for corrective action, and offering and providing support to enhance detainees' treatment and living conditions.

At year-end, despite persistent efforts, the ICRC had not been granted access to two Israeli soldiers held by Hezbollah or allowed to resume visits to Hezbollah fighters in Israeli custody. It had not succeeded either in visiting the Israeli soldier held by Hamas, despite repeated requests to do so. Discussions were pursued with the authorities in other countries in the region with a view to securing access to people in custody, notably in Libya, Morocco and Yemen.

Detainees received direct assistance from the ICRC, as required. Taking into account the specific needs of women, female detainees in Yemen, for example, received vocational training and literacy courses to enhance their prospects of reintegration after release. In many cases, detainees informed their relatives of their imprisonment through a telephone call made possible by the ICRC and kept in touch with their families through the exchange of RCMs. Some 18,900 detainees, mainly in Iraq and Israel, received regular visits from relatives thanks to ICRC support. In addition, some 20,000 former internees or detainees or their families were issued with ICRC certificates of detention, which sometimes qualified them to obtain State allowances.

In many countries of the region, demand remained high for ICRC tracing and RCM services as a means to restore or maintain contact with family members detained/interned in their home countries or abroad or living in places such as Iraq where normal communications had been disrupted. Several countries in the region, such as

Egypt, Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, hosted increasing numbers of refugees, many of whom were able to locate and restore contact with their families by means of RCMs. Some 2,000 refugees were issued with ICRC travel documents to facilitate family reunification or resettlement in third countries. The ICRC also facilitated travel for Palestinians affected by mobility restrictions wishing to visit or be reunited with family members living in other parts of the occupied territories or in Jordan, as well as contacts between Syrian nationals in the occupied Golan and their families in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC pursued action to address unresolved cases of persons – both military and civilian – who went missing during past conflicts in the region, notably the numerous Arab-Israeli wars from 1948 onwards, the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war, the 1990–91 Gulf War, the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict and the 1975–91 civil war in Lebanon.

The ICRC continued to chair meetings of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-committee set up to clarify cases of persons missing from the 1990–91 Gulf War. Work on this issue was slowed down owing to the security situation in Iraq, which prevented exhumation and identification at gravesites in that country. Working in the framework of a joint mechanism agreed upon in February 2004, the ICRC and the Iranian authorities resolved a number of cases of Iraqi POWs unaccounted for in connection with the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war. Work continued with the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front to resolve the cases of combatants and civilians from both sides still missing in connection with the Western Sahara conflict. The ICRC rehabilitated a number of mortuaries in Iraq and provided forensic equipment and data-collection/management training to the Medico-Legal Institute in Baghdad and its branches in other locations to enhance their capacities to identify human remains, thereby giving families a better chance of learning of the death of a relative and of recovering the remains.

ICRC technical and material support was maintained to physical rehabilitation centres in Algeria, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. In response to the large numbers of above-knee amputees from the June 2007 clashes in the Gaza Strip, an ICRC physical rehabilitation project was established in the Artificial Limb and Polio Centre in Gaza towards the end of the year. In accordance with an agreement concluded with the Polisario Front in 2006, the ICRC also set up a prosthetic/orthotic workshop in the Sahrawi refugee camps of south-western Algeria to provide limb-fitting services for disabled Sahrawis.

Promoting greater knowledge, acceptance and implementation of IHL throughout the region, in cooperation with the Cairo-based League of Arab States, remained the main task of the ICRC in Egypt. To this end, it stepped up efforts to encourage adherence to IHL and its integration into military training and doctrine and into school and university curricula. As part of this process, the Cairo delegation organized regional seminars on IHL and produced written and audiovisual materials on IHL translated into Arabic for distribution to governments and civil society audiences in the region. Governments also received assistance from the ICRC's legal advisory service in assessing the compatibility of national legislation with IHL and adapting it accordingly.

During the year, the National Societies of Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen were pivotal in enabling the ICRC to deliver emergency aid to people directly affected by armed conflict or occupation. In many

countries of the region, National Societies were also important partners in the collection and distribution of RCMs. Therefore, cooperation with National Societies remained a key component of ICRC activities in the region. The primary aim was to strengthen their capacities to respond to emergencies, particularly with respect to ambulance services, first aid, tracing, restoring family links and mine action, and to spread awareness of IHL. Various forms of material, training and financial support were extended to National Societies, according to needs.

Close capacity-based and result-oriented coordination was maintained with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors, particularly in conflict zones, in order to maximize impact and avoid gaps or duplication.



algeria

The ICRC has been working in Algeria, with some interruptions, since the 1954–1962 Algerian war of independence. It 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*. The ICRC also works to promote IHL among Algerian civil society, the authorities and the armed forces. The ICRC supports the Algerian Red Crescent's reform process, which resumed in 2007.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	875
Assistance	89
Prevention	479
Cooperation with National Societies	401
General	-

► **1,844**

of which: Overheads 113

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	66%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
6	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued visiting detainees in prisons, police stations and *gendarmeries* to assess their treatment and living conditions
- held meetings with the Algerian Red Crescent to discuss efforts to regularize its governing and operational structures
- reinforced contacts with Algerian universities to promote the integration of IHL into law and Islamic science curricula
- intensified contacts with civil society, the armed forces and local media to spread knowledge of and gain support for IHL and the Movement
- restored contact between families in Algeria and close relatives detained/interned abroad or living in countries where conflict had disrupted communications

CONTEXT

Pro-government parties retained a clear majority in parliamentary elections held in May.

Scores of people were killed and hundreds wounded in several car bomb and suicide attacks carried out during the year against government and foreign civilian targets, including the Constitutional Court and UN offices in Algiers. An organization calling itself the al-Qaeda Organization in the Islamic Maghreb, formerly known as the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat, claimed responsibility for the attacks. In response, the armed forces stepped up their offensive against Islamist militants.

The escalation of violence shattered a period of relative calm marked by government efforts to introduce a Charter for Peace and National Reconciliation designed to heal the rifts in society caused by the violence in the 1990s. The charter, endorsed by national referendum in September 2005, proposed an amnesty for people allegedly involved in the years of unrest that followed general elections in 1992 and compensation for the families of the victims, including those with close relatives still unaccounted for from that period.

Increased oil revenues helped to finance government-backed social and economic reform and development programmes. The government also went ahead with reform of the country's judicial and penitentiary systems.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Detainees visited	18,469	Physical rehabilitation				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	96	Patients receiving services	Patients	66	11	6
Number of visits carried out	32	Prostheses delivered	Units	13	1	1
Number of places of detention visited	31	Orthoses delivered	Units	56	8	3
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications						
RCMs collected	95					
RCMs distributed	121					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	4					
of which for females	2					

ICRC ACTION

ICRC activities in Algeria focused mainly on visits to detainees to assess their treatment and living conditions.

Contacts were reinforced with Algerian universities to promote the inclusion of IHL in law curricula and with key sectors of civil society, such as the media and various religious circles, to promote knowledge and acceptance of the Movement and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Through ICRC tracing and RCM services, families in Algeria were able to locate and restore/maintain contact with relatives detained/interned abroad or living in conflict-affected countries such as Iraq where communications remained difficult.

- ▶ 75 RCMs collected from and 117 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing request registered for 1 person; 4 people (including 2 females) still being sought

The ICRC remained at the disposal of the Algerian authorities to help them clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for in relation to past internal violence.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Visits continued to places of detention run by the Ministry of Justice and to people detained in police stations and *gendarmeries*.

The dialogue on detention issues was maintained with the Ministry of Justice. An ICRC report on its observations made during prison visits carried out in 2006 was submitted to the ministry in September. The report resulted in the holding of a round-table bringing together all the authorities concerned at the national level.

In addition, two ICRC reports on the treatment of suspects held in provisional detention centres under the authority of the Ministries of Interior and Defence were presented to the authorities.

- ▶ 18,469 detainees visited, of whom 96 monitored individually (including 1 minor) and 78 newly registered (including 1 minor), during 32 visits to 31 places of detention
- ▶ 20 RCMs collected from and 4 RCMs distributed to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

As part of an ongoing programme initiated in 2001, financial support was maintained 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.

Meetings with the Ministry of Health were held on a regular basis to discuss the possibility of the National Pedagogical Institute for Paramedical Training, where Algerian prosthetic/orthotic technicians were trained, becoming involved in the running of the centre.

- 66 patients (including 11 women and 6 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 11 new patients (including 1 woman) fitted with prostheses and 56 (including 10 women and 6 children) fitted with orthoses
- 13 prostheses (including 1 for a woman and 1 for a child) and 56 orthoses (including 8 for women and 3 for children) delivered

AUTHORITIES

Contacts were kept up with the Algerian authorities on issues of mutual humanitarian concern. Towards the end of 2007, the Algerian president approved the creation of a national IHL committee.

- the director of legislation and research at the Ministry of Justice and the ICRC held regular meetings to assess progress made in integrating IHL into Algerian legislation
- the president of the interdepartmental committee on the implementation of the Ottawa Convention attended a regional meeting on mines and explosive remnants of war held in Tunis, Tunisia, in September
- the Algerian Ministry of Solidarity organized a second national seminar on mine awareness and prevention, at which the ICRC presented its mine-action programme for Algeria
- 2 high-ranking officials from the Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs participated in a regional meeting on IHL held in Cairo, Egypt (see *Egypt*)

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

As it had since an initial ICRC seminar on IHL for Algerian military instructors took place in 2003, the Algerian armed forces journal *El Djeich* regularly published articles on IHL. More than 300 senior officers attended a national seminar on IHL in October.

A high-ranking officer of the Algerian armed forces participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations (SWIRMO) held in Geneva, Switzerland, in August.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The ICRC broadened its networks with academic and media circles to promote greater knowledge of IHL and to encourage the teaching of the subject at university level.

- progress was made on the establishment of a National Research Centre on IHL at the faculty of law of the University of Algiers, as well as on the creation of a regional research department on IHL at the faculty of law in Blida. University law libraries in Algiers, Blida, Constantine and Setif received documentation on IHL, and law students regularly consulted an IHL library set up at the ICRC delegation in Algiers
- a book on IHL authored by Algerian scholars was in preparation for publication early in 2008
- the Diplomatic Institute of International Relations, under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the ICRC organized a seminar on IHL, and plans were laid to start IHL training programmes for diplomats and magistrates
- all 127 prisons in Algeria received the ICRC quarterly magazine *Al Insani* containing articles on humanitarian topics
- the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, launched in 2005, continued to be pilot-tested in a number of schools near Algiers

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC remained concerned by the absence of elected governance in the Algerian Red Crescent for the previous three years and participated as an observer in its general assembly in late August, when the National Society elected a new president. These developments opened up opportunities for new dialogue and collaboration between the ICRC and the Algerian Red Crescent.

The Algerian Red Crescent worked on updating its existing first-aid manuals, with ICRC support. It also published the 28th issue of its internal bulletin and upgraded its website, aided by the ICRC.



The ICRC has been in Egypt, with some interruptions, since the beginning of the Second World War. The delegation works primarily as a regional centre to promote the national implementation of IHL and its incorporation into military training and academic curricula in Egypt and elsewhere in the Arab world. The Cairo-based regional legal advisory, communication and documentation centre, working in close cooperation with the League of Arab States, plays an important role in this process. The ICRC supports the work of the Egyptian Red Crescent Society. It has also expressed its interest in visiting people deprived of their freedom in Egypt.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	251
Assistance	-
Prevention	831
Cooperation with National Societies	169
General	-

► **1,251**

of which: Overheads **76**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
35	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- launched the Arabic-language version of its study on customary IHL
- held its first regional IHL course for national armed forces and ran courses on IHL for military and police training institutions in 15 Arab countries
- organized a regional meeting of education officials from 12 Arab countries to advance implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools throughout the region
- enhanced interaction with key civil society sectors in Egypt and throughout the region in order to promote increased acceptance of and support for IHL and ICRC activities in the Arab world
- pursued discussions with the Egyptian authorities on ICRC access to security detainees in Egypt
- cooperated with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society to provide assistance to Palestinians stranded on the Egyptian side of the border with the Gaza Strip

CONTEXT

Egypt continued to play an important role in efforts to defuse tensions in the region, particularly in the contexts of Palestinian infighting and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In December, it pledged to send 1,200 troops to serve with a joint UN-African Union force in Sudan's Darfur region.

The closure of the border between Egypt and the Gaza Strip on several occasions left thousands of Palestinians stranded on the Egyptian side of the border. When that happened, the Egyptian Red Crescent Society was called upon to provide them with emergency assistance.

In March, the Egyptian government won approval for changes to the constitution in a referendum boycotted by opposition groups. The government presented them as part of a process to modernize the State and its institutions. The opposition and numerous international observers viewed them as a means of consolidating the ruling party's control of power and barring the Muslim Brotherhood movement from participating in political life in Egypt.

Hundreds of Muslim Brotherhood leaders and sympathizers, as well as journalists and bloggers critical of the government, were arrested and tried during the year, some by newly created military courts. At the same time, hundreds of other members of the Brotherhood were released from detention after pledging to renounce violence.

Human rights organizations issued reports condemning alleged abuses by the Egyptian security forces against people arrested and held in police stations and detention centres, some documented on video. The government rejected the accusations, stating that it was taking appropriate measures to curb abuses. To make the point, a few police officers were convicted on torture charges.

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 proportion also came from other countries in the same region. Increasing numbers of Iraqi nationals also sought refuge in Egypt; by year-end, an estimated 100,000 to 150,000 Iraqis had entered the country.

An increasing number of African refugees, asylum seekers and migrants tried to cross the Sinai desert and enter Israel illegally. Several individuals were

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	212
RCMs distributed	280
People reunited with their families	2
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	26
of whom females	15
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	18
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	77
of which for females	28
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	10
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	1,154

reportedly killed in the attempt by Egyptian border guards. Other people were deported from Israel to Egypt on the basis of a bilateral agreement, and cases of forced repatriation from Egypt to Sudan and other countries were registered.

ICRC ACTION

Egypt continued to be the regional focal point of ICRC activities to promote greater knowledge and acceptance of IHL and of neutral and independent humanitarian action in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the national implementation of IHL.

The ICRC continued to conduct studies in a number of Arab countries on the compatibility of their national legislation with IHL, as a means of helping governments to modify their respective laws, where appropriate. Some government and legislative bodies in the region requested and received legal advice in the drafting of model laws incorporating the main provisions of IHL.

Government officials, parliamentarians, judges, academics and diplomats of Arab League member States attended regional seminars on IHL to promote its integration into national legislation, university and school curricula, and the theoretical and operational training programmes of the armed forces. In support of these activities, governments and national implementation bodies received relevant material from the ICRC's regional documentation and promotion centre in Cairo, which continued to produce written and audiovisual materials on IHL, including Arabic translations of IHL treaties. The ICRC's Cairo-based Arabic-language website was also widely consulted as a key reference source on IHL-related issues.

Another ICRC priority was to promote IHL and knowledge of the organization's specific mandate among key civil society audiences, such as the media, human rights NGOs and faith-based Arab humanitarian organizations.

Egyptian nationals were able to restore and maintain contact with family members detained/interned abroad or living in countries affected by armed conflict through ICRC tracing and RCM services, and refugees in Egypt re-established family links by the same means. A number of refugees in Egypt – mainly nationals from countries in the Horn of Africa – received ICRC travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

Cooperation with the Egyptian Red Crescent, undertaken in close coordination with the International Federation, helped to strengthen the National Society's capacity to deliver humanitarian services, particularly in the fields of emergency preparedness and response. Operational cooperation increased through joint Egyptian Red Crescent/ICRC assistance operations for thousands of Palestinians stranded at the Rafah crossing point between Egypt and the Gaza Strip following border closures by the Israeli authorities.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Asylum seekers and refugees, particularly Sudanese nationals, continued to rely on ICRC tracing and RCM services to locate and restore contact with family members in their home countries. Families living in Egypt were able to trace and re-establish contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad or present in countries where communications had been disrupted by conflict or other situations of violence.

A number of unaccompanied minors received ICRC travel documents to enable them to join family members in other countries. Unaccompanied minors received psychological and vocational counselling provided by an NGO, with ICRC support.

Family-links activities were closely coordinated with international organizations, NGOs and the Egyptian Red Crescent, as well as with community-based associations of refugees and migrants from Africa and Iraq. Information sessions were held within these circles to raise awareness of ICRC tracing and RCM services.

- 212 RCMs collected from and 278 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1 to an unaccompanied/separated child
- 13 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative
- new tracing requests registered for 26 people (including 15 females); 18 people located; 77 people (including 28 females and 10 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 2 people reunited with their families
- 3 official documents relayed between family members in Egypt and abroad

Refugee resettlement in third countries

Large numbers of people fleeing their home countries for political or economic reasons continued to arrive in Egypt. The majority came from Sudan but also from other countries of the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes region and West Africa. Only a limited number were granted refugee status and accepted for resettlement in third countries. Those that were accepted but had no valid identification papers required travel documents issued by the ICRC. This process was coordinated with the embassies of destination countries, UNHCR, IOM, governmental agencies and NGOs. Most recipients of ICRC travel documents were from Somalia and Sudan.

- ▶ 1,154 people issued with an ICRC travel document to facilitate their resettlement in third countries

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Based on its right of initiative conferred on it by the Movement's Statutes, the ICRC engaged in further discussions, begun at the end of 2006, with the Egyptian authorities regarding visits to people held on charges of endangering State security or in connection with the fight against "terrorism". Similar discussions that took place in 2003–04 had failed to result in an agreement that would have complied with standard ICRC procedures for detention visits.

On the basis of an ad hoc accord, ICRC delegates were nevertheless authorized to visit detainees held in Egypt after their release and repatriation from the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. One such detainee in administrative detention, who had been visited several times since 2003, was seen again in a Cairo prison in March 2007 prior to his release a month later.

- ▶ 1 detainee visited during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 2 RCMs distributed to 1 detainee

AUTHORITIES

At the regional level, the ICRC focused on encouraging the 22 members of the League of Arab States to accede to IHL instruments to which they were not yet party and to incorporate the relevant legal provisions into their national legislation. Countries that had not done so were encouraged to establish national IHL committees, as well as parliamentary commissions on IHL. Twelve countries in the region had created national IHL committees and two were in the process of doing so.

The ICRC legal advisory service provided expertise, IHL-related documentation and draft model laws to governments and IHL implementation bodies in the region, working in collaboration with the Arab League.

- ▶ several IHL instruments ratified in 2007: the Ottawa Convention by Iraq and Kuwait; the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child by Egypt and Yemen; and the two protocols to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property by Saudi Arabia
- ▶ a new Military Act adopted by Sudan, incorporating the repression of war crimes and crimes against humanity into its military penal code
- ▶ a national IHL committee created by Saudi Arabia
- ▶ 50 experts from the region attended the launch in Cairo of the Arabic-language version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL

- ▶ officials in 12 countries of the region received direct legal advice on and training in IHL implementation through missions organized from Cairo
- ▶ 16 Arab League member States participated in the 6th regional meeting of government experts on IHL in Cairo, organized jointly with the Egyptian Ministry of Justice and the Arab League
- ▶ hundreds of civilian and military judges and public prosecutors in Egypt attended regular IHL dissemination sessions
- ▶ the 4th annual progress report on the status of IHL implementation in the Arab world published jointly with the Arab League

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Arab League's Military Affairs Department invited the ICRC to participate in discussions on IHL-related issues during periodic meetings of Arab military officials at its Cairo headquarters. A joint regional seminar was held, also at the League's Cairo headquarters, for high-ranking officers of 11 Arab States, to promote the integration of IHL into their military teaching and training programmes.

Senior military and security forces officials and the ICRC continued to meet throughout the region and to organize IHL teaching and training for armed forces personnel. Dissemination sessions were also held to promote the incorporation of humanitarian principles and human rights standards into the training programmes of national security forces.

Egyptian troops scheduled for deployment in Darfur were briefed on IHL, and military training instructors attended refresher courses on IHL.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media and other civil society circles in the Arab world were provided with background material in Arabic on IHL and the ICRC, including the quarterly *Al-Insani* (The Humanitarian) magazine. The ICRC's Arabic-language website and publications designed to increase knowledge of IHL in the Arab world were further developed.

Senior journalists from 14 Arab countries attended a regional meeting in Cairo on covering IHL issues in their reporting on armed conflicts, and a competition was launched among the media in the region, with a prize for the best article on a humanitarian topic.

In Egypt, 22 media representatives participated in a workshop on IHL and the ICRC. Meetings were held with parliamentarians, Islamic religious leaders, and staff of human rights organizations and other NGOs to explain the ICRC's mandate and activities and to gain acceptance of its independent, neutral and impartial humanitarian action.

Work also continued to promote the teaching of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools and the inclusion of IHL in university law curricula in Egypt and elsewhere in the region.

- professors and deans from universities in 17 Arab countries participated in the 4th regional seminar on IHL teaching held in Cairo
- representatives of the Ministries of Education of 6 Arab countries (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen) attended a two-day workshop in Cairo, organized by the ICRC and the Egyptian Ministry of Education, to discuss integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into their respective curricula
- in Egypt, experts from the Centre for Curriculum Development of the Education Ministry finalized a practical guide to teaching the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, which was extended to schools in the governorates of Aswan, Al-Bahr al-Ahmar, Marsa Matrouh, Minia, Sinai and Al-Wadi al-Jadid, as well as to various private schools in Cairo

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

On several occasions, Palestinians stranded on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border with the Gaza Strip by Israeli closures received ICRC emergency assistance distributed through the National Society. This included mattresses, blankets and hygiene kits provided to pilgrims blocked at the border on their return from Mecca.

The Egyptian Red Crescent received relief supplies and equipment to boost its emergency response capacity, and preparations were made to build a new warehouse to store supplies near the Egyptian border with the Gaza Strip.

National Society staff and volunteers were given further training and material support by the ICRC in the fields of dissemination, tracing and communication, while Palestine Red Crescent Society staff in Egypt attended a workshop on IHL and the Movement. Close coordination with the International Federation continued, including in efforts to maximize Movement support to the Egyptian Red Crescent.



iran, islamic republic of

The ICRC has been in the Islamic Republic of Iran, with some interruptions, since 1977. It continues work to clarify the fate of POWs registered during the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war or identified through RCMs. It 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 Iranian committee for the implementation of IHL is an important partner in this process. The ICRC maintains a logistical supply base in the Islamic Republic of Iran in support of ICRC operations in Iraq.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,125
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,216
Cooperation with National Societies	461
General	-

► **2,802**

of which: Overheads 171

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
39	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- worked with the Iranian authorities in the framework of a joint mechanism to clarify the fate of former POWs still unaccounted for in connection with the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war
- defined technical support to be provided to the Iranian authorities in the recovery and identification of human remains from the Iran-Iraq war, following an assessment of national forensic capacities
- organized the voluntary repatriation of Iranian nationals, including people released from detention/internment in Afghanistan, the US detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station (Cuba) and Iraq
- supported the Iranian IHL committee in its work to promote the integration of the basic provisions of IHL into national legislation, academic curricula, and the teaching and training programmes of the Iranian armed forces
- further consolidated its partnership with the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in relation to Movement coordination, tracing, restoring family links and mine-risk education
- provided logistical support for ICRC operations in Iraq

CONTEXT

Political debate continued to be dominated by the Islamic Republic of Iran's standoff with the international community over the country's nuclear programme, by measures to boost the economy and curb rising inflation, and by the campaign for parliamentary elections due to be held in March 2008.

In February, the International Atomic Energy Agency said that the Islamic Republic of Iran had failed to meet a UN Security Council deadline to suspend uranium enrichment. The Iranian authorities reaffirmed, however, that the national nuclear programme was for peaceful purposes only.

A diplomatic incident with the United Kingdom ended when the Iranian authorities released 15 British sailors and marines two weeks after they had been detained for allegedly patrolling in Iranian waters at the mouth of the Shatt al-Arab waterway separating the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq.

Tehran continued to consolidate relations with neighbouring countries, as well as with China, India and the Russian Federation. It also stated its readiness to re-establish diplomatic ties with Egypt, which it severed after Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979. In December, the Islamic Republic of Iran was for the first time represented at the annual Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit held in Doha, Qatar, where the Iranian president and his GCC counterparts discussed regional security issues.

The second summit of Caspian Sea States (Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan) was held in Tehran in October to discuss the sharing of the sea's resources.

UNHCR continued to work on the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees in the framework of a tripartite agreement with Iran and Afghanistan.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	121
RCMs distributed	209
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	23
<i>of whom females</i>	6
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	5
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	7
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	120
<i>of which for females</i>	6
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	20
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	1
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1,260

ICRC ACTION

ICRC operational priorities focused on addressing the humanitarian consequences of the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war, promoting the ratification and implementation of IHL, restoring family links, providing support to ICRC operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and enhancing cooperation with the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A number of cases of former POWs unaccounted for in connection with the Iran-Iraq war were resolved in the framework of a joint mechanism agreed upon by the Iranian authorities and the ICRC in February 2004. In the same context, the Iranian authorities expressed interest in the creation of a joint mechanism between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq to address the issue of persons who went missing during the conflict. The ICRC maintained its offer of services to act as a neutral intermediary in this process.

The Islamic Republic of Iran solicited ICRC technical support in the recovery and identification of human remains from the 1980–88 war. A forensic assessment mission in November enabled the ICRC to identify the material and training needs in this regard, and plans were finalized to provide this support in 2008.

Work started on the implementation of an agreement concluded with the Iranian judicial authorities in 2006 to translate the ICRC's study on customary IHL into Farsi, to run training workshops on IHL for judges, prosecutors, and military tribunal and judiciary administrative staff, and to organize a conference in the Islamic Republic of Iran on the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The pilot phase of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme progressed, with 5,200 schoolchildren introduced to the subject in four provinces. Further action was also taken to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation, university curricula, and the teaching and training programmes of the Iranian armed forces.

As in past years, families and refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran were able to restore and maintain contact with their relatives detained/interned abroad through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services, operated jointly with the Iranian Red Crescent.

Storage capacity was expanded at the ICRC office in Kermanshah, in the north-west of the country, for the stocking of relief supplies dispatched overland to various destinations in Iraq.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

People in the Islamic Republic of Iran were able to restore or maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad (Afghanistan, the US detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, and Iraq) through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services, operated jointly with the Iranian Red Crescent.

Twelve Iranian nationals were voluntarily repatriated from Iraq in five operations conducted under ICRC auspices.

- 121 RCMs collected from and 209 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 23 people (including 6 females and 5 minors at the time of disappearance); 7 people located; 120 people (including 6 females and 20 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 person issued with an ICRC travel document

Tracing persons unaccounted for from the Iran-Iraq war

Several meetings were held with the Iranian POW Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to clarifying the fate of Iranians and Iraqis who went missing in the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war. A preparatory meeting involving both parties and the ICRC was due to take place at the end of May, but was rescheduled for 2008.

The number of pending cases of Iraqi POWs unaccounted for was reduced through ICRC release checks carried out in Iraq and interviews conducted during the issue of detention certificates to former Iraqi POWs. Information provided by the Islamic Republic of Iran also led to a reduction in the number of cases of Iranians unaccounted for from the same conflict.

ICRC forensic experts established a clear picture of forensic training and equipment needs during a fact-finding mission to Tehran

in November and finalized plans to provide the necessary support in this regard in 2008.

- ▶ 1,260 detention certificates issued to former POWs or their families

AUTHORITIES

Implementation of an agreement concluded with the Iranian judicial authorities in 2006 regarding IHL training for staff of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Information and Justice and members of the armed and security forces got under way.

- ▶ the Farsi version of the first volume of the ICRC's study on customary IHL nearly completed
- ▶ more than 200 people attended a conference on IHL and the Iranian judicial system
- ▶ representatives of the government branches concerned started a study to assess the compatibility of Iranian legislation with IHL
- ▶ preparations advanced to hold training workshops on IHL for representatives of the civilian and military judiciary and a conference on the ICC
- ▶ the director general of the Iranian judiciary's International Relations Bureau and 2 colleagues participated in a seminar on the ICC in Turin, Italy
- ▶ prominent Islamic academics, parliamentarians, representatives of the Iranian armed forces (including the head of the Foundation for Preserving and Publishing the Works and Values of the Sacred Defense), Foreign Ministry officials and other authorities participated in a round-table on IHL to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Security and Defence Commission under the authority of the Expediency Council pledged to support the organization of IHL sessions for the armed forces.

An armed forces branch in Azerbaijan province requested and received 4,000 copies of the ICRC's *Code of conduct for combatants*.

- ▶ 3 members of the Expediency Council participated in a symposium in China marking the 30th Anniversary of the 1977 Additional Protocols
- ▶ the head of the secretariat of the national IHL committee, 2 members of the Iranian armed forces General Staff, and Iran's military attaché in Rome briefed on challenges facing IHL at a round-table in San Remo, Italy
- ▶ the new ICRC publication *Integrating the law* translated into Farsi for distribution to armed forces officials

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Islamic Human Rights Commission and the ICRC agreed on a strategy to enlist the support of local NGOs to spread knowledge of IHL and the ICRC among key sectors of civil society. Documentation on IHL and ICRC publications were translated into Farsi for this purpose.

Local media coverage of ICRC activities increased significantly.

- ▶ a photo exhibition on ICRC activities during the Iran-Iraq war shown to the public in Khorasan Razavi province, attracting extensive local and national media coverage
- ▶ a workshop on the Movement and IHL held jointly with a local NGO in Kurdistan province to mark the anniversary of the chemical bombardment of Hallabje
- ▶ 30 journalists briefed on IHL and ICRC activities

The pilot phase of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme progressed, with 5,200 schoolchildren introduced to the subject in four provinces. Tehran and Allame Tabatabayi universities and the ICRC signed agreements to promote the teaching of IHL.

- ▶ 3 law students and their teachers participated in the Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition in New Delhi, India
- ▶ 3 law students took part in the 10th South Asian Teaching Session on IHL in Hyderabad, India (see *New Delhi regional*)

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Iranian Red Crescent and the ICRC continued to cooperate closely in the fields of tracing and the exchange of family news, mine action and disaster management. They stepped up consultation on Movement coordination in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq and Lebanon.

With ICRC support, the Iranian Red Crescent:

- ▶ tracing staff met families and handed over to them messages from relatives deprived of freedom in Afghanistan, Iraq or Guantanamo Bay
- ▶ organized training for and distributed a Farsi version of ICRC tracing guidelines to Red Crescent tracing staff
- ▶ organized, with the International Federation, a disaster management course

Working with the Iran Mine Action Center (IRMAC) and the Iranian Red Crescent, the ICRC helped draw up a national plan of action for mine-risk education activities and provided IRMAC with relevant documentation translated into Farsi, as well as materials to promote safe behaviour in mine-infested regions.

Countries in the region participated in a consultation meeting on the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures in Tehran, co-organized by the Iranian Red Crescent, the International Federation and the ICRC.

Senior Iranian Red Crescent managers visited the respective headquarters of the International Federation and the ICRC in Geneva, Switzerland, to learn more about the two organizations and their activities.



The ICRC has been present in Iraq since the outbreak of the Iran–Iraq war in 1980. In the current context, priority is given to protection activities, with a particular focus on persons detained/interned by the multinational forces in Iraq and by the Iraqi authorities, and to providing emergency assistance to the civilian population affected by the conflict, either directly, or through partners, including the Iraqi Red Crescent, whenever possible. Assistance activities include the provision of emergency relief, support to hospitals, emergency repair work on health, water and sanitation infrastructure and restoring family links.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	18,112
Assistance	50,442
Prevention	4,561
Cooperation with National Societies	3,418
General	-

► **76,533**

of which: Overheads 4,648

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

64	expatriates
385	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- expanded its presence on the ground inside Iraq to broaden its access to people directly affected by the ongoing non-international armed conflict and to be better placed to increase respect for IHL among the parties engaged in the hostilities
- followed up the cases of more than 37,000 people detained by the multinational forces, the Iraqi authorities and the Kurdish regional authorities in Iraq, and enabled large numbers of them to restore or maintain family contacts
- boosted its support to medical facilities treating thousands of weapon-wounded and disabled people throughout the country
- provided more than 3 million IDPs and vulnerable residents with improved access to water and sanitation facilities in areas worst affected by the hostilities or those hosting large numbers of IDPs
- enabled some 740,000 IDPs and residents to enhance their economic security by providing them with food, hygiene kits and other basic necessities
- intensified networking with influential actors, particularly religious and tribal leaders in the centre and south of the country, with the aim of increasing acceptance of the organization and thus its ability to reach a maximum number of people affected by the conflict

CONTEXT

The ongoing non-international armed conflict between the government/multinational forces and armed groups, along with sectarian killings, suicide bombings and other forms of violence, continued to cause widespread death and destruction. The second half of 2007 witnessed a reduction in the level of new population displacements in Iraq, as well as the return of limited numbers of Iraqis who had sought refuge abroad, particularly from the Syrian Arab Republic.

The violence in Baghdad subsided somewhat in the first months of the year before showing an upsurge in May, resulting in large numbers of casualties and further population displacement. Some Baghdad neighbourhoods were sealed off by walls and other means to control entry and exit, and civilians were often blocked in their homes because of security constraints. From September onwards, the level of violence in Baghdad dropped again, although several mass casualty attacks took place in the city towards year-end.

In central Iraq, the level of violence decreased significantly in Al Anbar province, particularly during the second half of the year. The situation remained precarious in Mosul and Kirkuk, as well as in the western part of Ninewa province, where mass casualty attacks occurred in August. The province of Diyala, particularly around Muqaddiya and Baquba, saw regular fighting between various armed groups, as well as operations by the Iraqi army and coalition forces.

In northern Iraq, tensions with Turkey escalated during the second half of the year, with Turkish forces amassing along the border with Iraq, launching air attacks and conducting limited small-scale ground operations targeting the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which had launched attacks on Turkish troops from northern Iraq.

Most provinces south-east of Baghdad were relatively calm compared with central Iraq. Further south, in the greater Basra area, attacks intensified against multinational forces in the first half of the year, and several clashes occurred between rival political groups. Levels of criminality also rose in the south, as did assassinations and kidnappings. By year-end, the official hand-over of responsibility for security to the Iraqi authorities by the multinational forces coincided with a decrease in the overall level of violence, although sporadic attacks continued to occur.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS			
Detainees visited ¹	37,370	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	5,052	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	741,938	25% 50%
		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	732,803	25% 50%
	<i>of whom females</i>	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	31,267	25% 50%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	3,340,000	50% 40%
Number of visits carried out	102	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Number of places of detention visited	24	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	84	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Admissions ²	<i>Patients</i>	5,100	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
RCMs collected	42,846	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	23,202	3,900 6,515
RCMs distributed	33,297	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	2,522	334 123
People reunited with their families	1	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	6,447	1,001 3,701
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	403				
	<i>of whom females</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	240				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	3,400				
	<i>of which for females</i>				
	<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	22				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	554				

1. All detainees known through the authorities' notifications and followed up by the ICRC

2. Include only the weapon-wounded reported by the ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data

Unemployment and poverty levels remained high, and much of the population was still reliant on government food rations to cover immediate needs. Water, sewerage and electrical power infrastructure remained vastly inadequate to meet the needs of the population.

Tens of thousands of people remained in the custody of the Iraqi authorities and the multinational forces in Iraq, and many families were still without news of relatives who had gone missing during past or current conflicts.

ICRC ACTION

In 2007, the ICRC progressively expanded its geographical presence and humanitarian response capacity in Iraq in order to provide emergency protection and assistance to a maximum number of people affected by the violence. A new office was opened in Najaf to complement the ICRC's permanent presence in Baghdad, Basra, Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah and regular missions to Iraq by ICRC staff from Amman, Jordan.

A budget extension appeal was launched in May, largely in response to the emergency needs of growing numbers of IDPs and the communities hosting them, as well as of other vulnerable groups such as the elderly, disabled people, orphans and households headed by women. It was also in response to the increased detention-related and family-visits workload resulting from the growing number of people detained/interned in various parts of the country, urgent additional needs in the water, sanitation and health sectors, and new livelihood-support projects.

The ICRC's expanded capacity to handle relief distributions with the Iraqi Red Crescent, with local NGOs or directly enabled it to

boost its assistance to cover the basic needs of 125,000 destitute households (some 742,000 people), both residents and IDPs. More than 3 million IDPs and residents benefited from water and sanitation projects, and support was given to scores of hospitals providing life-saving treatment to thousands of weapon-wounded.

In accordance with its standard practice, the ICRC in Iraq continued to operate without military protection in order to preserve its neutral and independent identity.

Coordination was reinforced with UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations operating in the country in order to avoid duplication or gaps in aid for those in need.

The ICRC publicly voiced its concern about the humanitarian situation and violations of IHL in Iraq. It also produced two public reports on the protection of the civilian population and on the plight of the families of the missing.

CIVILIANS

Promoting respect for IHL

Civilians continued to bear the brunt of the hostilities, in terms of casualties, displacement and lost livelihoods. Despite security constraints limiting direct access to the victims of the conflict and hampering sustained dialogue with all parties to the hostilities, the ICRC continued to monitor public sources regarding IHL violations and intensified its networking with external contacts potentially able to influence events in Iraq. It also made public calls on the parties to ensure the protection of civilians and the medical mission.

Assisting IDPs, host communities and other vulnerable groups

Around 742,000 people, both residents and IDPs, received food, hygiene kits and other essential relief commodities through distributions carried out directly by the ICRC or through the Iraqi Red Crescent and local NGOs. Among the beneficiaries were the inhabitants of 11 IDP camps, including Palestinians and Iranian Kurds stranded in camps along Iraq's borders with Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

In northern and southern Iraq, the economic security of 4,800 vulnerable resident and IDP families was restored or strengthened through the implementation of livelihood-support projects and the rehabilitation of irrigation canals.

- 741,938 people (124,522 households), including 445,163 IDPs (74,337 households), received food
- 732,803 people (123,073 households), including 439,682 IDPs (73,498 households), received essential household items
- 31,267 people (4,823 households) benefited from agricultural livelihood-support initiatives

Ensuring adequate water supply and sanitation installations

Water infrastructure rehabilitation and development

Water storage and distribution networks and sewage treatment plants were upgraded or rehabilitated, primarily in areas with large numbers of IDPs, including camps, or where infrastructure had been damaged during hostilities. Several water supply and sewage evacuation and sanitation facilities were either rehabilitated or constructed, thus contributing to the prevention of outbreaks of disease.

Assistance to primary health care centres

Health facilities that had ceased to operate or were on the point of breaking down were rehabilitated or upgraded in various parts of the country, particularly in provinces affected by military operations or sectarian violence and those hosting large numbers of displaced families. In addition, a number of primary health care centres were built in areas lacking such services.

- 6 primary health care centres (capacity: 750 patients per day) built in Basra, Diyala, Erbil and Ninewa
- 19 primary health care centres (total capacity: over 4,000 patients per day) treating the wounded throughout Iraq, including 10 centres in Baghdad, repaired or upgraded

Summary

Over 3 million people benefited from more than 140 water/sanitation projects, many of them completed in the areas most affected by the armed conflict, such as 41 in Baghdad, 18 in Diyala, 14 in Anbar and 17 in Ninawa, including:

- 25 primary health care centres in Anbar, Babel, Baghdad, Diwaniya, Karbala, Salah Al Deen and Wasit provinces serving an average of more than 3,820 patients per day had their sanitation facilities and vital electro-mechanical components repaired or upgraded
- 13 hospitals, with a combined capacity to treat over 2,800 inpatients, had their water and/or sanitation systems restored and 7 hospitals received regular supplies of water by trucks and in bags
- 9 hospitals and medico-legal institutes had their mortuary fridges repaired/rehabilitated

Restoring family links and clarifying the fate of the missing

The Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-committee dealing with cases of persons missing from the 1990–91 Gulf War held three meetings, chaired by the ICRC. The security situation in Iraq prevented any work at gravesites.

- the fate of 9 Iraqis and 3 Kuwaitis clarified in the framework of the Tripartite Commission, bringing to 293 the number of cases resolved since 2003

Discussions with both parties on a future mechanism to tackle the issue of people unaccounted for in relation to the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war were stepped up.

The capacities of the Medico-Legal Institutes in Baghdad, Basra and Diyala and of hospitals to deal with the daily caseload of dead bodies were enhanced through the rehabilitation of 9 mortuary fridges, the provision of forensic equipment and further data collection/management training.

- 21,389 RCMs collected from and 11,303 RCMs distributed mainly to families of detainees/internees, in cooperation with the Iraqi Red Crescent
- new tracing requests registered for 403 people (5 females and 12 minors at the time of disappearance); 240 people located; 3,400 cases (48 females and 142 minors at the time of disappearance) still being processed, including 1,163 cases (9 females and 9 minors at the time of disappearance) from the 1990–91 Gulf War
- 9,398 names of people and their present whereabouts or requests for information on the whereabouts of relatives published on the website www.familylinks.icrc.org
- 22 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 28 official documents relayed between family members across front lines or borders

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detention facilities under the authority of the multinational forces in Iraq

By the end of 2007, more than 20,000 people continued to be held in permanent places of internment controlled by the multinational forces in Iraq (Camp Cropper and Remembrance II, both located near Baghdad Airport; Camp Bucca near Um Qasr, southern Iraq; and the Divisional Internment Facility of the UK forces in Basra). Detainees were regularly visited by ICRC teams, except in Camp Bucca owing to security constraints. The detaining authorities and the ICRC maintained a constructive dialogue on detainee treatment, living conditions and legal issues.

- 32,033 internees known through the authorities' notifications followed up, mainly internees in Camp Bucca
- 3,209 internees visited and monitored individually (including 18 females and 423 minors) and 2,684 newly registered (including 16 females and 419 minors), during 26 visits to 6 places of detention

Detention facilities under the authority of the Kurdish regional authorities

Detainees were visited in the northern governorates in detention centres under the authority of the Kurdish regional authorities. Following the submission of an ICRC report on the basic judicial

guarantees afforded to detainees, the Kurdish judicial authorities intensified their dialogue with the ICRC in order to find practical solutions to the problems identified. Medical assessments conducted in each place of detention resulted in the ICRC providing support to the detaining authorities in their efforts to improve medical services for inmates.

- ▶ 3,614 detainees visited, of whom 1,741 monitored individually (including 14 females and 14 minors), and 853 newly registered (including 10 females and 13 minors) during 72 visits to 16 places of detention controlled by the Kurdish regional authorities and 1 visit to 1 place of detention controlled by an armed group called the Party for Free Life in Kurdistan
- ▶ detainees received hygiene kits and sets of clothing

Detention facilities under the authority of the Iraqi central government

Following negotiations with the Iraqi Ministry of Justice, the ICRC visited for the first time people detained at the Fort Suse Federal Penitentiary close to Sulaymaniah in northern Iraq. Given the security constraints, no other places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of Justice could be visited.

Dialogue with the Iraqi central government continued regarding access to people held under the authority of other ministries.

- ▶ 1,723 detainees visited, of whom 102 monitored individually and 70 newly registered, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention

Family news

The exchange of family news was enhanced by the *salamat plus* short message relay system and the establishment of a new telephone help line.

- ▶ 11,622 internees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 21,457 RCMs collected from and 21,994 RCMs distributed to detainees/internees
- ▶ 10,206 *salamats* relayed from detainees/internees to their families
- ▶ 21 people, mostly released detainees/internees, repatriated to their country of origin at their request through the ICRC
- ▶ 554 detention certificates issued to former detainees/internees or their families, enabling them to qualify for social welfare benefits

WOUNDED AND SICK

Assistance to hospitals

ICRC action boosted the capacity of Iraqi emergency medical services to cope with mass casualty situations, and in several cases enabled medical facilities to continue functioning. Over 80 hospitals and other health centres received drugs, medical consumables, and essential emergency room and/or operating theatre equipment. In an integrated approach, the water and sanitation systems of numerous hospitals and primary health care centres treating the wounded were repaired or upgraded and a number of main hospitals were supplied with water on a daily basis.

Health facilities received more than 100 tonnes of medical supplies in response to cholera outbreaks in Baghdad, Basra, Sulaymaniyah and Ta'mim provinces.

In total, 96 health facilities (84 hospitals and 12 health centres) received support for water and sanitation projects (see *Civilians*):

- ▶ 28 hospitals received medical supplies for the treatment of over 5,500 weapon-wounded
- ▶ 69 hospitals received essential emergency room equipment
- ▶ 27 hospitals received fully comprehensive operating theatre equipment
- ▶ 80 Iraqi health professionals participated in ICRC seminars on advanced first aid, emergency room trauma management and war surgery
- ▶ the Al-Rashad Psychiatric Hospital, Baghdad, received support for its occupational therapy programme

In the 35 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data, 5,100 wounded people were admitted. Owing to the difficult situation, no other reliable information was made available in 2007 by these or other health facilities, although it is expected that such data will become available in the near future.

Assistance to the physically disabled

Physical rehabilitation centres in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Hilla, Mosul and Najaf continued to receive ICRC technical and material support, and similar assistance to the centre in Tikrit started at the request of the Ministry of Health. Following the signing of an agreement with the Iraqi authorities, construction began on a physical rehabilitation centre in Falluja.

- ▶ 23,202 patients (including 3,900 women and 6,515 children) received services at 8 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 1,760 new patients (including 276 women and 116 children) fitted with prostheses and 5,060 (including 754 women and 2,980 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 2,522 prostheses (including 334 for women, 123 for children and 802 for mine victims), 6,447 orthoses (including 1,001 for women, 3,701 for children and 143 for mine victims), 724 crutches and 28 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Following talks with the ICRC, Iraqi government officials recommended the setting up of a preparatory committee to draft a law on the establishment of a national IHL implementation mechanism.

Relations with local authorities were developed in various parts of Iraq, particularly in the south and the north, aimed at spreading knowledge and acceptance of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

- ▶ political authorities representing southern provinces attended a workshop on IHL and the ICRC

UN agencies, NGOs and the ICRC met regularly to coordinate and streamline humanitarian action, with the ICRC maintaining its observer status as a neutral and independent organization.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Networking with the various parties to the conflict was intensified to broaden acceptance of the ICRC and enhance its access to victims.

Contacts with high-ranking commanders of the Iraqi army paved the way for the development of a constructive dialogue regarding the need to disseminate IHL. The Kurdish military and police authorities expressed interest in integrating IHL into their training programmes.

- 14 senior Iraqi officers attended a workshop on IHL
- members of the armed and security forces under the control of the Kurdish regional authorities attended briefings on IHL at military academies and IHL training courses

US military officials in Baghdad and the ICRC prepared the ground for the participation of the ICRC delegation in Washington, United States, in briefings to US troops prior to their deployment in Iraq (see *Washington regional*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

Contacts were expanded with leaders of religious and tribal structures throughout Iraq, especially following the opening of the Najaf office, in view of their potential influence on public opinion and their role in political life.

- tribal community leaders and Muslim scholars from all over Iraq attended workshops providing them with basic information on ICRC neutral and independent action

Following the signature of an agreement with the Union of Arab Jurists, an IHL documentation centre was opened and 20 participants attended the first seminar for civil society members from various Arab countries, including Iraq, on “Horizons and limits of humanitarian action”.

Meetings with Iraqi NGOs were followed up by the production of a leaflet to help them promote IHL within civil society.

The deans of Iraqi law colleges were engaged in a consultation process on the integration of IHL into university curricula. To encourage Iraqi law lecturers to set up a countrywide network recognized as a reference on IHL studies, the ICRC sponsored the creation of a website, thus providing a virtual forum for the exchange of information between teachers unable to meet owing to insecurity.

- Iraqi law colleges received IHL libraries
- 2 law lecturers attended an ICRC regional seminar on IHL in Cairo (see *Egypt*)

Regular information was provided to the media and two seminars on IHL and the ICRC for Iraqi journalists contributed to better media coverage of the ICRC’s main concerns and activities. The ICRC’s public report *Civilians without protection: The ever-worsening humanitarian crisis in Iraq*, issued in April, helped raise awareness of the humanitarian consequences of the conflict.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Working from its Baghdad headquarters and 18 branches country-wide, the Iraqi Red Crescent played a pivotal role in responding to humanitarian needs in Iraq. Joint ICRC-Iraqi Red Crescent cooperation programmes enabled thousands of separated family members to stay in contact via the ICRC tracing network and brought urgently needed relief to IDPs and other vulnerable groups (see *Civilians*). The Iraqi Red Crescent also developed plans to set up two pilot emergency medical service stations in Baghdad, with ICRC support.

Strengthening the capacity of the Iraqi Red Crescent to respond to the needs in the country remained a top priority, as was the safety of Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers.

Annual cooperation agreements were signed with the Iraqi Red Crescent in the fields of emergency assistance, restoring family links, mine action, and the promotion of IHL and the Fundamental Principles. The National Society received technical tools to boost its capacity to undertake economic security needs assessments, carry out relief distributions and provide accurate reporting and to develop its warehouse and logistics management systems for the storage and rapid deployment of emergency supplies. On-site training and materials were provided to the two national Iraqi Red Crescent warehouses in Baghdad used as the principal storage areas for the ICRC pipeline. Iraqi Red Crescent personnel also underwent further tracing training.

The Iraqi Red Crescent office in Amman played a key role in the coordination of and support to operations in Iraq. It received technical and material support from the ICRC.

However, following discussions in November 2007, the ICRC and the Iraqi Red Crescent faced difficulties in agreeing on a common operational approach for 2008.



israel, the occupied and autonomous territories

The ICRC has been present in Israel and the occupied and 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 its Movement partners and supports the activities of the Palestine Red Crescent Society and the Magen David Adom.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	17,824
Assistance	37,436
Prevention	3,035
Cooperation with National Societies	3,101
General	-

► **61,396**

of which: Overheads 3,722

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

82 expatriates
236 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- actively sought compliance by Israel with its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation, as well as respect by Palestinian security forces and groups for civilians and medical facilities
- visited 21,825 Palestinian detainees held in Israel and 2,851 people detained by the Palestinian authorities to assess their treatment and living conditions
- enabled 7,273 Palestinian detainees held in Israel to receive visits from family members
- stepped up its emergency response in the Palestinian territories, in particular in the Gaza Strip, to ensure the functioning of medical facilities and access to safe water, thus reducing public health risks for the population
- assisted impoverished communities in Gaza and the West Bank through cash-for-work and livelihood-support projects, and distributed food and household essentials to thousands of particularly vulnerable families
- supported the long-awaited establishment of a Palestine Red Crescent Society ambulance service in East Jerusalem

CONTEXT

The year 2007 saw two major developments in Israel and the Palestinian territories: the takeover by Hamas of the Gaza Strip in June, leading to a *de facto* split from the Palestinian Authority (PA) in the West Bank; and the tentative relaunching of peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, after a six-year hiatus.

Clashes between rival Palestinian groups came to a head in June when Hamas forces seized control of the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian unity government in Ramallah was immediately disbanded and an emergency caretaker government installed, after which the international boycott imposed on the PA since January 2006 was lifted and Israel resumed transfers of tax and revenue funds to the PA.

Meanwhile, the boycott of the Gaza Strip remained in force. Frequent rocket and mortar fire from Gaza on nearby Israeli towns continued to cause casualties and material damage. Retaliatory Israeli air strikes and ground incursions into Gaza also resulted in loss of life and material damage. Israel tightened its closure of Gaza's borders. By the end of 2007, Gaza's economy had ground to a near halt, while basic commodities, including fuel, had become increasingly scarce and vital infrastructure was on the verge of collapse.

In the West Bank, people's everyday lives and livelihoods continued to be constrained by frequent military incursions, arrests, mobility restrictions and the resulting economic stagnation.

In mid-2007, tension and rhetoric ran high between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, with both armies mobilizing along the demarcation line between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic. On 6 September, Israel launched air strikes against alleged nuclear targets in the northern part of the Syrian Arab Republic, after which tensions seemed to de-escalate.

US-led efforts to revive the peace process culminated in an international conference in Annapolis, United States, in November. The Israeli and Palestinian delegations committed to launching bilateral talks aimed at the declaration of a Palestinian State by the end of 2008.

An international donor conference held in Paris, France, in December pledged an unprecedented USD 7.4 billion to the PA over the following three years.

The number of irregular migrants crossing into Israel from Sinai, Egypt, rose substantially during the year.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited ¹	24,676	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	10,220	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	28,651	26% 47%
		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	11,139	26% 47%
	<i>of whom females</i>	Agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	35,468	26% 47%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	531,050	25% 43%
Number of visits carried out	713	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Number of places of detention visited	142	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	29	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	218,253	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	61,387	
RCMs collected	7,747	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
RCMs distributed	7,341	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	50	6 32
People reunited with their families	4	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	9	2 2
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	27	3 23
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	6				
	<i>of whom females</i>				
	2				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	6				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	15				
	<i>of which for females</i>				
	3				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	15,862				

1. All detainees known through the authorities' notifications and followed up by the ICRC

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC repeatedly reminded Israel of its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation. It also stepped up representations to the Palestinian authorities and the Palestinian security forces, in particular with regard to respect for civilians and medical facilities and personnel.

Palestinians suffering the worst effects of the occupation benefited from ICRC distributions of food and household essentials, as well as cash-for-work, livelihood-support and income-generating projects.

The cash-strapped Palestinian health sector received increased ICRC support, as did the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) of the Palestine Red Crescent Society. Daily ICRC coordination with the Israeli authorities facilitated the population's access to medical facilities and that of medical service providers to the sick and the wounded. An emergency stock of first-aid supplies was established in Gaza for use in stabilizing the wounded before their transfer to hospital. From June onwards, emergency assistance was stepped up to Gaza hospitals, which were running short of vital drugs, disposables, and other materials and equipment as a result of the closure of the Gaza Strip. Repeated representations were made to the Israeli authorities to let the necessary goods into the Strip and to allow patients in need of urgent treatment not available in Gaza to cross into and/or through Israeli territory to obtain it elsewhere.

To prevent a further deterioration of basic services in the Gaza Strip, water, wastewater and hospital infrastructure damaged during hostilities was repaired and four water and sewage projects were implemented. Continuous support was given to the Palestinian water authorities to improve access to safe water in the West Bank, and 19 projects to provide water infrastructure in poorly served West Bank communities were completed or under way.

ICRC delegates conducted regular visits to Palestinian detainees held by Israel to monitor their treatment and living conditions and to enable

them to exchange news with and receive visits from family members. From June 2007, however, families from Gaza were prevented by the Israeli authorities from visiting relatives detained in Israel.

Regular visits were also carried out by the ICRC to hundreds of detainees held by the PA, and written reports with the findings and recommendations were submitted systematically to the relevant authorities. After the Hamas takeover in Gaza, the ICRC gained immediate access to people detained by the new *de facto* authorities in Gaza. Despite concerted efforts to gain access to the three Israeli soldiers captured in June and July 2006, authorization to visit them had not been obtained by year-end.

The ICRC pursued its efforts to clarify the fate of people still unaccounted for from past conflicts in the region. In the occupied Golan, it renewed efforts to persuade the Israeli authorities to allow visits between separated family members – blocked since 1992 – to resume.

CIVILIANS

Protecting the civilian population living under occupation

Representations were made to the Israeli authorities regarding, in particular, mobility restrictions, the maintenance and expansion of settlements, settler violence against Palestinians, the West Bank barrier, the destruction or confiscation of Palestinian property, and the conduct of Israeli military operations. The case of Hebron was taken up to illustrate how mobility restrictions had contributed to the city's economic decline. The dialogue with the Israeli authorities also focused on East Jerusalem, where Palestinians suffered problems linked to settlements, the barrier or identity (ID) cards.

Palestinian farmers' access to their land located on the Israeli side of the West Bank barrier improved slightly. Access of West Bank ID holders to the Jordan valley was finally granted at the beginning of May, albeit only for pedestrians.

- 35 written and over 3,000 oral representations made to the Israeli authorities

Representations were made to the PA, Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups regarding violence against Israeli civilians and attacks on alleged collaborators or members of rival Palestinian factions.

- 84 incidents documented and 10 oral representations made to Palestinian militant groups or to the Palestinian security services

Economic security

Vulnerable groups in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where living conditions failed to improve following the lifting of the financial boycott of the PA, benefited from various forms of economic security assistance.

ICRC livelihood-support programmes were increasingly hampered by Israel's refusal to allow the importation of any construction, mechanical or agricultural materials into the Gaza Strip.

- 1,187 people (185 households) whose homes were destroyed or damaged received emergency shelter, food and household essentials
- 15,172 people (2,444 households) affected by military operations or other emergencies received ad hoc food assistance and 9,676 people (1,983 households) received other basic assistance
- some 12,292 people (1,866 households) in Hebron Old City received monthly food parcels and quarterly distributions of hygiene items
- impoverished communities benefited from cash-for-work projects: 25,615 people (4,237 households) benefited from the allocation of 83,840 man-days of work to help build/rehabilitate community infrastructure; 6,173 others (1,000 households) benefited from micro-economic projects (provision of livestock, professional tools and training)
- in Gaza, 460 vulnerable farming households (3,680 individuals) had their livelihoods improved through the rehabilitation of agricultural land and related infrastructure

Access to safe water

- 531,050 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 150,000 people in Khan Yunis (Gaza) from the rehabilitation of the sewage installations
 - 20,000 people in Qalqilia (Gaza) and 12,000 in Al Zahra (Gaza) from work on the water supply installations
 - 13,000 people in Taqoa (West Bank) from the installation of a new water tank
 - patients of 3 Gaza hospitals from the rehabilitation of the hospitals' water facilities

During military operations in Gaza, municipal workers were able to carry out emergency repairs to water and sewage facilities thanks to ICRC escorts.

Restoring family links

Travel to the Syrian Arab Republic by people living in the occupied Golan, as well as movements within and between locations in the Palestinian territories, remained subject to Israeli restrictions.

- more than 800 Druze students and clerics from the occupied Golan travelled under ICRC auspices between the occupied Golan and Damascus for study or religious purposes

- 4,264 RCMs collected from and 2,723 RCMs distributed to civilians, including families in the occupied Golan and Lebanese nationals in Israel
- new tracing requests registered for 6 people (including 2 females); 6 people located; 15 people (including 3 females) still being sought
- 1 deaf and 3 visually impaired West Bank students and 1 blind woman regularly visited family members in Gaza under ICRC auspices
- 4 children reunited with their families
- 131 official documents relayed between family members in the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic and between Lebanese nationals in Israel and their families in Lebanon
- 299 various certificates issued to families

Regular representations were made to the Israeli authorities on behalf of 157 Palestinian families awaiting the return of the remains of deceased relatives.

Clarifying the fate of the missing

Work to clarify the fate of five Israelis missing from past conflicts in the region continued. Regular discussions were also held with the Israeli authorities on the question of repatriating the remains of Lebanese and other Arab combatants killed in action by Israeli forces.

- the remains of 3 Lebanese civilians repatriated to Lebanon; the remains of 1 Israeli citizen repatriated from Lebanon to Israel

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in Israeli prisons, interrogation centres, provisional detention centres and police stations continued to receive regular visits from ICRC delegates, as well as family visits organized by the ICRC. Delegates assessed the treatment and living conditions of the detainees and their access to medical care. Reports of the visits, including recommendations for corrective action when necessary, were systematically submitted to the relevant Israeli authorities.

The number of detainees decreased slightly compared with 2006, reaching 11,258 by year-end. However the number of administrative detainees, as well as foreign detainees from countries with no diplomatic relations with Israel, increased. Foreign detainees received visits from relatives living in Israel, with the support of the Magen David Adom.

Concerted efforts to gain access to the three Israeli soldiers captured in June and July 2006 were to no avail. Their families were kept informed of any developments.

Five Lebanese detainees captured during the 2006 conflict – one of whom was repatriated in October – were regularly visited by the ICRC.

- 21,825 detainees visited, of whom 9,269 monitored individually (including 124 females and 777 minors) and 5,394 newly registered (including 47 females and 553 minors), during 419 visits to 43 places of detention
- 3,420 RCMs collected from and 4,589 RCMs distributed to detainees and 3,132 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative

- 7,273 detainees received family visits through the organization of transport for 236,119 family members in a total of 3,480 trips to 27 Israeli places of detention
- 2,883 documents, of which 1,962 power of attorney documents, and 817 sets of personal belongings relayed between Palestinian detainees and their families
- 15,709 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 2,939 detainees received regular allowances of 100 shekels
- 6,777 sets of clothes and 524 medical items provided to detainees, in particular foreign detainees

Detainees held by the PA and by the new *de facto* authorities in Gaza were visited regularly. Palestinian authorities at all levels were contacted on several occasions regarding issues related to detainee treatment and respect for judicial guarantees. Written representations on the treatment and living conditions of detainees were submitted to the arresting and detaining authorities concerned, as well as a summary report on the treatment of people held by the Palestinian security services.

Representatives of the international community were mobilized in this regard, as well as on the issue of penal reform.

- 2,851 detainees visited, of whom 951 monitored individually (including 14 females and 37 minors) and 722 newly registered (including 9 females and 31 minors), during 294 visits to 99 places of detention
- 63 RCMs collected from and 4 RCMs distributed to detainees and 350 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- 5 documents relayed between Palestinian detainees and their families
- 153 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 15 senior Palestinian security officers in Ramallah briefed on ICRC activities for detainees
- detainees received monthly distributions of hygiene kits, as well as ad hoc medical assistance and recreational and educational materials

WOUNDED AND SICK

During the Palestinian health workers' strike from mid-February to end-May, triggered by the non-payment of salaries, all primary health care centres were closed and hospital services limited admissions to acute emergency cases. The second half of 2007 saw a resumption of hospital activities.

In response to rising needs, Ministry of Health facilities and the Palestinian Red Crescent's EMS received increased assistance, and the relevant authorities and international stakeholders were urged to provide the funding needed to ensure the availability of health services for the wounded and the sick. The Israeli authorities were urged to allow patients requiring treatment unavailable in Gaza and the West Bank to be evacuated for treatment elsewhere. From June, the Gaza public hospitals received additional support (food, laundry products, fuel, equipment, drugs and disposables) so that they could continue to function.

An assessment of West Bank and Gaza hospitals confirmed that essential equipment was either not working or in poor working order. A plan of action was prepared to provide the 18 hospitals surveyed with essential equipment in 2008.

- Ministry of Health central medical stores in Gaza and the West Bank received approximately 370 tonnes of drugs and consumables to supply 18 public hospitals in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as medical and nursing journals for medical professionals
- first-aid supplies to stabilize the wounded stockpiled and distributed as necessary in Gaza
- 181 visits made to 10 hospitals in the West Bank and 153 visits to 8 hospitals in Gaza to monitor access by patients and staff, the level of available medical supplies, the use of ICRC-donated drugs and consumables, and the impact of the financial crisis on essential hospital activities
- respect for medical personnel, transport and facilities promoted in the West Bank, including among members of armed groups
- the Palestinian Red Crescent EMS, which transported some 80,000 patients in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, received funds to cover operating costs, the ambulance fleet, the education centre and effective management practices
- 3 EMS working groups held to support the improved coordination, efficiency and effectiveness of the main ambulance service providers; regular meetings held with the main actors to advocate for improved coordination of ambulance services between the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem
- Magen David Adom emergency services received ongoing ICRC training and financial support

In the 25 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 218,253 patients admitted: of whom 4,490 weapon-wounded, 57,101 other surgical cases, and 75,982 medical and 80,680 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 61,387 surgical operations performed
- 502,569 outpatients given consultations, including 417,586 attending surgical or medical consultations and 84,983 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

In response to the large number of above-knee amputees from the June clashes in Gaza, an ICRC physical rehabilitation project was initiated in the Artificial Limb and Polio Centre in Gaza in November.

AUTHORITIES

Israel was again urged on several occasions to ensure that the basic needs of the civilian population in the occupied territories were met, in accordance with its obligations under IHL as the occupying power. It was also encouraged to ratify the 1977 Additional Protocols.

- a Palestinian and an Israeli lawyer participated in an IHL session in Warsaw, Poland
- Palestinian officials attended various regional seminars on IHL

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

- various Israeli armed and security services, including operational units of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in the West Bank and the Israeli Prison Service, attended 27 sessions on the ICRC and IHL
- the IDF International Law Department and the IDF legal adviser's office in the West Bank and the ICRC regularly shared views on IHL issues

- ▶ members of the Palestinian security services increased their knowledge of IHL during 18 ICRC-organized seminars
- ▶ Palestinian militants from various factions attended sessions on IHL

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media and civil society

Regular information was provided to the media, and seminars on IHL and the ICRC for Israeli and Palestinian journalists contributed to better media coverage of the ICRC's main concerns and activities in the Israeli-Palestinian context. The ICRC's public report *Dignity Denied*, issued in December and describing the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, drew the attention of stakeholders and the public to the plight of the Palestinian population.

- ▶ Palestinian religious leaders across the territories and members of Islamic charities in Gaza attended 29 seminars on IHL and the ICRC
- ▶ influential figures from Palestinian civil society attended 51 dissemination sessions aimed at reinforcing acceptance of and respect for ICRC field activities
- ▶ 17 sessions on the ICRC and IHL organized for Palestinian NGOs and 2 such sessions organized for Israeli NGOs

Schools and universities

Some 270 schools in Gaza and the West Bank continued to teach the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. New Palestinian Ministry of Education supervisors at national and regional level attended workshops on the subject.

Students and staff of the 6 main Palestinian universities in the West Bank and Gaza and Israeli students of international law attended IHL dissemination sessions.

In cooperation with Israeli academic circles, the ICRC organized an IHL guest lecture series, an international conference on the legal discourse on occupation in the Israeli-Palestinian context held in June, and a national IHL competition held at year-end.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The ICRC continued to lend its support to the implementation of the operational agreement between the Magen David Adom and the Palestinian Red Crescent concluded in November 2005, as well as to independent monitoring of the latter. The 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November adopted a resolution calling for rapid and full implementation of the agreement and for increased monitoring of progress made in this regard. The Magen David Adom's advocacy efforts for better humanitarian access of Palestinian Red Crescent ambulances culminated in the long-awaited establishment of a Palestinian Red Crescent ambulance service in East Jerusalem.

During the second half of the year, the ICRC agreed to a reallocation of resources to support Palestinian Red Crescent efforts to replace the annual financial subsidy from the PA, suspended in 2006 owing to the PA's own financial crisis.

The Palestinian Red Crescent continued to help the ICRC implement various programmes benefiting the Palestinian population (see *Civilians*).

With ICRC support, the Palestinian Red Crescent:

- ▶ ran its EMS (see *Wounded and sick*)
- ▶ organized an Advanced Medical Post disaster drill in Bethlehem and the deployment of an Emergency Response Unit Mobile Field Hospital in Nablus, involving a total of 185 participants from the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Civil Defence and Military Medical Services
- ▶ held 1 tracing workshop for 40 staff and volunteers, 19 IHL training seminars for over 650 participants, and 1 five-day train-the-trainer workshop on dissemination for 17 participants
- ▶ produced 15 publications

Partner National Societies supported the Palestinian Red Crescent, in accordance with agreements with the ICRC and an operational alliance established by the International Federation. Monthly Movement meetings, chaired by the ICRC, contributed to coordinated action under a coherent overall security framework. Logistical support was provided to enable other components of the Movement to deliver and distribute aid in the West Bank and Gaza.

Development of the Magen David Adom's community-based disaster response and restoring family links capacities continued. As part of this process, the Magen David Adom participated in the organization of a pilot family visits programme for a small number of foreign detainees held in Israeli places of detention.

With ICRC support, the Magen David Adom:

- ▶ ran its emergency services (see *Wounded and sick*)
- ▶ organized a second five-day National Disaster Response Team training course, complementing participation in Movement training in logistics, water and sanitation, and information technology
- ▶ ran youth summer camps and volunteer and technical exchanges with sister National Societies, promoting the integration of the Magen David Adom into the wider Movement
- ▶ operated tracing services, which received 388 enquiries from within Israel and through the worldwide tracing network, and, in conjunction with the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, Germany, handled 612 enquiries from Israeli citizens seeking certification of internment (see *International Tracing Service*)



jordan

The ICRC has been 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 RCM services to enable civilians and foreign detainees to restore family links, and promoting IHL throughout Jordanian society, in close cooperation with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society. The delegation also provides logistical support to ICRC relief operations in the region.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,573
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,085
Cooperation with National Societies	281
General	-

► **3,939**

of which: Overheads 240

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	102%
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PERSONNEL

22 expatriates

119 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- visited more than 8,500 detainees held by the Jordanian authorities to monitor their treatment and living conditions
- provided basic assistance to refugees stranded in a camp between Iraq and Jordan
- facilitated the transfer by ambulance of patients and the bodies of deceased Palestinians between Jordan and the West Bank
- enabled detainees, civilians and refugees in Jordan to restore or maintain links with family members in Jordan and abroad
- facilitated the resettlement of refugees, in collaboration with UNHCR and the embassies of destination countries
- cooperated with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society in the fields of mine-risk education, IHL promotion and tracing

CONTEXT

Jordan remained relatively calm throughout the year, although its security forces were kept on high alert and reportedly foiled a number of planned attacks against various targets in the country. Several people were arrested and put on trial for acts allegedly endangering State security.

Parliamentary elections held in November strengthened the position of tribal leaders and other pro-government candidates, while the opposition Islamic Action Front (IAF) lost a number of seats. This followed local elections in July – the first held in Jordan since 1999 – from which the IAF withdrew after accusing the government of vote-rigging, an allegation refuted by the authorities.

Faced with high levels of poverty and unemployment, King Abdullah continued to press for economic reform as an essential condition for sustained economic growth to deliver jobs and better living standards for a rapidly expanding population.

Jordan tightened entry and residency conditions for Iraqis seeking refuge inside its borders, but loosened certain restrictions on access to schools and medical services for the Iraqi population already present in the country. A study commissioned by the Jordanian authorities estimated the number of Iraqi refugees in the country at between 450,000 and 500,000. Towards the end of the year, a few Iraqis returned home, although it was uncertain whether they intended to stay there.

Some 200 refugees, essentially Iranian Kurds, stranded between the Jordanian and Iraqi borders since 2005, remained in need of assistance.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS			
Detainees visited	8,562	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	467	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	194	31% 21%
of whom females	1	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	194	31% 21%
Number of visits carried out	58				
Number of places of detention visited	11				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	1,175				
RCMs distributed	1,460				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	8				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	3				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	20				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	641				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	24				

ICRC ACTION

ICRC operations in Jordan focused on monitoring the treatment and living conditions of detainees, restoring family links disrupted by past and current conflicts in the region, and facilitating the transfer of medical cases between Jordan and the West Bank.

ICRC teams conducting detention visits were reinforced to enable better follow-up of issues such as respect for judicial guarantees. The ICRC acted as an important link between women imprisoned for so-called "honour crimes" and women's organizations working to create safe environments for their transition back into society.

Growing numbers of people in Jordan were able to restore or maintain contact with family members and to exchange official documents with them through the ICRC's tracing and family-links services. Refugees without valid identity papers were issued with ICRC travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

Further steps were taken to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula, and the theoretical and operational training of the armed and security forces.

Efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society to provide humanitarian services, with a focus on its tracing, first aid, mine-risk education and dissemination programmes.

The delegation in Jordan remained a key logistical and administrative hub for ICRC operations in Iraq, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories and Yemen. It also continued to be the base for training ICRC staff working in the Middle East, North Africa, the Balkans and the Caucasus.

CIVILIANS

Restoring family links

Demand rose for ICRC tracing and family-links services owing to the worsening violence in the Gaza Strip and the continuing conflict in Iraq. People in detention, both in Jordan and elsewhere, often had to rely on these services to get in touch with family members. Families in Jordan also used these services to try to re-establish contact with relatives reported missing or deprived of their freedom in Iraq.

Active tracing in Iraq remained extremely difficult in view of the prevailing insecurity. People in Jordan were nevertheless able to re-establish links with family members visited by ICRC delegates in their places of detention/internment in Iraq.

A group of 194 Iranian Kurds who had been blocked in a makeshift camp in a strip of no-man's-land between Jordan and Iraq since they fled Iraq in 2005 were also able to restore contact with their families by means of the ICRC tracing and RCM services. They also benefited from emergency relief assistance. On three occasions, the ICRC organized medical evacuations from the camp.

At the request of UNHCR and/or the embassies concerned, recognized refugees received ICRC travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

- 979 RCMs collected from and 1,390 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 8 people; 3 people located; 20 people still being sought
- 11 official documents relayed between family members
- 641 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Logistics support and training

The ICRC logistics base in Amman continued to provide key support to ICRC activities, particularly in Lebanon, Iraq and the Palestinian territories. Warehousing capacity was expanded from 4,000 to 4,900 square metres by year-end to accommodate the increased activities in Iraq.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC carried out regular visits to detention facilities run either by the General Intelligence Directorate or by the Public Security Directorate (correctional and rehabilitation centres) to monitor detainee treatment and living conditions. It maintained a confidential dialogue with the Jordanian authorities on its observations and recommendations made during the visits.

Respect for the judicial guarantees of detainees held in detention for lengthy periods without trial and the fate of women deprived of their freedom for their own protection remained priority concerns for the ICRC. The organization liaised throughout the year with the relevant authorities and with women's organizations working to find durable solutions outside of detention for the women concerned. These efforts led to the transfer of seven women from the main women's prison to safe custody for their rehabilitation and eventual reintegration into society. In December, following sustained representations by the ICRC, one long-term detainee held without trial was released from a correctional centre, and the detaining authorities agreed to review the cases of two other detainees facing similar circumstances.

As in past years, detainees were able to maintain contact with their families through the RCM service.

- 8,562 detainees visited, of whom 467 monitored individually (including 1 female) and 295 newly registered, during 58 visits to 11 places of detention
- 196 RCMs collected from and 70 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 24 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

The transfer by ambulance of patients and the bodies of deceased Palestinians between Jordan and the West Bank continued to be facilitated by the ICRC, in cooperation with the Jordanian and Palestine Red Crescent Societies.

- 444 patients and 91 bodies of deceased Palestinians transferred between Jordan and the West Bank

AUTHORITIES

A draft law on the Ottawa Convention was finalized and submitted to Jordan's Legislation and Opinion Bureau, while a draft law on the Rome Statute was under review at the Foreign Ministry. Another draft law amending the Jordan Red Crescent Law to incorporate provisions on the protection of the emblem was awaiting parliamentary approval.

The 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols were published in the March and April 2007 issues of the *National Gazette*.

Government officials and members of the national IHL committee and the military judiciary attended various regional meetings on IHL organized by the ICRC and the League of Arab States.

An agreement was signed with the Jordanian Judicial Institute to train judges in IHL, after which 25 judges, prosecutors and representatives of various government bodies attended seminars on IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Following years of regular ICRC briefings on IHL, the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF) took steps to introduce IHL in military teaching and training programmes on a systematic basis.

- hundreds of JAF officers, as well as Jordanian military judges and military personnel from other Arab States, attended seminars on IHL
- Jordanian military personnel attended various regional seminars on IHL
- 76 Public Security Directorate officers representing military battalions protecting prisons in Jordan attended IHL sessions at the Royal Police Academy

CIVIL SOCIETY

IHL teaching in universities

By year-end, 13 of Jordan's 15 faculties of law had integrated IHL into their curricula.

- lecturers and students from various Jordanian universities attended sessions on the challenges facing IHL, co-organized by the national IHL committee and the ICRC
- lecturers and students of sharia law faculties and representatives of the Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs attended a symposium on the protection of women, children and civilian property during armed conflict
- 12,000 students attended an ICRC photo exhibition featuring IHL and the Movement

Exploring Humanitarian Law

The third phase of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme ended successfully in the 73 schools where it was pilot-tested, and the Ministry of Education made plans to extend the programme to schools throughout the country.

A 12-minute video on the implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was produced in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

Jordanian education officials attended various regional seminars on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

Media relations

National and international media gave regular coverage to ICRC activities in the region based on information provided to journalists through press releases and various events organized for them.

- foreign media representatives taken on field trips to highlight the plight of some 193 people stranded in a strip of no-man's-land between the Jordanian and Iraqi border posts after fleeing Iraq
- lawyers, media professionals and civil society representatives attended the Amman launch of the ICRC book *Crimes of War*
- various government departments and key civil society sectors, including the media, received 2 issues of the ICRC's Arabic-language quarterly *Al-Insani*

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Society continued to receive training, material and financial support to help strengthen its capacities in the fields of dissemination, first aid, tracing and mine-risk education.

- ▶ Jordanian and Palestine Red Crescent ambulance services transferred medical cases and human remains between Jordan and the West Bank, facilitated by the ICRC (see *Wounded and sick*)
- ▶ 2 ambulances donated to the Jordanian Red Crescent
- ▶ female-headed families in Karak assisted by the National Society, with ICRC support, to enable them to store clean water
- ▶ 20 volunteers trained in first aid in Aqaba



Lebanon

The ICRC has been present in Lebanon since 1967. It gives priority to providing protection and assistance to civilians affected by armed conflict, in close cooperation with the Lebanese Red Cross Society. It seeks compliance with IHL by the government and all political parties and armed groups present in the country. The ICRC visits detainees held by the Lebanese authorities to monitor their living conditions and treatment. Restoring and maintaining links for people separated from members of their families is also an ICRC priority.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,219
Assistance	7,136
Prevention	1,434
Cooperation with National Societies	3,983
General	-

► **14,772**

of which: Overheads 901

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

20	expatriates
72	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- started visits to detainees in Lebanon to monitor their treatment and living conditions, in accordance with an agreement signed in February with the Lebanese authorities granting the organization access to all detainees in the country
- mounted an emergency relief operation in response to the Nahr el Bared Palestinian camp crisis, in collaboration with the Lebanese Red Cross Society and the Lebanese branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society
- restored a safe and regular water supply for more than 700,000 people through repairs to infrastructure damaged during the 2006 conflict between Hezbollah and Israeli forces and through assistance to increase the capacities of water boards
- worked with the International Federation to boost the capacity of the Lebanese Red Cross to respond to emergencies, particularly through its Emergency Medical Services
- completed an in-depth assessment of health services available to Lebanon's Palestinian refugee population and finalized a two-year programme (2008–09) to upgrade and assist existing Palestinian health facilities in the country
- intensified networking among political actors, weapon bearers and civil society groups to promote respect for IHL and gain support for neutral and independent humanitarian action in Lebanon

CONTEXT

The year 2007 was marked by the ongoing political confrontation between the governing coalition and the opposition, which brought government institutions to a near standstill. The deepening crisis was compounded by a string of high-profile political assassinations, a 106-day armed confrontation between Islamic militants entrenched in a Palestinian refugee camp and the Lebanese armed forces, and a series of car bomb attacks on civilian targets and the head of army operations.

The political deadlock centred on government and opposition disagreement over the composition of a new cabinet, opposition resistance to a decision by the UN Security Council to set up an international tribunal to try the perpetrators of the 2005 assassination of former prime minister Rafik Hariri, and the election of a new president. None of these issues had been resolved by year-end.

On 20 May, fighting broke out between the Lebanese Army and Fatah al-Islam, an Islamic group entrenched in the Nahr el-Bared Palestinian refugee camp near the northern city of Tripoli. The conflict lasted over three months and left 170 soldiers, around 220 Fatah al-Islam militants and some 40 civilians dead and hundreds more wounded. Over 30,000 Palestinians from Nahr el-Bared sought shelter in other refugee camps during the fighting. By the end of the hostilities in September, the camp had been almost completely destroyed. The south remained tense following the 2006 summer conflict between Hezbollah and Israel, in part due to the slow pace of post-conflict reconstruction.

ICRC ACTION

The population of Nahr el-Bared received regular supplies of food, water and household essentials throughout the fighting from May to September, delivered in a joint operation with the Lebanese Red Cross and the Palestine Red Crescent. Similar assistance was provided to Palestinian camps in Akkar Caza (north), the Bekaa Valley and the southern cities of Sidon and

Tyre hosting families that had fled Nahr el-Bared, as well as to a mosque in Sidon that had given refuge to the families of Fatah al-Islam fighters.

During the post-conflict recovery period, damaged wells, pumping stations and elevated reservoirs inside Nahr el-Bared were rehabilitated. In parallel, work started, with ICRC support, on laying the foundations of a new water distribution network in areas of the camp deemed safe for resettlement.

In the aftermath of the fighting, ICRC teams monitored the situation in and around the camp, focusing on the dangers posed to the population by explosive remnants of war (ERW) and on raising the Lebanese authorities' awareness of the problem.

Response to humanitarian needs stemming from the 2006 conflict

Assistance to destitute families

Thousands of families who had fled north to escape the fighting in the south of Lebanon in July–August 2006 returned to find their homes badly damaged and farming land infested with mines. Some who had lost their livelihoods and been left destitute received food and household essentials to tide them over until they were able to restore their means of income. Charitable institutions running orphanages and homes for the elderly also received assistance.

Rehabilitation of damaged water infrastructure

Hundreds of thousands of people, particularly in the south of the country, benefited from improved access to a regular supply of clean water through repair and rehabilitation work carried out by ICRC engineers on water infrastructure damaged during the 2006 conflict. The improved water supply contributed to the prevention of disease outbreaks.

Water boards received ICRC material and technical support to boost their capacities to maintain or upgrade water networks in the south and north of the country and in the Bekaa Valley. The aim was to restore an acceptable level of water supply equivalent or close to that provided before the conflict.

- ▶ 200,846 people (40,169 households) received food
- ▶ 132,586 people (26,517 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 716,000 people benefited from water projects, including:
 - 5,000 people in Nahr el-Bared camp who received regular supplies of bottled water during the fighting
 - 10,000 Palestinian refugees from water projects in Nahr el-Bared camp
 - 60,000 people in Wazzani (south) from rehabilitation of a pumping station and water tanks
 - 30,000 people in Chamsine (Bekaa) from the drilling of 3 additional boreholes
 - 40,000 people in Kfer Melki, Maalaqa and Zahle (south) from the equipping of wells with pumps
 - more than 200,000 in the South of Lebanon from the rehabilitation of the building of the emergency medical services of the National Society

Emergency preparedness

Stocks of food and household items were maintained at ICRC warehouses in Beirut and Marjayoun to cover the needs of 20,000 people for approximately five days in the event of a further emergency.

Restoring family links

Families in Lebanon were able to restore or maintain contact and exchange official documents with relatives detained/interned or residing abroad, mainly in Israel, through ICRC tracing and RCM services.

In October, at the request of Hezbollah and the Israeli authorities, the ICRC facilitated the exchange of human remains and a detainee between Hezbollah and Israel. The exchange involved the transfer from Israel to Lebanon of two Hezbollah fighters killed during the 2006 summer conflict, as well as a live person arrested by Israel at that time, and the transfer to Israel of the human remains of an Israeli citizen handed over by Hezbollah.

A Lebanese national who had fallen sick in Israel and the remains of three Lebanese civilians who had died in Israel were transferred by the ICRC to their families in Lebanon in a joint operation with the Lebanese Red Cross.

Cases of civilians repatriated from Israel by the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), including several young children, were followed up with a view to ensuring family reunification. A Palestinian from Lebanon released from 14 years' imprisonment in India was repatriated to Beirut in an operation coordinated by the ICRC's delegations in India, Jordan and Lebanon.

- ▶ 106 RCMs collected from and 133 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 44 people (including 1 female and 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 33 people located; 17 people (including 1 minor at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 1 Lebanese national repatriated from Israel to Lebanon and 1 Palestinian from Lebanon repatriated from India
- ▶ 3 sets of human remains repatriated from Israel to Lebanon and the remains of 1 Israeli citizen repatriated from Lebanon to Israel
- ▶ 5 official documents relayed between family members

Resolving cases of people unaccounted for from past conflicts

The Lebanese authorities in charge of the file on missing Lebanese soldiers, as well as organizations working on the issue, were provided with ICRC guidelines for resolving such cases.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees in Lebanon began to receive visits from ICRC delegates in March, following the conclusion of an agreement with the Lebanese government on 20 February granting the ICRC access to all people held in places of detention throughout the country. By year-end, the ICRC had visited all prisons under the authority of the Ministry of Interior at least once but had not yet secured access, in conformity with the February agreement, to places of detention under the control of other detaining authorities in Lebanon.

- ▶ 6,764 detainees visited, of whom 415 monitored individually (including 2 females and 6 minors) and 415 newly registered (including 2 females and 6 minors), during 59 visits to 25 places of detention
- ▶ 52 RCMs collected from and 20 RCMs distributed to detainees and 63 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- ▶ 85 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 3,700 detainees in Roumieh Central Prison in Beirut received mattresses and blankets

Hezbollah representatives and the ICRC held regular meetings to discuss ICRC access to the two Israeli soldiers captured by Hezbollah in June 2006. Authorization to visit them had still not been granted by year-end.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Nahr el-Bared crisis

The wounded and the sick were evacuated from Nahr el-Bared camp and treated in health facilities close by after the ICRC secured safe passage from the parties concerned. Health facilities inside the camp received medical supplies provided by the ICRC and delivered by Palestine Red Crescent and Lebanese Red Cross ambulances, as did the Safad Hospital run by the Palestine Red Crescent in the neighbouring Beddawi Palestinian refugee camp, where hundreds of families from Nahr el-Bared had taken refuge. As of October, when the families began returning to their homes, three clinics inside the camp received direct ICRC support.

Boosting the emergency response capacity of health services

- ▶ 7 Lebanese Red Cross first-aid posts given material and technical assistance
- ▶ 131 clinics and dispensaries received medicines for treating chronic diseases
- ▶ 61 hospitals around the country received medical supplies
- ▶ 74 Lebanese and Palestinian surgeons working in 46 hospitals and in various Palestinian refugee camps around the country attended 2 war-surgery seminars in Beirut and Tyre
- ▶ medical stocks maintained in Beirut, Marjayoun and Sidon

Improving medical care for the Palestinian refugee population

An ICRC assessment of existing health care services for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon showed a high level of unmet needs and a lack of resources. Its findings and recommendations were discussed with the Palestine Red Crescent and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and were shared with various donors and stakeholders during a partnership meeting organized by the Palestine Red Crescent in Beirut. To improve medical care available to the Palestinian population of Lebanon, which is not covered by the Lebanese national health system, the ICRC agreed to provide new equipment to the five Palestine Red Crescent hospitals, as well as medical training for doctors and nurses over a two-year period (2008–09). In 2007, all five Palestinian hospitals were supplied with new surgical instruments.

AUTHORITIES

Owing to the political tension and its impact on certain government functions, no progress was possible on the implementation of IHL treaties. Nevertheless, in April, the ICRC, in cooperation with the League of Arab States and the Lebanese government, organized in Beirut the fourth regional seminar on IHL and human rights law for civil servants from Arab countries, aimed at raising awareness of IHL and incorporating its provisions into national legislation.

During the emergency in Nahr el-Bared camp, contacts established with a wide network of regional and local authorities in the north of the country and in the Bekaa Valley facilitated coordination of the emergency relief operation, in particular safe passage for the ICRC and its Movement partners.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Regular contacts with the LAF proved essential in facilitating the safe and timely evacuation of the wounded and the sick and the delivery of emergency relief during the 106-day siege of the Nahr el-Bared camp.

The LAF, including units deployed in southern Lebanon, attended information sessions on IHL. Staff and instructors at military training institutes were briefed on ways to integrate IHL into military doctrine and training programmes. A three-day workshop was held at the Internal Security Force Institute, with presentations on criminal law, the International Criminal Court, crime prevention and IHL.

Sixteen UNIFIL battalions attended ICRC information sessions on IHL, and the ICRC participated in monthly induction courses for newly arrived UNIFIL officers in Naqoura, southern Lebanon.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking was intensified with the media, NGOs and religious/traditional leaders to raise awareness of humanitarian issues and to enlist their support for ICRC activities and respect for humanitarian principles.

Teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was extended to more secondary schools.

- ▶ 10 local journalists attended a workshop on IHL and the ICRC, organized by the Lebanese Red Cross and the ICRC
- ▶ dissemination sessions organized in Islamic universities in the Bekaa Valley (Al-Imam Al-Ouzai and El-Azhar)
- ▶ 25 school teachers trained to teach the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme
- ▶ 10 law students participated in a training session in preparation for a moot court competition
- ▶ a photo exhibition held in Beirut to mark the 40th anniversary of the ICRC's presence in Lebanon

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Lebanese Red Cross pursued its internal reform process with the support of the ICRC and the International Federation by ensuring that its new structure was compliant with the Movement statutes. Movement coordination meetings were held with National Societies operating in Lebanon to share information and ensure programmes were complementary.

ICRC cooperation centred on strengthening the National Society's emergency-response capacity, particularly in terms of medical evacuations, and on providing technical advice in the formulation of a five-year strategy to develop its EMS, in accordance with the findings of an in-depth ICRC needs assessment. The new strategy included renewal and standardization of the ambulance fleet, the establishment of a training school, and measures to ensure that the EMS responded to at least 80% of emergency calls within nine minutes or less. The Lebanese Red Cross received 16 customized and fully equipped ambulances donated by the ICRC. One EMS station in the south was completely rehabilitated, and EMS staff underwent further training at station level.

The Lebanese Red Cross received assistance from the ICRC and the International Federation in setting up a logistics department and a central warehouse to improve procurement procedures and to ensure that other departments within the National Society were promptly supplied with the items they needed. Youth volunteers were briefed on best practices in the handling of relief distributions during a workshop that drew on lessons learned from joint Lebanese Red Cross/ICRC relief distributions carried out during the 2006 conflict. Lebanese Red Cross medical staff underwent training to improve the handling of donated medical supplies.

The Lebanese Red Cross and the Palestine Red Crescent played a pivotal role in responding to the Palestinian refugee camp crisis by evacuating and treating wounded and sick people and ensuring the provision of emergency supplies to people in the camps. In this context, 50 Lebanese Red Cross and Palestine Red Crescent volunteers attended ICRC briefings on ERW issues and ways to address them.

The Palestine Red Crescent upgraded its ageing fleet with three new fully equipped ambulances and modernized its hospital thanks to new medical equipment provided by the ICRC. These essential materials helped to improve the quality of care for patients from the Palestinian refugee camps.



syrian arab republic

The ICRC has been present in the Syrian Arab Republic since 1967. It acts as a neutral intermediary regarding issues of humanitarian concern for the Syrian inhabitants of the part of the Golan occupied by Israel. It facilitates travel of certain categories of people, such as students and pilgrims, between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic, and maintains links between family members separated as a result of the conflict with Israel. Its work to spread knowledge of IHL in government, military, academic and media circles, and its close cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, are other priorities. The ICRC also strives to gain access to people detained in the Syrian Arab Republic to monitor their treatment and living conditions.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	202
Assistance	326
Prevention	520
Cooperation with National Societies	436
General	-

► **1,483**

of which: Overheads 91

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
4	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- facilitated contacts between inhabitants of the occupied Golan and their families in the Syrian Arab Republic
- processed tracing requests from people in the Syrian Arab Republic seeking to locate and re-establish contact with family members detained/interned abroad, mainly in Iraq
- launched a programme to improve the quantity and quality of water supplies in Damascus neighbourhoods housing large numbers of Iraqi refugees, including the regular supply of additional water tanks to schools and dispensaries, in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society
- acting as a neutral intermediary, transported to the Syrian Arab Republic over 7,600 tonnes of apples produced by farmers in the occupied Golan as a means of improving their livelihoods
- boosted the capacity of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent to respond to emergencies

CONTEXT

The situation in the Syrian Arab Republic remained calm, despite the continuing armed conflict in neighbouring Iraq to the east and escalating violence and political tension in Lebanon across its western border.

No progress was reported on the resumption of talks with Israel on the issue of Israel's continuing occupation of the part of the Golan it captured in the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict. The talks were interrupted in January 2000. Syria attended a US-sponsored Middle East summit in Annapolis, United States, in November after receiving US and Israeli assurances that the Golan Heights issue would be on the agenda.

Several hundred thousand Iraqi refugees were living in the Syrian Arab Republic by year-end. In October, the Syrian government imposed visa restrictions on Iraqi nationals seeking to enter the country.

Relations between Damascus and several Western countries blew hot and cold during the year. Dialogue with certain western European countries intensified, but France cut off talks with the Syrian authorities at the end of the year owing to persistent disagreement over the issue of the election of a new president in Lebanon.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Economic security, water and habitat				
RCMs collected	345	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	1,500	50%	25%
RCMs distributed	379	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	3,500		100%
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)		Physical rehabilitation				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	174	Patients receiving services	Patients	658	130	122
		Prostheses delivered	Units	322	57	33
		Orthoses delivered	Units	265	43	113

ICRC ACTION

ICRC action in the Syrian Arab Republic focused on providing assistance and protection to Syrian nationals living in the occupied Golan; serving the tracing needs of Syrian families and Iraqi refugees arising from the conflict in neighbouring Iraq; building the capacity of the National Society to respond to emergencies; and launching a new programme to improve access to clean water in areas of Damascus housing large numbers of Iraqi refugees.

The ICRC facilitated travel to the Syrian Arab Republic by students and pilgrims living in the Israeli-occupied Golan and arranged for the weddings of engaged couples on opposite sides of the demarcation line to take place in the UN-controlled demilitarized zone. It also relayed official documents between family members living in the occupied Golan and in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Demand remained steady for ICRC tracing and RCM services, which sought to help Syrian nationals and Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic to locate and re-establish contact with family members detained/interned or unaccounted for abroad, mainly in Iraq. The services also enabled Palestinian refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic to restore and maintain contact with relatives imprisoned in Israel.

In close cooperation with the Syrian authorities, UNHCR and the embassies of destination countries, the ICRC issued travel documents to Iraqi and other refugees following their acceptance for resettlement by third countries.

Acting as a neutral intermediary at the request of the Israeli and Syrian authorities and of Golan Syrian farmers, the ICRC transported to the Syrian Arab Republic 7,600 tonnes of apples produced by farmers in the occupied Golan.

A physical rehabilitation centre run by the Syrian branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society and treating Palestinian and Syrian amputees continued to receive ICRC support.

In accordance with a core element of its mandate, the ICRC continued to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation and into theoretical and practical military instruction at all levels of the Syrian armed and security forces.

The ICRC further developed its partnership with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, focusing mainly on building its capacity to respond to emergencies in the fields of first aid, communication, restoring family links, and activities to reduce the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war.

A programme was initiated at year-end to improve the water supply in areas of Damascus hosting large numbers of Iraqi refugees. The programme was decided on after an in-depth assessment of the water situation in these areas showed that water services were vastly insufficient in terms of both quantity and quality. Under the programme, some 30 schools in the capital that had enrolled Iraqi refugee children would receive regular supplies of safe drinking water in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, and assistance would be given to the Damascus water board to upgrade overstretched water facilities.

CIVILIANS

Protection services for the population of the occupied Golan

The ICRC endeavoured to safeguard minimum contact between family members cut off from one another for decades by the separation zone between the Syrian Arab Republic and the occupied Golan. The organization pursued efforts to bring about a resumption of regular meetings between the Syrians living in the occupied Golan and family members who fled to the Syrian Arab Republic when the region was occupied by Israeli forces in 1967.

Students and pilgrims from the occupied Golan were able to travel to the Syrian Arab Republic for limited periods to pursue their studies or to visit holy sites in operations facilitated by the ICRC in coordination with the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) and the Israeli and Syrian authorities. Similar coordination enabled the wedding ceremonies of couples separated by the demarcation line to take place in the demilitarized zone.

Syrian nationals in the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic continued to rely on the ICRC to exchange official papers such as power of attorney documents and birth, death and marriage certificates. Such documents often enabled the recipients to qualify for pensions or to settle personal issues such as inheritance or property rights.

Refugees accepted for resettlement, primarily Iraqi and stateless persons, were issued with ICRC travel documents to facilitate their travel to third countries, in coordination with the Syrian authorities, embassies of destination countries and organizations such as UNHCR.

- travel for 871 students and pilgrims between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic and the transfer of the remains of a Golanese student who died in Damascus facilitated
- 126 official documents relayed between family members in the occupied Golan and relatives in the Syrian Arab Republic
- 174 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Economic assistance for the population of the occupied Golan

Acting as a neutral intermediary at the request of the Israeli and Syrian authorities and of Syrian farmers from the occupied Golan, the ICRC transported to the Syrian Arab Republic apples produced by the Golan farmers. The operation was carried out in coordination with UNDOF, which monitored the demarcation line between the Syrian Arab Republic and the occupied Golan. The operation provided an economic boost for the Golan population, which depended largely on the sale of apples for its livelihood.

- 7,600 tonnes of apples transported from the occupied Golan to the Syrian Arab Republic to boost the income of Golan farmers

Improving water supply in Damascus districts hosting Iraqi refugees

At year-end, a programme was initiated to improve water supply for up to 500,000 people in areas of Damascus hosting large numbers of Iraqi refugees. The programme was decided on after an in-depth assessment found that the existing water supply was vastly insufficient in terms of both quantity and quality. Under the programme, some 30 schools in the capital that had enrolled Iraqi refugee children would receive regular supplies of safe drinking water, in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, and assistance would be given to the Damascus water board to upgrade overstretched water facilities.

- 3,500 children benefited from enhanced water supply to their schools

Restoring family links

Through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services, a number of families in the Syrian Arab Republic were able to locate and re-establish contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad or previously unaccounted for. ICRC efforts to provide people in the Syrian Arab Republic with information on family members presumed to have died or to be held in the custody of the central authorities in Iraq were limited owing to the high number of casualties there, the overstretched capacity of morgues and security constraints. This made it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to locate, gain access to and identify the victims.

The ICRC continued to offer its services as a neutral intermediary to facilitate clarification of the fate of a number of Lebanese and Israeli nationals presumed missing in relation to past conflicts. However, no progress was made on this issue.

- 345 RCMs collected from and 379 RCMs distributed to civilians, and 181 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative
- 68 people still being sought

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

No reply had been received from the Syrian authorities by the end of the year regarding the ICRC's offer of services, made in 2006 in accordance with its mandate, to visit people deprived of freedom in the Syrian Arab Republic.

WOUNDED AND SICK

A physical rehabilitation centre run by the Syrian branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Yarmouk continued to receive ICRC material and technical assistance. The ICRC ceased this support at the end of 2007, as planned.

- 658 patients (including 130 women and 122 children) received services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 179 new patients (including 37 women and 14 children) fitted with prostheses and 155 (including 29 women and 55 children) fitted with orthoses
- 322 prostheses (including 57 for women, 33 for children and 49 for mine victims), 265 orthoses (including 43 for women, 113 for children and 5 for mine victims) and 22 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

The national IHL committee, the ICRC's main partner in efforts to promote the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments, was not active in 2007.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Work progressed to integrate IHL into theoretical and practical military training. Several senior ICRC-trained officers had acquired sufficient knowledge of IHL to teach the subject to the rank and file autonomously.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Syrian and international media based in the Syrian Arab Republic were kept abreast of the ICRC's activities, in particular those involving the transfer of people and apples across the demarcation line.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The year 2007 saw a significant increase of ICRC cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, especially in the fields of first aid and communication, aimed at enhancing the National Society's operational capacity.

Cooperation highlights

- the National Society provided with 200 first-aid kits, 500 uniforms, 500 body bags and 200 helmets
- a main National Society operations room set up in Damascus and fully equipped by the ICRC
- National Society first-aid trainers attended an ICRC workshop to harmonize first-aid techniques and training manuals
- 75 National Society volunteers attended a session on the Safer Access approach
- 30 National Society communication staff attended a workshop on ways to strengthen the National Society's communication network
- 56 National Society branch staff and volunteers received ICRC training in restoring family links during 2 workshops
- 3 safe play areas for children set up in Kuneitra as part of a mine-risk education programme
- 6 four-wheel-drive vehicles upgraded
- 2 National Society logistics experts underwent additional logistics training from the International Federation, sponsored by the ICRC
- the salaries of 2 teachers providing literacy courses at juvenile detention centres and 1 legal adviser of a juvenile detention centre subsidized

yemen



The ICRC has been working in Yemen since the outbreak of the civil war in 1962. It works with the Yemeni Red Crescent Society to assist the civilian population affected by the hostilities in north Yemen. It seeks to resume visits to detainees in accordance with its standard procedures. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and its introduction into school and university curricula and into the training programmes of the armed and police forces. Assistance is provided to physical rehabilitation centres for the disabled. ICRC tracing activities enable refugees to restore family links and Yemeni nationals to locate and contact relatives detained/interned abroad.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,197
Assistance	4,558
Prevention	809
Cooperation with National Societies	510
General	-

► **7,075**

of which: Overheads 432

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	108%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
19	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- provided emergency aid to 98,308 people (13,724 households) affected by the armed conflict in Sa'ada governorate (northern Yemen), in partnership with the Yemen Red Crescent Society
- supported the deployment of 6 mobile primary health care units in areas of Sa'ada where civilians' access to health care was hampered by the large influx of IDPs, and the transfer of serious medical cases to referral hospitals in Sa'ada and their subsequent treatment
- helped ensure or improve the water supply and sanitation environment of some 110,000 people, including more than 20,000 returnees and IDPs in camps, around 17,000 people affected by supply disruptions in Sa'ada town and some 14,000 people in Dahjan
- together with the Yemeni Red Crescent, assisted some 100 to 400 detained irregular migrants from the Horn of Africa awaiting deportation
- enabled refugees in Yemen to stay in touch with their families in their home countries and Yemeni nationals to re-establish and maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad
- promoted knowledge of and respect for IHL among arms carriers, political authorities, tribal leaders and civil society

CONTEXT

In January, renewed heavy fighting erupted between Yemeni armed forces and followers of the Zaidi "Believing Youth" movement in the volatile northern province of Sa'ada. The clashes reportedly resulted in high numbers of casualties on both sides, the displacement of up to 70,000 people and extensive destruction of civilian property.

The fighting, which first broke out in 2004, shattered a fragile period of peace that had largely held since March 2006.

In June, Qatari mediation efforts led to an agreement to end the conflict, and many IDPs began returning home. However, starting in October, regular clashes occurred in different parts of Sa'ada province, and sporadic fighting was continuing as the year drew to a close, prompting further displacement.

Following the 2006 re-election of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a fresh cabinet was named in April 2007, which included 11 new ministers.

Opposition demonstrations occasionally degenerated into violent clashes between security forces and demonstrators in Aden and other southern cities. The Yemeni president spent October and November in Aden to initiate dialogue with the opposition.

Yemen pursued efforts to reinforce security cooperation with neighbouring countries, and the president held talks with the US president in Washington on the fight against "terrorism". In July, seven Spanish tourists were killed in Marib governorate in a suicide attack for which al-Qaeda in Yemen claimed responsibility.

A steady flow of refugees and migrants continued to enter Yemen, mostly from Somalia and other countries in the Horn of Africa, further straining the State budget in a country where unemployment and poverty levels remained the highest in the Arabian Peninsula. The bodies of at least 590 African migrants believed to have drowned in the Gulf of Aden were washed ashore on Yemen's coast, and hundreds of others were reported missing.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS AND PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
Detainees visited	9	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	9	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	98,308	27%	55%
Number of visits carried out	3	Water, sanitation and habitat projects	Beneficiaries	110,350	55%	40%
Number of places of detention visited	2	Health				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	Structures	6		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Consultations	Patients	10,664		
RCMs collected	3,691	of which curative		Patients	162	2,364
RCMs distributed	3,008	WOUNDED AND SICK				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Hospitals supported	Structures	1		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	106	Admissions	Patients	12	9	
of whom females	42	Physical rehabilitation				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	24	Patients receiving services	Patients	4,863	1,080	2,096
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	27	Prostheses delivered	Units	1,171	281	480
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	98	Orthoses delivered	Units	2,517	524	1,264
of which for females	33					
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	27					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	2					

ICRC ACTION

The ICRC's priority in Yemen was to address the most urgent needs of people affected by the recurring armed confrontations in Sa'ada province, in tandem with the Yemen Red Crescent Society.

The fighting parties were urged to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of people not or no longer participating in the hostilities and to allow the safe and unimpeded movement of humanitarian organizations providing assistance to those affected by the conflict.

Throughout the year, the ICRC/Yemeni Red Crescent assisted around 100,000 IDPs and returnees in the Sa'ada region, providing them with shelter, essential household items, water and sanitation facilities. Health centres in conflict areas received medical assistance and, where needs outstripped capacity, ICRC and Yemeni Red Crescent medical personnel stepped in to help treat the wounded. To ensure access to health care for all, in particular in areas of Sa'ada town hosting large numbers of IDPs, the ICRC deployed five mobile primary health care units together with the Yemeni Red Crescent, arranging for the most serious cases to be referred to the main hospital in Sa'ada town and paying for their subsequent treatment. In addition, the water supply and sanitation environment was ensured or improved for some 110,000 people mainly in Sa'ada town for IDPs in camps set up in Sa'ada by the Yemeni Red Crescent with ICRC support and for people affected by supply disruptions.

Monthly assistance was provided by the Yemeni Red Crescent, with ICRC support, to hundreds of irregular migrants from the Horn of Africa detained while awaiting deportation.

As in past years, physical rehabilitation centres run by the Ministry of Health and Population in Sana'a, Mukalla and Aden and producing orthopaedic appliances using ICRC polypropylene technology introduced to Yemen in 2002 received ICRC technical training and material support. A Yemeni Red Crescent programme to provide women detainees with literacy courses and vocational training, as well as improved medical care, received ongoing ICRC support.

Demand remained steady for the ICRC tracing and RCM services enabling refugees in Yemen to stay in touch with their families in their home countries and Yemeni nationals to re-establish and maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad.

The Yemeni authorities and the ICRC pursued discussions on ICRC access to all detainees in Yemen, including those held in connection with the fight against "terrorism" and with the conflict in Sa'ada governorate. By year-end, no agreement on access had been reached.

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

Ensuring respect for IHL

The ICRC urged the fighting parties to respect their obligations under IHL to ensure the safety of people not or no longer participating in the hostilities, including those taken prisoner and the wounded, and to protect the humanitarian mission.

Assistance to people displaced by the fighting

Thousands of people who had fled the fighting and sought refuge in Sa'ada town and its surroundings received emergency assistance. The Yemeni Red Crescent, with ICRC support, set up two camps to accommodate the most vulnerable displaced families and provided them with shelter, essential household items, basic health care and water and sanitation facilities. The camps continued to receive IDPs fleeing sporadic clashes after the ceasefire agreement, with a significant influx towards the end of the year, mainly from Haydan district. In total, 5,490 people sought refuge in the camps during the year. By year-end, 1,632 people were still living there.

The ICRC carried out medical, water, socio-economic, agricultural and nutritional surveys to assess the impact of the conflict in these key sectors. Based on the findings, an assistance strategy was developed to meet the most pressing needs of the conflict-affected population.

Relief deliveries outside Sa'ada town were suspended temporarily after a Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC humanitarian aid convoy, clearly marked with the red crescent emblem, came under heavy gunfire in Al Saifi, 18 km north of Sa'ada town, on 2 May. Two volunteers were injured in the attack and were treated in Sa'ada town.

Despite security constraints, from August the ICRC and the Yemeni Red Crescent managed to gain access progressively to all areas affected by the hostilities in the north (Al Tahl, Wali Massoud, Al Obgour, Dahyan, Razeh, Hamdam, Majz and Bani Mahad) and provided families whose homes had been destroyed in the fighting with shelter and essential household items.

Some 17,000 people living in parts of Sa'ada town affected by a technical breakdown in the water distribution network had their water supply restored through the provision of a generator. In addition, 2,400 returnees in the villages of Al Saifi and Al Aredah enjoyed improved access to clean water from 12 water tanks supplied and filled twice daily by the ICRC. Another 14,000 people in Dahyan were assisted by the ICRC covering the costs of pumping water to the partially destroyed urban water network until repairs were possible.

- ▶ 98,308 people (13,724 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 110,350 people benefited from water and sanitation projects

Support for medical facilities

From June onwards, six mobile primary health care units operated jointly by the ICRC and the Yemeni Red Crescent delivered medical care in various parts of Sa'ada town where IDPs had settled, adapting the frequency of the service according to the needs. Weekly health education sessions were also conducted in the IDP settlements.

In the 6 ICRC-supported health centres (catchment population: 30,000):

- ▶ 10,662 people given consultations, including 162 women attending curative consultations
- ▶ 406 people referred to hospital

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 or abroad.

Families in Yemen were able to restore or maintain contact with relatives detained/interned in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba via ICRC tracing and family-links services. In addition to participating in three visits to the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, ICRC delegates visited nine Yemeni nationals transferred from Guantanamo Bay to places of detention in Yemen. These visits, along with ICRC visits to the families of people interned in Guantanamo Bay, enhanced the exchange of news, via either RCMs or the oral transmission of messages by ICRC delegates during visits to the internees.

- ▶ 3,691 RCMs collected from and 3,006 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 106 people (including 42 females and 24 minors at the time of disappearance); 27 people located; 98 people (including 33 females and 27 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 2 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The Yemeni authorities and the ICRC pursued discussions on ICRC access to all detainees in Yemen, including those held in connection with the fight against "terrorism" and with the conflict in Sa'ada governorate. By year-end, no agreement on access had been reached.

At the authorities' request, hundreds of irregular migrants, mainly Ethiopian nationals, held in precarious conditions while awaiting deportation in a place of detention run by the Yemeni Ministry of the Interior received emergency assistance in a joint Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC operation. Yemeni Red Crescent staff and volunteers participating in the programme received training from an ICRC nutritionist. The nutritional, medical and other emergency assistance contributed to ensuring that the detainees remained in good health.

- ▶ some 100 to 400 irregular migrants from the Horn of Africa awaiting deportation received food, nutritional supplements, kitchenware, hygiene materials, and medical treatment and supplies on a monthly basis
- ▶ 9 detainees transferred from Guantanamo Bay visited, monitored individually and newly registered, during 3 visits to 2 places of detention; 2 RCMs distributed to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

Access to medical care for the weapon-wounded

In Sa'ada governorate, the ICRC supplied first-aid kits to health centres in the conflict zone and, where needs outstripped capacity, ICRC/Yemeni Red Crescent medical personnel helped treat the wounded. One hospital in Sa'ada received medical supplies to treat the wounded. The costs of the medical care of seriously wounded or sick patients referred to hospitals in Sa'ada by the mobile clinics were covered by the ICRC (see *Civilians*).

- ▶ 138 wounded people treated and more than 450 consultations carried out in the 3 ICRC-supported health centres that provided data

Physical rehabilitation

Physical rehabilitation centres run by the Ministry of Health and Population in Sana'a, Mukalla and Aden and producing prostheses and various other orthopaedic appliances using ICRC polypropylene technology introduced to Yemen in 2002 continued to receive ICRC technical training and material support.

From August, with the development of ICRC/Yemeni Red Crescent activities in Sa'ada, some 65 disabled people from the governorate were referred to the Ministry of Health hospital in Sana'a for physical rehabilitation.

- ▶ 4,863 patients (including 1,080 women and 2,096 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 1,503 new patients (including 339 women and 672 children) fitted with prostheses and 2,045 (including 456 women and 983 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 1,171 prostheses (including 281 for women, 480 for children and 498 for mine victims), 2,517 orthoses (including 524 for women, 1,264 for children and 7 for mine victims) and 51 crutches and 28 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The National Commission of International Humanitarian Law (NCIHL) and the ICRC continued to work together towards the integration of IHL into Yemeni legislation.

Among other initiatives, a joint meeting was held with members of the NCIHL and the deans of law faculties in major Yemeni universities to accelerate the integration of IHL into university curricula.

Thirty-six members of the legal and training departments of Yemeni governorates took part in the first phase of the train-the-trainer course on IHL, with the aim of building local capacity to provide such training to the authorities and civil society.

The attorney general, the head of the legal department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the dean of the faculty of law of Sana'a University and the deputy minister of information participated in the launch of the Arabic version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL and in the 6th annual meeting of Arab government experts on national implementation of IHL, both held in Cairo (see *Egypt*).

The head of the legal department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and a NCIHL official participated in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, clarify the fate of missing persons and assist their families.

In April, parliament reversed its decision to adopt the Rome Statute, which it had voted to do a month earlier.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Contacts were maintained with the Yemeni Armed Forces command in Sana'a and with commanders of the Zaidi movement and local tribal leaders to address humanitarian issues related to the armed confrontations in Sa'ada.

Representatives of the Yemeni Armed Forces, with ICRC support, participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations (SWIRMO) in Geneva. Thirty-six members of police forces, central security, detention authorities, anti-riot personnel and the anti-terrorist cell attended a three-day training session in Sana'a on IHL principles, including those related to the use of force and weapons.

Following a decision by the Ministry of Defence in 2006 to integrate IHL into the teaching and training programmes of military institutes and colleges, the ministry's Moral Guidance Department adapted teaching manuals accordingly, with ICRC support. The Moral Guidance Department, military units and military colleges were provided with publications on the ICRC and IHL, as well as a summarized version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL.

Yemeni military personnel and Yemeni embassies worldwide received the monthly armed forces magazine, *Al-Jaish*, free of charge. It included ICRC articles on IHL-related issues, published with the agreement of the Moral Guidance Department.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The education authorities and the ICRC agreed to prepare for the full integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula for children in grades 7 to 11. The authorities drew up the first draft of a formal agreement for the ICRC to review.

Piloting of the programme continued in 48 schools in 16 governorates. Pupils created IHL clubs in several schools. Representatives of the Ministries of Education of 17 countries participated in the fifth regional meeting on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme organized in Sana'a to discuss, share and evaluate the progress of IHL integration into school curricula in the region.

The libraries of four public universities in Aden, Al Hodeida, Sana'a and Taiz and of two private universities in Sana'a received publications on IHL.

National and international media in Yemen were kept abreast of ICRC activities and IHL-related issues.

Yemeni university lecturers and a journalist participated in ICRC-organized regional events on IHL for the Arab media.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Yemen Red Crescent Society was highly active, carrying out joint emergency relief operations with the ICRC in areas of northern Yemen affected by the hostilities between government forces and the Zaidi movement (see *Civilians*).

To increase the National Society's operational capacity, the ICRC provided further training in the fields of first aid, communication, emergency response, IHL and the Safer Access approach. In the areas of Sa'ada province affected by the conflict, capacity building was integrated into the daily work of Yemeni Red Crescent staff carried out in conjunction with the ICRC in the field of emergency relief.

Regular Movement coordination meetings took place at leadership and technical levels between the Yemeni Red Crescent, the ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies active in Yemen. Together with the International Federation, the ICRC provided legal advice to the Yemeni Red Crescent in reviewing its statutes.

On 9 May, the Yemeni Red Crescent, the International Federation and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding establishing a framework for cooperation between the Yemeni Red Crescent and its Movement partners, as well as support for the National Society's strategic plan of action covering 2007–11.



kuwait (regional)

The ICRC has been in Kuwait since the outbreak of the 1990–1991 Gulf War. Its presence in the region is linked to humanitarian issues still outstanding from that war and those arising from the current armed conflict in Iraq, as well as to work relating to people deprived of their freedom in the GCC member States. In addition, the ICRC focuses on promoting IHL and its own role as a neutral and independent humanitarian organization working in areas of armed conflict and other situations of internal violence. Reinforcing cooperation with the National Red Crescent Societies of the region is another priority.

COVERING

Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	774
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,064
Cooperation with National Societies	286
General	91

► **2,214**

of which: Overheads 135

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
17	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- pursued action to clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for in connection with the 1990–91 Gulf War in the framework of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-committee set up under the auspices of the ICRC to address the issue
- restored contact between families in GCC countries and their relatives either detained/interned abroad or separated from them by conflict, in coordination with the region's National Societies
- visited detainees in Kuwait and Qatar in order to monitor their treatment and living conditions
- co-organized with the International Islamic Charitable Organization a workshop on IHL and the ICRC for representatives of various Islamic charitable organizations
- worked with National Societies in GCC countries to coordinate assistance activities in conflict areas and to enlist their support in promoting knowledge and implementation of IHL

CONTEXT

The political situation in all six GCC countries remained relatively calm, despite the violence and political tension in a number of neighbouring countries such as Iraq and Lebanon and in the Palestinian territories.

Saudi Arabia was increasingly involved in efforts to restore stability to the Middle East, taking a lead regional role in mediation to put an end to the violence in Iraq, the political standoff in Lebanon and the factional fighting in the Gaza Strip.

In March, Saudi Arabia hosted a League of Arab States summit at which GCC countries and other Arab States re-endorsed a Saudi-sponsored initiative launched in 2002 to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The plan offered full recognition of Israel by the Arab States in exchange for a return of Palestinian land seized in the 1967 war, acceptance of East Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital, and the return of Palestinian refugees to their former homes.

Countries in the region remained concerned about the ongoing violence in Iraq and its potential spillover into their territory along sectarian lines. Another of their major concerns was the continuing standoff between the Islamic Republic of Iran and certain members of the international community over Tehran's nuclear programme. This issue was discussed with the Iranian president at a GCC summit in Qatar in December – the first time that an Iranian leader had been invited to a GCC summit. The summit also endorsed proposals for GCC countries to form a common trading market by 1 January 2008 and to create a common currency by 2010.

GCC countries reinforced regional security cooperation and continued to arrest people charged with endangering State security or suspected of links to al-Qaeda. Meeting in Saudi Arabia in November, GCC foreign ministers called for the revitalization of the Peninsula Shield, a joint military force established to counter any external threat to their security.

There were two notable security incidents in Saudi Arabia in 2007. In February, four French nationals were killed in an attack near the north-western ruins of Madain Saleh, a popular tourist site. In April, Saudi police arrested 172 “terrorism” suspects.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	96
Detainees visited and monitored individually	96
<i>of whom females</i>	1
Number of visits carried out	6
Number of places of detention visited	4
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	235
RCMs distributed	512
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	32
<i>of whom females</i>	7
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	2
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	12
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	544
<i>of which for females</i>	20
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	47
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	8
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1,648

1. Kuwait and Qatar

ICRC ACTION

Resolving 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 top priorities for the ICRC in 2007.

ICRC activities related to the 1990–91 Gulf War continued to focus mainly on assistance to clarify the fate of people still unaccounted for from that conflict, in order to relieve the anguish of their families.

Further visits were made to people deprived of their freedom in Kuwait and Qatar, and the ICRC continued to explore the possibility of offering its services on behalf of detainees and the detaining authorities in other countries of the region. As in past years, families in GCC countries were able to locate and re-establish contact with their relatives detained/interned abroad or present in countries affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence where communications remained unreliable.

Progress was achieved in efforts to incorporate IHL into national legislation, school and university curricula, and the teaching and training programmes of national armed forces in the region.

Networking was expanded with officials, religious and opinion-leaders, and the media in GCC countries to gain increased acceptance of and support for the ICRC’s mandate and humanitarian activities worldwide.

The ICRC worked with the National Societies in GCC countries to better understand their respective strengths and constraints, with a view to enhancing operational cooperation.

A regional seminar organized by the government of Kuwait and the ICRC in Kuwait City brought together officials of GCC States to

discuss the humanitarian consequences of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war. The seminar reviewed ongoing initiatives to reduce the impact of these weapons worldwide and in the Middle East in particular.

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. Many of the requests concerned family members held in detention facilities in Iraq and in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

- 234 RCMs collected from and 512 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 32 people (including 7 females and 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 12 people located; 544 people (including 20 females and 47 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Tracing missing persons from the 1990–91 Gulf War

The ICRC continued to chair meetings of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-committee dealing with cases of persons missing from the 1990–91 Gulf War. Work on this issue was slowed down by the security situation in Iraq, which prevented exhumation and identification at gravesites there. Three meetings of the Technical Sub-committee took place in 2007.

- the fate of 3 Kuwaitis and 9 Iraqis clarified in the framework of the Tripartite Commission, bringing to 293 the number of cases resolved since 2003

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Kuwait, foreign detainees held in the central prison for men, the central prison for women and the deportation centre received regular ICRC visits. Most of these detainees were Iraqis or stateless persons with no diplomatic representation in Kuwait, where they had been in custody since the end of the 1990–91 Gulf War.

People held at the central prison in Doha, Qatar, since their conviction in connection with the failed coup attempt in 1996 received a follow-up visit from ICRC delegates. In both Kuwait and Qatar, the findings of detention visits were shared confidentially with the authorities concerned.

In August, the Kuwaiti foreign minister and the ICRC exchanged views on ICRC access to security detainees.

- ▶ in Kuwait, 68 detainees visited and monitored individually (including 1 female) and 3 newly registered (including 1 female), during 5 visits to 3 places of detention
- ▶ in Qatar, 28 detainees visited and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 1 RCM collected from 1 detainee
- ▶ 1,648 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

During a visit to Saudi Arabia in March, the ICRC vice-president met the Saudi foreign minister and the president of the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society to update them on the ICRC's humanitarian work in general and in the Arab world in particular, as well as on the humanitarian challenges facing the organization.

Regular contact was maintained with GCC government officials, national IHL committees, parliamentarians and judicial institutes regarding their countries' accession to and implementation of IHL instruments. In May, Saudi Arabia announced that it had joined Kuwait and the UAE in establishing a national IHL committee. Oman and Qatar planned to do likewise.

- ▶ representatives of governments, armed forces and national IHL committees attended various regional seminars on IHL implementation organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC
- ▶ 40 members of the Kuwaiti judiciary and 25 magistrates from 11 Arab countries attended a course on IHL at the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies, in implementation of an agreement between the institute and the ICRC on the conduct of such courses
- ▶ 30 officials from the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended a seminar on IHL as a first step towards inclusion of the subject in courses for new diplomats
- ▶ 3 members of the Kuwaiti IHL committee and 2 members of the UAE committee participated in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees held in Geneva, Switzerland, in March
- ▶ government officials from GCC member States attended a seminar on the Ottawa Convention, co-organized by the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry and the ICRC, following which Kuwait acceded to the Convention

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Following IHL courses conducted by the ICRC over the years for members of the armed forces of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and the UAE, the military authorities in each of these States continued to teach the subject autonomously in military colleges and academies and in army units. The ICRC maintained contact with the armed forces in the region and offered training support when required.

- ▶ some 60 multinational officers at the Command and Staff College in Kuwait attended IHL sessions
- ▶ more than 20 Omani armed forces training officers took part in a three-day refresher course on IHL
- ▶ throughout the region, armed forces libraries received IHL documents and, on request, the authorities concerned were provided with ICRC legal advice on the inclusion of IHL in theoretical and practical military training courses

CIVIL SOCIETY

Contacts with religious and opinion leaders in GCC countries were intensified to increase understanding of the independent, neutral and impartial nature of the ICRC's humanitarian mandate and activities worldwide. Work also continued to promote the teaching of the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools and the inclusion of IHL in university law curricula.

The Arab and international media based in GCC countries were regularly briefed on ICRC activities, humanitarian issues and IHL.

- ▶ 30 representatives of various Islamic charitable organizations for the first time attended a workshop in Kuwait on IHL and the ICRC, co-organized with the International Islamic Charitable Organization
- ▶ some 40 media representatives in Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar attended presentations on IHL
- ▶ 11 universities in the 6 GCC countries and the ICRC explored ways to include IHL in law curricula, and 5 faculties had integrated the subject by year-end
- ▶ Ministry of Education and university representatives from the 6 GCC countries participated in regional meetings on IHL and the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian law programme
- ▶ legal experts from 4 GCC countries participated in the launch of the Arabic version of the ICRC's study on customary IHL in Cairo (see *Egypt*)

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Representatives of National Societies of GCC countries and the ICRC held several meetings to exchange field experiences and to discuss how to work together more closely with an improved mutual understanding of relief operations for conflict victims.

National Societies in the region and the ICRC also explored ways to integrate IHL and tracing expertise into annual refresher/training courses for staff and volunteers.

Representatives of the Red Crescent Societies of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as the Lebanese Red Cross, participated in April in a workshop organized in Kuwait by the ICRC on ways to improve cooperation and efficiency when involved in international relief operations.

- more than 60 Bahraini Red Crescent staff and volunteers attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC
- 40 staff and volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of the UAE attended a two-day tracing workshop, co-organized by the National Society and the ICRC
- 18 volunteers and staff of the Kuwaiti Red Crescent and 6 ICRC staff members met to exchange field experiences and to develop awareness of the Fundamental Principles and the importance of cooperation and coordination among components of the Movement
- a member of the ICRC Committee attended the 35th General Assembly of the General Secretariat of the Organization of Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies held in Qatar in February, providing an opportunity to exchange views on cooperation in various fields
- the ICRC vice-president participated in the 2nd Saudi Conference on Voluntary Work held in Riyadh in March, providing an opportunity to develop good relations with the new leadership of the Saudi Red Crescent



tunis (regional)

The regional delegation based in Tunis, which has been operating since 1987, regularly visits people deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia to monitor their treatment and conditions of detention. Acting as a neutral intermediary, it is also involved in efforts to resolve issues of humanitarian concern arising from the aftermath of the Western Sahara conflict. It works to promote implementation of IHL by the authorities and its integration into school and university curricula and into training programmes for the armed forces. National Societies and the media in the region are essential partners in this process.

COVERING

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco/Western Sahara, Tunisia

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,030
Assistance	647
Prevention	1,316
Cooperation with National Societies	312
General	-

► **5,304**

of which: Overheads 324

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

19	expatriates
26	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2007, the ICRC:

- continued to visit people deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia
- re-established or maintained links between families in Maghreb countries and relatives detained/interned abroad
- set up a physical rehabilitation centre in Rabouni (south-western Algeria) to treat disabled Sahrawis
- signed a cooperation agreement with the Moroccan Ministry of Education with a view to implementing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Morocco
- held for the first time in Libya a series of seminars on IHL for the Libyan armed forces
- signed a cooperation agreement with the Moroccan Red Crescent on the dissemination of IHL

CONTEXT

Security forces throughout the region remained on high alert following several car-bomb and suicide attacks in Algeria (see *Algeria*), Mauritania and Morocco against government and Western targets, and violent clashes between security forces and armed militants in Tunisia. The al-Qaeda Organization in the Islamic Maghreb, previously known as the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat, claimed responsibility for most of the attacks. An undisclosed number of arrests were made in various countries of the region as they sought to contain Islamist radicalism.

Morocco and the Polisario Front remained divided on the future status of the Western Sahara. In April, Morocco submitted an autonomy plan for the Western Sahara to the UN. The Polisario Front rejected the plan, insisting on the holding of a referendum on the territory's independence. Direct talks between the two parties, held in New York, United States, failed to break the deadlock.

In March, presidential elections took place in Mauritania in what observers described as the first fully democratic ballot in the country since it became independent in 1960. The new president confirmed his commitment to promote national unity. In Morocco, the conservative Istiqlal Party formed a new coalition government with three other parties after winning the most votes in parliamentary elections in September.

Mauritania, Morocco and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya remained preferred transit countries for many sub-Saharan nationals and others seeking irregular entry to Europe.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	21,851
Detainees visited and monitored individually	617
Number of visits carried out	97
Number of places of detention visited	58
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	237
RCMs distributed	221
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	20
<i>of whom females</i>	7
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	1
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	16
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2007 (people)	631
<i>of which for females</i>	37
<i>of which for minors at the time of disappearance</i>	24

1. Mauritania and Tunisia

ICRC ACTION

ICRC action focused on visits to people deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia and on addressing humanitarian issues stemming from the 1975–91 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 connection with the Western Sahara conflict.

The cooperation agreement signed in November 2006 with the Polisario Front health administration paved the way for the construction of a physical rehabilitation centre for disabled Sahrawis, particularly mine victims, in the Tindouf region of Algeria.

Another ongoing priority for the ICRC in the region was to help accelerate the national implementation of IHL and its integration into military teaching and training programmes and academic curricula, in conjunction with the national authorities, implementation bodies and the National Societies.

Particular importance was attached to developing relations and cooperation with key sectors of civil society in the region, such as the media, the Tunis-based Arab Institute for Human Rights, human rights organizations, professional lawyers' associations, NGOs and influential religious and academic institutions.

The ICRC continued to monitor the growing problem of irregular migration, particularly in Mauritania and Morocco.

As in past years, people in the region were able, through the RCM network, to restore or maintain contact with family members detained/interned in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba.

CIVILIANS

Families in North Africa continued to rely on ICRC tracing and family-links services to restore contact with close relatives detained/interned abroad or present in countries where armed conflict or other situations of violence had made communications difficult.

The Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front cooperated with the ICRC in continuing efforts to clarify the fate of both civilians and former combatants unaccounted for in connection with the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict. The immediate aim of the talks was to establish consolidated lists of people unaccounted for as the basis for further steps toward the resolution of missing cases.

In the region:

- 203 RCMs collected from and 207 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 20 people (including 7 females and 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 16 people located; 631 people (including 37 females and 24 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 5 Tunisian nationals repatriated under ICRC auspices after their release from detention in Iraq

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia were visited regularly by ICRC delegates, in accordance with agreements signed with the respective authorities in 2005. Emphasis was placed on visits to people convicted of acts endangering State security, as well as particularly vulnerable groups such as foreign detainees, destitute detainees and people sentenced to death. Following the visits, representations and recommendations on detainees' treatment and conditions of detention were made to the detaining authorities.

In addition to regular visits to places of detention in Mauritania, the ICRC gave advice to the Mauritanian penitentiary authorities in its efforts to improve the prison system. Nouakchott central prison was fully disinfected, with ICRC support.

Tunisia

- ▶ 20,073 detainees visited, of whom 605 monitored individually (including 1 minor) and 446 newly registered (including 1 minor), during 21 visits to 13 places of detention
- ▶ 31 RCMs collected from and 12 RCMs distributed to detainees and 29 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative

Mauritania

- ▶ 1,777 detainees visited, of whom 11 monitored individually and 4 newly registered, during 75 visits to 44 places of detention
- ▶ 3 RCMs collected from and 2 RCMs distributed to detainees

Morocco

- ▶ 1 follow-up visit to a former Guantanamo detainee, currently held in detention in Morocco

WOUNDED AND SICK

In accordance with an agreement concluded with the Polisario Front in 2006, the ICRC established an orthopaedic workshop at the Martyr Chreif Sherif centre in Noukhaila, in the Sahrawi refugee camps of south-western Algeria. The workshop, due to become operational early next year, will produce prostheses and orthoses for disabled Sahrawis.

AUTHORITIES

Members of the Moroccan national IHL committee and the ICRC worked closely to promote the inclusion of IHL teaching in university law faculties, and parliamentarians were briefed on the challenges facing IHL in today's world and international criminal jurisdiction.

The Tunisian national IHL committee, with ICRC support, conducted a training workshop on IHL for judges selected as future trainers. For the first time, two conferences were organized for students of the Diplomatic Institute of Tunis.

Representatives of the national IHL committees of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia took part in the Second Universal Meeting of National IHL Committees in Geneva, Switzerland, which focused on legal measures and mechanisms to prevent disappearances, clarify the fate of missing persons and assist their families.

Representatives of the armed forces and of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the five countries of the Maghreb participated in a preparatory seminar to the international conference held in Amman, Jordan, in November on the implementation of the Ottawa Convention.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

At year-end, the armed forces of countries of the Maghreb were at various stages of progress in integrating IHL into their doctrine and basic training programmes.

- ▶ 18 training instructors of the Mauritanian armed forces participated in a refresher course on IHL
- ▶ in Tunisia: armed forces personnel at the Military Academy in Tunis attended presentations on IHL and peacekeeping operations; military judges attended IHL sessions; 150 students at the National School for Prisons and Rehabilitation attended lectures on IHL provisions governing the protection of civilians during conflict and peacetime
- ▶ in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya: 24 senior officers from the navy and air force participated in a five-day course on IHL; some 100 students from several military schools attended lectures on the basic principles and rules of IHL; an IHL session held for the military judiciary directorate
- ▶ in Morocco: 31 officers from the army, navy and air force participated in a five-day course on IHL

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking was reinforced with influential members of civil society, including Islamic scholars, human rights organizations, professional, cultural and youth associations, and the media to enlist their support in the promotion and implementation of IHL and for ICRC activities.

- ▶ the Moroccan Ministry of Education, via its Human Rights and Citizenship Committee, and the ICRC revived the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme by signing a new cooperation agreement, convening a national meeting and organizing two workshops for members of curricula commissions
- ▶ a study on IHL teaching in Moroccan universities carried out in cooperation with IHL experts and law faculties, with ICRC support
- ▶ 14 Moroccan law faculties received documentation and books on IHL
- ▶ the sharia faculty of Al-Qarawiyyin University in Agadir, Morocco, with ICRC support, organized a two-day workshop on the protection of civilians afforded by Islamic law and IHL
- ▶ experts in international law attended a session on the International Criminal Court organized by the Tunis Bar Association and the ICRC
- ▶ students of Tunis-based film and multimedia schools took part in a project launched by the ICRC to produce documentaries and other works on the protection of victims of armed conflict, with the best productions being shown at the European film festival in Tunis and presented during a public event organized by the ICRC
- ▶ representatives of human rights groups from North African countries participated in a seminar on IHL, human rights and detention issues, organized by the ICRC with the support of the Arab Institute for Human Rights
- ▶ Tunis-based media briefed on ICRC action in the region and worldwide

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies received support from the ICRC, in cooperation with the International Federation, in developing their capacities to carry out tracing activities and to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

A cooperation agreement was signed by the ICRC and the Moroccan Red Crescent on the modernization of its IHL documentation centre in Rabat and the establishment of similar centres in other cities in the country. Red Crescent volunteers in charge of the centres received ICRC training.



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	518,277	157,043	192,671	50,765	117,798
Detainees visited and monitored individually	36,777	5,620	9,034	5,150	16,973
Detainees newly registered in 2007	21,609	3,270	5,259	2,115	10,965
Detainees released	31,240	3,747	3,589	1,708	22,196
Number of visits carried out	6,074	2,279	1,527	1,197	1,071
Number of places of detention visited	2,425	976	557	594	298
Number of detainees who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	23,358	148	2,074	2,241	18,895
Female detainees ¹					
Female detainees visited and monitored individually	957	189	290	304	174
Female detainees newly registered in 2007	629	156	221	168	84
Female detainees released	561	120	181	155	105
Number of detained females who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	148	-	78	70	-
Minors					
Detained minors visited and monitored individually	1,846	216	341	30	1,259
Detained minors newly registered in 2007	1,495	169	273	29	1024
Detained minors released	1,430	141	298	11	980
Number of detained minors who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	146	-	135	-	11
International armed conflicts (Third Geneva Convention)					
Prisoners of war (POWs) visited	280	26	-	253	1
POWs newly registered in 2007	2	-	-	2	-
POWs released	119	25	-	94	0
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	1	-	-	1	-
Number of visits carried out	57	5	-	48	4
Number of places visited	7	1	-	5	1
International armed conflicts (Fourth Geneva Convention)					
Civilian internees (CIs) and others visited	8,698	19	-	4	8,675
CIs and others newly registered in 2007	5,019	-	-	4	5,015
CIs and others released	10,875	4	-	4	10,867
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	7	1	-	4	2
Number of visits carried out	441	5	-	26	410
Number of places visited	50	3	-	3	44
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)					
RCMs collected	256,772	165,700	23,604	10,606	56,862
of which from detainees	49,717	6,307	11,537	6,630	25,243
of which from unaccompanied minors/separated children	2,286	2,277	9	-	-
of which from civilians	204,769	157,116	12,058	3,976	31,619
RCMs distributed	229,150	154,036	20,155	7,978	46,981
of which to detainees	41,964	4,859	6,136	4,270	26,699
of which to unaccompanied minors/separated children	1,778	1,771	5	1	1
of which to civilians	185,408	147,406	14,014	3,707	20,281
RCMs not distributed (back to sender)	17,906	14,861	538	67	2,440
Other means of family contact					
Telephone calls made to relatives (by satellite or cellular phone)	4,228	416	-	18	3,794
Names published in the media	28,453	27,641	812	-	-
Names published on the ICRC website	82,641	55,636	812	16,795	9,398

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families	868	836	23	2	7
Civilians transferred	2,245	95	2	6	2,142
Human remains transferred	349	-	257	-	92
Civilians repatriated	2,503	2,487	-	-	16
Human remains repatriated	4	-	1	-	3
Tracing requests					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	8,365	4,435	2,234	1,027	669
who were females	2,426	1,917	245	179	85
who were minors at the time of disappearance	2,359	1,604	584	125	46
Tracing requests closed positively (person located)	5,570	2,184	1,461	1,563	362
Tracing requests closed negatively (person not located)	5,450	3,714	468	522	746
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2007	66,409	28,487	11,916	21,012	4,994
of which for females	11,891	8,508	1,038	2,168	177
of which for minors at the time of disappearance	6,368	3,144	1,863	1,090	271
Missing persons ²					
Cases of missing persons newly opened	1,152	-	337	815	-
who were females	152	-	29	123	-
who were minors when reported missing	120	-	54	66	-
Cases of missing persons closed positively	1,525	-	70	1,442	13
Cases of missing persons closed negatively	452	-	35	417	-
Cases of missing persons still being handled at 31 December 2007	32,900	115	9,727	20,907	2,151
of whom females	2,939	-	766	2,134	39
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	2,416	-	1,288	1,062	66
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs)					
UAMs/SCs newly registered	983	973	9	-	1
by the ICRC	969	966	2	-	1
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families ⁴	1,230	1,205	24	-	1
by the ICRC	761	742	18	-	1
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2007	2,140	2,116	21	-	3
Unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers ³					
Demobilized child soldiers newly registered	221	212	9	-	-
by the ICRC	210	208	2	-	-
Demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families ⁴	283	260	23	-	-
by the ICRC	183	166	17	-	-
Cases of demobilized child soldiers still being handled at 31 December 2007	119	100	19	-	-
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	3,228	510	567	149	2,002
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	21,867	862	713	858	19,434
Other attestations issued	546	1	71	152	322
Documents transmitted/transferred	3,246	97	5	81	3,063
PERSONS SOLICITING ICRC OFFICES IN THE FIELD					
People who visited or telephoned ICRC offices	1,016,027	46,120	38,033	56,053	875,821

1. Includes female minors. The term "women", used in previous reports, also included female minors

2. Figures for missing persons are included in the figures for tracing requests above

3. Figures for unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers are included in the figures for unaccompanied minors and separated children above

4. Figures for unaccompanied minors and separated children and unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families are included in the figure *People reunited with their families* above

PROTECTION FIGURES AND INDICATORS – EXPLANATIONS

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees visited

During the period under consideration, number of detainees visited, whether monitored individually or otherwise. It includes detainees seen and registered for the first time, and those registered previously and visited again, or not visited, but still of ICRC concern, 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 2007

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 who benefited from the ICRC's family-visits programme

Number of detainees who were visited by a relative via an ICRC-organized or ICRC-financed visit during the period under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS (THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION)

Prisoners of war (POWs) visited

Number of POWs visited and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs newly registered in 2007

Number of POWs visited for the first time since capture, and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs released

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 CONFLICTS (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 2007

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.

CIs and others repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC

Number of CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention released and repatriated or transferred by the ICRC 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 (back to sender)

Number of RCMs that 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.

REUNIFICATIONS, TRANSFERS AND REPATRIATIONS

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 was newly registered

Number of people for whom a tracing request was initiated during the period under consideration – e.g. because there had been no news of them, or because they were not located by RCM, were sought by their families, were presumed to have been arrested and/or detained – and for whom the ICRC is going to take steps to locate them 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 (closed positively) during the period under consideration.

Tracing requests closed negatively

Number of people for whom a tracing request had been initiated and who were not located or whose fate was not established and for whom the ICRC exhausted its tracing possibilities (closed negatively) during the period under consideration.

Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2007

Number of people for whom tracing requests were still open and pending at the end of the period under consideration.

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 was resolved (closed positively), i.e. people who had been located or confirmed deceased, during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons closed negatively

Number of people whose cases were not resolved, and for whom the ICRC decided not to pursue enquiries (closed negatively), during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons still being handled at 31 December 2007

Number of people whose cases were still open (pending) at the end of the period under consideration.

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 whose data are centralized by the ICRC, during the period under consideration.

UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families

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 2007

Number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers whose cases were opened but who had not yet been reunited by the ICRC or by another organization during the period under consideration; these include cases concerning either children whose parents were being sought, or children whose parents had been found but with whom they had 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 is 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	968,921	211,431	186,528	35,614	535,348
Food	852,226	241,923	60,024	23,813	526,466
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	1,864,304	1,494,894	299,301	3,374	66,735
Internally displaced people					
Essential household items	2,834,560	2,030,636	291,097	71,645	441,182
Food	1,670,181	689,993	481,009	54,016	445,163
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	923,981	835,918	68,726	19,337	-
Detainees					
Essential household items	146,284	111,939	34,345	-	-
Food	2,167	2,167	-	-	-
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	180	180	-	-	-
Total all target populations					
Essential household items	3,949,765	2,354,006	511,970	107,259	976,530
Food	2,524,574	934,083	541,033	77,829	971,629
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	2,788,465	2,330,992	368,027	22,711	66,735
WATER AND HABITAT (Number of beneficiaries)					
Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)					
Water and habitat structures	13,245,341	6,888,378	536,395	1,453,168	4,367,400
Internally displaced people					
Water and habitat structures	955,245	441,000	167,580	13,165	333,500
Detainees					
Water and habitat structures	184,110	139,555	37,220	7,335	-
Wounded and sick					
Water and habitat structures (number of beds)	2,605	1,335	1,270	-	-
Total projects all target populations					
Water and habitat structures (number of beneficiaries)	14,384,696	7,468,933	741,195	1,473,668	4,700,900
Water and habitat structures (number of beds)	2,605	1,335	1,270	-	-

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
COMMUNITY HEALTH (Number of beneficiaries)					
Health centres supported					
Number of health centres supported	411	151	36	87	137
Monthly average of health centres supported	172	117	20	19	16
Estimated population covered by these health centres (monthly average)	1,265,214	1,121,109	108,296	33,309	2,500
Activities					
Number of ante/postnatal consultations (total)	119,962	112,233	7,619	110	-
5 < Age < 15	10,618	10,607	4	7	-
Age ≥ 15	109,344	101,626	7,615	103	-
Number of immunization activities (total)	640,785	550,006	88,505	2,274	-
Age ≤ 5	497,277	427,125	69,012	1,140	-
5 < Age < 15	10,257	8,892	946	419	-
Age ≥ 15	133,251	113,989	18,547	715	-
Of which: number of polio immunizations (total)	220,716	190,136	30,130	450	-
Age ≤ 5	217,002	187,408	29,190	404	-
5 < Age < 15	3,129	2,152	940	37	-
Age ≥ 15	585	576	-	9	-
Number of curative consultations (total)	877,494	761,339	102,795	2,696	10,664
Age ≤ 5	256,145	216,689	36,756	490	2,210
5 < Age < 15	137,011	120,986	15,270	601	154
Age ≥ 15	484,338	423,664	50,769	1,605	8,300
Of which: number of females attending curative consultations (total)	485,810	427,864	56,242	1,542	162
Age ≤ 5	116,566	98,657	17,647	262	-
5 < Age < 15	67,975	59,473	8,180	322	-
Age ≥ 15	301,269	269,734	30,415	958	162
Number of health education sessions held (total)	13,222	9,019	4,005	198	-
Number of cases referred from first- to second-line health facilities (total)	8,326	6,132	1,737	51	406
Age ≤ 5	1,307	1,108	134	12	53
5 < Age < 15	896	705	181	10	-
Age ≥ 15	6,123	4,319	1,422	29	353
Of which: number of gynaecological/obstetric cases referred (total)	1,399	1,245	145	9	-
5 < Age < 15	207	207	-	-	-
Age ≥ 15	1,192	1,038	145	9	-

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
HOSPITAL SUPPORT ¹					
Hospitals supported					
Number of supported hospitals that provided statistics	132	35	29	7	61
Number of supported hospitals that did not provide statistics	186	31	41	-	114
Monthly average of supported hospitals that provided statistics	58	16	12	7	23
Monthly average of supported hospitals that did not provide statistics	39	12	5	-	22
Activities					
Inpatient surgical activities					
Number of weapon-wounded admitted (total)	20,249	7,622	3,011	25	9,591
Women	1,307	979	327	1	-
Men	8,396	6,087	2,289	20	-
Girls < 15 years	333	223	110	-	-
Boys < 15 years	622	333	285	4	-
Of which: number of patients admitted with injuries caused by mines or explosive remnants of war (total)					
Women	56	37	19	-	-
Men	330	120	205	5	-
Girls < 15 years	20	7	13	-	-
Boys < 15 years	94	22	71	1	-
Number of non-weapon-wounded surgical cases admitted	100,764	8,735	23,432	11,496	57,101
Women	9,747	2,446	4,771	2,530	-
Men	18,254	3,587	11,660	3,007	-
Girls < 15 years	6,264	1,422	2,231	2,611	-
Boys < 15 years	9,398	1,280	4,770	3,348	-
Number of operations performed	113,025	21,993	21,100	8,545	61,387
Inpatient medical activities					
Number of medical patients admitted (total)	141,995	38,415	13,260	14,331	75,989
Women	12,732	8,441	1,999	2,292	-
Men	13,516	9,330	2,018	2,168	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	4,957	1,996	1,351	1,610	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	5,239	2,144	1,202	1,893	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	13,943	7,891	3,304	2,748	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	15,619	8,613	3,386	3,620	-
Inpatient gynaecological/obstetric activities					
Number of gynaecological/obstetric patients admitted (total)	111,908	14,182	3,469	13,573	80,684
Women	30,947	14,049	3,462	13,436	-
Girls < 15 years	277	133	7	137	-
Outpatient activities, including specialized clinics					
Number of surgical outpatients treated (total)	341,630	16,931	88,751	-	235,948
Women	21,828	4,561	17,267	-	-
Men	44,983	7,480	37,503	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	9,882	1,978	7,904	-	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	17,246	1,678	15,568	-	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	4,309	615	3,694	-	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	7,434	619	6,815	-	-

1. Breakdown of women/men/children not available for hospital support in the Middle East and North Africa

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Number of medical outpatients treated (total)	416,295	129,512	105,135	-	181,648
Women	50,268	34,898	15,370	-	-
Men	43,532	29,040	14,492	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	41,339	15,742	25,597	-	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	40,355	13,959	26,396	-	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	32,328	19,437	12,891	-	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	26,825	16,436	10,389	-	-
Number of gynaecological/obstetric outpatients treated (total)	111,815	17,812	9,020	-	84,983
Women	26,256	17,258	8,998	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	576	554	22	-	-
First-aid activities					
First-aid posts supported					
Number of supported first-aid posts that provided statistics	45	11	31	-	3
Number of supported first-aid posts that did not provide statistics	68	5	40	-	23
Monthly average of supported first-aid posts that provided statistics	8	5	3	-	-
Monthly average of supported first-aid posts that did not provide statistics	15	2	11	-	2
Number of wounded treated in the first-aid posts (total)	10,827	5,316	5,373	-	138
Women	2,890	1,364	1,526	-	-
Men	3,835	2,279	1,556	-	-
Girls < 15 years	1,774	683	1,091	-	-
Boys < 15 years	2,190	990	1,200	-	-

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

Number of physical rehabilitation centres supported (total)	85	25	31	11	18
Activities					
Number of patients receiving services from the centres (total)	160,693	22,468	84,287	25,099	28,839
Women	26,378	5,053	12,931	3,267	5,127
Men	97,884	12,478	55,199	15,266	14,941
Girls < 15 years	15,798	2,222	6,418	3,449	3,709
Boys < 15 years	20,633	2,715	9,739	3,117	5,062
Number of amputees receiving services from the centres (total)	69,215	7,208	32,598	10,858	18,551
Women	7,547	1,258	2,447	544	3,298
Men	56,770	5,505	29,408	10,197	11,660
Girls < 15 years	1,989	191	269	30	1,499
Boys < 15 years	2,909	254	474	87	2,094
Number of new patients fitted with prostheses (new to the ICRC) (total)	11,006	2,974	4,099	468	3,465
Women	1,712	501	480	76	655
Men	8,105	2,286	3,451	361	2,007
Girls < 15 years	481	66	59	7	349
Boys < 15 years	708	121	109	24	454

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Number of prostheses delivered (total)	22,309	5,520	10,807	1,945	4,037
Women	2,836	957	1,022	182	675
Men	18,019	4,232	9,380	1,684	2,723
Girls < 15 years	609	138	160	20	291
Boys < 15 years	845	193	245	59	348
Of which: number of prostheses delivered to mine victims (total)	9,729	1,737	6,272	371	1,349
Women	769	245	313	35	176
Men	8,577	1,448	5,888	314	927
Girls < 15 years	143	16	20	8	99
Boys < 15 years	240	28	51	14	147
Number of non-amputees receiving services from the centres (total)	91,478	15,260	51,689	14,241	10,288
Women	18,840	3,795	10,486	2,726	1,833
Men	41,110	6,975	25,793	5,065	3,277
Girls < 15 years	13,805	2,030	6,145	3,420	2,210
Boys < 15 years	17,723	2,460	9,265	3,030	2,968
Number of new patients fitted with orthoses (new to the ICRC)	18,609	3,763	6,165	1,342	7,339
Women	3,945	1,035	1,495	163	1,252
Men	6,267	1,525	2,540	158	2,044
Girls < 15 years	3,637	505	878	525	1,729
Boys < 15 years	4,760	698	1,252	496	2,314
Number of orthoses delivered (total)	32,123	6,053	13,534	3,224	9,312
Women	5,804	1,542	2,320	363	1,579
Men	10,456	2,338	5,073	416	2,629
Girls < 15 years	6,848	907	2,502	1,223	2,216
Boys < 15 years	9,015	1,266	3,639	1,222	2,888
Of which: number of orthoses delivered to mine victims (total)	745	434	134	22	155
Women	136	86	12	3	35
Men	531	326	118	14	73
Girls < 15 years	28	3	1	4	20
Boys < 15 years	50	19	3	1	27
Crutches and sticks delivered (total units)	36,850	13,230	19,002	3,796	822
Women	5,167	2,529	2,122	394	122
Men	28,617	9,427	15,387	3,122	681
Girls < 15 years	1,120	508	499	103	10
Boys < 15 years	1,946	766	994	177	9
Wheelchairs delivered (total)	2,909	699	1,690	464	56
Women	628	166	395	64	3
Men	1,763	403	962	346	52
Girls < 15 years	184	56	103	24	1
Boys < 15 years	334	74	230	30	-
Components delivered to non-ICRC projects					
Artificial knees	1,106	-	1,106	-	-
Alignment systems	3,692	-	3,692	-	-
Orthotic knee joints (pairs)	1,218	-	1,218	-	-

ASSISTANCE FIGURES AND INDICATORS – EXPLANATIONS

Women

Females aged 15 and above.

Men

Males aged 15 and above.

Girls

Females under the age of 15.

Boys

Males under the age of 15.

ECONOMIC SECURITY PROGRAMMES

Beneficiaries

One beneficiary = one person who has benefited from economic security support at least once over the course of the year. A person who has benefited from economic security support several times is counted only once.

Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)

This population group includes residents, returnees and 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, the number of beneficiaries who have benefited from one or more essential household commodity over the course of the year. The main commodities distributed in 2007 were tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, soaps, jerrycans and mosquito nets.

Food

Per population group, the number of beneficiaries who have benefited from one or more food commodity over the course of the year. The main commodities distributed in 2007 were rice, wheat flour, maize, beans and oil.

Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives

Per population group, the number of beneficiaries who have benefited from one or more agricultural/veterinary inputs (e.g. fertilizer, animal vaccines, seed, tools), micro-economic projects (e.g. carpentry, welding, food processing, trade) or cash over the course of the year.

NB. 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 benefited from a water and habitat project at least once over the course of the year. A person who has benefited from a project several times is counted only once.

For recurrent projects like water trucking or regular supply of material (chlorine, spare parts, etc.), beneficiaries are counted only once.

Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)

This population group includes residents, returnees and 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 number of beds in the structures supported.

Water and habitat structures for all population groups

This comprises the following types of project: wells, boreholes, springs, dams and water treatment plants built or repaired; latrines, septic tanks and sewage plants built or repaired; vector control activities; and in-house rehabilitation support.

Water and habitat structures for civilians and internally displaced people

In addition, this comprises the following types of project: temporary settlements (shelter) and site planning.

Water and habitat structures for detainees

This comprises the following types of project: rehabilitation of prisons or detention centres, especially kitchen facilities.

Water and habitat structures for wounded and sick

This comprises the following types of project: hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres built or repaired.

HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNITY HEALTH/BASIC HEALTH CARE – RESIDENTS AND THE DISPLACED

Monthly average of health centres supported

The number of first-line health facilities supported on average, per month, during the year.

Number of health centres supported

The total number of health centres regularly supported in 2007.

Activities

Beneficiaries are registered according to the service they receive (ante/postnatal consultation, immunization, curative consultation).

Number of immunization activities

The number of doses administered during the year.

Number of polio immunizations

This number is included in the total number of immunization activities.

HOSPITAL SUPPORT – WOUNDED AND SICK

Monthly average of hospitals supported

The number of second-line health facilities supported on average, per month, during the year.

Number of hospitals supported

Total number of hospitals regularly supported in 2007.

Inpatient activities

Beneficiaries are registered according to the service they receive: surgical, medical, gynaecological/obstetric.

Outpatient activities

Total number of outpatients treated without any distinction being made between diagnoses.

Number of patients admitted with injuries caused by mines or explosive remnants of war

This number is included in the total number of weapon-wounded admitted.

Number of operations performed

The number of operations performed on weapon-wounded and non-weapon-wounded patients.

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

Number of patients receiving services at the centres

All patients, amputees and non-amputees, who received services at the centres during the year – both new and former patients who came for new devices, repairs, physiotherapy, etc.

Number of amputees receiving services at the centres

All amputees who received services at the centres during the year – both 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 the ICRC)

All new patients who received prostheses within the year – both those fitted for the first time and patients who had previously received prostheses from a centre not assisted by the ICRC.

Total number of prostheses delivered

The total number of prostheses delivered during the year.

Number of prostheses delivered to mine victims

The total number of prostheses delivered specifically for victims of mines and explosive remnants of war during the year.

Number of non-amputees receiving services at the centres

All non-amputees who received services at the centres during the year – both new and former non-amputee patients who came for new devices, repairs (orthoses, wheelchairs, walking aids) or for physiotherapy.

Number of new patients fitted with orthoses (new to the ICRC)

All new patients who received orthoses within the year – both those for the first time and patients who had previously received orthoses from a centre not assisted by the ICRC.

Total number of orthoses delivered

The total number of orthoses delivered within the year.

Number of orthoses delivered to mine victims

The total number of orthoses delivered specifically for victims of mines and explosive remnants of war during the year.

Crutches and sticks delivered (units)

The total number of crutches and sticks (units, not pairs) delivered during the year.

Wheelchairs delivered

The total number of wheelchairs delivered during the year.

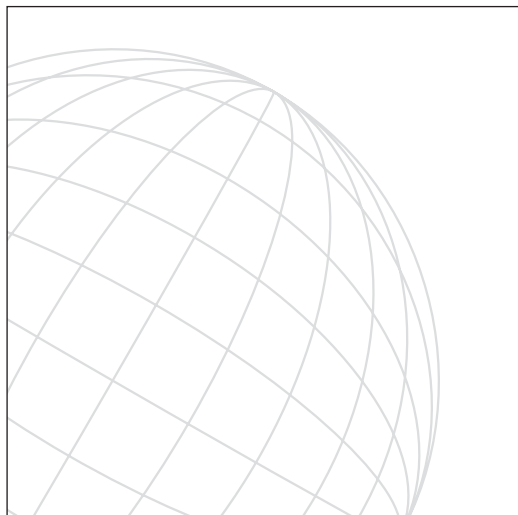
Components delivered to non-ICRC projects

This relates exclusively to Afghanistan and Cambodia where the ICRC continues to manufacture components that are given to other organizations.



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION





the financial year 2007

Unlike the two previous financial exercises, which were shaped by major natural disasters and, in the case of 2006, a short war, the 2007 financial exercise was not marked by any new situation drawing intense sustained media attention. From a financial perspective, it was a year of consolidation, with an initial budget lower than that of 2006, but an almost comparable level of budget extensions (14%). Financially speaking, the operation in Sudan remained the biggest (11.2%) in terms of overall financial size, followed by Iraq (9.1%) and Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Territories (7.3%). In the wake of the 2006 financial exercise, and for the third time since 2000, the ICRC had to mitigate the financial risks related to the funding of its operations. On the basis of several financial forecasts, the Directorate required that cost-cutting adjustments be made, for both field operations and headquarters, in order to keep the forecast consolidated deficit to a manageable level. Thanks to considerable financial support from specific donors, these efforts finally bore fruit, as it was possible to reduce field deficit carried to 2008 from the 2007 financial exercise.

EMERGENCY APPEALS

The initial budget of KCHF 843,277 increased by KCHF 116,700 (14%) as a result of budget extensions relating to the Central African Republic, Chad, Guinea, Iraq, Lebanon, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Yemen.

Total field expenditure amounted to KCHF 840,225, compared with KCHF 864,356 for 2006, representing a 90.8% implementation rate. As a proportion of the total expenditure, the main operations were those in Sudan (KCHF 94,045), Iraq (KCHF 76,533), Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Territories (KCHF 61,396), Afghanistan (KCHF 49,751), Somalia (KCHF 49,200), Democratic Republic of the Congo (KCHF 32,603) and Colombia (KCHF 30,618). Contributions to the field budget reached KCHF 863,296.

HEADQUARTERS APPEAL

With careful management of the headcount at headquarters, an implementation rate of 96.8% was achieved at headquarters in 2007, with a level of expenditure of KCHF 154,854. As the Directorate has agreed on a four-year budget framework of some KCHF 160,000 (cost of living fluctuations not included), significant increases are not to be

expected during that time. The challenge will therefore be to balance headquarters resources with strong and consistent field support.

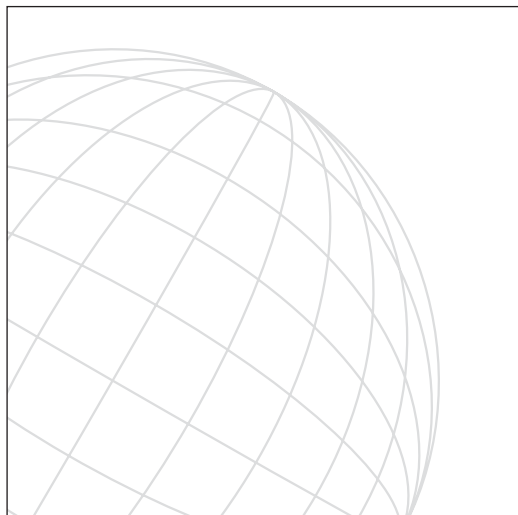
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The most significant changes include the extension of the consolidation perimeter to include the Special Fund for the Disabled and an improved adherence to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) with regard to employee benefits disclosure to ensure further transparency in the ICRC's financial statements. After consolidation of the operational results of field and headquarters financial structures, those of the Omar El Mukhtar and Clare R. Benedict Funds, the Special Fund for the Disabled and the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross, there is an overall surplus for operating activities of KCHF 58,624, compared with a deficit of KCHF -20,275 in 2006. To that figure a net surplus of KCHF 12,827, compared with KCHF 11,288 in 2006, arising from non-operational results must be added, making a surplus of KCHF 71,451 before movement on reserves (KCHF -8,987 in 2006). The main explanation for this is the considerable level of support from donors and a slightly lower level of expenditure compared with 2006. The net result of each field operation is restricted to that operation, either as a temporary deficit or as donor-restricted (earmarked) contributions. Those restricted results are therefore not available for the unrestricted reserves. The sum of temporary deficits of operations is KCHF -32,843, compared with KCHF -59,671 in 2006. Donor-restricted (earmarked) contributions to operations reached KCHF 38,191 in 2007, compared with KCHF 37,545 the previous year.

BALANCE SHEET

The main driver behind the changes in the balance sheet between 2006 and 2007 remains long-term donor commitments. This highly valued support has a significant impact on both the asset and liability sides of the balance sheet. Better predictability and shorter payment terms have also improved the asset side. Concerns over the current operational capacity to distribute goods to beneficiaries in Iraq led the ICRC to neutralize in its inventories of goods in stock that were destined for those beneficiaries. This explains the increase in inventories of KCHF 10,853.

Unrestricted reserves increased by KCHF 42,120 to enable the ICRC to deal with its future risks and commitments.



consolidated financial statements of the ICRC 2007

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

(in KCHF)

ASSETS	Notes	2007	2006 (restated)
Current Assets			
Cash and short-term deposits	7	328,663	225,690
Investments	8	63,543	64,682
Derivative financial instruments	36	595	189
Accounts receivable	9	166,047	188,096
Prepayments	10	9,883	10,207
Inventories	11	36,139	21,422
Total Current Assets		604,870	510,286
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	12	94,818	96,860
Intangible assets	13	11,469	8,646
Long-term receivables	14	72,612	120,565
Other financial assets	15	1,423	1,392
Total Non-current Assets		180,322	227,463
Total ASSETS		785,192	737,749
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	16	37,910	46,610
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	17	11,473	11,034
Other financial liabilities	18	26	419
Provisions	19	435	642
Employee benefit liabilities	20	22,547	22,488
Accrued expenses and deferred income	22	139,903	113,078
Total Current Liabilities		212,294	194,271
Non-current Liabilities			
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	17	8,341	8,908
Employee benefit liabilities	21	43,947	37,773
Deferred income	22	72,927	120,565
Total Non-current Liabilities		125,215	167,246
Total LIABILITIES		337,509	361,517
Restricted Reserves			
Total funds and foundations		21,759	19,790
Total funding of field operations	24	5,386	-21,976
Total Restricted Reserves		27,145	-2,186
Unrestricted Reserves			
Total reserves designated by the Assembly	25	406,138	364,018
Total other unrestricted reserves	26	14,400	14,400
Total Unrestricted Reserves		420,538	378,418
Total RESERVES		447,683	376,232
Total LIABILITIES and RESERVES		785,192	737,749

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

(in KCHF)

	Notes	2007	2006
Total CONTRIBUTIONS	27	1,007,326	943,849
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	28		
Staff-related costs	21/30	-471,207	-465,379
Mission costs		-53,496	-52,114
Rentals		-91,111	-106,321
Subcontracted maintenance		-34,309	-24,594
Purchase of goods and materials		-201,987	-220,985
General expenditure	28	-77,338	-75,217
Depreciation		-19,254	-19,514
Total OPERATING EXPENDITURE		-948,702	-964,124
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF OPERATING ACTIVITIES		58,624	-20,275
OTHER INCOME			
Contributed assets		140	80
Financial income	32	8,436	6,299
Other	33	16,935	16,882
Total OTHER INCOME		25,511	23,261
OTHER EXPENDITURE			
Foreign exchange losses, net	32	-5,919	-8,828
Impairment of assets	12/13	-	-21
Other	33	-6,765	-3,124
Total OTHER EXPENDITURE		-12,684	-11,973
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES		12,827	11,288
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		71,451	-8,987
ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR			
Allocation to reserves, net		-69,482	10,310
Allocation to funds and foundations		-1,969	-1,323
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS		0	0

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

(in KCHF)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes	2007	2006
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		71,451	-8,987
Adjustment for interest	32	-8,847	-4,405
Net surplus/(deficit) before interest		62,604	-13,392
Adjustment to reconcile surplus/(deficit) to net cash flows:			
Non-cash			
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant and equipment		17,368	17,732
Amortization and impairment of intangible assets		1,994	1,253
Provision on inventories		165	391
Movement in provisions, receivables and specific risks		1,219	2,450
Interest income		947	423
Losses on securities, net	32	761	-1,541
Gains from disposal of fixed assets, net		-5,797	-3,020
Contributed assets (gifted)		-140	-40
Working Capital Adjustments			
Accounts receivable and prepayments		68,494	-152,694
Inventories		-14,882	-3,343
Other assets		-31	14
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		-29,905	152,529
Employee benefit liabilities		6,232	-896
Net Cash from Operating Activities		109,029	-134
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-15,658	-21,682
Purchase of intangible assets		-4,817	-3,802
Purchase of securities		27,119	-22,724
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		6,269	4,700
Proceeds from sale of securities		-26,741	22,347
Interest received	32	6,886	3,199
Income from securities, net		1,365	1,136
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities		-5,577	-16,826
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Interest paid		-351	-353
Repayment unsecured loan and lease obligation	17	-589	-579
Increase of interest-bearing loan	17	-	2,900
Net Cash from Financing Activities		-940	1,968
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		102,512	-14,992
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		226,949	241,508
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		-1,703	-1,270
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	7	327,758	225,246

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

(in KCHF)

	Restricted		Unrestricted		Result for the year	Total
	Funds and foundations	Funding of operations	Designated by the Assembly	Other unrestricted reserves		
Notes	23	24	25	26		
Balance at 31 December 2005 (as reported)	14,462	22,998	320,969	14,400	-	372,829
Restatement	4,005	-	8,385	-	-	12,390
Balance at 31 December 2005 (as restated)	18,467	22,998	329,354	14,400	-	385,219
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year					-8,987	-8,987
Balance before transfers to/from reserves	18,467	22,998	329,354	14,400	-8,987	376,232
Allocation of surplus/(deficit) of funds and foundations	1,323				-1,323	-
Increase of field operations with temporary deficit financing		-20,747			20,747	-
Decrease in donors' restricted contributions for specific operations		-24,227			24,227	-
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-10,648		10,648	-
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			45,312		-45,312	-
Total movement, net	1,323	-44,974	34,664	-	8,987	-
Balance at 31 December 2006 (restated)	19,790	-21,976	364,018	14,400	-	376,232
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year					71,451	71,451
Balance before transfers to/from reserves	19,790	-21,976	364,018	14,400	71,451	447,683
Allocation of results of funds and foundations	1,969				-1,969	-
Decrease of field operations with temporary deficit financing		26,849			-26,849	-
Increase in donors' restricted contributions for specific operations		513			-513	-
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-20,271		20,271	-
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			62,391		-62,391	-
Total movement, net	1,969	27,362	42,120		-71,451	
Balance at 31 December 2007	21,759	5,386	406,138	14,400		447,683

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007 (in KCHF)

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. A humanitarian non-profit organization domiciled in Switzerland, it was granted United Nations observer status in October 1990. Under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code, it has the legal form of an association. Its registered office is:

19 Avenue de la Paix
1202, Geneva
Switzerland

The ICRC's principal tasks are to:

- ▶ visit prisoners of war and civilian detainees
- ▶ search for missing persons
- ▶ transmit messages between family members separated by conflict
- ▶ reunite dispersed families
- ▶ provide food, water and medical assistance to civilians without access to these basic necessities
- ▶ spread knowledge of international humanitarian law (IHL)
- ▶ monitor compliance with IHL
- ▶ draw attention to violations of and contribute to the development of IHL
- ▶ enhance the capacity of National Societies to fulfil their responsibilities as Red Cross and Red Crescent institutions providing humanitarian services in their respective countries

The consolidated financial statements of the ICRC for the year ended 31 December 2007 cover the activities of Geneva headquarters, all ICRC delegations, three funds and one foundation. They were approved by the Directorate on 1 April 2008 for issue to the Assembly Council on 3 April 2008 and for approval by the Assembly on 24 April 2008.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Swiss francs, which is the organization's functional and presentation currency. They are prepared using the historical cost convention, except as concerns financial securities and derivative financial instruments which are stated at their fair value. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand (KCHF) except when otherwise indicated.

Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and with interpretations issued by the IASB Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC), and are presented in accordance with the ICRC's Statutes.

Currently, the 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. Where the IFRS are silent or do not give guidance on how to treat transactions specific to the not-for-profit sector, accounting policies have been based on the general IFRS principles, as detailed in the IASB Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements.

Basis of consolidation

SPECIAL FUNDS AND FOUNDATIONS

The funds and foundations listed below are controlled by the ICRC and their financial statements included in the consolidated financial statements. Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealized gains from such transactions, are eliminated when the consolidated financial statements are prepared. The financial statements of the funds and foundations are prepared for the same reporting period as the ICRC, using consistent accounting policies.

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
- ▶ Special Fund for the Disabled
- ▶ Clare R. Benedict Fund
- ▶ Omar El Mukhtar Fund

The general purpose of the funds and foundations is to help finance the ICRC's humanitarian work.

3. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND DISCLOSURES

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year except as outlined below.

The Special Fund for the Disabled has been included in the 2007 consolidated financial statements, as this more accurately reflects its financial relationship with the ICRC. This change had no material effect on 2006.

IFRS AND IFRIC INTERPRETATIONS

The ICRC adopted the following new and amended IFRS and International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) interpretations during the year. Adoption of these revised standards and interpretations did not have any effect on the financial performance or position of the ICRC. They did, however, give rise to additional disclosures and in some cases to revisions of accounting policies.

(in KCHF)

IFRS 7 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS: DISCLOSURES

This standard requires disclosures that enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the significance of the ICRC's financial instruments and the nature and extent of risks arising from them. The new disclosures are included throughout the financial statements. While there has been no effect on the ICRC's financial position or results, comparative information has been revised where needed.

IAS 1 AMENDMENT – PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This amendment requires the ICRC to make disclosures enabling users of the financial statements to evaluate its objectives, policies and processes for managing capital. The ICRC by its nature does not have a capital structure as referenced in IAS1. The reserves could be construed as a proxy for capital, and the appropriate disclosures have therefore been made in Notes 6.11 and 35.

IFRIC 8 SCOPE OF IFRS 2

This interpretation requires IFRS 2 to be applied to any arrangements in which the entity cannot identify specifically some or all of the goods received, in particular where equity instruments are issued for consideration which appears to be less than fair value. The ICRC does not issue equity instruments, and the interpretation therefore had no impact on its financial position or performance.

IFRIC 9 REASSESSMENT OF EMBEDDED DERIVATIVES

IFRIC 9 states that the date to assess the existence of an embedded derivative is the date that an entity first becomes a party to the contract, with reassessment only if there is a change to the contract that significantly modifies the cash flows. As the ICRC has no embedded derivative requiring separation from the host contract, the interpretation had no impact on its financial position or performance.

IFRIC 10 INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORTING AND IMPAIRMENT

IFRIC 10 is effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 November 2006 and establishes that an entity must not reverse an impairment loss recognized in a previous interim period in respect of goodwill or an investment in either an equity instrument or a financial asset carried at cost. As the ICRC had no impairment losses previously reversed, the interpretation had no impact on its financial position or performance.

4. FUTURE CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

IFRS 8 OPERATING SEGMENTS

A revised version of IFRS 8 Operating Segments was issued in November 2006 and becomes effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2009. The standard requires identification of operating segments on the basis of internal reports that are regularly reviewed by the entity's financial decision-makers. Although the standard is not applicable, the ICRC is still evaluating the effect of this standard and whether it should nonetheless be applied, but expects that its adoption will have no impact on the organization's financial performance if implemented in 2009.

IAS 23 BORROWING COSTS

A revised version of IAS 23 Borrowing Costs was issued in March 2007 and becomes effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2009. The standard has been revised to require capitalization of borrowing costs when such costs relate to a qualifying asset. A qualifying asset is one that necessarily takes

a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale. As the ICRC does not incur specific borrowing costs for such qualifying assets, the standard will have no impact.

IFRIC 11 IFRS 2 GROUP AND TREASURY SHARE TRANSACTIONS

IFRIC 11 was issued in November 2006 and becomes effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 March 2007. This interpretation requires arrangements whereby an employee is granted rights to an entity's equity instruments to be accounted for as an equity-settled scheme, even if the entity buys the instruments from another party, or the shareholders provide the equity instruments needed. As the ICRC does not issue equity instruments, the interpretation will have no impact on its financial position or performance.

IFRIC 12 SERVICE CONCESSION ARRANGEMENTS

IFRIC Interpretation 12 was issued in November 2006 and becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2008. This interpretation applies to service concession operators and explains how to account for the obligations undertaken and rights received in service concession arrangements. The ICRC is not an operator and will therefore not be affected by this interpretation.

IFRIC 13 CUSTOMER LOYALTY PROGRAMMES

IFRIC Interpretation 13 was issued in June 2007 and becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2008. This interpretation requires customer loyalty award credits to be accounted for as a separate component of the sales transaction in which they are granted and therefore part of the fair value of the consideration received is allocated to the award credits and deferred over the period that the award credits are fulfilled. The ICRC operates no such scheme, and the interpretation with therefore will have no impact on its financial statements.

IFRIC 14 IAS 19 THE LIMIT ON A DEFINED BENEFIT ASSET, MINIMUM FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR INTERACTION

IFRIC Interpretation 14 was issued in July 2007 and becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2008. This interpretation provides guidance on how to assess the limit on the amount of surplus in a defined benefit scheme that can be recognized as an asset under IAS 19 Employee Benefits. The ICRC expects this interpretation to have no impact on its financial position or performance, as the estimated minimum employer's funding contributions of the funded plan exceed the plan's net service cost.

5. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities, at the reporting date. However, uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates can result in outcomes that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in the future.

Judgements

In the process of applying the ICRC's accounting policies, management has made the following judgements, apart from those involving estimations, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the financial statements.

(in KCHF)

FUNDS

The ICRC has applied the Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC) Interpretation No.12 and assessed the relationship it has with certain funds. Taking into consideration the activities, decision-making processes, benefits and related risks associated with the funds, the ICRC concluded that in substance the funds should be disclosed as related parties and not consolidated into the financial statements.

STOCK HELD ON BEHALF OF BENEFICIARIES

In various delegations certain stocks are held on behalf of beneficiaries for operational reasons and are recorded as expenses during the financial year. At year-end, management estimates whether the stocks will be consumed by the beneficiaries they were intended for; if the amounts are material and the recipient uncertain, then the goods are recorded as inventory. Any re-distribution of goods expensed in previous years is recorded as "adjustments of operations" in Other income (see Note 33).

Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other crucial sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

IMPAIRMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

The ICRC assesses whether there are any indicators of impairment for all non-financial assets at each reporting date. Intangibles with indefinite life are tested for impairment annually and at other times when such indicators exist. Other non-financial assets are tested for impairment when there are indicators that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. Further details are given in Note 12.

PENSION AND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The ICRC operates three defined benefit pension plans; the pension plan, the early retirement plan and the delegation employee end-of-service plan. The cost of the respective plans is determined using actuarial valuations. The actuarial valuations involve making assumptions about discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Given the long-term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty. Further details are given in Note 21.

FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS

The ICRC incurs expenditure which may not be fully funded by contributions pledged or received at year-end, or receives contributions that are earmarked for future expenditure. At year-end, management estimates expected future funding to cover the expenditure incurred. Changes in estimates could result in the need to re-assess the relevant reserves in accordance with the policy set out in Note 24.

PROVISION FOR OPERATIONAL CLAIMS

As discussed in Note 19, legal proceedings covering a range of matters are pending or threatened in various jurisdictions against the ICRC. The organization records provisions for pending litigation when it determines that an unfavourable outcome is probable and the amount of losses can be reasonably estimated. Due to the inherent uncertain nature of litigation, the ultimate outcome or actual cost of settlement may vary materially from estimates.

ALLOWANCES FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS

The ICRC maintains allowances for doubtful accounts in respect of estimated losses resulting from the inability of donors to make required payments. Additional allowances may be required in the future if the donors' financial situation were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment in their ability to make payments. Management specifically analyses accounts receivable, historical trends and current economic trends when assessing the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts (see Note 9).

INVENTORY-RELATED ALLOWANCES

The ICRC periodically reviews its inventory for excess, obsolescence and declines in market value below cost and records an allowance against the inventory balance for any such declines. These reviews require management to estimate future demand for stock items. Possible changes in these estimates could result in revisions to the valuation of inventory in future periods (see Note 11).

6. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**6.1 Foreign currency transactions**

Transactions in currencies other than Swiss francs are converted into Swiss francs at rates which approximate the actual rates 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 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.

The principal rates of exchange are shown below.

	Closing rate of exchange		Average rate of exchange	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
USD	1.1270	1.2200	1.2039	1.2580
EUR	1.6570	1.6055	1.6417	1.5728
GBP	2.2495	2.3950	2.4062	2.3018

6.2 Cash and short-term deposits

The ICRC considers cash on hand, amounts due from banks and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less 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.

6.3 Investments

Investments are recorded as financial assets at fair value through profit and loss and classified as current assets, with any resultant gains or losses recognized in the statement of income and expenditure. As the ICRC's securities are managed externally on a portfolio basis, all income from securities is disclosed net. Securities are recognized and de-recognized on the trade date that the portfolio manager, on behalf of the ICRC, commits to purchase or sell the investments.

(in KCHF)

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.

6.4 Accounts receivable

Receivables are stated at their cost net of an allowance on outstanding amounts to cover the risk on non-payment (see Note 9).

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 owing to uncertainties associated with their receipt (see Note 37)
- ▶ *re-invoiced costs*: at the moment when (i) the service or basic expenditure is fulfilled or (ii) 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, it is made at differing rates, using the age of the receivable and applying allowance rates based on past experience.

Accounts receivable after the date of the statement of financial position are discounted to estimate their present value at this same date.

6.5 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 such stocks are delivered or consumed; obsolete inventories are written off.

Inventories held on behalf of beneficiaries at other locations are considered as committed and are included in expenditure owing to the nature of 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 their costs therefore specifically identified.

6.6 Property, plant and equipment

Assets are measured at their historical costs and are capitalized (i) when they are used for the ICRC and (ii) when the following limits are reached for individual asset amounts:

- ▶ land and buildings all
- ▶ equipment and vehicles KCHF 10
- ▶ software KCHF 100¹

(1) Licences for commercial software are considered as fully expensed during the year.

Contributed assets are accounted for using the same principles as for purchased assets (see Note 6.12).

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 item's estimated useful life, which is as follows:

	Useful life
Buildings – Switzerland	70 years
Buildings – other countries	3 to 10 years
Fixed installations	10 years
Equipment and vehicles	5 to 8 years
Hardware	3 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 intangibles. The associated obligations are included in financial liabilities.

6.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and any accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangible assets are not capitalized as the criteria of recognition under IAS 38.57 (f) cannot be reliably measured; expenditure is therefore reflected in income and expenditure in the year in which the expenditure is incurred.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite.

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortized over the useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. The amortization period and the amortization method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least at each financial year-end. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for by changing the amortization period or method, as appropriate, and are treated as changes in accounting estimates. The amortization expense on intangible assets with finite lives is recognized in income and expenditure as a depreciation expense.

The useful life for software is five years.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually. Such intangibles are not amortized. The useful life of an intangible asset with an indefinite life is reviewed annually to determine whether indefinite life assessment continues to be supportable. If not, the change in the useful life assessment from indefinite to finite is made on a prospective basis.

(in KCHF)

The ICRC has obtained licences for the red crystal emblem which have been granted for a period of 10 years by the relevant government agencies, with the option to renew at the end of this period. Those licences are consequently assessed as having an indefinite useful life.

6.8 Impairment of assets

The carrying amounts of the ICRC's assets 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 (see Notes 12 and 13).

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 as "Other expenditure". An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount, but only 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.

6.9 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, it is probable that an outflow of assets will be required to settle the obligation, and the obligation can be measured reliably.

If the effect is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flow so as to reflect current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

6.10 Financial liabilities

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.

6.11 Reserves

Reserves are classified as either restricted or unrestricted reserves.

a) Restricted reserves

These represent expenditures in the field which have not been financed by contributions or the cumulative excess of income from earmarked voluntary contributions over expenditure on stipulated field operations. Restricted reserves include the following:

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 2007.

Donors' 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 cases where 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.

b) Unrestricted reserves

These are not subject to any legal or third-party restriction and can be applied as the ICRC Assembly sees fit. Unrestricted reserves may be designated for specific purposes to meet future obligations or risks.

RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY

Future operations reserves

This position contains the reserves for operational funding. The ideal amount of these reserves is estimated at two and a half months of the headquarters and field operational cash, kind and service expenditure over the last five years (see Note 25).

Operational risks reserves

This concerns reserves relating to insurance coverage and to potential litigation.

Assets reserves

The ICRC sets aside funds for capital expenditure on real estate and equipment, in order to be able to make investments that are essential for its operations regardless of short-term financial fluctuations.

Financial risks reserves

This covers the risks of exchange rate variations and price fluctuations in securities.

Human resources reserves

These reserves are set aside to cover future payments to management and staff under agreements for early retirement.

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 reserves

These reserves are the accumulation of excess funds set aside with no specific reservation or restriction.

Retained surplus at beginning of year

These reserves are the balance of surplus income from previous years that is not allocated to any specific reserves.

6.12 Income

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions in cash are recognized on receipt of a written confirmation of donation from the donors, except revenue relating to future years, which is recorded on the balance sheet as deferred income. If the receivable is greater than five years, it is not recognized as deferred income but is disclosed in the financial statements as a contingent asset (see Note 37).

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.

The following contributions are recognized upon receipt of the cash:

- ▶ contributions from private sources, associations and companies
- ▶ legacies
- ▶ gifts

(in KCHF)

Contributions in kind (goods or interest) 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 the 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 their employer have been deducted to give the value of service recorded.

EARMARKING

Cash contributions restricted by donors for no 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 or project are *tightly earmarked*.

The table below shows the overall framework for the earmarking of cash contributions for the field budgets.

Level of earmarking	Range/restrictions	Example
None	overall ICRC field budget	ICRC operations worldwide
Region	one of the four regions	ICRC operations in Africa
Programme	one of the four programmes	ICRC prevention activities worldwide
Programme/region	one of the four programmes for one of the four regions	ICRC protection activities in Asia and the Pacific
Operation	one of the worldwide delegations	ICRC activities in Colombia

Donors' restricted contributions that exceed specific expenditure within the accounting year are carried forward to the following year (see Note 6.11).

In cases where the ICRC is over-financed because of 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 over-financing, the donor may also ask for a reimbursement of the donation.

6.13 Financial income and expenditure

Net financial income (see Note 32) comprises interest payable on borrowings, interest receivable on funds invested, securities income, foreign exchange gains and losses, and gains and losses on hedging instruments.

Interest income is recognized in the statement of income and expenditure as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the asset.

6.14 Pensions and other post-employment benefits

The ICRC operates three post-employment defined benefit plans and one defined contribution plan, all of which are administered separately. The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit plans is determined separately for each plan using the projected unit credit actuarial valuation method.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognized as income or expense when the net cumulative unrecognized actuarial gains and losses for each individual plan at the end of the previous reporting period exceeded 10% of the higher of the defined benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets at that date. These gains or losses are recognized over the expected average remaining working lives of the employees participating in the plans.

The past service cost is recognized as an expense on a straight "line basis" over the average period until the benefits become vested. If the benefits are already vested immediately following the introduction of, or changes to, a pension plan, past service cost is recognized immediately.

The defined benefit asset or liability comprises the present value of the defined benefit obligation less past service cost not yet recognized and less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly less any unrecognized net actuarial losses plus gains. The value of any asset is restricted to the sum of any past service cost not yet recognized and the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in the future contributions to the plan and any unrecognized actuarial losses.

a) The pension plan

The defined benefit pension plan covers all headquarters contracted staff. Pension obligations are met by an independent fund which is held in a single, separate legal entity governed by Swiss law. This independent fund is fully funded through payments as determined by periodic actuarial calculations in accordance with Swiss law. The assets of the funds are managed as one within the separate legal entity.

b) The early retirement plan

The ICRC has a plan that offers all staff working at headquarters or in the field and hired in Geneva the possibility to take early retirement at 58 instead of 62. Future financial commitments arising from early retirement benefits are borne by the ICRC. The plan covers the period from the date of the ICRC retirement up to the date of Swiss legal retirement for those employees who accepted early retirements and presently benefit from it. The plan is unfunded but allocations made towards the cost of future early retirements are included in the human resources reserves.

c) The delegation employee end-of-service plan

The ICRC has agreed to provide post-employment benefits to delegation employees in accordance with the legislation of the countries concerned and the local collective staff agreements. The benefits are based on one month of compensation for every year of service up to a maximum of 12 months, except in countries where local legislation requires otherwise. The present value of future financial commitments due for end-of-service indemnities (e.g. end of employment, retirement, severance pay) are borne by

(in KCHF)

the ICRC. The plan is unfunded and therefore the fair value of plan assets is nil. As there is only a lump sum benefit at the end of service, there are no pensioners.

d) Avenir Foundation

The Avenir Foundation was established 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 ongoing training, to facilitate career moves and to improve retirement benefits. The ICRC pays fixed contributions determined by the duration of employment into individual staff accounts with the Foundation.

6.15 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.

6.16 Contingent assets

The ICRC views pledges falling due after five years as probably being receivable; given its operating environment, however, receipt is not virtually certain as defined in IAS 37. Consequently, management has considered these receivables as contingent assets and they have not been accounted for in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2007 (see Note 37).

6.17 Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only on the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events that are not wholly within the control of the ICRC. It may also be a present obligation that arise from past events but in respect of which an outflow of economic benefit is not probable or which cannot be measured with sufficient reliability. Such contingent liabilities are recorded under Note 38.

6.18 Derivative financial instruments

The ICRC uses derivative financial instruments such as forward currency contracts to hedge the risks associated with foreign currency fluctuations. Such derivative financial instruments are initially recognized at fair value on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at fair value. Derivatives are carried as assets when the fair value is positive and as liabilities when the fair value is negative.

Any gains or losses arising from changes in fair value on derivatives during the year that do not qualify for hedge accounting are taken directly to profit or loss.

The fair value of forward currency contracts is calculated by reference to current forward exchange rates for contracts with similar maturity profiles.

6.19 Restatements and reclassifications

As explained in Note 6.14, all headquarters contracted staff are affiliated to a pension plan. Like most other similar Swiss plans, this pension plan is contractually described as a defined-contribution plan but, because of its characteristics, major audit firms in Switzerland have confirmed recently that such plans are to be treated as defined benefit plans under the IFRS. The amount of the restatement is not material in regard to the ICRC's balance sheet and statement of income and expenditure for the comparative period, and has therefore been recorded on a prospective basis in the current period (see Note 21).

Two buildings that had previously been donated to the ICRC have been recognized in the consolidated financial statements, which have been restated accordingly with an increase of KCHF 8,385 under "Property, plant and equipment" and "Unrestricted reserves". The 2006 opening balances of cost and accumulated depreciation under the "land and buildings" schedule has also been restated by KCHF 15,632 and KCHF -7,247 respectively (see Note 12).

The procedure for depreciating the cost of buildings in Switzerland that house some headquarters operations has been reviewed. As a result, management has decided to diminish the depreciation of the cost of the relevant buildings (see Note 12 (f)).

The consolidation of the Special Fund for the Disabled has required an addition to the opening balance of the "Consolidated statement of changes in reserves" of KCHF 4,005 and investments (see Note 8).

Certain other 2006 financial statement balances have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2007. Derivative financial instruments has been shown separately from Prepayments (2006: KCHF 189). Accounts receivable has been shown separately from Prepayments on the consolidated balance sheet. Long-term receivables is shown separately from Accounts receivable (2006: KCHF 120,565). Salaries due to employees have been classified under Accounts payable and not under Employee benefit liabilities as previously reported (2006: KCHF 3,288). Other financial liabilities have been shown separately from Accrued expenses (2006: KCHF 419). Pension plans have been classified under Non-current employee benefit liabilities (see Note 21).

(in KCHF)

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PROVIDE 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.

7. CASH AND SHORT-TERM DEPOSITS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Cash at banks and on hand	97,238	33,713
Short-term deposits	231,425	191,977
Cash and short-term deposits	328,663	225,690

Cash at banks earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates. Short-term deposits are made for varying periods of between one day and three months, depending on the immediate cash requirements of the ICRC, and earn interest at the respective short-term deposit rates.

At 31 December 2007, the ICRC had available KCHF 85,000 (2006: KCHF 85,000) of undrawn committed borrowing facilities in respect of which all prior conditions had been met.

For the purpose of the consolidated cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprised the following at 31 December:

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Cash at banks and on hand	97,238	33,713
Short-term deposits	231,425	191,977
Bank overdrafts	-905	-444
Cash and cash equivalents	327,758	225,246

8. INVESTMENTS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
		(restated)
Debt and equity securities	60,189	60,184
Deposits	3,354	4,498
Total investments	63,543	64,682

Deposits included in investments have an original maturity of over three months.

9. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Pledges (see also Note 37)	159,420	181,658
Re-invoiced costs commercial	1,047	1,552
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	1,438	3,750
Withholding taxes	3,542	2,952
Other income receivable	1,800	784
Allowance for accounts receivable	-1,200	-2,600
Total accounts receivable	166,047	188,096

There are no standard payment terms for pledges as payment terms are defined in each donor contract.

Re-invoiced costs commercial, National Societies, and foundation and funds are based on 60-day credit terms.

Withholding taxes are receivable with varying time delays due to the respective recovery processes in the countries in which the amounts have been claimed.

Interest income on short-term deposits is due within three months of the balance sheet date.

The nominal value of pledges in foreign currencies has been revalued as at 31 December 2007 with the following unrealized gains or (losses).

	2007	2006
USD	-2,162	-579
EUR	521	1,335
GBP	-5,470	3,033
Other	62	34

Movements in the provision for impairment of receivables were as follows:

(in KCHF)	Total
At 1 January 2006	4,400
Charge for the year	-97
Utilized	-1,703
At 31 December 2006	2,600
Charge for the year	-785
Utilized	-615
At 31 December 2007	1,200

10. PREPAYMENTS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Prepaid expenses	6,364	6,497
Social security and insurance contributions	207	96
Advance payments to suppliers	131	244
Advance payments to employees	3,181	3,370
Total prepayments	9,883	10,207

11. INVENTORIES

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Breakdown by category of goods		
Relief	14,515	3,332
Medical and physical rehabilitation	13,853	10,004
Water and habitat	2,852	3,195
Other	5,162	5,158
Allowance for inventory	-243	-267
Total inventories	36,139	21,422

All inventories comprise finished goods. Stock recorded in inventory and held on behalf of beneficiaries amount to KCHF 10,853 (2006: KCHF nil).

(in KCHF)

12. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

(in KCHF)	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2007 property and equipment
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2007	85,651	122,323	207,974
Additions	5,609	10,330	15,939
Disposals	-	-20,405	-20,405
Balance at 31 December 2007	91,260	112,248	203,508
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2007	-31,598	-79,516	-111,114
Impairment losses	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for the year	-2,630	-14,712	-17,342
Disposals	-	19,766	19,766
Balance at 31 December 2007	-34,228	-74,462	-108,690
Net book value as at 31 December 2007	57,032	37,786	94,818

(in KCHF)	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2006 property and equipment
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2006 (reported)	66,858	119,299	186,157
Restatement	15,632	-	15,632
Balance at 1 January 2006 (restated)	82,490	119,299	201,789
Additions	4,612	17,092	21,704
Disposals	-1,451	-14,068	-15,519
Balance at 31 December 2006 (restated)	85,651	122,323	207,974
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2006 (reported)	-22,735	-77,257	-99,992
Restatement	-7,247	-	-7,247
Balance at 1 January 2006 (restated)	-29,982	-77,257	-107,239
Impairment losses	-2	-	-2
Depreciation charge for the year	-2,333	-15,379	-17,712
Disposals	719	13,120	13,839
Balance at 31 December 2006 (restated)	-31,598	-79,516	-111,114
Net book value as at 31 December 2006 (restated)	54,053	42,807	96,860

a) Work in progress

At 31 December 2007, assets include work in progress comprising KCHF 4,591 for construction and renovation of buildings (2006: KCHF 1,274) and KCHF 824 for equipment (2006: KCHF nil).

b) Impairment losses

An assessment of the value attributed to assets caused the ICRC to write down the carrying amount by KCHF nil (2006: KCHF 2).

c) Finance leases

Net equipment held under finance leases amounted to KCHF 360 at 31 December 2007 (2006: KCHF 741).

d) Security: mortgage on property

As at 31 December 2007, the headquarters building No.3 is subject to two mortgage notes of KCHF 7,050 each to secure the interest-bearing mortgage loan (see Note 17).

e) Insurance value

The buildings owned and utilized by the ICRC have a total insurance cover of KCHF 120,245 (2006: KCHF 110,569). The buildings owned by the ICRC have an insurance value of KCHF 80,128 (2006: KCHF 73,968).

f) Change in estimate

In 2007 ICRC management reassessed certain buildings in Switzerland and extended their useful life from 50 to 70 years. This change better reflects the long-term view the ICRC has of the buildings and resulted in a reduction of the depreciation charge for 2007 by KCHF 25.

(in KCHF)

13. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

(in KCHF)	Software	Red crystal emblem	Total 2007 Intangibles
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2007	31,120	-	31,120
Additions	4,463	354	4,817
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2007	35,583	354	35,937
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2007	-22,474	-	-22,474
Impairment losses	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for the year	-1,691	-	-1,691
Disposals	-303	-	-303
Balance at 31 December 2007	-24,468	-	-24,468
Net book value as at 31 December 2007	11,115	354	11,469

(in KCHF)	Software	Red crystal emblem	Total 2006 Intangibles
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2006	27,299	-	27,299
Additions	3,821	-	3,821
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2006	31,120	-	31,120
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2006	-21,202	-	-21,202
Impairment losses	-19	-	-19
Depreciation charge for the year	-1,253	-	-1,253
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2006	-22,474	-	-22,474
Net book value as at 31 December 2006	8,646	-	8,646

The computer software was purchased from third parties and has a finite life.

a) Work in progress

At 31 December 2007, intangible assets include work in progress comprising KCHF 7,026 for software in development acquired externally or generated internally (2006: KCHF 2,827).

b) Impairment, useful life

The carrying amount of the intangible assets was tested for impairment with no subsequent adjustment required for 2007 (2006: KCHF 19). The useful life of "intangible assets with indefinite life" was reviewed and no adjustment required.

14. LONG-TERM RECEIVABLES

Accounts Receivable schedule:

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Deferred income	72,612	120,565
Total long-term receivables	72,612	120,565

(in KCHF)	One year	2-5 years
Deferred income	97,052	72,612

15. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Guarantee deposits	1,418	1,387
Financial assets	5	5
Total other financial assets	1,423	1,392

(in KCHF)

16. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Governments	15	7,786
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	1,394	2,730
Suppliers	12,070	11,581
Social security and insurance contributions	22,039	20,890
Salaries due to employees	2,280	3,288
Sundry items	112	335
Total accounts payable	37,910	46,610

Terms and conditions of the above financial liabilities:

- ▶ governments, National Societies, organizations, foundations, funds, suppliers, social security and insurance contributions are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 30-day terms
- ▶ salaries due to employees are paid on demand
- ▶ sundry items are non-interest bearing and have an average term of six months

17. INTEREST-BEARING LOANS AND BORROWINGS

Current (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Bank overdrafts	905	444
Interest-bearing loan	10,000	10,000
Current portion of non-current financial liabilities	568	590
Total current financial liabilities	11,473	11,034

The interest-bearing loan of KCHF 10,000 (2006: KCHF 10,000) has been contracted until 30 June 2016 but repayment can be demanded with 6 months notice; the loan has therefore been classified as current. It is secured by a mortgage on a building at the headquarters in Geneva (see Note 12(d)). Interest amounted to KCHF 335 in 2007 (2006: KCHF 326).

Non-current (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Loans		
Unsecured loan	8,549	8,757
Financial Leases		
Lease obligation	360	741
Total loans and financial leases	8,909	9,498
Current portion	-568	-590
Total non-current financial liabilities	8,341	8,908

Terms and loan repayment schedule	Total	within 1 year	2-5 years	more than 5 years
Unsecured loan				
KCHF – granted at 0%	8,549	208	835	7,506
Total	8,549	208	835	7,506

The unsecured loan (initially KCHF 9,800) is interest free, reimbursable over 47 years and was granted for the training centre in Ecogia, Geneva, Switzerland. Notional interest for a contributed service of KCHF 265 (2006: KCHF 272) has been recorded as expenditure and as income at 3.03% (2006: 3.03%).

The fair value of non-current financial liabilities amounts to KCHF 4,565 (2006: KCHF 5,607).

18. OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Forward currency contracts (see Note 36)	26	419
Total	26	419

19. PROVISIONS

Current provisions for specific risks (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Balance at 1 January	642	58
Allocations during the year	435	642
Use of provisions during the year	-642	-58
Total	435	642

The balance represents operational claims on the ICRC not yet settled.

Non-current provisions

In 2007, there were no long-term provisions (2006: nil).

20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

Current employee benefit liabilities (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Staff vacation accruals	22,547	22,488
Total current employee benefit liabilities	22,547	22,488

21. PENSION AND OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Early retirement	10,711	6,818
End-of-service benefits	33,236	30,955
Total non-current employee benefit liabilities	43,947	37,733

The ICRC operates three defined benefit pension plans and a defined contribution plan: a pension plan for all headquarters contracted staff, an early retirement plan that offers all staff the possibility to take early retirement at 58 instead of 62, an end-of-service plan for delegation employees and a plan to facilitate training, promote career moves and improve retirement benefits.

The following tables summarize the components of net benefit expense recognized in the income statement and the funded status and amounts recognized in the balance sheet for the respective plans.

(in KCHF)

Components of pension expense (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2007 Total	2006 Total
Current service costs	23,389	2,103	6,784	32,276	9,372
Interest costs	22,188	293	-	22,481	176
Expected return on plan assets	-40,725	-	-	-40,725	-
Actuarial (gains)/losses recognized in current year	-44,886	-	-	-44,886	-
Change in excess funding not capitalized	72,432	-	-	72,432	-
Expense for pension plan	as above	-	-	-	31,823
Expenses recognized in the income statement	32,398	2,396	6,784	41,578	41,371

Changes in the funded status during the year (including unfunded plans) (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2007 Total	2006 Total
Funded status at 1 January	-	6,818	30,955	37,773	36,702
Current service costs	23,389	2,103	6,784	32,276	9,372
Interest costs	22,188	293	-	22,481	176
Allocation from reserves	-	3,455	-	3,455	-
Expected return on plan assets	-40,725	-	-	-40,725	-
Employer's contributions	-32,398	-	-	-32,398	-
Benefits paid (unfunded plans only)	-	-1,958	-4,503	-6,461	-8,477
Experience (gains)/losses on plan assets	38,302	-	-	38,302	-
Experience (gains)/losses on obligation	-16,057	-	-	-16,057	-
Liability (gains)/losses due to assumption changes	-67,131	-	-	-67,131	-
Funded status at 31 December	-72,432	10,711	33,236	-28,485	37,773
Benefits paid (funded plans only)	35,624	-	-	35,624	30,992
Employees' contributions	16,199	-	-	16,199	15,914

The ICRC expects to contribute KCHF 42,000 to its defined benefit pension plans in 2008.

The overall expected rate of return on assets is determined on the basis of the market expectations prevailing on that date, applicable to the period over which the obligation is to be settled.

Amounts recognized in the balance sheet are determined as follows: (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2007 Total	2006 Total
Funded status at 31 December	-72,432			-72,432	-
Present value of unfunded obligations	-	10,711	33,236	43,947	37,773
Unrecognized actuarial gains (losses)	-			-	-
IAS 19.58b limitation	72,432			72,432	-
Liability (asset) recognized in balance sheet	-	10,711	33,236	43,947	37,773

Actual return on plan assets (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2007 Total	2006 Total
Expected return on plan assets	40,725	-	-	40,725	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on plan assets	-38,302	-	-	-38,302	-
Actual return on plan assets	2,423	-	-	2,423	-

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service
Discount rate	2.75 %	2.78 %	4.3 – 7.6 %
Expected return on plan assets	4.9 %	-	-
Future salary increase	1.5 %	-	3.0 – 10.0 %
Future pension increase	0.25 %	0.97 %	-

End-of-service plan: These rates have been expressed as a range that reflects the various material financial environments (countries) for which the obligation has been calculated. Rates for mortality, disability, normal retirement and withdrawal vary depending on each country and the nature of ICRC operations. These variations do not have a material impact on the calculations.

Avenir Foundation: In 2007, contributions to the Avenir Foundation amounted to KCHF 9,716 (2006: KCHF 10,966), and the Foundation paid out KCHF 4,946 (2006: KCHF 3,896) for training purposes, professional integration outside the ICRC and early retirement.

(in KCHF)

22. ACCRUED EXPENSES AND DEFERRED INCOME

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Accrued expenses	12,842	14,370
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	470	1,049
Deferred income	126,591	97,659
Total accrued expenses and deferred income	139,903	113,078

Non-current deferred income (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Deferred income	72,927	120,565
Total non-current deferred income	72,927	120,565

23. FUNDS AND FOUNDATIONS

The following balances have been included in the consolidated financial statements from the funds and foundations.

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Cash and bank accounts	1,872	913
Securities	19,225	14,205
Accounts receivable and accrued interest	1,669	5,889
Deferred income	4,230	5,222
Contributions	6,503	756
Operational expenditure	4,649	-
Financial income	193	613
Other expenditure	78	45

24. FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS**a) Field operations with temporary deficit financing**

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Loosely earmarked balances	-32,843	-59,671
Tightly earmarked balances	-	-21
Total	-32,843	-59,692

Field operations are classified as “deficit financing” as soon as contributions do not cover expenditure.

b) Donors' restricted contributions

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Loosely earmarked balances	35,593	35,560
Tightly earmarked balances	2,636	2,156
Total	38,229	37,716

Total funding of field operations	5,386	-21,976
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In 2007, there was no reimbursement of contributions received in previous years (2006: nil).

(in KCHF)

25. RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY

(in KCHF)	Future operations	Operational risks	Assets replacement	Financial risks	Human resources	Specific projects	Total
Balance as at 31 December 2005	147,691	26,166	125,354	14,933	10,694	4,516	329,354
Use/release during 2006		-395	-192	-6,000	-841	-3,220	-10,648
Allocations 2006	22,299	1,265	13,191	6,361	1,352	844	45,312
Balance as at 31 December 2006	169,990	27,036	138,353	15,294	11,205	2,140	364,018
Use/release during 2007		-1,188	-338	-6,367	-10,980	-1,398	-20,271
Allocations 2007	21,302	3,654	21,937	5,936	8,555	1,007	62,391
Balance as at 31 December 2007	191,292	29,502	159,952	14,863	8,780	1,749	406,138

The future operations reserve is intended for situations with insufficient operational funding, which is estimated at an average of 2.5 months of expenditure in cash, kind and services over the previous five years, including both at headquarters and in the field. The theoretical level is KCHF 195,032 (in 2006: KCHF 176,308).

26. OTHER UNRESTRICTED RESERVES

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
General reserves	12,500	12,500
Retained surplus at beginning of year	1,900	1,900
Total	14,400	14,400

See also Note 6.11 (b).

27. CONTRIBUTIONS

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Governments	805,043	752,669
European Commission	111,283	84,932
International organizations	2,051	399
Supranational organizations	500	865
National Societies	61,306	80,812
Public sources	4,735	4,491
Private sources	22,408	19,681
Total	1,007,326	943,849

(in KCHF)

28. OPERATING EXPENDITURE BY CASH, KIND AND SERVICES

Operating expenditure (in KCHF)	Cash	Kind	Services	Total 2007	Total 2006
Field					
Staff-related costs	-345,652		-8,967	-354,619	-352,903
Mission costs	-48,593			-48,593	-47,311
Rentals	-87,809		-229	-88,038	-103,208
Subcontracted maintenance	-31,959			-31,959	-21,905
Purchase of goods and materials	-194,195	-4,188		-198,383	-218,221
General expenditure	-57,274			-57,274	-53,974
Depreciation	-14,637			-14,637	-15,100
Total	-780,119	-4,188	-9,196	-793,503	-812,622

Operating expenditure (in KCHF)	Cash	Kind	Services	Total 2007	Total 2006
Headquarters					
Staff-related costs	-116,219		-369	-116,588	-112,476
Mission costs	-4,903			-4,903	-4,803
Rentals	-1,848		-1,225	-3,073	-3,113
Subcontracted maintenance	-2,350			-2,350	-2,689
Purchase of goods and materials	-3,604			-3,604	-2,764
General expenditure	-19,799		-265	-20,064	-21,243
Depreciation	-4,617			-4,617	-4,414
Total	-153,340	-	-1,859	-155,199	-151,502
Total field and headquarters	-933,459	-4,188	-11,055	-948,702	-964,124

29. 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. Headquarters' support includes services essential for an operation's success, such as human resources, finance, logistics, information technology and other support, as noted under c) below. The following analysis reconciles the audited consolidated financial statements with the management financial results of the Emergency Appeals.

- a) The reconciliation of **headquarters overhead income** results in the following breakdown over the past two years:

2007 (in KCHF)	Notes	Headquarters	Field	Total
Contributions	27			1,007,326
Less funds and foundations	23			-6,503
ICRC contributions		137,527	863,296	1,000,823
Internal allocation from field budget		51,026	-	51,026
Total income related to Emergency Appeals		188,553	863,296	1,051,849

2006				
Contributions	27			943,849
Less funds and foundations	23			-756
ICRC contributions		126,467	816,626	943,093
Internal allocation from field budget		51,734	-	51,734
Total income related to Emergency Appeals		178,201	816,626	994,827

(in KCHF)

b) The reconciliation of **field overhead expenditure** is as follows:

2007 (in KCHF)	Notes	Headquarters	Field	Total
Operational expenditure	28	-155,199	-793,503	-948,702
Internal allocation to headquarters budget			-51,026	-51,026
Total expenditure related to Emergency Appeals		-155,199	-844,529	-999,728

2006

Operational expenditure	28	-151,502	-812,622	-964,124
Internal allocation to headquarters budget			-51,734	-51,734
Total expenditure related to Emergency Appeals		-151,502	-864,356	-1,015,858

c) Administrative costs

The following cost centres at headquarters are classified as administrative rather than direct programme-oriented operating expenditure:

- ▶ the president's office, the directorate and management control
- ▶ finance and administration
- ▶ human resources
- ▶ fundraising
- ▶ information systems and archives

Their total cost amounts to KCHF 89,988 (2006: KCHF 86,541), which represents 9.53% (2006: 8.98%) of overall operational expenditure.

30. STAFF-RELATED COSTS AND FIGURES

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Wages and salaries	356,375	346,709
Social insurance and social benefits	63,918	63,974
Contributed services	9,336	13,325
Pension costs	41,578	41,371
Total	471,207	465,379

The average number of positions/employees during 2007 (2006) was:

in the field:

- ▶ 1,441 (2006: 1,529) expatriate staff, including 72 (2006: 157) seconded by National Societies
- ▶ 9,694 (2006: 10,055) locally recruited employees under ICRC contract
- ▶ 1,307 (2006: 1,750) local daily workers

at headquarters:

- ▶ 886 (2006: 869) staff, including 7 (2006: 10) seconded by National Societies, which represents
- ▶ 756 (2006: 729) full-time positions

31. 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 of up to 10 years, with an option to renew after that date. Lease payments are increased annually to reflect market rentals.

During the current year, CHF 89 million was recognized as rental expense in the statement of income and expenditure with respect to operating leases (2006: CHF 105 million), as follows:

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Premises and equipment	36,788	35,076
Transport	52,870	70,300
Total	89,658	105,376

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:		
- within 12 months	3,735	2,601
- within 1 to 5 years	3,558	4,293
- over 5 years	187	474
Total	7,480	7,368

b) Operating leases as lessor

In 2007, KCHF 574 (2006: KCHF 585) was recognized as income in the statement of income and expenditure in respect of subleases. These leases principally relate to vehicle parking at headquarters and ad hoc field facilities that are short-term in nature.

c) Finance leases as lessee

2007 (in KCHF)	Future value		Present value
	Payments	Interests	Principal

Non-cancellable finance lease liabilities are as follows:

- within 12 months	365	5	360	354
- within 1 to 5 years	-	-	-	-
- over 5 years	-	-	-	-
Total	365	5	360	354

The difference between the future value of the minimum lease payments and their present value represents the discount on the lease obligations.

(in KCHF)

32. FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSE

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Securities at fair value		
Gains/(losses) on securities	-762	1,541
Securities' income, net	1,365	1,136
Total net income on securities	603	2,677
Interest income	7,833	3,622
Financial income	8,436	6,299
Interest expense ⁽¹⁾	-351	-353
Total financial income, net	8,085	5,946
Foreign exchange gains (losses), net	-5,919	-8,828

(1) Interest expense is classified within operating expenditure consistent with the requirements of agreements with donors

33. OTHER INCOME AND OTHER EXPENDITURE

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Decrease in allowance for accounts receivable	1,400	1,800
Decrease in allowance for specific risks	-	66
Decrease in allowance for obsolete stock	24	83
Revaluation of fixed assets	-	-
Re-invoiced costs	5,444	4,316
Income arising from prior period	1,328	5,004
Other	8,230	4,967
Adjustments of operations	509	646
Total other income	16,935	16,882

(in KCHF)	2007	2006
Increase in allowance for specific risks	-184	-768
Expenditure arising from prior period	-472	-703
Other	-6,109	-1,653
Total other expenditure	-6,765	-3,124

Adjustments of operations concern prior period charges relating mainly to the transfer of goods and revised estimates of accruals, and do not relate to current field operations.

34. TAXES

The ICRC (but not its staff) is exempt from taxes in Switzerland and most countries in which its delegations are based.

35. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The ICRC's principal financial liabilities, other than derivatives, comprise bank loans and overdrafts, finance leases, accounts payables and other financial liabilities. The ICRC has various financial assets, such as cash and short-term deposits, accounts receivables, derivative financial instruments and other financial liabilities, which arise directly from its operations.

The ICRC also uses derivative financial instruments – forward foreign exchange contracts and swaps – to hedge its exposure to foreign exchange risks arising from significant pledged contributions denominated in a currency other than Swiss francs as soon as the balance sheet item is recognized as current income. 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 2007.

In accordance with its treasury policy, the ICRC does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

The main risks arising from the ICRC's financial instruments are foreign currency risk, cash flow interest-rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk, which are summarized below.

a) Foreign currency risk

Exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates arises from transactions denominated in currencies other than the ICRC's functional currency, which is the Swiss franc. As a result of the foreign currency exposure, exchange rate fluctuations have a significant impact on the income statement. The risk is that the consolidated financial statements for a particular period or as of a certain date may be affected by changes in the value of transactions executed in currencies other than the ICRC's measurement currency owing to currency fluctuations.

The ICRC also 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, the pound sterling and the US dollar.

The long-term receivables relate to deferred income and are principally denominated in pounds sterling. The foreign exchange exposure of this asset is economically hedged against the deferred income liability.

With respect to 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, buying or selling foreign currencies at spot rates where necessary to address short-term needs.

Most financial instruments are denominated in Swiss francs, except the following:

(in KCHF)		2007	2006
Cash and cash equivalents	euro	66,668	12,692
	US dollar	12,599	24,442
Accounts receivable	euro	71,051	75,221
	pound sterling	112,921	194,791
	US dollar	26,448	22,916
Accounts payable	euro	3,514	1,398
	US dollar	1,574	9,497
Accrued expenses	euro	179	295
	US dollar	2,032	4,621
Other accounts (liabilities)	euro	77,191	41,939
	pound sterling	112,475	167,650
	US dollar	29	3,072

(in KCHF)

The sensitivity analysis below demonstrates the impact on the ICRC's operational expenditure at balance sheet date of a reasonably possible change in the US dollar, pound sterling or euro exchange rate, all other variables being constant.

(in KCHF)		2007	2006
euro	+ 10 %	-5,167	-4,026
	- 10 %	6,315	4,920
pound sterling	+ 10 %	-110	-2,455
	- 10 %	135	3,000
US dollar	+ 10 %	-3,219	-2,743
	- 10 %	3,934	3,352

b) Interest rate risk

The ICRC's exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to the mortgage indicated in Note 17. The mortgage has a fixed rate of 3.35% up to 30 June 2016.

c) Credit risk

Cash and cash equivalents are held in banks of high credit ranking, and there is no significant exposure to banks in risky countries.

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.

d) Liquidity risk

The ICRC's objective is to strike a balance between continuity of funding and flexibility by maintaining sufficient funds as cash in hand, on-demand deposits or short-term deposits with maturities of three months or less to meet short-term liabilities.

The ICRC has liquidity risk associated with foreign exchange forward cover. Funds in the appropriate foreign currency are retained to settle the forward contracts when they come due, or the contract is swapped forward until sufficient foreign currency is available.

Capital management

By its nature the ICRC does not have "capital", rather it views the reserves as a proxy for capital in terms of IAS 1. The primary objective of ICRC reserves management is to maintain a healthy asset-to-reserves ratio (2007 1.7:1; 2006 2:1) and ensure liquidity for the discharge of its international mandate. Interest-bearing loans and borrowings, which is debt requiring servicing costs, are kept to a minimum. The target and position of the future operations reserves are indicated in Note 25.

36. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair value

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.

The fair value of cash and short-term deposits, accounts receivable, other financial assets and accounts payable, and interest-bearing loans and borrowings are not materially different from the carrying amounts. The fair value of long-term receivables and deferred income are lower than their carrying value due to discount effects.

The fair value of investments is reported in Note 8 and the unsecured loan in Note 17.

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 gains or losses on the hedging instrument are 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. At year-end, the following positions were open:

Forward foreign exchange contracts (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Purchase of foreign currencies	35,578	50,307
Sale of foreign currencies	-70,251	-81,712

The net result of marking forward exchange contracts to market at the balance sheet date was an income of KCHF 799 (2006: income of KCHF 1,037).

The fair value of the financial instruments held at 31 December 2007 does not differ from the carrying amounts shown in the balance sheet.

37. CONTINGENT ASSETS

In 2007, pledges amounting to KCHF 2,600 (2006: KCHF 3,491) fell due after five years and were considered as contingent assets.

38. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The ICRC has operational claims that are principally legal in nature, with the definitive amount and exact timing of each being subject to various legal proceedings in the country in which they have been issued. Those items that management considers will probably be paid have been recorded as provisions (see Note 19), and the balance deemed to be contingent liabilities amounting to KCHF 9,409 (2006: KCHF 4,142).

The ICRC receives pledges from certain donors that are contingent on expenditure being incurred on specific earmarking and with final payment being subject to acceptable financial reporting.

(in KCHF)

39. CAPITAL AND CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

Capital commitments

Capital expenditure of KCHF 14,337 (2006: KCHF 6,331) has been approved but not provided for in these consolidated financial statements.

Contractual commitments

Open purchase orders of KCHF 20,948 (2006: KCHF 7,496) have been issued to third parties but not provided for in these consolidated financial statements.

40. RELATED PARTIES

a) Identity of related parties

The ICRC has a related-party relationship with four funds (Augusta Fund, Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, French Fund Maurice de Madre and Paul Reuter Fund). The objectives of these funds are to assist the ICRC in its activities.

Key management personnel are persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the ICRC. Related parties are 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 members of the Assembly, the directors, and senior management must advise the Assembly or the Human Resources Department 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 KCHF nil (2006: KCHF nil) from the four funds.

There were no transactions with key management personnel except those described under d) below. With the exception of the president and the permanent vice-president, none of the other members of the Assembly, or any person related to them, received any remuneration from the ICRC during the year.

For cash management purposes, the ICRC acted on behalf of the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and French Fund Maurice de Madre.

c) Current account balances

The current account balances of the related parties recorded under accounts receivable (see Note 9) are:

Current account balances (in KCHF)	2007	2006
Augusta Fund	2	1
Florence Nightingale Medal Fund	3	3
French Fund Maurice de Madre	45	233
Paul Reuter Fund	12	21

d) Remuneration

The salaries and benefits of the ICRC's president, permanent vice-president, six directors and head of Internal Audit are set by the Remuneration Commission. Their total remuneration amounted to KCHF 3,115 (2006: KCHF 3,087), including employer expenses for social insurance and social benefits. They received no other salaries or benefits (e.g. fringe benefits, loans).

Related party remuneration (in KCHF)	Total 2007	Total 2006
Short-term employee benefits	2,580	2,577
Post-employment benefits	500	441
Other long-term benefits	35	69
Total remuneration	3,115	3,087

The non-permanent members of the Assembly, or persons related or connected by business to them, did not receive any remuneration from the ICRC during the year.

41. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No events occurred between 31 December 2007 and the approval of the consolidated financial statements by the Assembly Council on 3 April 2008 that would require modification of or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements.



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To the Assembly of
The International Committee of the Red Cross

Geneva, 3 April 2008

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the consolidated financial statements (consolidated balance sheet, consolidated statement of income and expenditure, consolidated cash flow statement, consolidated statement of changes in reserves and notes) on pages 389 to 412 of The International Committee of the Red Cross for the year ended 31 December 2007.

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Directorate. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We confirm that we meet the legal requirements concerning professional qualification and independence.

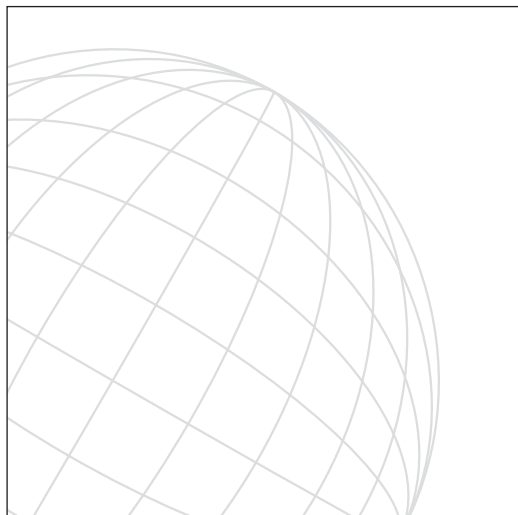
Our audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, which require that an audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. We have examined on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. We have also assessed the accounting principles used, significant estimates made and the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, comply with Swiss law, and the organisation's Statutes.

Ernst & Young Ltd

Mark Hawkins
Chartered Accountant
(Auditor in charge)

Thomas Madoery
Econometrist d'entreprise ESCEA



financial and statistical tables

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE RELATED TO THE 2007 EMERGENCY AND HEADQUARTERS APPEALS

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2007 Initial budget	Amendments	2007 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2007 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)										
Africa	338,334	67,940	406,274	74,207	234,358	38,123	29,793	-	376,481	22,783
Asia and the Pacific	173,669	12,646	186,314	32,072	93,075	23,349	18,105	-	166,602	10,156
Europe and the Americas	127,267	-	127,267	22,962	44,107	38,060	13,269	131	118,528	7,234
Middle East and North Africa	163,852	41,848	205,700	48,180	100,634	16,351	13,358	91	178,614	10,853
Contingency	40,156	-5,733	34,422							
TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	843,277	116,700	959,978	177,421	472,174	115,883	74,525	222	840,225	51,026
2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL										
Headquarters general										
2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT										
Africa	23,468	-	23,468	3,628	12,188	1,313	815	5,476	23,420	
Asia and the Pacific	13,714	-	13,714	1,653	6,291	1,062	349	3,004	12,359	
Europe and the Americas	14,958	-	14,958	3,440	4,374	2,124	195	3,490	13,623	
Middle East and North Africa	9,406	-	9,406	1,631	3,562	910	393	2,194	8,690	
SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS										
FIELD SUPPORT	61,546	-	61,546	10,352	26,416	5,408	1,753	14,163	58,091	
2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES										
Assembly, Presidency and Management Control	4,437	-	4,437	-	-	80	-	3,236	3,316	
Directorate	12,297	-	12,297	235	-	542	48	15,478	16,303	
Operations	36,786	-	36,786	5,931	10,072	1,769	1,491	13,516	32,779	
Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement	21,078	-	21,078	383	-	10,324	3,574	4,974	19,255	
Communication	23,752	-	23,752	-	-	17,513	1,063	6,534	25,110	
Kind and services for buildings			-					-	-	
SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS										
OTHER ACTIVITIES	98,351	-	98,351	6,549	10,072	30,229	6,176	43,737	96,763	
TOTAL HEADQUARTERS	159,896	-	159,896	16,901	36,488	35,636	7,929	57,900	154,854	
3. TOTAL FOUNDATION AND FUNDS								4,697	4,697	
4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE (according to page 391 – Statement of income and expenditure)										
Total ICRC income and expenditure				194,322	508,662	151,519	82,454	62,819	999,776	51,026
Prior period adjustment										
Deduction of field non-operating income										
Deduction of headquarters non-operating income										
Deduction of overheads				-10,828	-28,563	-7,073	-4,549	-14	-51,026	-51,026
Deduction of cross-charging (foundations and funds)								-48	-48	
TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE				183,494	480,100	144,447	77,905	62,758	948,702	-

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	2007 Total income		2006 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2006 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2007 Donor-restricted contributions	2007 Field operations with temporary deficit financing		
396,195	1,293		3,182	5,040	405,711		1,617	- 16,999	237	22,728	- 8,643	1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	
159,863	1,201		178	2,857	164,100		12,702	- 12,160		6,728	- 8,689	Africa	
122,088	256		4	727	123,074		485	- 11,804	254	362	- 6,882	Asia and the Pacific	
171,711	1,149		797	649	174,306		22,741	- 18,708	18	8,374	- 8,630	Europe and the Americas	
					-							Middle East and North Africa	
												Contingency	
849,856	3,900		4,161	9,273	867,190		37,545	- 59,671	509	38,191	- 32,843	TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	
												2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL	
134,303	9,165	51,026	20	19	194,533							Headquarters general	
												2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT	
-	0		-	-	0							Africa	
392	2		-	-	393							Asia and the Pacific	
-	132		-	-	132							Europe and the Americas	
-	-		-	-	-							Middle East and North Africa	
392	134		-	-	526							SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT	
												2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES	
-	-		-	-	-							Assembly, Presidency and Management Control	
500	-		-	-	500		8					Directorate	
345	-		-	160	505		102		38			Operations	
98	-		-	209	308							Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement	
10	51		-	-	61		40					Communication	
			-	1,471	1,471							Kind and services for buildings	
953	51		-	1,840	2,844		150		38			SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES	
135,648	9,350	51,026	20	1,860	197,903		150		38			TOTAL HEADQUARTERS	
6,551					6,551							3. TOTAL FOUNDATION AND FUNDS	
												4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE	
992,055	13,249	51,026	4,180	11,132	1,071,643		37,695	- 59,671	509	38,229	- 32,843	Total ICRC income and expenditure	
6					6							Prior period adjustment	
	- 3,900				- 3,900							Deduction of field non-operating income	
	- 9,350				- 9,350							Deduction of headquarters non-operating income	
		- 51,026			- 51,026							Deduction of overheads	
- 48					- 48							Deduction of cross-charging (foundations and funds)	
992,014	-	-	4,180	11,132	1,007,326		37,695	- 59,671	509	38,229	- 32,843	TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE	

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2007 EMERGENCY APPEALS

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2007 Initial budget	Amendments	2007 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2007 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
Africa										
Angola	9,496	-	9,496	5,281	1,568	1,323	242	-	8,414	514
Burundi	7,815	-	7,815	2,393	3,091	1,101	443	-	7,028	429
Chad	17,117	9,470	26,587	5,266	16,459	1,815	1,016	-	24,556	1,395
Congo	5,178	-	5,178	631	2,451	1,623	390	-	5,094	304
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	33,478	-	33,478	8,821	17,897	2,647	3,239	-	32,603	1,970
Eritrea	9,017	-	9,017	1,739	6,664	395	257	-	9,055	553
Ethiopia	27,518	-	27,518	5,812	10,158	2,512	1,012	-	19,494	1,190
Guinea	6,286	1,930	8,216	2,800	2,957	1,039	1,564	-	8,360	510
Liberia	21,964	-	21,964	5,306	10,920	1,061	2,369	-	19,657	1,201
Rwanda	9,568	-	9,568	3,626	3,812	631	787	-	8,855	540
Sierra Leone	5,346	-	5,346	2,487	19	909	1,603	-	5,018	307
Somalia	27,651	18,644	46,295	611	46,943	552	1,093	-	49,200	2,959
Sudan	73,070	32,357	105,427	15,661	66,798	6,830	4,757	-	94,045	5,739
Uganda	24,310	-	24,310	1,303	18,440	1,380	1,487	-	22,610	1,380
Abidjan (regional)	23,325	-	23,325	4,038	12,442	2,935	2,119	-	21,534	1,291
Abuja (regional)	3,786	-	3,786	100	-	1,973	1,283	-	3,356	205
Dakar (regional)	5,369	-	5,369	659	1,507	1,721	851	-	4,738	290
Harare (regional)	6,638	-	6,638	1,549	2,209	992	1,035	-	5,785	353
Nairobi (regional)	9,042	-	9,042	2,406	2,947	2,333	1,325	-	9,011	550
Pretoria (regional)	4,482	-	4,482	968	41	1,787	1,227	-	4,022	245
Yaoundé (regional)	7,878	5,539	13,417	2,753	7,034	2,564	1,694	-	14,044	859
Total Africa	338,334	67,940	406,274	74,207	234,358	38,123	29,793	-	376,481	22,783
Asia and the Pacific										
Afghanistan	48,202	-	48,202	4,544	37,259	3,464	4,483	-	49,751	3,024
Myanmar	7,544	-	7,544	1,711	2,667	781	439	-	5,598	342
Nepal	8,125	-	8,125	3,013	3,382	1,025	1,309	-	8,729	533
Pakistan	25,550	-	25,550	3,463	15,274	1,671	1,088	-	21,496	1,312
Philippines	6,413	-	6,413	1,783	2,603	1,044	626	-	6,055	370
Sri Lanka	26,064	12,646	38,710	6,870	19,672	1,974	1,673	-	30,189	1,842
Bangkok (regional)	8,444	-	8,444	2,270	2,696	1,488	767	-	7,221	441
Beijing (regional)	7,004	-	7,004	145	2,577	2,401	1,094	-	6,217	379
Jakarta (regional)	12,781	-	12,781	2,608	3,963	2,078	2,242	-	10,891	665
Kuala Lumpur (regional)	1,797	-	1,797	129	-	1,084	183	-	1,397	85
New Delhi (regional)	9,429	-	9,429	3,188	1,284	2,426	1,729	-	8,628	527
Suva (regional)	3,606	-	3,606	293	-	1,340	1,441	-	3,074	188
Tashkent (regional)	8,707	-	8,707	2,055	1,699	2,572	1,031	-	7,355	449
Total Asia and the Pacific	173,669	12,646	186,314	32,072	93,075	23,349	18,105	-	166,602	10,156

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	2007 Total income		2006 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2006 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2007 Donor-restricted contributions	2007 Field operations with temporary deficit financing
	10,284	29	-	69	10,383		- 1,984	15			Africa
	6,863	45	-	120	7,028			0			Angola
	26,235	26	1,704	187	28,153		- 1,000	28	2,625		Burundi
	5,088	7	-	-	5,094						Chad
	31,522	88	329	67	32,006					- 597	Congo
	9,835	16	-	303	10,153		- 1,098				Congo, Democratic Republic of the
	20,955	103	-	454	21,511		- 2,018				Eritrea
	10,325	5	-	101	10,430		- 2,070				Ethiopia
	20,223	124	-	365	20,711		- 1,054				Guinea
	9,767	99	2	-	9,868		- 1,026	13			Liberia
	6,013	39	-	23	6,075		- 1,115	58			Rwanda
	49,994	10	713	91	50,808		- 4,113	104		- 2,401	Sierra Leone
	109,578	482	8	2,464	112,532	1,617			20,104		Somalia
	23,350	23	-	460	23,832		- 1,222				Sudan
	19,665	24	426	291	20,406			8		- 1,120	Uganda
	3,654	1	-	-	3,655		- 299				Abidjan (regional)
	4,724	14	-	-	4,738						Abuja (regional)
	4,805	27	-	16	4,848					- 937	Dakar (regional)
	6,824	89	-	12	6,925			12		- 2,074	Harare (regional)
	3,999	16	-	7	4,022						Nairobi (regional)
	12,494	28	-	10	12,531					- 1,513	Pretoria (regional)
	396,195	1,293	3,182	5,040	405,711	1,617	- 16,999	237	22,728	- 8,643	Yaoundé (regional)
											Total Africa
	53,486	131	200	704	54,521		- 8,029			- 3,259	Asia and the Pacific
	6,596	80	1	-	6,676		- 1,078				Afghanistan
	7,797	14	-	-	7,811					- 917	Myanmar
	17,742	212	- 28	585	18,511		- 527			- 3,512	Nepal
	7,172	5	-	-	7,177		- 1,121				Pakistan
	29,529	638	5	1,043	31,215	4,366			5,392		Philippines
	7,876	4	-	79	7,959	304	- 304		738		Sri Lanka
	6,150	20	-	47	6,217						Bangkok (regional)
	2,823	6	-	132	2,961	8,032			102		Beijing (regional)
	1,764	1	-	133	1,898		- 501				Jakarta (regional)
	7,950	48	-	126	8,124				496	- 1,000	Kuala Lumpur (regional)
	3,337	24	-	6	3,367		- 293				New Delhi (regional)
	7,641	19	-	3	7,663		- 307				Suva (regional)
	159,863	1,201	178	2,857	164,100	12,702	- 12,160	-	6,728	- 8,689	Tashkent (regional)
											Total Asia and the Pacific

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2007 EMERGENCY APPEALS (cont.)

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2007 Initial budget	Amendments	2007 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2007 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
Europe and the Americas										
Armenia	3,028	-	3,028	834	1,110	726	294	-	2,964	181
Azerbaijan	6,211	-	6,211	2,115	2,281	1,355	448	-	6,198	378
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3,686	-	3,686	1,225	197	1,342	806	-	3,570	218
Georgia	9,457	-	9,457	1,738	5,635	1,208	239	-	8,820	538
Belgrade (regional)	8,741	-	8,741	2,993	1,300	2,351	1,838	-	8,482	518
Budapest (regional)	2,747	-	2,747	281	-	1,629	855	-	2,765	169
Kyiv (regional)	2,060	-	2,060	24	-	1,288	522	-	1,833	112
Moscow (regional)	27,962	-	27,962	1,999	12,702	5,564	2,342	-	22,608	1,380
Ankara	753	-	753	71	-	508	213	-	792	48
Brussels	3,587	-	3,587	-	-	2,556	364	131	3,051	186
International Tracing Service	720	-	720	585	-	-	-	-	585	36
London	789	-	789	-	-	515	84	-	599	37
Paris	1,184	-	1,184	44	-	1,028	83	-	1,155	70
Colombia	28,474	-	28,474	5,819	18,572	5,087	1,140	-	30,618	1,869
Haiti	5,273	-	5,273	748	1,857	1,149	1,017	-	4,771	291
Buenos Aires (regional)	3,250	-	3,250	616	38	1,766	615	-	3,036	185
Caracas (regional)	2,147	-	2,147	184	-	1,421	202	-	1,807	110
Lima (regional)	4,290	-	4,290	1,064	363	1,453	637	-	3,518	215
Mexico City (regional)	4,936	-	4,936	568	52	2,595	842	-	4,058	248
Washington (regional)	5,911	-	5,911	2,054	-	2,564	727	-	5,346	326
New York	2,060	-	2,060	-	-	1,955	-	-	1,955	119
Total Europe and the Americas	127,267	-	127,267	22,962	44,107	38,060	13,269	131	118,528	7,234
Middle East and North Africa										
Algeria	2,778	-	2,778	875	89	479	401	-	1,844	113
Egypt	1,353	-	1,353	251	-	831	169	-	1,251	76
Iran, Islamic Republic of	3,287	-	3,287	1,125	-	1,216	461	-	2,802	171
Iraq	56,330	34,977	91,308	18,112	50,442	4,561	3,418	-	76,533	4,648
Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Territories	70,995	-	70,995	17,824	37,436	3,035	3,101	-	61,396	3,722
Jordan	3,843	-	3,843	2,573	-	1,085	281	-	3,939	240
Lebanon	12,236	3,804	16,040	2,219	7,136	1,434	3,983	-	14,772	901
Syrian Arab Republic	1,516	-	1,516	202	326	520	436	-	1,483	91
Yemen	3,468	3,067	6,535	1,197	4,558	809	510	-	7,075	432
Kuwait (regional)	2,568	-	2,568	774	-	1,064	286	91	2,214	135
Tunis (regional)	5,477	-	5,477	3,030	647	1,316	312	-	5,304	324
Total Middle East and North Africa	163,852	41,848	205,700	48,180	100,634	16,351	13,358	91	178,614	10,853
Contingency										
Contingency	40,156	-5,733	34,422							
TOTAL FIELD	843,277	116,700	959,978	177,421	472,174	115,883	74,525	222	840,225	51,026

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	2007 Total Income		2006 Donor-restricted contributions brought forward	2006 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2007 Donor-restricted contributions	2007 Field operations with temporary deficit financing	
											Europe and the Americas
2,926	12	-	26	2,964							Armenia
6,195	3	-	-	6,198							Azerbaijan
3,548	22	-	-	3,570							Bosnia and Herzegovina
9,770	29	-	30	9,829		- 1,009					Georgia
8,915	10	-	10	8,935		- 526	73				Belgrade (regional)
2,281	2	-	-	2,283		485	- 743	362	- 1,102		Budapest (regional)
802	24	-	-	826					- 1,007		Kyiv (regional)
25,554	40	-	-	25,594		- 6,189			- 3,202		Moscow (regional)
792	0	-	-	792							Ankara
3,212	1	-	-	3,213		- 258	96				Brussels
584	0	-	-	585							International Tracing Service
563	0	-	36	599							London
1,405	1	-	-	1,406		- 251					Paris
30,595	29	2	565	31,191		- 2,053			- 1,481		Colombia
4,617	3	2	59	4,681					- 90		Haiti
3,265	34	-	-	3,299		- 264					Buenos Aires (regional)
2,056	12	-	-	2,068		- 261					Caracas (regional)
3,495	23	-	-	3,518							Lima (regional)
4,303	5	-	-	4,308		- 251					Mexico City (regional)
5,275	5	-	-	5,280			66				Washington (regional)
1,935	0	-	-	1,936			19				New York
122,088	256	4	727	123,074		485	- 11,804	254	362	- 6,882	Total Europe and the Americas
											Middle East and North Africa
2,117	1	-	-	2,118		- 273					Algeria
1,250	0	-	-	1,251							Egypt
3,013	43	-	-	3,056		- 253					Iran, Islamic Republic of
82,160	112	370	92	82,733		- 8,359			- 2,158		Iraq
											Israel, the Occupied and Autonomous Territories
62,673	637	420	296	64,026		- 8,569			- 5,940		Jordan
3,729	279	-	184	4,192		- 253					Lebanon
282	61	7	51	402		22,741	2	8,374			Syrian Arab Republic
1,465	2	-	-	1,467			16				Yemen
6,773	2	-	14	6,789		- 245			- 532		Kuwait (regional)
2,692	8	-	-	2,700		- 486					Tunis (regional)
5,556	4	-	12	5,573		- 268					
171,711	1,149	797	649	174,306		22,741	- 18,708	18	8,374	- 8,630	Total Middle East and North Africa
											Contingency
849,856	3,900	4,161	9,273	867,190		37,545	- 59,671	509	38,191	- 32,843	TOTAL FIELD

CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2007

SUMMARY OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
1. Governments	128,107,534	671,682,718	- 140,571	799,649,681	1,130,236	1,308,582	802,088,499		802,088,499
2. European Commission ⁽¹⁾		111,422,464	- 139,008	111,283,456			111,283,456		111,283,456
3. International organizations					2,051,181		2,051,181		2,051,181
4. Supranational organizations		482,040		482,040	17,378		499,418		499,418
5. National Societies	6,148,725	43,123,068	654,426	49,926,219	960,033	8,308,528	59,194,780	27,852	59,222,632
6. Public sources		3,529,842		3,529,842		1,205,388	4,735,230		4,735,230
7. Private sources	505,000	20,130,548	- 2,246	20,633,302	21,384	309,860	20,964,545	118,315	21,082,860
GRAND TOTAL	134,761,259	850,370,681	372,600	985,504,540	4,180,212	11,132,358	1,000,817,109	146,167	1,000,963,276

(1) Member of the Donor Support Group

Reconciliation between the Consolidated Financial Statements of the ICRC 2007 (Note 27) and the summary of all contributions to the ICRC (see above)

Total consolidated contributions of the ICRC (see above)	1,000,817,109
Prior period adjustment	6,092
Contributions received from funds and foundations of the ICRC	6,550,942
Adjustment of the consolidated funds and foundations of the ICRC to the ICRC actions (Table 7 below)	
Clare R. Benedict Fund	- 32,893
Omar El Mukhtar Fund	- 14,788
Total contributions of the Consolidated Financial Statements of the ICRC 2007 (Note 27)	1,007,326,463

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.

1. GOVERNMENTS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Afghanistan						120,906	120,906		120,906
Algeria	42,700			42,700			42,700		42,700
Andorra	30,000			30,000			30,000		30,000
Armenia	3,198			3,198			3,198		3,198
Australia ⁽¹⁾	1,995,718	11,805,500	8,783	13,810,001			13,810,001		13,810,001
Austria	1,069,150	1,316,600		2,385,750			2,385,750		2,385,750
Bahamas	6,586			6,586			6,586		6,586
Barbados	1,232			1,232			1,232		1,232
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	1,167,000	9,235,225	342,745	10,744,970			10,744,970		10,744,970
Belize	1,599			1,599			1,599		1,599
Benin			3,155	3,155			3,155		3,155
Bhutan	19,520			19,520			19,520		19,520
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4,797			4,797			4,797		4,797
Bulgaria	27,182	7,800		34,982			34,982		34,982
Cambodia	3,198		3,078	6,276			6,276		6,276
Canada ⁽¹⁾	3,193,500	31,946,650		35,140,150		161,664	35,301,814		35,301,814
Chile	46,824	52,677		99,501			99,501		99,501
China	560,000			560,000			560,000		560,000
Colombia	181,350			181,350			181,350		181,350
Costa Rica	40,985			40,985			40,985		40,985
Cyprus	62,360			62,360			62,360		62,360
Czech Republic	292,610			292,610			292,610		292,610
Denmark ⁽¹⁾	4,327,540	6,938,632		11,266,172		978,993	12,245,165		12,245,165
Egypt			184,667	184,667			184,667		184,667
Estonia	19,190	21,523		40,712			40,712		40,712
Finland ⁽¹⁾	1,643,500	13,800,886	479,080	15,923,466	410,128		16,333,594		16,333,594
France ⁽¹⁾	1,522,483	13,305,782		14,828,265			14,828,265		14,828,265
Germany ⁽¹⁾	2,028,538	21,687,404	- 14,529	23,701,412			23,701,412		23,701,412

1. GOVERNMENTS (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Greece	847,450			847,450			847,450		847,450
Guyana	1,534			1,534			1,534		1,534
Holy See	12,570			12,570			12,570		12,570
Hungary	47,775			47,775			47,775		47,775
Iceland	70,000			70,000			70,000		70,000
Iraq						47,019	47,019		47,019
Ireland ⁽¹⁾	214,175	13,176,500		13,390,675			13,390,675		13,390,675
Israel	132,990			132,990			132,990		132,990
Italy ⁽¹⁾	1,290,240	9,999,360		11,289,600			11,289,600		11,289,600
Japan ⁽¹⁾	512,272	9,764,886		10,277,158			10,277,158		10,277,158
Korea, Republic of	147,792			147,792			147,792		147,792
Kuwait	579,750			579,750			579,750		579,750
Lebanon	40,849			40,849			40,849		40,849
Liechtenstein	200,000	520,000		720,000			720,000		720,000
Lithuania	3,134			3,134			3,134		3,134
Luxembourg ⁽¹⁾	1,137,500	11,952,000		13,089,500			13,089,500		13,089,500
Malta	15,054			15,054			15,054		15,054
Mexico	180,645			180,645			180,645		180,645
Monaco	100,000			100,000			100,000		100,000
Morocco	75,151			75,151			75,151		75,151
Mozambique	1,599			1,599			1,599		1,599
Myanmar	15,593			15,593			15,593		15,593
Namibia			9,233	9,233			9,233		9,233
Netherlands ⁽¹⁾	6,094,875	66,541,102		72,635,977			72,635,977		72,635,977
New Zealand	350,000	4,129,160		4,479,160			4,479,160		4,479,160
Nicaragua	3,247			3,247			3,247		3,247
Norway ⁽¹⁾	2,413,943	34,332,580	1,012,080	37,758,603	712,654		38,471,257		38,471,257
Oman			6,113	6,113			6,113		6,113
Pakistan	6,144			6,144			6,144		6,144
Panama	28,602		2,652	31,254			31,254		31,254
Philippines	99,793		48,838	148,631			148,631		148,631
Poland	737,122	120,288		857,410			857,410		857,410
Portugal	200,000	100,000		300,000			300,000		300,000
Saint Lucia			3,078	3,078			3,078		3,078
San Marino			50,000	50,000			50,000		50,000
Saudi Arabia	241,800			241,800			241,800		241,800
Singapore	30,790	30,790		61,580			61,580		61,580
Slovakia	35,000			35,000			35,000		35,000
Slovenia	17,461	50,378		67,839			67,839		67,839
South Africa	247,800			247,800			247,800		247,800
Spain ⁽¹⁾	1,002,535	13,251,845		14,254,380	7,454		14,261,834		14,261,834
Sweden ⁽¹⁾	5,387,550	73,509,820		78,897,370			78,897,370		78,897,370
Switzerland ⁽¹⁾	70,000,000	26,928,889		96,928,889			96,928,889		96,928,889
Tajikistan	672			672			672		672
Thailand	90,323			90,323			90,323		90,323
Tunisia	9,647			9,647			9,647		9,647
Turkey	57,975			57,975			57,975		57,975
United Arab Emirates	59,185			59,185			59,185		59,185
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ⁽¹⁾	1,415,100	107,672,080	- 2,556,206	106,530,974			106,530,974		106,530,974
United States of America ⁽¹⁾	15,637,950	189,484,362	- 130	205,122,182			205,122,182		205,122,182
Uruguay	23,190		173,925	197,115			197,115		197,115
Venezuela			102,867	102,867			102,867		102,867
Total from governments	128,107,534	671,682,718	- 140,571	799,649,681	1,130,236	1,308,582	802,088,499		802,088,499

(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.

2. EUROPEAN COMMISSION ⁽¹⁾ (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Directorate General Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)		95,951,553	- 139,008	95,812,545			95,812,545		95,812,545
Directorate General for Development		12,468,000		12,468,000			12,468,000		12,468,000
European Development Fund		3,002,911		3,002,911			3,002,911		3,002,911
Total from European Commission		111,422,464	- 139,008	111,283,456			111,283,456		111,283,456

(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.

3. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
WFP					2,021,469		2,021,469		2,021,469
WHO					4,344		4,344		4,344
Various UN					25,368		25,368		25,368
Total from international organizations					2,051,181		2,051,181		2,051,181

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.

4. SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
AG Fund		482,040		482,040			482,040		482,040
Médecins Sans Frontières					10,441		10,441		10,441
Various supranational organizations					6,937		6,937		6,937
Total from supranational organizations		482,040		482,040	17,378		499,418		499,418

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.

5. NATIONAL SOCIETIES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Andorra	640	16,740		17,380			17,380		17,380
Antigua and Barbuda	446			446			446		446
Armenia	224			224			224		224
Australia	420,511	60,478		480,989		905,345	1,386,334		1,386,334
Austria	69,619	264,800		334,419		99,077	433,496		433,496
Bahamas	2,350			2,350			2,350		2,350
Bahrain					340,502		340,502		340,502
Belgium		1,522,399		1,522,399		190,435	1,712,834		1,712,834
Bolivia	672			672			672		672
Bulgaria	2,000			2,000			2,000		2,000
Cambodia	3,009			3,009			3,009		3,009
Cameroon	979			979			979		979
Canada		2,063,196	93,768	2,156,964		823,340	2,980,304		2,980,304
Cape Verde	2,350			2,350			2,350		2,350
Central African Republic	224			224			224		224
Chile	13,161			13,161			13,161		13,161
China	121,105			121,105			121,105		121,105
China/Hong Kong		460,561		460,561			460,561		460,561

5. NATIONAL SOCIETIES (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Congo	248			248			248		248
Costa Rica	673			673			673		673
Croatia	3,358			3,358			3,358		3,358
Czech Republic	10,633			10,633			10,633		10,633
Denmark	79,133	493,521		572,654			572,654		572,654
Dominica	224			224			224		224
Egypt	15,782			15,782			15,782		15,782
Estonia	3,246			3,246			3,246		3,246
Finland	68,947	2,149,850		2,218,797		496,154	2,714,951		2,714,951
France	599,036	1,285,894		1,884,930		32,405	1,917,335		1,917,335
Germany	783,492	4,145,255		4,928,747	- 27,852	220,595	5,121,490	27,852	5,149,342
Greece	10,000			10,000			10,000		10,000
Honduras	2,239			2,239			2,239		2,239
Hungary	5,000			5,000			5,000		5,000
Iceland	47,345	418,436	37,440	503,221		108,910	612,131		612,131
Iran, Islamic Republic of	14,774		- 70,000	- 55,226			- 55,226		- 55,226
Ireland		609,315	- 16,267	593,048		691,139	1,284,187		1,284,187
Italy		130,024		130,024	196,237		326,261		326,261
Japan	783,492	2,144,121		2,927,613		105,270	3,032,883		3,032,883
Korea, Republic of	342,946			342,946			342,946		342,946
Kuwait		18,489		18,489	369,776		388,265		388,265
Kyrgyzstan	220			220			220		220
Lao People's Democratic Republic	448			448			448		448
Latvia	1,791			1,791			1,791		1,791
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	8,506			8,506			8,506		8,506
Liechtenstein	1,231	61,510		62,741			62,741		62,741
Luxembourg	10,297	240,825		251,122			251,122		251,122
Malta	660			660			660		660
Monaco	8,842	152,612		161,454			161,454		161,454
Morocco	1,365			1,365			1,365		1,365
Mozambique	1,455			1,455			1,455		1,455
Nepal	783			783			783		783
Netherlands	227,660	2,391,013	348,823	2,967,497		113,070	3,080,567		3,080,567
New Zealand	260,099	290,650		550,749		1,123,459	1,674,208		1,674,208
Norway	268,216	7,773,369	261,457	8,303,042	79,184	1,036,923	9,419,149		9,419,149
Pakistan	4,365			4,365			4,365		4,365
Papua New Guinea	2,127			2,127			2,127		2,127
Paraguay	1,459			1,459			1,459		1,459
Portugal	59,562	58,072		117,634			117,634		117,634
Qatar		548,480		548,480			548,480		548,480
Romania	6,604			6,604			6,604		6,604
Saudi Arabia		500,028		500,028			500,028		500,028
Senegal	1,912			1,912			1,912		1,912
Seychelles	224			224			224		224
Sierra Leone	176			176			176		176
Slovakia	7,605			7,605			7,605		7,605
Slovenia		33,498		33,498			33,498		33,498
Spain	330,400			330,400		197,301	527,701		527,701
Suriname	2,104			2,104			2,104		2,104
Sweden	127,131	4,592,529		4,719,660		712,712	5,432,373		5,432,373
Switzerland	128,269		- 795	127,474			127,474		127,474
Thailand	32,571			32,571			32,571		32,571
Togo	224			224			224		224
Uganda	1,231			1,231			1,231		1,231
United Arab Emirates	40,339	612,940		653,279			653,279		653,279
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	305,586	7,354,618		7,660,204		1,323,232	8,983,437		8,983,437
United States of America	895,482	2,729,842		3,625,324		129,161	3,754,485		3,754,485
Uruguay	244			244			244		244
Viet Nam	1,679			1,679			1,679		1,679
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies					2,186		2,186		2,186
Total from National Societies	6,148,725	43,123,068	654,426	49,926,219	960,033	8,308,528	59,194,780	27,852	59,222,632

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.

6. PUBLIC SOURCES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Bellinzona		5,000		5,000			5,000		5,000
Collex-Bossy		2,000		2,000			2,000		2,000
Belgian Flanders Community		162,842		162,842			162,842		162,842
Fribourg, Canton of		30,000		30,000			30,000		30,000
Geneva, Canton of		3,000,000		3,000,000		738,816	3,738,816		3,738,816
Geneva, City of		50,000		50,000			50,000		50,000
Lausanne, City of		20,000		20,000			20,000		20,000
Valais, Canton of		150,000		150,000			150,000		150,000
Versoix						466,572	466,572		466,572
Zurich, Canton of		110,000		110,000			110,000		110,000
Total from public sources		3,529,842		3,529,842		1,205,388	4,735,230		4,735,230

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. PRIVATE SOURCES (in CHF)

	Headquarters appeal	Emergency appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
Direct mail fundraising campaigns		2,328,675		2,328,675			2,328,675		2,328,675
Online donations		374,792	- 1,208	373,585			373,585		373,585
Spontaneous donations from private individuals	5,000	4,540,924		4,545,924		10,750	4,556,674	- 21,760	4,534,914
Donations from foundations/funds									
Clare R. Benedict Fund		32,893		32,893			32,893		32,893
Fondation Albert Ed Oechslin		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)						265,356	265,356		265,356
Fondation Hans Wilsdorf ⁽¹⁾	500,000			500,000			500,000		500,000
Fondation Luce Grivat		130,000		130,000			130,000		130,000
Kantonale St. Gallische Winkelriedstiftung		20,000		20,000			20,000		20,000
Liechtenstein Charitable Foundation		60,215		60,215			60,215		60,215
Odeon Foundation		42,700		42,700			42,700		42,700
Omar El Mukhtar Fund		14,788		14,788			14,788		14,788
Parthenon Trust		1,432,200		1,432,200			1,432,200		1,432,200
RPH-Promotor Stiftung		323,700		323,700			323,700		323,700
Sinitus Care and Aid Foundation		103,955		103,955			103,955		103,955
The Flora Family Foundation		25,140		25,140			25,140		25,140
The Link Foundation		81,883		81,883			81,883		81,883
Others and less than CHF 10,000		3,281,081		3,281,081			3,281,081		3,281,081
Total donations from foundations/funds	500,000	5,648,554		6,148,554		265,356	6,413,910		6,413,910
Legacies									
		2,971,487		2,971,487			2,971,487	140,075	3,111,562
Donations from private companies									
Crédit Suisse		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Firmenich		50,000		50,000			50,000		50,000
Land Rover						14,322	14,322		14,322
SIG (Services Industriels de Genève)			23,000	23,000			23,000		23,000
Swiss Reinsurance Company ⁽¹⁾		1,022,975		1,022,975			1,022,975		1,022,975
Zurich Financial Services ⁽¹⁾		474,591		474,591			474,591		474,591
Other private companies		1,034,176	- 24,039	1,010,138	21,384	19,432	1,050,953		1,050,953
Total donations from private companies		2,681,743	- 1,039	2,680,704	21,384	33,754	2,735,841		2,735,841
Donations from associations and service clubs									
MINE-EX Rotary Schweiz-Liechtenstein		942,000		942,000			942,000		942,000
Other associations and service clubs		42,372		42,372			42,372		42,372
Total donations from associations and service clubs		984,372		984,372			984,372		984,372
Various donors		600,000		600,000			600,000		600,000
Total from private sources	505,000	20,130,548	- 2,246	20,633,302	21,384	309,860	20,964,545	118,315	21,082,860

(1) Member of the Corporate 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.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO INTEGRATED PROJECTS (IPs) 2007 (in CHF)

	Donations in kind (excluding IPs)		Donations in services (excluding IPs)		Donations for IPs				Grand total		Number of days of employee service
	Headquarters	Field	Headquarters	Field	Kind	Services	Cash	Total IPs	Total kind	Total services	
NATIONAL SOCIETIES											
Australia			12,221	884,124			9,000	9,000		905,345	6,628
Austria			9,331	89,746						99,077	314
Bahrain		340,502							340,502		
Belgium				190,435						190,435	2,631
Canada			70,335	446,156		306,849	310,825	617,674		823,340	5,341
Finland				496,154						496,154	1,690
France				32,405						32,405	569
Germany		- 27,852		220,595					- 27,852	220,595	2,071
Iceland				108,910						108,910	306
Ireland			85,560	605,579						691,139	2,473
Italy		196,237							196,237		
Japan				105,270						105,270	261
Kuwait		369,776							369,776		
Netherlands				113,070						113,070	1,561
New Zealand				1,123,459						1,123,459	4,204
Norway		79,184	148,689	791,322		96,912	3,609,100	3,706,011	79,184	1,036,923	2,987
Spain				197,301						197,301	644
Sweden				432,964		279,748	1,326,662	1,606,410		712,712	2,220
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland			43,235	761,210		518,787	3,177,894	3,696,681		1,323,232	11,501
United States of America				129,161						129,161	360
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies		2,186							2,186		
Subtotal		960,033	369,371	6,727,861		1,211,297	8,424,481	9,635,777	960,033	8,308,528	45,761
GOVERNMENTS											
Afghanistan				120,906						120,906	
Canada				161,664						161,664	500
Denmark				978,993						978,993	4,206
Finland		410,128							410,128		
Iraq						47,019		47,019		47,019	
Norway		712,654							712,654		
Spain		7,454							7,454		
Subtotal		1,130,236		1,261,563		47,019		47,019	1,130,236	1,308,582	4,706

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO INTEGRATED PROJECTS (IPs) 2007 (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Donations in kind (excluding IPs)		Donations in services (excluding IPs)		Donations for IPs				Grand total		Number of days of employee service
	Headquarters	Field	Headquarters	Field	Kind	Services	Cash	Total IPs	Total kind	Total services	
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS											
WFP		2,021,469							2,021,469		
WHO		4,344							4,344		
Various UN		25,368							25,368		
Subtotal		2,051,181							2,051,181		
SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS											
Médecins Sans Frontières	46	10,395							10,441		
Various supranational organizations		6,937							6,937		
Subtotal	46	17,332							17,378		
PUBLIC SOURCES											
Geneva, Canton of			738,816						738,816		
Versoix			466,572						466,572		
Subtotal			1,205,388						1,205,388		
PRIVATE SOURCES											
Spontaneous donations from private individuals				10,750					10,750		
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)			265,356						265,356		
Land Rover				14,322					14,322		
Other private companies	19,605		19,432		1,779			1,779	21,384	19,432	
Subtotal	19,605		284,788	25,072	1,779			1,779	21,384	309,860	
GRAND TOTAL	19,651	4,158,782	1,859,547	8,014,495	1,779	1,258,316	8,424,481	9,684,575	4,180,212	11,132,358	50,467

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.

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS (in KCHF)

	2007	2006 ¹ Restated	2005	2004	2003
Balance sheet					
Current assets	604,870	510,286	486,287	332,265	355,503
Non-current assets	180,322	227,463	93,668	88,132	85,294
Total assets	785,192	737,749	579,955	420,397	440,797
Liabilities	-337,509	-361,517	-207,126	-120,427	-125,408
Total net assets	447,683	376,232	372,829	299,970	315,389
Funds and foundations	21,759	19,790	14,462	11,987	10,630
Funding of current operations	5,386	-21,976	22,998	-1,423	39,390
Unrestricted reserves designated by the Assembly	406,138	364,018	320,969	275,006	250,969
Other unrestricted reserves	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400
Total reserves	447,683	376,232	372,829	299,970	315,389
Income and expenditure statement					
Contributions	1,007,326	943,849	959,652	757,757	895,899
Operational expenditure	-948,702	-964,124	-910,731	-782,211	-844,740
Operational result	58,624	-20,275	48,921	-24,454	51,159
Net result of non-operational activities	12,827	11,288	23,938	9,035	8,418
Result for the year before transfers	71,451	-8,987	72,859	-15,419	59,577
Administrative costs	89,988	86,541	84,446	85,034	84,274
Ratios					
Reserves in % of assets	57.0%	51.0%	64.3%	71.4%	71.5%
Administrative costs in % of operational expenditure	9.5%	9.0%	9.3%	10.9%	10.0%

(1) Restated figures, not comparative to 2003–2005

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES FIGURES

The statistical data in the following tables can be summarized as follows.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND RECEIVED AND PURCHASES MADE BY THE ICRC IN 2007

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 2007. 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 purchases comprise all procurements carried out both with non-earmarked and with earmarked financial contributions ("cash for kind"). The grand total of CHF 162,582,248 therefore corresponds to the grand total given in the table "Assistance supplies dispatched in 2007".

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISPATCHED BY THE ICRC IN 2007

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 2007.

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 2007

All assistance supplies distributed by the ICRC in the field between 1 January and 31 December 2007. These goods were either purchased or received in kind during 2007 or taken from stock already constituted at the end of 2006.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND RECEIVED AND PURCHASES MADE BY THE ICRC IN 2007

(by donors and purchases, according to stock entry date)

Donors	Food	Seed	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	461.5					8.7	7.7	977,792		10,093	987,885
Bahrain	171.5							340,502			340,502
Italy						8.7		196,237			196,237
Kuwait	290.0							369,776			369,776
Norway							7.7	71,277		7,907	79,184
International Federation										2,186	2,186
Governments			35,100		5,000		113.7	1,051,623	5,600	73,013	1,130,236
Finland			35,100		5,000		44.9	410,128			410,128
Norway							68.8	641,495		71,159	712,654
Spain									5,600	1,854	7,454
Various donors	4,563.4	20.2					1.1	2,055,356	5,365	91,153	2,151,874
United Nations (WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF)	4,563.4	20.2						2,046,837		4,344	2,051,181
Other donors							1.1	8,519	5,365	86,809	100,693
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND	5,024.9	20.2	35,100		5,000	8.7	122.5	4,084,771	10,965	174,259	4,269,995
ICRC PURCHASES (non-earmarked)	31,394.0	3,376.4	1,454,351	9,716	333,020	470.3	14,756.7	91,951,548	16,703,058	34,581,747	143,236,353
ICRC PURCHASES (cash for kind)	16,038.7	416.0	32,762	1,119	19,550	30.1	546.9	12,781,861	105,218	1,046,624	13,933,703
ICRC PURCHASES (integrated projects)	98.7						65.6	562,050	88,077	492,070	1,142,197
TOTAL ICRC PURCHASES	47,531.4	3,792.4	1,487,113	10,835	352,570	500.4	15,369.2	105,295,459	16,896,353	36,120,441	158,312,253
GRAND TOTAL	52,556.3	3,812.6	1,522,213	10,835	357,570	509.1	15,491.7	109,380,230	16,907,318	36,294,700	162,582,248

* MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items

** RELIEF includes food, seed, agricultural inputs and essential household items

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISPATCHED BY THE ICRC IN 2007

(by receiving context, according to stock entry date)

Context	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	12,081	2,157	3,167,895	7,073,281	9,330,323	47,107,763	7,085,362	9,332,480	50,275,658	66,693,500
Angola				300,989	36,182	23,000	300,989	36,182	23,000	360,171
Benin						10,064			10,064	10,064
Botswana						3,778			3,778	3,778
Burundi				35,069	447,396	43,345	35,069	447,396	43,345	525,810
Cameroon				289		111	289		111	400
Central African Republic				28,077	170,511	2,207,345	28,077	170,511	2,207,345	2,405,933
Chad	4,344		1,699,439	604,128	163,373	1,257,297	608,472	163,373	2,956,736	3,728,581
Congo				82,958	272,713	1,555	82,958	272,713	1,555	357,226
Congo, Democratic Republic of the			329,306	1,005,700	849,098	1,143,963	1,005,700	849,098	1,473,269	3,328,067
Côte d'Ivoire			426,378	476,723	1,667,587	988,920	476,723	1,667,587	1,415,298	3,559,608
Djibouti						10,192			10,192	10,192
Equatorial Guinea				907		4,125	907		4,125	5,032
Eritrea				191,392	904,437	666,788	191,392	904,437	666,788	1,762,617
Ethiopia				653,261	450,203	323,539	653,261	450,203	323,539	1,427,003
Guinea				148,418	251,471	130,839	148,418	251,471	130,839	530,728
Guinea-Bissau				1,605	15,431	2,791	1,605	15,431	2,791	19,827
Kenya				7,078	148,089	131,517	7,078	148,089	131,517	286,684
Lesotho						674			674	674
Liberia				158,732	606,620	986,480	158,732	606,620	986,480	1,751,832
Madagascar				1,717	5,486	3,466	1,717	5,486	3,466	10,669
Namibia						9,110			9,110	9,110
Niger				23,869		14,285	23,869		14,285	38,154
Rwanda		2,157		2,375	288,514	270,784	2,375	290,671	270,784	563,830
Senegal				2,761	13,196	51,996	2,761	13,196	51,996	67,953
Sierra Leone				49		568	49		568	617
Somalia			712,772	1,725,870	560,861	20,066,602	1,725,870	560,861	20,779,374	23,066,105
Sudan	7,737			1,453,682	1,473,725	12,253,034	1,461,419	1,473,725	12,253,034	15,188,178
Tanzania, United Republic of					56,903	7,172		56,903	7,172	64,075
Togo						23,590			23,590	23,590
Uganda				100,173	483,719	6,182,412	100,173	483,719	6,182,412	6,766,304
Zambia				615	2,230	4,932	615	2,230	4,932	7,777
Zimbabwe				66,844	462,578	283,489	66,844	462,578	283,489	812,911
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	6,827	2,797	196,281	8,343,974	4,667,673	13,291,056	8,350,801	4,670,470	13,487,337	26,508,608
Afghanistan	4,140		196,281	5,910,508	637,699	2,931,877	5,914,648	637,699	3,128,158	9,680,505
Bhutan						486			486	486
Cambodia				486,851	105,897	145,957	486,851	105,897	145,957	738,705
China				38,006			38,006			38,006
Fiji						1,004			1,004	1,004
India				65,977	312	4,731	65,977	312	4,731	71,020
Indonesia				37,926	75,230	453,308	37,926	75,230	453,308	566,464
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of				322,950	14,647	11,413	322,950	14,647	11,413	349,010
Kyrgyzstan				32,951	196,228	169,256	32,951	196,228	169,256	398,435
Lao People's Democratic Republic					29,171			29,171		29,171
Myanmar	501			332,900	7,212	31,491	333,401	7,212	31,491	372,104
Nepal				48,052	49,008	306,874	48,052	49,008	306,874	403,934
Pakistan				860,557	975,979	2,069,947	860,557	975,979	2,069,947	3,906,483
Philippines				101,194	273,836	291,853	101,194	273,836	291,853	666,883
Solomon Islands						721			721	721
Sri Lanka	2,186	2,797		71,527	2,302,318	6,851,576	73,713	2,305,115	6,851,576	9,230,404
Tajikistan				34,138		17,209	34,138		17,209	51,347
Thailand						1,084			1,084	1,084
Timor-Leste					136	1,971		136	1,971	2,107
Uzbekistan				437		298	437		298	735

Context	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			3,577	2,460,778	1,002,680	11,092,061	2,460,778	1,002,680	11,095,638	14,559,096
Armenia				46,666	27,278	28,971	46,666	27,278	28,971	102,915
Azerbaijan				47,641	75,269	4,048	47,641	75,269	4,048	126,958
Croatia						17,114			17,114	17,114
Georgia				40,382	16,501	242,595	40,382	16,501	242,595	299,478
Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of						2,159			2,159	2,159
Russian Federation				1,999,650	533,619	2,719,064	1,999,650	533,619	2,719,064	5,252,333
Serbia						116,086			116,086	116,086
Bolivia						1,121			1,121	1,121
Chile				82		532	82		532	614
Colombia			1,779	272,240	290,016	7,759,858	272,240	290,016	7,761,637	8,323,893
Haiti			1,798	49,951	59,997	160,434	49,951	59,997	162,232	272,180
Panama				4,141		19,798	4,141		19,798	23,939
Paraguay				25		973	25		973	998
Peru						10,834			10,834	10,834
United States of America						6,907			6,907	6,907
Venezuela						1,567			1,567	1,567
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	80,920	5,600	710,278	18,242,408	1,895,677	33,804,579	18,323,328	1,901,277	34,514,857	54,739,462
Algeria				1,258			1,258			1,258
Iraq			369,776	11,565,117	1,031,430	26,026,135	11,565,117	1,031,430	26,395,911	38,992,458
Israel (including the occupied and autonomous territories)	79,066		340,502	5,974,531	311,006	4,807,741	6,053,597	311,006	5,148,243	11,512,846
Jordan				3,853	2,458	508	3,853	2,458	508	6,819
Lebanon	1,854	5,600		292,709	251,103	395,174	294,563	256,703	395,174	946,440
Mauritania						2,905			2,905	2,905
Western Sahara				134,156	51,090	12,038	134,156	51,090	12,038	197,284
Syrian Arab Republic				61,927	2,229	2,047	61,927	2,229	2,047	66,203
Yemen				208,857	246,361	2,558,031	208,857	246,361	2,558,031	3,013,249
REGIONAL STOCKS	74,431	411	6,740				74,431	411	6,740	81,582
Geneva and Nairobi (contributions in kind only)	74,431	411	6,740				74,431	411	6,740	81,582
GRAND TOTAL	174,259	10,965	4,084,771	36,120,441	16,896,353	105,295,459	36,294,700	16,907,318	109,380,230	162,582,248

* MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items

** RELIEF includes food, seed, agricultural inputs and essential household items

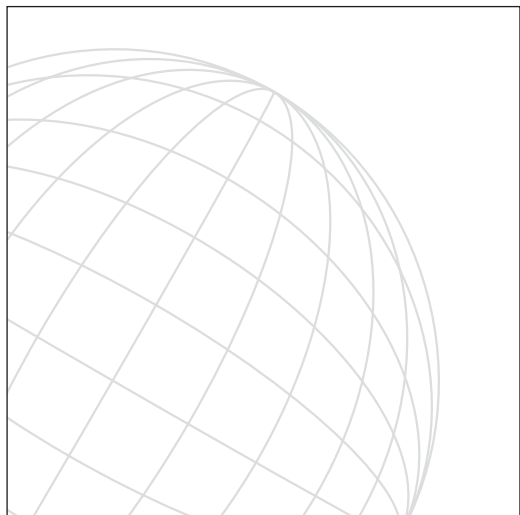
ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY THE ICRC IN 2007

Context	Medical * (CHF)	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief **		Total (CHF)
			(CHF)	(Tonnes)	
AFRICA	7,070,630	8,947,592	56,061,194	54,594.0	72,079,416
Angola	321,266	36,182	23,000	7.9	380,448
Benin			10,064	3.0	10,064
Botswana			3,778	0.7	3,778
Burkina Faso			92,575	29.1	92,575
Burundi	32,289	522,652	70,479	38.9	625,420
Cameroon	289		111		400
Central African Republic	19,945	344,267	1,910,532	447.5	2,274,744
Chad	454,366	87,413	2,766,093	4,740.4	3,307,872
Congo	48,750	337,859	24,073	34.6	410,682
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	879,513	1,000,085	1,564,879	709.4	3,444,477
Côte d'Ivoire	433,360	1,660,432	1,363,161	1,283.0	3,456,953
Djibouti			10,192	3.5	10,192
Equatorial Guinea	907		4,125	2.0	5,032
Eritrea	170,370	798,837	713,389	260.3	1,682,596
Ethiopia	512,480	429,309	460,374	192.0	1,402,163
Guinea	102,233	266,927	236,846	60.6	606,006
Guinea-Bissau	1,452	6,782	2,791	1.1	11,025
Kenya	7,078	148,089	131,517	27.4	286,684
Lesotho			674	0.3	674
Liberia	235,539	593,253	1,142,729	1,236.4	1,971,521
Madagascar	1,717	5,486	3,466	1.9	10,669
Namibia			9,110	1.4	9,110
Niger	29,009		5,128	2.1	34,137
Rwanda	14	244,359	290,776	350.4	535,149
Senegal	2,813	12,559	43,217	7.0	58,589
Sierra Leone	49		1,688	1.4	1,737
Somalia	1,585,734	608,593	20,815,171	16,821.3	23,009,498
Sudan	1,931,116	976,789	17,782,560	24,440.6	20,690,465
Tanzania, United Republic of		56,903	7,172	1.8	64,075
Togo	568		23,590	11.7	24,158
Uganda	247,568	346,008	6,240,839	3,825.8	6,834,415
Zambia	615	2,230	4,932	1.4	7,777
Zimbabwe	51,590	462,578	302,163	49.1	816,331
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	6,642,309	3,747,986	11,438,733	8,558.9	21,829,028
Afghanistan	3,910,144	799,978	2,878,546	3,470.4	7,588,668
Bhutan			486	0.1	486
Cambodia	450,607	105,897	145,957	80.0	702,461
China	38,006				38,006
Fiji			1,004	0.2	1,004
India	40,146	312	4,731	2.1	45,189
Indonesia	18,419	92,754	394,437	230.2	505,610
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	312,117	14,647	11,413	7.5	338,177
Kyrgyzstan	35,879	179,022	178,664	53.2	393,565
Lao People's Democratic Republic		29,171			29,171
Myanmar	566,795	7,145	31,491	28.2	605,431
Nepal	60,411	51,744	457,510	192.4	569,665
Pakistan	850,933	956,698	2,186,755	724.2	3,994,386
Philippines	101,194	241,615	283,783	229.6	626,592
Solomon Islands			721	0.1	721
Sri Lanka	166,018	1,268,867	4,818,472	3,526.4	6,253,357
Tajikistan	83,609		40,444	12.6	124,053
Thailand			1,971	0.7	1,971
Timor-Leste	7,594	136	2,050	0.7	9,780
Uzbekistan	437		298	0.3	735

Context	Medical *	Water & habitat (CHF)	Relief **		Total (CHF)
			(CHF)	(Tonnes)	
EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	3,224,253	999,551	11,361,743	5,487.4	15,585,547
Armenia	43,633	27,278	29,088	10.9	99,999
Azerbaijan	89,293	75,269	5,379	0.8	169,941
Bosnia and Herzegovina			17,114	4.7	17,114
Georgia	42,726	19,727	263,376	363.8	325,829
Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of			2,159	0.3	2,159
Russian Federation	2,710,400	530,422	3,159,823	1,651.6	6,400,645
Serbia			25,216	43.4	25,216
Bolivia			1,121	0.6	1,121
Chile	82		532	0.2	614
Colombia	302,765	289,699	7,670,909	3,372.9	8,263,373
Haiti	31,188	57,156	146,947	17.6	235,291
Panama	4,141		19,798	16.1	23,939
Paraguay	25		973	0.3	998
Peru			10,834	3.1	10,834
United States of America			6,907	0.9	6,907
Venezuela			1,567	0.2	1,567
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	13,162,205	1,562,149	29,298,651	15,845.8	44,023,005
Algeria	1,258				1,258
Iraq	6,371,762	689,263	18,519,437	10,140.9	25,580,462
Israel (including the occupied and autonomous territories)	5,887,732	310,759	5,493,481	2,886.1	11,691,972
Jordan	3,853	10,521	9,811	2.7	24,185
Lebanon	492,660	251,926	3,055,764	1,810.5	3,800,350
Mauritania			2,905	0.7	2,905
Western Sahara	134,156	51,090	12,038	6.1	197,284
Syrian Arab Republic	61,927	2,229	2,047	1.2	66,203
Yemen	208,857	246,361	2,203,168	997.6	2,658,386
GRAND TOTAL	30,099,397	15,257,278	108,160,321	84,486.1	153,516,996

* MEDICAL includes physical rehabilitation items

** RELIEF includes food, seed, agricultural inputs and essential household items



funds and foundations

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FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,378	913
Securities	12,699	11,267
Accounts receivable and accrued interest	4,726	6,227
Total assets	18,803	18,407
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	14	8
Deferred income	4,500	5,550
Total liabilities	4,514	5,558
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
Inalienable capital	886	886
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Inalienable capital designated by the Board</i>		
Balance brought forward	9,530	8,303
Allocation/- use during the year	1,310 10,840	1,227 9,530
<i>Financial risk reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	2,184	2,003
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-151 2,033	181 2,184
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	249	258
Allocation/-use during the year		-258
Result for the year after transfer from/to reserves	281 530	249 249
Total unrestricted reserves	13,403	11,963
Total reserves	14,289	12,849
Total liabilities and reserves	18,803	18,407

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Contributions	1,300	1,200
Income from securities	323	291
Realized gains on securities	16	39
Bank interest	14	1
Foreign exchange gains, net	0	1
Total	1,653	1,532
Expenditure		
Bank charges	-42	-37
Realized losses on securities	-6	-12
Fundraising charges	-8	-1
Audit fees	-6	-6
Total	-62	-56
Result for the year before transfers from/(to) reserves	1,591	1,476
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	-	258
Allocation to unrestricted reserves		
Inalienable capital designated by the Board	-1,310	-1,227
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-	-258
Result for the year after transfer from/to reserves	281	249

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

AUGUSTA FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	143	145
Total assets	143	145
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, current account		1
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	2	1
Total current liabilities	2	2
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
Inalienable capital	100	100
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	18	18
Use during the year	0	18
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	25	22
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-2	3
Total unrestricted reserves	41	43
Total reserves	141	143
Total liabilities and reserves	143	145

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	2	2
Total	2	2
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-2	-1
Total	-2	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/- to reserves	0	1
Use of unrestricted reserves	0	-
Attribution to Florence Nightingale Medal fund	-	-1
Result for the year after attribution to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/- to reserves	0	0

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.

Purpose

Modified on several occasions. At the 21st 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 22nd Conference, held in Tehran in 1973.

Administration

In view of the aforementioned decision, the same as for the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	538	536
Augusta Fund, current account		1
Stock of medals	68	7
Total assets	606	544
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	74	2
Total current liabilities	74	2
Unrestricted reserves		
<i>Capital</i>	75	75
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	377	370
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-7	7
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	90	73
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-3	17
Total unrestricted reserves	532	542
Total liabilities and reserves	606	544

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	6	9
Attribution from the Augusta Fund		1
Total	6	10
Expenditure		
Presentation of medals, printing and dispatching circulars	-10	0
Audit fees	-3	-2
Other expenses	0	-1
Total	-13	-3
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	-7	7
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-7	7

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.

CLARE BENEDICT FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	1,976	2,004
Total assets	1,976	2,004
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	2	1
Total current liabilities	2	1
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>	1,633	1,633
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	33	128
Use during the year	-33	-128
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	19	33
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	337	294
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-15	43
Total unrestricted reserves	341	370
Total reserves	1,974	2,003
Total liabilities and reserves	1,976	2,004

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	21	34
Total	21	34
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-2	-1
Total	-2	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	19	33
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	33	128
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-33	-128
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	19	33

Establishment
1 February 1968.

Administration
A commission composed of three persons appointed by the ICRC.

Purpose
The Fund's income is attributed to assistance activities for the victims of armed conflicts, in accordance with Miss Benedict's wishes.

MAURICE DE MADRE FRENCH FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	4,773	5,235
Total assets	4,773	5,235
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	45	233
Allocations to be paid	257	
Total current liabilities	302	233
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Donors' restricted contributions</i>		
Balance brought forward	15	3
Use during the year	-15	-3
Allocation during the year	12	15
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>		
Balance brought forward	4,105	4,262
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-424	-157
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	882	742
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-104	140
Total unrestricted reserves	4,459	4,987
Total reserves	4,471	5,002
Total liabilities and reserves	4,773	5,235

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Contributions	9	21
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	52	88
Total	61	109
Expenditure		
Allocations		
- Allocations paid during the year	-225	-251
- Allocations to be paid	-257	-
Audit fees	-4	-2
Other expenses	-2	-1
Total	-488	-254
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	-427	-145
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Use of restricted reserves		
Donors' restricted contributions	15	3
Allocation to restricted reserves		
Donors' restricted contributions	-12	-15
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-424	-157

N.B. Allocations to be paid have been entered for the first time in 2007.

Establishment

The Fund was set up in accordance with Count Maurice de Madre'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 2007:

The Fund's Board held its official annual meeting on 23 May; its secretariat handled 89 files (consisting of 119 individual cases) on Movement staff.

OMAR EL MUKHTAR FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	920	934
Total assets	920	934
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	1	1
Total current liabilities	1	1
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>	761	761
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	15	59
Use during the year	-15	-59
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	8	15
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	157	137
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-7	20
Total unrestricted reserves	158	172
Total reserves	919	933
Total liabilities and reserves	920	934

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	9	16
Total	9	16
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-1	-1
Total	-1	-1
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	8	15
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	15	59
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-15	-59
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/- to reserves	8	15

Establishment

Pursuant to decision No. 5 of the Executive Board of 20 November 1980, adopted by the Committee in December 1980.

Administration

A Board composed of three ICRC representatives.

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.

PAUL REUTER FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	637	659
Total assets	637	659
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	12	22
Total current liabilities	12	22
Unrestricted reserves		
UNRESTRICTED RESERVE DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ICRC		
<i>Initial capital</i>	200	200
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	326	325
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-5	1
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	111	90
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year	-7	21
Total unrestricted reserves	625	637
Total liabilities and reserves	637	659

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007	2007	2006
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	7	11
Total	7	11
Expenditure		
Award of the 2006 Paul Reuter Prize		-5
Audit fees	-2	-1
Allocation to the Jean Pictet Competition	-10	
Other expenses		-4
Total	-12	-10
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	-5	1
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	-5	1

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

ICRC SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DISABLED (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007		2007	2006
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		494	324
Securities		3,630	4,555
Accounts receivable		141	642
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account		294	
Accrued interest		22	32
Total assets		4,581	5,553
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current liabilities			
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account			1,371
Expenses payable		3	4
Deferred income			173
Total current liabilities		3	1,548
RESTRICTED RESERVES			
<i>Donors' restricted contributions</i>			
Balance brought forward		1	0
Use for Albania project		-1	
Allocation for Ethiopia project		58	
Allocation for Viet Nam project		100	
Allocation for Nicaragua project		445	603
			1
Total restricted reserves		603	1
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD			
<i>Initial capital</i>			
		1,000	1,000
<i>Provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>			
Balance brought forward		586	492
Increase/- decrease of unrealized gains during the year		-89	94
		497	586
<i>General reserves</i>			
Balance brought forward		2,418	2,548
Use for Ethiopia project			-30
Use for Nicaragua project			-20
Use for Viet Nam project			-115
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves		60	35
		2,478	2,418
Total unrestricted reserves		3,975	4,004
Total reserves		4,578	4,005
Total liabilities and reserves		4,581	5,553

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007								
	2007							2006
	Ethiopia project	Viet Nam project	Nicaragua project	Bangladesh project	India & Laos project	Albania project	General	Total
								Total
Operating activities								
Contributions received in cash								
<i>Governments</i>								
Australia		482						482
Austria	124							124
Canada	68					18		86
Liechtenstein	50							50
Norway	973		334	95	104			1,506
P. Leahy War Victims Fund/USAID	605							605
Switzerland	40		62					102
United States PM/WRA through International Trust Fund								
								38
<i>National Societies</i>								
Belgium		100	467					567
Germany								0
Monaco	12							12
Netherlands		160	441					601
Norway	167							167
Switzerland		450						450
Saudi Arabia	244							244
Turkey	5							5
United Arab Emirates	12							12
<i>Private sources</i>								
CR Machinery	8							8
Pro-Victimis								
								31
OPEC Fund for International Development								
- 2007 contributions		123						123
- 2006 contributions								193
- Adjustment of 2005 contributions								-64
Ousseimi Foundation								20
In memoria J.Fournier								8
Association of Former ICRC Delegates	43							43
Proceeds from sale of Robin Coupland's paintings	25							25
Various donors	15							15
								3
Contributions received in services								
<i>National Societies</i>								
France								1
Canada	24							24
								17
Total contributions	2,415	1,315	1,304	95	104	18		5,251
								4,370
Operating expenditure								
Cash expenditure	-2,333	-1,215	-859	-95	-104	-19		-4,625
Services expenditure	-24							-24
								-18
Total operating expenditure	-2,357	-1,215	-859	-95	-104	-19		-4,649
								-4,534
Net result of operating activities	58	100	445	0	0	-1		602
								-164
Non-operating activities								
Financial income								
Securities income							103	103
Bank interest							14	14
Realized gains on securities, net								13
Withholding taxes adjustment								1
Foreign exchange gains, net							17	17
Total financial income							134	134
								130

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007									2006
	Ethiopia project	Viet Nam project	Nicaragua project	Bangladesh project	India & Laos project	Albania project	General	Total	Total
Financial expenditure									
Bank charges							-22	-22	-21
Audit fees							-10	-10	-11
Realized losses on securities, net							-37	-37	
Non-refundable withholding taxes							-2	-2	
Fundraising charges							-3	-3	
Foreign exchange losses, net									-63
Total financial expenditure							-74	-74	-95
Net result of non-operating activities							60	60	35
Result for the year before transfers from/- to reserves	58	100	445	0	0	-1	60	662	-129
Use of unrestricted reserves									
General reserves								0	165
Use of restricted reserves									
Donors' restricted contributions						1		1	0
Allocation to restricted reserves									
Donors' restricted contributions	-58	-100	-445					-603	-1
Result for the year after transfers from/- to reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	60	35

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

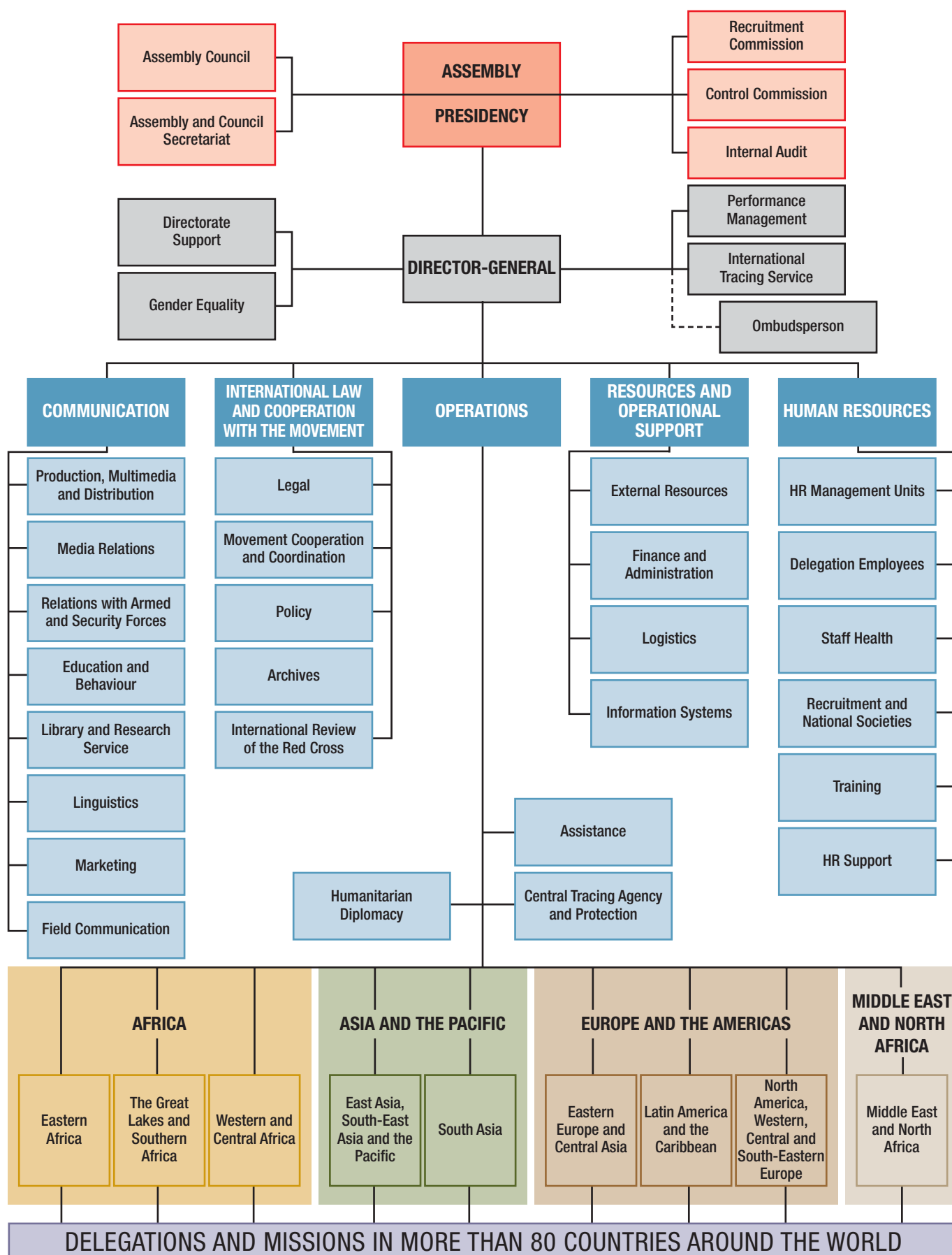
In 1983, the ICRC donated an initial one million Swiss francs to set up the Special Fund for the Disabled. Further support is since given to the SFD by various governments, a number of National Societies and by private and public sources.

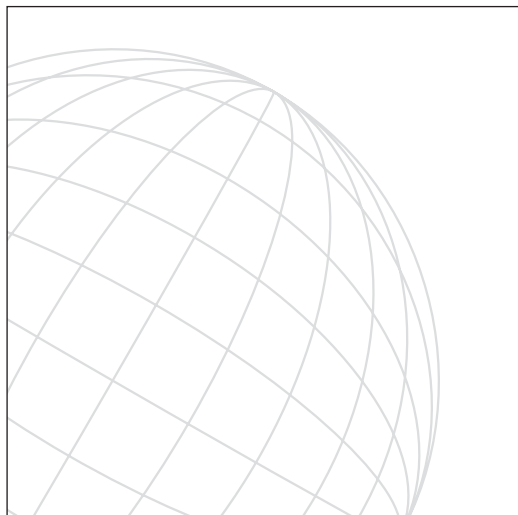


ANNEX



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, approves the budget and accounts, and nominates the directors and the head of Internal Audit. Composed of between 15 and 25 co-opted members of Swiss nationality, 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. In 2007, his mandate was renewed for a four-year period beginning 1 January 2008

Mr Olivier Vodoz, vice-president, Bachelor of Law, barrister, former Deputy in the Geneva Grand Council and former President of the State Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva (1998)

Mr Jacques Forster, permanent vice-president, Doctor of Economics, former 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)

Mr Jacques Moreillon, Bachelor of Law, Doctor of Political Science, former secretary general of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, former director-general of the ICRC (1988)

Mr Daniel Thürer, Master of Laws (Cambridge), Doctor of Law, professor at the University of Zurich (1991)

Mr André von Moos, Doctor of Law, Bachelor of Economics, Harvard Business School SMP certificate, former chairman of the von Moos Group, industrialist (1998)

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 (ret'd) (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); permanent vice-president as of 1 January 2008 (replacing Mr Jacques Forster)

Ms Paola Ghillani, pharmacist from the University of Lausanne, certificate from the International Institute for Management Development in Lausanne, businesswoman, former director-general of the Max Havelaar Foundation (Switzerland) (2005)

Mr Jenö Staehelin, Doctor of Law (University of Bern), former Ambassador of Switzerland (2006)

1. As at 31 December 2007

Ms Christiane Augsburger, nurse, Bachelor of Education Sciences from Geneva University, Master of Health Care from Webster University in Geneva, diploma in the management of nursing schools from the Swiss Red Cross College of Nursing (2007)

Ms Anne de Boccard, Bachelor of Political Sciences, diploma from the Swiss Banking School, chief executive officer of Citadel Finance, Geneva, since 1999 (2007)

Honorary members:

Mr Peter Arbenz, Mr Jean-François Aubert
 Ms Denise Bindschedler-Robert, Mr Ernst Brugger
 Ms Suzy Bruschweiler, Mr Georges-André Cuendet
 Mr Max Daetwyler, Mr Josef Feldmann, Mr Athos Gallino
 Ms Renée Guisan, Mr Rodolphe de Haller, Mr Pierre Keller
 Ms Liselotte Kraus-Gurny, Mr Pierre Languetin
 Mr Jakob Nüesch, Ms Anne Petitpierre, Mr Richard Pestalozzi
 Ms Francesca Pometta, Mr Eric Roethlisberger
 Mr Dietrich Schindler, Mr Cornelio Sommaruga

ASSEMBLY COUNCIL

The Assembly Council is a subsidiary body of the Assembly and comprises five members 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 Assembly
Mr Jean de Courten, member of the Assembly
Mr Jacques Moreillon, member of the Assembly

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 Assembly 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 Assembly. 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 Assembly. 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

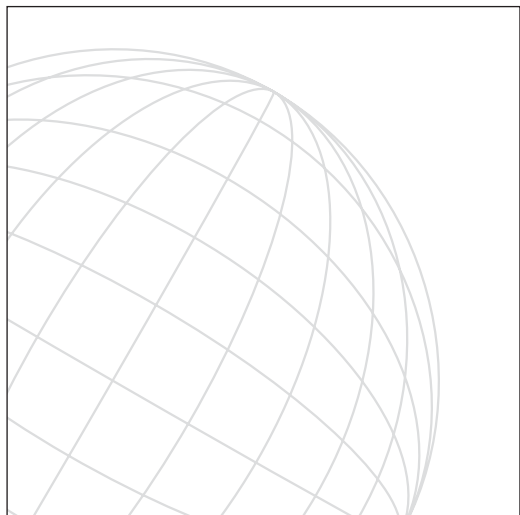
The Assembly appoints the external auditors for the ICRC's financial statements. The external auditors report their audit opinion to the Assembly and prepare a management letter addressed to the Directorate. As of 2007, the external auditing is being carried out by Ernst & Young.

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 Yves Daccord, director of Communication
Mr Pierre Krähenbühl, director of Operations
Ms Doris Pfister, director of Resources and Operational Support
Mr Philip Spoerri, director for International Law and Cooperation within the Movement
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 IHL in armed conflicts, to help the ICRC better understand and deal with the political issues it encounters in carrying out its mandate and to assist it in analysing the environment for humanitarian endeavour.

The 2004–2007 Group follows on five previous groups of advisers that have assisted the ICRC since 1984. It met twice during 2007 for confidential discussions with the ICRC leadership and was composed of ten people with confirmed international experience:

Professor Ridwan AL-SAYYID (Lebanon)

Mr Jayantha DHANAPALA (Sri Lanka)

Ms Bineta DIOP (Senegal)

Mr Bronislaw GEREMEK (Poland)

Professor Djamchid MOMTAZ (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Mr George E. MOOSE (United States of America)

Ms Sadako OGATA (Japan)

Professor Paulo Sérgio PINHEIRO (Brazil)

Mr Ahmed RASHID (Pakistan)

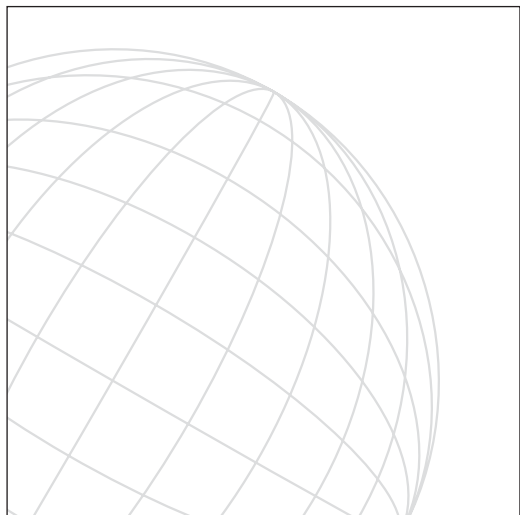
General (Retired) Sir Rupert A. SMITH (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

In 2007, the Group met in March and in August with members of the Assembly and of the Directorate. The comments and suggestions made during these meetings provided valuable input for the ICRC's planning and policy-making process. The following topics were discussed:

- ▶ general trends in international relations in 2007 and their implications for the armed conflicts and other situations of violence in which the ICRC was operating, in particular in the Middle East: the link between the different conflicts and tensions in the region; the local, regional and global issues to take into account when analysing the situation; the positive trends and risks for

2007 and after; the situation of minorities; the humanitarian situation and ICRC budget increases in the Middle East; the expectations of the region's people

- ▶ the relation between conflicts and environmental degradation, including that induced by climate change, and in particular: the contextual and statistical analysis regarding the possibility of identifying a causal link between environmental degradation and conflicts; the probability that global warming would generate or be a contributing factor to conflicts; which conditions were more likely to turn tension caused by environmental degradation into open hostilities; the implications of climate change for humanitarian action; the impact of conflicts on the environment; protection of the environment under IHL, and the latter's relevance in today's conflicts
- ▶ the role of religious factors in today's world and their impact on international relations and on humanitarian action: how religion had shaped some foreign policy decisions; the consequences of the proselytism witnessed in various regions and by diverse faiths; the relationship between Islamic charities and other humanitarian organizations; the impact of faith-based organizations on the perception of humanitarian action by the beneficiaries
- ▶ the issues at stake in the run-up to the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
- ▶ the Human Rights Council: to what extent its first sessions met the high expectations its establishment had raised; the frequent special sessions convened during its first months of activity and the consequences for its future work; the relationship between the ICRC and the Council; and the future of the special procedures



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 that meet the 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.

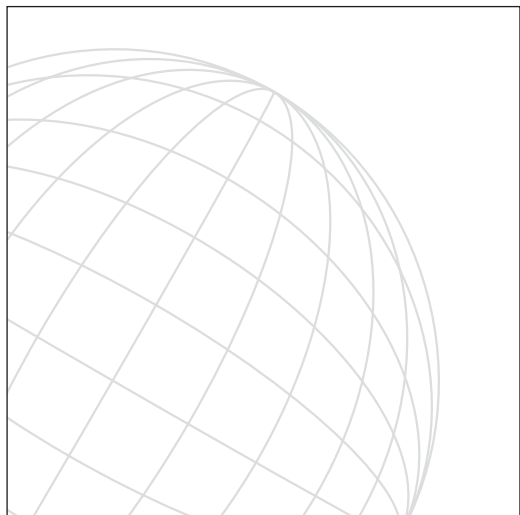
National Societies in their own country and the ICRC both have the mandate to assist the victims of armed conflicts. National Societies are the main operational partners of the ICRC, particularly in the fields of medical and relief assistance and re-establishment of family links.

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 IHL and the Fundamental Principles
- ▶ involvement of National Societies in measures taken to promote IHL and ensure its implementation
- ▶ preparation for activities in the event of armed conflict, internal strife and other situations of violence, in particular in fields such as evacuation of the wounded and pre-hospital care, and relief assistance
- ▶ restoring family links
- ▶ mine action
- ▶ technical and legal assistance in establishing and reconstituting National Societies

- ▶ revision of National Society statutes and advice on relevant national legislation, together with the International Federation
- ▶ together with the International Federation, supporting National Societies in their efforts to adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles

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. The ICRC also coordinates activities to restore family links in all situations that require an international response.



legal bases

The work of the ICRC is based on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, their two Additional Protocols of 1977 and Additional Protocol III of 2005, 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 IHL.

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 IHL 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, 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 1977 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:

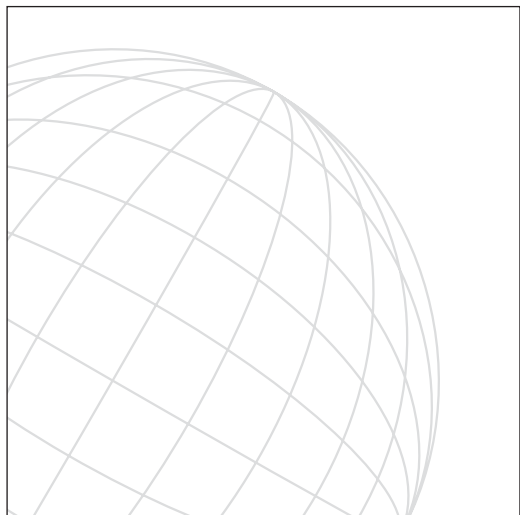
- ▶ the four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I confer on the ICRC a specific mandate to act in the event of international armed conflict. In particular, the ICRC has the right to visit prisoners of war and civilian internees. The Conventions also give the ICRC a broad right of initiative

- ▶ 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 IHL 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

All of the world's 194 States are now party to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions. In 2007, no country ratified or acceded to Protocols I and II additional to the Geneva Conventions. The number of States party to Additional Protocol I and Additional Protocol II therefore remained 167 and 163 respectively. During the year, however, Belize, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Georgia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, San Marino, Slovakia and the United States of America ratified Additional Protocol III.

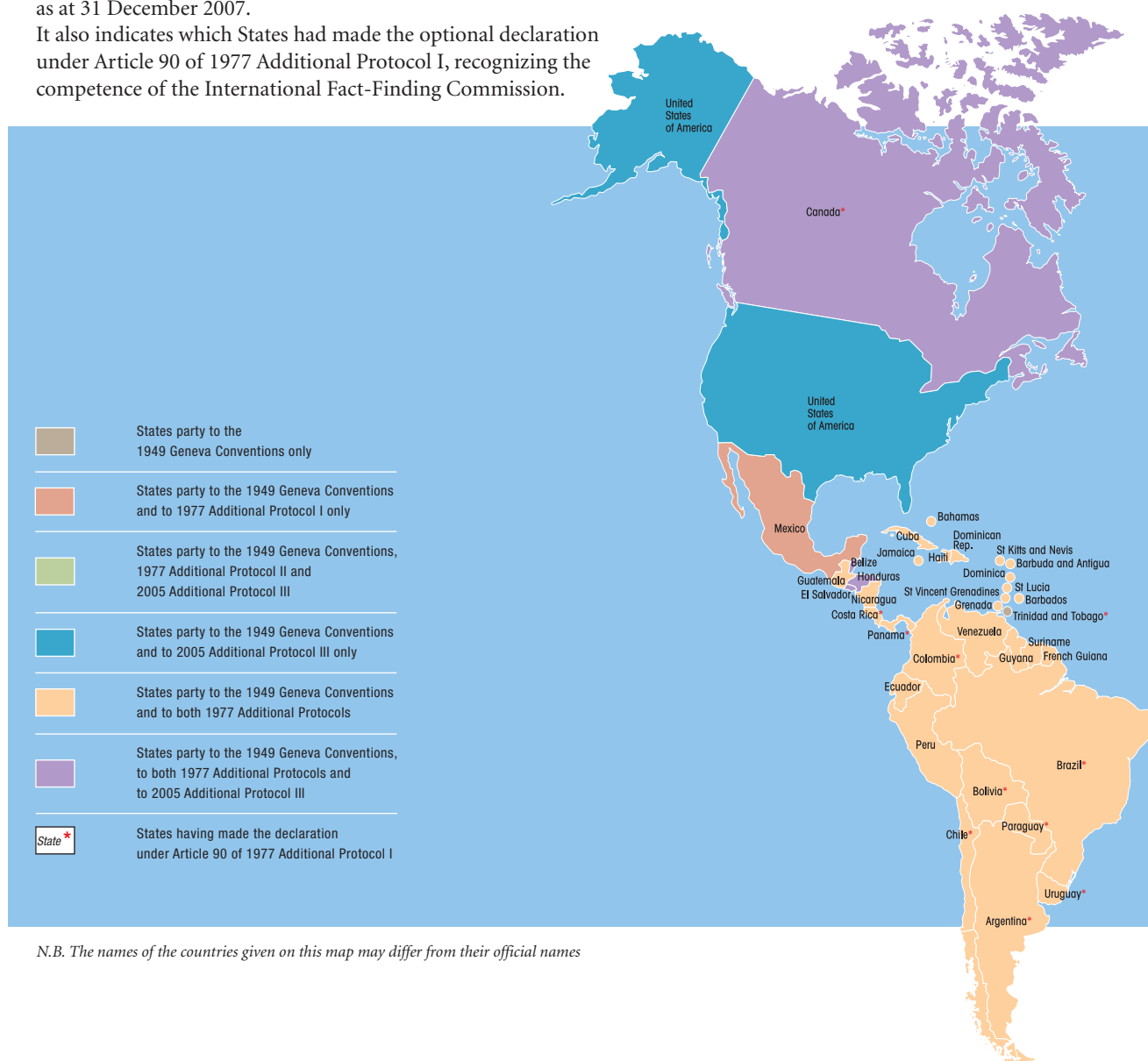
By 2007, 70 States were party to Article 90 of Additional Protocol I which provides for the establishment of an International Fact-Finding Commission to enquire into allegations of serious violations of humanitarian law.



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 Additional Protocols, as at 31 December 2007.

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 that 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 that 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 Additional 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 Additional 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 **Congo, Democratic 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 Additional 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 Additional Protocols entered into force on 7 December 1978. The 2005 Additional Protocol III entered into force on 14 January 2007.

NAMES OF COUNTRIES

The names of countries given in the following list may differ from the official names of States.

UPDATE SINCE 31.12.2006

All of the world's 194 States are party to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949.

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol I: 0

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol II: 0

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol III:

► Belize	03.04.2007
► Canada	26.11.2007
► Croatia	13.06.2007
► Cyprus	27.11.2007
► Czech Republic	23.05.2007
► Denmark	25.05.2007
► El Salvador	12.09.2007
► Georgia	19.03.2007
► Israel	22.11.2007
► Latvia	02.04.2007
► Lithuania	28.11.2007
► Monaco	12.03.2007
► San Marino	22.06.2007
► Slovakia	30.05.2007
► United States of America	08.03.2007

TOTALS

Number of States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949: 194

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol I: 167

Number of States having made the declaration under Article 90: 70

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol II: 163

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol III: 24

Number of States Members of the United Nations: 192

States Parties to the Geneva Conventions but not members of the United Nations: **Cook Islands** and **Holy See**

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS		PROTOCOL I			PROTOCOL II		PROTOCOL III	
	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D	D90	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	16.08.1989	A		
	03.07.1962	A	16.08.1989	A X	16.08.1989	16.08.1989	A		
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	A		
Argentina	18.09.1956	R	26.11.1986	A X	11.10.1996	26.11.1986	A X		
Armenia	07.06.1993	A	07.06.1993	A		07.06.1993	A		
Australia	14.10.1958	R X	21.06.1991	R X	23.09.1992	21.06.1991	R		
Austria	27.08.1953	R	13.08.1982	R X	13.08.1982	13.08.1982	R X		
Azerbaijan	01.06.1993	A							
Bahamas	11.07.1975	S	10.04.1980	A		10.04.1980	A		
Bahrain	30.11.1971	A	30.10.1986	A		30.10.1986	A		
Bangladesh	04.04.1972	S	08.09.1980	A		08.09.1980	A		
Barbados	10.09.1968	S X	19.02.1990	A		19.02.1990	A		
Belarus	03.08.1954	R	23.10.1989	R	23.10.1989	23.10.1989	R		
Belgium	03.09.1952	R	20.05.1986	R X	27.03.1987	20.05.1986	R		
Belize	29.06.1984	A	29.06.1984	A		29.06.1984	A	03.04.2007	A
Benin	14.12.1961	S	28.05.1986	A		28.05.1986	A		
Bhutan	10.01.1991	A							
Bolivia	10.12.1976	R	08.12.1983	A	10.08.1992	08.12.1983	A		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	31.12.1992	S	31.12.1992	S	31.12.1992	31.12.1992	S		
Botswana	29.03.1968	A	23.05.1979	A		23.05.1979	A		
Brazil	29.06.1957	R	05.05.1992	A	23.11.1993	05.05.1992	A		
Brunei Darussalam	14.10.1991	A	14.10.1991	A		14.10.1991	A		
Bulgaria	22.07.1954	R	26.09.1989	R	09.05.1994	26.09.1989	R	13.09.2006	R
Burkina Faso	07.11.1961	S	20.10.1987	R	24.05.2004	20.10.1987	R		
Burundi	27.12.1971	S	10.06.1993	A		10.06.1993	A		
Cambodia	08.12.1958	A	14.01.1998	A		14.01.1998	A		
Cameroon	16.09.1963	S	16.03.1984	A		16.03.1984	A		
Canada	14.05.1965	R	20.11.1990	R X	20.11.1990	20.11.1990	R X	26.11.2007	R X
Cape Verde	11.05.1984	A	16.03.1995	A	16.03.1995	16.03.1995	A		
Central African Republic	01.08.1966	S	17.07.1984	A		17.07.1984	A		
Chad	05.08.1970	A	17.01.1997	A		17.01.1997	A		
Chile	12.10.1950	R	24.04.1991	R	24.04.1991	24.04.1991	R		
China	28.12.1956	R X	14.09.1983	A X		14.09.1983	A		
Colombia	08.11.1961	R	01.09.1993	A	17.04.1996	14.08.1995	A		
Comoros	21.11.1985	A	21.11.1985	A		21.11.1985	A		
Congo	04.02.1967	S	10.11.1983	A		10.11.1983	A		
Congo, Democratic Republic of	24.02.1961	S	03.06.1982	A	12.12.2002	12.12.2002	A		
Cook Islands	11.06.2001	S	07.05.2002	A	07.05.2002	07.05.2002	A		
Costa Rica	15.10.1969	A	15.12.1983	A	02.12.1999	15.12.1983	A		
Côte d'Ivoire	28.12.1961	S	20.09.1989	R		20.09.1989	R		
Croatia	11.05.1992	S	11.05.1992	S	11.05.1992	11.05.1992	S	13.06.2007	R
Cuba	15.04.1954	A	25.11.1982	A		23.12.1999	A		
Cyprus	23.05.1962	A	01.06.1979	R	14.10.2002	18.03.1996	A	27.11.2007	R
Czech Republic	05.02.1993	S X	05.02.1993	S	02.05.1995	05.02.1993	S	23.05.2007	R
Denmark	27.06.1951	R	17.06.1982	R X	17.06.1982	17.06.1982	R	25.05.2007	R
Djibouti	06.03.1978	S	08.04.1991	A		08.04.1991	A		
Dominica	28.09.1981	S	25.04.1996	A		25.04.1996	A		
Dominican Republic	22.01.1958	A	26.05.1994	A		26.05.1994	A		
Ecuador	11.08.1954	R	10.04.1979	R		10.04.1979	R		
Egypt	10.11.1952	R	09.10.1992	R X		09.10.1992	R X		
El Salvador	17.06.1953	R	23.11.1978	R		23.11.1978	R	12.09.2007	R
Equatorial Guinea	24.07.1986	A	24.07.1986	A		24.07.1986	A		
Eritrea	14.08.2000	A							
Estonia	18.01.1993	A	18.01.1993	A		18.01.1993	A		
Ethiopia	02.10.1969	R	08.04.1994	A		08.04.1994	A		
Fiji	09.08.1971	S							
Finland	22.02.1955	R	07.08.1980	R X	07.08.1980	07.08.1980	R		
France	28.06.1951	R	11.04.2001	A X		24.02.1984	A X		

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS		PROTOCOL I			PROTOCOL II		PROTOCOL III	
	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D	D90	R/A/S	R/D	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	19.03.2007	R
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	20.12.2006			20.12.2006	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	08.12.2006	R
Hungary	03.08.1954	R X	12.04.1989	R	23.09.1991	12.04.1989	R	15.11.2006	R
Iceland	10.08.1965	A	10.04.1987	R X	10.04.1987	10.04.1987	R	04.08.2006	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						22.11.2007	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	02.04.2007	R
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	24.08.2006	R
Lithuania	03.10.1996	A	13.07.2000	A	13.07.2000	13.07.2000	A	28.11.2007	R
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	12.03.2007	R
Mongolia	20.12.1958	A	06.12.1995	R X	06.12.1995	06.12.1995	R		
Montenegro	02.08.2006	A	02.08.2006	A	02.08.2006	02.08.2006	A		
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		

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS		PROTOCOL I			PROTOCOL II		PROTOCOL III	
	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D	D90	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D
Nauru	27.06.2006	A	27.06.2006	A		27.06.2006	A		
Nepal	07.02.1964	A							
Netherlands	03.08.1954	R	26.06.1987	R X	26.06.1987	26.06.1987	R	13.12.2006	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	19.07.1999	R		19.07.1999	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	13.06.2006	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	22.08.2006	R
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 and the 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	22.06.2007	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	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	30.05.2007	R
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	07.03.2006	A		13.07.2006	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	14.07.2006	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 of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	23.09.1957	R X	28.01.1998	R X	17.05.1999	28.01.1998	R		

STATES PARTY TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS AND THEIR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS (cont.)

Country	GENEVA CONVENTIONS			PROTOCOL I			PROTOCOL II		PROTOCOL III	
	R/A/S	R/D		R/A/S	R/D	D90	R/A/S	R/D	R/A/S	R/D
United States of America	02.08.1955	R	X						08.03.2007	R
Uruguay	05.03.1969	R	X	13.12.1985	A	17.07.1990	13.12.1985	A		
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		
Viet Nam	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 Geneva Convention was dated 26.01.1978.

France

On accession to Additional Protocol II, France made a communication concerning Additional Protocol I.

Ghana

Entry into force of Additional Protocols I and II on 07.12.1978.

Namibia

An instrument of accession to the Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols was deposited by the United Nations Council for Namibia on 18.10.1983. In an instrument deposited on 22.08.1991, Namibia declared its succession to the Geneva Conventions, which were previously applicable pursuant to South Africa's accession on 31.03.1952.

Niue

Pursuant to New Zealand law at the time of accession, and consistent with customary international law, the Geneva Conventions apply to Niue by virtue of New Zealand's accession, on 02.05.1959, to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions.

Palestine

On 21.06.1989, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs received a letter from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Office at 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 04.05.1989, to adhere to the Four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the two Protocols additional thereto".

On 13.09.1989, 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 07.03.1951.

Republic of Korea

The Geneva Conventions entered into force on 23.09.1966, 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 23.02.1959 (Ceylon had signed only the First, Second, and Third Geneva Conventions).

Switzerland

Entry into force of the Geneva Conventions on 21.10.1950.

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

