


ANNUAL REPORT

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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 2009, the average exchange rate was CHF 1.0848 to USD 1, and CHF 1.5080 to EUR 1.

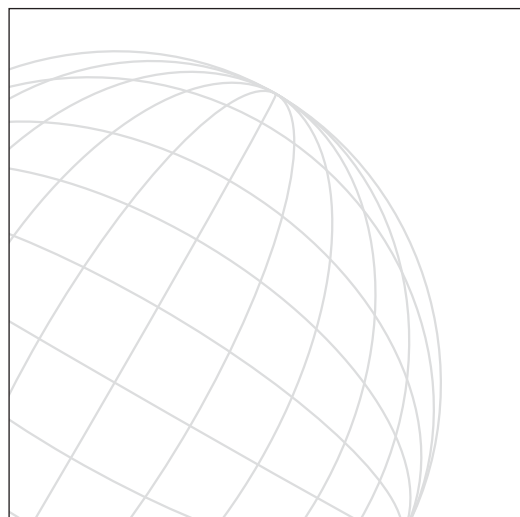
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ICRC



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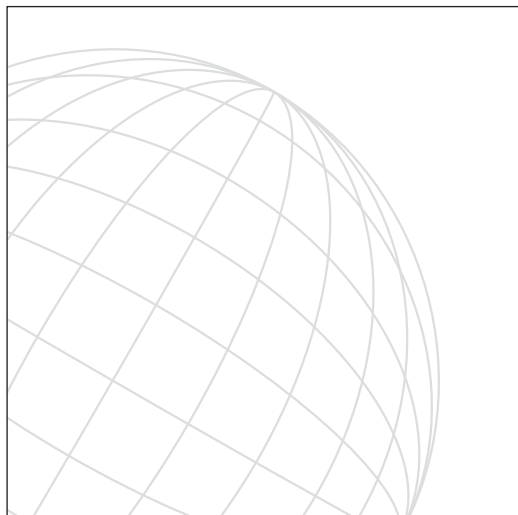
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abbreviations and definitions

A	Additional Protocol I	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 8 June 1977
	Additional Protocol II	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 8 June 1977
	Additional Protocol III	Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III), 8 December 2005
	1977 Additional Protocols	Additional Protocols I and II
	African Union Convention on IDPs	Convention for the Prevention of Internal Displacement and the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, 23 October 2009
	AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
B	Biological Weapons Convention	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, 10 April 1972
C	CHF	Swiss francs
	Chemical Weapons Convention	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, 13 January 1993
	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
	Convention on Enforced Disappearance	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 20 December 2006
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	<p>Convention (I) for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field, 12 August 1949</p> <p>Convention (II) for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea, 12 August 1949</p> <p>Convention (III) relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 12 August 1949</p> <p>Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, 12 August 1949</p>

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, health emergencies and 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	Mine Ban Convention	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction, 18 September 1997
	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 over 180 countries. They act as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their own countries in the humanitarian field and provide a range of services, including disaster relief and health and social programmes. In times of conflict, National Societies assist the affected civilian population and, where appropriate, support the army medical services.
	NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
	NGO	non-governmental organization
O	OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

O	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
	“Our world. Your move.” communication campaign	A public communication campaign on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino (and thus the beginnings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement) and the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions. This Movement-wide campaign aims to promote humanitarian principles, to emphasize the vulnerability of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence, and to highlight the challenges facing humanitarian action throughout the world.
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 for 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.
	Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures	The 1997 Seville Agreement and its 2005 Supplementary Measures provide 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

The year started amid serious concerns about the humanitarian impact of the global economic crisis on the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, many of whom live in contexts of armed conflict or violence where the ICRC works to protect and assist them. Falling levels of investment, rising unemployment and dwindling remittances from family members abroad all contributed to eroding their coping mechanisms, making it even harder for them to meet their basic needs. Their plight was particularly acute in contexts affected by both armed conflict and natural disaster or environmental problems – Somalia providing just one dramatic example.

In 2009, working on the basis of its highest ever initial field budget (CHF 997 million) and 9 budget extensions amounting to CHF 144 million, the ICRC carried out its 10 biggest operations in Afghanistan, Colombia, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the occupied territories, Pakistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan. Two of the budget extensions were for operations in Pakistan, which saw its initial 2009 budget almost quadruple. This was largely as a result of a new ICRC field hospital in Peshawar and assistance provided for hundreds of thousands of IDPs in partnership with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society.

Pakistan was just one of a number of operational contexts in which the ICRC put significant emphasis throughout the year on further implementing its four-year strategy (2007–2010) to strengthen and reinforce its health response capacity. Health-related needs and activities have traditionally been – and will continue to be – a central feature of the ICRC's institutional and operational identity. In 2009, some 5.8 million people worldwide benefited from ICRC health-related activities. To give just a few examples, the ICRC continued to provide vital support to Mirwais hospital in Kandahar, southern Afghanistan – the biggest hospital in the region, serving a population of more than 3 million people. In Somalia, the ICRC and the Somali Red Crescent Society supported numerous medical facilities in urban and rural areas throughout the country, treating thousands of wounded patients and others in the course of the year. And in Yemen, where many thousands of people were displaced by the fighting in largely inaccessible areas, the ICRC and the Yemen Red Crescent Society provided vital medical support for IDPs in camps and urban areas.

Worldwide, the ICRC distributed food to some 4.1 million people in 2009, mainly IDPs and residents, and essential household and hygiene items to close to 4.5 million people, while around 2.93 million people benefited from sustainable food production programmes or micro-economic initiatives. ICRC water, sanitation and construction activities benefited some 14.25 million people. For example, in northern Uganda, where the restoration of peace has facilitated the return of large numbers of IDPs to their areas of origin, the ICRC helped some 100,000 vulnerable people to rebuild their livelihoods by providing them with seeds and agricultural tools. And in the city of Goma in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, where the population swelled significantly owing to IDP influxes, around 740,000 people will have access to clean drinking water, thanks to an ICRC-supported rehabilitation plan adopted in 2009.

The ICRC also visited 479,669 detainees in 2009, 43,152 of whom were monitored individually, in 1,890 places of detention. The aim of such visits is essentially to ensure that detainees are treated humanely and held in decent conditions, and that they have the possibility of exchanging news with their families, as required by IHL.

Two of the ICRC's key operations in 2009 – in the Gaza Strip and in Sri Lanka – provided stark illustrations of the potentially devastating humanitarian consequences of military operations conducted in densely populated areas, especially when heavy or highly explosive weapons are used. In both contexts, the ICRC's emergency response – constrained though it was at times by the intensity of the fighting and access problems – consisted of providing vital aid and services, principally medical (including evacuations) and water, often with the National Society. At the same time, the ICRC consistently urged the parties to the conflicts to fulfil their obligations under IHL, in particular to spare and protect at all times the sick and wounded as well as medical facilities and their personnel.

While these operations confirmed the value of neutral, independent and impartial humanitarian action, they also provided a sober reminder of the challenges inherent in its performance: three of the ICRC's national staff members were killed during the height of the fighting in Sri Lanka. Two more were killed in Afghanistan and the Central African Republic. Further serious incidents throughout the year included the abduction of five expatriate staff members: three in the Philippines, one in Sudan and one in Chad. The latter two were still in captivity at the end of the year.

Achieving better compliance with IHL in situations of armed conflict around the world remains, sadly, a formidable challenge. This has less to do with the absence of rules and weak enforcement mechanisms than it does with lack of political will on the part of both State authorities and armed groups. Ensuring stricter compliance with IHL concerns a wide range of protagonists, from State civil, military and judicial authorities to armed groups and members of civil society, including humanitarian organizations, each of which has a particular role to play. The ICRC, for its part, is but one factor in what must be a concerted international effort towards achieving this aim.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions in August 2009, the ICRC outlined the legal and humanitarian issues it considers to be particular challenges – now and in the years ahead. Certain areas of IHL – for example, relating to the conduct of hostilities – undoubtedly need to be clarified. Others may need to be developed, to make up for a lack of rules or where the rules are too broad or vague. This is the case in particular for situations of non-international armed conflict, where existing treaty law is at best limited. Conditions of detention and detainees' right to contact with the outside world are one such area. Procedural safeguards for people interned for security reasons are another. There are various others, including access to populations in need of humanitarian assistance, internal displacement of civilian populations and protection of the natural environment.

At the end of 2009, the ICRC finished a two-year comprehensive internal research study aimed at analysing these humanitarian and legal challenges. The conclusion was that specific aspects of the law require clarification or development. The ICRC will begin consultations in the first half of 2010 on how best to move forward, both substantively and procedurally.

The ultimate aim of such work is to make a difference where it matters: in the field, to better protect and assist victims of armed conflict. In trying to achieve this, the ICRC's partnerships with National Societies are indispensable. The importance of partnership within the Movement was reaffirmed at the Council of Delegates, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2009. Meeting 150 years after the Battle of Solferino, which gave birth to the Movement, members of 186 National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC issued a concerted call to action to tackle the humanitarian challenges of "today's Solferinos" – be they caused by armed conflict, natural disaster, climate change or poverty. These challenges may be daunting – tackling internal displacement, ensuring health care in armed conflicts and reducing the impact of weapons, to name but a few – but they are not insurmountable. While it may not be possible to prevent or avoid armed conflict and violence, it is possible to prevent, or at least alleviate, the humanitarian consequences.



Jakob Kellenberger
President



Thierry Gassmann/ICRC



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ICRC CORPORATE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT MODEL

The ICRC's strategic management model integrates the ICRC mission, its four-year strategy and the factors that contribute to the successful fulfilment of the organization's mission:

- ▶ the **ICRC mission statement**: according to the mission statement, the **overall humanitarian mission** of the ICRC, as an "impartial, neutral and independent organization" rooted in IHL, is "to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance". The ICRC is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- ▶ the **ICRC's four-year strategy**, which is made available publicly and in the ICRC's yearly Headquarters Appeal: the ICRC's strategy for 2007–2010 assesses opportunities and challenges in the environment in question, analyses the most important stakeholders, and defines the organization's desired positioning, the scope of its action, and its ambitions (1). It also sets strategic priorities for fulfilling the ICRC's humanitarian mission – to protect lives and the dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance (2). The strategy clearly states the values and principles guiding the ICRC's action and attitudes (3). The implementation of the four-year strategy requires action in three **working areas**:
 - "environment and external stakeholders" (1)
 - "resources and management processes", knowledge and skills, programmes, etc. (2)
 - "values and organizational culture" (3)
- ▶ the **ICRC's key success factors**: these are the elements critical to the organization and its work. In each area, the ICRC encounters risks and opportunities; by influencing these areas, the ICRC can reduce its vulnerability to the risks and take better advantage of the opportunities, thus improving its response to the needs of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence and positioning itself as a main player in this respect:
 - three factors that are related mainly to the "external environment" (external key success factors): **access** (to victims), **reputation/acceptance** and **positioning**
 - three factors that are related mainly to "the ICRC's own capacity to act" (internal key success factors): **relevance** (of response), **organization and processes**, **human resources capacity and mobility**

They are defined as follows:

- ▶ **access**: **access** to victims refers to reaching people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence in order to assess their situation, to deliver aid and to document allegations of abuse or violations of IHL committed by parties to the conflict. The ICRC's access to those in need depends greatly on its reputation and on acceptance of the organization by parties to the conflict and by key decision-makers
- ▶ **reputation/acceptance**: the ICRC's **reputation** refers to the way in which the organization is perceived by parties to the conflict and by other key stakeholders. **Acceptance** of the organization involves parties to the conflict and other key stakeholders recognizing and accepting the neutral,

impartial, and independent nature of the ICRC and its specific mandate under IHL and the Statutes of the Movement to protect and assist those affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence. The ICRC's reputation and the extent to which the organization is accepted directly influence its ability to gain access to victims and to attract qualified staff and funding

- ▶ **positioning**: **ICRC positioning** refers to the position of the ICRC within the field of humanitarian response (in terms of purpose, complementarity, benchmarking, etc.), its perceived added value for the people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, and donors' perception of the organization's relevance, effectiveness and efficiency
- ▶ **relevance**: the **relevance** of the ICRC's response refers to meeting the most pressing needs of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence in an evidence-based, result-oriented and timely manner, and using the ICRC's traditional modes of action (support, substitution, persuasion, mobilization, denunciation)
- ▶ **organization and processes**: **organization and processes** pertains to the structure of the ICRC and its decision-making, working, and information management processes. It includes the management models, structures, procedures and rules that govern the work of its staff and contribute to the ICRC's reputation as a professional, effective and efficient organization
- ▶ **human resources capacity and mobility**: the **capacities and mobility of the ICRC's human resources** refers to the organization's values, policies, strategies and methods for managing its staff. It also refers to the willingness and readiness of staff members to serve better the ICRC and people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence

COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND COMPLEMENTARY APPROACHES

The ICRC endeavours to respond to the humanitarian needs arising from today's complex armed conflicts and other situations of violence in the most timely, humane and professional way possible. Each situation 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. Therefore, for any action to be undertaken, a comprehensive analysis is carried out: of the situation, the actors present, the stakes and the dynamics. This enables the ICRC to identify the people adversely affected and their needs. An effective response requires a clear understanding of the cause of the problems and a good knowledge of local facilities, their capabilities and their potential. The ICRC endeavours to obtain an overall perspective of an issue of humanitarian concern by looking at all aspects of the problem and all possible responses. It is also important that the ICRC ensures the coherence of its activities in the medium and long term.

The ICRC's mission is a dynamic that combines the defence of individual rights, through respect by the authorities and other actors of their obligations, with a response to needs, through

neutral, impartial and independent action. As described in the ICRC's mission statement, the organization combines four approaches in its overall strategy after analysing a situation in order to, directly or indirectly, in the short, medium or long term, ensure respect for the lives, dignity, and physical and mental well-being of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence. Such action seeks to prevent (prevention), eradicate the cause of (protection) and alleviate (assistance) human suffering in armed conflict or other situations of violence and strengthen the Movement as a network (cooperation). Promotion of the adoption of and respect for legal norms, confidential representations in the event that obligations are not fulfilled or laws are violated, delivery of relief aid, communication campaigns and the training of first-aid volunteers are all part of a coherent humanitarian mission. Effective monitoring and critical evaluation, drawing on lessons learnt from past experience, are also crucial to this process, as is coordination with the numerous actors present on the increasingly complex humanitarian scene.

To carry out comprehensive analysis, set objectives and define and implement plans of action, the ICRC works with a dynamic network of multidisciplinary teams composed of specialists and general staff who are led and coordinated by competent management with clear policies and priorities. The implementation of the ICRC mission is characterized by the strategic use of various **modes of action** at **different levels of intervention**, at the headquarters the delivery of various **services** and in its field operations a focus on different **target populations** associated with a diverse range of activities requiring varied skills and expertise (**programmes**).

MODES OF ACTION

The modes of action used by the ICRC are the following:

- ▶ **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
- ▶ **mobilization:** activities aimed at prevailing on third parties to influence the behaviour or actions of the authorities, to support them, or to provide services to people in need directly
- ▶ **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
- ▶ **support:** activities aimed at providing assistance to the authorities so that they are better able to carry out their functions and fulfil their responsibilities
- ▶ **substitution:** activities to provide services to people in need directly, often in place of authorities who are not able or not willing to do so

The modes of action used by the ICRC depend on the situation, the problems encountered and the objectives to be achieved. They aim to make the relevant actors aware of and fulfil their responsibilities. The ICRC does not limit itself to any one of them; on the contrary, it combines them, striking a balance between them either simultaneously or consecutively.

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 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 with plans of action and indicators for the coming year for each context in which it operates. The plans of action and indicators describe how the ICRC aims to work towards the objectives in question. Changes in situations and humanitarian issues may require objectives, plans of action and indicators to be revised during the year. Objectives and plans of action and indicators 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, their plans of action and indicators and the corresponding budget.

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

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.

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

- ▶ **input:** human, technical, material and financial resources and logistical means that enable a person/organization to do something
- ▶ **activity:** any action or process through which inputs are combined to generate goods and services (outputs)
- ▶ **output:** the products, goods and services that people receive as a result of ICRC activities and that are expected to **lead** to the achievement of outcomes
- ▶ **outcome:** short- and medium-term
 - **short-term outcome:** the likely, or achieved, short-term effects of the output that are expected to **lead** to the achievement of medium-term outcome
 - **medium-term outcome:** the likely, or achieved, medium-term (1–5 year) effects of the short-term outcome that are expected to **contribute** to the impact

- **impact:** primary and secondary long-term effects to which interventions **contribute**, positively or negatively, 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

SERVICES AT HEADQUARTERS

In setting its headquarters objectives and plans of action, the ICRC has drawn up a standard list of six services, divided into three broad categories. These are defined as follows:

- **Guidance**
 - **Environment scanning and analysis:** services that analyse and monitor the organization's environment
 - **Policy and guidelines/Research and development:** either services that formulate policies and strategic positions and ensure that they are implemented in a coherent manner (monitoring and follow-up) or services that develop specific expertise for transfer to units and divisions at headquarters and in the field
- **Internal support**
 - **Corporate support:** services aimed at all units and divisions at headquarters and the field and which provide back-office support to ensure that the organization runs smoothly
 - **Support for action:** services that support and assist units and division at headquarters, as well as field delegations (often at their own request), in fulfilling their mission in a given context (contextualization of expertise)
- **External interaction**
 - **External relations/Humanitarian diplomacy/Mobilization:** services that manage relations with the various actors in the ICRC's environment; undertake diplomatic *démarches* and representations; and promote the organization's position
 - **Services and products:** services and products aimed on the one hand at National Societies, international organizations and other NGOs, governments and States, and on the other at beneficiaries/individuals

Each service contributes to achievement of the aims outlined in one or more of the key success factors.

TARGET POPULATIONS IN FIELD OPERATIONS

In setting its field 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 or no longer take a direct part in hostilities or violence but whose physical or mental integrity and dignity are either threatened or affected during an armed conflict or another situation of violence

- **people deprived of their freedom:** all individuals deprived of their freedom in connection with an armed conflict or another situation of violence, such as prisoners of war, civilian internees and security detainees
- **the wounded and sick:** people – civilians or weapon bearers – injured or suffering from disease or otherwise in need of medical assistance or care in an armed conflict or another situation of 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 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 armed conflict; 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 children are a major beneficiary of the ICRC's prevention, protection and assistance programmes worldwide. 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.

Too often in armed conflicts **people fall victim to the effects of weapon contamination**. The ICRC, together with National Societies, implements activities aimed at reducing the impact of weapon contamination on communities living in contaminated areas. The response provided is adapted to each situation and can comprise a range of activities, across all ICRC programmes. This involves: providing policy guidance and technical support on weapon contamination issues to National Societies and representing the Movement internationally on these matters; working with protection, economic security and water and habitat programmes to ensure that weapon contamination as a potential source of vulnerability is included in assessments and programme planning; supporting the capacity building of National Societies and their integration into national mine-action capability; deploying a rapid response capacity to ICRC delegations in emergencies where weapon contamination poses a threat to the ICRC and/or the population; contributing to the development of international mine-action policy, methodologies and systems.

There is a need to continuously heighten awareness of the tragic fate of people **missing** 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 continue to be implemented on the ground by the relevant ICRC delegations worldwide with the recommendations pertaining to **human remains** and **forensic sciences**, which include: operational support to ICRC field operations on all matters related to human remains and the forensic sciences; training and advice on best practices in the forensic sciences as they relate to the search for the missing, including in natural disasters; spreading knowledge of and promoting those best practices; development of tools, including for the collection and management of information, guidelines, manuals and publications to empower investigations into cases of missing

persons; carrying out forensic case-work in ICRC operational contexts that require it. 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.

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 available in the *Emergency Appeals, Overview of Operations and Annual Report* published each year.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTIONS

PROTECTION

In order to preserve the lives, security, dignity and physical and mental well-being of people adversely affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, the ICRC has adopted a protection approach that aims to ensure that the authorities and other players involved fulfil their obligations and uphold the rights of individuals protected by law. It also tries to prevent and/or put an end to actual or probable violations of IHL and other bodies of law protecting people in such situations. The protection approach focuses both on the causes or circumstances of violations, targeting those responsible and those who can influence them, and on the consequences of the violations.

Protection programmes 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 because of conflict, violence or other circumstances, such as natural disasters or migration, and missing people and their families.

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 people deprived of their freedom, discuss their findings with the authorities concerned, recommend measures and conduct follow-up activities.

Respect for people deprived of their freedom

The objective of the ICRC's activities for people 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 line 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 people 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 relevant parties at all levels to discuss humanitarian issues and to remind them of their legal obligations
- ▶ monitoring individuals and communities who are particularly vulnerable and/or exposed to serious risks of abuse, and reducing their exposure to those risks

Restoring family links

These activities aim to restore or maintain contact between members of families, including people deprived of their freedom, who have been separated by an armed conflict, another situation of violence or in relation with a natural disaster, 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)
- ▶ tracing persons separated from their families, in particular unaccompanied and separated children, including demobilized child soldiers

- ▶ 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 an armed conflict or other situation of violence, and thereby respond to the suffering caused to their relatives by the uncertainty surrounding their fate. This involves promoting and supporting mechanisms to help clarify the fate of missing persons, including the collection and management of information and the recovery and identification of human remains, facilitating dialogue between the authorities and the families of missing people, and responding to the latter's needs.

ASSISTANCE

The aim of assistance is to preserve life and/or restore the dignity of individuals or communities adversely affected by an armed conflict or other situation of violence. Assistance activities address the consequences of violations of IHL or other fundamental rules protecting people in situations of violence. They may also tackle the causes and circumstances of such violations by reducing risk exposure.

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.

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 people in need with the goods and/or services essential for their survival when they can no longer obtain them 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 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 ensure that the health needs of people in armed conflict or other situations of violence are met according to defined minimum packages of health services/care. **Curative and preventative health interventions** remain at the heart of ICRC projects; saving lives and alleviating suffering are the central objectives of health assistance.

Such assistance can entail support to local or regional health services and when necessary substituting for them on a temporary basis. ICRC health interventions involve:

- ▶ either implementing activities directly, supporting existing structures/organizations, or mobilizing others in order to carry out first aid, war surgery or health care delivery in conflict situations. This includes primary health care and other hospital-related activities such as emergency surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, hospital management, physical rehabilitation programmes and health in detention
- ▶ 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 is an integral part of the process needed to ensure the full participation and inclusion in society of people with disabilities. It involves providing disabled people with assistive devices, such as prostheses, orthoses, walking aids and wheelchairs, together with the therapy that will enable them to make the fullest use of those devices. Physical rehabilitation must also include activities aimed at maintaining, adjusting, repairing and renewing the devices as needed.

ICRC physical rehabilitation assistance is designed to strengthen the overall physical rehabilitation services of a given country. It aims to improve the accessibility of services and their quality, and to develop national capacities to ensure their long-term viability. ICRC physical rehabilitation projects aim to allow the physically disabled to participate fully in society, both during and after the period of assistance.

Although its focus is physical rehabilitation, the ICRC Physical Rehabilitation Programme recognizes the need to develop projects in cooperation with others so as to ensure that beneficiaries have access to other services in the rehabilitation chain.

PREVENTION

The aim of prevention is to foster an environment that is conducive to respect for the lives and dignity of those who may be affected by an armed conflict or other situation of violence, and that is favourable to the work of the ICRC. The approach has a medium- to long-term outlook and aims to prevent suffering by influencing those who have a direct or indirect impact on the fate of people affected by such situations, and/or who can influence the ICRC's ability to gain access to these people and operate efficiently in their favour. In particular, the prevention approach involves communicating, developing, clarifying and promoting the implementation of IHL and other relevant bodies of law, and promoting acceptance of the ICRC's work.

Implementation of IHL

Implementation activities aim to promote the universal ratification of IHL 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 IHL 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 and clarification of IHL

These activities aim to promote the adoption of new treaties and instruments or to promote the clarification of IHL concepts in order to make the law more effective and to respond to needs arising 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 assessing 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 other situations of violence:

- ▶ public communication which aims to inform and mobilize key stakeholders on priority 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 global, regional and local level 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 political authorities and 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
- ▶ producing – and translating into a range of languages – print, audio-visual and web-based communication materials to support and communicate the ICRC's activities

Weapons issues and mine action

The ICRC pays 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, cluster munitions 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.

It 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 Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and – once it enters into force – the Convention on Cluster Munitions, 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, cluster munitions 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, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war pose a threat to the ICRC and/or the population

COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The aim of cooperation is to increase the operational capabilities of National Societies, above all in countries affected or likely to be affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence. It further aims to increase the ICRC's ability to interact with National Societies and work in partnership with them. The cooperation approach aims to optimize the Movement's humanitarian work by making the best use of complementary mandates and skills in operational matters such as protection, assistance and prevention. It involves drawing up and implementing the policies of the Movement that are adopted during its statutory meetings and building the capacities of National Societies, helping them to adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles.

The ICRC shares its expertise with National Societies in their domestic and international activities. It does this by:

- ▶ strengthening both the National Societies' capacity to take action and provide appropriate services in times of armed conflict and other situations of violence in their own country and the ICRC's action and operational capacity through its interaction and partnership with National Societies
- ▶ 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 other situations of violence
- ▶ 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 according to the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement and its corresponding implementation plan
- ▶ developing activities to prevent the risks of weapon contamination
- ▶ supporting National Societies in relevant legal matters, such as recognizing or reconstituting a National Society, drawing up or amending statutes, and preparing for the Movement's statutory meetings

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 armed conflict and other situations of violence
- ▶ 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 form the ICRC's support takes, it is offered in the spirit of a mutually beneficial partnership. In this regard, the ICRC aims to enhance preparedness and response by optimizing complementarity and strengthening the global Movement network. 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.

In its 2007–2010 Strategy, the ICRC identifies operational partnerships with National Societies in their own countries as a management priority that seeks not only to enhance the ICRC's own ability to partner with National Societies, but also to build the National Societies' capacity to conduct their own operations.

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 ensures that partnerships with National Societies have an added value for the beneficiaries, the ICRC and the National Society.

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 fulfil its mandate for people 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 and effective strategies. 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.

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

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

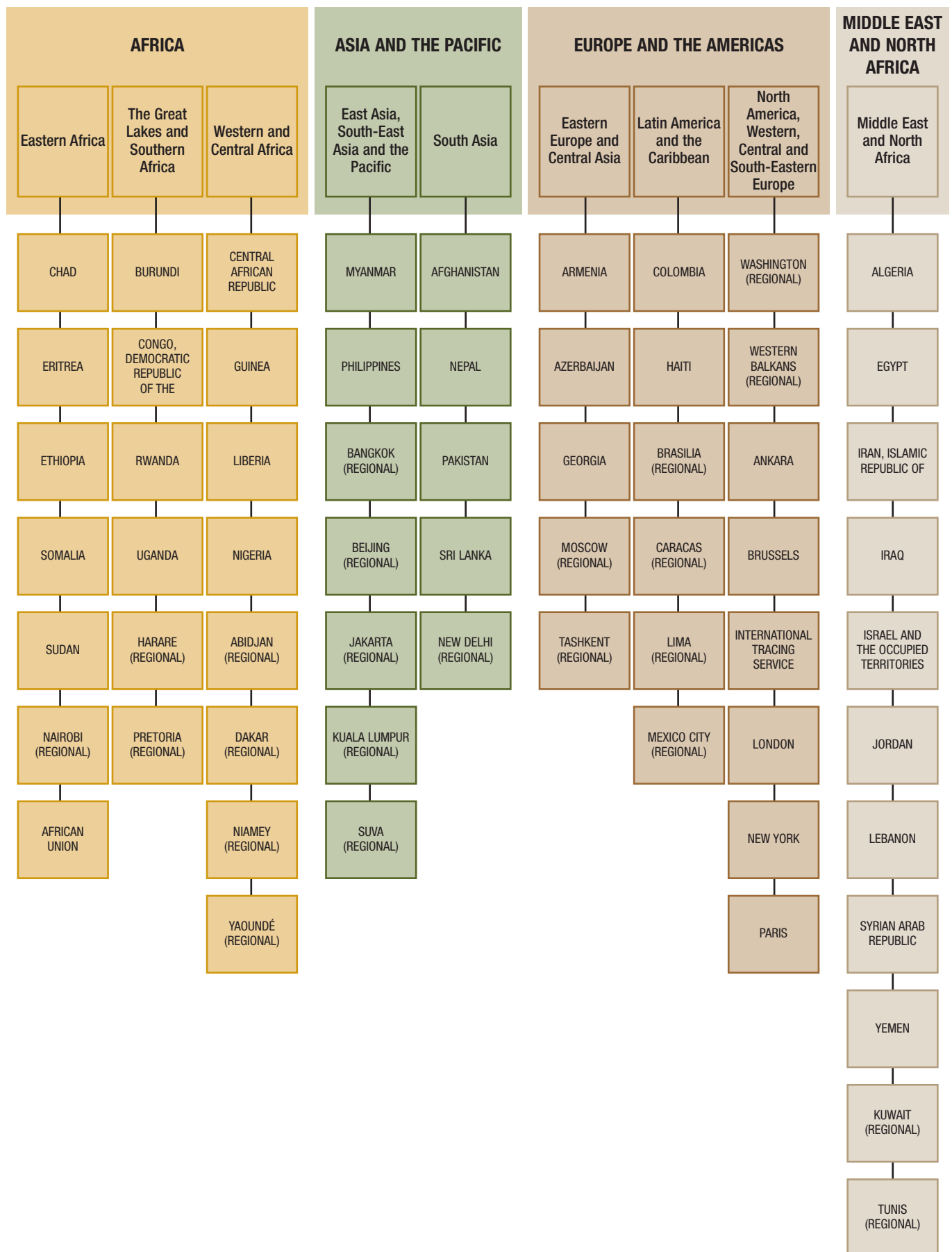
- ▶ **Africa**
- ▶ **Asia and the Pacific**
- ▶ **Europe and the Americas**
- ▶ **Middle East and North Africa**

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 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.

OPERATIONS WORLDWIDE



DELEGATIONS AND MISSIONS IN MORE THAN 80 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

CONTRIBUTIONS

LEVELS OF EARMARKING

“Earmarking” is the practice whereby donors require that their funds be attributed to the ICRC in general, the Headquarters or Emergency Appeals, or within the Emergency Appeal to a particular region, country or programme, 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 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 CHF 10 million annually to the ICRC’s 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 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.

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 ICRC field or headquarters budget	Any ICRC activities ICRC operations worldwide or headquarters activities
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

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, etc.), 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” 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 organizational unit 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 organizational unit dimension corresponds to directorates, departments and units.

b) Headquarters service and field programme dimensions

At headquarters, services (see “Services at headquarters” above) contribute to achievement of the aims outlined in one or more of the ICRC key success factors (see “Strategic management model” above).

In field operations, 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

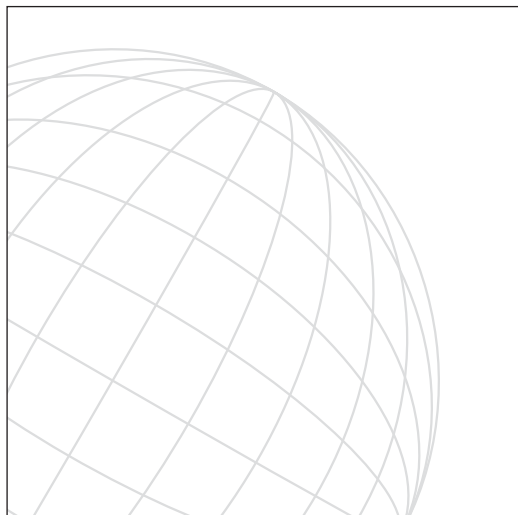
With the introduction of the PfR methodology, it has become necessary to identify target populations as relevant cost units and hence to incorporate them into the project dimension (for the definition of target populations see “Target populations” above).

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 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 to enhance the financial information obtained with operational key indicators.



annex 1

the ICRC's operational approach to result-based management: improving humanitarian action

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MANAGING ICRC OPERATIONS: THE CYCLE AND THE RESULTS

INTRODUCTION

People benefiting from humanitarian action depend on the quality of the service they get from organizations that they cannot really choose for themselves. Those organizations therefore have an ethical responsibility to take into account local capacities, culture and vulnerabilities and to manage resources efficiently and produce results that have a beneficial effect on the population's situation. They also have a responsibility to their donors to ensure that the funds they receive are used optimally.

Result-based management is a structured approach that keeps an organization focused on the desired and expected results for the beneficiaries throughout the management cycle, and not simply on the implementation of activities or budget control. The ICRC employs result-based management chiefly to enhance the effectiveness of its action for victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to increase its accountability, first to the victims concerned, and second to other external stakeholders, in particular donors. Result-based management links activities from one stage to the next, generates structured information at each stage, provides coherent information for management and reporting purposes, and ensures that resources are used to best effect.

In employing the result-based approach, the ICRC works according to the following definitions of the terminology used, adopted on the basis of a common understanding in existing literature:

- ▶ **input:** human, technical, material and financial resources and logistical means that enable a person/organization to do something
- ▶ **activity:** any action or process through which inputs are combined to generate goods and services (outputs)
- ▶ **output:** the products, goods and services that people receive as a result of ICRC activities and that are expected to lead to the achievement of outcomes

- ▶ **outcome:** short- and medium-term
 - **short-term outcome:** the likely, or achieved, short-term effects of the output that are expected to **lead** to the achievement of medium-term outcome
 - **medium-term outcome:** the likely, or achieved, medium-term (1–5 year) effects of the short-term outcome that are expected to **contribute** to the impact
- ▶ **impact:** primary and secondary, long-term effects to which interventions **contribute**, positively or negatively, 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

At the ICRC, result-based management is in part translated into the organization's internal yearly **Planning for Results** (PfR) process, which it defines as a “corporate function that assesses context, target groups, problems/needs, risks, constraints and opportunities and sets priorities to ensure an appropriate level of coordination and alignment of action and resources towards the achievement of expected results”. The PfR process is carried out within the ICRC's three-dimensional framework of *contexts*, *target populations* and *programmes*, which serves the ICRC in both operational and financial management terms:

▶ Context	Target population	Programme
Single country, group of countries, or other context	Civilians	Protection
	People deprived of their freedom	
	Wounded and sick	Assistance
	Authorities	
	Armed forces and other bearers of weapons	Prevention
	Civil society	
	Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	Cooperation

Target populations are further broken down into sub-target populations and programmes into sub-programmes.

The three-dimensional framework and the PfR methodology were introduced into the ICRC's management procedures in 1998 in a process encompassing: the development of electronic tools to support implementation of the methodology; the progressive and ongoing adaptation of all operational guidelines on the various ICRC fields of activity; and continuous training for staff, particularly those in the field. The accounting model was also adapted to include both financial accounting and cost/analytical accounting.

In 2006 the ICRC conducted internal assessments, discussions and consultations with a view to reaffirming its result-based approach to management, which it institutionalized in its strategy for 2007–2010 by including the implementation of result-based management among its priorities. The ICRC Directorate thus seeks to:

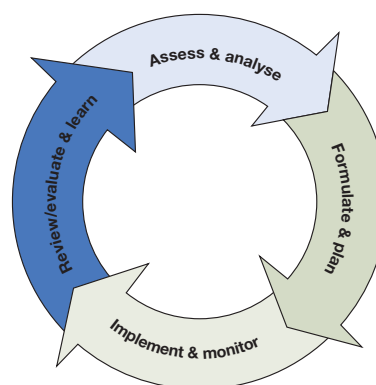
- ▶ develop a management style based on clearly established objectives
- ▶ enhance the skills required for result-based management at all levels
- ▶ define indicators for all levels of established objectives (programmes, field operations, institutional)
- ▶ adapt the existing institutional tools of result-based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

THE ICRC MANAGEMENT CYCLE

The management cycle for ICRC activities aims to maximize the benefits of programmes for the beneficiaries, ensuring that actions are: **relevant** to the needs of the beneficiaries; **feasible** (insofar as objectives can be realistically achieved within the constraints of the working environment and the capabilities of the implementing organization); and, **whenever appropriate**,

sustainable (taking into account longer-term impact and looking for lasting solutions to the needs or problems encountered).

According to the terminology used at the ICRC, the management cycle starts with an **assessment**, which, after **analysis**, may lead to the **formulation/planning, implementation, monitoring, review** and in some cases **evaluation** of a humanitarian operation. The entire cycle and the decisions taken therein are consistent with the ICRC's mandate and its legal and policy framework. The cycle contributes to result-based management by rationalizing the steps leading to a successful outcome for the beneficiaries. It has four components.



The phases of the cycle are progressive: each phase needs to be completed for the next to be tackled with success, with the exception of **monitoring**, which is a **continuous process** during the implementation phase. Decision-making criteria and procedures are defined at each stage, including key information requirements and quality assessment criteria. Monitoring serves to recalibrate the operation to ensure it remains focused on achievement of the desired result, as well as to verify that the desired result is still pertinent. New planning draws on the results of monitoring, review and in some cases evaluation of previous action, programmes and activities as part of a structured process of feedback and institutional learning.

THE STAGES OF THE MANAGEMENT CYCLE AND THEIR DEFINITION

Assessment and analysis

Through **assessments**, the ICRC aims to understand a situation in order to identify the problem(s) facing a target population, their causes and the consequences for the target population. The purpose of an assessment is simply to *identify* any problems, not to work out *whether* and *how* to address them. The assessment stage involves collecting information and data, both independently and during contacts with the target population itself, the authorities at all levels, and any other relevant stakeholders.

The ICRC then conducts a thorough **analysis** of the information gathered during the assessment to determine the current situation. It is necessary to know what the conditions are at the beginning in order to know what needs to be achieved. This is the **baseline**: a set of information that defines the initial situation that must be improved and against which any future improvement will be measured. This is essential for determining objectives.

Formulation and planning

The aim of this phase is to define the desired future situation of the affected populations on the basis of the problems they are currently facing. This is the **objective** (the target), which is used to determine the means of achieving the new status. Once the desired new situation of the target population has been defined, a **plan of action** is formulated (with corresponding budget/human resources), outlining the steps required to move from the baseline situation to the target situation. Tools, including any relevant indicators, for monitoring, reviewing, evaluating and ensuring that the ICRC can learn from the process are decided on at this stage.

Implementation and monitoring

During this phase, the ICRC carries out the various activities identified during the formulation/planning stage as being required to achieve the desired results for the target population.

Once implementation of the plan of action begins, so does monitoring, using the tools defined at the formulation/planning stage. Monitoring is a continuous and systematic process of self-assessment throughout the life of the operation, which involves collecting, measuring, recording and analysing information on all the planned activities and the results being achieved for the target population. It also includes continuous monitoring and analysis of the situation of the target population and of the general context in which the operation is taking place. It aids management, with the ultimate goal of ensuring the effective delivery of a relevant and good-quality service.

Review, evaluation and learning

Reviews are periodic or ad hoc internal examinations of performance that take place at various levels: from the context as a whole, which happens at least once a year (see below), down to the sub-target population (e.g. physically disabled people, under *Wounded and sick*) and sub-programme (e.g. economic security, under *Assistance*), and even in a limited geographical area within the context.

Reviews take the form of qualitative and quantitative, narrative and figure-based reports which are prepared by: teams in the field (usually), professionals from ICRC headquarters (often), mixed teams involving internal and external specialists (more rarely), or external specialists mandated by the ICRC (also more rarely).

Information on the interim situation (the results so far) is compared with information on the intended results (the objective) and on the initial situation (the baseline) to identify any significant deviations from the plan. In this way, the ICRC is able to identify problems and take corrective action. Either it will modify the way in which it seeks to achieve its objective, **or** it will modify the objective itself if it finds that the baseline situation or the needs have changed. As such, **the stages of the management cycle are replicated at various operational levels, multiple times, within the overall yearly cycle for a given context.**

An **evaluation** is defined by the ICRC as an independent, objective and systematic examination of the design, implementation and results of an initiative, programme, operation or policy against recognized criteria. It is intended to articulate findings, draw conclusions and make recommendations in order that the ICRC may draw lessons, improve overall policy and practice, and enhance accountability. Evaluations commissioned by the ICRC are internal, while those commissioned by stakeholders outside the institution are external; those taken on by the ICRC together with outside stakeholders are joint evaluations. Internal and joint evaluations first aim to influence ICRC action over the long term, on the basis of their findings. Given the magnitude of the undertaking, only a few evaluations are carried out each year.

The ICRC's Institutional Performance Management Unit in the Office of the Director-General has overall responsibility for managing internal and joint evaluations. This includes writing the terms of reference, recruiting the independent evaluators, organizing visits and interviews, reading and commenting on draft reports, organizing round-table meetings with the evaluators and the main internal stakeholders to present and discuss the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation, and overseeing preparation of the final report. The Unit cooperates closely with the main internal stakeholders throughout the process. A steering committee comprising all those involved is established for all internal evaluations. The main stakeholders must prepare an approach paper, help establish the terms of reference and select the evaluators, provide relevant information (written and oral) to the evaluators, help organize field missions and read and comment in writing on the draft evaluation reports. Once the evaluation report has been distributed, key stakeholders are asked to provide feedback on the conclusions and recommendations and to prepare an action plan for follow-up.

The evaluation and learning process leads to lessons learnt both for the delegation and for the ICRC as a whole.

THE YEARLY INTERNAL PLANNING PROCESS

The PfR document marks the beginning of the yearly management cycle for each context.

PfR DOCUMENTS

Drawn up by specialists and managers in the field with the help of staff at headquarters, the PfR documents (one per context) are structured according to the ICRC's framework of target populations/sub-target populations and programmes/sub-programmes (see *Introduction* above). They are structured according to the management cycle described above: they provide an **assessment** and **analysis** of the situation, including a summary of the

progress so far in terms of **implementation** of actions and **results** against the objectives defined for the previous yearly cycle, and the new **plan** for the year to come.

Assessment and analysis

The PfR documents present the information collected during a thorough assessment of all aspects of the situation, including the results of operations, conducted first hand by the ICRC's delegations, sub-delegations, missions and offices in the field. They compile information on the:

- ▶ **general context**
- ▶ **armed conflict or other situation of violence**
- ▶ **humanitarian situation**
- ▶ **security situation**
- ▶ **other actors present**

Using the information collected during the assessment stage, ICRC specialists in the field and at headquarters conduct a thorough analysis of the situation to identify the problems faced by the target populations, their causes and their magnitude (**problem analysis**).

Formulation and planning

On the basis of its mandate, its legal and policy framework and consultations with the potential beneficiaries, the ICRC then determines a desired future situation for the target population. It makes these kinds of decisions on the basis of a number of factors, including: the most pressing needs; its own mandate and capacities; international humanitarian law and other internationally

recognized standards; resolutions of the Movement's statutory bodies; a thorough knowledge of the context in question (e.g. customs and cultural sensitivities; national standards, laws and capacities); and the mandate, objectives and activities of other organizations, in particular its partners within the Movement (the National Societies and the International Federation). It sets objectives to be achieved in the medium or long term and determines the incremental steps to be taken in the short term (within the year) towards achieving those objectives. Possible and actual constraints on and limitations to the operation, identified during the assessment and analysis of the context, are also taken into account to ensure that the incremental steps are realistic.

This process is undertaken by target population and sub-target population, and by programme and sub-programme. The following elements are defined:

- ▶ **the desired humanitarian impact** (the desired future situation)
- ▶ **general objectives** (medium- or long-term objectives, usually covering a 5-year period)
- ▶ **specific objectives** (that aim to be achieved within the year)
- ▶ **specific operational strategies** (strategies for achieving the specific objectives, enhanced at field level by operational action plans)

The levels of intended result set out in the PfR documents correspond to various result levels defined under result-based management (see *Introduction* above).

▶ Planning for Results	Corresponding intended result level
Desired humanitarian impact	Impact
General objective	Contribution to impact and/or medium-term outcome
Specific objectives/specific operational strategies	Output and short-term outcome

The ways of measuring progress towards achievement of the various levels of results are also defined at this stage. These are many and various – some are standard and used by all delegations conducting similar activities; others are specific to an individual action (see *Follow-up to the PfR documents* below).

Budget

The required financial, human and material resources are defined by programme for each target population.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE PfR DOCUMENTS

Implementation

Once the content of the PfR documents has been debated and agreed on by field and headquarters and approved by the ICRC Assembly, implementation begins. Monitoring (see below) is an integral part of implementation.

Monitoring, review and audit

Various internal tools are employed to check on the implementation of ICRC activities and on the progress made towards achieving specific objectives (and therefore the general objectives and the new desired state for the target population). This ongoing process includes qualitative, quantitative and/or participative approaches,

with a combination of all three being required in most cases. All tools are shaped by the PfR process, its structure (target populations and programmes) and content (objectives and budget). These tools are complementary, often interlinked, and essential for ensuring the effectiveness of the ICRC's action. They also provide the input for ICRC reporting to donors.

The tools include: constant data collection and observation in the field; weekly, bi-monthly or monthly operational reports prepared by each delegation/for each context; monthly reports providing standard assistance and protection indicators; quarterly programme-specific reports; ad hoc context-based or thematic reviews; and internal and external audits.

Evaluation

Given the limited number of ICRC evaluations (see above), only occasionally will an evaluation feed into the yearly cycle of an individual context. Evaluations nevertheless remain an integral part of the ICRC's overall management cycle and inform its operations as a whole.

Continuation of the cycle

If, during the monitoring process, a *significant* change in the situation is noted during the year, the ICRC might need to undertake a major revision of its yearly PfR documents for that

context. Thus, the management cycle will begin again on the basis of the new information collected and the new analysis undertaken, with the setting of revised or even completely new objectives, and the drawing up, implementation and monitoring of corresponding plans of action. If the needs are much greater and the action is expanded, this may necessitate an extension to the initial annual budget, which is drawn up in the same way as the yearly PfR documents. The reverse may also be true, with a reduction of needs, and thus of the corresponding operation, leading to a reduction of the initial annual budget.

Input for the next cycle

Whether or not this is required during the year, the yearly PfR documents contain a summary of all that has been ascertained during the monitoring and reviews undertaken during the previous cycle (the previous year). This ensures that the experience of the previous year and the lessons learnt are taken into account when the current situation is assessed and analysed and objectives for the new cycle are set. The summary includes information on:

- ▶ **annual appraisal:** the global results achieved or not achieved as compared to the previous year's orientations, priorities and strategies
- ▶ **innovations, creativity, lessons:** new developments that might be useful in other contexts or in future operations

Furthermore, given that general objectives are set for five years or more (if they are aimed at more systemic change), for each general objective, a section in the PfR documents named **current state of implementation** provides a summary of the progress made to date towards achieving the objective (progress made during previous cycles). This feeds into the present project cycle to ensure that the plans for the year ahead remain result-focused.

RESULTS AND INDICATORS

As mentioned above, during the yearly planning process the ICRC decides on ways of measuring progress in implementation of activities and in achieving the intended results, at output, outcome and contribution-to-impact level, through its specific objectives, operational strategies and operational planning.

Indicators are variables that express real and verifiable changes, in addition to progress made towards the achievement of objectives. Indicators are established for the purpose of enhancing implementation and effectiveness to ensure the best possible outcome for the beneficiaries.

Different kinds of indicators may be required for different activities under different programmes, or indeed for the same kind of activity/programme in different contexts. In different contexts, the baselines will be different, meaning that the appropriate desired future situation of the target population must be culturally and contextually adapted (appropriate technology, quantities/type of aid, etc.).

Result-based management is implemented through all ICRC programmes, however not in a standard way across programmes. Nevertheless, all programmes work on the basis of what the ICRC calls "**generic indicators**" to measure and express their results, based on the ICRC mission and ICRC policies.

These generic indicators express **a general state that comprises a number of specific characteristics, which may be the object of specific indicators**. For example, the availability of water (the generic indicator) is made up of more specific elements such as the quantity of water, its quality, the reliability of the source, and the distance of the source from the beneficiary. The generic indicators are therefore refined into many specific indicators according to the situation, the objectives and intended results in a given context (see *Result-based management in ICRC programmes* below).

The narrative reports prepared as part of the follow-up to PfR documents in principle compare the intermediate situation of the beneficiaries with the baseline situation and the desired new situation. As such, these internal progress reports make use of the generic indicators as well as qualitative specific indicators to reflect whether the change desired in the *specific objective* has been achieved.

To support its narrative reporting, the ICRC uses figure-based indicators. It has, for example, a set of standard indicators for activities carried out under its *Assistance* and *Protection* programmes for the target populations *Civilians*, *People deprived of their freedom* and *Wounded and sick*. They refer to output and to short-term outcome.

PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO RESULT-BASED MANAGEMENT

The ICRC believes that the first objective of result-based management should be to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of its action for victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence, and to increase its accountability, first to the victims, and second to other external stakeholders, in particular donors. Within the ICRC, therefore, the result-based management approach and the management cycle are followed as rigorously as is possible and necessary to bring positive change to the situation of the beneficiaries.

There are many potential barriers to effective management of the cycle, many of them specific to the conflict situations in which the ICRC works.

- ▶ Sometimes, assessment capacity may be affected by restrictions on access owing to the armed conflict or other situation of violence; at other times the ICRC's ability to monitor and review an operation once implementation has begun may be limited, or even no longer useful owing to a radical change in the situation.
- ▶ Security is not the only factor: other access problems, such as weather conditions (e.g. monsoon rains or heavy snows) or damage to infrastructure (e.g. destruction of roads or bridges), may also hinder management of the cycle.
- ▶ Specific circumstances will suggest the need for an urgent response to needs. The time factor often being of crucial importance, assessments will be kept to a minimum to ensure that the operation can get under way and benefit the target population as soon as possible. Similar constraints can also limit monitoring and review processes.

- The ICRC's ability to collect the information required for effective management of the cycle is frequently hampered by factors such as the non-availability or limited quality of data. Lack of information on, for example, the population, the socio-economic situation, epidemiological matters and the administrative and professional capacities of other institutions and bodies, together with the complexity and/or opacity of existing institutions, bodies and power structures, means that the ICRC may have to work with partial, unreliable and/or controversial information.

It is worth recalling that indicators, particularly numerical ones, need to be interpreted carefully. Some figures are meaningful only in themselves and only within an annual cycle (i.e. are not comparable from one year to the next because they are too sensitive to external variables).

Moreover, in many cases the ICRC works with indicators that are key to its decision-making process but cannot be shared without compromising its mandate as a neutral, independent and impartial humanitarian organization.

Given that result-based management aims to streamline the relevance and effectiveness of action for conflict-affected victims and permit best use of resources, the ICRC seeks to collect the required information through existing systems and data sources (in certain cases with the provision of some support), rather than establishing new ones, and pragmatic sampling. The ICRC has made it a policy not to set up measurement systems, which could enhance monitoring as such, but which are not directly required for monitoring the expected results of action for the beneficiaries. In any case, it strives to avoid an overly cumbersome, bureaucratic system, set up solely for the purpose of monitoring, preferring to find simpler solutions, even if this limits the amount of information that can be gathered, and therefore reported. Useful but unwieldy solutions based on the measurement of factors such as *knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices* to evaluate changes are used sparingly.

Finally, staff turnover levels within the ICRC mean that training and supervision are constantly required to ensure continuity and the transfer of the necessary skills and knowledge. In order for progress to be achieved, requirements should remain as simple as possible, and not be changed regularly or added on an annual basis.

RESULT-BASED MANAGEMENT IN ICRC PROGRAMMES

INTRODUCTION

The ICRC endeavours to respond to humanitarian needs arising from today's complex armed conflicts and other situations of violence in the most timely, humane and professional way possible. As described in *ICRC management framework and programme descriptions*, implementation of the ICRC mission is characterized by the strategic use of various **modes of action at different levels of intervention**. The ICRC combines four approaches with a view, directly or indirectly, in the short, medium or long term, to ensuring respect for the lives, dignity, and physical and mental well-being of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence. Its action seeks to prevent (**prevention**), eradicate the cause of (**protection**) and

alleviate (**assistance**) human suffering in armed conflict or other situations of violence and to strengthen the Movement (as a network) (**cooperation**).

This involves the delivery of various **services** by headquarters and field operations focusing on different **target populations** associated with a diverse range of activities requiring varied skills and expertise (**programmes**).

Professionals in each programme work according to the ICRC management cycle and within a given framework, which includes ethical and legal aspects, policies, guidelines and working tools. Generic indicators (see above) are part of these and provide the basis for defining specific indicators measuring and expressing results for concrete objectives in a given context. The sections below provide information on the management of each ICRC approach, related programmes and existing generic indicators (in bold) with examples of associated topics (listed in brackets) on which specific indicators might be defined/used.

ASSISTANCE

The Assistance Division has allocated two staff members for two years to further developing and implementing result-based management. This has resulted in a three-part training course and related handbook being developed on "assessment", "design and planning" and "measuring results" and the training of 15 trainers. The training course, which initially targeted economic security staff, is currently being adapted and extended to health and water and habitat staff.

Two software packages, for the management of economic security and water and habitat sub-programmes respectively, have been developed and are linked to the ICRC's logistics software. The first will be put into operation worldwide in 2010 and the second has been operational since 2008. The health data needed to manage health activities is currently being standardized; the standard tool for the management of primary health care activities will be put into operation worldwide in 2010. A general assistance information software package is also being developed for improving result-based information management.

After being piloted in the field, an additional tool is to be made available worldwide in 2010; it enhances the yearly PfR documents and should help field personnel in charge of assistance programmes define specific indicators (within the generic indicators) related to each objective, with their description, baseline, target and means of verification.

Generic indicators based on the Assistance Policy (dated April 2004) exist for all three assistance sub-programmes: *economic security*, *health* (including *physical rehabilitation*) and *water and habitat*. These generic indicators are provided below with examples of associated topics on which specific indicators might be defined/used for concrete objectives in a given context.

As far as sustainability is concerned, the ICRC takes into account the longer-term impact of its activities (the "do no harm" approach) and, whenever appropriate, endeavours to find lasting solutions to the needs of the affected population. This proviso is introduced because of the life-saving character of some of its activities conducted on an emergency basis, the sustainability of which is not guaranteed. Sustainability is therefore a generic

indicator for activities in the area of physical rehabilitation, but it also applies to economic security income-generating activities, the rehabilitation of water infrastructure or the rehabilitation/construction of health facilities.

In addition, as mentioned above, standard quantitative indicators are available worldwide for all three assistance sub-programmes.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

The economic security sub-programme covers three areas of activity: *relief aid, livelihood support and structural support*.

Relief aid – to save lives and protect livelihoods

- ▶ **access to food** (e.g. adequacy and stability of access, availability of food, economic activities, household assets, market, food aid, cultural standards, nutritional status)
- ▶ **access to essential household items** (e.g. availability of essential household items, household assets and economic activities, material aid, climate, shelter conditions, clothing, living conditions, hygiene, water storage, cooking capacity)
- ▶ **access to means of production** (e.g. seed, tools, availability of land, land tenure, job market, land cultivated, yield)

Livelihood support – to spur food production and/or generate income

- ▶ **food production capacity** (e.g. availability of land, access to means of production such as land, seed, tools or animals, seasons, harvest, animal health, livestock management, training, market, consumption of own product)
- ▶ **income generation capacity** (e.g. job market, production, trade and revenue, remuneration, expenses, assets)

Structural support – to improve processes and institutions that have a direct influence on a target population's lives and livelihoods

- ▶ **processes and institutional capacity** (e.g. existence of services, type of service, quality of services, appropriateness of services, deployment capacity, political will, security)

HEALTH

The health sub-programme covers five areas of activity: *first aid, war surgery, health care delivery in conflict situations, physical rehabilitation and health in detention*.

- ▶ **availability of service** (e.g. type of service, such as surgery, vaccinations, antenatal care, gynaecology and obstetrics; infrastructure and technology; medical/surgical and patient equipment; drugs and consumables; presence of staff and professional knowledge)
- ▶ **access to service** (e.g. physical access, proximity/security, opening hours, free/paid, universal/discriminatory, patient attendance, catchment population)
- ▶ **quality of service** (e.g. existence of and respect for protocols and guidelines; waiting time; staff on duty; quality of supply of drugs and consumables; mortality rate/case fatality rate; referrals; reception; hygiene standards)

For activities in the area of **physical rehabilitation**, an additional generic indicator is used as a basis for measuring and expressing results, at least for certain centres and/or from a certain date: **sustainability** (e.g. local policies, local resources, local public and private structures, training capacities and curriculum).

WATER AND HABITAT

The water and habitat sub-programme covers five areas of activity: *safe drinking water supply, sanitation and environmental health, temporary human settlements, energy supply and building rehabilitation and construction*.

Safe drinking water supply

- ▶ **access** (e.g. proximity, security, quality of source, fetching time)
- ▶ **quantity** (e.g. availability per day, seasonal influence, needs per day)
- ▶ **quality** (e.g. storage, hygiene, water point maintenance)

Sanitation and environmental health

- ▶ **hygiene and sanitation facility availability** (e.g. quantity, proximity, access day and night, maintenance, cultural standards, hygiene practices, environmental impact, environmental conditions)
- ▶ **waste management** (e.g. proximity, removal service, clean areas, hygiene practices, maintenance)
- ▶ **vector-borne disease control** (e.g. hygiene practices, safe vector control practices, malaria control practices, stagnant water and refuse)

Temporary human settlements

- ▶ **availability** (e.g. timeliness, quantity, space, water and sanitation, kitchen)
- ▶ **quality** (e.g. security, space, cultural standards, organization and management, heating/cooling, environmental impact, environmental conditions)

Energy supply

- ▶ **quantity** (e.g. cooking fuel, water production, waste water treatment, heating)
- ▶ **quality** (e.g. usage, cultural standards, environmental impact)
- ▶ **efficiency** (e.g. fuel, equipment, availability, maintenance)

Building rehabilitation and construction

- ▶ **adequate working/living infrastructure** (e.g. rooms, sanitation, kitchen)
- ▶ **adequacy of the installations** (e.g. living space, working space, equipment and services)
- ▶ **functional installations** (e.g. organization and distribution of space, water, power, management)

COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures provide a framework for effective cooperation and partnership between the Movement's members, thereby enhancing field-level coordination among them. The ICRC's Cooperation Policy (dated May 2003) enhances this framework with regard to the organization's approach to National Societies working in their own countries and its operational cooperation with them. The aim is to support National Society efforts to strengthen their institutional capacity

and improve their delivery of quality service, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the Movement as a whole (and in particular that of the ICRC) and reinforcing this unique network.

Generic indicators are used as a basis for defining specific indicators measuring and expressing results in the field of cooperation. These generic indicators are listed below with examples of associated topics on which specific indicators might be defined/used for concrete objectives in a given context.

- ▶ **National Society capacity** (e.g. legal base, respect for the Fundamental Principles, use of emblems, structure and organization, services, Safer Access approach, human resources and training, equipment and maintenance, financial resources)
- ▶ **capacity to work together** (e.g. relationship, staff and structure, training and competencies, resources, Movement coordination mechanisms)
- ▶ **sustainability of cooperation** (e.g. ownership, strategic/development plans, training capacity, structure and organization, resources, networking)

For the people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, operational cooperation between National Societies working in their own countries and the ICRC is managed via the ICRC sub-programme concerned, e.g. economic security, health, water and habitat and restoring family links. In such situations, the first goal of the partnership between the National Society and the ICRC is to fulfil objectives to serve the people affected: generic indicators for these programmes are listed above under *Assistance* and below under *Prevention* and *Protection*.

PREVENTION

The Prevention Policy (dated September 2008) sets out the ICRC prevention framework, definitions of the main terms, and key principles and operational guidelines for implementing activities as part of ICRC medium- to long-term efforts to prevent human suffering. Prevention activities aim to foster an environment conducive to respect for the life and dignity of people affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence and respect for the ICRC's work at global, regional and local level.

The policy focuses on developing and implementing contextually adapted strategies to gain the support of influential players, and covers efforts to communicate, develop, clarify and promote IHL and other relevant bodies of law, as well as to facilitate acceptance of the ICRC and access to affected people. The medium- to long-term nature of prevention and its focus on influencing multiple environmental factors pose significant challenges in terms of accountability. The ICRC needs to carefully determine the objectives it can realistically achieve in respect of each target group.

The ICRC prevention approach includes three different sets of activities corresponding to different goals: *prevention-dissemination* aims to foster understanding and acceptance of the ICRC's work and/or IHL and other relevant bodies of law; *prevention-implementation* focuses on developing and strengthening the conditions allowing respect for IHL and other relevant bodies of law, usually by incorporating the law into appropriate structures; and *prevention-development* focuses on the development of IHL.

Only prevention-dissemination and prevention-implementation sub-programmes are carried out in field operations and are therefore considered below. They focus on players that have a significant capacity to influence the structures or systems associated with identified humanitarian problems. Their main target groups are therefore key decision-makers, such as authorities, armed forces, police forces and other weapon bearers, influential civil society protagonists, young people and academic circles and the media. For each, generic indicators are used as a basis for defining specific indicators measuring and expressing results. They are listed below with examples of associated topics on which specific indicators might be defined/used for concrete objectives in a given context.

Prevention-dissemination

- ▶ **knowledge of the context** (e.g. stakeholder mapping, access to conflict-affected areas and people, needs, legal framework)
- ▶ **acceptance** (e.g. number and frequency of contacts, ICRC access to conflict-affected areas/people)
- ▶ **ownership** (e.g. quality of dialogue; content and scope of issues discussed; type of follow-up undertaken by stakeholders; development of concrete initiatives such as information or training sessions, pamphlets and press releases; number and level of participants in ICRC-sponsored events)
- ▶ **sustainability** (e.g. follow-up of the information provided; designation of liaison officers by stakeholders; existence of a process for notification of movement; ICRC access to conflict-affected areas/people; stakeholder support for the ICRC)

Prevention-implementation

- ▶ **knowledge of the context** (e.g. stakeholder mapping, access to conflict-affected areas and people, needs, legal framework)
- ▶ **acceptance** (e.g. number and frequency of contacts; quality of dialogue; sharing of existing policies, laws, codes, rules, operating procedures, and training curricula by stakeholders)
- ▶ **ownership** (e.g. content and scope of issues discussed; type of follow-up undertaken by stakeholders; development of cooperation agreements; dedication of resources by stakeholders; assumption of leading role by stakeholders)
- ▶ **sustainability** (e.g. signature and ratification of treaties; existence of means and mechanisms for respect for the law, such as (updated) national implementation laws, codes, rules and operating procedures, including sanctions; education and training policies and training institutions; development of training curricula, existence of training materials for trainers and trainees; designation of trainers; participation in training sessions)

In addition, for many years now, work with armed forces and other weapon bearers has been managed in many contexts with a score card template, which is adapted locally. Similar tools are being developed for work with universities and schools and progressively implemented in the field. Delegates in charge of prevention programmes are also being trained to more systematically monitor and review their activities.

PROTECTION

The Protection Policy (dated April 2008) sets out the ICRC protection framework, definitions of the main terms, and key principles and operational directives for implementing activities related to the protection of people not or no longer participating in armed conflicts or other situations of violence, people deprived of their freedom and restoring family links. This guidance document describes the tools and approaches available and underlines the general action management cycle. Thus, it confirms long-existing generic indicators guiding ICRC protection activities.

The protection approach covers three sub-programmes: *protection of the civilian population*, *restoring family links* and *protection of people deprived of their freedom*. Standard quantitative indicators are available worldwide for the *restoring family links* and the *protection of people deprived of their freedom* sub-programmes.

For each of the three sub-programmes, generic indicators are used as a basis for defining specific indicators measuring and expressing results. They are listed below with examples of associated topics on which specific indicators might be defined/used for concrete objectives in a given context.

Protection of the civilian population

- ▶ **knowledge of the context** (e.g. stakeholder mapping, other humanitarian actors, access to conflict-affected areas and people, needs, legal framework, information management)
- ▶ **dialogue with stakeholders** (e.g. civilians, weapon bearers, number and frequency of contacts, quality of dialogue, content and scope of issues discussed, type of follow-up undertaken by stakeholders)
- ▶ **protection of the affected people** (e.g. identification, needs and vulnerabilities, priorities, responses)

Restoring family links

- ▶ **prevention of disappearances** (e.g. legal framework, stakeholder mapping, contacts, Red Cross/Red Crescent family links services, human remains management)
- ▶ **exchange of family news** (e.g. legal framework, cultural standards, needs, means, quantity, processing time)
- ▶ **family reunification** (e.g. legal framework, cultural standards, needs, criteria, number, quality and frequency of contacts, authorization process, quantity, processing time, availability and quality of services)
- ▶ **clarification of the fate and support to families of missing people** (e.g. notification of arrest/capture and detention; human remains management; tracing; mechanism to deal with a missing person case; legal protection of the missing and their families; availability and quality of social services; cultural standards)

Protection of people deprived of their freedom

- ▶ **knowledge of the context** (e.g. legal detention framework, stakeholder mapping, detaining authorities, places of detention, needs, information management)
- ▶ **access to detainees** (e.g. ICRC standard working procedures, detainees' status and categories, detention phases, places of detention, individual monitoring)
- ▶ **living conditions** (e.g. infrastructure and facilities, living space, food, water, hygiene and sanitation, health, indoor and outdoor activities, family contacts)

- ▶ **treatment** (e.g. interrogation methods, discipline, punishment, sanctions, judicial guarantees)
- ▶ **dialogue with stakeholders, in particular the detaining authorities** (e.g. access, contacts, frequency, issues discussed, follow-up)

RESULT-BASED MANAGEMENT AND STANDARD REPORTING TO DONORS

The ICRC management cycle and the PfR documents form the basis for the ICRC's standard reporting for donors. Such reporting therefore reflects the organization's result-based management approach employed during all stages of assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

CYCLICAL STANDARD REPORTING DOCUMENTS

Three standard reporting documents are produced every year. They are consistent with the ICRC management cycle and its yearly internal planning process (see above):

- ▶ **ICRC Appeals:** they cover the *assessment/analysis* and *formulation/planning* stages of the ICRC management cycle (see above) and are based on the content of the PfR documents for the year concerned
- ▶ **ICRC Midterm (covering the five first months of each year) and Annual Reports:** they cover the *implementation/monitoring* and *evaluation/learning* stages of the ICRC management cycle (see above) and are compiled using the information generated by the various tools employed during the internal project cycle and the summary of progress in the PfR documents for the next year

The structure of all three documents is consistent with that of the PfR documents. All three documents are structured in a logical sequence: the Midterm and Annual Reports follow the content of the Appeal. The length of each document for one context does not exceed 3,200 words/4 to 5 pages.

ICRC Appeals

Like the PfR documents, the *Emergency Appeals* are structured by context, target population, and programme. Under each of the seven target populations, there are descriptions of the **current situation of** (or set of problems faced by) **the target population or sub-target population** in question. They summarize the in-depth *assessment* and *problem analysis* contained in the PfR documents and set out the *baseline*.

Following this presentation of the current situation, the desired future situation of the target population (as outlined in the PfR's *desired humanitarian impact* and *general objectives*) is described as an **objective** (a longer-term goal to which the ICRC may be able only to contribute). The *specific objectives* and *specific operational strategies* in the PfR documents translate into the **plan of action and indicators** following each objective in the Emergency Appeals. These show the incremental steps to be taken to achieve the objective and should be achievable within the year under consideration, security and other factors permitting. As such, they are *output*, *short-term outcome* and, occasionally, *medium-term outcome* indicators.

Planning for Results documents (internal) and Emergency Appeals (external)

The sections of the two documents correspond as follows:

► Planning for Results documents (internal)		Emergency Appeals (external)
General context		
Armed conflict or other situation of violence		
Humanitarian situation	become	Context/Humanitarian response
Security situation		
Other actors present		
Problem/situation faced by each target population	becomes	Statement of problem/current situation (preceding each objective)
Desired humanitarian impact/general objective	becomes	Objective
Specific objectives/specific operational strategies	becomes	Plan of action and indicators

Accordingly, the Emergency Appeals, reflecting the PfR documents, also reflect the various levels of intended results:

► Planning for Results (internal)	Emergency Appeals (external)	Corresponding intended result level
Desired humanitarian impact		Impact
General objective	Objective (the ideal situation/medium to long term)	Medium-term outcome and/or contribution to impact
Specific objectives/ specific operational strategies	Plan of action and indicators	Output and short-term outcome

If, during the monitoring process, a *significant* change is observed in the situation and the ICRC deems it necessary to set revised or even completely new objectives and draw up correspondingly new plans of action, it may communicate these revisions to donors in the form of an *Update* (see below), a *Budget Extension Appeal* or, more rarely, a *Budget Reduction* document. All these documents follow the standard structure of the Appeals as they reflect the same internal planning process.

Midterm and Annual Reports

The *Midterm* and *Annual Reports* provide qualitative (narrative descriptions) and quantitative (figures) reporting on the actual results achieved compared with the baseline information and the intended results.

The *baseline* situation of the target population as set out in the *Emergency Appeals* is directly or indirectly recalled in the *Midterm* and *Annual Reports* to reflect the scene prior to the ICRC's intervention and to act as a benchmark against which the results achieved within the reporting period can be measured. Then, progress towards achieving the new situation for the target population contained in the **objective** is reported on, by describing the **results** achieved through the **plan of action and indicators** – at output, outcome and contribution-to-impact level. Such information is obtained via rigorous internal *monitoring* and *reviews* at the *implementation* stage, using the various tools enumerated above.

For each operational context, the *Midterm* and *Annual Reports* contain quantitative standard assistance and protection indicators, with the narrative texts providing, where available, a more

detailed breakdown of the indicators that appear in the tables at the beginning of each chapter. This might include, for example, specific information about ICRC-visited detainees held by the government and those held by armed groups, the different groups of people benefiting from food aid, or the number of RCMs distributed to civilians and the number delivered to detainees. In addition, the quantitative indicators used in ICRC reporting are numbers that the ICRC considers meaningful and knows to be realistic and verifiable. The ICRC refrains from providing information and data that it considers to be inaccurate, exaggerated, only intermittently available or subject to controversy.

The *Annual Report* also provides detailed financial reporting, including the yearly consolidated financial statements certified by external auditors. The consolidated financial statements are prepared in compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the interpretations issued by the IASB Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC); they are presented in accordance with the ICRC's Statutes and Swiss law.

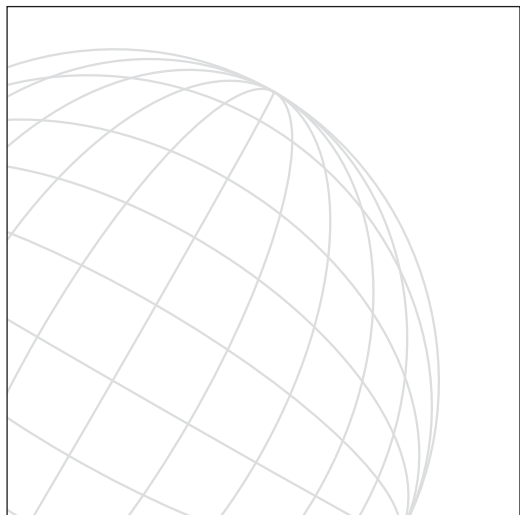
OTHER STANDARD REPORTING DOCUMENTS

In addition to the cyclical standard reporting documents outlined above, the ICRC provides various documents to donors or selected groups of donors such as the government Donor Support Group, which comprises representatives of governments and inter-governmental organizations providing a minimum of CHF 10 million in cash each year to the *Emergency Appeals*.

These documents include:

- ▶ regular financial updates
- ▶ updates related to a given context, sometimes to a specific programme, describing changes in the situation (since the last Appeal) and reporting on the ICRC operation with interim results and/or changes in orientation, the plan of action and indicators (5 to 12 pages)
- ▶ updates providing an *internal* reporting document – assessment, monitoring or review report – about a specific (part of) programme implemented in a given context; such reports (20 to 40 pages) illustrate in detail the ICRC's working methods and approach, in particular its result-based approach; they provide an in-depth picture of one (or part of a) programme briefly summarized in a *Midterm* or *Annual Report*, and are meant to supplement the *Midterm* or *Annual Reports*
- ▶ updates presenting specific programmes (approaches and results) with examples taken across various ICRC operations worldwide (8 to 12 pages)
- ▶ updates with the executive summaries of *internal* and *joint evaluations*
- ▶ updates presenting new or revised ICRC policy documents
- ▶ the external financial audit reports for all ICRC field operations

Finally, public documents regularly posted on the ICRC website, particularly those reporting on ICRC operations, provide donors with useful day-to-day information as a complement to the aforementioned documents.



annex 2

the ICRC's operational approach to women and girls

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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 dependents, 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 experiences, 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 other situations of 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 what 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. The ICRC then 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 conflict 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 a *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.

WOMEN AND GIRLS IN ICRC PROGRAMMES, BY TARGET POPULATION

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 (see *Authorities, armed forces and other bearers of weapons, civil society*).

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 the respect of 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 culturally adapted sanitary materials, baby powder or washable cotton and plastic nappies.

Economic security – livelihood support

- ▶ In addition to providing relief, the ICRC also aims to help destitute or very poor families, very often 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, livestock replenishment and vaccination, cash-for-work projects to rehabilitate community infrastructure, grants or material inputs (e.g. sewing machines, donkey carts, flour mills, oil presses, brick-making machines, irrigation pumps), to give but a few examples, directly improve the standard of living of many women and their children by helping women continue or jump-start an income-generating activity.
- ▶ 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. Mobile clinics give women and children who are unable to reach permanent structures access to essential health and medical care and the opportunity to be referred to a second level of care.
- ▶ In many contexts where there are not enough skilled birth attendants to cover the population's needs, the ICRC trains traditional birth attendants/midwives in ante and post-natal care, in the identification of at-risk mothers, in skilled attendance for home delivery and in the management of complications. The birth attendants/midwives also play a decisive role in health education (basic care and breastfeeding and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS). In some contexts they also receive instruction in how to identify victims of sexual violence and refer them promptly to appropriate medical services.

- ▶ In contexts where sexual violence is a major problem, the ICRC provides post-rape kits to ICRC-supported hospitals and health centres and runs training courses enabling health staff working in those facilities to treat victims effectively.
- ▶ Local volunteers offering support for victims of sexual violence at community level are trained in counselling techniques, so that they can offer reassuring support to the victims and help them search for solutions. They are also taught mediation skills, enabling them 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 spread of 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 activities to help malnourished children and their mothers.
- ▶ 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) encompasses, 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 through which detainees obtain food and essential items. Family visits can also help ensure respect from other detainees, as women who receive no visits may become more vulnerable to prostitution or sexual exploitation and abuse.

Prevention

Mines/explosive remnants of war

- ▶ To help prevent injuries caused by mines and explosive remnants of war, the ICRC marks contaminated areas and conducts mine-risk education. Mine-risk education sessions target primarily children, but also women. They are conducted in schools, places of prayer or/and community fora and aim to ensure the safety of civilians by informing them of the dangers of mines. In the event of an accident, it also provides surgical, medical and economic assistance to victims, including physical rehabilitation. In parallel, it continues its advocacy with the relevant authorities and often supports the work of the national mine-action body.
- ▶ Communities are given support to create 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 far as possible, ICRC delegates and translators visiting places of detention do so in mixed teams, as these are perceived to be more approachable and better able to assess thoroughly the needs of all people detained.
- ▶ As infants often stay with their detained mothers, their needs are also addressed, in terms, for example, of food, health care, clothing and play.

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 have 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 in 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.
- ▶ Where there are no female staff in a rehabilitation centre, the ICRC helps train women, and may pay the transportation costs for women and their dependants to be treated in a centre with female staff. Many disabled women are also offered employment in ICRC-run or ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres.
- ▶ Women also benefit from projects – education, vocational training or micro-credit schemes – to help them reintegrate into society.

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, but their position in society may also 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.
- ▶ During its dialogue with all authorities and weapon bearers, the ICRC recalls how IHL stipulates that the parties to a conflict must allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief (for civilians in need, including women and girls), which is impartial in nature and conducted without adverse distinction, subject to their right of control.
- ▶ 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.

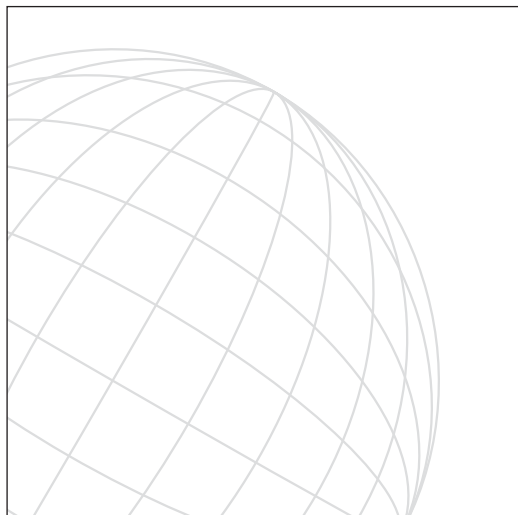
RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation*National Societies*

- ▶ The ICRC provides support for the development of National Society tracing, 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.
- ▶ Furthermore, the ICRC often works in partnership with National Societies from other countries which are working internationally and which contribute to ICRC operations in cash, kind or by providing personnel and operational management.
- ▶ Through regular meetings and dialogue, and in line with the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, all operations to meet the needs of those affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, including women and girls, are coordinated with other Movement components present in the context to ensure the best response.

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.
- ▶ The ICRC has improved its staff training courses by adding key messages consistent with the policies, recommendations and guidelines related 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.



annex 3

the ICRC's operational approach to displacement

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DISPLACEMENT AND THE DISPLACED

Displacement is a recurrent consequence of armed conflict and other situations of violence. Civilians are brutally uprooted and forced to flee their homes as they try to avoid the dangers generated by the conflict. In most cases, displacement is an inherently unstable and unsustainable set of circumstances, from the point of view of both those displaced and the authorities concerned.

There are two broad causes of displacement in armed conflict: as a direct consequence of the hostilities, owing either to actual violence or as a pre-emptive measure on account of fears or threats; and as a secondary consequence, owing, for example, to the exhaustion of resources or to poor access to essential services.

Given that the term “displacement” describes a process and a set of circumstances as opposed to a “status”, there is no international legally binding definition of an IDP. Nor does the ICRC have its own definition. The definition most commonly used within the international community is the one provided for in the 1998 UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which bring together existing norms of IHL, international human rights law and refugee law in a way that covers all the phases of internal displacement. The definition, which is broad, refers to “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border”. As the majority of IDPs are nationals of the State in which they find themselves displaced, they are entitled to the full protection of national law and the rights it grants to its citizens without adverse distinction resulting from displacement. Some of those displaced, however, will not be State nationals. Nevertheless, they are protected under international human rights law, and many of the same rights must be granted to them without discrimination.

Under IHL, the arbitrary displacement of civilians should not occur in the first place, but if it does, their protection is ensured. Indeed, IHL expressly prohibits any party to an armed conflict

from compelling civilians to leave their places of residence. Exceptionally, temporary evacuations may be carried out if the security of the civilians or imperative military necessity so demands. In addition to this express prohibition, the rules of IHL intended to spare civilians from hostilities and their effects also play an important role in preventing displacement, as it is often violations of these rules that cause civilians to flee their homes.

Although displacement is seldom experienced as a linear process, specific phases can be identified:

- ▶ **the pre-displacement period:** this requires efforts to prevent displacement, to the extent feasible and in the best interests of those at risk
- ▶ **the event that causes displacement:** an understanding of the events causing the displacement is crucial for preventing their recurrence
- ▶ **acute crisis or emergency phase of displacement:** periods which are frantic and highly unpredictable and in which immediate protection and assistance efforts are required to ensure basic safety and essential needs with the aim of saving lives
- ▶ **chronic crisis or longer-term displacement:** periods in which more stable circumstances are established and in which basic needs are covered by existing services and infrastructure, though often insufficiently, while the displaced await conditions that will enable them to find durable solutions comprising dignified approaches to supporting those affected, such as the restoration of an independent productive capacity
- ▶ **return, local integration or relocation** (generally sought once the situation has sufficiently stabilized): this would ideally consist of people being able to return to their predisplacement place of dwelling, although when this is not feasible, or desirable, local integration or relocation should be an option. Return, local integration or relocation should also be accompanied by support to restore the former lives and livelihoods and independence of the affected individuals.

THE “ALL VICTIMS” APPROACH

Owing to its specific mandate, the ICRC implements an “all victims” approach aimed at protecting the life and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and providing them with assistance. As part of this approach, the ICRC aims to alleviate the plight not only of IDPs but of all those affected (such as those unable to flee and communities hosting IDPs), during all stages of the displacement. This involves working with all stakeholders, from the beneficiaries themselves right up to the highest authorities: (i) to ensure conditions that prevent any need for displacement to occur in the first place; (ii) to alleviate the effects of the displacement, if it does occur, both on the displaced themselves and on others; and (iii) to create the conditions necessary for the permanent return home, local integration or relocation of the IDPs, without adverse effect on them or on others.

Within this approach, the ICRC acknowledges that those who have been forced to leave their homes are likely to face particular vulnerabilities. People at risk often flee at very short notice and often in chaos, experiencing, *inter alia*: loss of shelter, resources and essential documentation; a likely disruption of livelihoods (e.g. agriculture, livestock, business, wage labour); separation or disruption/complete breakdown of family and community support networks; increased risks of exploitation and abuse; reduced access to essential services; potential marginalization

from decision-making structures; and psychological and physical trauma. These elements obviously increase the general difficulties inherent in a conflict environment. Moreover, those affected are often displaced several times over, each time causing further impoverishment and trauma, and weakening coping mechanisms.

However, not all people who are displaced are necessarily made exceptionally vulnerable. For example, those who have adequate resources may be able to cope independently with the consequences. Nor are those that do not move necessarily safe. Those who are unable to flee (e.g. the elderly, the sick, the wounded, the physically disabled, those for whom fleeing is too risky, or members of a persecuted group unable to flee because of tensions with their neighbours) are often more vulnerable than those who leave to seek safer circumstances.

When people do flee their homes, they have to arrive somewhere. Neighbouring communities (whether sympathetic or not) or extended family are often the first to receive the IDPs and can be significantly affected by their arrival, especially when IDPs are directly welcomed into and supported by individual households. Often, however, this temporary solution allows IDPs to stay close to their place of origin and families and to avoid being confined to camps, which should remain a last resort.¹ These residents, however, often enough also faced dire circumstances even before the IDPs arrived and tend to be quickly stretched beyond their capacity to help, reaching the point at which they are forced to send the IDPs away in order to protect their own economic security. It is frequently the case that host communities begin to resist the arrival of IDPs owing to the strain they place on general resources (land, water, jobs, essential services such as health care and education, etc.). Tensions over insufficient resources can easily emerge and rapidly escalate. Moreover, in some cases those who were originally hosts may also be forced to move as they exhaust their independent means.

As such, displacement – and the circumstances causing it – typically has severe protection and resource implications both for those directly affected (i.e. the IDPs) and for those indirectly affected (e.g. host families and communities). As the conflict and violence persist, the general economy can also take a severe hit, with reduced availability of and access to goods/supplies/land/services – all of which could further undermine the independent means and capacities of the entire population.

The needs of IDPs cannot, therefore, be considered to the exclusion of the rest of the affected population. Rooted in the principles of impartiality and response according to need, the ICRC’s “all victims” approach means that, in addition to meeting the needs of IDPs, appropriate emphasis is also placed on those unable to flee and on residents who are affected by the displacement of others. This underscores the fact that displacement is not solely about IDPs. Understanding it, instead, as a process and a set of circumstances allows for acknowledgement of its impact on a wide range of people.

1. A policy of encampment is generally not favoured or accepted (Principle 12 of the Guiding Principles). In situations of armed conflict, IHL allows for internment or assigned residence only when required for imperative reasons of security. In other cases, when camps are set up to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, if the quality of life in the camps is significantly higher than the average standard of living in the area, this may create tensions between the IDPs and the people outside the camps. It may also lead to the IDPs becoming dependent on aid and hinder efforts to restore their self-sufficiency. Camps may even attract the non-displaced and become overburdened, putting undue pressure on the services available.

THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

The ICRC has developed a multidisciplinary response capacity, which stems from the organization's mandate to both protect and assist people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence. This dual mandate leads the ICRC to address the diverse needs of the affected population by linking efforts that aim to ensure that the law is upheld with a range of activities to address the consequences of violations of the law and of the armed conflict or situation of violence. Activities are combined with a view to ensuring that the impact on the beneficiaries is greater than the sum of the individual results generated.

The ICRC's commitment to considering all phases of displacement ensures that its response to the phenomenon and to other consequences of armed conflict is inherently flexible and able to adapt to the changing circumstances of all those affected by displacement. The multidisciplinary approach is employed during every phase to ensure the most comprehensive and effective response to the needs of those at risk of being displaced, those already displaced or affected by the displacement of others and those seeking to return home or relocate. The organization's activities for those affected by displacement are designed in such a way as to empower beneficiaries, to promote self-reliance and to reinforce coping mechanisms.

USING THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH AT EACH STAGE OF DISPLACEMENT

Preventing displacement

The ICRC aims to persuade authorities, armed forces and armed groups, through confidential dialogue, to fulfil their obligations to prevent the displacement of civilians (unless the temporary evacuation of civilians during military operations is required for their own security) and other violations of the relevant bodies of law that would result in displacement. If displacement nevertheless occurs, the ICRC makes confidential representations to the alleged perpetrators with a view to having them take measures to stop the violations and prevent further displacement. ICRC assistance activities (such as ensuring access to a safe water supply and health care services, and providing livelihood support) can also help remove some of the causes of displacement.

Alleviating the effects of displacement

If displacement nevertheless occurs, the ICRC reminds the authorities that it is their responsibility to ensure that IDPs are protected, their rights respected and their essential needs met. The ICRC also acts as a neutral intermediary between warring parties in order to facilitate the conclusion of agreements aimed at resolving humanitarian issues, including the plight of IDPs.

In addition, the ICRC conducts a wide range of assistance activities which are designed not only to help those affected meet their most immediate survival needs (in terms of shelter, water and sanitation, nutrition, access to health care, etc.), but also to serve as protection measures by enhancing individuals' capacity to avoid threats in their environment that might compound their problems. The ICRC also supports the relevant local authorities and existing structures.

Easing returns, local integration and relocation

The ICRC also aims to facilitate the return, local integration or relocation of those that have been displaced, by reminding the authorities of their obligations to promote voluntary return whenever it is safe, and local integration *and/or* relocation whenever conditions allow. In this respect, the ICRC continually reminds the authorities that it is their responsibility to restore the basic conditions required for resolving the displacement crisis (including security, access to essential services, opportunities to restore livelihood, etc.). The ICRC often conducts protection and assistance activities for people seeking lasting solutions to their plight, including those returning, integrating locally on a permanent basis or relocating. This includes addressing the concerns of the residents already in the area, with a view to minimizing tensions between the two groups.

RELATIONS WITH THE MOVEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

Given the scope and magnitude of the problem of internal displacement, it is generally recognized that an effective and comprehensive response to the needs of IDPs, affected residents and returnees is beyond the capacity of any single organization.

ICRC activities benefiting people affected by displacement are often carried out in partnership with the Movement's other components, with which it shares a common identity through the emblem it uses and the Fundamental Principles guiding its action. The National Society in the country in question is the ICRC's primary partner, but in many instances, other National Societies that work internationally are also involved. In line with the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, the ICRC leads and coordinates the efforts of the Movement's components in armed conflicts and other situations of violence, and leads all the Movement's efforts to restore family links, an essential activity wherever people have been displaced.

The ICRC's experience in the domain of displacement has been instrumental in Movement efforts to formalize current practices in a policy on the issue. Working with the International Federation and a representative cross section of 20 National Societies, the ICRC held consultative meetings to prepare a Movement policy on displacement, which was adopted by the Council of Delegates in November 2009.

The ICRC is also fully committed to implementing effective coordination with other players while preserving its independence, neutrality and impartiality. It has welcomed the various UN initiatives for humanitarian reform – including the cluster approach. Although, as a genuinely neutral and independent organization, it is unable to be a formal part of the cluster approach, the ICRC sees it as no obstacle to coordination. Such coordination, however, must, on the one hand, have as its aim to meet all the needs of those affected by conflict by promoting complementary roles among the various humanitarian organizations (avoiding duplication or gaps) and, on the other hand, maximize the impact of the ICRC response. As humanitarian coordination is never an end in itself, only reality-based and action-oriented coordination can fulfil these two conditions, i.e. tasks being distributed according to the skills and capacities of each organization, and notably according to the organization's ability effectively to implement them in order to ensure that needs are covered comprehensively.

DISPLACEMENT IN ICRC PROGRAMMES, BY TARGET POPULATION

Below is a more exhaustive description, by target population, of how ICRC programmes take into account the specific situations and needs of those affected by displacement in 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

Whenever possible, ICRC activities for civilians are carried out with the National Society of the country in question, particularly in the fields of assistance and restoring family links.

PREVENTING DISPLACEMENT

Protection

Protecting the civilian population

- ▶ The ICRC monitors the situation of individuals and groups not or no longer taking part in hostilities. Where documented, allegations of abuse committed against civilians are raised in the ICRC's discussions with all parties on alleged IHL violations and the measures to be taken to stop them and thus remove one of the causes of displacement. Such allegations may include direct or indiscriminate attacks, harassment, arbitrary arrests, sexual violence, looting or destruction of property and possessions, forced recruitment by weapon bearers, or restriction/denial of access to land, fields, markets and essential services.
- ▶ In addition to formal and informal oral and written representations to the authorities concerned about alleged incidents, preventive dissemination activities are conducted for the authorities and all kinds of weapon bearers to raise their awareness of their responsibilities under IHL to protect and respect at all times individuals and groups not or no longer taking part in hostilities (see *Authorities, armed forces and other bearers of weapons, civil society* below).
- ▶ By reinforcing civilian coping mechanisms and acting as a neutral intermediary to facilitate movement across front lines or access to essential services such as markets or health care, the ICRC can remove some of the causes of displacement.

Assistance

Economic security – livelihood support

- ▶ Livelihood support programmes help households ensure their self-sufficiency. Seed and tool distributions, livestock replenishment and vaccination, cash-for-work projects to rehabilitate community infrastructure, grants or material inputs (e.g. sewing machines, donkey carts, flour mills, oil presses, brick-making machines, irrigation pumps), to give but a few examples, directly improve the standard of living of households by helping them continue or jump-start an income-generating activity. This in turn can also help people to cope with the various threats in their environment posed by the armed conflict or other situation of violence. In this way, boosting economic security can prevent impoverishment that might lead to displacement.

Water supply, sanitation and shelter

- ▶ Access to and the quality of water supplies can suffer in times of conflict. By ensuring access to safe drinking water (see *Alleviating the effects of displacement/Assistance/Water supply, sanitation and shelter* below), either directly or by supporting other providers, the ICRC can remove one of the possible causes of displacement.

Health care

- ▶ Access to and the quality of health care can suffer in times of conflict. By ensuring access to permanent or mobile health care services (see *Alleviating the effects of displacement/Assistance/Health care* below) either directly or by supporting other providers, the ICRC can remove one of the possible causes of displacement.

Prevention

Mines/explosive remnants of war

- ▶ The ICRC engages in advocacy with the relevant authorities on mines and explosive remnants of war with a view to stopping their use of such weapons and encouraging them to clear contaminated areas. Representations are often based on incident data collected first hand by the ICRC or the National Society.

ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF DISPLACEMENT

Protection

Protecting the civilian population

- ▶ It is often the case that the authorities bearing the primary duty to care for the displaced and to manage the displacement crisis lack the capacity or the will to do so. The ICRC plays an important role in highlighting critical humanitarian needs and making recommendations to the authorities on how they can better fulfil their obligations, including to protect civilians from abuses (see *Preventing displacement/Protection/Protecting the civilian population* above).
- ▶ IDPs are not a homogenous group: there are many sub-populations who are likely to have particular concerns. The ICRC takes measures to assess these concerns and to respond to the most urgent needs. It also pays particular attention to the relationship between IDPs – living in dedicated places or hosted by residents – and local resident communities in order to avoid or reduce tension between the two groups, such as that caused by competition for overstretched resources. Whenever possible, the ICRC takes direct action to remove or reduce the causes of the tension.
- ▶ Part of encouraging respect for people's dignity includes ensuring that they have access to accurate information and can actively participate and influence decisions made on their behalf, to ensure that they are still able to make choices about their lives however dire the circumstances. For example, a lack of information regarding the services available or a lack of familiarity with local procedures can reduce the capacity of new arrivals to obtain access to essential services and support. In such cases, the ICRC will directly facilitate beneficiaries' access to the services available, including those run by the State, as well as prompting the authorities to improve their communication and information-sharing systems.

- ▶ During their flight, IDPs may leave behind or lose critical documents (personal identification, passport, birth certificate, marriage certificate, etc.) or indeed have them stolen, making it impossible for them to exercise their rights. The ICRC reminds the authorities of their obligations to make document replacement services available to all eligible citizens. It can also act as a neutral intermediary to relay official documents across frontlines, between family members or between the authorities and civilians.

Restoring family links and missing persons

- ▶ As they flee, IDPs often lose contact with loved ones, either in the chaos or because they have to leave them behind, or because they leave in a hurry and are unable to inform relatives ahead of time. Enabling the displaced to restore and maintain contact with their families, within the country or abroad, contributes to the psychological well-being of both the IDPs and their relatives, who may also be IDPs.
- ▶ The ICRC family reunification programme aims to reunite vulnerable people with their families, particularly those who became separated as a result of displacement.
- ▶ The ICRC also reminds the authorities of the right of families to ascertain the fate and whereabouts of relatives unaccounted for in relation to the conflict. In addition to advocacy efforts, the ICRC may aim to boost national forensic and data management capacities, offer its legal expertise for the drafting of legislation, and work to improve psychological support for the families of missing persons.

Assistance

Economic security – emergency aid: food and essential household items

- ▶ People often have to flee at short notice, and in any case are likely to be limited in the belongings they can carry with them. When distributing aid, the ICRC gives priority to the most vulnerable households. Many of these are IDPs, although the ICRC also assists residents who are directly affected by the conflict, but unable or unwilling to leave the affected area, or who are affected by the presence of IDPs and the additional strain that they place on resources. 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 the displaced to set up temporary homes. Other items, such as clothes or fabric to make clothing, are also distributed according to need.

Economic security – livelihood support

- ▶ Some civilians are displaced temporarily and are able to return home after a relatively short time. Others experience more prolonged displacement. Being cut off from their livelihoods severely undermines the capacity of IDPs to generate income and the longer the situation lasts, the more it erodes any resources they may have. In such cases, in addition to providing emergency relief, the ICRC also aims to help the displaced recover their ability to earn a living (see *Preventing displacement/Assistance/Economic security – livelihood support* above). Resident communities affected by economic impoverishment as a result of the presence of IDPs, especially the households hosting IDPs, also benefit.
- ▶ Occupational training often forms part of livelihood support programmes, either to help the beneficiaries keep up their skills or to enable them to take up a new economic activity more suited to the area to which they have been displaced.

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 IDPs, residents and returnees safe access to a source of water for household purposes, ensure better sanitation practices for the whole family, free up for other tasks time once spent fetching water, and aim to reduce any tensions caused by competition for resources. They also reduce the incidence of sickness caused by inadequate hygiene.
- ▶ The displaced, resident and returnee beneficiaries systematically participate in the design, implementation and management of ICRC water and habitat projects.
- ▶ When large numbers of IDPs head for camps or converge on State-run reception centres or evacuation sites, they may find themselves in facilities able to cater only for much smaller numbers. The ICRC may carry out small-scale rehabilitation work on infrastructure, construct or repair water and sanitation facilities, provide equipment or train staff, volunteers or IDPs in rehabilitation or maintenance.

Health care

- ▶ An influx of IDPs into an area can place a heavy burden on health care facilities that might already be run down or overstretched owing to the conflict. In such cases, the ICRC may provide supplies, train staff and rehabilitate infrastructure to ensure the provision of comprehensive primary health care, including vaccinations, for IDPs and resident communities alike. At the same time, the ICRC highlights the needs to the authorities, encouraging them to expand the services they provide.
- ▶ Mobile clinics give IDPs and residents unable to reach permanent structures access to essential health and medical care and the opportunity to be referred to a second level of care. Such clinics can also provide an early indication of any outbreaks of disease.
- ▶ In contexts where sexual violence is a major problem, the ICRC documents alleged incidents and brings them to the attention of the authorities. It provides post-rape kits to ICRC-supported hospitals and health centres and runs training courses to ensure that health staff in those facilities are equipped and able to treat victims, including IDPs, effectively and to provide counselling.
- ▶ IDPs benefit from psychological support to help them deal with the trauma of displacement or indeed of the violations of IHL that prompted the displacement.
- ▶ IDPs living in overcrowded and cramped conditions are particularly susceptible to the spread of disease. Health and hygiene promotion sessions aim to teach people basic practices that can help minimize or prevent the spread of disease.
- ▶ Depending on their circumstances, IDPs may be at risk of malnutrition. In emergencies, the ICRC may support therapeutic feeding programmes.

Prevention

Mines/explosive remnants of war

- ▶ To help prevent injuries caused by mines and explosive remnants of war, the ICRC marks contaminated areas and conducts mine-risk education to make people aware of the dangers. In the event of an accident, it also provides surgical, medical and economic assistance to victims, including physical rehabilitation. In parallel, it continues its advocacy with the relevant authorities and often supports the work of the national mine-action body.

EASING RETURN, LOCAL INTEGRATION OR RELOCATION

Protection

Protection of the civilian population

- ▶ Any movement of IDPs ordered by the authorities must be carried out in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner. In terms of responding to a displacement crisis, the authorities bear responsibility for restoring essential conditions required for resolution of the situation. The ICRC advocates the establishment of such conditions, which include security guarantees, assurance of access to and availability of essential services, the ability to exercise housing, land and property rights, and often compensation for lost, stolen or destroyed property. A premature return often leads to re-displacement and further hardship.

Assistance

Economic security – emergency aid: food and essential household items

- ▶ IDPs finally returning to their places of origin may find that their homes and land have been destroyed. The ICRC commonly provides these people and those who decide to settle elsewhere with kits that might contain food, essential household and hygiene items, and/or shelter materials and tools to rebuild their homes.

Economic security – livelihood support

- ▶ IDPs returning to their homes or resettling elsewhere after a prolonged displacement will often require support in order to restart an economic activity. ICRC livelihood support programmes (see *Alleviating the effects of displacement/ Assistance/Economic security – livelihood support* above) are also tailored to the needs of returnees and to residents in the areas of return or relocation, with a view to reducing tensions between the two groups.

Water supply, sanitation and shelter

- ▶ By ensuring access to an adequate and safe water supply (see *Alleviating the effects of displacement/ Assistance/Water supply, sanitation and shelter* above), either directly or by supporting other providers, the ICRC can help create conditions conducive to the return or relocation of IDPs.

Health care

- ▶ By ensuring access to health care services (see *Alleviating the effects of displacement/ Assistance/Health care* above), either directly or by supporting other providers, the ICRC can help create conditions conducive to the return or relocation of IDPs.

Prevention

Mines/explosive remnants of war

- ▶ To help create conditions conducive to the return or relocation of IDPs, the ICRC encourages the relevant authorities to clear land contaminated with mines and explosive remnants of war and to stop using such weapons. It also marks contaminated areas and conducts mine-risk education to make people aware of the dangers. In the event of an accident, it provides surgical, medical and economic assistance to victims, including physical rehabilitation.

WOUNDED AND SICK

ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF DISPLACEMENT

Protection

Protection of the “medical mission”

- ▶ In its dialogue with the authorities and weapon bearers, the ICRC reiterates their obligations under IHL to respect medical personnel, equipment and facilities. In addition, health personnel are instructed in their work-related rights and obligations under IHL, such as marking structures with a protective emblem.

Assistance

Medical care

- ▶ IDPs and residents alike may be wounded in the fighting or may fall sick and need to be treated in hospitals that are ill-equipped to deal with them because they are dilapidated or simply because of the sheer numbers of people in need. ICRC support for hospitals focuses as a priority on emergency surgery, as well as medical services such as gynaecological/obstetric and paediatric services. This support may include the provision of equipment, medical supplies and training, for example in traumatology.
- ▶ Similarly, the ICRC supports first-aid posts, as well as facilitating, as a neutral intermediary, or itself carrying out operations to evacuate the wounded and sick from areas affected by fighting.

Physical rehabilitation

- ▶ IDPs are among those who benefit from ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation programmes. They may receive artificial limbs, walking aids, wheelchairs and physiotherapy.

Water and habitat

- ▶ The renovation or construction of health facilities such as hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres also boosts the capacity to provide adequate services to those in need, including IDPs.

EASING RETURN, LOCAL INTEGRATION OR RELOCATION

Assistance

Physical rehabilitation

- ▶ Disabled IDPs may also benefit from projects – education, vocational training or micro-credit schemes – to help them reintegrate into society.

Water and habitat

- ▶ The renovation or construction of health facilities such as hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres also boosts their capacity to provide adequate services to those in need, including returnees.

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

- ▶ Prevention 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, which includes IDPs. The target groups are systematically made aware of their responsibilities in this respect through a combination of bilateral meetings, dissemination sessions, training courses, documentation and publications, games and competitions, and communication campaigns.
- ▶ The formal authorities, both civil and military, bear the primary duty to protect and assist people on their territory. A humanitarian response cannot substitute comprehensively for shortcomings in the formal system. The ICRC therefore reminds the authorities, at all levels, on the ground and in high-ranking positions right up to the cabinet, of their obligations to respect, protect and support those affected by displacement, and that IDPs enjoy the same rights and freedoms under the applicable legal frameworks (IHL and national law), without discrimination, as their compatriots.
- ▶ Where inadequate legislation exists, the ICRC provides technical support and expertise to the authorities to help them develop new laws.
- ▶ During its dialogue with all authorities and weapon bearers, the ICRC recalls how IHL stipulates that the parties to a conflict must allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief (for civilians in need), which is impartial in nature and conducted without adverse distinction, subject to their right of control.

PREVENTING DISPLACEMENT

Prevention

- ▶ Respect for the basic rules of IHL would prevent a good portion of the cases of conflict-affected displacement, which is often related to violations of those rules. Such rules include:
 - the obligation to distinguish at all times between civilians and combatants and between civilian objects and military objectives
 - the prohibition on making civilians or civilian objects the target of attacks
 - the prohibition on indiscriminate attacks
 - the obligation to use force that is proportional to the military objective in order to minimize the collateral damage suffered by civilians
 - the obligation to take precautions in attacks to spare the civilian population
 - the prohibition on the destruction of objects indispensable for the survival of the civilian population
 - the prohibition on reprisals against the civilian population and civilian property
 - the obligation to respect fundamental guarantees such as the prohibition of ill-treatment.

ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF DISPLACEMENT

Prevention

- ▶ The authorities have the obligation to provide protection and assistance and to seek solutions when displacement occurs. This includes ensuring that civilians:
 - are protected against threats, indiscriminate arrests, attacks and other acts of violence, as is their property (either that currently with them or that left behind)
 - are able to maintain their dignity, physical, mental and moral integrity and family unity
 - have freedom of movement and freedom to choose their place of residence (in or out of camps, within the country or abroad) and are protected against forced return
 - have an adequate standard of living in terms of food, water, sanitation, basic shelter, clothing, health care and education
 - have access to the documents they need to enjoy and exercise their rights (personal ID, passport, birth certificate, marriage certificate, etc.)
 - have access to accurate information in order to make informed choices and participate in and influence decisions being made on their behalf.

EASING RETURN, LOCAL INTEGRATION OR RELOCATION

Prevention

- ▶ The authorities also have the responsibility to restore conditions that permit return, local integration or relocation as quickly as possible. The basic conditions for sustainable, long-term solutions, based on voluntary, safe and dignified choices, include the following assurances that former IDPs:
 - do not suffer attacks, harassment, intimidation, persecution or any other form of punitive action upon return to their home communities or settlement in other locations
 - are not subject to discrimination for reasons related to their displacement
 - have full non-discriminatory access to national protection mechanisms (police, courts)
 - have access to the personal documentation typically needed to access public services, to vote and for administrative purposes
 - have access to mechanisms for property restitution or compensation
 - enjoy without discrimination an adequate standard of living, including shelter, health care, food and water
 - are able to reunite with family members if they so choose
 - are able to exercise the right to participate fully and equally in public affairs.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

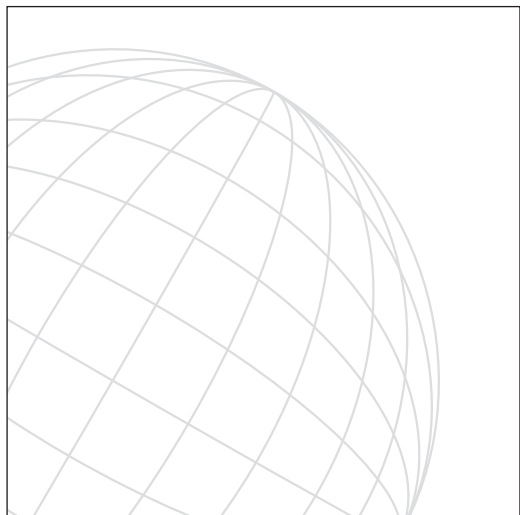
PREVENTING DISPLACEMENT, ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF DISPLACEMENT, EASING RETURN OR RELOCATION

Cooperation

- ▶ Whenever possible, the ICRC works in operational partnership with the National Society of the country in question to meet the needs of all those affected by displacement. It also provides technical, material and financial support and training to the National Society to boost its capacities to fulfil its mandate, for example in terms of tracing, first aid and emergency-preparedness and response (see *Civilians* above).
- ▶ Furthermore, the ICRC often works in partnership with National Societies working internationally and contributing to its operations, including those addressing displacement, in cash, kind or by providing personnel and operational management.
- ▶ Through regular meetings and dialogue, and in line with the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures, the ICRC, when leading the Movement's international response, ensures that all operations to meet the needs of those affected by displacement are coordinated with other Movement components present in the context to ensure the best response. The ICRC supports such coordination mechanisms when they are led by other Movement components.

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 2009, the Assembly and the Assembly Council held 6 and 11 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, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, India, Israel and the occupied territories, including the Gaza Strip, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

The Assembly also held discussions on the following issues: interpretation and development of IHL, policy towards displaced persons, humanitarian response in case of a nuclear, biological or chemical attack, identity and acceptance of the ICRC, human resources policy including gender balance, coordination and cooperation within the Movement and preparation of the Council of Delegates. 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 2010 objectives and budgets (November).

MISSIONS

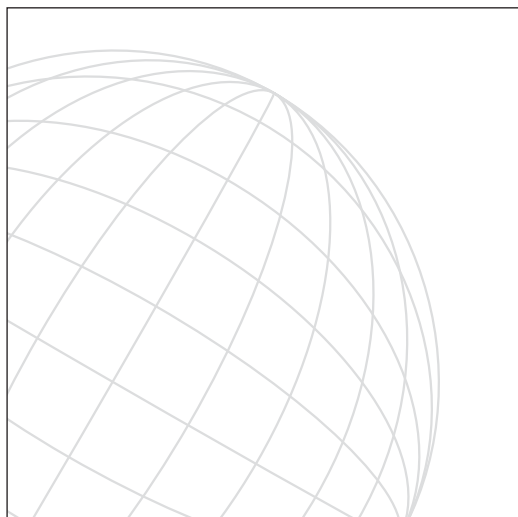
Mr J. Kellenberger, president, conducted various missions to hold bilateral discussions with governments; where pertinent, the missions included a visit to ICRC operations in the field. Such missions included visits to Belgium (European Union and Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council-NATO in Brussels); Brazil; the Czech Republic; Egypt (Sharm El-Sheikh Conference on Reconstruction in the Gaza Strip); France; Germany; Iraq; Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory; Italy (150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino, San Remo International Institute of Humanitarian Law); Kenya (Council of Delegates); Luxembourg; Pakistan; Sweden; Switzerland (World Economic Forum in Davos); Sri Lanka; the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America (Washington and UN General Assembly in New York); and Uganda (African Union special summit on IDPs).

Ms C. Beerli, permanent vice-president, conducted the following missions: Austria (UN Security Council retreat in Alpach), Colombia (Cartagena Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention), Cambodia, Egypt, France, Israel and occupied Palestinian territory, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, the Netherlands, Turkey, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Mr O. Vodoz, vice-president, conducted missions to China (Peacekeeping operations symposium) and India (Commonwealth IHL conference).

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

- ▶ **Mr J. Forster** to Italy (San Remo International Institute of Humanitarian Law)
- ▶ **Ms C. Le Coultre** to Austria, Canada (Ottawa), United States of America (Washington) for the Special Fund for Disabled and Pakistan (field mission).
- ▶ **Mr J. Moreillon** to France, Kenya and Nepal (South Asian Conference on IHL).
- ▶ **Mr J. Staehelin** to Hungary (Brunschweiler ceremony)



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. The aim is to strengthen the ICRC's position as the benchmark organization for neutral and independent humanitarian action and IHL on the basis of 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 conflicts 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 2009

- ▶ a number of adjustments were made to enhance the quality of ICRC services for IDPs and to position the ICRC in the debate on this issue
- ▶ the ICRC Health Unit was further reinforced in 2009 with more specialists to enable the organization to maintain its leading role in the medical field in contexts affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence. The ICRC's medical activities in such contexts were again significantly enhanced
- ▶ a study on nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical threats was conducted and an operational response plan approved
- ▶ the ICRC published its first field manual on restoring family links in disasters, to be used by all components of the Movement. It drew on its own staff and National Societies to establish a pool of 60 international family links specialists for rapid deployment
- ▶ the ICRC implemented a number of projects aimed at developing the capacities of National Societies working in their own countries to respond swiftly to emergencies, thereby enhancing its own possibilities for working in partnership with them

Implement result-based management

The ICRC strives to develop a management culture of accountability and learning that 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 2009

- ▶ the Directorate developed its strategic management model. In addition to the ICRC mission and the four-year strategy, it defined key factors contributing to the successful fulfilment of the organization's mission. These factors, which derive directly from the risk-management framework defined in 2008, are the elements critical to the organization and its work (see *ICRC management framework and description of programmes*)
- ▶ as in previous years, the director-general presented the annual risk report to the Assembly in April 2009. The report was based on the key success factors, and identified risk drivers and measures to mitigate the associated risks
- ▶ the Institutional Performance Management Unit harmonized and consolidated the result-based management cycle and continued to provide support to the corresponding focal points in the various programmes (assistance, cooperation, prevention and protection)
- ▶ the Department of Operations nominated a project manager to further develop practical measures on result-based management in the ICRC's field operations
- ▶ a comprehensive review of the annual planning and budgeting process in the field was conducted in 2009 and its outcome will be used to review the ICRC's annual planning process
- ▶ the new planning and budgeting tool was rolled out at ICRC headquarters and a follow-up survey conducted for further improvements

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

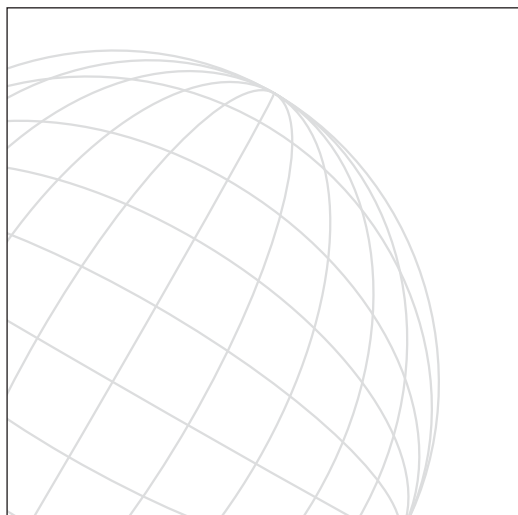
The ICRC intends to clarify its internal functioning on the basis of a transparent, rapid and efficient decision-making process and appropriate management procedures.

Plan of action

- ▶ reaffirm the ICRC's organizational model of a single headquarters and a worldwide network of delegations
- ▶ clearly define the roles and methods 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 and coherent

Main achievements in 2009

- ▶ the Rapid Deployment Unit finalized the new contingency planning and early warning tools, which were successfully deployed in several contexts. The human resources deployment roster was finalized, and a crisis room set up and successfully tested during several crises in 2009
- ▶ a Pandemic Contingency Planning Framework was developed with a view to preserving staff health and business continuity and to providing an adequate operational response in case of a major pandemic
- ▶ the ICRC further strengthened its internal governance of IT systems
- ▶ at the end of 2009, a number of major IT projects were close to being deployed institutionwide, with the aim to improve the flow of information (intranet, electronic professional mail system, electronic archives). Most field offices were connected to headquarters by permanent IT connections
- ▶ the new Unit for Internal Communication, which reports to the Office of the Director-General, contributed significantly to streamlining and strengthening communication between and within different levels of the institution
- ▶ a new framework for the management of ICRC staff was validated by the Directorate. The mechanisms to manage senior and intermediate management staff were enhanced and expanded
- ▶ a second series of People Leadership and Management training courses was launched in 2009 to further strengthen the people management skills of senior staff



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

In 2009, as part of its endeavours to improve humanitarian services for persons adversely affected by armed conflict, the ICRC continued to apply a performance management method that facilitates management decisions, enhances learning and documents performance accountability.

The ICRC's performance management continued to centre 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

The Directorate further developed its management framework in order to strengthen overall institutional performance management and the alignment of the different levels and units across the institution. Key success factors were defined and discussions engaged on the formulation of corporate objectives and indicators.

The ICRC remained a full member of and represented the Movement on the steering committee of the Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) and

continued to work actively 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 1998, remained central to the ICRC's performance management in 2009. PfR was designed to define explicit objectives for ICRC operations formulated in terms of three parameters: target population, programme capacity and geographical location. In 2009, the Institutional Performance Management (IPM) Unit carried out an in-depth study to lay the groundwork for future development of PfR both in terms of strengthening all result-based management functions and upgrading the underlying technology.

Following completion of a pilot project in 2008, the ICRC rolled out a new PfR tool designed to increase the effectiveness of the budgeting process at headquarters. This new planning tool is structured around both services provided by headquarters and the key success factors in order to facilitate alignment with institutional strategy.

MONITORING AND REPORTING ON RESULTS

Building on the progress achieved in programme management, the IPM Unit helped launch an institutional project run by the Department of Operations and aimed at mainstreaming and strengthening result-based management practice in programmes worldwide and at the main operational management platforms (operational regions at headquarters and delegation management in the field). Trials were started of some simplified result-based management procedures for the field and multidisciplinary planning methods.

The IPM Unit also updated its progress report on all institutional strategic initiatives in order to inform the Directorate and to provide support to the annual risk-management process.

EVALUATING RESULTS

In accordance with its work plan, and under the direct supervision of the IPM Unit, in 2009 the ICRC completed its independent evaluations of the Movement-wide family-links service for people affected by the 2004 Asian tsunami, projects run by the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled in Bangladesh, and the ICRC's position on IDPs.

ISSUES MANAGEMENT

The issues management mechanism run by the Office of the Director-General continued to identify, analyse and put into perspective emerging issues and phenomena of concern to the institution. Particular attention was paid to the effects of the financial and economic crisis and the impact of new media on the ICRC.

The mechanism also played a key role in periodically defining a small number of priority topics for ICRC humanitarian diplomacy activities, along with related messages and appropriate communication strategies.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Pursuant to the recommendations of an internal communication report approved by the ICRC Directorate in 2008, a series of changes were introduced in 2009. In particular:

- ▶ the Internal Communication unit became an integral part of a number of institutional projects or issues, such as the new ICRC messaging system, the influenza pandemic or the hostage crises involving ICRC delegates in Chad, the Philippines and Sudan
- ▶ the new Internal Communication Board facilitated cross-cutting approaches and coordination of internal communication initiatives and channels; its members represent the ICRC's governing bodies and all departments
- ▶ the new ICRC intranet was launched for a selected group of users at headquarters and in the field ahead of its planned full introduction early in 2010: this represented the single most important development in terms of internal communication tools

Internal communication also became an important aspect of the new People Leadership Management course for senior ICRC managers. The head of the Internal Communication Unit participated in courses for field administrators, who are responsible for the management of national staff in delegations, and communication delegates. He provided direct advice to delegations undertaking internal communication surveys.

On three occasions, the unit helped departments carry out internal qualitative and quantitative surveys at headquarters and in the field, including through online tools. Contacts with peers from the ICRC's Corporate Support Group (see *Resources and operational support*) continued in 2009.

GENDER EQUALITY

Using the 2008 gender equality assessment as a basis, the Office of the Director-General continued to follow up the measures adopted by the Directorate to improve gender equality within the ICRC. While the percentage of women in senior management

positions at headquarters has risen to 38%, further emphasis needs to be put on improving the representation of women in senior management positions in the field.

The ICRC continued to adapt mechanisms to promote women's career paths and to ensure that both men and women are able to reconcile work and family life. Measures such as mentoring, which aim to encourage and support women's professional development, continued to be implemented.

Based on concrete experience, measures were identified to ease the specific difficulties encountered by women on field assignments and to enable both male and female staff to cope when working in difficult ICRC operational environments.

SENIOR MEDICAL ADVISER

Humanitarian action in armed conflicts and other situations of violence frequently gives rise to complex ethical issues. It is therefore essential to develop a space for open, organized and transdisciplinary ethical reflection, so that stakeholders can take complex decisions in a way that is concerted, fully informed and accountable, and that can be evaluated.

In 2009, the senior medical adviser carried out an assessment of medical, mental health and ethical issues encountered in prisons. He established a group on medical ethics and developed a training module on ethics in humanitarian action for newly recruited ICRC delegates.

The senior medical adviser took the lead in managing the institutional response to the pandemic influenza outbreak (H1N1), based on the institutional contingency plan aimed at protecting staff, providing an appropriate humanitarian response and guaranteeing business continuity.

ENVIRONMENT

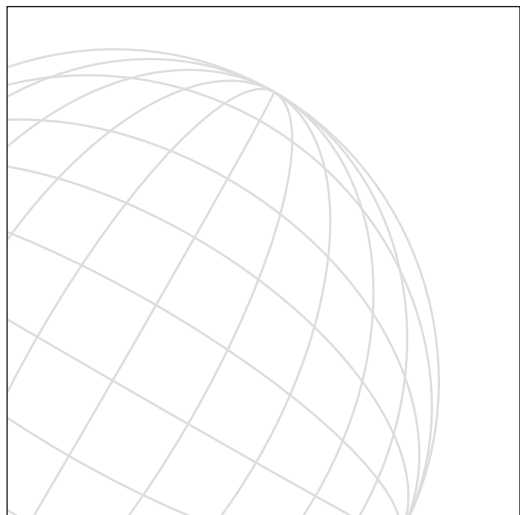
An adviser on environmental issues took up his post at the Office of the Director General in April 2009, in order to put in place an ICRC environmental policy and to develop and enhance strategies to reduce the organization's ecological footprint as much as possible.

His first priorities included the establishment of a pollution inventory and an analysis of resource consumption and the greenhouse gas emissions engendered by the ICRC's activities in the field and at its headquarters. He also started to collect best practices in minimizing the impact of the ICRC's activities on the environment, particularly concerning the disposal of dangerous waste, with a view to sharing and implementing them institution-wide.

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

During its annual meeting in May 2009, the International Commission for the International Tracing Service (ITS) maintained its objective to establish a new treaty among the 11 member States that would allow the ICRC to withdraw from the management and administration of the ITS and mandated a Strategic Study Group to proceed with the discussions on a treaty text.

For a description of ITS activities in Bad Arolsen, Germany, see *Europe and the Americas*.



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 2009, the Department of Operations comprised nine geographical regions, two operational divisions (Assistance, and Central Tracing Agency and Protection) and two smaller units (Multilateral Diplomacy and Humanitarian Coordination, and Security and Stress). An adviser on the specific plight of women in times of conflict and the Rapid Deployment Unit, both of which form part of the Department, provided operational support.

The ICRC further enhanced its activities for women affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence, notably victims of sexual violence, displaced women and women heads of household. It continued to document best practices based on its experience in Nepal and Senegal (Casamance). In contexts such as Afghanistan and Yemen, it continued to ensure that women in detention receive assistance.

The rapid deployment mechanism adopted in 2007 was successfully activated in Pakistan (June) and Indonesia (October). It helped ensure quick implementation of a meaningful humanitarian response, a clear decision-making process, and the rapid mobilization of human resources. The Rapid Deployment Unit developed and deployed, in the field and at headquarters, a “contingency planning” framework and database aimed at defining a generic and flexible process leading to concrete preparedness measures and triggers for a given scenario. The unit also developed an “sms/email alert system” for a more efficient and quicker flow of information; the system was first deployed at

headquarters, and at year's end options to include the field and other Movement components were being looked at.

The Security and Stress Unit focused on monitoring developments in the security environment in contexts where the ICRC is operational, conducting missions in support of headquarters and field activities, providing staff training and issuing comprehensive documents on security and stress management. It reaffirmed the principle of decentralized security management based on seven pillars (acceptance, identification, information, staff, rules, telecommunications and protection).

The security environment deteriorated in a number of contexts, resulting in more ICRC security incidents worldwide, in particular kidnappings (5 staff in 2009). Throughout the year the Security and Stress Unit actively contributed to the management of these crises. While the three staff members abducted in the Philippines were released, two other delegates, kidnapped in Chad and Sudan's Darfur region, remained in the hands of their kidnappers at the end of the year.

A working group on security was set up by the Department of Operations to identify trends shaping the ICRC's security environment and to decide how best to adjust management of operations and staff security.

CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY AND PROTECTION

The Central Tracing Agency and Protection Division provides strategic support and professional expertise to field operations in three areas of activity – protection of the civilian population, protection of people deprived of their freedom and restoring family links; the latter also covers activities relating to missing persons and their families (see *Operational framework and programme descriptions* for more details on the protection programme).

In 2009, the Division participated in the ICRC's new rapid deployment mechanism in the course of three missions to Indonesia and Pakistan.

PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION

The ICRC seeks to protect civilians from the effects of armed conflicts and other forms of violence and to secure respect for fundamental rights by weapon carriers and the authorities concerned. It conducts activities that aim to make the authorities aware of their responsibilities and work to fulfil them. Other activities aim to reduce the vulnerability of people exposed to specific risks, especially children, women, the elderly and disabled, and the displaced. These activities are not mutually exclusive.

In 2009, the Central Tracing Agency and Protection Division reinforced its capacity to consolidate, in coordination with other divisions at headquarters, rapid multidisciplinary support for delegations preparing special reports on the effects of hostilities, or law enforcement operations, on the population. This proved instrumental in improving the quality of data collection and reporting during and after the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip and after violence broke out in Guinea during an opposition rally in September. The Division also actively supported the efforts of delegations that revised their context-specific guidelines for protection work (principally Colombia and Sudan).

The Division finalized guidelines regarding activities for separated and unaccompanied children. These guidelines present, in a single document, the protection and assistance activities the ICRC can implement in favour of unaccompanied or separated children, including former child soldiers. They are based on a review of existing practices and lessons learnt.

Early in 2008, the ICRC initiated a broad consultation process to establish professional protection standards. It created an advisory group to steer the process that includes representatives of Amnesty International, the British Overseas Development Institute, Interaction US, the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), the Jesuit Refugee Service, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), OHCHR and UNHCR. From the outset, the advisory group agreed that an effective protection response requires the right professional competences and that it is therefore necessary to define common professional standards encouraging both new and experienced protection practitioners to adopt a professional approach that optimizes the results of protection activities and mitigates their potential harmful implications. A first consolidated draft was presented to a wider audience during the first quarter of 2009. Based on the copious feedback received, the document was finalized with the help of the advisory group during the summer. The resulting booklet was finally presented to a wide range of protection practitioners in November 2009 during a workshop in Geneva, Switzerland, and distributed.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

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 visits are a means of collecting first-hand information about the treatment and living conditions of detainees. Trained ICRC staff visit places of detention, talk with the authorities concerned, hold private interviews with

detainees/internees and prepare an overall analysis of their findings. ICRC findings, assessments and related recommendations are discussed confidentially with the authorities at the appropriate levels, and ICRC visits are repeated in a process that is held to strict professional standards.

In October 2009 the ICRC convened 24 prison experts from around the world to discuss prison cell space. The meeting was part of an ongoing effort to come up with standard references for cell space, develop recommendations for prison authorities and discuss their implementation with experts and practitioners. The topics included recommended accommodation space for both normal and emergency conditions, measurement of overcrowding and occupancy rate, specifications concerning ventilation, water supply and sanitation, and variations that take account of the specific needs of women. The experts agreed on the need to establish minimum metric figures, which may vary according to the detention context. The ICRC is working on such minimum figures, while taking on board the pragmatic rationale underpinning them.

Training in detention-related activities was restructured, enabling delegates continuously to refresh their knowledge through a range of consolidation courses on detention matters, according to their experience. In September, 23 experienced delegates attended one of these courses, enhancing their understanding of prison systems, overcrowding, the prevention of torture and the promotion of respect for judicial guarantees.

Besides regularly supporting field staff carrying out protection activities, the Division also designed a new reference database. This widely accessible tool provides institutional guidance on some 450 topics and serves as a knowledge bank on detention and legal systems and ICRC best practices.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

Armed violence and natural or man-made disasters may lead to massive population displacement 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 with needs in this domain. It enables people to communicate with one another and strives to reunite separated family members, to locate missing relatives and to recover and identify human remains. The ICRC acts both in its direct operational capacity and in its lead role for restoring family links within the Movement. As such, it acts as the Movement's technical adviser in this field and coordinator of the related international response, including in situations of natural disaster occurring outside conflict zones or violence-prone areas.

In 2009, implementation of the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement gathered pace. The strategy, which was adopted by the Council of Delegates in November 2007, 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 an armed conflict or other situation of violence, a natural disaster or other circumstances, such as migration. In 2009, the Division focused on:

- ▶ the response capacity in case of natural disaster: a pool of 60 international family-links specialists drawn from ICRC staff and National Societies was established for rapid deployment; 45 of the specialists were trained and are ready for deployment under a memorandum of understanding signed by the International Federation and the ICRC; the first field manual on restoring family links in disasters, intended for all components of the Movement, was published
- ▶ the response to specific needs linked to migration: in cooperation with National Societies, the guidelines on providing family-links services to people separated as a result of migration were finalized, complementing the International Federation policy on migration
- ▶ assessment of needs: after being field-tested during the year, a needs assessment handbook for ICRC and National Society tracing staff was finalized

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, helping the authorities set up mechanisms aimed at addressing the issue of missing persons, cooperating with the authorities and the 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 2009, the Division continued to chair the internal task force on missing persons and their families, ensuring consistency in the ICRC's humanitarian response in this domain. It organized the first specialized training event dedicated to the issue, highlighting the ICRC's holistic approach.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

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 actively 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 ICRC's specific combination of an "all-victims" approach and responses to particular segments of the population facing particular risks and/or specific needs, in order to ensure complementarity and avoid unnecessary duplication.

The Division continued to take part in numerous discussions on the protection of IDPs within NGOs or UN fora and in academic circles.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

As in previous years, the Division allocated considerable resources to training to ensure staff members had the tools and methods they needed to carry out protection activities effectively and consistently.

In addition to the new courses mentioned above (see *People deprived of their freedom* and *Missing persons and their families*), two other courses were being developed to enable staff dealing with protection issues to reinforce their skills regarding the protection of civilians and restoring family links.

For the first time, the Division also offered a distance learning programme to its staff. With the support of the Ecole de traduction et d'interprétation (ETI) of the University of Geneva, interpreters were offered an e-learning course on interpreting in zones of crisis and armed conflict. Thanks to the establishment of an ICRC virtual learning portal, the Division envisages proposing further distance learning modules in 2010.

ASSISTANCE

The Assistance Division provides field operations with strategic support and professional expertise in three areas of activity – health services, economic security, and water and habitat. These activities encompass forensic science and weapon contamination.

To further enhance the quality of its services, the Assistance Division develops and helps shape institutional assistance policies, guidelines and strategies. In 2009, it strengthened health approaches and priorities. The Movement was encouraged to become more active in promoting the protection and respect due to health care in armed conflicts and other situations of violence through the adoption of a strategy paper adopted by the Council of Delegates in November 2009. The Division examined nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical weapon issues, launched a study on the ICRC's approach to IDPs in camps and reviewed its approach regarding complex construction projects. It produced the Framework for Environmental Management in Assistance Programmes (FEMAP), which builds on past experiences and requests delegations to systematically include environmental concerns within operational planning.

The Division also played an active role in discussions 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 2009, most ICRC delegations and offices around the world carried out health, economic security, and water and habitat programmes. Delegations in Afghanistan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Pakistan, the Philippines, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen carried out the most extensive programmes. All programmes received appropriate routine and pro-active support from the Division for programme design, monitoring, review or evaluation and reporting, with a view to maintaining, and where necessary improving, programme performance and quality. The Division's

forensic experts answered numerous requests from field delegations for help with tracing activities or with the management of dead bodies during emergencies. The Division sent headquarters staff to the Gaza Strip and Pakistan with the rapid deployment team to provide emergency assistance support. It also dedicated significant time and energy to defining contingency plans in the event of a pandemic.

The various tools needed to sustain activities – Geographical Information Systems (GIS), specific technical databases, reference manuals and handbooks – were constantly amplified. To increase accountability, internally and externally, result-based management tools continued to be developed and key personnel trained.

HEALTH

The Health Unit addresses the needs of people in armed conflicts or other situations of violence according to defined minimum packages of health care. Curative and preventive health action remains at the heart of the Unit's projects. Saving lives and alleviating suffering is the central objective of health assistance. In 2009, ICRC health activities were reaffirmed in five core areas, based on the ICRC assistance policy, as follows: first aid, war surgery, health care delivery in conflict situations (access to basic health care and essential hospital activities), physical rehabilitation and health in detention.

Considerable time was dedicated to developing specific tools and operational guidelines. In support of field activities, the Unit produced the following guidelines and tools: guidelines for teaching nursing care, nursing guidelines, the first volume of guidelines on performing war surgery with limited resources, H1N1 operational guidelines, a medical activities database, a film on traditional birth attendants, physiotherapy guidelines and updated manufacturing guidelines for prostheses and orthoses. Work commenced on a toolbox for the management and administration of hospitals run or supported by the ICRC and on additional guidance documents for first aid, primary health care and hospitals. Cooperation with CR Equipements SA continued to ensure the ICRC's leadership in the development of appropriate prosthesis and orthosis technology.

Workshops for ICRC staff were held on hospital management and administration, hospital reference frameworks, and health in detention. The ICRC Technical Commission met to discuss matters pertaining to prostheses and orthoses and to physiotherapy. Courses and workshops were organized for non-ICRC health practitioners on topics such as first aid and emergency surgery in war-torn areas. Presentations were given at external conferences on torture, medical ethics, public health issues in detention, hospital management, war surgery and prosthesis and orthosis technology.

The Unit continued to participate in the ICRC working group, Respecting and Protecting Health Care, and worked with the field to record events hampering access to health care.

WATER AND HABITAT

ICRC water and habitat programmes provide basic services to groups of people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, ensuring they have access to water supplies,

decent conditions of sanitation and adequate shelter. When necessary, health facilities are renovated or built from scratch 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.

The Water and Habitat Unit checked, supplemented and validated some 270 field project proposals worth a total of about CHF 43 million. It produced close to 500 GIS maps for ICRC operations, including during emergencies.

In 2009, an independent and reputable research institute (SANDEC) carried out an evaluation of three biogas systems built by the ICRC for prisons in Nepal. Results showed that the biogas systems can work for large communities, improving sanitation, providing alternative renewable energy and improving the kitchen environment by reducing indoor pollution. Fuel savings were reported to be between 20% and 40%.

The Water and Habitat Unit represented the ICRC at the 5th World Water Forum, held in Istanbul in March 2009. At this major water event, the ICRC spoke for the victims of armed conflict who have limited or no access to drinking water and adequate sanitation. It also convened a session to discuss the challenges of water supply and sanitation in the Gaza Strip with the Palestinian Water Utilities, donor organizations, development agencies and NGOs working in the occupied Palestinian territory. The Forum produced a ministerial declaration, which contains a provision on protecting water resources, infrastructure and the environment in times of armed conflict.

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.

Internal thematic meetings on issues such as operations in urban settings and developments in humanitarian nutrition enabled the Economic Security Unit to enhance its support to the field and ensure the availability of accurate guidelines. In addition, a briefing leaflet entitled *ICRC Nutrition* was finalized, as was a contribution to the forthcoming guidelines on nutrition in detention. Closer cooperation was forged between economic security and protection teams working on detention issues, and relationships strengthened between economic security teams and host National Societies. In line with the ICRC's priority to be a more effective partner for host National Societies, the Unit provided capacity-building/training in needs assessment, planning and monitoring and concluded agreements on economic security programmes in various field operations.

In addition, to improve emergency response, the Unit and the Logistics Division agreed on a shortlist of relief commodities (food, essential household items) for use in emergencies and shared it with the field.

The Unit continued to contribute to the ICRC's understanding of the global economic crisis and its impact on violence and its victims.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

In 2009, as in previous years, the Assistance Division worked tirelessly to improve the quality and scope of training for its health, economic security, and water and habitat personnel. 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. It conducted two courses on weapon contamination, on top of the support it gave in this field to colleagues from other departments.

In addition, seven Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) courses were organized, in three languages, in Ouidah (Benin), Fukuoka (Japan), Cuernavaca (Mexico), Geneva (Switzerland), Baltimore and Honolulu (United States of America) and, for the first time, Beijing (China). A total of 181 students from 45 countries attended, including 29 from within the Movement (3 from the ICRC and 26 from National Societies) and 82 from the health sector (56 doctors and 26 nurses).

The Water and Habitat Unit developed and ran the first in a series of new electro-mechanical courses aimed at upgrading the skills of field engineers. It also developed and started testing an e-learning course in hydraulics for national staff.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HUMANITARIAN DEBATE

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 continues to be solicited in international conferences, fora and workshops. Throughout the year, the Assistance Division participated in various events attended and/or organized by key humanitarian organizations such as specialized UN agencies (including the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNHCR, UNICEF, the UN Institute for Disarmament Research, the UN Mine Action Service, WFP and WHO) and NGOs (including Action Contre la Faim, Handicap International, MSF, Oxfam and Physicians for Human Rights). These meetings were opportunities to share experiences and expertise, acquire a better understanding of the approaches and working methods used by others, bring them together whenever possible and strengthen coordination. This was particularly the case during the many UN global cluster meetings (e.g. health, shelter or water) and other working groups such as the IASC sub-working group on needs assessments and the IASC/OCHA "Dashboard" project. In the same spirit, the Division also maintained and developed a network of contacts with professional associations and academic institutions.

MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

International fora are an essential platform for the ICRC to facilitate its field operations, to defend and promote its impartial, neutral, independent and strictly humanitarian action, and to guard against the use of humanitarian activities for military or political ends. Multilateral and bilateral contacts also aim to promote knowledge, understanding and – whenever appropriate – development of IHL, to monitor political trends and influence the humanitarian debate by sharing the ICRC's

position on issues of humanitarian concern, and to raise awareness of the plight of those affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

The ICRC forges and maintains close relations with a wide range of intergovernmental organizations, among others the UN, the African Union, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. It does this from its headquarters in Geneva and from its delegations covering countries that are major global diplomatic players and where such organizations sit, essentially in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Brussels (Belgium), Cairo (Egypt), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Moscow (Russian Federation), New York and Washington (United States of America).

In particular, the ICRC follows the work of UN bodies in Geneva and New York. It also has regular exchanges with the various UN and non-UN humanitarian agencies, in particular through the IASC, as well as NGOs and their umbrella organizations, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and similar bodies, and private business companies and their industry associations.

The Multilateral Diplomacy and Humanitarian Coordination Unit acts as the focal point for relations between the ICRC and these organizations, aiming to foster an environment in which ICRC operations can be carried out effectively and are adequately resourced. The results of this long-term engagement can often only be measured over time, for instance in terms of references to IHL made in resolutions and key guidance documents, and of support mobilized for ICRC efforts to obtain access to conflict victims.

INFLUENCING THE HUMANITARIAN DEBATE IN INTERNATIONAL FORA

In 2009, the political rift deepened between traditional donor States, which advocated an increased integration of political, military, development and humanitarian resources into crisis response, and the States primarily concerned by these crises, which favoured national or regional responses. This was of direct concern to the ICRC as it affected the space for neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

With the creation of the International Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs Department, the OIC is at the forefront in promoting regional response systems and engages in substantive dialogue with the ICRC regarding coordination on humanitarian issues. The ICRC participates as an observer in OIC high-level meetings, including in 2009 the 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic).

Similar efforts are made with the Non-Aligned Movement and ASEAN, which adopted the ASEAN Blueprints and created the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights in 2009. A dialogue was established with the Commission's new unit for Disaster Management and Response and its Permanent Council. In Latin America, the ICRC reviewed its multilateral diplomacy approach, taking account of emerging sub-regional organizations.

In Europe, the parties to the conflict in Georgia and the co-chairs of the Geneva Talks (OSCE, EU, UN) responded to the ICRC's plea to avoid politicizing humanitarian issues (e.g. the question of missing persons) and the organization's views were reflected in the Council of Europe's reports.

These multilateral fora facilitated a more substantive exchange at operational level and enabled IHL issues to be addressed by national parliaments. Parliamentarians working on the complex issue of missing persons and their families can now draw on a manual jointly produced by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the ICRC. The CSTO and the ICRC signed a memorandum of intent, aimed at consolidating institutional relations and facilitating the ICRC's contact with the authorities and armed forces of all member States.

The UN regularly consulted the ICRC, which closely observed the UN reform process and its implementation and followed issues and decisions discussed in UN fora, both in New York and Geneva. Member States were successfully lobbied to incorporate provisions on protection and assistance for conflict victims into multilateral decisions and national positions. The ICRC reminded States of their obligations under IHL, helped clarify such obligations as well as the rights of persons protected under IHL, contributed to safeguarding impartiality and neutrality of humanitarian action and its independence from political and military objectives, and prevented IHL from being undermined by trends in international law.

The process initiated by the IASC on humanitarian principles and space, and a similar initiative driven by the NGO consortium ICVA, both benefited from ICRC expertise. With World Vision, the ICRC co-led the revision of a position paper on humanitarian civil-military coordination that was issued by the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response and is to serve as a reference for humanitarian organizations.

The ICRC followed the work of the Human Rights Council, whose Advisory Committee took up the ICRC's IHL-related input, and its Universal Periodic Review. Close links were maintained with the Humanitarian Liaison Working Group, a forum for representatives of major donor countries and humanitarian agencies in Geneva. Some 50 future UN diplomats attended an IHL workshop organized by the ICRC and the Geneva Academy on IHL in Geneva.

The ICRC actively promoted understanding of and support for its mandate and work in public discussions on issues relevant to its activities.

ENHANCING COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG HUMANITARIAN PLAYERS

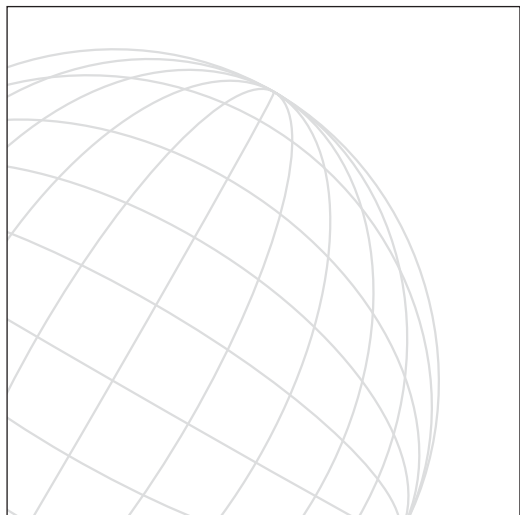
Given the scale and complexity of needs arising from crises and the growing number of relief organizations, the ICRC continued to consult and coordinate with other humanitarian players, both at headquarters and in the field, and provided its own field delegations with guidance and support regarding humanitarian coordination. In Iraq and more recently in Pakistan, full-time positions were created for delegates to liaise with other assistance providers, particularly the UN bodies.

The ICRC continued to attend meetings and working groups of the IASC in its capacity as standing invitee, and its active contributions to those deliberations enhanced understanding of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and the Movement's independence. This was reflected in IASC decision-making. ICRC delegates cooperated with UN staff to develop Common Humanitarian Action Plans. All UN-led appeals were reviewed to ensure correct mention of the Movement's operations. OCHA acknowledged the ICRC's contribution to coordination mechanisms.

The ICRC maintained close bilateral operational and institutional relations with various UN and other humanitarian agencies (IOM, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP). This provided opportunities to learn about the approaches, working methods, strengths and constraints of others, and on this basis to reinforce coordination and cooperation. Top-level meetings with UNHCR, WFP and MSF facilitated coordination at field level, as shown by the mutual commitment made by UNHCR and the ICRC to ensure complementarity.

The major NGOs, both bilaterally and through NGO consortia, sought out the ICRC's opinions. The ICRC has observer status with the ICVA and participates in the Global Humanitarian Platform. It is a full member of the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, whose input it used in an internal review process on ICRC accountability towards its beneficiaries.

Businesses operating in conflict zones can influence the course of conflicts. The ICRC gained a better understanding of this phenomenon by participating in various initiatives and processes. The UN Global Compact, the OECD, the UN Special Representative on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights process and various sectoral initiatives all drew on the ICRC's expertise.



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 the International Review of the Red Cross.

The year was marked by the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino, which led to the birth of the Movement, and by the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, considered to be the bedrock of IHL. The ICRC took this opportunity to reaffirm the relevance of IHL for protecting the victims of today's conflicts while examining the potential need to adapt IHL to current realities and challenges. The Department was closely involved in these efforts. It also played a major part in preparing November's Council of Delegates, which resulted in the adoption of numerous resolutions that addressed key humanitarian issues – the protection of health care in armed conflicts and other situations of violence, the consequences of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war – by defining a common strategy. While firmly focusing on enhancing the ICRC's partnerships with host National Societies, the Department continued to provide ICRC field operations with extensive support regarding legal, Movement and policy matters.

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 people affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence is substantially enhanced by the 84 headquarters agreements it has signed with the governments of the countries in which it works; the

privileges and immunities thus conferred on the ICRC, including its testimonial immunity, enable the organization and its staff to work in an entirely independent manner. With 13 other States or competent entities, the organization's privileges and immunities are established by legislation or other arrangements.

ENSURING RESPECT FOR IHL BY THE PARTIES TO ARMED CONFLICTS

The Legal Division provided legal advice on a daily basis to the ICRC's field delegations, notably regarding confidential representations reminding those involved in armed conflicts and other situations of violence of their obligations under IHL and other relevant bodies of law, and regarding the legal frameworks governing the situations of violence in which the ICRC is carrying out its activities.

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 of or restrictions on the production and use of certain weapons.

Throughout 2009, 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. Governments in many countries thus received the necessary legal and technical advice to develop domestic legislation.

The ICRC also organized, or contributed to, a range of national and regional conferences, seminars and workshops in relation to IHL and its incorporation into domestic law. These included events in Amman (Jordan), Bangkok (Thailand), Beirut (Lebanon),

Cairo (Egypt), Kathmandu (Nepal), Lima (Peru), London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), New Delhi (India), Mexico City (Mexico), Pretoria (South Africa), Rabat (Morocco), Santiago de Chile (Chile), St Petersburg (Russian Federation), Tehran (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Yaoundé (Cameroon).

In order to assist States further in their implementation of IHL treaties, experts convened in Nairobi (Kenya) in February at a meeting jointly organized by the ICRC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to discuss the implementation of legislation to protect the environment in armed conflicts. They examined guidelines with a view to improving domestic implementation of international treaty law and customary rules on environmental protection. At another expert meeting on children in armed conflict held in Geneva (Switzerland) in December, 45 participants worked on developing guiding principles for national implementation of the law relating to children associated with armed forces or armed groups.

With the ICRC's help and encouragement, States pursued their endeavours to establish interministerial committees entrusted with the national implementation of IHL. In 2009, Mexico and Switzerland created a national committee, bringing the total number worldwide to 93. In order to promote dialogue and cooperation among national IHL committees, the ICRC held regional meetings of such committees in different parts of the world and continued to support their activities. At a meeting of Commonwealth national IHL committees organized by the ICRC in New Delhi in October 2009, governments were encouraged to draw on their national committees to strengthen their capacities, commitment and activities regarding IHL, discussed IHL developments and shared experiences and information on the domestic implementation of treaties across the Commonwealth.

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 Mine Ban Convention, the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its Second Protocol of 1999, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Rome Statute.

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

- ▶ 1 State (Afghanistan) acceded to Additional Protocol I
- ▶ 1 State (Afghanistan) acceded to Additional Protocol II
- ▶ 15 States (Australia, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Italy, Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Poland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) ratified or acceded to Additional Protocol III
- ▶ 1 State (United States of America) ratified the Hague Convention on Cultural Property
- ▶ 5 States (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dominican Republic, Germany, Italy, Jordan) ratified or acceded to the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property
- ▶ 4 States (Algeria, Mauritius, Netherlands, South Africa) ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ▶ 2 States (Chile, Czech Republic) ratified the Rome Statute

- ▶ 1 State (Costa Rica) acceded to the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity
- ▶ 1 State (Costa Rica) acceded to the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare
- ▶ 3 States (Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Iraq) became party to the Chemical Weapons Convention
- ▶ 3 States (Kazakhstan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates) became party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons; 7 States (Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Tunisia, United States of America) became party to the revised Framework Convention
 - 3 States (Kazakhstan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates) became party to Protocol I
 - 1 State (Qatar) became party to Protocol II
 - 1 State (Georgia) became party to Amended Protocol II
 - 4 States (Kazakhstan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United States of America) became party to Protocol III
 - 2 States (Kazakhstan, United States of America) became party to Protocol IV
 - 11 States (Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Latvia, Mali, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United States of America) became party to Protocol V
- ▶ 20 States (Albania, Austria, Burundi, Croatia, France, Germany, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay, Zambia) ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions

REAFFIRMING, CLARIFYING AND DEVELOPING IHL

Throughout 2009, 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. These activities helped promote and ensure compliance with existing treaty and customary rules of IHL and highlighted their continued relevance to contemporary armed conflicts. They also helped clarify the legal system applicable in different situations and the precise content of IHL key provisions, identify current challenges to IHL as well as possibilities for further clarification and development of the law, and explain the specific role of the ICRC.

60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions

On 12 August 2009, the ICRC commemorated the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Conventions in 1949 with a speech by the president to the diplomatic and academic community in Geneva. Today, the four Geneva Conventions enjoy universal adherence and continue to constitute the bedrock of IHL. Their relevance in contemporary armed conflicts is undeniable. Throughout the year, the Legal Division participated in numerous conferences organized to mark the anniversary, including in Brussels (Belgium), Stockholm (Sweden), London, Jerusalem (Israel) and St Petersburg. In addition, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC organized a major international conference in Geneva on 9 and 10 November. Beyond celebrating the 60th anniversary, the conference provided a forum for experts to look at the decades ahead and study the current relevance of IHL with respect to new threats, new actors and new means and methods of warfare. It also examined existing instruments for the implementation of IHL and their potential adaptation to current realities and challenges.

Study on customary international humanitarian law

The Legal Division continued to promote its study on customary international humanitarian law. Workshops and round-tables on customary IHL were organized in Bad Mergentheim (Germany) with the German Red Cross, in Beirut for Arabic IHL experts and in Cambridge (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) with the British Red Cross and the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law among others. In addition, a follow-up conference to the 2008 conference was held at Galatasaray University in Istanbul (Turkey). In 2009, the study continued to be used as a reference by courts, rapporteurs, government lawyers, academics and organizations, which should contribute to strengthening the protection of conflict victims over time.

The British Red Cross and the ICRC continued their joint project to update the collection of the practice of States and non-State actors in the field of IHL underlying the study. The collection will be published online as a free-access database, to be launched in 2010 and updated regularly.

Interpretive guidance on direct participation in hostilities

In 2009, the ICRC published *Interpretive Guidance on the Notion of Direct Participation in Hostilities under International Humanitarian Law*. Based on six years of expert consultation and research, the Interpretive Guidance sets out the ICRC's recommendations as to how existing IHL relating to civilian participation in hostilities should be interpreted in contemporary armed conflicts. Its primary purpose is to enhance the civilian population's protection against erroneous or arbitrary targeting. It does so by clarifying the generic distinction between civilians and combatants, as well as between civilians who are and those who are not "directly participating in hostilities".

Throughout 2009, selected national and multilateral authorities and their armed forces in the field familiarized themselves with the Interpretive Guidance as part of their dialogue with the ICRC, as did many political, military, judicial, humanitarian and academic target groups around the world.

Legal framework applicable in non-international armed conflicts

In 2009, the Legal Division carried out a comprehensive internal study on the legal framework applicable in non-international armed conflicts. The study aimed primarily to identify the main humanitarian concerns arising in contemporary non-international armed conflicts, including factors potentially affecting the parties' compliance with IHL. Its second objective was to assess to what extent existing treaty and customary law provides adequate legal responses. The study offers an analysis of 36 specific issues, covering such areas as: the notion of non-international armed conflict; the protection of persons deprived of their freedom; the rules applicable to the conduct of hostilities; the prohibition of or limitation on the use of certain weapons; the protection of certain categories of persons, such as women, children and IDPs; protection of the natural environment; humanitarian assistance; and existing international mechanisms aimed at improving respect for IHL.

Based on the study's conclusions, proposals were being prepared on how to move forward in 2010, in terms of both substance and procedure. The aim is to clarify or further develop specific aspects of the law in order to strengthen the protection of persons and objects affected by non-international armed conflicts.

Cluster munitions and the Mine Ban Convention

In addition to its outreach efforts among signatory and non-signatory States to work for the rapid entry into force of the new Convention on Cluster Munitions, the ICRC continued to provide its legal and humanitarian expertise during the negotiations on cluster munitions among the States party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, which have yet to reach an agreement on the matter.

The ICRC was closely involved in preparations for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, which was held in Cartagena, Colombia, in December 2009. The Conference adopted a high-level political declaration, review and action plan with input from the ICRC, which provided detailed comments on successive drafts. As in 2008, the ICRC drew on its legal and field expertise to help analyse requests for extension of clearance deadlines, while focusing on the core humanitarian objectives of the Convention. It also pursued its efforts, both bilaterally and internationally, to ensure that the three States that had been unable to destroy anti-personnel mine stockpiles within their deadlines would do so in the near future. An expert meeting jointly organized by the Norwegian Red Cross and the ICRC adopted an Appeal to the Review Conference and a set of recommendations for States and supporting organizations on how to improve future implementation of victim assistance obligations under the Mine Ban Convention, as well as under the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War. The outcome of all these efforts was reflected in the final results of the Review Conference.

Controlling arms availability through responsible arms transfers

In 2009, the ICRC continued to promote stricter controls on arms availability through the implementation of national and regional arms transfer instruments and the adoption of a global, legally binding arms trade treaty. UN discussions on an arms trade treaty drew on the ICRC's views on the objective, scope and parameters for such an instrument, as did regional seminars in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Amman, Dakar (Senegal), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Mexico City (Mexico) organized by the European Union and the UN Institute for Disarmament Research in cooperation with the host countries.

Occupation and other forms of administration of foreign territory

The ICRC project on occupation law completed its external consultations by organizing a third and last meeting with some 15 legal experts to tackle the issue of the use of force in occupied territory. The participants identified the relevant legal frameworks and clarified how they relate to each other. They also detailed the circumstances and conditions under which the use of force would fall under the law enforcement or conduct of hostilities paradigms.

The ICRC also made substantial progress towards implementing the second project phase by drafting a detailed report summarizing the main findings of the three expert meetings convened in 2008 and 2009. The report will be published in 2010.

Private military and security companies

The operations of private military and security companies in situations of armed conflict continued to attract public and media attention. Such companies and the States responsible for their actions were briefed on their obligations under IHL through continuous dialogue with the ICRC, and States were encouraged to tackle questions relating to private military and security companies using domestic regulation.

Various events that addressed the legal issues raised did so with the participation of the ICRC, which continuously promoted and widely shared the Montreux Document on *Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States Related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies During Armed Conflict*. The document was agreed in 2008 by the 17 governments involved in the three-year intergovernmental process jointly conducted by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC. By the end of 2009, another 17 States had expressed their support for the document, bringing the number of supporting States to 34. The general public was able to learn about the Montreux Document from a brochure published by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC.

Air and missile warfare

In 2009, the ICRC continued to be actively involved in the IHL in Air and Missile Warfare project of the Harvard Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research. The Legal Division attended the final expert meeting in May and provided substantial comments on the various drafts of a manual restating the law applicable in air and missile warfare. The publication of the manual in 2010 will conclude the project.

Other matters

Many other key issues received the Legal Division's special attention. These included, for example, the protection of women and children in armed conflicts, humanitarian assistance, the protection of journalists, multinational forces and cyber-attacks.

The work of the UN General Assembly during its 64th Session was closely followed by the ICRC, particularly legal developments on issues such as targeted killings, "terrorism", torture and IDPs. The XXth Annual Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers of Ministries of Foreign Affairs listened to an ICRC statement on respect for IHL and the role of the UN Security Council.

The ICRC kept abreast of developments by observing the deliberations of the Human Rights Council and its Universal Periodic Review system year-round, especially those related to the protection of human rights of civilians in armed conflict, and by participating in an OHCHR expert meeting.

International initiatives to ensure better protection of IDPs were bolstered by contributions from the Legal Division. These included the African Union Convention on IDPs, negotiated with the ICRC's participation and adopted in October, and various key documents, most notably the ICRC report entitled *Internal Displacement in Armed Conflict – Facing up to the challenges* and the Movement policy on internal displacement and its commentary, both published in November.

MOVEMENT COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

MOVEMENT ACTION

ICRC delegations and headquarters continued to receive substantial guidance and support from the Division for Coordination and Cooperation within the Movement regarding cooperation between the ICRC and other Movement components. In particular, partnerships were strengthened with the National Society in countries and contexts where the ICRC had major operations, such as Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Pakistan, the Philippines and Yemen.

Operational partnership and capacity-building with National Societies

In line with the ICRC's pledge, enhancing the organization's capacity to be an effective partner for host National Societies remained a top priority. Major achievements made in consultation with field delegations and National Societies included: the adoption of field guidelines on partnership project cycle management, a new division of tasks within delegations to ensure the mainstreaming of cooperation across all field programmes, and the revision of planning tools, partnership agreement formats and financial procedures. Field tests and "lessons learnt" exercises involving four delegations were reviewed to verify the relevance of the approach and tools. All ICRC delegations were requested to identify possible operational partnerships with host National Societies, resulting in 49 out of 61 delegations planning to forge closer partnerships in 2010.

Restoring family links is a major dimension of ICRC capacity-building support for National Societies under the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement, adopted in 2007. The Division participated in the Implementation Group set up to oversee implementation of the Strategy and worked with the International Federation to ensure complementary and targeted organizational development and disaster-management efforts.

National Societies visiting or willing to visit detained migrants, refugees and asylum seekers received guidance and support for related activities. This included guidelines developed by the ICRC in consultation with National Societies and an ICRC workshop on specific issues regarding the detention of migrants, restoring family links and other protection issues.

Throughout 2009, National Societies worldwide conducted a broad variety of activities jointly with the ICRC to commemorate the Battle of Solferino, including first-aid training and demonstrations, concerts, film festivals, photo exhibitions, round-tables and press conferences.

Support for Movement coordination

The Division facilitated ICRC operations in Pakistan and during the major Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip by mobilizing additional staff for the organization's rapid deployment and response mechanism. It helped develop a system to facilitate National Society contributions of staff, services and goods to ICRC emergency operations and supported a joint ICRC – Palestine Red Crescent Society "lessons learnt" exercise after the Gaza crisis.

ICRC delegations were helped to establish Movement coordination mechanisms. Memoranda of understanding, in accordance with the Supplementary Measures to the Seville Agreement, were newly signed or extended in Afghanistan, Colombia, Lebanon, Liberia, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Sri Lanka and Sudan, and negotiations were under way in Haiti, the Philippines and Sierra Leone.

Key partnership meetings were convened in Geneva on the Movement's operations in the Gaza Strip and Pakistan, and in Kuala Lumpur on operations in Sri Lanka, in close cooperation with the National Societies involved and the International Federation.

Regular dialogue helped optimize coordination with the International Federation's regional structure. The specific role of ICRC delegates as Federation counterparts was consolidated in Kuala Lumpur and Panama, while regional coordination was strengthened in Africa and the Middle East. This facilitated Movement coordination and helped harmonize support for National Societies.

During the annual meeting of National Societies working internationally, participants discussed the economic crisis and fundraising, the positioning of the Movement in the humanitarian sector, and topics for the 2009 Council of Delegates.

Forty-two National Society leaders fine-tuned their skills at two Leadership Development courses jointly organized by the International Federation and the ICRC, one in English and, for the first time, one in Arabic.

The Division also helped test the newly developed IMPACT course organized by National Societies for their staff working internationally and ensured ICRC participation in 17 IMPACT courses. To enhance Movement coordination, all training courses, including ICRC internal staff training, specifically cover the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures.

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. The Commission met seven times in 2009 and provided formal comments and recommendations to more than 40 Societies on their draft or adopted statutes. Ten Societies also received guidance on the revision of national legislation. The Commission reported to the 2009 Council of Delegates on its activities and the trends identified for the 2008–2009 period, in particular reflecting on how best to support Societies in their commitment to adopt statutes in conformity with the Movement's minimum requirements by 2010. The Commission produced recommendations on the revision process of National Society statutes, specifying the reasons why it is important to revise statutes, and what is needed for a successful revision process.

The Division dealt with roughly 50 inquiries in 2009 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. A major achievement was the completion of a study on operational, commercial and other non-operational issues involving the use of the emblems after consultations with all States and

Movement components. The Council of Delegates welcomed the study and called on the Movement's components to implement and promote its recommendations.

The ICRC continued to attach great importance to assisting National Societies in protecting their integrity in accordance with the Fundamental Principles. It coordinated with the International Federation on integrity matters at the delegations and in Geneva, and the two organizations intervened jointly when appropriate. It participated in the International Federation's Compliance and Mediation Committee and contributed to the revision of the Federation's policy on the protection of the integrity of National Societies.

The Division remained committed to guiding National Societies on operational interaction with the UN system and other external humanitarian players so as to ensure well-coordinated and complementary action while safeguarding the Movement's distinct identity. It continued to review the format agreement used by WFP with implementing partners, with a view to producing a new model adapted specifically to the Movement, and participated in preparations for the workshop on relations with actors outside the Movement held at the 2009 Council of Delegates and in follow-up work to develop guiding principles for adoption by the next International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

The Division administered various Movement funds, medals and prizes. Together with the International Federation it examined 42 applications by 35 National Societies to the Empress Shōken Fund, and decided to finance four projects. It prepared the files of candidates for the Florence Nightingale Medal and correspondence with the selected recipients. It organized 45 visits by 137 National Society leaders and representatives to ICRC headquarters.

MOVEMENT POLICY

A key priority was to coordinate the ICRC's thematic and organizational preparations for the 2009 Council of Delegates. The Council met for the first time in Africa, at the invitation of the Kenyan Red Cross Society, which coordinated with the ICRC and the International Federation. Thanks to extensive consultations with National Societies on the issues to be addressed in a resolution and the National Societies' close involvement in the working groups preparing resolutions, strategies and guidelines, the 11 proposed resolutions were passed unanimously. One full day was devoted to six workshops giving all National Societies the opportunity to express their views. This enhanced National Society involvement in developing and debating Movement policy issues will be maintained in the 2011 statutory meetings.

The need to strengthen respect for and protection of health care in armed conflicts and other situations of violence was recognized in a resolution that proposed to place the matter on the agenda of the 31st International Conference in 2011 for discussion with States. The Council welcomed the updated Movement Strategy on Landmines, Cluster Munitions and other Explosive Remnants of War, which replaces the 1999 Movement Strategy on Landmines. The drafting and consultation process for both these policy items was spearheaded by the ICRC.

The ICRC initiated a process to develop the Movement policy on internal displacement with a core group of National Societies with specific experience in internal displacement and the

International Federation. A draft policy was shared with all National Societies before its adoption at the Council. The policy document contains 10 principles, comments and guidance. In parallel, the Division participated in the work of the reference group to develop an International Federation policy on international migration, contributing in fields of ICRC expertise, particularly restoring family links, detention and other protection issues. The policy was endorsed by the International Federation's General Assembly and welcomed by the Council of Delegates.

The Division provided support to the independent Monitor of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Magen David Adom in Israel and the Palestine Red Crescent Society and participated in four missions to Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory in 2009. In accordance with Resolution 2 of the 2007 Council of Delegates and Resolution 5 of the 30th International Conference, the Monitor produced an interim report in March, followed by a comprehensive report to the Council of Delegates in November 2009. The Council requested that monitoring be further strengthened until full implementation of the agreements covered.

POLICY-MAKING

The overall revision of ICRC policy documents decided the previous year was pursued in 2009 in respect of policies on the following topics: confidentiality; how and when to communicate on the legal status of an armed conflict; the testimonial immunity of ICRC employees; the Fundamental Principles and the resulting challenges for humanitarian action.

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.

The Archives Division continued to create ICRC institutional reference files (about 3,500 files in 2009), and regularly advised ICRC units at headquarters and delegations in the field on management of their records. It also responded to some 800 internal research requests.

To secure important archival holdings created by ICRC delegations, the Archives Division gathered more than 500 additional linear metres in its storerooms. Headquarters units also added to archival holdings, which currently amount to more than 15 linear kilometres. Storage facilities grew scarce, and two new storerooms were therefore on the point of being equipped for use in 2010.

For security and preservation purposes, the Division continued to restore and repack historical archives, focusing on the restoration of more than 600 volumes of prisoner lists that were compiled by the International Agency for Prisoners of War (1914–1923) and have been part of the UNESCO Memory of the World Register since 2007. An extensive programme to restore and digitize these archives is to be completed in 2012.

In 2009, the Archives Division handled some 3,700 requests from victims of past armed conflicts and their next-of-kin for official documents such as attestations of detention, mostly related to the Second World War but also concerning the First World War or conflicts that occurred after 1950.

The core objective of ICRC historical research activities is to make the organization's history more widely known. In this regard, the Archives Division replied to some 1,000 requests for information on the ICRC's film and paper archives and welcomed external researchers to its reading room for the equivalent of more than 420 working days. The fourth volume on the ICRC's history (*De Budapest à Saigon: Histoire du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge 1956–1965*) was published in 2009 in French.

To mark UNESCO's World Day of Audiovisual Heritage on 27 October, several ICRC audiovisual archives were presented to ICRC staff, with a view to extending such events to an external audience.

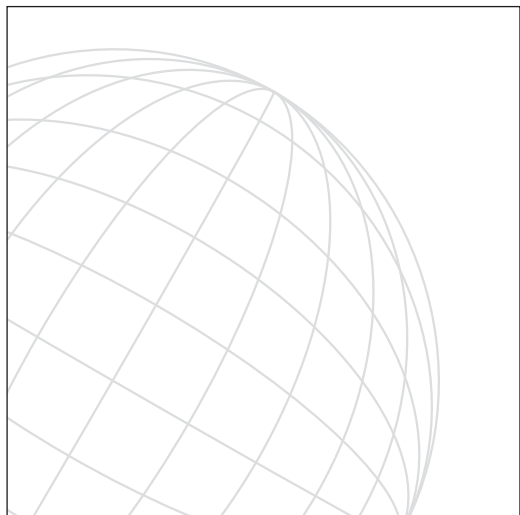
Under the rules governing access to ICRC archives, the organization's records are subject to a protective embargo for a general period of 40 years and an extended period of 60 years. Hence, records up to 1965 have been opened to the public for consultation. Ahead of the next opening period covering 1966–1970, the Archives Division worked to make an inventory of over 4,500 related files of general archives.

The Archives Division continued to run several projects, including a joint project with Memoriav, an association founded to preserve Switzerland's audiovisual cultural heritage. This enabled it to preserve and restore its audio archives and the 16mm films documenting ICRC activities for people affected by conflicts between 1950 and 1980. Another project involved digitization and digital archiving to ensure the preservation of audio, audiovisual and born-digital materials.

The Archives Division remained actively involved in the development of the new ICRC messaging system and user training, with a view to reinforcing electronic records management within the organization.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

The *International Review of the Red Cross* is a peer-reviewed academic journal published by the ICRC with the assistance of an international editorial board and printed and distributed by Cambridge University Press. The four issues produced in 2009 centred on direct participation in hostilities (No. 872), the typology of armed conflicts (No. 873), victims (No. 874) and displacement (No. 875). Their contents are available free online, and besides the English original version, a yearly selection was published in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.



communication

The Communication Department seeks to ensure that the ICRC's mandate and activities are accurately conveyed to a variety of audiences throughout the world, and to promote more widespread respect for IHL. The ICRC engages both in public communication, to mobilize key stakeholders to act on pressing humanitarian issues, and in operational communication, to gain acceptance for its work and access to victims. Its wide-ranging preventive activities aim to ensure that IHL is integrated into armed forces' doctrine, education and training, and into school and university curricula, with a view to building an environment conducive to better respect for IHL, the ICRC and its work.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

In 2009, the ICRC maintained its focus on developing a range of communication strategies and tools to convey key messages relating to its activities for people affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence and to its role as an impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian organization. This is in recognition of 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.

ICRC public communication centred on the humanitarian consequences of a number of major crises. In order to reach key target groups worldwide, the ICRC pursued a multimedia approach, producing professional communication materials and making more strategic use of its multilingual website. At the same time, it continued to monitor the media and analyse global, regional and thematic trends to inform decision-making and public communication.

As part of its work to prevent violations of IHL, the ICRC concentrated its educational and promotional activities on people in a position to influence humanitarian action. It also continued to train and consolidate its network of field-based communication staff in support of its operational and public communication endeavours.

To maximize the impact of the Prevention Policy adopted in 2008 on ICRC practice and to further its implementation, the policy was promoted among ICRC decision-makers across the board and integrated into staff training. In line with the ICRC's overall

goal to enhance accountability by means of result-based management, monitoring tools for prevention activities and a coherent and comprehensive approach to evaluating their effects continued to be developed.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

PUBLIC AND MEDIA RELATIONS

The overarching objective of the ICRC's public and media relations remained to support the organization's humanitarian field operations while positioning it as a key global provider of protection and assistance to people affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence. The main challenge is to influence perceptions of the ICRC in a global environment where all stakeholders – including the parties to armed conflicts – communicate publicly, including occasionally by “using” the ICRC as a reference to support their own views.

Public communication aimed to position the ICRC as a principal reference organization on humanitarian issues related to operational contexts prioritized by the institution's external stakeholders. In 2009, these included Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. Focusing messages on the fate of the most vulnerable often illustrated the real added value of the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent approach to humanitarian action. Major media reported on key humanitarian issues based on ICRC information, for example the plight of IDPs highlighted in an ICRC report launched in November 2009.

Many humanitarian crises required equally rapid responses in terms of operations and public communication, for example during the fighting in the Gaza Strip in January 2009, in Sri Lanka during the first quarter of 2009 and in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Yemen. Particularly challenging was the intense media interest following the kidnappings of three ICRC staff in the Philippines in January, especially in Italy, the Philippines and Switzerland (the captives' home countries), and of two ICRC staff in Chad and Sudan towards the end of 2009.

ICRC public and media relations played a key role in activities to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino and the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. Both events received broad international media coverage, including by the major wire services, Al Jazeera, the BBC and CNN.

The ICRC's network of communicators in Geneva and in its delegations, including in media hubs such as Beijing (China), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Cairo (Egypt), London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Moscow (Russian Federation), Paris (France) and Washington (United States of America), enabled it to promote the organization's work effectively across the globe and around the clock. Building quality relationships with local media in conflict areas and encouraging them to take account of humanitarian concerns and IHL in their reporting required a considerable effort from most delegations.

While much of this work was carried out through "traditional" media such as newspapers, broadcasters and online outlets, the ICRC continued to strengthen its website, publications and audiovisual productions. It also significantly expanded its presence on social networking and online reference outlets such as Facebook, Scribd, Wikipedia and YouTube.

ONLINE PUBLISHING

Online publishing includes the ICRC's online presence via the Internet on various ICRC websites, extranets and an intranet.

The external www.icrc.org site exists in seven languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian) and includes IHL databases in English and French. Overall, these sites registered some 3.5 million visitors during the year and around 16.2 million page views. This represents 9.5% more visitors than in 2008 and an increase of 9.6% in the number of pages consulted. The proportion of pages viewed by language remained similar to previous years, with the English reference site accounting for almost half (49%) of all pages viewed, followed by Spanish (20%) and French (17%). Web statistics showed that the topics of greatest interest were the emblem, the Movement, children and war, customary law, women and war, mines, displacement, IHL and weapons, and missing persons. The contexts of greatest interest during 2009 were Afghanistan, Colombia, the DRC, Iraq, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, Pakistan, the Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan.

A pilot user group at headquarters started to access the ICRC's new intranet in November 2009, with a view to its full launch for headquarters and field staff in early 2010.

The new external website is to be launched in mid-2010. Unforeseen obstacles encountered by the external consultants with the delivery of the Content Management System and the installation of the new search engine delayed the launch of both the intranet and the new external websites.

The Online Publishing Unit also co-managed the production, launch and maintenance of the www.ourworld-yourmove.org campaign portal in 2009 with the International Federation. The portal received almost 500,000 hits during the year, with more than 100,000 "moves made" via the portal.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Producing, promoting and distributing relevant, credible and up-to-date audiovisual and print materials describing the organization's work and positions are crucial to the ICRC's global communication strategy. In 2009, over 40 new print products were created, promoted and distributed on priority themes such as IDPs and children in war. The Communication Department received about 5,000 orders and distributed over 531,000 copies of films and publications worldwide, confirming the relevance of ICRC products.

The production of an array of print and multimedia products played a key role in the success of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign (see below). One of the highlights was a joint project with the VII photo agency in which five war photographers gathered material in eight conflict zones. People in some 40 countries visited the ensuing photo exhibition, "Our World at War". Ten multimedia presentations combining these photos with evocative sound and video were produced and distributed. At the same time, a photo book, *Humanity in War*, assembling a selection of historical and recent pictures from the ICRC's collection of 140,000 photos, resulted in a second campaign photo exhibition shown in some 20 countries.

Thirteen audiovisual news releases were produced and distributed to the world's broadcast media via satellite and online, offering footage from Afghanistan, the DRC, the Gaza Strip, Georgia, including South Ossetia, Haiti, Pakistan and Sudan. Digital tracking provided indicators of strong interest, notably for material on the 1949 Geneva Conventions, displacement, and children and war.

Reflecting the increased emphasis on online audiovisual materials, 29 short films were produced for www.icrc.org and campaign websites. Other widely distributed productions included two films on IHL, a film on ICRC support for traditional midwives in Liberia, and two films in the "From the Field" series, from the DRC and the Gaza Strip.

MARKETING

A global public communication campaign entitled "Our world. Your move." was launched to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino. The campaign provided an opportunity to highlight contexts of particular concern to the ICRC. It profiled the most pressing humanitarian challenges, raising awareness of the long-lasting impact of conflict on civilians and the vulnerabilities of victims of armed conflict.

The campaign, led jointly by the ICRC and the International Federation, was rolled out at all levels of the Movement in a manner that made it adaptable to various target groups. Innovative use of various communication techniques, including a web portal, online marketing, social networking, extensive media coverage and special events, mobilized hundreds of thousands of people worldwide to get involved in the campaign. Of particular note was 24 June in Solferino, when more than 13,000 young people gathered from around the world to commemorate the anniversary. On 12 August, a diplomatic event marked the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and focused on the continued relevance of the Conventions and IHL today. National Societies in 135 countries used the campaign

slogan and tools to promote the campaign and related key messages. More than 560 events, from photo exhibitions to round-table discussions, were held in over 130 countries. Some 20 celebrities from around the world – including renowned athletes, internationally acclaimed musicians and prominent artists – endorsed the campaign via video clips and in statements on the web portal.

As part of the campaign, a global research study, entitled “Our world: views from the field”, was carried out in Afghanistan, Colombia, the DRC, Georgia, Haiti, Lebanon, Liberia and the Philippines. The study, which combined qualitative and quantitative research, aimed to develop a better understanding of people’s needs and expectations, to gather views and opinions and to give a voice to those affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

Partnerships allow the ICRC to promote its work within the local community and to develop its working relationships with other Movement partners. A project carried out with the Services Industriels de Genève enabled a photo exhibition to be shown in the centre of Geneva and to light up buildings of significance to the ICRC and the birth of the Red Cross.

The ICRC completed an independent study aiming to gain a more thorough understanding of the role of neutrality in its field operations. Field work in Afghanistan provided valuable insight into how the ICRC’s neutral approach was perceived.

Communication research enabled the ICRC to track and manage its public reputation among key target groups. The research was conducted among the media, the military, political authorities and National Societies with the view to ensuring that the ICRC’s work and messages are understood and accepted. Follow-up measures were undertaken to address any issues identified among specific audiences. This included measures to ensure that public communication targeting the media systematically reflected the ICRC’s neutrality, impartiality and independence as well as its operational competency, all deemed key to its reputation.

To assess the pertinence and impact of its products, campaigns and public communication activities, the ICRC further developed evaluation tools. In particular, an impact evaluation of the organization’s media and public communication efforts in the Gaza Strip was undertaken with a view to assessing whether the ICRC’s key messages had been successfully communicated and providing recommendations to enhance the impact of future media work. The overall outcome was positive but confirmed the need to produce specific communication tools/checklists for crisis management (see below *Support for communication in the field*).

MULTILINGUAL COMMUNICATION

In keeping with its mission, the ICRC communicates with a wide range of stakeholders at the local, regional and international levels. In 2009, some 8 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 broad variety of public communication materials, including media products and materials for the ICRC website, publications, donor documentation and public statements, and documents of a legal and operational nature.

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 as they go about their daily work, and that other weapon bearers respect IHL and support, or refrain from actively opposing, humanitarian action. To this end, it maintained relations throughout 2009 with the armed forces of 160 countries and with 60 armed groups (in some 30 operational contexts, mostly situations of non-international armed conflict) and several private military and security companies. Conducted within a reference framework for relations with all weapon bearers, these activities were performed by a variety of ICRC personnel, including some 30 specialized delegates.

The ICRC consolidated its relations in particular with armed forces that resorted to force, either at home or abroad. An additional specialized delegate position was created in Israel (based in Tel Aviv), to reinforce the existing dialogue with the Israeli Defense Forces, and in Pakistan (Islamabad) owing to the importance of the dialogue with armed forces there. Specialized ICRC delegates in Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America observed the implementation of IHL or 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 going to Afghanistan or Iraq. Specialized delegates continued to support the efforts of weapon bearers to disseminate IHL or human rights law, to integrate these 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 with armed, police and security forces on the use of force, further consolidating contacts with key individuals at the policy-making level and with academies and institutes.

The third Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations (SWIRMO) which has evolved into an annual event held alternately in Switzerland and another country – took place in France. It enabled the ICRC to reinforce its relations with nearly 50 generals and senior officers from 50 countries, using practical case studies to foster exchanges on ways of implementing relevant legal norms.

Delegates around the world strove to engage in dialogue with armed groups and to strengthen acceptance of the ICRC and respect for IHL. The production of a CD-ROM of material for other weapon bearers, including the film *Words of Warriors*, aimed to help them raise awareness among armed groups of the need to respect IHL and ICRC action. A new publication, *Law Enforcement*, became available, summarizing the essential norms of IHL and international human rights law. To illustrate issues such as the use of force, arrest and detention in context and so reinforce key messages, ICRC delegates also had at their disposal a new image database with more than 250 pictures related to the activities of police and security forces worldwide.

The Salvadorian Armed Forces and the ICRC carried out a joint evaluation of the level of integration of IHL in their education, training and doctrine, which brought recommendations for both parties to enhance their respective efforts regarding IHL integration (see *Mexico City*).

In September, the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Brigade held a regional peace-keeping exercise, “Golfinho 2009”, in Lohatla, South Africa, to test its preparedness to send troops to a multinational peacekeeping operation in a complex emergency; 6,600 soldiers from 12 out of 15 SADC member States participated. The ICRC’s involvement as the only international humanitarian organization in “Golfinho 2009” and in a similar exercise (“Amani MAPEX”) organized by the African Union in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) in August significantly improved the perception and understanding of the ICRC and its activities.

In November, the ICRC attended for the first time an international symposium hosted by China’s People’s Liberation Army at its new peacekeeping training centre. Invitees included senior UN representatives in charge of peacekeeping operations, regional organizations and key countries involved in international peacekeeping. The ICRC, as the only humanitarian organization present, took the opportunity to reaffirm its role as a reference organization for IHL and to recall the relevance of IHL to peacekeeping and the current debate on protection of civilians.

Discussions continued between the ICRC and the most active private military and security companies, and meetings held in London and Washington with government representatives focused on the need for a regulatory framework and for disciplinary or criminal sanctions in the event of violations of the relevant laws. The ICRC thoroughly reviewed its own use of security companies around the world and adopted internal guidelines on the matter.

The International Institute for Humanitarian Law in San Remo continued to receive assistance and advice from the ICRC. Courses for air force and naval operators were organized with ICRC sponsorship and some 40 military officers from 27 countries received fellowships. The ICRC also financed projects to review the basic courses offered and to modernize classes.

REACHING OUT TO DECISION-MAKERS AND OPINION-FORMERS

ACADEMIC CIRCLES

Contact and partnerships with universities remained vital to fostering respect for IHL. Universities receive support for the teaching of IHL and its incorporation into university curricula and their professors participate in activities to develop, implement and promote the law. In 2009, more than 70 delegations worked with universities, co-organizing seminars, supporting student events to create momentum for the inclusion of IHL in curricula and carrying out other activities aimed at generating interest in IHL and stimulating debate on how to improve respect for the law. The ICRC provided curricular input and support for a network of academic institutes and universities identified as training grounds for future leaders and decision-makers. Some 30 ICRC delegations organized training courses designed to introduce professors to IHL and to explore ways of teaching it. More than 70 academics and humanitarian professionals benefited from intensive IHL courses organized by the ICRC in Poland and Switzerland. Delegations also facilitated the participation of teams of university students in the 21st edition of the annual Jean Pictet Competition, which brought together 56 teams from 36 countries.

In line with its mandate to foster the development of IHL and promote the emergence of local expertise throughout the world, the ICRC encouraged related research by university professors and students and provided them with a wide range of documents and teaching aids during the course of the year. More than 400 copies of the English and French editions of the ICRC’s casebook, *How does law protect in war?*, were distributed to practitioners, lecturers and students of IHL around the world. Work continued on new case materials in 2009 with a view to publishing revised and updated English and French editions of the casebook in 2010.

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 on IHL for member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. In 2009, strengthening programme ownership by education authorities remained a priority in many countries, calling for the development of clear strategies for integrating IHL education into the formal school curriculum and the promotion of programme sustainability. Education authorities and the ICRC together developed strategies for successfully completing all ongoing programmes by 2012 (instead of 2011). In 2009, the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was formally handed over to the Ministries of Education in Albania, Burundi, Chile, Jordan, Malaysia, Montenegro, Peru, Rwanda, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. Programmes were on track for completion and handover to the education authorities in some 10 additional contexts in 2010.

The Exploring Humanitarian Law Virtual Campus was promoted among a broader range of education stakeholders – education websites, teacher organizations and human rights/citizenship education groups – with a view to establishing the website as a reference for IHL education among a global audience. More than 13,000 visitors registered on the site during the year.

As part of a new approach to working with young people, the ICRC initiated an action research project aimed at exploring new methodologies for its work for children at risk of involvement in organized armed violence and strengthening its multidisciplinary response. Feasibility studies were conducted in the DRC and Nepal. Further studies and a “lessons learnt” exercise within the Movement were planned for 2010.

OTHER CIVIL SOCIETY TARGET GROUPS

The ICRC developed a greater understanding of National Societies’ aims and expectations in terms of promoting IHL and the Fundamental Principles. It examined various National Societies’ efforts in this field to determine how best to support them. The ICRC’s partnership with Nordic National Societies on “Communicating IHL and Neutral and Independent Humanitarian Action” aided this process.

The Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research and the ICRC co-organized a course on IHL and current conflicts for policy-makers and practitioners at Harvard University. The Program’s courses in Belgium, Jordan, Malaysia and Senegal also received support and ICRC delegations organized national and regional courses for humanitarian professionals.

Training resources continued to be developed for media professionals, with a view to improving media knowledge of the law applicable in armed conflicts and other situations of violence and of the Movement's work. The materials were pilot-tested in three contexts and are expected to be completed and produced in 2010.

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 210 groups (more than 6,000 people) to ICRC headquarters.

SUPPORT FOR COMMUNICATION IN THE FIELD

The challenge of securing acceptance of the ICRC's mission and promoting respect for IHL in highly polarized contexts calls for coherent communication strategies at the global, regional and local levels. In 2009, regional communication meetings were organized in Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa in order to consolidate analyses of regional trends, share best practices and draw up communication strategies. After the 2008 review and a series of preparatory meetings, a regional meeting in Moscow adopted a prevention strategy for Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The Communication Department contributed to institutional forward-thinking on various topics, such as strengthening security through increased proximity to the local population, the ICRC's response to situations of violence, and a review of programmes to support National Societies regarding IHL and the Fundamental Principles.

Strengthening the capacity of ICRC delegations to communicate effectively in complex and sensitive environments remained a top priority.

Fifteen support missions were carried out to delegations throughout the year. The principal aim of such missions is to strengthen the capacity and professional skills of communication teams through coaching. They also aimed to:

- ▶ help develop context-based communication strategies and planning, particularly in situations of violence and contexts with a regional strategic influence
- ▶ bolster National Society capacity to develop prevention activities in situations of violence and contexts in transition
- ▶ strengthen operational communication in priority contexts such as Afghanistan, Chad, Iraq, Pakistan and the Philippines, through workshops, ensuring that communication formed part of ICRC operational activities and enhanced acceptance of and support for the ICRC and its work

Some delegations received the necessary support to assess how the ICRC was perceived by influential groups. Such studies served to identify critical gaps in the ICRC's communication and to review the strategy accordingly.

Thanks to various training events, some 60 field communicators strengthened their capacity to develop coherent communication and networking strategies with and for a wide variety of target groups, and to position the ICRC as a reference organization for humanitarian action and IHL. In addition, some 80 other staff working in priority contexts received special training, enabling them to represent the institution appropriately where the acceptance of the ICRC and IHL is at stake, and 10 senior management staff enhanced their public communication skills.

A workshop on communication in rapid deployment situations provided headquarters and field staff with the opportunity to draw lessons from past crises (e.g. Gaza Strip, Georgia, Kenya), helped prepare the production of a crisis communication kit and prompted the decision to define special training for staff deployed in such circumstances. Experienced communication staff participated in skills-sharing/training workshops on "communication in crisis situations" aimed at enhancing the impact of ICRC communication at times of crisis and developing the related training course.

Headquarters and field staff continued to draw on the "COM toolbox" database, which was regularly updated with new or reviewed communication and monitoring tools. Headquarters also supported activities organized by delegations as part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign and ensured the centralization and worldwide sharing of information about all related events.

The Communication Department continued to carry out its human resources strategy, aiming to reinforce the ICRC's capacity to provide delegations with competent communication staff, both local and expatriate, in a timely and effective manner. In 2009, significant results included improvements in the recruitment of specialists, a lower turnover of experienced staff and a more even gender balance.

RESEARCH SERVICE, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Research Service

To help the ICRC achieve the best possible understanding of its operational and institutional working environment, the Research Service used a range of tools and internal and external resources to scan media and other public sources of information. It also provided comprehensive information on contexts in which the ICRC operates and offered guidance on sources of information. It continued to play 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 available to them.

A structured and systematic approach to tracking external trends and issues made it possible to provide pertinent and timely information to ICRC management and operational staff. In 2009, operational crises in contexts such as the Gaza Strip, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, as well as during the kidnapping of ICRC staff in the Philippines, required a daily digest of information on related public issues. The Research Service organized this work in close cooperation with ICRC regional delegations, enhancing the ICRC's capacity to monitor issues by drawing on local, regional and international information sources. Quarterly and annual statistical reports on ICRC visibility in the public domain guided public communication (in line with ICRC result-based management). The data showed that the Gaza Strip crisis in January provided the highest ICRC visibility in print, audio-visual and online media and blogs.

Headquarters and delegations were provided with a wide range of regularly produced and electronically distributed standard products (e.g. the newsletter *ICRC in the Press* and syntheses of information on humanitarian issues). On request or in response to events of particular relevance, ICRC field operations received documentary support in the form of ad hoc thematic and context-related research. All these products were redesigned for the new ICRC intranet.

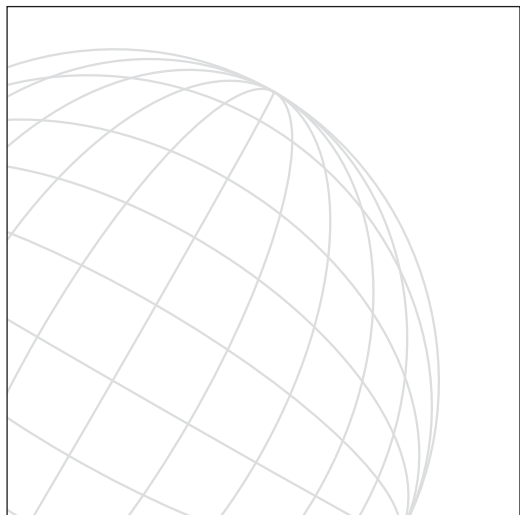
Library

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 150,000 books, periodicals, photographs and videos. An online catalogue is accessible through the ICRC's website. In 2009, the library started ambitious projects aimed at providing users with updated web technologies for library catalogues. Online access to full text and audiovisual documentation will be available in 2010.

Information management

In 2009, the Directorate reaffirmed that information is a strategic resource for the ICRC as it enables the organization to fulfil its mandate and accomplish its goals. It adopted a general overarching policy framework to supplement the many long-standing processes and procedures for information management and to improve control and management of the life cycle of documents and information. Such a policy is essential to inform decision-making processes effectively, improve the organization's performance and ensure that knowledge is retained by the ICRC.

In mid-2009, a head of project, appointed for one year, started work to implement the framework, whose guiding principles require both changes in working practices and re-definition or clarification of several policies. The roadmap adopted for this project focuses on four priority areas: rules governing staff members' access to information; guidelines on the application of confidentiality to specific items of information; guidance on structuring information; and ways to improve access to information networks for staff members when they are away from their desks.



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.

In 2009, an average of 9,991 national employees¹ (slightly more than in 2008) and 1,519 expatriates (slightly more) were working in the field, and 846 people were working at ICRC headquarters.

MEETING ONGOING CHALLENGES AND REQUIREMENTS

The Department strives continuously to reinforce the ICRC's capacity to manage its multidisciplinary and multicultural staff in increasingly complex environments.

By maintaining pools of personnel with different professional profiles, the Department was able to fill more than 97% of all field posts at any one time. During the course of the year, for various operational reasons, the ICRC reduced the number of posts for generalist delegates in some delegations (e.g. Chad, Sri Lanka and Sudan), which meant that the Department had to resolve unforeseen planning issues.

The demand for specialized delegates, particularly those with specific language and professional skills, remained high throughout the year. Thanks to significant efforts made to recruit more Arabic-speakers, the ICRC's Arabic-speaking pool included some 100 expatriate staff by the end of 2009.

The hostage crisis in Jolo, Philippines, followed by the abduction of two expatriates in Chad and Sudan who remained in captivity at the end of the year, mobilized several heads of personnel, mainly for the purpose of maintaining contact with and supporting the hostages' relatives. A review was under way aimed at making recommendations regarding improved long-term management of such situations.

PLANNING AND CAREER PATH MANAGEMENT

The Directorate has approved a reference framework for human resource management at the ICRC from recruitment to the end of the employment contract. The framework covers the administrative side of contract management, skills development, career-path management, support for those who leave the organization, health-related issues, and the protection of the physical and mental integrity of every individual. It includes several measures that aim to improve interaction between staff members, their line managers and the Human Resources Department regarding management of their career paths.

Building on the existing Career Assessment Commission for senior managers, similar commissions have been established for mid-level line managers and specialist middle managers. A general job description was drafted for each middle management function to help identify the skills required for management positions. This will be refined with a project launched to define more clearly the skills required in senior managers and the institutional outcome of the second round of management training for senior managers (see *People Leadership and Management* below).

1. Daily workers not included

The relevance and effectiveness of the Career Advisory Service (*Service Avenir*) was reviewed by a team of external consultants, which found that the services provided respond to a need but reach too few staff members. A plan of action will be proposed to the Directorate at the beginning of 2010.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

A project to overhaul the Department's data collection and management has begun in cooperation with the Finance and Administration Division. By the end of 2009, the extension of the existing data warehouse with human resources management statistics and indicators based on data extracted from human resources databases was in its final testing phase.

TRAINING

GLOBAL LEARNING AND TRAINING STRATEGY

In 2009, the Human Resources Training Unit, together with those responsible for training from all ICRC departments, refined and set up the general approach underlying all learning and training processes in the ICRC to achieve better coherence. This approach is based on three main pillars:

- ▶ a systematic analysis of training needs, taking into account operational realities in the field
- ▶ a learning method that includes self-teaching, distance learning (e-learning), classic training courses and work-based learning
- ▶ a thorough evaluation of all training courses

DEPLOYMENT OF THE NEW STAFF INTEGRATION PROGRAMME

The full cycle of the revamped introductory training course for new delegates, based on the approach described above, was held at ICRC headquarters and Regional Training Units in the field. Subsequent feedback and written evaluations confirmed that the initial objectives were reached.

PEOPLE LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The People Leadership and Management (PLM) training course for middle managers was successfully extended to delegation employees with managerial responsibilities.

A second round of training (PLM 2) was launched for senior managers, aiming to:

- ▶ support managers individually in their working environment
- ▶ define and implement institutional standards of competency regarding people and team management

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE

The ICRC learning resources centre (Centre des Ressources Educatives) opened its doors in 2009, offering:

- ▶ an online training platform
- ▶ pedagogical and technical support for all distance and e-learning training projects
- ▶ continuous training in the use of the platform and the creation of training software

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL PROCEDURES

With the support of external auditors, the administrative management system was revised and updated in response to changes in the ICRC's staff population and pursuant to the 2008 analysis of the complex management processes involved. This will ensure better control, coherence and transparency, as well as compliance with statutory and internal audit norms. The new set-up makes a clear distinction between operational and administrative management, including a better distribution of tasks between personnel managers and administrative managers. A new cross-cutting committee is responsible for governance and has an overview of all exceptions to management rules.

The new system offers a human resources "self-service" element, available early next year. Headquarters and field staff under Geneva contract will have permanent on-screen access to their own administrative human resources data. They will be able to modify them, manage requests for leave online, and eventually submit expense claims.

CONSOLIDATING THE RECRUITMENT BASE

Recruitment worked in closer cooperation with all units requesting staff, with a view to ensuring that new recruits correspond as closely as possible to the profiles required and are available as needed.

The ICRC remained an attractive employer in 2009, with the number of job applicants increasing to 6,200 (4,800 in 2008). There was an ongoing need for delegates with specific language skills such as Arabic (see above) and Pashto in order to facilitate ICRC access and proximity to the beneficiaries of ICRC operations in the Middle East and North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Overall, the number of newly hired staff decreased slightly from 330 in 2008 to 290 in 2009, but corresponded to the average of the past 10 years.

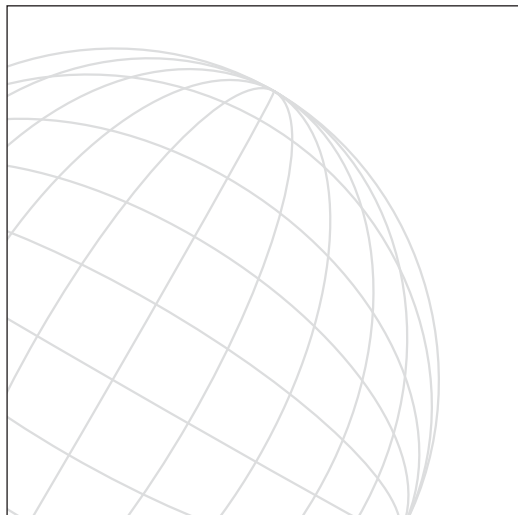
In keeping with the ICRC's policy of enhancing the international character of its expatriate staff, 86% of the delegates recruited for the first time in 2009 came from outside Switzerland. Also, 52% of new recruits were women.

The ICRC's current official working languages (English and French) sometimes hamper its ability to recruit expatriate staff from outside Switzerland and/or with specific language skills. Despite a first review of existing practice regarding recruitment and these languages, more work will be needed to address the issue with flexibility and efficiency while taking into consideration ICRC corporate culture.

STAFF HEALTH

The HIV/AIDS workplace programme aims to protect the rights of employees and fight stigmatization/discrimination of those who are or may be infected with HIV. It also aims to prevent HIV/AIDS through awareness-raising, training, education, voluntary counselling and testing, and by promoting behavioural changes among delegation employees, their families and expatriate staff via a global policy of prevention and awareness-raising. In Africa and Haiti, over 300 volunteer peer educators have been trained to support the programme. Complete medical care is provided, including drug therapy to lower morbidity and mortality.

In 2009, over 3,000 people in 24 countries benefited from the programme, including 50 patients who received anti-retroviral treatment.



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

Operational activities continued at full tilt in the first part of the year, but started to slow down in the second half as several operations, including some of the bigger ones, were hampered by insecurity (e.g. in Chad, Pakistan, Sudan's Darfur region, and Yemen) or access problems (e.g. in Indonesia and Sri Lanka). The ICRC's support services worked steadily to adapt and to ensure that delegations had adequate logistics and the communication technology and other resources they needed. Nine budget extensions were added to the initial annual budget (compared with 14 for 2008), reflecting the scope of emergencies requiring flexible and well-organized use of resources to address the most urgent needs in an efficient and timely manner.

The global financial economy appeared to be emerging from the worst financial and economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s, however unemployment continued to rise and recovery remains weak. Main donors largely kept their commitments towards the ICRC and the financial situation, including the level of liquidity, remained very satisfactory throughout the year.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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

In 2009, the Finance and Administration Division:

- ▶ took appropriate measures to mitigate the financial risks related to a forecast deficit
- ▶ improved the efficiency and effectiveness of finance/administration and logistics at headquarters and in the field, by contributing numerous resources to the business specifications for a single information technology platform for these support services
- ▶ after reviewing the financial control framework and methodology, took the necessary measures to ensure that related responsibilities are relevant and appropriate in terms of performance and workload
- ▶ piloted an improved headquarters planning/budgeting cycle and approach, thereby providing management with more relevant information on headquarters services; this included the integration of a new headquarters planning tool into the financial management system
- ▶ improved awareness of cost structures and budgets within the ICRC and initiated a worldwide review of infrastructure using ecological/sustainable development criteria
- ▶ consolidated and improved the institution-wide data warehouse for reporting purposes

Policies related to treasury management have been adapted and a revised organization put in place. A new fraud policy will be presented to the Directorate early in 2010.

In line with the ICRC's priority to enhance its capacity to be an effective partner for host National Societies, financial management and reporting issues regarding ICRC cooperation with National Societies were reviewed. This resulted in the drafting of financial principles to be validated by the Directorate in 2010. They aim to ensure better clarity and accountability regarding ICRC cooperation with National Societies in financial terms while, in view of the common working environment, keeping such cooperation as simple and straightforward as possible.

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 begun in 2007 on extending existing buildings to replace rented space was completed on schedule and within the allocated budget. The extensions were built according to ecological and sustainable development criteria. Construction work on a new logistics centre started during the summer of 2009.

INFORMATION DELIVERY

The ongoing objective in this area is to optimize the speed of information delivery (e.g. by mail) while maintaining reasonable cost levels. The focus in 2009 was on integrating and enhancing 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 sources of financial support in order to meet its objectives. It guarantees that donor requirements are given due consideration.

BUDGETS

The initial budget appeals for 2009, launched by the ICRC in November 2008, totalled CHF 1.2 billion. This was CHF 71.5 million higher than the preceding year's overall initial budget. The largest increase was in the Emergency Appeals for ICRC field operations, which amounted to CHF 996.9 million in 2009 as opposed to CHF 932.6 million in 2008. The Headquarters Appeal, for its part, increased from CHF 161.5 million in 2008 to CHF 168.6 million in 2009.

In the course of the year, donors received information about 9 budget extensions (8 budget extension appeals and 1 budget extension that drew from contingency funds – the Philippines). The extensions were drawn up in response to unforeseen events and substantial humanitarian needs brought about by the resurgence or intensification of hostilities in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Israel and the occupied territories, Pakistan (on two occasions), the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Zimbabwe (Harare regional).

EXPENDITURE

► Overall expenditure (including overheads)	CHF 1,117.1 million
► Headquarters	CHF 174.2 million
► Field operations	CHF 942.9 million

The implementation rate (field expenditure in cash, kind and services divided by final field budget – excluding contingency funds – multiplied by 100) for the activities the ICRC had planned to carry out in order to meet its objectives for the year was lower in 2009 than in previous years (2008: 95.1%; 2007: 90.8%), with expenditure reaching 86.2% of the overall final Emergency Appeals budget. This reflects mainly the ICRC's difficulties in deploying all its activities in Sri Lanka, the deliberate reduction of its activities in Chad and Sudan after two ICRC delegates had been kidnapped there, and security and access issues in some contexts (e.g. Pakistan and Yemen).

CONTRIBUTIONS

► Total contributions received in 2009: CHF 1,099.4 million

Funding sources and patterns were the same as in previous years. In 2009, the proportion of support from governments was 81.4% (2008: 80.1%; 2007: 80.1%), while that from National Societies slightly increased to 4.8% (2008: 4.6%; 2007: 5.9%). Funding received from the European Commission slightly decreased to 10.6% (2008: 11.3%; 2007: 11.1%), while contributions from various other public and private sources amounted to 3.0% (2008: 3.6%; 2007: 2.6%).

The United States of America remained the ICRC's largest donor, accounting for 25.7% (CHF 282.4 million) of all contributions received and 27.8% (CHF 265.6 million) of funding for field operations. The European Commission ranked second with a contribution of CHF 116.7 million, which accounted for 10.6% of all contributions received and 12.2 % (CHF 116.7 million) of funding for field operations. Switzerland's total contribution of CHF 105.7 million was the third largest. The 2009 contribution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland fell to CHF 91.6 million (from CHF 139.1 million in 2008), partly because of the unfavourable exchange rate.

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 comprising over 40% of flexibly earmarked funds include Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Greece, Ireland, Kuwait, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America.

The ICRC's Donor Support Group (DSG) – made up of those governments contributing more than CHF 10 million in cash annually – comprised 19 members in 2009. Its annual meeting was hosted by the Spanish government.

(in CHF million)

► Name of donor (DSG member)	Cash: Headquarters	Cash: Field	Total Cash	Total Kind	Total Services	Grand Total
Australia	1.48	23.32	24.80			24.80
Belgium	1.12	10.13	11.24			11.24
Canada	2.79	35.99	38.77			38.77
Denmark	4.07	6.48	10.55		0.57	11.12
European Commission		116.72	116.72			116.72
Finland	1.49	9.53	11.02	1.90		12.92
France	1.51	16.12	17.63			17.63
Germany	2.25	28.55	30.80			30.80
Ireland	0.20	10.42	10.62			10.62
Italy	0.76	9.53	10.29			10.29
Japan	0.76	29.45	30.21			30.21
Luxembourg	1.19	9.30	10.49			10.49
Netherlands	5.68	36.70	42.38			42.38
Norway	4.18	41.96	46.13	2.79		48.93
Spain	1.07	22.24	23.31			23.31
Sweden	6.31	63.26	69.56		0.12	69.68
Switzerland	71.20	34.54	105.74			105.74
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	0.92	90.68	91.60			91.60
United States of America	16.80	265.61	282.41			282.41

CONTRIBUTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE HEADQUARTERS APPEAL

A total of CHF 142.6 million was received in contributions for the headquarters budget: CHF 131.7 million from 76 governments, CHF 6.5 million from 82 National Societies and CHF 4.5 million from a number of other private and public sources.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE EMERGENCY APPEALS

► Cash component	CHF 929.3 million (2008: 977.4 million; 2007: 849.8 million)
► In-kind component	CHF 12.9 million (2008: 9.1 million; 2007: 4.2 million)
► Services	CHF 14.5 million (2008: 11.3 million; 2007: 9.3 million)
► Assets	CHF 0.0 million (2008: 0.0 million; 2007: 0.01 million)

In total, CHF 763.3 million were provided for ICRC field operations by 42 governments, CHF 116.7 million by the European Commission, CHF 45.9 million by 34 National Societies and the International Federation, CHF 2.1 million by a variety of supranational and international organizations, and CHF 28.8 million by public and private sources. These include Ted H. and Elsbeth Pfeiffer, Rotary International, UEFA and the members of the ICRC Corporate Support Group (ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd, AVINA STIFTUNG, Crédit Suisse, F. Hoffmann La Roche Ltd, Fondation Hans Wilsdorf, Holcim Ltd, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie, Swiss Reinsurance Company, Vontobel Holding AG and Zurich Financial Services).

FLEXIBILITY IN FUNDING

Specific donor requirements in terms of earmarking and reporting were generally the same in 2009 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.

► 2009 non-earmarked cash contributions	CHF 264.3 million / 24.7% (25.8% in 2008; 28.4% in 2007)
► 2009 tightly earmarked cash contributions	CHF 222.4 million / 20.8% (18.4% in 2008; 13.8% in 2007)

At 24.7% in 2009, the proportion of non-earmarked cash contributions ("core funding") made in response to the ICRC's Emergency and Headquarters Appeals was less than in 2008 (25.8%). Apart from certain private donations, most non-earmarked funds for both the Emergency Appeals and the Mine Action Special Appeal came from 21 governments (most notably from Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), the Norwegian Red Cross and the canton of Geneva.

Cash contributions loosely earmarked for a given region, country or programme represented 54.4% (CHF 581.2 million) of the total.

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. It already has such agreements with Belgium, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The ICRC is aware that donor planning constraints and national budget and financial regulations do not easily allow donors to commit themselves over the medium term, as it 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.

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 1,099.4 million)
► 82 governments and the European Commission	CHF 1,011.7 million / 92.0% (2008: 91.4%; 2007: 91.2%)
► Top 10 governments including the European Commission	CHF 857.2 million / 78.0% (2008: 77.6%; 2007: 78.4%)
► Top 5 governments including the European Commission	CHF 666.2 million / 60.6% (2008: 60.4%; 2007: 59.8%)

Contributions were received from 91 National Societies (2008: 85; 2007: 77) and the International Federation.

In all, 82 governments (2008: 90; 2007: 80) and the European Commission responded to the ICRC Appeals, a much appreciated contribution of these governments to the ICRC.

RELATIONS WITH THE CORPORATE SECTOR

The ICRC also sees the business sector as a major stakeholder in its work. The ICRC and a group of selected Swiss companies set up the Corporate Support Group (CSG) in 2005, establishing an innovative and long-term partnership. The Group's founding members are: ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd, F. Hoffmann La Roche Ltd., Fondation Hans Wilsdorf, Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie, Swiss Reinsurance Company, Vontobel Group, and Zurich Financial Services. The Credit Suisse Group and the AVINA STIFTUNG joined the Corporate Support Group in 2008; Holcim started supporting ICRC activities in 2009, more particularly the provision of clean water in Sudan, where the ICRC has concentrated on addressing the urgent needs of vulnerable people in remote rural areas.

The 2009 CSG plenary meeting took place in November and was hosted by ABB in Baden (Switzerland).

On 2 October 2009, 18 experts from the ICRC's corporate partners attended a workshop on "Business and Conflict" in Zurich (Switzerland). The workshop explored new challenges in the relationship between business and IHL, more broadly in the relationship between business operations and conflict situations.

Members of the CSG 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 2009 Emergency and Headquarters Appeals, which were launched in November 2008, were followed in the course of 2009 by 1 preliminary appeal and 9 budget extensions approved by the Assembly Council.

The ICRC reported to donors on all its field operations by means of the Midterm Report, which covers field operations from January to May. The second part of the 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, plans of action and indicators set out in the Emergency Appeals for 2009 (and budget extensions). They are result-based whenever possible and include the standard figures and indicators about ICRC activities by context, once again enhanced in the present report since their introduction in the 2005 Annual Report.

Financial updates were similarly provided on a monthly basis, from March to November. 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 55 updates covering a wide range of operations and in the Special Report on Mine Action in 2008.

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.

The Steering Committee on Information Systems decided to postpone a decision on the update of the IT strategy until the adoption of the ICRC strategy for 2010–2014.

FIELD

The Information Systems Division's main focus and achievements in 2009 can be summarized as follows:

- ▶ by the end of the year, around 150 ICRC sites had been connected to the ICRC WAN (Wide Area Network) through permanent connections between the field and headquarters, including 90 connected during 2009:
 - 18 of 150 sites were primarily connected by VSAT (very small aperture terminal – satellite connections)
 - 50 sites remained to be installed if technically and administratively possible, of which 35 will need VSAT connections as their primary or backup connection; obtaining the necessary authorizations continued to be the major challenge in nearly all countries
- ▶ new applications deployed worldwide included:
 - “Synergy”, which is composed of an application for economic security project management (EPMT) and water and habitat project management (WPA) interconnected with a new version of the Field Supply System logistics application (FSS-2); “Synergy” is linked to the “Donation to Distribution” application (D2D), which is already partially available at headquarters
 - a family visits management tool for the ICRC delegation in Israel and the Occupied Territories that can be easily adapted for use in other contexts
 - a new version of patient management software for prosthetic/orthotic centres (PMS V4)
 - new medical assistance software (MAD) pilot-tested in some countries
 - the contingency plan database (one per country) set up in many countries; in parallel, IT kits are maintained for rapid deployment in emergencies
- ▶ monthly updates, patches and bug fixes ensured that the infrastructure and field platform were regularly updated

HEADQUARTERS

Important work for adapting the headquarters infrastructure to the new requirements included:

- ▶ defining the next operating system platform and beginning the related integration project with a view to deployment in 2011
- ▶ completely changing the optic fibre network
- ▶ integrating new security redundancies
- ▶ changing all network switches

- ▶ adapting and testing the Disaster Recovery Plan to minimize the single point of failure
- ▶ making secure remote access to IT resources at headquarters available for use by ICRC headquarters staff during travel worldwide or for working from home
- ▶ developing a new authentication infrastructure providing a better response to increased mobility
- ▶ establishing an SMS alert tool for the rapid mobilization of operational teams

By the end of 2009, a number of major strategic software applications were in their final testing phase before their worldwide deployment in 2010, including:

- ▶ the ICRC messaging systems
- ▶ the Content Management System (CMS) for the ICRC's websites and intranet
- ▶ D2D
- ▶ the expansion of the data warehouse to incorporate human resources data extracted from human resources databases

Other applications that started to be used included the “Pandemic Contingency Plan” and the new planning software for headquarters planning and budget.

The project to select and install a new helpdesk tool is ongoing. The new tool will have to cover a large spectrum of services. The final choice and implementation were delayed by operational constraints and postponed to 2010.

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 2009 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.

- ▶ Within the framework of the “LOG 2010 Organization and Infrastructure Project” (LOG 2010), the ICRC logistics set-up was reinforced with regional purchasing positions in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) and Amman (Jordan) and regional emergency relief stockpiles pre-positioned in Abidjan, Amman, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Panama City (Panama) and Peshawar (Pakistan) to enhance logistical capacity and flexibility.
- ▶ In Pakistan and Sudan (Darfur), 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 conflict-related crises in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, the DRC, Israel and the occupied territories, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the Philippines and Somalia, the ICRC bolstered its capacity to provide relief and surgical supplies through its logistics bases in Abidjan, Amman, Geneva (Switzerland), Nairobi (Kenya) and Peshawar.

The deployment of FSS-2 (see above *Information Systems – Field*) included a newly developed electronic training tool. A new version of the air operations management software (Airops-2) went into operation while deployment of International Transport software had to be postponed for technical reasons.

In 2009, 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 within large-scale operations abroad. Specialist training was developed in all logistics functions.

In the framework of LOG 2010, and in close cooperation with other departments and divisions, the Logistics Division worked on three projects:

- ▶ regional emergency stocks were set up according to plan and proved their efficiency in a number of emergency operations
- ▶ improvements in human resources management during emergencies were being implemented after a needs analysis led to a review of existing logistics training
- ▶ pursuant to the decision to broaden the scope of the supply chain information system component, the Division contributed to the business specifications for a single information technology platform for both finance/ administration and logistics (see above *Finance and administration – Financial management*)

WORKING IN HARMONY WITH PARTNERS

Reviewed and updated in cooperation with the International Federation and National Societies, the new edition of *The Emergency Items Catalogue* was issued and a new web version went live.

In close coordination with the International Federation, ICRC logistics staff participated actively in the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre Logistics Cluster Group and met regularly with other leading logistics players.

WFP and the ICRC worked to ensure that the two organizations did not duplicate efforts, maximized efficiency and coordination, and promoted information-sharing in the field and at headquarters. In order to reduce air operation costs, the ICRC and Médecins Sans Frontières shared two aircraft operated by the ICRC in the Central African Republic and the DRC.

After the successful launch of the Certification in Humanitarian Logistics and Certificate in Humanitarian Supply Chain Management developed at inter-agency level (CARE, ICRC, Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and others), the third joint training course on Humanitarian Medical Logistics was launched.

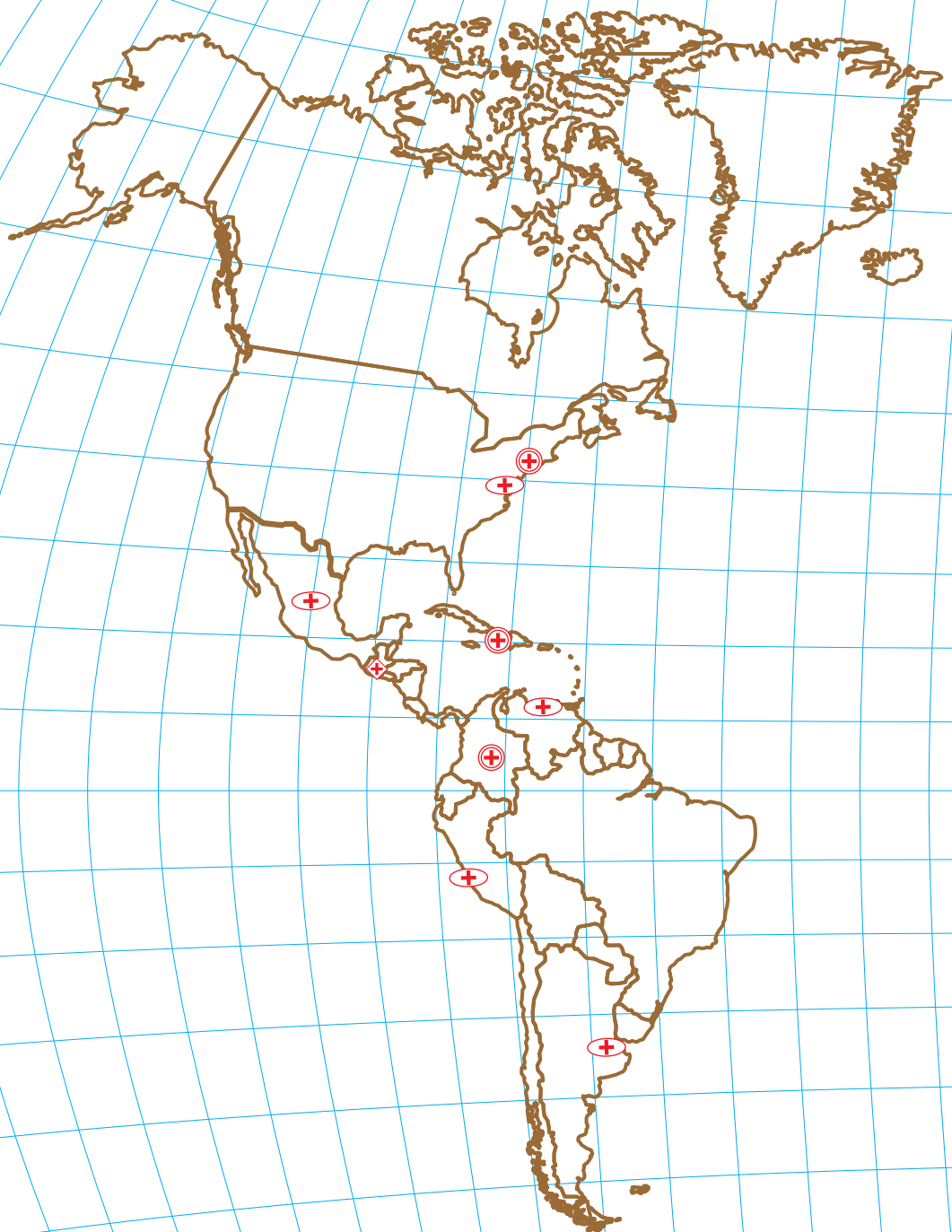






OPERATIONS





the ICRC around the world



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



ICRC headquarters



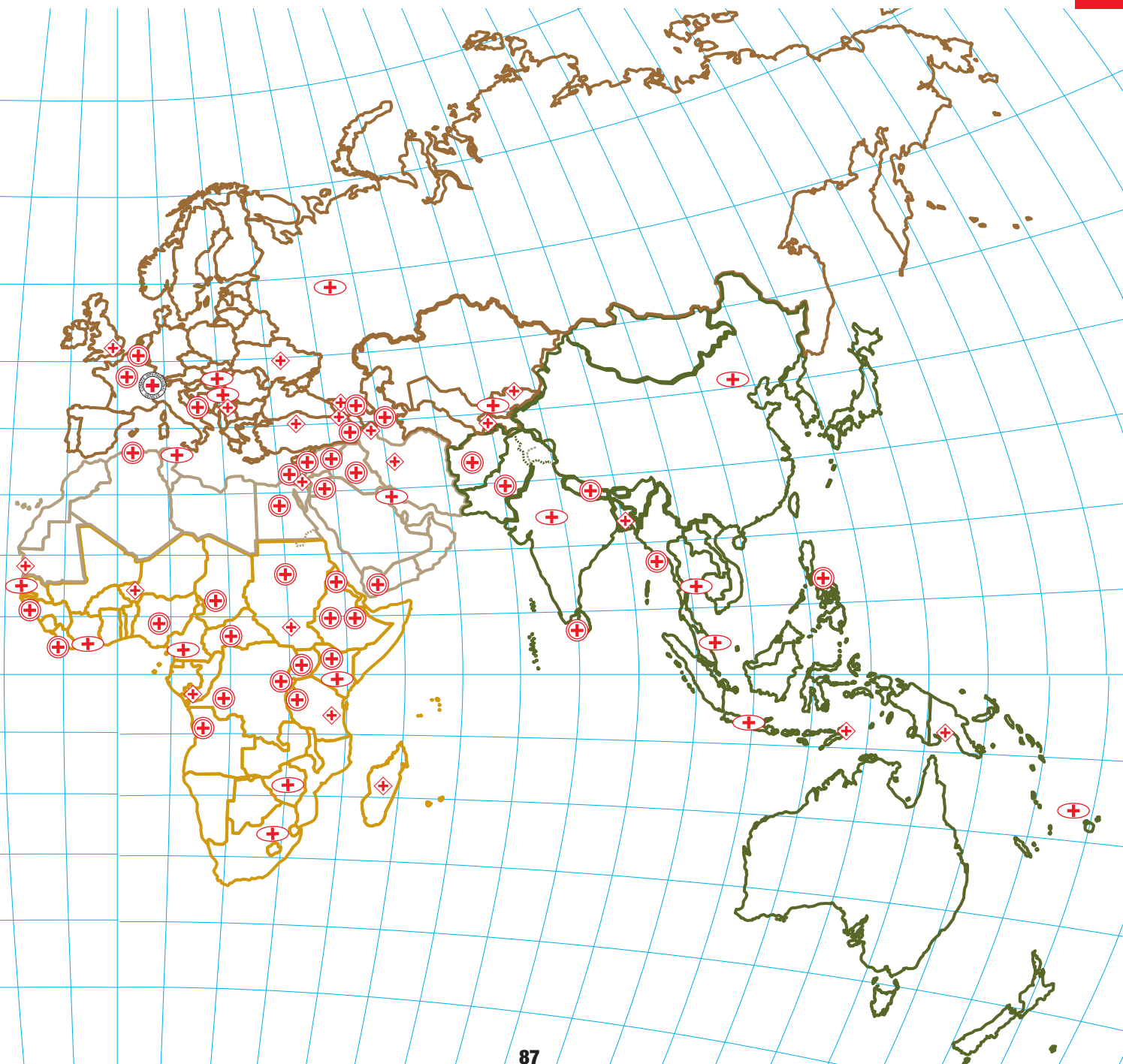
ICRC delegation

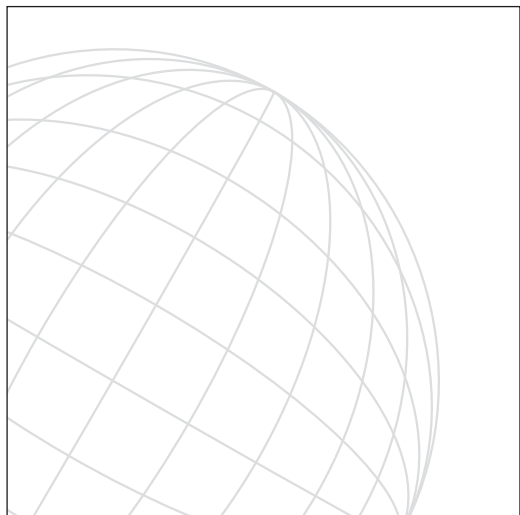


ICRC regional delegation



ICRC mission





operational highlights



Thierry Gassmann/ICRC

Pierre Krähenbühl
Director of Operations

CONFLICT ENVIRONMENTS AND CHALLENGES FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In 2009, the ICRC operated in contexts marked by a number of striking common features. The first noticeable characteristic of today's conflicts is their average duration. In most cases, the ICRC has now been present for two, three or even four decades. In other words, conflicts experience a combination of acute and chronic phases and rarely come to a clear-cut end, with a specific peace agreement to chart the next phase of a country's history.

Many of today's conflicts have economic roots and revolve primarily around competition for access to critical energy resources; this often explains why they are difficult to contain or to resolve. They may also have tribal, ethnic or religious dimensions, and may be characterized by the coexistence of armed groups whose *raison d'être* and primary motives tend to switch from professed political grievances to acts of banditry.

A feature shared by several conflict situations was the coexistence of multiple factors and their overlapping impact on groups at risk. The combination of weakened State institutions, collapsing infrastructure and open hostilities, mixed with politically driven protagonists and criminal groups, on the one hand, and environmental degradation, drought, floods or pandemics, on the other, rendered entire populations extremely vulnerable. The inherent complexity of such environments, often combined with high levels of insecurity, made it particularly problematic to determine the most relevant response to the needs.

The economic crisis has also had a marked impact on people in conflict-affected or fragile States. It is difficult to offer a comprehensive reading of the situation, but several elements were of serious concern. These included the decline in foreign and national investments in critical industries, which in some countries has led to closures and significant jobs losses, and a fall in remittances, which in many conflict-affected countries undermined the livelihoods and coping mechanisms of large numbers of families. Nevertheless, to date, and contrary to the 2008 food crisis, the economic crisis appears in itself not to have triggered immediate and large-scale armed unrest.

Throughout 2009, the staff of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and ICRC field staff were confronted with the multiple risks, difficulties and suffering that had a cruel impact on the lives of men, women and children in armed conflicts and other situations of violence around the world. The ICRC centred its analysis and action on these individuals and communities, focusing on people *directly* affected by fighting: the wounded, endangered civilians, IDPs fleeing the battle zone, and detainees at risk of ill-treatment or disappearance.

But armed conflicts also had *indirect* effects that resulted from: prolonged restriction of movement and various forms of humiliation; steady deterioration in health and sanitation conditions in and around conflict zones, leading to deaths from largely preventable illnesses and communicable diseases; and lack of access to safe water, arable land, basic services or humanitarian assistance.

OPERATIONS: REVIEW, APPROACH AND THEMATIC CHALLENGES

In terms of ICRC field operations, 2009 was a particularly intense year. Several contexts highlighted the added value of the ICRC's sustained presence, neutrality, impartiality and independence, of its networks and strategic partnerships with National Societies, as well as its ability to deploy and respond swiftly when needed.

The ICRC showed a strong resolve to live up to the responsibilities and pressures resulting from the highest-ever initial field budget (CHF 997 million), from nine separate budget extensions amounting to CHF 144 million (Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Pakistan (2), the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Zimbabwe), and from a range of other demanding operations in contexts such as Chad, Colombia, Iraq, the Sahel region, Somalia, the southern Caucasus and Sudan.

At the same time, the ICRC faced numerous challenges to its neutral, impartial and independent approach. Limitations on access, for political or security reasons or owing to the parties'

failure to accept its work, remained a constant concern. In 2009, the ICRC experienced several serious incidents: three of its national staff members were killed in Sri Lanka, one national staff member was killed in a car-bomb attack that struck indiscriminately in Afghanistan and another was killed in the Central African Republic. Three staff members were held hostage in the Philippines for six months, a horrendous ordeal for them and their families that placed considerable pressure on the delegation and the ICRC as a whole. Furthermore, at the end of the year, two expatriate staff members remained in the hands of armed men after being abducted in Darfur, Sudan, in late October and in eastern Chad in November. As in the Philippines, a crisis cell continued to work hard to secure their release and safe return as soon as possible.

In 2009, the ICRC strengthened its field-based cooperation with host National Societies in a range of countries. The resulting achievements reinforced its commitment to this approach. Support from National Societies working internationally proved invaluable, particularly in terms of staff, expertise and other contributions provided during emergencies (for example the deployment of field hospitals).

The ICRC maintained its approach – reality-based and response-oriented – to coordination with other humanitarian players. Its representatives attended numerous coordination meetings and forged strong bilateral relations with NGOs or UN agencies in fields of common interest in order to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.

AFRICA

Somalia continued to be a major operational challenge. For the past 20 years, the Somali population has had to endure multiple pressures: civilians have been injured or killed, displaced as a result of ever-changing battle lines, or have suffered the combined effects of drought and floods, soaring food prices and dwindling remittances from abroad. The country remained particularly difficult in terms of access to populations in need. The ICRC maintained its medical response capacity by keeping up support to Mogadishu's main hospitals and the Somali Red Crescent Society's network of clinics in areas where IDPs had gathered, in addition to providing affected civilians with substantial deliveries of food, water and other supplies throughout the year.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, despite a number of positive developments over the past few years, the eastern region remained unstable and continued to be affected by bitter armed clashes between the various parties. People's lives and livelihoods were once again under acute threat. Tens of thousands of newly displaced people, including countless children, lost contact with their families and suffered extreme forms of abuse, such as rape, and even death. During crisis peaks, the ICRC worked with the National Society to provide essential household items, food and emergency access to water and sanitation. It also helped restart agricultural production, protect livelihoods and generate income in areas chronically affected by the armed conflict. The ICRC pursued its protection efforts, notably to assist victims of sexual violence by supporting some 30 "*maisons d'écoute*" or counselling centres.

In Sudan and eastern Chad, the conflicts grew less intense. The ICRC continued to focus on providing livelihood support through a range of activities including livestock vaccination and

seed and tool distributions. It also stayed involved in various assistance programmes in Gereida camp (Darfur) and medical support to hospitals in Abéché and N'Djamena (Chad). In southern Sudan, the ICRC reinforced its response to increasing violence resulting from inter-communal strife and the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army.

The abduction of two of its staff in Darfur and eastern Chad in October and November 2009 was a serious blow to the ICRC. The organization was forced to put on hold many of its activities in those regions pending both delegates' release and safe return.

Elsewhere in Africa, the ICRC was able to develop its activities, for example in Zimbabwe, where it visited detainees, provided substantial nutritional support and carried out medical and water projects in parts of Harare and various other regions. In addition, the ICRC was active alongside the National Society in Guinea during the outbursts of violence in Conakry and continued to operate in the north of Mali and Niger, responding to various forms of violence by assisting IDPs and vulnerable migrants, providing medical aid and training, and visiting detainees.

ASIA

South Asia remained volatile throughout 2009. In Sri Lanka, armed conflict was brought to an end by outright military means, a rare occurrence in recent years. During the latter part of 2008 and until May 2009, there were fierce clashes between the Sri Lankan armed forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Prevented from leaving the area, the civilian population in the Vanni region suffered the effects of bitter fighting: loss of life, injuries and multiple displacements. ICRC staff remained present and operational throughout the worst of the fighting and were able to assist thousands of civilians and evacuate more than 13,000 people including 6,600 wounded and sick people by sea-route and ferry. Immediately after the conflict, the ICRC engaged in dialogue with the Sri Lankan authorities to define its role and priorities in the changed environment.

Afghanistan experienced a further intensification and widening of the conflict. While the United States of America deployed additional troops in the spring, the armed opposition increased the scale of its operations and attacks. The ICRC and the Afghan Red Crescent Society broadened their medical activities in response to the growing number of injured and vulnerable civilians. Hospital support was increased, as was the number of first-aid posts and volunteers in volatile areas. The ICRC continued to deploy substantial activities for detainees and developed its dialogue with the US armed forces and the command of the International Security Assistance Force on the conduct of hostilities and their impact on civilians. Similarly, it reinforced its dialogue with the armed opposition groups on their methods of combat and their impact on civilians. For the first time the ICRC visited prisoners held by the armed opposition. The added value of the ICRC's neutrality and independence was widely recognized.

In Pakistan, the ICRC scaled up its operations in response to the impact of the violence affecting the country. Together with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, some 1.5 million people, almost half of them IDPs, were assisted, mainly in North-West Frontier Province and parts of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas. The ICRC set up and operated a field hospital in Peshawar to deal with the large number of people wounded as a result of the

violence. As this was a more recent operation, it had to engage in sustained dialogue with the Pakistani authorities at all levels and with the general public to nurture understanding of the ICRC's way of operating and to ensure the transparency of its actions.

In India, the ICRC pursued its activities in Jammu and Kashmir, visiting people arrested and detained in relation to the situation there. It provided support for Indian Red Cross Society assistance activities in areas affected by violence, including primary health care services, and worked to develop the National Society's emergency response capacity.

Throughout 2009, the ICRC carried out diverse activities for IDPs in the Central Mindanao region of the Philippines. During the first half of the year, after three of its staff (a Filipino, an Italian and a Swiss) had been abducted on the island of Sulu, the delegation in Manila, supported by ICRC headquarters, managed the hostage crisis. The support of the Philippines government and the National Society and coordination with the governments of Switzerland and Italy were crucial throughout the crisis.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with the government of Myanmar in ongoing efforts to overcome the difficulties it had encountered since 2005 in visiting detainees and assisting needy civilians.

The ICRC delegations in Beijing (China), Jakarta (Indonesia), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and New Delhi (India), and the new office in Tokyo (Japan) deepened their dialogue with authorities and institutions in the countries covered and with regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. This underpinned the ICRC's long-term commitment to building relations and enhancing understanding of humanitarian action worldwide and of the ICRC's working methods and priorities in particular.

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

The ICRC maintained large-scale operations in Colombia throughout 2009 in response to the lasting armed conflict between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. The impact of the fighting was felt increasingly in remote border regions, notably in the south of the country and along Colombia's Pacific coastal areas. The ICRC addressed in particular the impact of violence on civilians, who were at risk of being killed, injured, threatened, sexually abused or displaced and exposed to the hazards of extensive use of landmines.

In response to the needs of victims of urban violence in Brazil, the ICRC, in partnership with the Brazilian Red Cross, expanded its medical and first-aid activities to seven *favelas* in Rio de Janeiro. It also engaged in efforts to broaden its overall dialogue with the Brazilian government on humanitarian priorities worldwide.

The ICRC also maintained activities for and engaged in dialogue with a variety of target groups in other Latin American countries, notably the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Peru and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

ICRC delegates continued to visit people held by the US authorities in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, and in Afghanistan and Iraq. The constructive dialogue between the US administration and the ICRC was strengthened, as shown by the decision of the

US Department of Defense to notify the ICRC of all persons detained within two weeks of their capture.

In Europe, the ICRC stayed actively involved in ongoing efforts to address the issue of people unaccounted for as a result of the various conflicts in the northern and southern Caucasus and in the Western Balkans. It dealt with the aftermath of the 2008 international armed conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation, notably by continuing its assistance programmes for IDPs and helping families that had been separated, and further developed its dialogue with the authorities of the Russian Federation on humanitarian concerns worldwide.

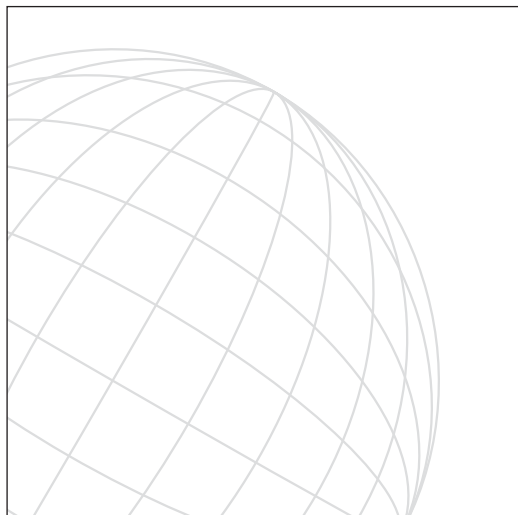
Throughout the year, the ICRC engaged with various European Union institutions, UN bodies and agencies and their member States on critical humanitarian issues. It also supported initiatives to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions with a series of seminars on the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

The year began with a particularly acute crisis when the Israeli Defense Forces launched operation "Cast Lead" against armed groups and the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip. The intensity of the operation and the use of force in this densely populated area resulted in high numbers of casualties among civilians and widespread destruction. Civilians in southern Israel lived in fear of rockets fired from within the Gaza Strip. The Palestine Red Crescent Society carried out life-saving medical evacuations, with the ICRC facilitating the smooth running of its ambulance service. In addition, the ICRC supplied hospitals and carried out critical repairs to keep water, electricity and waste disposal systems going. Both the Israeli Defense Forces and Hamas received written representations from the ICRC regarding their conduct of operations in Gaza.

Iraq had experienced a number of improvements in terms of security and the transition of authority from international forces to Iraqi security services in 2008 and early 2009. In the second half of 2009, a series of coordinated deadly attacks in several cities, including Baghdad, inflicted an extremely heavy toll on the civilian population. The ICRC gradually stepped up direct implementation of its activities inside Iraq, basing permanent expatriate staff in various locations. It gave priority to activities for detainees, primarily those under Iraqi authority, the search for missing persons from past conflicts, and ensuring water and medical supplies. It also ran several programmes to support households headed by women.

Finally, Yemen experienced varying degrees of tension and conflict, notably in the north of the country. The ICRC and the Yemen Red Crescent Society carried out major assistance activities (relief, water and medical) for affected IDPs and residents. In Northern Amran and Saada provinces, the ICRC had to continuously adapt its presence to the fragile security environment.



ICRC operations in 2009: a few facts, figures and results

PRESENCE

In 2009, the ICRC was present in more than 80 countries through delegations, sub-delegations, offices and missions. Its delegations and missions were distributed throughout the world as follows:

► Africa	27
► Asia and the Pacific	14
► Europe and the Americas	27
► Middle East and North Africa	12

PERSONNEL

The average number of ICRC staff in 2009 was as follows:

► Headquarters:	846
Field: expatriates	
Expatriates	1,357
National Society staff	143
National staff on temporary mission	16
Field: national staff	9,991
► Field: total ¹	11,507
Final total	12,353

1. This figure does not include an average of 1,350 daily workers hired by the ICRC in the field

FINANCE

► ICRC expenditure in 2009

In million

Headquarters	CHF 174.2	USD 160.6	EUR 115.5
Field	CHF 942.9	USD 869.2	EUR 625.2

The sub-total comes to CHF 1,117.1 million, from which field overheads (CHF 56.8 million) must be deducted in order to reach the final total.

Final total:	CHF 1,060.3	USD 977.4	EUR 703.1
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► 10 largest operations in 2009 in terms of expenditure

In million

1 Iraq	CHF 85.7	USD 79.0	EUR 56.9
2 Sudan	CHF 77.4	USD 71.4	EUR 51.3
3 Pakistan	CHF 76.8	USD 70.8	EUR 51.0
4 Afghanistan	CHF 75.3	USD 69.4	EUR 50.0
5 Israel and the Occupied Territories	CHF 64.7	USD 59.7	EUR 42.9
6 Congo, Democratic Republic of the	CHF 60.6	USD 55.9	EUR 40.2
7 Somalia	CHF 48.8	USD 45.0	EUR 32.4
8 Colombia	CHF 34.6	USD 31.9	EUR 22.9
9 Sri Lanka	CHF 30.9	USD 28.5	EUR 20.5
10 Chad	CHF 27.8	USD 25.7	EUR 18.5

Exchange rates: USD 1.00 = CHF 1.0848; EUR 1.00 = CHF 1.5080

VISITS TO DETAINEES

ICRC delegates visited **479,669 detainees**, **43,152** of whom were monitored individually (2,882 women; 1,759 minors), held in **1,890 places of detention** in **74 countries** and in **4 different international courts**. Of this number, **28,170 detainees** (2,425 women; 1,486 minors) were registered and visited for the first time in 2009.

With support provided by the ICRC, **28,079 detainees** benefited from **family visits**.

A total of 23,473 detention attestations were issued.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

The ICRC collected **253,764** and distributed **254,960 Red Cross messages**, thus enabling members of families separated as a result of armed conflict, disturbances or tensions to exchange news. Among these messages, **71,921** were collected from and **70,833** distributed to **detainees**. In addition, **12,054 phone calls** were facilitated between family members, often between detainees and their relatives. The ICRC also made **12,971 phone calls** to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative visited by its delegates.

The ICRC registered **2,294 unaccompanied/separated children** (598 girls), including **656 demobilized children** (10 girls) during 2009. Once their families had been located and with the agreement of the children and their relatives, it organized the reunification of **1,025 children** (272 girls) with their families. By the end of the year, the cases of **1,698 unaccompanied/separated children** (including **272 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.

The ICRC established the **whereabouts of 4,128 people** for whom tracing requests had been filed by their families. The ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org allowed the **publication of 83,093 names** of people wishing to contact relatives and friends or being sought by their relatives. At the end of the year, the ICRC was still taking action to locate **45,605 people** (3,951 women; 5,009 minors at the time of disappearance) for their families.

The ICRC **reunited 1,063 people** (including 1,025 minors) with their families. It organized the **transfer or repatriation of 15,334 people**, including **120 detainees after their release**. It also organized the transfer or repatriation of **784 sets of human remains**. It issued **travel documents** that enabled **4,152 people** to return to their home countries or to settle in a host country.

It relayed **3,790 official documents** of various types between family members across borders and front lines.

A total of **932,905 people** contacted ICRC offices worldwide for services or advice regarding issues related to protection and family links.

ASSISTANCE

In 2009, the ICRC ran assistance programmes in **47 countries**. The bulk of the work was carried out in Afghanistan, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Iraq, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

ASSISTANCE SUPPLIES

In 2009, the ICRC purchased or received as contributions in kind the following assistance supplies:

		In million
▶ Food items	88,515 tonnes	CHF 69
▶ Seed	4,847 tonnes	CHF 6
▶ Essential household items	23,217 tonnes	CHF 57
	<i>Including:</i>	
	885,736 blankets	
	9,034 tents	
	366,643 tarpaulins	
	262,314 kitchen sets	
	230,945 hygiene kits	
	1,183 tonnes of clothing	
▶ Medical and physical rehabilitation items		CHF 35
▶ Water and habitat items		CHF 16
	TOTAL	CHF 183
		USD 168
		EUR 121

Exchange rates: USD 1.00 = CHF 1.0848; EUR 1.00 = CHF 1.5080

ECONOMIC SECURITY

During the year, ICRC activities to ensure economic security, often implemented together with host National Societies, directly benefited households and communities in **37 countries** worldwide. More than **4,068,000 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 **4,488,000** in the form of **essential household and hygiene items**. Around **23% and 16%** of the beneficiaries of food and essential household and hygiene items respectively were **IDPs**, around **27% and 26%** respectively were **women** and around **49% and 49%** respectively **children**. In addition, some **2,931,000 people** (of whom around **46%** 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 2009, the ICRC **expatriate and national engineers and technicians** were involved in water, sanitation and construction work in **39 countries**. These projects catered for the needs of some **14,249,000 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). Around **32% and 41%** of the beneficiaries were **women** and **children** respectively.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

During the year, the ICRC regularly supported **268 hospitals** and **373 other health care facilities** around the world. An estimated **5,587,000 people** (**50% women; 31% children**) benefited from ICRC-supported health care facilities. **Community health** programmes were implemented in **20 countries**, in many cases with National Society participation.

More than **25,500 weapon-wounded** and **143,300 non-weapon-wounded** (surgical) patients were admitted to ICRC-supported hospitals in **19 countries** where more than **161,400 surgical operations** were performed. In these hospitals, more than **332,000 other patients** were treated, including **129,100 women** and girls receiving **gynaecological/obstetric** care. Some **1.24 million people** were treated as outpatients. The ICRC regularly supported **33 first-aid posts** located near combat zones, which provided emergency treatment, mainly for weapon-wounded patients.

CARE FOR THE DISABLED

ICRC physical rehabilitation technicians provided support to **82 centres** in **23 countries**, enabling **182,712 patients** (including **32,479 women** and **47,502 children**) to receive services. A total of **8,821 new patients** were fitted with **prostheses** and **20,148 with orthoses**. The centres produced and delivered **20,057 prostheses** (including **2,741 for women** and **1,092 for children; 7,138 for mine victims**) and **42,279 orthoses** (including **7,166 for women** and

23,373 for children; 535 for mine victims). In addition, **2,652 wheelchairs** and **26,860 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.

WEAPON CONTAMINATION

Throughout the year, the Weapon Contamination Sector provided operational support to delegations, National Societies and political authorities in **22 contexts** (**19 delegations**). The Sector also worked with the UN and NGOs to further develop and strengthen international mine-action standards and coordination.

FORENSICS SERVICES

During 2009, the ICRC's forensic services supported field operations in more than **40 countries** in all regions, to help prevent and resolve cases of missing persons, including in emergencies. Activities consisted mainly of promoting and supporting the implementation of forensic best practice for the proper and dignified recovery, management and identification of human remains in armed conflict, other situations of violence and natural disaster. In addition, a variety of internal and external training, dissemination and networking activities, including for National Societies, were conducted to build countries' capacities to deal with the problem and to raise general awareness of the issue.

ICRC COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The aim of the ICRC's cooperation with National Societies is to strengthen operational 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 in their own countries and with the support of National Societies working internationally. 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**.

As part of this relationship, the ICRC also contributed to boosting the capacity of these National Societies. A total of **CHF 82.0 million** was spent to help National Societies in their own countries strengthen their capacity to carry out their own activities and to partner with the ICRC wherever possible. This included:

- ▶ **CHF 37.0 million** for their **preparedness** and activities relating to **health, relief assistance** and activities to **reduce the impact of weapon contamination on people**
- ▶ **CHF 30.1 million** for their **work to promote and spread knowledge of IHL** and to support them as effective members of the Movement network in **respecting the Fundamental Principles**
- ▶ **CHF 14.9 million** for their work to restore **family links**, including responding to needs resulting from natural disasters, in conformity with the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

In 2009, thanks to the media relations work carried out by field delegations and the Public and Media Relations Unit at headquarters, the ICRC's humanitarian concerns and activities continued to be covered by media worldwide. According to the Factiva database, which compiles print and online media sources worldwide, the ICRC was **mentioned more than 19,870 times** in 2009. For example, in relation to the hostilities in the Gaza Strip at the beginning of 2009, information relating to the ICRC was mentioned 1,987 times between 27 December 2008 and 11 January 2009.

The ICRC also produced some **100 print** and **audiovisual products**, including **15 video news items**, which were issued to broadcasters worldwide, and **29 other video news items and films** for use with various target groups.

The ICRC website received around **3.5 million visitors** who viewed about **16.2 million pages** in total. This represents an increase of about 9.5% compared with the previous year.

The ICRC distributed some **8,468 copies of films** and **525,527 publications** worldwide.

Broadcast tracking showed that the ICRC's news footage was widely broadcast all over the world, with nearly **700 news items** broadcast on over 35 channels, including Al Jazeera International and BBC World.

In 2009, in order to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino and the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the ICRC and the International Federation jointly launched the **"Our world. Your move."** communication campaign. More than **560 public events** were organized in over **130 countries**, from exhibitions to first-aid demonstrations and round-table discussions. **National Societies** in **135 countries** used the campaign

slogan and tools to promote the campaign and its key messages, with 74% saying that the campaign increased their media coverage. The campaign received broad **media coverage** at global and local level with preliminary analysis showing that it was picked up by news outlets, such as Al Jazeera, BBC and CNN, in at least **40 countries**. More than **100,000 people** "made a move" via the campaign **web portal**. By the end of 2009, there had been nearly **half a million page views on the portal**, with traffic coming from **over 200 countries**. In addition, the campaign **Facebook** page attracted more than **9,000 fans** and **hundreds of thousands** were reached by the "Our world. Your move." **Twitter** stream. The campaign's viral video "Simple Gestures" was watched **70,000 times** on **YouTube**, with 98 videos shared through the "Our world. Your move." YouTube channel.

STATE PARTICIPATION TO IHL TREATIES AND DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION

The ICRC continued to develop an 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. It encouraged and supported them in their endeavours to establish national interministerial committees entrusted with the national implementation of IHL. In 2009, **2 new national committees were created** (in Mexico and Switzerland), bringing the total number worldwide to **93**.

The ICRC organized, or contributed to, **25 regional events** in relation to IHL and its incorporation into domestic law, which were attended by more than **800 people** in some **112 countries**.

This work contributed to **90 ratifications of IHL treaties** (including 1 of Additional Protocol I, 1 of Additional Protocol II and 15 of Additional Protocol III) by **16 countries** and the adoption of **23 pieces** of domestic legislation relating to various IHL treaties in **21 countries**.

RELATIONS WITH WEAPON BEARERS

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

- ▶ **31 specialized ICRC** delegates conducted or took part in more than **100 courses, workshops, round-tables and exercises** involving some **10,000 military, security and police personnel** in more than **80 countries**; **38 military officers** from **24 countries** received ICRC scholarships to attend **9 military courses** on IHL in San Remo
- ▶ **47 general and senior officers** from **46 countries** received ICRC scholarships to attend the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations in Switzerland
- ▶ the ICRC maintained relations with the **armed forces of 160 countries** and with nearly **80 armed groups** (in some 30 contexts, mostly in non-international armed conflicts)
- ▶ specialized delegates in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America represented the ICRC and observed the implementation of IHL or international human rights law during some **15 international military exercises**

RELATIONS WITH ACADEMIC CIRCLES

In practically every country covered by the ICRC, university lecturers in law, international relations and journalism have incorporated IHL into their teaching. At national level, the ICRC supported the teaching of IHL at universities by distributing books and other teaching materials and co-organizing academic events on IHL, which addressed the theoretical and practical dimensions of the law, and IHL competitions for students. The ICRC sponsored the participation of academics in key regional and international IHL events.

In 2009, the ICRC organized or co-organized:

- ▶ **12 regional and international IHL training seminars for academics** (2 in Africa; 2 in Asia and the Pacific; 6 in Europe and the Americas; 2 in the Middle East and North Africa), involving **over 200 professors, lecturers and graduate students**
- ▶ **6 regional IHL competitions** for students (2 in Africa; 2 in Asia and the Pacific; 2 in Europe and the Americas), involving some **250 students and lecturers**

SUPPORTING IHL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Education authorities in **50 countries** worldwide received support from the ICRC to work towards the integration of IHL education into formal secondary school curricula through its two programmes. This support aimed to ensure full ownership by the education authorities and the long-term sustainability of the programmes.

In 2009:

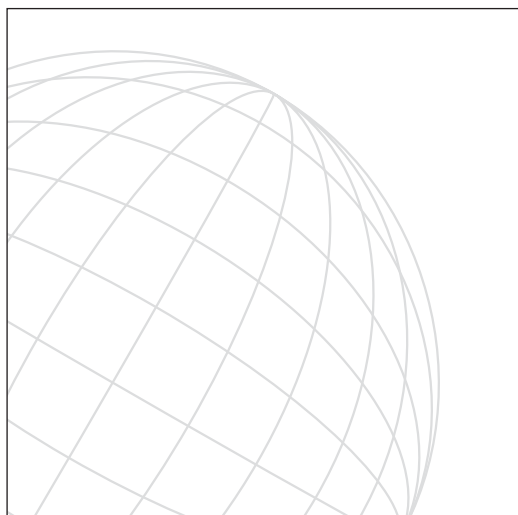
- ▶ **revised Exploring Humanitarian Law materials**, including a new teaching guide on humanitarian law, were published
- ▶ more than **20,000 people** consulted the **Exploring Humanitarian Law Virtual Campus**, a web-based resource centre for the programme
- ▶ **2 regional conferences** on IHL education were organized (Beijing and Cairo)
- ▶ a **global student competition** on the theme of humanitarian action was organized to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions
- ▶ a **multi-disciplinary education project** was initiated in 7 schools located in the *favelas* of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION MANAGEMENT AND MULTILINGUAL COMMUNICATION

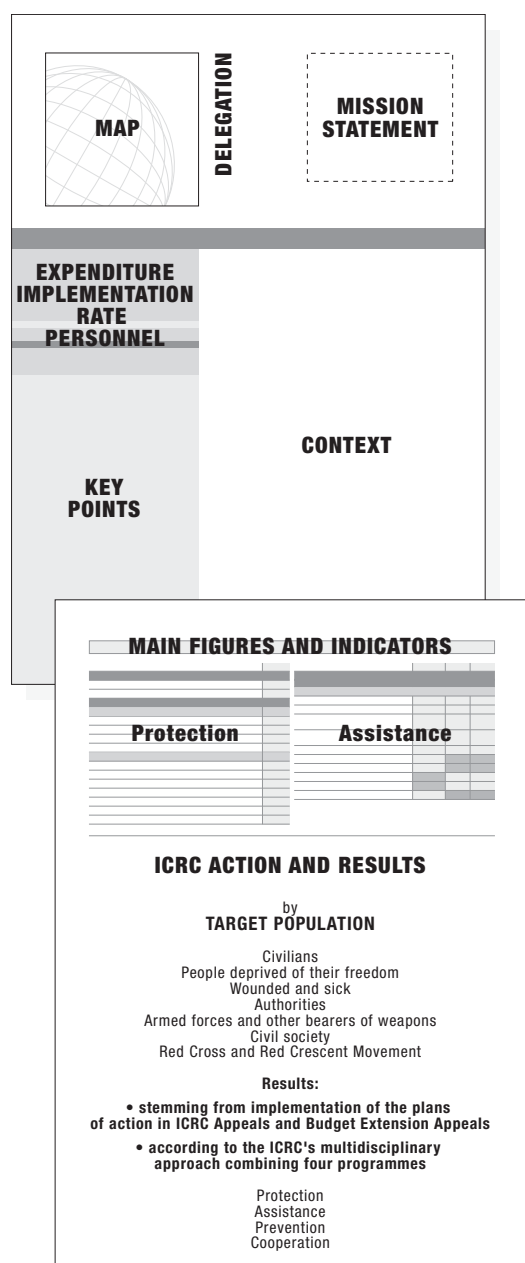
Some **3,061 people** made use of the ICRC's Library and Research Service and some **1,419 people**, from academia, government departments, the media, National Societies and NGOs, received responses to their **requests** for information.

ICRC headquarters received **210 groups** totalling some **6,000 visitors** (university students: 52%; National Society staff and volunteers: 17%; secondary school students: 12%; members of armed forces: 8%; diplomatic community: 6%; NGOs and religious groups: 5%).

Some **8 million words** were translated, edited and proofread by translators and editors working for or contracted by the ICRC through its language service.



user guide: layout of delegation section



The sections on each of the field delegations and missions in the *Annual Report* have been formatted to facilitate reader access to the information they contain. Each section comprises the following elements:

1. **Map:** The country or region showing the ICRC's presence during the year. The maps in this publication are for information purposes only and have no political significance.
2. **Mission statement:** The ICRC's reasons for being in the country or region and its main activities there.
3. **Expenditure:** Total, and by programme.
4. **Implementation rate:** Expenditure divided by yearly budget multiplied by 100% (indicator).
5. **Personnel:** The average number of expatriate and national staff employed over the course of the year.
6. **Key points:** Up to six major achievements or examples of progress made by the ICRC or constraints it faced in terms of meeting its humanitarian objectives in a given context.
7. **Context:** The main developments in a given context and how they have affected people of concern to the ICRC. This segment highlights the elements that the ICRC takes into consideration when analysing the situation to carry out its humanitarian action.
8. **Main figures and indicators:** Two tables providing key output and outcome figures relating to ICRC protection and assistance programmes in a given context.
9. **ICRC action and results:** A summary of the ICRC action and results in the given context followed by a description of this action and the results by target population.

These descriptions follow up objectives and plans of action provided to donors in yearly appeals and budget extension appeals. They include qualitative and quantitative results (output, outcome and some contributions to impact) and combine activities carried out in the four ICRC programmes, thus illustrating the ICRC's multidisciplinary approach.





DELEGATIONS

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

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Abidjan
Dakar
Harare
Nairobi
Pretoria
Yaoundé

AFRICA

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

56,720

Assistance

236,218

Prevention

40,994

Cooperation with National Societies

35,566

General

-

369,498 of which: Overheads **22,366**

Implementation rate

89%

⊕ ICRC delegation

⊕ ICRC regional delegation

⊕ ICRC mission

* As of 1 July, ICRC operations in Angola were covered by the Pretoria regional delegation

AFRICA

In 2009, the ICRC maintained a strong operational presence in sub-Saharan Africa (hereafter Africa), carrying out a wide range of activities to protect and assist victims of past and present armed conflicts or other situations of violence. It also endeavoured to prevent human suffering by promoting much wider implementation of IHL throughout Africa. During 2009, it appealed for funds in addition to its original budget for operations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Zimbabwe.

Chad, the DRC, Somalia and Sudan were among the 10 biggest ICRC operations worldwide. Amid escalating conflict and drought, Somalia was one of the world's most pressing humanitarian emergencies. Compared with 2008, fighting between government troops and armed groups was less intense in the eastern DRC, notably in North and South Kivu (the Kivus) and Province Orientale, in eastern Chad and neighbouring Darfur in Sudan, and in northern Mali and Niger. However, rampant lawlessness and communal violence in all these countries increasingly endangered people's lives and livelihoods. South Sudan, as well as Sudan's disputed north-south border regions, erupted in ethnic violence, while in the Central African Republic (CAR), peace initiatives brought calm to some, but not all, parts of the north. Nigeria again witnessed regular military clashes in the Niger Delta during the first half of 2009 and intercommunal violence in the north. To assist people rapidly and effectively, ICRC delegations in all these countries remained flexible, adapting operations to the scale and urgency of needs.

As the situation had stabilized in Angola, Congo and Sierre Leone, ICRC delegations there closed down and the Pretoria (South Africa) regional, Yaoundé (Cameroon) regional and Guinea delegations, respectively, took over activities in those countries. In other countries recovering from conflict or unrest, the ICRC streamlined and adapted activities to needs, such as in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda and Uganda. Given mounting government restrictions, the Eritrea delegation had to again reduce operations (see *Eritrea*).

The ICRC operated in most regions affected by conflict or other situations of violence, sometimes in areas other organizations avoided because of security constraints. Gaining safe access was, however, challenging in hotspots in the CAR, Chad, Darfur, the DRC, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Somalia. Much time was spent explaining the ICRC's neutral and independent stance to all parties to conflict. This allowed dialogue to develop, leading to acceptance in the field. The ICRC also stressed to all parties their obligations under IHL towards civilians and wounded or captured fighters. Delegates documented alleged violations and raised them with the relevant parties. Despite these efforts, two ICRC delegates were kidnapped near year-end, one in West Darfur and the other in eastern Chad, prompting the suspension of most activities in Darfur and along the Chad-Darfur border from mid-November. Security constraints slowed ICRC output generally in Chad and Darfur throughout 2009, and also in the CAR and northern Mali.

Many Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies worked alongside the ICRC during field operations, where they were an invaluable asset and at the same time gained more hands-on experience. For example, National Society/ICRC teams assessed needs and gave relief goods to IDPs in Nigeria and Sudan (outside Darfur), distributed seed to needy families in Côte d'Ivoire and provided migrants in Mali

with first aid, household items and the family-links service. National Societies also received ICRC funds, materials, training and logistics back-up to boost their capacities to help needy communities. With such support, National Societies ran hygiene-awareness programmes for IDPs and returnees in the CAR and Uganda, helped control cholera outbreaks in the DRC and taught first aid in Chad and Eritrea.

To maximize the impact of humanitarian efforts, the ICRC coordinated its activities with those of Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors. This included attendance as an observer at UN cluster meetings. The organization stressed the need to separate political initiatives from humanitarian aid and strove to demonstrate in the field the added value of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action in volatile environments.

In countries engulfed in or emerging from conflict or other situations of violence, needy people, mainly IDPs, received emergency aid (as needed, food, shelter, essential household items and trucked-in water). Longer-term IDPs, those returning home and struggling residents were given, as appropriate, seed and tools to kick-start farming, sometimes with food to last until the harvest, plus a mix of agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic assistance designed to boost the local economy in a sustainable manner. One aim, among others, was to help people regain their self-sufficiency so that they were less likely to become aid dependent and better able to weather future crises. In 2009, some 1.6 million people received essential household items, more than 1.1 million were given food rations, and more than 2.2 million benefited from livelihood-support initiatives.

Aid was tailored to local needs and the context. For example, farmers in the east of the DRC quadrupled or more their manioc production using mosaic-resistant cuttings supplied by the ICRC. In Somalia, the provision of irrigation pumps allowed many farmers to double crop production, while struggling farmers in Zimbabwe were taught techniques to increase yield. In Chad, the 2008 harvest was generally good, so the ICRC scrapped planned seed distributions and instead gave people materials to boost productivity, such as irrigation pumps and donkey ploughs and harnesses. Livestock breeders in the CAR received goats and pigs to replace looted animals, while herders and farmers in Chad, the DRC and Darfur were trained in basic veterinary skills, and animals vaccinated against disease. Using ICRC seed and irrigation pumps, women in Casamance (Senegal), Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC and Eritrea grew vegetables to improve their families' diet and to sell for income. Needy people in Kenya, Liberia and Uganda received food, cash or vouchers in return for their labour rehabilitating farmland and access roads.

Wherever possible, the ICRC assisted IDPs in their place of refuge, often close to their village. This meant that families were less likely to go to IDP camps, where they risked aid dependency, and better placed to return home, security permitting. Where needed, however, delegations aided IDPs in camps, for example in Uganda, where thousands of families were still in transit camps en route home, and in Gereida camp (population around 140,000) in South Darfur, where the ICRC again provided most essential services.

The ICRC also worked to ensure that people in conflict zones or violence-prone regions had access to clean water and health care. By year-end, some 6.2 million people in 18 African countries faced fewer health risks after the ICRC built or rehabilitated key urban

and rural water and sanitation facilities. Similarly, an average total population of 2.2 million people a month had access to primary health care at ICRC-supported clinics in 10 countries. In the east of the DRC, victims of sexual violence received comprehensive medical and psychological treatment at 30 ICRC-supported counselling centres. In Somalia, three new Red Crescent clinics were opened to serve IDPs, bringing the number of National Society-run clinics supported by the ICRC to 36 countrywide.

Across Africa, tens of thousands of refugees and IDPs reconnected or maintained contact with relatives worldwide through the family-links service run by the National Societies and the ICRC. As a priority, children were put back in touch and, where appropriate, reunited with their parents. More than 1,000 children thus rejoined their families in the CAR, the DRC and South Sudan. In March, Eritrea withdrew authorization for the ICRC to assist in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across the sealed Eritrea-Ethiopia border, while continuing to organize repatriations itself.

Delegates visited some 147,000 people held in 630 detention centres in Africa. They followed individually the cases of 3,798 security detainees, registering 2,177 new cases in 2009, monitored general detention conditions, and informed the authorities confidentially of their findings and recommendations, in accordance with standard ICRC working procedures. Despite efforts, by year-end the ICRC had not yet gained or regained access to all detainees falling within its mandate in certain countries, including Ethiopia, Gambia and Sudan. In Equatorial Guinea, discussions with the authorities led to the resumption of ICRC visits to security detainees. In Zimbabwe, detainees held in prisons under the authority of the Justice Ministry began receiving visits from ICRC delegates shortly after the Ministry gave the green light at the end of March. In Chad, Somalia and Sudan, the ICRC, with all parties' agreement, acted as a neutral intermediary to facilitate the release and handover to the relevant authorities of people, usually government soldiers or members of the police force, held by armed groups.

Detainees contacted relatives through the family-links service and received any hygiene or other basic items they lacked. Where necessary, the ICRC stepped in to improve detention conditions. Some 114,000 detainees benefited from the ICRC's rehabilitation of infrastructure, mainly water and sanitation, in detention facilities in 11 countries. In emergencies, the ICRC ensured inmates received medical treatment and, in six countries, food and/or nutritional supplements. In parallel, delegations encouraged and supported the authorities' initiatives to upgrade detention conditions. In Zimbabwe, for example, the severe malnutrition rate among some 10,000 detainees in 14 prisons dropped significantly between April and September after the ICRC initiated therapeutic feeding programmes in cooperation with the Justice Ministry. In Uganda, with ICRC support, three prisons introduced screening of all new detainees for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, staff and inmates were trained in related health and hygiene issues, the relevant infrastructure was renovated, and the authorities were put in touch with other potential implementing partners.

To help ensure adequate medical and surgical care, the ICRC supported hospitals in various countries, including Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC, Guinea, Somalia, Uganda and Zimbabwe, providing, as needed, funds, supplies, staff training and infrastructure rehabilitation and maintenance. ICRC surgical teams worked in hospitals and/or as mobile field units in Chad, the DRC, Somalia and Sudan. During 2009, ICRC-supported hospitals

in Somalia alone treated 5,860 weapon-wounded people. In Uganda, the delegation wound down 3 years of support to the 202-bed Kitgum Government Hospital, after providing the facility with the means to sustain services.

To boost the availability of physical rehabilitation services for war amputees and other disabled people, the ICRC supported 21 prosthetic/orthotic centres located in Chad, the DRC, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda. This included building, equipping and helping to manage South Sudan's first physical rehabilitation referral centre, which opened in Juba in January.

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 endorsed the Movement's Fundamental Principles and activities.

The ICRC engaged in dialogue on IHL and humanitarian issues with national, regional and international authorities, lent governments its expertise to ratify IHL treaties and adopt relevant national laws, and sponsored the participation of officials in IHL events abroad. This contributed, for example, to the adoption of the African Union Convention on IDPs, which refers to IHL provisions and the ICRC's mandate. At the national level, Burkina Faso and Togo passed domestic legislation on the Mine Ban Convention, while Burundi and the CAR adopted revised penal codes integrating IHL provisions.

Armed, security and police forces worked with the ICRC to incorporate IHL, international human rights law and humanitarian principles into their training, doctrine and operations, while peacekeepers deployed on the continent were briefed on IHL. In firsts, DRC army instructors deployed in the Kivus and Province Orientale were trained to teach IHL and Chad's Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the ICRC signed an agreement detailing IHL training programmes for officers and the rank and file. Brigades attached to the Economic Community of West African States and the Southern African Development Community also incorporated IHL into their workshops and training exercises.

The 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign gave National Societies and the ICRC fresh impetus to stage events across Africa to enlist public and political support for IHL and the Movement. The ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was ongoing in secondary schools in Burundi, Cameroon, the Comoros, Djibouti, Mauritius, Senegal, the Seychelles and South Africa. In universities across Africa, delegations ran seminars and competitions, gave presentations and provided materials to support IHL research and teaching.



angola

The ICRC has been present in Angola since the start of the armed conflict in 1975. Relative normality has returned since the 2002 Luena peace agreement, enabling the ICRC to close its Luanda delegation at the end of June 2009. In recent years, the ICRC has cooperated with the Angola Red Cross in raising awareness of landmine risks and helping family members separated by the conflict re-establish contact. ICRC activities in Angola, including visits to detainees and the promotion of IHL, were taken over by the regional delegation in Pretoria as of July.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,041
Assistance	-
Prevention	144
Cooperation with National Societies	608
General	-

► **1,793**

of which: Overheads **109**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	83%
---------------------------	------------

PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
18	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

Between January and June 2009, the ICRC:

- downsized its presence in Luanda ahead of transferring responsibility for ICRC activities in Angola to the Pretoria regional delegation at the end of June
- reunited 11 children with their families in cooperation with the Angola Red Cross
- referred unresolved cases of unaccompanied children to the authorities for follow-up, along with recommendations for addressing the needs of people whose families remained unaccounted for
- briefed 25 Angolan army officers on IHL and the ICRC and its mandate
- facilitated contacts between key actors in Cabinda and the Pretoria regional delegation to ensure continuity of ICRC protection activities in the province after June

CONTEXT

Angola remained stable and continued its recovery from the political, economic and social consequences of the 27-year-long armed conflict that ended in 2002.

Preparations for presidential elections announced for 2009 fell behind schedule as a new constitution, a prerequisite for elections, had to be adopted.

Although the drop in the price of oil led to a cut in Angola's budget for 2009, oil revenues nevertheless represented over 80% of national income. The country continued to develop its international business and diplomatic relations, consolidating its status as China's number one trading partner in Africa. The economic and social situation of the general population remained precarious, however, with a majority of people living on less than USD 2 a day, without adequate access to water, food or electricity.

Sporadic skirmishes were reported in the oil-rich Cabinda enclave, allegedly involving the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda-Armed Forces of Cabinda (FLEC-FAC) and the Angolan national army.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	39
Number of visits carried out	3
Number of places of detention visited	1
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	377
RCMs distributed	1,062
People reunited with their families	8
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	13
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	2
<i>of whom girls</i>	2
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	8
<i>of whom girls</i>	2
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, given Angola's stability and the accompanying decrease in humanitarian needs, the ICRC continued to scale down its presence in the country after more than three decades of activity there. Ahead of the final closure of the Angola delegation at the end of June 2009, expatriate and national staff levels in Luanda were reduced and a small office was set up to be run by the Pretoria regional delegation as of July (see *Pretoria*).

At the beginning of April, all activities carried out by the ICRC to restore family links in Angola came to an end. During the preceding months, the ICRC worked in partnership with the Angola Red Cross to find sustainable solutions for unaccompanied children and to resolve pending tracing cases. Where possible and appropriate, unaccompanied children were reunited with their families. To ensure follow-up for those whose relatives could not be found, the ICRC provided the authorities with lists pertaining to outstanding cases of unaccompanied children and to children still separated from their parents but living with another relative and identified as having a particularly vulnerable domestic situation. Written recommendations for addressing the needs of families whose relatives were still missing were also provided to the authorities. In addition, all as yet undelivered RCMs were handed over to the Angola Red Cross when the ICRC stopped coordinating the Movement's RCM network in Angola in April.

The ICRC continued to monitor the situation in Cabinda, maintaining contact with the civilian population and military forces in the region and visiting detainees. Where needed, delegates shared their findings and recommendations regarding detention conditions and detainees' treatment with the relevant authorities, including the military. In May, the ICRC submitted a report to Cabinda's military commander on the treatment of detainees in military-run places of detention.

Countrywide, the government, the military, the media and the wider public were briefed on IHL and the ICRC, including the transferral of responsibility for ongoing ICRC involvement in

Angola to the regional delegation in Pretoria. In April, some 25 Angolan army officers, as well as 9 military officers from other African countries, attended an information session on IHL and the ICRC and its mandate.

Until June 2009, the ICRC kept up technical, material and financial support to the Angola Red Cross, particularly in areas in which the ICRC had been involved historically, such as mine-risk reduction and restoring family links. The National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC worked together to ensure that all Movement activities in the country were coordinated.

CIVILIANS

Civilians' protection concerns shared with the authorities

Sporadic skirmishes in Cabinda province led to occasional incidents involving the civilian population. Regular meetings with local authority and civil society representatives provided opportunities to share information on the situation as well as concerns about potential abuses. The meetings also enabled the ICRC to follow up cases of people arrested in connection with the ongoing tensions and related incidents of violence allegedly between the Angolan armed forces and the FLEC-FAC (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

People still separated from their families receive help to find durable solutions

As part of the scaling back of its activities ahead of the delegation's closure in June, the ICRC ended its direct involvement in restoring family links in Angola at the beginning of April 2009. Prior to this, it concentrated on finding sustainable solutions for unaccompanied children and on resolving pending tracing cases.

Unaccompanied children were reunited with their families, where possible and in their best interests, through the ICRC/Angola Red Cross tracing network. Each child received a kit containing basic items to help them settle back into the community. So that durable solutions could be found for unaccompanied children

still seeking their families, the cases of 88 such children were handed over to the Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS) for follow-up. In addition, MINARS was also notified of the cases of 17 children who were living with a relative but were still separated from their parents and had been identified as facing social or economic difficulties during ICRC visits to their homes.

To help resolve other pending tracing cases, the names of people still seeking or being sought by their relatives remained on the ICRC's family-links website until it went offline at the end of March and continued to be circulated via the 2005 edition of the *Red Cross Gazette* along with its 2008 addendum. Upon the conclusion of the ICRC's tracing activities in Angola, the authorities received a letter from the ICRC containing recommendations for addressing the needs of people whose relatives remained unaccounted for. As of April, the ICRC also ceased coordinating the Movement's RCM network in Angola. Subsequently, the Angola Red Cross took over responsibility for the delivery of all outstanding RCMs.

- 376 RCMs collected from and 1,062 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1 from and 4 to unaccompanied/separated children
- 13 people located via the tracing network
- 2 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 11 reunited with their families, including 3 registered by a delegation in a neighbouring country

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in the Ministry of the Interior's provincial prison in Cabinda continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates, conducted according to standard ICRC working procedures. Following these visits, the relevant authorities were provided with confidential feedback conveying delegates' findings and recommendations regarding conditions of detention and detainees' treatment.

Detainees' treatment and detention conditions in military-run facilities in the province were also addressed through oral representations made to the relevant military personnel. In May, Cabinda's military commander was provided with a confidential written report covering ICRC visits to military detention facilities between May 2008 and March 2009.

- 39 detainees visited and monitored individually and 18 newly registered, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention
- 1 RCM collected from a detainee
- 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee or his/her family

AUTHORITIES

With the government's attention focused on developing a new constitution, no progress was made regarding the ratification of IHL treaties.

Parliamentarians and other government representatives were informed of the closure of the delegation and the subsequent handover of ICRC activities in Angola to the Pretoria regional delegation in July.

Contacts were also maintained with the authorities responsible for State physical rehabilitation services with a view to monitoring the implementation of recommendations contained in a report summarizing the ICRC's experience of supporting such services in Angola between 1979 and 2008.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In April, as part of ongoing efforts to encourage the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and operations and to ensure that the civilian population was treated accordingly, including in Cabinda (see *Civilians*), 25 Angolan army officers attended an information session on IHL and the ICRC and its mandate, held by the ICRC at the request of the Angolan national army. Nine military officers from Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique also attended the briefing.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Based on interviews given by the Angola delegation, national and international media outlets raised public awareness of the ICRC's 30 years of work to assist victims of conflict in Angola and of its plans to transfer responsibility for future ICRC activities in the country to its regional delegation in Pretoria. In March, a widely aired BBC radio report featured one of the last family reunifications facilitated in Angola by the ICRC in partnership with the Angola Red Cross.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Angola Red Cross, in collaboration with the Angolan government, other Movement partners and NGOs, provided emergency assistance to people affected by floods in Cuando Cubango and Cunene provinces.

The National Society received ICRC technical and financial support to build its capacity to carry out activities supported historically by the ICRC delegation in Angola. For example, to help National Society personnel conducting mine-risk reduction activities participate in related efforts at the international level, the Angola Red Cross director of programmes and services received ICRC funding to attend the Movement's conference on weapon contamination in Cambodia in January. Discussions were also initiated between the Angola Red Cross and the Pretoria regional delegation regarding potential ICRC financial support for specific National Society family-links proposals (see *Pretoria*).

The National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC continued to ensure coordination of the Movement's activities in the country, particularly in light of the closure of the ICRC's delegation in Angola at the end of June. In addition, to maximize usage of resources, the Angola Red Cross received publications, second-hand office material and equipment, and used vehicles from the ICRC.

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 armed 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 restores family links, including reuniting children with their parents. It also supports training in IHL for the armed and security forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,544
Assistance	3,895
Prevention	1,208
Cooperation with National Societies	738
General	-

► **8,385**

of which: Overheads **512**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

19 expatriates
126 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- improved 190,000 people's access to safe water and sanitation in both urban and rural areas
- visited 12,082 people held in places of permanent and temporary detention to monitor their treatment and living conditions
- facilitated a cooperation agreement between the Health and Justice Ministries regarding prison health care
- helped improve basic health care services in prisons by funding the supply of drugs and medical equipment to prison dispensaries
- provided financial and technical support for pest-control campaigns in 11 prisons and rehabilitation work in 6 prisons
- handed over responsibility for the collection and distribution of RCMs in 3 provinces to the Burundi Red Cross

CONTEXT

In January, the Forces nationales de libération (FNL) dropped the “Parti pour la libération du peuple Hutu” (“Palipehutu”) prefix to its name, paving the way for a revival of the previously stalled peace process with the government of Burundi. Subsequent negotiations led to an agreement on the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of 18,500 FNL members, the allocation of government posts to the FNL, the release of FNL detainees and the recognition of the FNL as a political party. By year-end, implementation of the agreement had neared completion.

Following these developments, responsibility for completing the peace process was handed over to the Burundian government by the South Africa-led mediation team in May. The UN Peacebuilding Commission continued to support the peace process. A consultation to help establish transitional justice mechanisms ran from May to December. The final conclusions were scheduled for publication in early 2010.

In preparation for Burundi's 2010 general elections, national and local electoral commissions were set up and a timetable was announced. The international community pledged to financially support the electoral process. Tension rose as political campaigning gathered momentum, with some allegations of violence and intimidation also reported.

The security situation in Burundi was compounded by the large number of weapons in circulation and a relatively high crime rate. The country also continued to suffer from poverty and underdevelopment. Tension over access to land was fuelled by rapid population growth and the return of former refugees, a process accelerated by the closure of refugee camps in the neighbouring United Republic of Tanzania.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	12,082	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	301	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	190,000	28% 45%
<i>of whom women</i>	3	<i>of whom IDPs</i>		190,000	
<i>of whom minors</i>	11	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Number of visits carried out	233	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Number of places of detention visited	62	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	12,894	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	5,977	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	3,555				
RCMs distributed	2,937				
People reunited with their families	2				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	161				
<i>of whom women</i>	30				
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	81				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	70				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	139				
<i>of whom women</i>	25				
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	81				
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>					
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	14				
<i>of whom girls</i>	4				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	2				
<i>of whom girls</i>	1				
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	30				
<i>of whom girls</i>	13				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	1				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC delegation in Burundi focused on assisting people recovering from the effects of past conflict, on monitoring detention conditions and on raising awareness of humanitarian principles. In light of the progress made towards lasting peace in the country, the ICRC began streamlining and adapting its operations accordingly.

In areas where water supply systems had deteriorated or been destroyed in past violence, the ICRC worked with the urban and rural water authorities to provide thousands of people with safe water. In northern/north-western areas, people suffering from weapon wounds or other medical emergencies had their transport, food and treatment costs covered by the ICRC.

Family members separated within or across national borders restored contact via the tracing and RCM services provided by the ICRC and the Burundi Red Cross. As a result of ICRC support, the National Society collected and distributed RCMs autonomously in three provinces. The ICRC also reunited unaccompanied children with their families where possible and appropriate.

Detainees in places of permanent and temporary detention received regular visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and living conditions and, where necessary, made confidential representations to the authorities. To implement recommendations identified in an ICRC study in 2008, the authorities,

the ICRC and other humanitarian actors developed a plan of action to address overcrowding by enhancing respect for judicial guarantees. The ICRC also provided material, financial and technical support to the authorities in improving detainees' living conditions, with a focus on health care. Notably, it helped facilitate a cooperation agreement between the Health and Justice Ministries regarding prison health care and funded the provision of drugs and medical equipment to prison dispensaries. It also supported pest-control campaigns in all central prisons, rehabilitated key prison sanitation facilities and trained detainees and prison staff in good hygiene practices.

The ICRC fostered dialogue with armed and security forces and ran training sessions on IHL/human rights standards for military and police personnel. The Ministry of Defence and the ICRC conducted a joint assessment of the integration of IHL into military instruction and drew up recommendations for improving its quality and sustainability. Earlier in the year, the Ministry of Defence also requested ICRC help to integrate IHL into military doctrine.

To raise the general public's awareness of the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, the ICRC developed its contacts with authorities, students and the media through bilateral meetings and special events. For example, parliamentarians and ministry representatives attended three ICRC workshops on IHL, university students participated in a national IHL competition, and an ICRC/National Society broadcast was aired on Burundian television.

The ICRC provided the National Society with technical, material and financial support to help strengthen its decentralized structure and build the capacities of its communication and disaster management departments.

Cooperation with Movement partners was maintained, as was coordination with UN bodies and humanitarian actors present in the country, to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

A confidential dialogue with the authorities and weapon bearers provided the ICRC with opportunities to promote understanding of humanitarian principles, including the protection of civilians (see *Authorities and Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Communities have access to improved water supply

The country's relative stability meant that emergency supplies of water and essential household items were not needed. However, both rural and urban communities, including those affected by the return of former IDPs and refugees, benefited from construction work carried out by the ICRC to restore and extend permanent water supplies. All such projects were carried out in close partnership with the rural water board or the urban water and electricity board to ensure coordination and the exchange of technical know-how. A programme to train local committees to maintain water systems rehabilitated since 2004 also continued, complemented by ad hoc ICRC maintenance work.

In total, residents of 11 rural communes in 9 provinces (including Bikobe, Butihinda and Gihofi communes) benefited from a safer and enlarged water supply that included the improvement of over 70 springs. Water and sanitation facilities in three community health centres and one hospital were also renovated. In urban areas, people in Mabanda and Mutaho saw improvements in water quality and quantity following construction, repair and maintenance works. Similar projects were ongoing in Gatumba and Rumonge. Plans for reinforcing and extending the water supply in Cibitoke were also drawn up.

- ▶ 190,000 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Separated relatives restore contact

Family members dispersed in the past when fleeing fighting in Burundi restored contact through tracing and RCM services, including the National Society's pilot RCM network (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Congolese and Rwandan refugees in camps in Burundi sent and received family news by the same means.

Unaccompanied children were reunited with their families in Burundi and abroad, for which purpose coordination with other humanitarian and referral organizations such as UNHCR was paramount. Where appropriate, children were provided with an assistance kit to facilitate their reintegration into their families.

- ▶ 3,417 RCMs collected from and 2,824 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 71 from and 101 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 161 people (30 women; 81 minors at the time of disappearance); 76 people located, including 6 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 139 people (25 women; 91 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

- ▶ 14 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 12 reunited with their families, including 10 registered by another delegation; 30 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 1 person issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 8 official documents relayed between family members

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees in places of both permanent and temporary detention received regular visits from ICRC delegates, conducted in accordance with the organization's standard working procedures. Their treatment and living conditions were the subject of an ongoing confidential dialogue between the authorities and the ICRC. Particular attention was paid to the situation of security detainees and vulnerable inmates, such as women and children.

Discussions with the authorities were backed up by written reports, including reports based on a 2008 ICRC study on respect for judicial guarantees in places of permanent and temporary detention. Recommendations resulting from the study and from seminars conducted by the ICRC in 2008 for prison personnel were included in a new strategy and plan of action to address overcrowding developed by the Ministry of Justice, the ICRC and other humanitarian actors.

Through the RCM service, detainees restored and maintained contact with relatives in Burundi and abroad.

- ▶ 12,082 detainees visited, of whom 301 monitored individually (3 women; 11 minors) and 162 newly registered (1 woman; 10 minors), during 233 visits to 62 places of detention
- ▶ 138 RCMs collected from and 113 RCMs distributed to detainees

Cooperation continued with the prison authorities and relevant government ministries to help bring detention conditions in line with internationally recognized standards.

As part of efforts to improve health care in central prisons, the Health and Justice Ministries signed a cooperation agreement facilitated by the ICRC. The new prison health focal point, appointed by the Ministry of Health, received ICRC technical and financial support. Owing to gaps in the 2009 national prison service budget, the supply of drugs and medical equipment to prison dispensaries was part-funded by the ICRC to improve inmates' access to basic health care.

The prison health authorities and implementing NGOs received ICRC technical, material and financial support in providing detainees with preventive and curative treatment for malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Some 18 prison nurses attended a training session on sexually transmitted diseases organized by the Ministry of Health, a local NGO and the ICRC.

To improve sanitation and hygiene in prisons, water supply, kitchen and/or living facilities were upgraded in six central prisons. In addition, over 250 detainees and 20 prison staff attended ICRC seminars on good hygiene practices. All 11 central prisons conducted pest-control campaigns with ICRC support, with two also receiving advice and materials to manage dysentery outbreaks. Where needed, detainees were given soap and other material items.

With regard to places of temporary detention, a dialogue with the authorities was developed to highlight the need to improve health care. In two jails, sick or injured detainees were treated with drugs provided by the ICRC.

- 5,977 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- 12,894 detainees and former FNL members in pre-assembly areas (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*) received essential household or hygiene items

WOUNDED AND SICK

Weapon-wounded people in northern/north-western areas, particularly in areas with large numbers of FNL members awaiting demobilization, had their emergency hospital treatment, food and transportation fees covered by the ICRC. Some injured people's carers also had their food and transport fees subsidized by the ICRC. Two hospitals received ICRC funding to treat the weapon-wounded and other medical emergencies.

- 185 weapon-wounded treated in referral hospitals with the ICRC's support, including 41 former FNL fighters
- 5 people previously treated for weapon wounds received follow-up surgery

Coordination with the health authorities and international organizations, including a donation of medical materials to Médecins Sans Frontières, helped contain a cholera outbreak in Bujumbura.

AUTHORITIES

Ongoing dialogue with the authorities, including political representatives of the FNL, raised awareness of humanitarian principles and ICRC activities in Burundi. Contacts were fostered in particular within governmental structures to encourage the ratification and national implementation of IHL.

- parliamentarians and representatives of government ministries and the international community explored IHL ratification/implementation at 3 ICRC-run workshops
- with the authorities, Burundi's contribution to the ICRC's study on customary IHL updated

Burundi ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions and signed the African Union Convention on IDPs. A revised penal code, outlawing violations of IHL and incorporating certain human rights provisions, entered into force. A draft bill to establish a national observatory to prevent genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity was submitted for parliamentary consideration. Following the enactment of a disarmament law, the government collected over 13,500 small arms and light weapons and 18,800 pieces of ammunition from the civilian population.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Following the Ministry of Defence's request in early 2009 for ICRC support in integrating IHL into military doctrine, preparatory meetings were held with key officials. Ten high commanders attended a one-day briefing on IHL integration organized by the ICRC, and one senior military officer participated in an IHL course abroad.

The army, the police and the ICRC continued to work together to integrate IHL/human rights standards into military/police training. In November, a Ministry of Defence/ICRC evaluation of progress since 2007 resulted in the proposal of a new strategy to further improve the coordination, sustainability and quality of military instruction in IHL. During the year, briefings on IHL/humanitarian principles and the ICRC were provided by delegates, alongside ICRC-trained instructors, to:

- 857 military personnel of varying ranks, including 53 officers departing on peacekeeping operations in Somalia
- 491 former FNL fighters integrated into the army or police
- 213 police and prison officers (some of whom followed the *To serve and to protect* modules)
- 53 national intelligence officers and administrators

The FNL and the ICRC maintained contact, particularly prior to the integration of some FNL members into the armed and police forces, to raise awareness of IHL. The ICRC followed the DDR process, with some ad hoc distributions of essential household items made in pre-assembly areas (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

Public awareness of the Movement and humanitarian principles was raised through an ICRC/National Society TV broadcast (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*) and through media coverage of Red Cross events. Such events included the inauguration of water projects (see *Civilians*) and meetings/competitions held as part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign. Two Burundian radio journalists learnt about humanitarian principles at a workshop organized by the Dakar regional delegation.

Lecturers and students participated in IHL events held by the ICRC, boosting tertiary-level IHL teaching and study. They also accessed up-to-date IHL documentation donated by the ICRC to university libraries, as well as in the delegation’s own IHL library.

- ▶ 250 students and 10 lecturers participated in IHL conferences organized by the ICRC and UNESCO at 2 universities in Bujumbura
- ▶ 1 national IHL competition held for university students; the winning team sponsored to participate in a regional moot court competition in Niamey, Niger

As little interest was shown by the education authorities in monitoring the teaching of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, training planned for school inspectors and educational advisers was cancelled.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With support from Movement partners, the Burundi Red Cross ran livelihood-support projects in rural areas. The emergency response teams strengthened their capacities, thanks to ICRC technical, financial and material input.

- ▶ 40 volunteers trained in emergency water provision
- ▶ 280 volunteers trained in the Safer Access approach and 14 trained to train others in the approach
- ▶ emergency stocks of essential household items for 200 families and materials for water and sanitation projects replenished

The National Society began distributing and collecting RCMs in Bubanza, Makamba and Ruyigi provinces autonomously (see *Civilians*). To support this, 20 volunteers were trained by the ICRC and three branches received funds and equipment. In 6 more provinces, 24 volunteers received training ahead of the expansion of the National Society’s RCM network in 2010.

With ICRC technical and financial support, the National Society promoted its activities and the Fundamental Principles among volunteers and the general public.

- ▶ 1,000 volunteers and 150 local councillors briefed on the Movement’s Fundamental Principles and activities
- ▶ National Society/ICRC broadcasts aired on national TV on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May)
- ▶ 2,000 copies of Movement governance guidelines printed in Kirundi

Movement partners met regularly to enhance coordination and help strengthen the National Society’s decentralized structures. National Society provincial offices were built in Bubanza and Gitega with ICRC funding.



central african republic

The ICRC opened a delegation in the Central African Republic (CAR) in 2007 in the context of the non-international armed conflict in the north of the country, but has carried out activities in the CAR since 1983. It protects and assists people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, providing emergency aid, carrying out livelihood-support projects and rehabilitating water and sanitation facilities. It also visits detainees, restores family links for people separated by conflict, promotes IHL among the authorities, armed forces, armed groups and civil society, and supports the development of the Central African Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,601
Assistance	9,054
Prevention	1,530
Cooperation with National Societies	1,293
General	-

► **13,478**

of which: Overheads **822**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

26 expatriates

110 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- provided over 55,000 conflict-affected people living in precarious conditions in the north of the country with food and essential household items
- extended its operations to the south-east of the country to meet the needs of people affected by the arrival of elements of the Lord's Resistance Army
- helped train and equip 556 first-aiders in 45 National Society branches, enhancing their capacities to treat people wounded in outbreaks of violence
- helped some 68,600 people work towards regaining their self-sufficiency through agricultural initiatives
- provided 91,799 people with improved access to clean water and, in cooperation with the National Society, promoted good hygiene to 85,900 people, thus reducing the risk of water-borne diseases
- established contact with newly emerged armed groups active in the country, briefing them on IHL and the Movement to prevent abuses against civilians and to facilitate ICRC operations in situations of violence

CONTEXT

The situation in the Central African Republic remained volatile, with improved security in some regions offset by fresh violence and banditry in others. A year after the launch of the all-inclusive political dialogue, progress on preparations for elections in 2010 and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of armed groups remained slow, causing frustration among the parties concerned and threatening to derail the fragile peace.

In parts of the north controlled by armed groups engaged in the peace process, improved security encouraged some of the thousands displaced by conflict in recent years to return home and begin rebuilding their lives. Elsewhere in the north, the emergence of armed groups not involved in the political dialogue prompted clashes both with the armed forces and between rival groups, leading to fresh displacements.

In the north-east province of Vakaga, the security situation deteriorated significantly. The presence of multiple armed groups led to attacks and looting in Birao, causing residents to seek refuge in the surrounding bush. A series of attacks on humanitarian organizations, including a fatal incident involving an ICRC staff member, caused the vast majority to suspend their activities in the region.

In the south, there was an isolated outbreak of lethal intercommunal violence near Bangui. Further east, military operations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) led elements of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to cross the border into Haut-Mbomou province, prompting most of the rural population to seek refuge in local towns. Towards the end of the year, the region also saw an influx of some 25,000 refugees who had fled violence in the DRC's Equateur province.

A number of foreign troops and peacekeeping forces remained present in the country.

While those uprooted by violence struggled to cope in precarious conditions, the general population continued to suffer from chronic poverty and a lack of public services and infrastructure in the absence of government resources. Conditions in places of detention reflected those in the country as a whole, with many detainees suffering poor health due to inadequate food, hygiene and health care.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	1,648	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	107	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	35,287	30%
	<i>of whom women</i>		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	35,287	
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	55,378	30%
Number of visits carried out	189		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	46,006	50%
Number of places of detention visited	53	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	68,609	30%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			<i>of whom IDPs</i>	26,692	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	208,349	25%
RCMs collected	353	Health			
RCMs distributed	304	Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	1	
People reunited with their families	8	Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	7,023	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>			<i>of which curative</i>		1,064
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	2		<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		176
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	7	Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	203	4,771
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	4	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	9	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	23	
	<i>of whom girls</i>	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,353	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	8	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	72	
	<i>of whom girls</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	60	
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	1				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In cooperation with the Central African Red Cross Society, the ICRC pursued its efforts to protect and assist people in parts of the country affected by violence, extending its operations to the south-east following the arrival of the LRA.

In response to allegations of IHL violations against civilians, the ICRC made confidential representations to the relevant parties to prevent further abuses. It strengthened its dialogue with all parties to the conflict to remind them of their obligations towards civilians, and briefed members of the armed forces and other armed groups on IHL and the Movement to facilitate ICRC/National Society access to people in need. It also provided the government with expert legal advice on incorporating IHL into national legislation, resulting in the adoption of a revised penal code and an act governing the use of the red cross emblem.

To ensure that people wounded in clashes received adequate treatment, the ICRC provided medical supplies to health centres. Uprooted populations living in makeshift conditions received essential household items, shelter materials and food to aid their survival, while returnees received agricultural inputs and training to help them rebuild their livelihoods. The precarious security situation in Vakaga prevented the ICRC from implementing all of its planned interventions in the north-east.

Where family members dispersed by conflict or other problems required help to locate and communicate with each other, the ICRC provided tracing and RCM services together with the relevant National Societies. In cooperation with the authorities and other humanitarian organizations, it succeeded in reuniting several children with their families after the children's liberation from armed groups.

To reduce health risks among rural populations and groups of IDPs without access to clean water, the ICRC constructed or rehabilitated latrines and water points, and conducted hygiene awareness sessions in cooperation with the National Society. It continued supporting the health centre in Am Dafok but informed the authorities that such support would cease at the end of 2009 after assessments indicated that the centre was not functioning effectively.

ICRC delegates visited security detainees throughout the country to monitor their treatment and general living conditions, sharing their findings confidentially with the authorities. Conscious that the penitentiary administration often lacked the resources to meet detainees' urgent health, hygiene and nutritional needs, the ICRC improved health care and sanitary facilities in five prisons and, where necessary, provided detainees with food supplements and hygiene materials.

The ICRC provided training and financial, technical and material support to the Central African Red Cross, enabling it to build its emergency response and family-links services, while boosting its capacity to promote IHL and the Movement to a broad audience. By coordinating closely with Movement partners and other humanitarian actors working in the region, the ICRC helped ensure that the needs of vulnerable populations were met without duplicating efforts.

CIVILIANS

Violence and looting affected populations in several regions, with civilians reportedly killed or wounded. A number of people approached the ICRC to make allegations of IHL violations. These were documented and formed the basis of confidential representations to the parties concerned, who were reminded of their responsibility to protect civilians' basic rights in accordance with IHL and national law. To ensure appropriate treatment of the wounded, hospitals in Bangui, Birao and Obo received ad hoc supplies of drugs, while National Society first-aiders were provided with dressing kits. Where necessary, the wounded were evacuated to Bangui's main hospital by the National Society and the cost of their treatment covered by the ICRC.

The volatile security situation prompted thousands of people, including refugees from neighbouring countries, to seek refuge in Central African towns or outlying bush. Those displaced were better able to cope in temporary shelter after receiving food rations and essential household items, including tarpaulins, from the ICRC.

- 35,287 people (8,082 households) received 1 three-month food ration
- 55,378 people (11,879 households), including 46,006 IDPs (11,879 households), received essential household items

Civilians living in conflict-affected areas or returning home receive support to rebuild their livelihoods

People returning home to areas where security had improved often found that nothing remained of their villages. Along with vulnerable residents, they became the focus of ICRC efforts to boost economic security, benefiting from support to rebuild their livelihoods. Farmers received disease-resistant seed, tools and livestock to boost crop production and increase revenue. Livestock breeders, including women's associations, received goats and pigs to replace looted animals, along with materials to construct secure enclosures. The animals were selected by veterinary experts, who vaccinated them and taught the beneficiaries how to look after them. People living near rivers received fishing equipment, while honey producers were given jerrycans enabling them to preserve honey for longer.

Training sessions on good farming practices, marketing, and the management of farmers' unions accompanied such distributions, as appropriate, boosting beneficiaries' capacities to generate revenue and contributing to the sustainability of ICRC interventions. Training was organized by the Central African Agency for Agricultural Development and the National Agency for Livestock Development in cooperation with the ICRC.

- 68,609 people (15,505 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 26,692 IDPs from distributions of hoes and essential household items
 - 35,329 people from agricultural inputs

Civilians benefit from clean water and improved sanitation facilities

In rural parts of the north, where the risk of disease was high owing to poor hygiene and inadequate access to clean water, vulnerable residents benefited from the construction or rehabilitation of wells and hand pumps by the ICRC. To improve sanitation in public spaces and at home, latrines were installed in schools, health centres and private households, and beneficiary communities were

familiarized with good hygiene practices. Such interventions were undertaken in cooperation with trained National Society volunteers to help ensure their sustainability.

Plans to supply spare parts to urban water treatment plants were put aside after it emerged that such needs were to be covered under development programmes run by other organizations.

To meet the pressing needs of populations displaced by the arrival of the LRA, water points and latrines were also installed or repaired in the south-east. Formerly displaced families received materials to help them reconstruct their homes.

- 208,349 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 91,799 people from improved access to water
 - 29,950 people from latrines
 - 85,900 people from training in good hygiene practices

Civilians have access to primary health care

Following the ICRC's renovation of the health centre in Am Dafok in 2007, local residents and IDPs continued to benefit from better access to basic health care, assured in part by ICRC support in the form of medical supplies and equipment, staff training and the payment of staff incentives. Pregnant women attending antenatal consultations received ICRC mosquito nets to help prevent malaria. However, the centre failed to function as expected: staff lacked motivation; there were reports that drugs were not prescribed correctly; and the local population continued to rely primarily on traditional treatments. Given this situation, the health authorities were informed that the ICRC would cease its support at the end of 2009.

In the 1 ICRC-supported health centre (average monthly catchment population: 9,200):

- 7,023 people given consultations, including 189 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 6,834 attending curative consultations
- 203 vaccine doses administered (including 109 to children aged five or under and 94 to women of childbearing age)
- 19 patients referred to a second level of care
- 7 health education sessions held

Family members separated by conflict receive help to contact relatives

Family members dispersed by conflict, including children released by armed groups and large numbers of Sudanese refugees, were able to restore contact with relatives using tracing and RCM services provided by the National Society and the ICRC. A number of children who had reportedly escaped from, or been released by, the LRA were reunited with their families thanks to cooperation between national authorities, the UN and the ICRC.

- 288 RCMs collected from and 276 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 2 from unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 2 people; 7 people located; 4 people still being sought
- 9 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 3 demobilized children); 8 reunited with their families; 1 case of an unaccompanied/separated child still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People continued to be arrested in connection with the conflict affecting parts of the country. Security detainees and other particularly vulnerable inmates, including some of those held by armed groups, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures to assess their treatment and general living conditions. During visits, detainees had the opportunity to contact their families using RCMs. Following such visits, relevant ministries were informed in confidence of the ICRC's findings and recommendations. Dialogue continued with the government and armed groups to obtain access to all detainees in their custody. With the full agreement of the authorities, international bodies and donors were approached to request their support in assisting the CAR to rebuild its penal and judicial systems.

With the authorities often lacking the means to improve living conditions in detention facilities, many detainees suffered poor health aggravated by inadequate food, health care and sanitation facilities. To support the prison administration in meeting detainees' needs, health personnel in five prisons were offered expert guidance on aspects of their work, and inmates had their health and nutritional status monitored regularly by an ICRC health delegate. Prison dispensaries were stocked with essential drugs and medical supplies, enabling some 700 detainees to gain access to appropriate treatment, while 23 severely malnourished detainees received food supplements. In Bossangoa prison, inmates successfully cultivated the market garden launched with ICRC support in 2007, boosting their food supplies. A second project aimed at generating revenue to buy additional food proved more difficult for the authorities to manage, and was therefore suspended pending review.

To reduce the health risks associated with poor hygiene, vulnerable detainees received personal hygiene items, buckets and jerrycans from the ICRC, and learnt about good hygiene from National Society volunteers. In Sibut prison, detainees also benefited from improved sanitary infrastructure after the ICRC helped rehabilitate its latrines and water supply system. Similar improvements in four further prisons were postponed until an official could be appointed to supervise their maintenance. One prison also received materials to separate men's and women's accommodation.

- ▶ 1,648 detainees visited, of whom 107 monitored individually (2 women; 5 minors) and 67 newly registered (2 women; 3 minors), during 189 visits to 53 places of detention
- ▶ 65 RCMs collected from and 28 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 60 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects
- ▶ 1,353 detainees received hygiene items
- ▶ 72 detainees benefited from agricultural projects

AUTHORITIES

National authorities strengthened their dialogue with the ICRC through regular meetings. These discussions enhanced the authorities' understanding of the Movement's mandate and activities and IHL and provided an opportunity to remind them of the need to protect civilians and facilitate ICRC access to victims of violence. Regional and international authorities, including key contacts at the Bangui-based Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa, also maintained regular contact with the ICRC, which was thereby able to build support for its activities.

While the volatile security situation remained the government's priority, it nevertheless made progress on implementing IHL instruments to which the country was a party, responding positively to ICRC encouragement. Drawing on ICRC/National Society technical support, parliament passed a Red Cross Act governing the use of the emblem and adopted a new penal code revised in line with the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the 1977 Additional Protocols and the Rome Statute. Government officials also discussed with the ICRC the need to ratify additional treaties, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. To boost their efforts, two officials were sponsored to attend a regional IHL meeting (see *Yaoundé*), while a further two participated in the ICRC's conference on child soldiers held in Geneva, Switzerland.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Through briefings and seminars at training centres and in the field, more than 1,750 members of the armed forces and other armed groups, including newly emerged groups and international forces active in the country, raised their awareness of IHL and of the Movement. These contacts served to encourage respect for civilians' basic rights and to facilitate safe access by the National Society/ICRC to victims of armed conflict.

To help the armed forces assume responsibility for teaching IHL, the military academy for officers in Bangui was provided with IHL reference materials. Troops and trainee officers attended training courses organized, for the first time, by the army's IHL committee, drawing on ICRC technical expertise. To further support the army's efforts, members of the committee participated in an ICRC workshop and a senior officer was sponsored to attend an IHL course abroad.

Discussions with the police focused primarily on detention-related matters.

CIVIL SOCIETY

National and local media drew on ICRC briefings and press releases to broadcast radio spots about the ICRC's activities, raising awareness of IHL, the Movement and humanitarian principles among the general public and helping to promote these topics among armed groups with whom the ICRC had no direct contact. To enhance the accuracy of their coverage, Central African and international journalists participated in field trips to conflict-affected areas, enabling them to see National Society/ICRC teams in action.

To foster support for Movement activities among influential members of civil society, community and religious leaders, youth groups and women's associations attended ICRC briefings organized in cooperation with the National Society. Events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino complemented these efforts, including using drama to promote the protective properties of the red cross emblem.

Although the academic sector was disrupted by strike action, the University of Bangui and the National School of Administration and Judiciary continued to teach IHL. At the latter, the combined efforts of the IHL programme director and the ICRC ensured that IHL was designated as a principal component of the law course when the school curriculum was revised during the year. Given the strikes, the planned moot court competition was postponed while students and teachers focused on keeping up with regular classes.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Central African Red Cross received financial, technical and material support from the ICRC in building its emergency response capacity, communication skills and family-links services, enabling it to better protect and assist vulnerable communities. Movement partners continued to coordinate their activities to ensure maximum impact for beneficiaries.

Given the clashes affecting the country, the National Society focused on strengthening its first-aid capacity. It produced a first-aid training manual, trained 42 instructors and 556 volunteers, and distributed first-aid supplies, preparing 45 branches to meet the needs of the wounded in emergencies. Such preparations enabled the National Society to respond effectively to violence in Bangui and elsewhere (see *Civilians*).

The volatile security situation underscored the need to promote widespread understanding of the Movement, humanitarian principles and the correct use of the red cross emblem. To improve its capacity to do so, the National Society produced a communication manual and trained 24 personnel to pass on their communication skills to volunteers. Volunteers also gained experience in hygiene promotion, working with the ICRC to reduce the spread of water-borne diseases (see *Civilians*).

A focal person was appointed to develop the National Society's capacity to restore contact between separated family members and was provided with training and equipment. Volunteers in the north worked with the Sudanese Red Crescent and the ICRC to gain experience in providing RCM services to Sudanese refugees.

chad



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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	6,462
Assistance	17,695
Prevention	2,490
Cooperation with National Societies	1,182
General	-

► **27,829**

of which: Overheads **1,696**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88%
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PERSONNEL

55 expatriates
224 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- monitored the individual cases of 525 detainees, as well as general conditions, in 42 detention centres
- helped 104,250 people improve their economic situation in a sustainable manner through agricultural and veterinary initiatives
- reduced health risks for tens of thousands of people by supporting 4 health centres and outreach vaccination programmes and by rehabilitating wells
- assisted in treating more than 1,000 trauma patients through substantial support to Abéché Regional Hospital, including the full-time services of a mobile surgical team
- promoted IHL, helping Chad draft relevant laws, signing a landmark agreement with the military joint chiefs of staff on IHL training, and boosting radio coverage of humanitarian issues
- suspended most activities along the eastern border with Sudan from mid-November following the kidnapping of an ICRC delegate

CONTEXT

Armed conflict subsided in eastern Chad during 2009, but the region suffered from rising crime and persistent communal violence, and tensions ran high with neighbouring Sudan.

Military confrontations were limited to skirmishes, the exception being a three-day attack around the town of Am Dam in May mounted by a coalition of armed groups, which retreated under armed forces fire. Civilian casualties were limited, but more mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) were left behind. Chadian troops later crossed into Sudan to pursue coalition fighters. This further fuelled tensions between the two neighbours, who traded accusations of supporting armed groups to bring down the other's government.

The east also experienced occasional cross-border raids from Darfur in Sudan and low-level communal violence, fuelled by a mix of ethnic and political grievances, competition for dwindling natural resources and chronic poverty. After three years of conflict and communal strife, traditional leaders' authority had been eroded and small arms were plentiful, leaving government officials struggling to regain control. Some 150,000 people were still displaced, and the region hosted around 255,000 Sudanese refugees, most of them living in UNHCR camps.

The new UN force under the UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) began deploying in eastern Chad from March, replacing the European Union (EU) force, and was at half-strength by year-end. A new MINURCAT-trained Chadian security force was also operating there.

Despite these measures, lawlessness, especially banditry, spread with impunity. This threatened civilians, hampered economic recovery, dissuaded IDPs from returning home and endangered aid delivery, with more incidents of humanitarian workers being attacked or kidnapped.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	3,629	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	525	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	33,172	24% 60%
of whom minors	34	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	41,588	24% 60%
Number of visits carried out	81	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	104,250	24% 60%
Number of places of detention visited	42	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	24,316	30% 30%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Health</i>			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	4	
RCMs collected	5,860	Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	3,320	
RCMs distributed	4,925	of which curative		715	1,514
People reunited with their families	18	of which ante/post-natal		393	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	56,089	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	175	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
of whom women	46	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	36	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	153	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	126	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	213	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	102	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	400	
of whom women	29	WOUNDED AND SICK			
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	21	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	2	
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	2,745	1,591 215
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	104	Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	584	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	18	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
of whom girls	1	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	3,533	598 1,463
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	199	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	367	51 18
of whom girls	62	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	437	64 252
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	19				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC in Chad stayed focused on protecting and assisting people directly affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence.

Assistance activities were concentrated in the east, mainly in rural parts of the volatile departments of Assoungba, Dar Sila and Dar Tama bordering Sudan, where few other organizations were working. The deteriorating security situation, principally banditry, disrupted operations, especially projects needing a constant presence, such as constructing wells.

The ICRC pursued its strategy of helping IDPs, returnees and residents return to self-sufficiency, thus minimizing the risk of their becoming dependent on food aid. Monitoring showed that many IDPs were growing crops, either in their host communities or through visits to their own fields, and that most beneficiaries of ICRC seed and food aid in 2008 had reaped a reasonable harvest. The delegation, therefore, scrapped planned seed distributions, significantly reduced food aid and focused instead on agricultural and veterinary projects designed to help communities boost the local economy in a sustainable manner. To prevent disease outbreaks, the ICRC built wells and supported four health centres (three more than in 2008) and vaccination campaigns.

Aided by its neutral and independent stance, the ICRC managed to reach victims of military or communal clashes rapidly, providing them with, as needed, shelter materials, household items and food rations. As the conflict had subsided, far fewer people than budgeted for received such emergency aid.

Abéché Regional Hospital treated trauma cases from across eastern Chad with the help of an ICRC surgical team (transferred from N'Djamena in February), which also ministered to the wounded on the battlefield and in other medical facilities. In addition, Chad's two physical rehabilitation centres received substantial support to treat mine victims and other disabled people, while delegates informed communities of mine/ERW risks and encouraged the authorities to tackle the problem.

The ICRC visited security detainees and monitored general conditions in detention centres countrywide. In some cases, the authorities acted on the ICRC's confidential recommendations, notably to improve conditions for members of armed groups captured during the May clash. In emergencies, the ICRC stepped in to organize food or medical care for detainees. It also helped upgrade water and sanitation in two prisons.

Several thousand people, mainly Sudanese refugees, communicated with relatives through the family-links service.

To ensure the safe delivery of aid, delegates invested much effort in explaining IHL principles and the ICRC's mandate and activities to the authorities, weapon bearers and communities. Such exchanges also enabled the ICRC to better understand needs and adapt activities accordingly. At the national level, the government sought ICRC advice on a draft law incorporating sanctions against IHL violations, and the military joint chiefs of staff approved an IHL training programme. In the field, delegates documented reports of abuses against civilians and, where necessary, made confidential representations to the relevant parties.

On 9 November, however, an ICRC delegate was kidnapped in Kawa, near the border with Sudan, and was still captive at year-end. This and the deteriorating security situation led the ICRC to suspend most activities in rural eastern border areas from mid-November, while examining alternative aid-delivery methods. Its surgical team continued working in Abéché Regional Hospital.

The ICRC assisted the Red Cross of Chad in strengthening its first-aid services and developing management and dissemination skills. It also coordinated Movement activities and worked in coordination with the UN and other organizations in fields of common interest, including through its attendance at Inter-Agency Standing Committee and UN cluster meetings.

CIVILIANS

Most reports of abuse against civilians were linked to communal violence or crime. ICRC delegates did, however, document some alleged IHL violations and raised them confidentially with the relevant parties. The deteriorating security situation in eastern Chad increasingly limited ICRC movements, restricting this work.

The authorities and weapon bearers were also reminded of their obligations under IHL to protect civilians and wounded or captured fighters. Issues of particular concern were the recruitment of minors into fighting forces and mine/ERW risks. Such dialogue contributed, for example, to the government deploying ambulances and a demining team after an explosion in Assounga killed and injured children. Communities were also taught during ICRC presentations how to reduce mine/ERW risks, while the authorities, weapon bearers and the public learnt more about the issue through other ICRC initiatives (see *Authorities, Armed forces and other bearers of weapons* and *Civil society*). The ICRC also pressed for improved security in eastern Chad to prevent further displacement and to allow IDPs to return home and aid to reach conflict victims.

Conflict victims receive emergency aid

Around 41,500 IDPs, including some who had just returned home, used ICRC shelter and household items to maintain or create makeshift homes. Many IDPs received extra tarpaulins to use when they visited their villages briefly to tend crops. Around 2,000 people recently affected by violence were given one-month food rations to help them recover. Another 30,000 people in parts of Dar Sila and Dar Tama where crops had failed received up to three-month food rations in June to last until the harvest.

Orphanages, mosques and hospitals in eastern Chad were given the ICRC's remaining perishable food stocks to distribute to needy people (see *ICRC action and results*).

- ▶ 41,588 people (8,258 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 33,172 people (7,216 households) received food rations

Communities assisted in reviving the local economy

Most beneficiaries of ICRC seed and food aid in 2008 had a reasonable harvest (see *ICRC action and results*), so communities began working with delegates on projects to improve their economic situation in a sustainable manner.

In Assounga, recent returnees were able to boost their vegetable production, in some cases doubling it, with the ICRC providing seed, tools and pedal-operated irrigation pumps. Other families in Assounga and Dar Sila received donkey ploughs and harnesses to help increase staple-crop yields.

To improve livestock health, 40 people were trained and equipped by the ICRC and the Livestock and Animal Resources Ministry to provide basic veterinary services in their mainly nomadic communities in Dar Sila and Zaghawa. Another 95 community animal health workers took refresher courses, and veterinary offices received 146,125 vaccine doses to immunize livestock against common diseases.

- ▶ 104,250 people (32,515 households) benefited from agricultural and veterinary initiatives, including:
 - 70,275 people from veterinary projects
 - 14,450 people from market gardening projects

Communities face fewer health risks

To limit health risks, farmers and nomads in areas bordering Darfur helped the ICRC construct or rehabilitate 13 wells, and thousands of women and children in Assounga and Dar Sila were vaccinated in campaigns organized by the ICRC and coordinated with local authorities and UNICEF. Security constraints curtailed water projects (see *ICRC action and results*), and vaccination campaigns were not 100% effective because nomads often moved before completing the full course.

By year-end, some 51,000 residents and IDPs in border areas had access to curative and mother-and-child care and vaccinations at four health centres which the ICRC rehabilitated and provided with supplies and staff training (Kawa in Assounga, supported since 2007, and, since mid-2009, Birak in Dar Tama and Lobotiké and Tiero in Dar Sila). Traditional village midwives around Birak and Kawa were also trained and equipped, and a regional radio station broadcast ICRC-produced information spots on safe pregnancy and delivery. Training was suspended from November because of security restrictions (see *ICRC action and results*).

- ▶ 24,316 people benefited from rural water projects

In the 4 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 13,800):

- ▶ 3,320 people given consultations, including 393 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 2,927 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 56,089 vaccine doses administered at the centres and in outreach campaigns (including 45,856 to children aged five or under and 10,233 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 12 patients referred to a second level of care

Children reunite with their parents

People uprooted, mainly Sudanese refugees in camps in eastern Chad, used the family-links service to communicate with relatives. As a priority, vulnerable people, usually child refugees or children formerly associated with fighting forces, were put in touch with their families and, if appropriate, reunited with them. This was a coordinated effort, involving the authorities, UNHCR, UNICEF and the ICRC. Security constraints prevented the follow-up of such cases from November (see *ICRC action and results*).

- 5,732 RCMs collected from and 4,844 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 252 from and 136 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 175 people (46 women; 36 minors at the time of disappearance); 136 people located, including 10 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 102 people (29 women; 21 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 104 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 102 demobilized children); 18 reunited with their families; 199 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 48 demobilized children) still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Security detainees were visited individually and general conditions monitored, according to standard ICRC procedures, in detention centres run by the Presidency and Defence, Interior and Justice Ministries. Inmates could contact their families through RCMs and, where necessary, received basic hygiene and other items.

The authorities generally notified the ICRC of any new security detainees and acted on some of the organization's confidential recommendations. For example, in an N'Djamena prison holding detainees captured during the May fighting, the authorities handed over the minors to UNICEF, emptied the septic tank, allowed inmates fresh air and renovated a building to alleviate overcrowding. Similarly, the government allocated a national food budget for detainees, which stabilized the malnutrition rate among inmates from mid-year. Prior to that, some 150 malnourished security detainees recovered after one month on ICRC food rations. In addition, 60 wounded detainees received medical treatment organized by delegates; 9 of the wounded were operated on in N'Djamena's Military Teaching Hospital by the ICRC's surgical team (see *Wounded and sick*). Detainees in two main prisons also faced fewer health risks after ICRC engineers upgraded water and sanitation facilities.

Chad's internationally funded penitentiary reform process progressed, with the government, the EU and MINURCAT seeking ICRC expertise. The stakeholders received the ICRC's prison water and sanitation handbook and during two workshops discussed how to comply with minimum international standards. At another meeting, the ICRC advocated integrating environmental, cultural and other local factors into prison construction plans.

Four Sudanese soldiers detained in Chad by an armed group received ICRC visits. The three who were wounded were treated, released and repatriated, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

- 3,629 detainees visited, of whom 525 monitored individually (34 minors) and 359 newly registered (34 minors), during 81 visits to 42 places of detention

- 128 RCMs collected from and 81 RCMs distributed to detainees and 46 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in the country
- 19 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 400 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects
- 153 detainees received food and/or nutritional supplements
- 213 detainees received basic hygiene and other items

WOUNDED AND SICK

Abéché Regional Hospital treated weapon-wounded patients transferred from across eastern Chad, with substantial ICRC support. This consisted of a five-person, mobile surgical team (full time from February), surgical and hygiene supplies, and help with maintenance, including building a water system serving the surgical ward.

During emergency missions in eastern Chad, 193 wounded people were treated by the surgical team. When the fighting erupted in May, the wounded were evacuated to hospital by Chadian Red Cross and ICRC personnel, and hospitals were given supplies and assisted by National Society volunteers. Later, shell damage to Am Dam Hospital was repaired. N'Djamena's Liberty Hospital, where the surgical team worked from 2007 to February 2009, received medical supplies monthly.

In the 2 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 2,745 patients (including 1,519 women and 215 children) admitted: of whom 230 weapon-wounded (including 10 women and 6 children; 12 people injured by mines or ERW), 914 other surgical cases, and 608 medical and 993 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 584 surgical operations performed by ICRC personnel
- 13,230 outpatients given medical consultations

All patients treated at Chad's two physical rehabilitation centres – the Centre d'appareillage et de rééducation de Kabalaye in N'Djamena and the Maison Notre Dame de Paix in Moundou – were fitted with appliances made from ICRC-donated components. At the Kabalaye centre, war amputees (269 in 2009) had their treatment costs paid by the ICRC; those referred from the north and east (57) also had transport and accommodation covered.

Patient care improved after the Kabalaye centre was renovated and a building for physiotherapy constructed. At the inauguration ceremony, government, military and diplomatic guests were urged to mobilize funding for Chad's services for disabled people.

Personnel at both centres learnt new skills during on-the-job supervision by two ICRC experts, while nine staff members, under ICRC sponsorship, attended courses abroad.

- 3,533 patients (including 598 women and 1,463 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 167 new patients (including 30 women and 14 children) fitted with prostheses and 245 (including 18 women and 167 children) fitted with orthoses
- 367 prostheses (including 51 for women and 18 for children; 265 for mine victims), 437 orthoses (including 64 for women and 252 for children; 9 for mine victims), 1,182 crutches and 38 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Chad asked the ICRC to help finalize a draft law incorporating sanctions against IHL violations. This was a key recommendation agreed at a two-day workshop in June organized by the Justice and Foreign Affairs Ministries and the ICRC and attended by some 30 high-ranking officials of those ministries, as well as Defence, Education and Health. The participants also recommended that the government set up a working group to finalize the draft and establish a national IHL committee to speed up Chad's ratification and implementation of related treaties. To gain expertise, an Interior Ministry official participated in the ICRC's Central Africa meeting on IHL implementation (see *Yaoundé*). The Health Ministry and the ICRC were also reworking a draft law on the emblem.

National authorities, including ministry heads, local officials and MINURCAT personnel also exchanged views with the ICRC on humanitarian issues and were briefed on IHL and ICRC activities. This was crucial to ensure that civilians were protected in time of conflict and that ICRC staff could work safely. The ICRC stressed the need to safeguard neutrality in humanitarian work by keeping military and political strategies separate from aid.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In a first, Chad's Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the ICRC signed an agreement in July detailing a programme to promote IHL among military training schools, regional commands and combat units based along Chad's eastern and southern borders. Eighteen of the military's top brass, mainly colonels, then spent a half-day with the ICRC assessing the current status of IHL integration into training. In another first, the armed forces show on national radio gave the ICRC airtime to convey IHL messages on mines/ERW and the distinction between civilians and combatants. In addition, 35 army and police instructors and officers refreshed their IHL knowledge at an ICRC course in N'Djamena.

In the field, more than 1,000 military and police officers, most of them deployed in eastern and southern Chad, were briefed on IHL and the ICRC. Chad's army instructors often helped lead the sessions. The main message was the responsibility to protect civilians, including aid workers. Armed groups were also reminded of their obligations under IHL at every opportunity.

MINURCAT approved IHL briefings for its peacekeepers, but had logistics problems, so no dates were yet set.

CIVIL SOCIETY

ICRC staff security and access to needy people relied heavily on community support.

Thanks to a major boost in radio coverage, thousands of people from diverse backgrounds in eastern Chad learnt about IHL and the ICRC. Internews, the international media NGO, fed ICRC promotional materials to the major regional radio stations, which then regularly featured ICRC input in newscasts and on shows on topical IHL issues, for example mine/ERW incidents and helping survivors. At ICRC workshops, some 30 local journalists learnt more about reporting from a humanitarian perspective and were also taught first aid.

A wide range of people, from traditional and religious leaders, medical staff and journalists to UN and NGO personnel, were briefed on IHL and the Movement during presentations and informal discussions. As a result of fruitful interaction, for example, Chad's High Council of Islamic Affairs and the ICRC improved their understanding and acceptance of each other's activities.

Among various initiatives targeting young people, some 500 students and lecturers at Abéché's Adam Barka University had a lively discussion on the theme of child soldiers during a day-long IHL seminar.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Chadian Red Cross, backed by ICRC funds, materials and expertise, reinforced its first-aid service and built up its infrastructure, management skills and IHL-promotion activities. With first aid its priority, the National Society chose not to develop a family-links service.

With French Red Cross and ICRC help, the Chadian Red Cross updated its first-aid manual and trained or retrained some 60 instructors, who by year-end had given 25 first-aid courses for the public in N'Djamena and the south. The revised first-aid manual for brigade heads, with a new section on mine action, was ready in December. Key National Society personnel were also trained alongside ICRC staff in mine/ERW risk assessment, community education and data collection.

In other initiatives, the National Society reinforced its set-up, building four new offices (in Adré, Doba, Faya-Largeau and Goré), and provided community services in volatile areas, for example a horse-and-cart ambulance service, which transported an average of 12 ill or wounded people a day from the border area to Adré Hospital.

The Chadian Red Cross promoted IHL and the Movement country-wide by giving talks at schools and distributing promotional materials, including a special publication drawing on the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign.

Movement partners coordinated their activities during regular meetings convened by the ICRC, which also assisted them with security, logistics and public communication.



Congo, democratic republic of the

The ICRC opened a permanent delegation in Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in 1978. It ensures that the emergency needs of conflict-affected IDPs and residents are met; that they have the means to become self-sufficient; and that the wounded and sick receive adequate care. It visits detainees, works to restore contact between separated family members, where appropriate and possible, reuniting children with their families, and supports the development of the National Society. It also promotes respect for the basic rules of IHL and international human rights law by the authorities in their treatment of civilians and detainees.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	12,877
Assistance	38,806
Prevention	4,681
Cooperation with National Societies	4,233
General	-

► **60,597**

of which: Overheads 3,579

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

76	expatriates
633	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- developed contacts with armed forces and groups to address alleged violations against the civilian population through, amongst other things, confidential dialogue and IHL training sessions
- distributed food to 282,695 people affected by displacement in the Kivus, essential household items to 202,143 and emergency drinking water to 75,980
- supported over 30 counselling centres for victims of sexual violence, as well as 13 hospitals, 18 health centres and 5 physical rehabilitation centres
- reunited 916 unaccompanied children, including former child soldiers, with their families
- facilitated recovery from conflict by boosting 384,422 people's livelihoods and improving water supply systems in 10 villages and 3 towns
- visited security detainees in prisons and places of temporary detention, providing food rations to 2,335 to improve their nutritional situation

CONTEXT

The humanitarian and security situation in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), particularly in the provinces of North and South Kivu and in northern areas of Province Orientale, remained a cause for grave concern in 2009.

In the Kivus, agreements at the beginning of the year saw most armed groups, including the Congrès national pour la défense du peuple (CNDP), integrated into the DRC army. Subsequently, the DRC army launched two military operations against the remaining Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR). The first operation was backed by the Rwandan Defence Forces and the second by the UN Mission in the DRC (MONUC). The situation surrounding peace agreements signed in March between the DRC government, the CNDP and various Mayi Mayi groups remained fragile. Throughout the year, both IDPs and residents in the Kivus continued to suffer the effects of past and ongoing insecurity. Numerous IHL violations were reported and many people were dependent on humanitarian aid.

In March, the DRC army assumed the lead of a military campaign in northern Province Orientale, launched by the Ugandan armed forces against the Lord's Resistance Army in 2008 (see *Uganda*). Related and protracted insecurity in the region had severe humanitarian consequences, including IHL violations and displacement. Logistic and security constraints meant that many people remained out of the reach of humanitarian organizations.

Towards year-end, violence broke out in Equateur province. Tens of thousands of people were reportedly displaced within the country or had fled to neighbouring Congo or, to a lesser extent, to the Central African Republic. Tension between the DRC and Angola was exacerbated by tit-for-tat expulsions of migrant workers and other people regularly crossing the border between the two countries (see *Pretoria*).

Other challenges facing the DRC government included the restructuring of the army, the economic impact of the world financial crisis and falling commodity prices, and rising urban crime rates.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Detainees visited	11,661	Economic security, water and habitat					
Detainees visited and monitored individually	1,087	Food	Beneficiaries	282,695	40%	30%	
			of whom IDPs	282,695			
	of whom women	25					
	of whom minors	34	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	202,543	40%	30%
Number of visits carried out	176		of whom IDPs	202,543			
Number of places of detention visited	58	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	384,422	40%	30%	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of whom IDPs	322,340			
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications							
RCMs collected	48,050	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	934,088	30%	40%	
RCMs distributed	40,058		of whom IDPs	75,980			
People reunited with their families	826	Health					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Health centres supported	Structures	18			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	665	Consultations	Patients	134,447			
	of whom women		of which curative		36,183	52,845	
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance		of which ante/post-natal		22,928	675	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	323	Immunizations	Doses	111,574			
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	478	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM					
	of whom women						
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance						
		Economic security, water and habitat					
		Food	Beneficiaries	2,335			
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	8,983			
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	1,318	WOUNDED AND SICK					
	of whom girls	Hospitals supported	Structures	13			
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	826	Admissions	Patients	24,265	12,630	7,517	
	of whom girls	Operations	Operations performed	5,874			
UAM/SC cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	706	Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	740			
	of whom girls	Physical rehabilitation					
		Patients receiving services	Patients	740	107	50	
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Prostheses delivered	Units	695	100	50	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	46	Orthoses delivered	Units	83	10		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC focused on addressing the humanitarian situation in eastern DRC. To better respond to the cumulative needs of people affected by recurring armed confrontations in the Kivus, the ICRC appealed in May for additional funds for its assistance operations, implemented in partnership with the Red Cross Society of the DRC. In Ituri, cooperation with the National Society was strengthened and family-links and detention-related activities resumed after several years of the ICRC's absence following the deaths of six of its staff members there in 2001. In light of the relative stability in Katanga, ICRC assistance activities in the province were reduced.

Contacts with weapon bearers at all levels helped obtain access to victims and security clearances for Red Cross workers. The ICRC pursued confidential dialogue with the relevant authorities regarding alleged IHL violations and whenever relevant appealed publicly to all parties to the armed conflict to protect civilians. ICRC delegates also briefed parliamentarians and armed forces and groups on IHL provisions and raised local, national and international awareness of its humanitarian operations and concerns.

IDPs in the Kivus received emergency relief goods, food and water. Returnees and host communities recovering from the effects of armed conflict were given seed and tools to help them resume farming, sometimes coupled with food. A livestock vaccination campaign and support for farming and fishing associations also

boosted income generation. Village water points were installed and/or repaired, and the urban water and electricity boards worked with the ICRC to rehabilitate supply networks in towns.

ICRC material and technical input, including that of an ICRC surgical team until May, helped hospitals and health and physical rehabilitation centres treat injured people, particularly in the Kivus. With ICRC backing, over 30 counselling centres provided psychological and social support to victims of sexual violence and facilitated their access to medical care. Communities were also prompted to challenge the stigma surrounding sexual violence.

National Society/ICRC family-links services helped separated relatives restore and maintain contact. Such activities also enabled unaccompanied children, including large numbers of demobilized children, to be registered and reunited with their families where appropriate.

Detainees in prisons and places of temporary detention were visited by ICRC delegates, who discussed their findings confidentially with the relevant authorities to improve detention conditions and treatment. In response to severe nutritional needs, the ICRC supplied daily food rations to detainees. Where needed, it also delivered hygiene items and medicines and rehabilitated prison facilities. In Katanga, the organization ran prison management workshops for provincial staff.

The ICRC provided technical and financial support for the National Society's operations and boosted its capacities and processes. The two organizations worked together, for example, to help the authorities manage an outbreak of cholera in Goma.

Ongoing coordination with humanitarian actors on the ground, including UN cluster system participants, helped maximize impact, respond to unmet needs and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Parties to the conflict called upon to respect and protect civilians

IHL violations reported to the ICRC included summary executions, sexual violence, ill-treatment, the recruitment of children, looting, the destruction of property, and arbitrary arrest and detention. The relevant authorities and ICRC delegates confidentially discussed specific allegations with the aim of improving the general protection of civilians (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). To facilitate humanitarian access to victims, the ICRC's principles of neutrality, independence and impartiality were also emphasized during these discussions.

Conflict victims receive food, water and livelihood support

New IDPs received three-month food rations, essential household items and, where needed, trucked-in water. Longer-term IDPs, returnees and host communities got seed and tools, sometimes coupled with food, to kick-start farming activities.

To further revive production and local markets, farming and fishing associations in the Kivus and Katanga received agricultural supplies and training, including for market gardening, benefiting 23,785 people (4,757 households). For example, farmers quadrupled or more their manioc yields after using mosaic-resistant cuttings supplied by the ICRC. Insecurity in North Kivu limited the number of associations supported, however. In South Kivu, veterinary training and a livestock vaccination campaign helped 38,065 people (7,605 households) protect their livelihoods. Where possible, the above activities were carried out in partnership with State agricultural agencies to help build their capacities in this domain.

Ten rural Kivu communities worked alongside the ICRC to improve and maintain their permanent water supplies. Renovations of water supply infrastructure were completed in Kalemie and got under way in Bukavu and Uvira-Kiliba following ICRC financial/technical support to urban water and electricity boards. With ICRC support, technical plans to provide 740,000 Goma residents with sufficient clean water were developed in cooperation with the urban water board.

Ahead of a hygiene-promotion campaign in South Kivu, local volunteers were trained by the DRC and Swedish Red Cross Societies and the ICRC. Following a cholera outbreak in Goma, the National Society received ICRC support to run chlorination sites, provide safe water and promote good hygiene practices.

- 282,695 IDPs/returnees/residents (56,575 households) received food, including 193,530 who also received seed and tools
- 202,543 IDPs/returnees (40,508 households) received essential household items

- 384,422 people (76,869 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives, including 322,340 who received seed and tools
- 934,088 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including 75,980 from water-trucking

Civilians in the Kivus, including victims of sexual violence, receive health care

As insecurity limited people's access to health care and placed extra strain on health facilities' resources, health centres were regularly supplied with medical items and staff received technical and administrative advice. Poor patients, including IDPs and unaccompanied children, had their medical bills covered by the ICRC.

In the 18 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 151,000):

- 134,447 people given consultations, including 23,603 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 110,844 attending curative consultations
- 111,574 vaccine doses administered (including 101,706 to children aged five or under and 8,010 to women of childbearing age)
- 2,141 patients referred to a second level of care
- 1,126 health education sessions held

Over 30 counselling centres received supplies and technical support to provide victims of sexual or other violence with comprehensive psychological and medical care. When necessary, victims were referred to local health facilities for appropriate medical treatment, including post-exposure prophylaxis. ICRC training of staff helped improve the quality of counselling/mediation sessions provided to victims.

To ease their social reintegration, some victims received essential household items and generated income through ICRC micro-economic initiatives. Awareness-raising campaigns and discussions with community leaders aimed to reduce the stigma surrounding sexual violence.

As insecurity limited regular humanitarian access, three counselling centres were rehabilitated instead of ten.

Family members put back in touch

Relatives dispersed within and across borders restored and maintained contact through ICRC/National Society family-links activities (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Unaccompanied children, including children demobilized following the March agreements, were registered and reunited with their families in the DRC or abroad, where appropriate and possible. Most of them received material assistance to facilitate their reintegration and were revisited by ICRC delegates following reunification.

Shelters and homes fostering children whose cases remained unresolved received material support. Cooperation with referral organizations, such as UNICEF, was strengthened to identify durable solutions for these children. Some children participated in ICRC micro-economic initiatives.

- 44,359 RCMs collected from and 38,351 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1,549 from and 1,208 to unaccompanied/separated children

- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 665 people (94 women; 464 minors at the time of disappearance); 540 people located, including 217 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 478 people (82 women; 306 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 1,318 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 492 demobilized children); 916 reunited with their families, including 90 registered by another delegation; 706 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 496 demobilized children) still being handled
- ▶ names of 404 people seeking or being sought by their families published in the media

Owing to other operational priorities, the legal recourses available to families of missing persons were not analysed as originally planned.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees, including many held in relation to armed conflict or for other security reasons, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures. To promote compliance with applicable law and internationally recognized standards, the authorities were informed confidentially of the delegates' findings and recommendations. Issues of particular concern raised were respect for judicial guarantees and the needs of vulnerable detainees.

People held by State military/intelligence services and by armed groups received some visits from ICRC delegates as a result of dialogue with the relevant detaining authorities (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). Two Congolese soldiers were released by the FDLR with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

- ▶ government: 11,659 detainees visited, of whom 1,085 monitored individually (25 women; 34 minors) and 735 newly registered (21 women; 32 minors), during 175 visits to 57 places of detention
- ▶ armed group: 2 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 3,691 RCMs collected from and 1,707 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 46 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

With limited resources and capacities, the prison authorities struggled to ensure adequate detention conditions. Many detainees relied on food and other services provided by relatives or charitable organizations.

To counter severe malnutrition, detainees received emergency daily food rations and/or high-energy biscuits and four prisons increased their cooking capacities following deliveries of firewood. As a result, the malnutrition rate in Mbuji Mayi prison, for example, almost halved. To begin identifying longer-term solutions, prison officials attended a health and nutrition workshop in Bas-Congo. Detainees in Katanga supplemented their diets with produce from three ICRC-supported prison gardens.

Sick detainees were treated using medical items supplied to nine Ministry of Health-run prison dispensaries. Where needed, detainees' referral and hospital fees were covered by the ICRC. In one prison, detainees sexually violated during a riot received psychosocial, medical and legal assistance.

To boost hygiene, detainees received monthly provisions of soap. Prison staff were equipped for and trained in waste disposal and cleaning. When cholera broke out in Goma, detainees were given disinfectant, clean water, new clothes and bedding. Four prisons' water, sanitation and cooking facilities were rehabilitated.

In Katanga Province, the detaining authorities developed working tools for monitoring and improving overall detention conditions during two ICRC workshops organized at their request.

- ▶ 2,335 detainees received food
- ▶ 8,983 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects and received essential household and hygiene items

WOUNDED AND SICK

Thirteen hospitals providing emergency surgery to injured people in the Kivus received medical equipment and drugs. Operating staff were supported by an ICRC surgical team until May. Some 40 medical professionals attended two war-surgery seminars. Hospital staff treating referrals from ICRC-supported health centres (see *Civilians*) were trained in governance and stock management.

The recovery of people previously treated for osteomyelitis at Panzi hospital was monitored; ten people's follow-up treatment was paid for by the ICRC.

In the 10 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 24,265 patients (including 12,630 women and 7,517 children) admitted: of whom 360 weapon-wounded (including 76 women, 42 children and 7 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 3,896 other surgical cases, and 12,065 medical and 7,944 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- ▶ 5,874 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 43,353 outpatients given consultations, including 36,153 attending surgical or medical consultations and 7,200 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

The weapon-wounded, be they civilians or weapon bearers, had their physical rehabilitation or related travel costs covered by the ICRC. To bolster such services, five technicians and physiotherapists were sponsored to attend courses abroad.

- ▶ 740 patients (including 107 women and 50 children) received services at 5 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 327 new patients (including 56 women and 18 children) fitted with prostheses and 24 (including 6 women and 1 child) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 695 prostheses (including 100 for women, 50 for children and 64 for mine victims), 83 orthoses (including 10 for women, 6 for children and 5 for mine victims), 755 crutches and 16 wheelchairs delivered

The renovation of ICRC-supported hospitals, health centres and physical rehabilitation centres also improved health care services.

- ▶ health facilities (number of beds: 740) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

AUTHORITIES

Efforts to ratify Additional Protocol III, implement the Mine Ban Convention and the Rome Statute, and adopt legislation protecting the emblem did not bring tangible results. Nonetheless, the ICRC developed contacts with government, political and diplomatic representatives to raise awareness of these and other IHL treaties and provisions and of ICRC activities in the DRC.

- parliamentarians' support for IHL implementation and the new African Union Convention on IDPs galvanized at a one-day seminar
- IHL dissemination sessions held for provincial representatives in Katanga, the Kivus and Province Orientale

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In its dialogue with armed forces and armed groups, particularly those in the Kivus, the ICRC familiarized these groups at all levels with the main principles of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities. The aim was to improve respect for the civilian population and secure Red Cross workers' safety and access to victims and detainees (see *Civilians* and *People deprived of their freedom*). Contacts were also developed with the police to promote international human rights law and standards and to raise awareness of the ICRC's work for detainees.

To complement bilateral meetings, the following weapon bearers, including former members of armed groups integrated into the army, attended ICRC briefings on IHL/international human rights law and humanitarian action:

- 2,467 military and police personnel in Kinshasa
- 1,324 military and police officers, including members of the Republican Guard, in the Kivus
- 477 and 603 army officers in Province Orientale and Katanga respectively
- 287 members of various armed groups in the Kivus
- 95 MONUC officers in Kinshasa and the Kivus

The ICRC supported the DRC armed forces in their efforts to institutionalize IHL training. Some 30 military instructors, including, for the first time, instructors deployed in the Kivus and Province Orientale, were trained by the ICRC to teach IHL. With ICRC technical and financial input, the Ministry of Defence published its first code of conduct for army personnel. The code encompassed IHL provisions, including those protecting civilians. The DRC army received similar support to produce IHL teaching materials, including a film, in local languages.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The public learnt about humanitarian principles, concerns and action, particularly in the Kivus, through national and international media coverage. This was based on ICRC interviews, publications, press releases and events for journalists, which included clubs, visits to observe ICRC activities, and a seminar on reporting from a humanitarian perspective.

People affected by conflict heard about humanitarian principles through ICRC radio campaigns; a weekly DRC Red Cross/ICRC radio programme was broadcast in Goma and Kinshasa. Dissemination sessions also introduced community and religious leaders in Kinshasa and the Kivus to IHL principles and ICRC activities.

Taking advantage of the ICRC's IHL expertise, students, lecturers and civil society organizations requested technical advice and materials and attended related briefings. Information sessions for national and international NGOs and other civil society organizations based in Kinshasa and the Kivus improved the complementarity of humanitarian protection and assistance activities in the DRC. Contacts with lawyers were initiated to raise awareness of the ICRC's detention-related activities and to discuss respect for judicial guarantees.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The nationwide volunteer network of the DRC Red Cross contributed to the effectiveness of joint National Society/ICRC assistance activities in the Kivus and Province Orientale (see *Civilians*).

The National Society also provided first aid in these regions, supported by ICRC training for provincial first-aid teams and material donations. Its emergency response capacity was further enhanced by training and the pre-positioning of emergency stocks supplied by the ICRC, including for the management of human remains. Notably, as a result of such support, the National Society responded effectively to cholera outbreaks in Bukavu and in Goma (see *Civilians*) and to a fire in Goma.

To reinforce National Society family-links activities, particularly in Province Orientale, the work and staff of provincial tracing offices received targeted support. This included the setting up of new coordination posts, such as those in Beni and Bunia, the organization of training and refresher courses for volunteers and the provision of motorcycle repair kits.

With ICRC funding, the National Society also constructed 21 new water points in three provinces to ease tension over water resources.

To improve governance, accountability and efficiency, the National Society received ICRC support for its ongoing restructuring process, the finalization of its 2009–2013 strategic plan, the travel, training and payment of key personnel, the organization of statutory meetings and the construction of essential infrastructure. As part of wider efforts to promote the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, the National Society produced and distributed a policy document outlining volunteering principles and guidelines.

The National Society, the ICRC and other Movement partners coordinated their activities with other humanitarian actors working in the DRC.



eritrea

The ICRC opened a delegation in Eritrea in 1998 in the context of the international armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia and is responding to the 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 with regard to 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	1,877
Assistance	5,760
Prevention	476
Cooperation with National Societies	425
General	-

► **8,537**

of which: Overheads 521

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	78%
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PERSONNEL

12	expatriates
84	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- given fuel and movement restrictions imposed by the government, had to scale back assistance activities and end its surgical training programme in regions affected by past conflict
- from March, upon government orders, had to stop visiting detainees of Ethiopian origin and assisting in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across the sealed Eritrea-Ethiopia border
- from October, was refused access to visit POWs and former POWs
- with the Red Cross Society of Eritrea, enabled thousands of relatives to communicate across the Eritrea-Ethiopia border through the family-links service
- helped tens of thousands of border residents and former IDPs affected by past conflict to improve their health and economic situation through agricultural, veterinary, water and micro-economic projects
- in a first, published articles on IHL and the Movement in a nationwide magazine targeting youth

CONTEXT

Despite international mediation efforts, the physical pegging out of the Eritrea-Ethiopia border remained stalled for the seventh consecutive year, and tensions between the two countries stayed high. Ethiopia called for further discussions on the implementation of the border ruling handed down in 2002 by the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission and confirmed in 2007. Since the UN's withdrawal from the border zone in July 2008, both countries had kept a significant military presence there.

Relations between Eritrea and Djibouti also remained strained following their two-day clash along their contested border in June 2008. Eritrea disregarded a January UN Security Council resolution giving it five weeks to withdraw from the disputed region. Another UN resolution passed on 23 December imposed sanctions on Eritrea, including an arms embargo, travel bans and asset freezes, for non-compliance with the January resolution and for allegedly supporting armed groups opposing Somalia's transitional federal government (see *Somalia*). Eritrea denied the allegation and called the sanctions "shameful".

Internally, Eritrea pursued its stated policy of self-reliance, preferring to take sole charge of aid and imposing an increasing number of restrictions on humanitarian organizations. The harvests were hit by drought, but no official figures were available on food production.

Only a few people were still displaced as a result of the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Ethiopia. The rest had returned to their homes or been resettled along the southern border, at the government's initiative. The border region, however, was still struggling with the consequences of the war, including mine infestation, water shortages and loss of cross-border trade.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	118	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	89	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	33,307	30%
	<i>of whom women</i>		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	33,307	60%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	147,145	70%
Number of visits carried out	9	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	40,562	29%
Number of places of detention visited	9		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	4,056	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
RCMs collected	6,169	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,793	
RCMs distributed	6,665				
People reunited with their families	1				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	70				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	40				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	239				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom 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/National Society	5				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	15				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC, in accordance with its mandate, continued to focus on meeting the needs of people in Eritrea still affected by the 1998–2000 conflict with Ethiopia. The delegation's output was, however, lower than planned because of increasing constraints imposed by the government. Restrictions on diesel fuel and ICRC vehicle permits introduced in April and December 2008 respectively were still in place. In March 2009, the government withdrew authorization for the ICRC to visit detainees of Ethiopian origin and to assist in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across the sealed Eritrea-Ethiopia border. The authorities also stopped issuing in-country travel permits for ICRC expatriate staff. The organization initiated a dialogue with the authorities to persuade them that the 1949 Geneva Conventions applied to the Eritrean context, requiring the ICRC to act as a neutral and independent intermediary. As part of planned communication initiatives, the delegation also staged events and gave presentations to enlist political and public support for IHL and the Movement. The restrictions remained in place at year-end.

Against this backdrop, the delegation went ahead, as planned, with small-scale agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic projects in the south (Debub and Gash Barka), the part of Eritrea worst hit by past conflict. The aim was to help border communities, especially those with former IDPs, to improve their economic situation. Most beneficiaries were households headed by women, as many men were serving in the armed forces or had been killed or disabled during the war. To reduce health risks, the ICRC installed solar-powered water supply systems, which needed no fuel. Recent returnees and resettled families received, as needed, shelter materials, essential household items, and materials and funds to build permanent homes. To compensate for the fuel and movement restrictions,

the delegation relied more on hired vehicles and its national field officers to implement projects, but, inevitably, work was slowed.

Those same restrictions led the ICRC to terminate its surgical training programme in three hospitals in Gash Barka in May. The programme (begun in 2006) had been suspended since August 2008 because of insufficient fuel. The Barentu office was subsequently closed in October 2009. Support to Eritrea's physical rehabilitation services also ended in May, as the government did not agree to the ICRC's proposed training programme.

Prior to March, delegates visited detainees of Ethiopian origin held in Eritrea, monitored their treatment and general living conditions and discussed the findings confidentially with the authorities. The ICRC was still awaiting Eritrea's reply to repeated requests for any information the government had on 19 Djiboutian soldiers reported as missing in action during the June 2008 clash.

After March, the ICRC did its best to continue monitoring the situation of the Ethiopian community in Eritrea to ensure that their rights under the 1949 Geneva Conventions were respected, including voluntary repatriation in humane conditions. The delegation gave funds to temporarily feed and lodge some 350 people stranded in Asmara after the government ended ICRC-assisted repatriation operations, and also to renew Eritrean residence permits for more than 1,000 needy people of Ethiopian origin. Relatives could still communicate across the border through the family-links service.

With ICRC support, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea was again running the RCM network by year-end. Similarly, it was steadily rebuilding its first-aid and communication programmes following the government's suspension of the Society's activities between February 2007 and April 2008.

CIVILIANS

Border villages reduce health risks

Rural communities located along the border with Ethiopia faced health risks because of water shortages.

The local authorities, villages and the ICRC worked together to install solar-powered water supply systems that provided an adequate amount of clean drinking water (20 litres of water per day per person) at a reasonable distance. Given communities' limited resources and the fuel shortages, the use of solar power helped ensure that the water supply was sustainable. In addition, 70 regional water board personnel were trained in the maintenance and repair of solar-powered systems. Similarly, village water committees were created and trained by the authorities and the ICRC in basic maintenance, financial management and hygiene promotion.

Fuel and movement restrictions (see *ICRC action and results*) meant that no boreholes could be drilled or new project sites identified, so work was limited to completing existing projects.

- ▶ 33,597 people benefited from the construction of 16 solar-powered water supply systems

Former IDPs set up home

Displaced families who returned home or were resettled in southern border regions set up home using ICRC shelter materials, including tents, as well as blankets, jerrycans and soap.

- ▶ 33,307 people (6,905 households) received shelter and essential household items

Families in Gash Barka who had been resettled in areas with insufficient housing built their own homes, with the ICRC providing the materials, expertise, and funds to hire workers. Because of fuel and movement restrictions (see *ICRC action and results*), combined with administrative delays, only two-thirds of the families budgeted for finished building their homes.

In another initiative, local authorities along the southern border received materials to provide 4,750 people with fuel-efficient ovens. These burnt less firewood, so slowed deforestation, and produced less smoke, which reduced health risks. The project had been scheduled for 2008, but was delayed by administrative problems.

- ▶ 6,965 people benefited from habitat projects, including:
 - 2,215 from construction materials and funding to build homes

Border families improve their economic security

Struggling families in the Debub and Gash Barka regions, most of them headed by women, had their fields ploughed for planting by tractors hired by the ICRC, in coordination with the Agriculture Ministry. The families would otherwise have been short of food, because they lacked the equipment, fuel, manpower and/or oxen to cultivate the land. Traditionally, women did not do heavy farm work, and their husbands were either in the armed forces or had been killed or disabled during the war. Past evaluations of the tractor-ploughing programme showed that, one year on, households had, weather permitting, increased their food production, and many could afford to rent a tractor themselves because they had not had to sell assets to pay for the previous ploughing.

In the Gash Barka region, farmers had their animals inoculated against parasites by the ICRC, in cooperation with the authorities. Treated animals generally produced more milk and meat and were more likely to survive drought.

A total of 1,374 families (6,870 people) received donkeys and jerrycans or goats (one donkey or five goats per household) or vegetable seed, tools and pedal-operated irrigation pumps. Households with donkeys used the time and energy saved fetching water for other productive activities and also earned income transporting goods. Fewer families than planned were given donkeys because livestock had been weakened by the drought, so the number for sale locally was reduced. The goats provided milk and meat, could be sold for cash, needed little upkeep and were hardy, so likely to survive lean periods. Families both ate and sold the vegetables, and, with pedal-operated irrigation pumps, production was no longer affected by fuel availability.

- ▶ 147,145 people (29,429 households) benefited from agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 117,775 people from the inoculation of 642,992 animals against parasites
 - 22,500 people from the ploughing by tractors of some 4,270 hectares, 3,750 of them ploughed before both planting seasons

Relatives exchange news across sealed border

Thousands of relatives separated by the sealed Eritrea-Ethiopia border exchanged news through the family-links service run by the Eritrean Red Cross and the ICRC (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

In March, the Eritrean authorities withdrew authorization for the ICRC to assist in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across the border. Some 350 people stranded in Asmara after February's repatriation operation was cancelled received funds for food and lodging for three months. They subsequently had their identity papers and food coupons reinstated, again with the help of ICRC funds and representations to the authorities. People could still have their official documents, usually education certificates, sent across the border by the ICRC so that they could apply for further studies or jobs. Since the war ended in 2000, more than 43,000 Ethiopian and Eritrean civilians had been voluntarily repatriated under ICRC auspices.

From March, the Eritrean authorities began themselves to repatriate people to Ethiopia. Within the constraints (see *ICRC action and results*), the ICRC did its best to continue monitoring the situation of Ethiopians in Eritrea to ensure that their rights under the 1949 Geneva Conventions were respected, including voluntary repatriation in humane conditions. A total of 1,263 Ethiopians received ICRC financial assistance to renew their Eritrean residence permits.

- ▶ 6,100 RCMs collected from and 6,627 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 70 people (5 women; 36 minors at the time of disappearance); 62 people located, including 22 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 239 people (47 women; 72 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 1 person reunited with family
- ▶ 5 unaccompanied/separated children registered
- ▶ 60 documents forwarded from Eritrea to Ethiopia and 23 from Ethiopia to Eritrea

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In late February, the Eritrean authorities withdrew authorization for ICRC visits to detainees of Ethiopian origin and from October denied ICRC staff access to POWs and former POWs. Before this, such detainees were visited, and their treatment and general detention conditions monitored according to the ICRC's standard working procedures. Inmates were offered the family-links service to exchange news with relatives and, if necessary, received hygiene and other basic items. After the visits, the authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and any recommendations in line with the 1949 Geneva Conventions and internationally recognized standards. To reinforce this dialogue, 27 police officers were briefed on IHL and ICRC detention-related activities.

At year-end, the ICRC was still awaiting a response from Eritrea to repeated requests for any information the authorities had about 19 Djiboutian soldiers reported by their government as missing in action after the Eritrea-Djibouti hostilities in June 2008 (see *Nairobi*).

- 118 detainees, including POWs and former POWs, visited, of whom 89 monitored individually (4 women; 3 minors) and 29 newly registered (2 women; 3 minors), during 9 visits to 9 places of detention
- 69 RCMs collected from and 38 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 2 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 15 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 1,793 detainees received hygiene and/or other essential items

WOUNDED AND SICK

The Eritrean Health Ministry was informed by the ICRC in May that, given the fuel and movement restrictions (see *ICRC action and results*), the organization could not resume its surgical training programme in Agordat, Barentu and Tessenay hospitals in the Gash Barka border region. The programme started in 2006 but had been suspended since August 2008 because of fuel restrictions.

ICRC support to Eritrea's physical rehabilitation services also ended in May because the government did not accept the delegation's offer to assist with training personnel in this field. Before this, 10 staff members from Eritrea's three prosthetic/orthotic centres in Asmara, Assab and Keren refreshed their skills in lower-limb orthotics during a 13-week ICRC course held in the capital.

AUTHORITIES

The success of ICRC efforts to protect and assist people still affected by the 1998–2000 war between Eritrea and Ethiopia and by the unresolved border issue with Djibouti hinged on the authorities' acceptance of the ICRC's mandate and working methods.

With government restrictions increasingly impeding its operations, the ICRC put much effort into persuading the authorities that the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which Eritrea ratified in 2000, applied to the country's context, therefore requiring the ICRC to act as a neutral and impartial humanitarian body. The Justice Ministry was also given documents on ratifying Additional Protocol III.

Local authorities in regions where the ICRC was working were briefed on IHL and regularly updated on the delegation's activities to enlist their support. Similarly, international authorities and organizations were kept informed of humanitarian issues of concern to the ICRC.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Given the border tensions, the Eritrean Defence Forces (EDF) were deployed on a large scale throughout the country.

After eight years of working with the ICRC on a small-scale IHL training programme for its officers and troops, the EDF announced in early 2009 that it was capable of teaching the subject autonomously. The ICRC said it was ready to resume cooperation with the defence authorities, if requested.

While no planned IHL courses took place, 27 Eritrean personnel at the Assab naval base participated in a presentation on IHL and the ICRC, and, with the approval of the Maritime Training Institute, a page on the ICRC's mandate and activities appeared in the bulletin for some 100 new graduates.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Public understanding of and support for IHL and the Movement was essential for the ICRC to fulfil its mandate in Eritrea.

The general public, as well as Eritrean government officials and the international community, learnt more about the Movement at various special events held in Asmara to tie in with the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign. These included a photo exhibition and reception, and a run, with 600 participants sporting Movement t-shirts. Also in the capital, thousands of people picked up promotional materials from the ICRC/Eritrean Red Cross stands at Eritrea’s annual Book Fair in March and National Fair in August. Similarly, people living in areas where the ICRC was working, mainly along the southern border, received leaflets, brochures and other items explaining basic IHL principles and the ICRC’s activities.

In a first, the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students began, at the ICRC’s request, publishing articles on IHL and the Movement in its magazine, distributed countrywide. In another positive development, Union members, along with lecturers and students at a private business college and Eritrea’s National Institute of Technology, participated in presentations given by the Eritrean Red Cross and the ICRC.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Eritrean Red Cross, backed by ICRC funds, materials and expertise, made progress in rebuilding its first-aid and communication programmes and by year-end was again running the RCM network. ICRC support was less than planned, however, mainly because a new Society secretary-general was appointed, so the 2009 cooperation agreement was not finalized until June.

Before taking over the RCM service, the Society, together with the ICRC, identified the regions where most RCMs were exchanged, appointed more volunteers there and then trained or retrained 133 personnel in tracing.

With ICRC support, Society personnel also taught first aid to some 2,500 people, including police, industrial workers, transport drivers, teachers and students, and conducted mine-risk education sessions for some 9,000 people living in weapon-contaminated regions. In a new initiative, 177 teachers participated in four-day courses run by the Eritrean Red Cross in relief management in the event of a natural disaster.

Another Society priority was to recruit volunteers and gain public support for the Movement and for official government recognition of the status of the Eritrean Red Cross within the Movement. To this end, after a dissemination training session with the ICRC, Society personnel, sometimes with delegates, gave talks to some 14,300 members of the general public on IHL, the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, and the emblem.



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 other armed conflicts, often compounded by natural disasters. The ICRC provides emergency aid, but also implements medium-term assistance projects to preserve the livelihoods of vulnerable communities affected by past conflict, and supports physical rehabilitation services. It visits detainees, restores family links, particularly for relatives separated by the closed Eritrea-Ethiopia border, promotes IHL and supports the Ethiopian Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,140
Assistance	3,862
Prevention	1,818
Cooperation with National Societies	692
General	-

► **8,512**

of which: Overheads 519

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

25	expatriates
141	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- ▶ despite persistent efforts, was unable to convince the authorities to lift restrictions on ICRC access to the Somali Regional State and to security detainees held in federally run prisons
- ▶ helped improve services for disabled people through substantial support to 7 physical rehabilitation centres and through advocacy leading to increased government resources for staff training
- ▶ enabled thousands of relatives separated by the sealed Ethiopia-Eritrea border to communicate via the family-links service
- ▶ assisted the Ethiopian Red Cross Society in boosting its capacities by partnering it in distributing aid to 31,290 IDPs and in promoting the Movement among political and community leaders
- ▶ improved water and sanitation facilities for 85,000 villagers in Afar and Tigray
- ▶ worked with the police to standardize the force's teaching of international human rights norms

CONTEXT

Against a backdrop of rising political tensions ahead of the May 2010 elections, the Ethiopian government grappled with widespread food shortages, and its troops were reportedly still fighting an armed group in the Somali Regional State (SRS).

The armed forces and the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) both claimed victories as their non-international armed conflict reportedly dragged on in the SRS. With no independent observers in the region, it was impossible to have a clear picture of the situation. Fighting had escalated from April 2007 after the ONLF killed 74 workers at a Chinese oil installation. The SRS and other regions were also prone to sporadic low-intensity violence, usually fuelled by a mix of ethnic and political grievances.

Amid pre-election tensions, the government refuted allegations by opposition parties that large numbers of their supporters were being detained. In December, 43 people arrested in May for allegedly plotting to overthrow the government were tried, with five sentenced to death, including the leader of the main opposition party in the 2005 elections, and the rest receiving sentences of 10 years to life.

A prolonged drought affecting most of East Africa, combined with Ethiopia's widespread chronic poverty, led the government and UN to issue joint appeals to feed up to 6.2 million people. Food shortages were aggravated by escalating commodity prices linked to the global economic crisis.

On the international front, Ethiopia announced in January that it had withdrawn its troops from Somalia after a two-year military intervention in support of Somalia's transitional federal government against armed groups. To the north, tensions persisted with neighbouring Eritrea, as no progress was made in physically demarcating their shared border (see *Eritrea*).

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	7,214	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	130	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	31,290	20%
	<i>of whom women</i>		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	31,290	
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	85,000	25%
Number of visits carried out	12	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Number of places of detention visited	6	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	6,691	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	4,930	
RCMs collected	8,030	WOUNDED AND SICK			
RCMs distributed	6,113	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	9,271	2,084
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	80	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,852	254
	<i>of whom women</i>	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	2,620	649
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				1,066
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	131				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	325				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom 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/National Society	124				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	131				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	85				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC again faced significant restrictions in Ethiopia in carrying out its mandate. The organization was not allowed to resume work in the conflict-affected SRS, despite persistent efforts to engage high-level authorities in a dialogue on the ICRC's mandate and neutral and independent stance. The ICRC had been expelled from the SRS in July 2007, accused of supporting armed groups, which it firmly denied. At year-end, the organization was still awaiting the promised clarification of the accusation. The ICRC was also unable to regain access to federally run prisons, which held most people detained for reasons of State security. Visits to those facilities had been denied in stages between 2004 and 2007.

Given the restrictions, most assistance and protection activities were concentrated in Afar and Tigray, the regions worst hit by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Eritrea and the ongoing border tensions. The ICRC visited detainees of Eritrean origin and monitored general conditions in regionally run detention centres there, according to its standard working procedures. The authorities engaged in a confidential and constructive dialogue with the ICRC on its findings, with some jails making the recommended improvements. Delegates also worked with rural communities to upgrade water and sanitation infrastructure.

In March, the Eritrean authorities withdrew authorization for the ICRC to assist in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across the sealed Eritrea-Ethiopia border, something it had done since the war ended in 2000 (see *Eritrea*). Relatives on opposite sides of the border could still communicate through the family-links

service, run by the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea and the ICRC. Delegates also recontacted families whose relatives were still reportedly missing in connection with the past Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict to explore ways of helping them with any legal, economic or psychological problems they faced.

The ICRC expanded its longstanding initiative to help boost the quality and availability of services for physically disabled people in a sustainable manner. Seven physical rehabilitation centres were supported (one more than in 2008), and the authorities, with ICRC input, began standardizing management procedures and allocated more resources to training.

To build up grassroots support for IHL and the Movement, the ICRC gave presentations, often together with the Ethiopian Red Cross, to more than 1,000 local government officials and community leaders. With ICRC input, the police also made progress in improving training in international human rights norms and the authorities introduced IHL in a new standardized public international law degree.

Besides jointly running the family-links service and, new in 2009, promoting IHL together, the Ethiopian Red Cross regularly worked alongside the ICRC to deliver aid to people displaced by ethnic clashes. The National Society was an invaluable partner and at the same time gained more experience in those fields. To maximize the impact of aid efforts, the ICRC facilitated coordination of Movement activities and coordinated its operations with the relevant UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in the field.

CIVILIANS

The ICRC remained concerned by reports of alleged IHL violations committed in the SRS. Despite persistent efforts, however, the organization was not allowed to resume work in the region (see *ICRC action and results*), so had no first-hand knowledge of the situation there.

Elsewhere, delegates monitored the effects of violence, usually ethnic clashes, on the population, as well as the circumstances of Somalis and people of Eritrean origin living in Ethiopia. The authorities were informed of any concerns, in accordance with humanitarian principles and IHL.

IDPs set up temporary homes

As part of Ethiopian Red Cross/ICRC relief operations, people driven from their villages by tribal clashes in Oromia and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional State received basic shelter and household items to set up makeshift homes. National Society personnel were an invaluable aid to the ICRC and at the same time gained more experience in assessing needs and organizing aid distributions. The ICRC provided the bulk of the goods.

- 31,290 IDPs (6,085 households) received essential household items

Northern border communities have clean water

Reflecting conditions countrywide, border communities in northern Afar and Tigray faced health risks because of inadequate water and sanitation facilities. Many villagers relied for their water on rivers that dried up after the rainy season or on wells which were uncovered, and therefore unsafe, and were a six-hour walk away.

In both Afar and Tigray, the water boards, communities and the ICRC pooled resources to construct new wells and repair hand pumps. Having clean water nearby reduced health risks, gave villagers time for other productive activities and saved them money otherwise spent on medical treatment for water-borne diseases. Twelve communities were also taught how to assess and improve water, sanitation and hygiene, using the WHO-developed Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) guidelines. They then built new latrines and liquid- and solid-waste disposal pits, with the ICRC providing the materials.

- 85,000 people benefited from water and sanitation projects, including:
 - 55,000 people from the repair of 104 hand pumps
 - 27,000 people from hygiene training and the provision of 900 slabs to build latrines
 - 3,500 people from the construction of 2 hand-dug wells and the drilling of 6 boreholes

Families dispersed by conflict stay in touch

Thousands of people uprooted by conflict communicated with relatives through the family-links service run by the Ethiopian Red Cross and the ICRC. Most were sending news through RCMs to family on the other side of the sealed Ethiopia-Eritrea border. In March, Eritrea withdrew authorization for the ICRC to assist in the voluntary repatriation of civilians across that border (see *Eritrea*). People in Eritrea who returned home to Ethiopia, and vice versa, could still, however, have key documents, usually education certificates, relayed across the border by the ICRC to help them apply for jobs or further studies.

Families awaiting information about relatives reportedly missing in relation to the 1998–2000 war were recontacted by the ICRC to determine what assistance they needed with economic, legal and psychological problems, and the ICRC's role in providing it.

- 7,992 RCMs collected from and 6,100 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 395 from and 188 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 80 people (21 women; 36 minors at the time of disappearance); 177 people located, including 46 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 325 people (49 women; 49 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 person registered by another delegation reunited with family
- 124 unaccompanied/separated children registered
- 131 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 23 official documents relayed from Ethiopia and 60 from Eritrea across the border

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People continued to be detained in Ethiopia for reasons of State security. Those detainees were not, however, visited by ICRC delegates because the government had denied the organization access to the SRS and to federally run prisons, where most security detainees were held (see *ICRC action and results*). Families who had previously asked the ICRC to trace relatives allegedly detained in connection with State security were informed that the delegation could not follow up the cases.

Given the access restrictions, the ICRC focused on visiting detainees of Eritrean origin and monitoring general conditions in regionally run detention centres in Afar and Tigray, according to the organization's standard working procedures. The authorities and the ICRC established a constructive and confidential dialogue on the findings, with some jails making the recommended improvements.

Inmates could contact their families through RCMs and, where necessary, received hygiene and recreational items to contribute to their general health and welfare. In two prisons, detainees faced fewer health risks after the ICRC stepped in and helped the authorities improve water and sanitation facilities.

- 7,214 detainees visited, of whom 130 monitored individually (3 women; 2 minors) and 88 newly registered (3 women; 2 minors), during 12 visits to 6 places of detention
- 38 RCMs collected from and 13 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 85 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 4,930 detainees benefited from water and sanitation projects
- 6,691 detainees received hygiene and recreational items

WOUNDED AND SICK

There were too few physical rehabilitation centres and skilled staff in Ethiopia to meet demand, and even the existing services for physically disabled people were not well publicized.

To help provide quality care, seven prosthetic/orthotic centres (one more than in 2008) received ICRC support (see map for locations of centres). The physical rehabilitation centre in

Dire Dawa was renovated and added to the programme because it was the only one serving all of Afar, the SRS and south-east Oromia. All centres received materials and components to produce artificial limbs and other appliances. Four had ICRC specialists on staff full time, while the other three received supervisory visits. More than 3,000 patients not living locally had their transport and food costs paid for by the ICRC during their treatment. The number of appliances produced was 4% more than in 2008, but below the annual target, mainly because of power cuts. The cuts also increased costs because patients had to stay longer to complete their treatment.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and its regional offices backed a number of ICRC initiatives designed to improve the quality and availability of physical rehabilitation services in a sustainable way. At a two-day ICRC workshop, managers of the ICRC-supported centres and relevant regional officials and NGO representatives drew up standardized job descriptions for key posts and fine-tuned the centres' five-year plans of action and budgets agreed at the 2008 workshop. At another workshop, centre administrators were trained in computer software that allowed them to order and track stock more efficiently. In a year-end breakthrough, the federal authorities also agreed to commit resources to an ICRC-taught, internationally recognized diploma course for prosthetic/orthotic technicians, starting in early 2010. In ICRC training initiatives in 2009, a total of 18 technicians boosted their skills during a three-week course on upper-limb prostheses and a two-week course on wheelchair construction.

- ▶ 9,271 patients (including 2,084 women and 1,832 children) received services at 7 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 1,017 new patients (including 148 women and 70 children) fitted with prostheses and 1,553 (including 382 women and 602 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 1,852 prostheses (including 254 for women and 113 for children; 461 for mine victims), 2,620 orthoses (including 649 for women and 1,066 for children; 15 for mine victims), 2,842 crutches and 773 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The authorities' commitment to IHL and neutral and independent humanitarian action was crucial in ensuring that civilians were spared in time of armed conflict.

To build up grassroots support for humanitarian principles and the Movement, some 520 regional government officials, most of them based in violence-prone areas, took part in presentations given by the Ethiopian Red Cross and the ICRC.

At the national level, the upcoming elections and other pressing issues took precedence over IHL implementation, although the Ethiopian government did announce in April that it had fulfilled its obligation under the Mine Ban Convention to destroy stockpiles of anti-personnel landmines. The Foreign Affairs Ministry also repeated to the ICRC its intention to revive the national IHL committee to assist the government in ratifying international treaties and drafting the relevant domestic laws.

Discussions between the authorities and the ICRC focused mainly on the restrictions the organization faced in Ethiopia, which were still in place at year-end (see *ICRC action and results*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF) had suspended IHL training initiatives with the ICRC in 2007 after the organization's expulsion from the SRS. The ENDF subsequently announced that it had integrated IHL into military training curricula. The ICRC stood ready to assist with training, and at the request of the ENDF's legal department, organized a two-day course for 36 military legal advisers on their role in counselling commanders on the application of IHL.

The police, with ICRC input, forged ahead with plans to standardize the teaching of international human rights norms and IHL principles at the Police University College and regional training centres. During two two-day workshops, 55 college and regional instructors analysed progress made since last year's evaluation of the curricula and teaching of those subjects and agreed to focus in 2010 on training instructors. The centres also received teaching materials. In parallel, around 550 police personnel stationed across Ethiopia were briefed during two-day sessions on international human rights norms and IHL principles.

CIVIL SOCIETY

For the Movement to carry out its activities effectively, it needed public support.

The national media responded to a number of ICRC initiatives to encourage reporting on issues from a humanitarian perspective. For example, 20 media representatives attended a press conference to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, while around 100 journalists and postgraduate communication students at Addis Ababa University learnt during workshops about the media's rights and responsibilities under IHL when reporting on conflicts. To foster awareness of IHL at grassroots level, more than 600 village elders and religious leaders living in violence-prone areas took part in presentations given jointly by Ethiopian Red Cross and ICRC personnel.

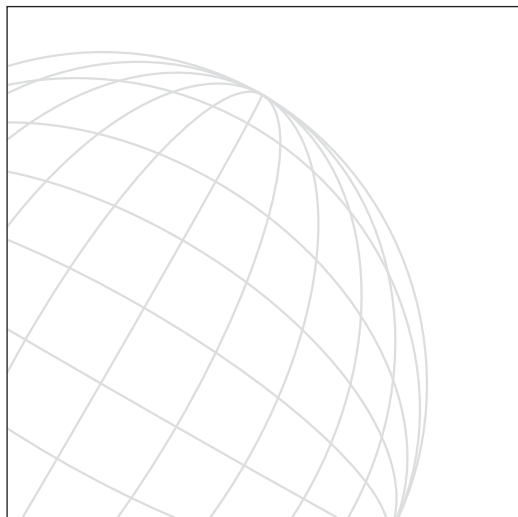
After receiving ICRC input in 2008, Ethiopia's reform committee tasked with establishing standard law degree curricula reported that IHL would be included in the public international law degree, but not as a separate elective because there were too few teachers. The committee and the ICRC were discussing ways of solving that problem. To further stimulate academic interest in IHL, some 270 students at Addis Ababa and Haramaya (near Harar) universities and the civil service college participated in seminars and presentations, and a team of three law undergraduates entered the ICRC's regional moot court competition in the United Republic of Tanzania (see *Nairobi*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Ethiopian Red Cross regularly worked alongside the ICRC in 2009, providing invaluable assistance and at the same time broadening its capacities in relief management, tracing and communication (see *Civilians, Authorities and Civil society*). Throughout the year, it also received funds, materials and technical back-up to develop those activities and its infrastructure, especially in violence-prone areas.

With ICRC support:

- the salaries of 17 key National Society headquarters and branch staff covered, together with core running costs for headquarters and 28 branches
- 21 branch personnel trained in emergency response
- some 1,250 volunteers in branches countrywide and 275 prison inmates trained in first aid, with 75 volunteers taking refresher courses
- 120 medical personnel trained as first-aid instructors
- 6 National Society offices equipped to produce first-aid kits for branch use and to sell to generate income
- 60 volunteers trained in tracing
- 30 key personnel participated in the annual tracing workshop/meeting
- political officials, village elders, community leaders, journalists and students introduced to IHL and the Movement during 22 National Society dissemination sessions
- radio spots promoting the Movement broadcast in 3 violence-prone regions



african union

The ICRC's delegation to the African Union (AU) aims to achieve better understanding and wider acceptance of the ICRC within the AU Commission and other AU bodies. In its capacity as official observer to the AU, 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.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

see Ethiopia

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

see Ethiopia

PERSONNEL

see Ethiopia

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- ▶ met the president of the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council on a monthly basis to discuss humanitarian issues and concerns
- ▶ strengthened cooperation on IHL promotion with AU Commission departments, including by seconding a legal expert to the AU Peace and Security Department
- ▶ helped the AU Commission prepare and promote the AU Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, as well as the ensuing AU Convention on IDPs

CONTEXT

The resolution of emerging and ongoing conflicts, including many contexts where the ICRC had operations, remained a priority for the African Union (AU) in 2009.

In response to changes of government deemed unconstitutional by the AU, Guinea and Madagascar were suspended from AU membership in January and March respectively. In parallel, AU officials held consultations with relevant State and political figures to mediate these situations. Similar diplomatic measures helped resolve political crises in Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania through the organization of new presidential elections.

The AU continued to be heavily involved in peacekeeping operations in Somalia and Sudan. In response to an intensification of the fighting in Somalia, the AU Peace and Security Council increased pressure on Eritrea to end its alleged support for Somali armed groups.

The 12th and 13th Ordinary Sessions of the AU Assembly were held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January and in Sirte, Libya, in July. A special session was also held in Tripoli, Libya, in August to discuss conflict resolution in Africa. During the two ordinary sessions, heads of State agreed, in principle, to replace the AU Commission with a new body to help coordinate foreign affairs, trade and defence policies across Africa. In Sirte, AU Assembly members decided not to cooperate with the International Criminal Court's warrant for the arrest and extradition of Sudan's president.

At an AU Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs held in October in Kampala, Uganda, heads of State adopted the AU Convention on IDPs. By year-end, 19 countries had signed the convention.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC delegation to the AU focused on spreading knowledge of IHL among AU staff and member States. It also drew their attention to humanitarian issues and concerns so as to contribute to regional efforts to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict in Africa.

By meeting and working alongside AU representatives and staff on a regular basis, the ICRC was presented with opportunities to share its legal and operational expertise, thereby facilitating the incorporation of IHL and related humanitarian issues into AU activities and policies. These occasions included monthly meetings with the rotating presidency of the AU Peace and Security Council, as well as statutory AU events such as AU Assembly sessions. Visits to Addis Ababa by ICRC legal and operational experts also created opportunities to meet AU officials to discuss humanitarian topics and situations.

To review joint efforts to promote IHL, the ICRC met staff of the AU Peace and Security and Political Affairs departments in February. During this meeting, common challenges for cooperation, such as safeguarding neutral and independent humanitarian action, were identified. Following the meeting, an ICRC staff member was seconded to the AU Commission to help integrate IHL into the wider AU system.

A central focus for the ICRC throughout the year was the lead-up to the AU Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs. Delegates attended preparatory meetings to provide the AU Commission with technical support. They also raised awareness of the summit and the need to protect and assist IDPs among the wider diplomatic community. At the summit, the ICRC president addressed heads of State and government ministers during a presentation on the causes and prevention of displacement. The adopted version of the AU Convention on IDPs included provisions on IHL, the protection of displaced people and the ICRC's mandate. Many of these were suggested by the ICRC during the drafting process.

To further monitor Africa-wide developments on humanitarian and legal issues, the ICRC fostered contacts with other AU and pan-African bodies, such as the AU Panel of the Wise, the African Peer Review Mechanism, the Pan-African Parliament and the African Parliamentary Union. Specific humanitarian issues were addressed through ICRC work alongside relevant bodies and officials. Issues tackled included IHL integration into the doctrinal and operational framework of the nascent African Standby Force, the recruitment and use of child soldiers and the proposed Arms Trade Treaty. ICRC documents promoting IHL and ICRC activities in Africa were widely distributed to these contacts, as well as to member States and AU staff.

In parallel, the ICRC forged closer links with NGOs and other international organizations represented in Addis Ababa, including UN agencies, to increase understanding and coordination of humanitarian responses in Africa. The network of ICRC focal points coordinating humanitarian diplomacy across Africa, and particularly with regional economic communities, continued to be supported in their roles by the ICRC delegation to the AU.

AUTHORITIES

Diplomatic community takes IHL on board

In addition to monthly meetings with the AU Peace and Security Council president and regular contact with senior AU Commission staff, the ICRC nurtured dialogue with the AU on humanitarian issues and contexts in Africa through attendance at statutory AU meetings. The AU Assembly's ordinary sessions, as well as meetings of the AU Executive Council and of African health ministers, for example, provided opportunities for the ICRC to promote IHL, deepen its understanding of developments within the AU and hold bilateral discussions with national and regional decision-makers and stakeholders. AU officials also discussed contemporary humanitarian concerns with visiting ICRC legal and operational experts.

The AU Peace and Security Department and the ICRC met in February to review the progress made in promoting IHL in areas of mutual cooperation as agreed in November 2007. Staff from the AU Political Affairs Department also attended the meeting. Overall, the higher level of cooperation between the AU Commission and the ICRC was warmly welcomed and common challenges were identified and addressed, including how to balance the AU's need for early warning of potential unrest with the ICRC's principles of independence, neutrality and confidentiality. Following discussions initiated at the meeting, an ICRC legal adviser was seconded to the AU Peace and Security Department to provide support in integrating IHL into AU policies and activities, such as those pertaining to the nascent African Standby Force.

The AU Panel of the Wise and the ICRC held several meetings to analyse humanitarian issues and responses in Africa, particularly in ICRC operational contexts. Similar information-sharing meetings were held with relevant UN agencies working alongside the AU to discuss humanitarian concerns, action and coordination. Ongoing contacts with the African Peer Review Mechanism and the Pan-African Parliament aimed to encourage the integration of IHL into their work. Members of the African Parliamentary Union learnt about national IHL implementation during a presentation given by the ICRC at the 120th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

To further promote IHL, AU member State and AU Commission representatives received the AU/ICRC 2009 calendar exploring the relevance of the Battle of Solferino, Italy, to conflict situations in Africa today. To mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, AU officials, ambassadors and other diplomats attended a photo exhibition entitled “Humanity in War” at the AU headquarters. The event and subsequent media coverage highlighted the importance of IHL and AU/ICRC cooperation to promote it.

To coordinate humanitarian diplomacy across Africa, focal points from other ICRC delegations received regular updates from and attended a meeting organized by the delegation to the AU. Regional economic communities were a particular focus of such efforts. Following a workshop held with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (see *Nairobi*), IGAD and AU experts on early warning systems visited Geneva, Switzerland, to exchange best working practices with the ICRC’s Rapid Deployment Unit.

Diplomatic community addresses specific humanitarian concerns in Africa

Protecting and assisting IDPs

As a result of ICRC input before and during the AU Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, provisions on IHL, the protection of displaced people and the ICRC’s mandate were included in the newly adopted AU Convention on IDPs.

Prior to the summit, AU officials attending preparatory meetings, including meetings of the AU Coordinating Committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, received technical support and advice from ICRC delegates. To promote the upcoming summit and the draft AU Convention on IDPs, State and NGO representatives heard an ICRC presentation on IDPs during the 45th Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights. Permanent missions based in Addis Ababa and Geneva were also approached by delegates promoting the summit. Following ICRC input, the Permanent Representatives Committee’s Sub-Committee on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs included the ICRC’s work with IDPs in its report to the AU Executive Council. When on field missions, sub-committee members also met staff of ICRC delegations to learn about ICRC activities first-hand.

At the summit itself, State leaders and ministers discussed the issues at hand with the ICRC president and delegates. The president also addressed summit participants on the causes and prevention of displacement.

Integrating IHL into military training and operations

ICRC contacts were strengthened with AU officials involved in peacekeeping operations with a view to creating opportunities to disseminate IHL. One official was sponsored by the ICRC to attend an IHL training course abroad. The ICRC continued to galvanize support for the holding of an IHL workshop for AU staff.

At AU events held to develop the African Standby Force’s doctrinal and operational framework, officials received advice from ICRC delegates on the integration of IHL and on safeguarding independent humanitarian action. Similar input was provided during training exercises for regional military and police components of the Standby Force (see *Harare, Nairobi and Pretoria*).

Combating the use of child soldiers

As a result of an ICRC presentation, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child discussed how to combat the recruitment and use of child soldiers. To reinforce their knowledge, experts were given the ICRC’s *Children in War* information kit and one expert was sponsored to attend a meeting in Geneva on this topic.

Addressing the proliferation of arms

State and AU officials attending a seminar organized by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research heard the case for the development of an Arms Trade Treaty during an ICRC presentation on the humanitarian consequences of arms proliferation.

CIVIL SOCIETY

NGOs, think-tanks and the ICRC deepened their mutual understanding and developed their working relationships and coordination in relation to humanitarian issues in Africa. Events run by civil society actors, including a round-table on human security organized by Africa Humanitarian Action and a preparatory forum preceding the AU special summit, enabled the ICRC to share its expertise on IHL and related topics. NGO experts and academics were consulted by ICRC delegates and invited to participate in ICRC events to facilitate substantive exchanges on humanitarian concerns.



guinea

In Guinea since 1970, the ICRC opened its delegation in Conakry in 2001. It seeks to protect people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, restore family links, and improve water supply. It also visits detainees and advises the detaining authorities on detention-related matters. In parallel, it promotes IHL among the armed and security forces, political authorities, the media and the public. Since 2009, the delegation has provided support for the ICRC office in Sierra Leone. It works with each National Society to strengthen its capacity to respond to emergencies, promote the Red Cross and restore family links.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,314
Assistance	3,127
Prevention	1,173
Cooperation with National Societies	1,710
General	-

► **7,325**

of which: Overheads 446

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

16	expatriates
89	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- submitted a confidential report to the Guinean authorities concerning alleged human rights violations during the events of 28 September (see *Context*)
- supported the Guinean water board in providing improved access to clean water for 119,200 people in 4 towns
- trained 250 medical personnel to provide appropriate health care in an emergency
- familiarized over 2,000 members of the Guinean armed and security forces, including new recruits, with the Movement and their responsibilities in the maintenance of law and order
- in coordination with Movement partners, helped the Red Cross Society of Guinea to restructure and to revise its statutes

CONTEXT

Following the death of Guinea's president, Lansana Conté, in December 2008, the Guinean armed forces took power, establishing the Conseil national pour la démocratie et le développement (CNDD) to run the country. Headed by Captain Moussa Dadis Camara, the CNDD proclaimed its intention of ensuring the transition to a democratically elected government. Many positions in the new administration were filled by members of the armed forces. Although the country remained relatively calm, alleged intimidation by weapon bearers led to growing civil unrest, and tensions within the armed forces were reported. Despite previous commitments not to do so, in August Captain Camara announced his intention to run for president in elections to be held in 2010, prompting public protests and the withdrawal of international aid.

On 28 September, a demonstration organized by the political opposition was suppressed by the armed and security forces, leaving scores of civilians dead and injured; sexual violence was also reported. The incident provoked strong condemnation from the international community, and several organizations produced investigative reports.

On 3 December, Captain Camara was shot and seriously injured by a fellow member of the CNDD. With the president hospitalized abroad and his return uncertain, the defence minister, General Sékouba Konaté, became acting president.

In Sierra Leone, the security situation improved as President Ernest Bai Koroma pursued efforts to consolidate the country's fragile peace. Despite improving the power supply in the capital, Freetown, the government otherwise struggled to meet the population's expectations, making slow progress on promised political reforms and delivery of basic services. Poverty and unemployment, particularly among young people, remained key challenges.

Trials for alleged crimes against humanity and IHL violations committed during the 1991–2002 conflict continued at the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) until the transfer of all detainees in its custody to third countries to serve their sentences.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	3,188	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	115	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	48,926	33%
	<i>of whom women</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	119,350	50%
	<i>of whom minors</i>				30%
Number of visits carried out	239	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Number of places of detention visited	34	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,785	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,050	
RCMs collected	79	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	2,619	
RCMs distributed	144	WOUNDED AND SICK			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	13	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	26	Water and habitat activities	<i>Number of beds</i>	1,305	
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	7				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	21				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom 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/National Society	1				
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	1				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	7				

1. Guinea and Sierra Leone

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In light of the political situation in Guinea, the ICRC reinforced its dialogue with national and local authorities, civil society and the general population to obtain their support for its protection, assistance and communication activities. In particular, it stepped up efforts to familiarize weapon bearers with IHL and the Movement, organizing briefings for 2,400 members of the armed and security forces. Following the events of 28 September, the ICRC submitted a confidential report to the authorities on its findings and recommendations regarding alleged human rights violations committed during the incident.

Owing to the volatile security situation, the ICRC focused on supporting the country's medical infrastructure in preparing for emergencies, providing staff training, medical equipment and structural support to assist in the treatment of victims of armed violence. It also provided logistical, financial and material support to the National Society to improve its capacity to deliver first aid and encouraged Guinea's National University to introduce a war-surgery module in its surgery curriculum.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees held by the Guinean Justice Ministry and, for the first time, visited detainees held in a facility run by the *gendarmérie*. It provided confidential feedback to the authorities on its findings and recommendations regarding detainees' treatment and living conditions. Given the lack of resources and crumbling sanitary infrastructure in many prisons, the ICRC fostered cooperation between the Justice and Health Ministries to improve conditions for detainees, stepping in where necessary to improve sanitary infrastructure and deliver essential food and medical care. The ICRC also made a

last visit to detainees held by the SCSL prior to their transfer to third countries to serve their sentences.

To help improve the supply of clean water to the Guinean population, the ICRC continued to provide technical, material and financial support to the national water board, notably for renovating water treatment plants and extending pipelines.

In both Guinea and Sierra Leone, the number of refugees seeking to restore contact with family members continued to drop. The ICRC tracing service remained available to vulnerable individuals requiring protection, including those in Guinea seeking relatives who had gone missing during the events of 28 September.

Together with Movement partners, the ICRC supported the Red Cross Society of Guinea in restructuring, revising its statutes and improving its capacity to deliver effective services, involving it in ICRC activities, where appropriate, to build its operational experience and increase its visibility. In Sierra Leone, the ICRC focused on supporting the National Society in adapting its activities to meet peacetime needs.

CIVILIANS

Victims of the violence in Conakry on 28 September provided first-hand accounts to the ICRC, enabling it to document alleged human rights violations. The resulting findings and recommendations were shared in confidence with the authorities to raise their awareness of international human rights law and their responsibility to protect civilians affected by violence.

In both Guinea and Sierra Leone, vulnerable adults and children separated from their families because of situations of violence had the opportunity to locate and restore contact with them by means of the RCM and tracing services operated by the relevant National Society with ICRC support. Such services in Guinea included handling tracing requests lodged by relatives of people feared missing in relation to the events of 28 September.

Refugees had less need of ICRC support to maintain contact with their families, owing to relative stability in the wider region, as well as easier movement and communications across borders. Thanks to coordination between the ICRC and other organizations, children separated from their families were reunited with their parents or, where reunification was inappropriate, received food, hygiene items and, where necessary, medical care to support their integration into local communities. Those in Guinea who had opted to make their lives in local communities in 2008 were visited to check on their well-being.

- 66 RCMs collected from and 144 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 26 people (1 woman; 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 7 people located; 21 people (1 woman; 2 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 unaccompanied/separated child registered; 1 case of a demobilized child still being handled

Civilians gain more reliable access to clean water

After years of underinvestment in public services due in part to ongoing insecurity, the Guinean population struggled with limited access to clean water. With ICRC technical and material support, Guinea's national water board rehabilitated water treatment plants and reservoirs and installed power lines and pipelines, thereby expanding its coverage and improving the quality and quantity of water supplied to local communities. Residents in Kankan enjoyed uninterrupted access to clean water throughout the dry season, while those in Forécariah saw their drinking-water supply increase tenfold. In Koundara and Mali, 24,000 people gained easier access to drinking water thanks to pipeline extensions. Support planned for Pita was redirected to Koundara after it emerged that Pita was already receiving support from another humanitarian agency.

Borehole construction in the town of Boffa was set aside after technical surveys indicated that local water levels were not sufficient to support the planned intervention.

To ensure communities were not without water in an emergency, contingency kits of supply equipment were positioned in areas prone to instability and ICRC staff trained in their use; similar training for National Society staff and volunteers was postponed until 2010.

- 119,350 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 119,200 people from repairs to the main water treatment plants in towns

People receive help after devastating floods

To help more than 48,000 people rebuild their lives after devastating floods in 2008, the National Society supplied them with a one-off distribution of household items provided by the ICRC.

- 48,926 people (4,220 households) received essential household items

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees in Guinea held under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice, including vulnerable women and minors, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures, to monitor their treatment and living conditions and respect for judicial guarantees. Following repeated requests for access to detainees held by the Defence Ministry, those at one such facility run by the *gendarmérie* were able, for the first time, to receive visits from the ICRC according to its standard procedures. The authorities were informed in confidence of the ICRC's findings and recommendations. Efforts were pursued to obtain systematic access to security detainees held by the armed forces.

During ICRC visits, detainees were given the opportunity to exchange news with their families via RCMs. Where appropriate, foreign detainees were able to arrange for the ICRC to telephone or write to their relatives or consular representatives to inform them of their presence in detention.

- 3,180 detainees visited, of whom 107 monitored individually (4 women; 1 minor) and 92 newly registered (4 women; 1 minor), during 238 visits to 33 places of detention
- 13 RCMs collected from detainees and 2 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in the country

Detainees benefit from vital nutritional supplies and improvements to sanitary conditions

In Guinea's overcrowded and under-resourced prison system, many detainees suffered health problems aggravated by unsanitary conditions, insufficient food and inadequate medical services.

Severely malnourished detainees benefited from direct emergency feeding programmes run by the Ministry of Justice with ICRC support. Between February and April, for instance, detainees in 26 facilities received life-saving food supplies, improving their immediate nutritional well-being.

Detainees also had better access to essential health care after the ICRC donated drugs and medical supplies to 23 detention facilities. Where necessary, they underwent treatment for scabies and fungal skin infections, and received soap, detergent, brushes and jerrycans to improve their sanitary conditions. These interventions were complemented by structural improvements, including repairs to the water supply system in 14 prisons. Detainees in 31 facilities benefited from pest-control and hygiene-education programmes run by ICRC-trained Health Ministry officials and National Society volunteers.

The Ministries of Health and Justice took steps to put into practice a 2004 cooperation agreement between them. A round-table convened by the ICRC enabled officials from both ministries to examine ways of working together to meet the health and nutritional needs of detainees, including through the allocation of an adequate food budget. They were also encouraged to include detainees in any national programmes aimed at preventing diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS and were offered support to assess the HIV infection rate in prisons. Following the meeting, the Minister of Health reminded its personnel of their responsibilities towards the prison population and called for the appointment of health professionals to monitor conditions in each place of detention. The Ministry of Justice called on relevant authorities to ensure that meals in prisons met the required standards.

The Ministry of Justice also kept the ICRC abreast of progress on the implementation of its 2007 recruitment strategy and was reminded of the ICRC's readiness to provide expert advice and training to support the integration of new prison directors and guards into the prison system.

- ▶ 1,785 detainees benefited from emergency nutritional programmes
- ▶ 2,619 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 1,762 detainees from improvements made to their prison's water supply system
 - 2,619 detainees from pest-control programmes
- ▶ 1,050 detainees received essential items, mainly for hygiene

Detainees held by the SCSL receive support

In Sierra Leone, eight detainees held by the SCSL were visited once by the ICRC and individually monitored prior to their transfer to third countries to serve their sentences. Seven of these were issued with detention certificates. The detaining authorities maintained a constructive dialogue with the ICRC throughout the process, enabling them to share concerns regarding the humanitarian aspects of the transfer. They also drew on ICRC support in establishing a residual SCSL body in Freetown.

WOUNDED AND SICK

To ensure adequate care for casualties requiring emergency medical treatment, the health authorities and the ICRC coordinated their efforts to boost the capacities of Guinea's health services, providing training, material and structural support to 30 health facilities.

Some 250 staff members, including surgeons, nurses and stretcher-bearers, from Conakry's 14 health centres, 5 community medical centres and the military hospital, improved their skills in stretcher handling, triage, sterilization and war surgery through courses and simulation exercises run by Guinean doctors, the National Society and the ICRC. To develop the long-term capacity of the health service to deliver appropriate emergency care, teachers and higher education authorities agreed to introduce a new war-surgery module in the National University's surgery curriculum.

Medical facilities developed and tested emergency response strategies with ICRC support, improving their capacities to cope with a sudden influx of patients. The positioning of ICRC emergency stocks in Conakry and N'Zérékoré supported these preparations, ensuring that local health facilities had sufficient supplies to cater for 100 hospitalized wounded patients and 200 people requiring first aid. Thanks to such measures, personnel at Conakry's main medical centre, Donka Hospital, were better able to meet the needs of people wounded on 28 September.

Three hospitals, including Donka, benefited from structural improvements, such as repairs to their water supply systems and the construction or enlargement of operating theatres. These and 10 further facilities also received ICRC medical equipment, including stretchers and splints.

- ▶ hospitals (1,305 beds) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

AUTHORITIES

Owing to the political instability and volatile security environment in Guinea, ICRC plans to support the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties were put on hold while both the national authorities and the ICRC focused on other priorities. Dialogue with the national authorities concentrated instead on matters related to detention, health and IHL, providing an opportunity to increase their understanding of the ICRC's mandate and their responsibility to protect civilians. To build knowledge at community and international level of the Movement's activities and the protection afforded by the red cross emblem, local authorities, UN and NGO representatives, and diplomats attended regular ICRC and National Society briefings.

In Sierra Leone, the national authorities were reminded by the ICRC of the importance of incorporating the provisions of IHL treaties into national law. In particular, they were offered technical support to speed up the process of adopting legislation on the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols and were encouraged to work with the National Society to review the 1962 Red Cross Act. To reinforce these efforts, two senior officials received ICRC sponsorship to participate in an IHL workshop abroad.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The role played by Guinea's armed and security forces in quelling civil unrest during 2009 and the risk of further incidents underscored the importance of enhancing their awareness of IHL, human rights norms and Movement activities and of stressing the need for them to facilitate medical missions. Military authorities worked with the ICRC to plan appropriate briefings for its personnel in Conakry and outlying regions.

Over the course of 2009, some 860 members of the armed forces improved their knowledge of IHL and the Movement through sessions run by Defence Ministry instructors with ICRC support. Over 600 police officers and *gendarmes*, including specialized units, attended similar briefings. With support from the National Society and the ICRC, the Ministry of Security organized information sessions enabling 1,000 new security-sector recruits to learn more about how IHL and international human rights law applied to the conduct of their duties.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In Guinea, influential sectors of civil society remained important relays for generating support for the role of IHL and the Movement in emergencies. Representatives of trade unions and NGOs, as well as traditional and religious leaders, learnt about the Movement at briefings organized by the National Society and the ICRC across the country. Journalists were better acquainted with the Movement's humanitarian role and activities following participation in ICRC-run courses and events, leading to wider coverage of these topics.

As part of efforts to promote IHL among future opinion-makers, 800 Guinean students attended dissemination sessions organized by the National Society and the ICRC. Five Guinean universities taught IHL, while a further two agreed to introduce the subject after IHL lecturers built on their expertise at a follow-up ICRC workshop, the first having taken place in 2008. Students and teachers were also provided with a stock of IHL reference materials by the ICRC. In Sierra Leone, students from six higher education institutions participated in a moot court competition in Freetown, co-organized by the SCSL, the National Society and the ICRC.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies in Guinea and Sierra Leone continued to benefit from ICRC financial, technical and logistical support to strengthen their capacities to carry out appropriate emergency response, communication and family-links activities.

To enhance its emergency response capacity, the Guinean Red Cross received training in first aid, the provision of psychological support to victims of violence and the operation of radio stations. It demonstrated its ability to respond effectively in situations of violence on 28 September, mobilizing 220 volunteers and transporting 360 wounded civilians to hospital. It also helped people rebuild their lives after devastating floods in 2008 (see *Civilians*). First-aid training planned for former fighters did not take place owing to more urgent National Society priorities.

Both National Societies improved their ability to raise awareness of IHL and the Movement across the region. The Guinean Red Cross trained instructors in communication techniques to build understanding at community level and held events to raise support for its Red Cross school programme. The Sierra Leone Red Cross Society focused on promoting IHL in academic circles and among weapon bearers, including troops serving with the UN Mission in Liberia.

The National Societies also worked to develop family-links strategies within the framework of their disaster management programmes. In Sierra Leone, such efforts focused on alerting volunteers to peacetime situations in which they might help restore contact between separated family members. In Guinea, the National Society produced a revised instruction manual for volunteers and ran workshops on disaster management and tracing.

In both countries, the National Societies coordinated closely with Movement partners in carrying out their activities and developing their organizational capacities. With Movement support, the Guinean Red Cross revised its statutes and reformed its internal structures.



liberia

The ICRC has worked in Liberia since 1970, opening its 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. These activities are now drawing to an end. The ICRC supports the Liberian Red Cross Society and runs programmes to promote IHL among armed forces present in Liberia.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	6,103
Prevention	1,680
Cooperation with National Societies	2,301
General	-

► **10,083**

of which: Overheads **615**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

17 expatriates
176 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- closed its sub-delegation in Harper in keeping with its plans to scale down its operations in Liberia
- supported the Liberia National Red Cross Society in adapting its operations to a peacetime context
- handed over support to 8 health facilities to the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
- improved water supply and sanitation for 237,800 people in Grand Kru and Lofa counties, Monrovia and Harper through the construction and renovation of water points and latrines
- enabled 47,410 individuals in Lofa County, including community farmers, to improve their prospects of food security through agricultural initiatives

CONTEXT

Liberia continued to rely on international support in overcoming its economic problems, tackling the legacy of its violent past and reforming its institutions. Despite joint efforts of the government and the international community, progress towards recovery remained slow. In the absence of any palpable improvement in the living conditions of ordinary Liberians, the country remained a fragile State with potential for unrest.

According to the 2008 census, over two-thirds of the population were living below the poverty line. Much of the country still had very limited access to health facilities, water and electricity, and the road network was almost non-existent. The absence of basic services and infrastructure, coupled with high levels of unemployment and crime, led to growing discontent among the population, particularly among Liberia's youth, many of whom were disarmed former fighters.

The publication in December of the findings of Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, established in 2005 to investigate violations of human rights during the past conflict, created uncertainty in the political arena. Among its recommendations, the report proposed the prosecution, or barring from public office, of named individuals, including senior members of the current government. The government proposed to open the matter to public debate in 2010.

As preparations for the 2011 presidential and legislative elections began, the UN Security Council announced that the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) would continue providing security in the country until the elections had been held, while scaling down its troop numbers.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>				
Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	3,360	50%	30%
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	47,410	30%	50%
Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	237,800	30%	46%
<i>Health</i>				
Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	8		
Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	35,443		
	<i>of which curative</i>		12,571	11,149
	<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		3,101	
Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	9,183		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Over the course of 2009, the ICRC continued to adapt its operations to the post-conflict situation in Liberia, closing its sub-delegation in Harper and preparing to hand over responsibility for some of its activities to national and local authorities and the Liberia National Red Cross Society. In particular, the ICRC continued to phase out direct support to assistance programmes, putting in place structures to help ensure the relevant authorities had the capacities to continue developing the programmes on their own, and involving beneficiaries directly in programme development to ensure sustainability.

The ICRC continued to support health facilities in Grand Kru and Lofa counties until June, when such support was handed over to the Ministry of Health as planned. Through the rehabilitation of buildings, staff training and the provision of medical equipment and drugs, the ICRC's five-year programme had helped to ensure that vulnerable populations in rural areas gained greater access to primary health care.

Complementing this support to health services, the ICRC, together with the national water board and the National Society, helped provide vulnerable communities in Monrovia, Harper and rural areas with sustainable access to clean water by constructing or repairing wells and water points, and ensured the communities would continue to feel the benefits in the long term by providing training in facility maintenance and hygiene promotion.

Rural farming communities continued to receive material and technical support to help them increase the quality and quantity of their produce, with a view to becoming self-sufficient while generating income in the short term. They received training to enhance agricultural and marketing techniques.

Throughout the year, the ICRC worked to ensure widespread understanding of the reduction in ICRC assistance activities among national and local authorities and affected communities. It continued to promote IHL among the authorities, discussing with relevant officials the implementation of IHL treaties, in particular the adoption of national legislation in line with the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

The Liberian armed forces pursued efforts to integrate IHL systematically into their training programmes, with IHL instructors, Defence Ministry officials and police officers attending

an ICRC refresher course. The ICRC also continued to acquaint incoming peacekeepers with IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

In cooperation with the National Society, the ICRC continued to raise awareness of IHL and its mandate and activities among the media, influential members of civil society and the general public, including youth groups, placing special emphasis on conveying both organisations' changing roles following the end of the conflict in Liberia.

The ICRC also continued to work closely with Movement partners in supporting the National Society as it worked to develop programmes appropriate to peacetime and enhance its emergency response capacity. With financial, technical and material support, the National Society undertook a variety of effective assistance programmes and promoted knowledge of IHL and the Movement across the country by conducting information sessions and distributing materials.

CIVILIANS

Civilians benefit from improved primary health care services

Civilians in Grand Kru and Lofa counties continued to benefit from improved access to health care at health facilities supported by the ICRC. In June, the Ministry of Health assumed responsibility for support to the last 8 of 14 such facilities, marking the completion of the ICRC's five-year health programme. During that time, services had improved as a result of structural repairs, the provision of medical equipment, drugs and vaccinations, staff training in management and administration, and ongoing monitoring to check that patients' needs were being met. Where a lack of specialist staff prevented vital treatment, midwives, nurses and a laboratory technician received training to ensure they were qualified to respond appropriately. This strategy proved successful, contributing to a reduction in overall mortality and morbidity rates, particularly among women and children.

In a joint initiative run by the Ministry of Health, the National Society and the ICRC, women in rural communities obtained better access to reproductive health care. Twenty-nine traditional birth attendants serving these communities completed their training, bringing to 275 the number to have received ICRC training by the time of the handover in June, while health centre staff attended refresher courses to improve their capacities to provide family-planning services.

From January to June, in the 8 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 57,000):

- ▶ 35,443 people given consultations, including 3,101 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 32,342 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 9,183 vaccine doses administered (including 5,254 to children aged five or under)
- ▶ 83 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 610 health education sessions held

Communities have access to clean water thanks to improved infrastructure

Vulnerable residents in Grand Kru and Lofa counties, Monrovia and Harper gained better access to clean water owing to collaboration between the national water board, local authorities and the ICRC, involving the construction or repair of 157 wells, 8 water points and 2 latrines in public buildings. To help ensure members of the community received maximum benefit from the facilities in the long term, training sessions were organized in parallel. Hand-pump mechanics attended workshops on facility maintenance, and a procurement system for spare parts was established, while community water committees were trained to promote good hygiene practices among local residents with the aim of reducing the spread of contagious diseases.

An estimated 25,000 people benefited from the rehabilitation of 12 bridges in Grand Kru and Lofa counties, improving road access between communities, enhancing the delivery of public services and making it easier for farmers to market their produce.

- ▶ 237,800 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including the training of 1,566 hygiene promoters, 770 hand-pump mechanics and 1,594 community water committee members

Farming communities benefit from livelihood support

People in Lofa county continued to work with the ICRC towards achieving self-reliance through a variety of projects that enhanced their communities' agricultural production and marketing capacities.

Members of two local cooperatives and four farmers' associations improved their prospects of achieving food security by rehabilitating coffee and cocoa plantations in cash- and food-for-work schemes supervised by community leaders and National Society volunteers. Using agricultural and construction materials supplied through the programme, they built platforms in 51 villages for drying their harvests, enabling them to boost their productive capacity.

At training sessions accompanying these projects, farmers learnt new agricultural techniques, which they were then able to promote among their communities, and enhanced their marketing skills to help them increase their incomes in the long term. Such micro-economic initiatives therefore had an impact on thousands of families in the surrounding area.

Farming households, including many headed by women, obtained high-quality seed, fertilizer, insecticide, and coffee and oil palm seedlings to help them diversify and increase their yields.

- ▶ 3,360 people received food for work
- ▶ 47,410 people (7,903 households) benefited from agricultural and other micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 31,685 people through schemes to boost food security within their communities
 - 12,100 people from agricultural inputs
 - 3,625 people from training in agricultural and marketing techniques during 63 workshops

AUTHORITIES

During regular meetings, members of the national and local authorities and armed and security forces were briefed on the ICRC's activities in Liberia, in particular the scaling down of its assistance programmes.

Members of the government and legislature discussed the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties, building on legal training provided by the ICRC in 2008 and focusing on the need to amend Liberia's legislation in line with the 1949 Geneva Conventions. To accelerate the process, the Ministry of Justice requested ICRC support in organizing a workshop involving the relevant ministries. To assist government efforts, representatives from the Ministries of Defence and Justice were sponsored by the ICRC to participate in the annual IHL seminar held by the Economic Community of West African States and the ICRC in Abuja (see *Nigeria*).

IHL briefings for those involved in implementing the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission did not take place owing to the timing of the report's publication and the uncertainty surrounding its implementation.

The Liberian armed and security forces continued to work on integrating IHL into training programmes. Training of the Emergency Response Unit, an armed component of the Liberian police, was conducted by the UN Police with ICRC support, ensuring that trainees were familiar with their obligations under IHL. Military instructors, senior Defence Ministry officials and police officers refreshed their knowledge of IHL and humanitarian principles at an ICRC course, at which they were provided with reference materials and examined the practical application of the 2008 National Defence Act, notably their roles during armed conflict or other situations of violence.

Incoming peacekeepers and international military observers were acquainted with IHL and the ICRC as part of their induction training through bi-weekly ICRC presentations at UNMIL's training centre.

Following the cessation of ICRC visits to detainees at the end of 2008, the authorities and the ICRC maintained dialogue on detention-related matters.

CIVIL SOCIETY

National and local media responded positively to information provided through ICRC press releases and on occasions such as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), reporting regularly on ICRC and National Society activities. Such promotional efforts helped both to increase awareness of humanitarian issues and to explain the reduction in ICRC assistance activities and their handover to the authorities, complementing efforts to build understanding among religious and traditional leaders, NGOs and local communities. A documentary on the training of traditional birth attendants was screened widely as an example of cooperation between the authorities and the ICRC (see *Civilians*).

In an effort to reach out to Liberia's youth, many of whom were ex-combatants, school clubs and youth associations were informed about the ICRC's mandate, operations and basic IHL principles at ICRC National Society briefings. The University of Liberia requested ICRC advice on incorporating IHL into its law curriculum.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With the backing of the International Federation, other National Societies working internationally and the ICRC, the Liberian Red Cross continued to gain experience in fulfilling its peacetime objectives while retaining an emergency response capacity. In line with its five-year strategy, it focused on developing policies and systems to support it in planning and implementing programmes. It organized regular governance meetings and proved itself to be an effective Movement partner.

The National Society received financial, material and logistical support, as well as guidance, from the ICRC, building its capacity to take the lead in responding to emergencies. Such services included first aid, restoring family links and helping communities prepare for outbreaks of violence, disease or natural disaster.

Schools and National Society branches, as well as personnel from the humanitarian and private sectors, attended first-aid training. These efforts were recognized by the Liberian president, who invited the National Society to address the cabinet on its emergency response activities.

The National Society continued to develop a peacetime strategy to assist people separated from their families in emergencies, incorporating tracing and RCM services into its disaster management programme and recruiting two additional staff.

When floods struck Monrovia and Zwedru in September, the National Society responded effectively to victims' needs, providing them with ICRC-supplied essential household items. To help sustain the food security of rural communities in lean times, it provided farmers with agricultural and construction materials to increase yield and productivity. It also rehabilitated or chlorinated over 200 wells and trained 35 local committees to maintain the facilities, providing them with sustainable access to clean water.

With ICRC support, the Liberian Red Cross undertook numerous activities to promote humanitarian values and the Movement's Fundamental Principles among its staff and in schools and other sectors of society, including resolving two cases of misuse of the red cross emblem.



nigeria

Active in Nigeria during the Biafran war (1966–70), the ICRC established a delegation in Lagos in 1988, relocating to Abuja in 2003. It seeks to protect people affected by violence and works to enhance the Nigerian Red Cross Society's capacity to respond to emergencies countrywide, in particular in the Niger Delta. 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, civil society, and the Economic Community of West African States, the ICRC promotes awareness of IHL and its national implementation.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	294
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,991
Cooperation with National Societies	1,697
General	-

► **3,982**

of which: Overheads 243

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

6	expatriates
30	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- strengthened its contacts in volatile parts of Nigeria to facilitate Movement operations there in the event of violence
- supported the National Society in providing relief and medical attention to victims of violence in the Niger Delta and northern Nigeria
- welcomed a directive issued by the chief of defence staff to establish a committee to coordinate the systematic integration of IHL into the training of the armed forces
- developed a joint plan of action with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), including support to member States in the implementation of IHL treaties and training support to the ECOWAS Standby Force

CONTEXT

Nigeria's political and economic stability continued to be undermined by outbreaks of violence, reportedly leaving hundreds of people dead or wounded and thousands displaced from their homes. Northern states, including Bauchi and Borno, witnessed several deadly intercommunal clashes. The uprising of an armed group in July and the ensuing crackdown by security forces threatened to upset the generally peaceful co-existence of Nigeria's Christian and Muslim populations. In the Niger Delta, regular clashes occurred between armed groups and the Joint Task Force (JTF) assigned to internal security operations, including a significant offensive by the JTF in May. The situation then stabilized and, in October, the main rebel commanders accepted an amnesty offered by the government to weapon bearers renouncing violence. However, the peace remained fragile, jeopardized in part by the slow progress of the promised rehabilitation of former fighters.

President Umaru Yar'Adua's fragile health compelled him to seek treatment abroad on a number of occasions. In November, he did so without conferring acting presidential power on his deputy, giving rise to constitutional debate and political tensions and paralysing the administration.

In spite of its domestic concerns, Nigeria continued to play an important role in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) thanks to its size and military and economic power in the region. It was a major contributor of troops both to the ECOWAS Standby Force and to UN-mandated peacekeeping operations in Darfur, Sudan.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In view of the violence affecting parts of the country, the ICRC focused on the promotion of IHL and international human rights law, on humanitarian diplomacy and on strengthening the capacity of the Nigerian Red Cross Society to fulfil its role as a major provider of emergency assistance to the Nigerian population.

Priority was given to supporting the National Society in its efforts to decentralize the organization and build the capacities of its branches to deliver emergency assistance, promote the Fundamental Principles and provide family-links activities independently. Such support enabled the National Society to respond swiftly and effectively to the needs of people displaced or detained because of violence in the Niger Delta and northern states, ensuring that the most vulnerable had sufficient food, hygiene items and access to health care.

To facilitate ICRC and National Society access and security in areas affected by violence, the ICRC reinforced or established contact with a variety of actors likely to influence the situation. It held discussions with relevant local authorities, armed and security forces, religious organizations, traditional leaders and the media, helping to secure wide acceptance and understanding of the Movement, IHL and the rights of civilians affected by situations of violence.

The ICRC continued to support the Nigerian armed forces in incorporating IHL into their standard training and operations, and agreed a handover strategy with the national police force aimed at preparing the police training unit to assume full responsibility for integrating international human rights law into standard training. It also provided pre-deployment briefings on IHL to Nigerian battalions bound for peacekeeping operations in Darfur.

The ICRC also continued to play a major role in promoting the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties in Nigeria and among ECOWAS member States, as a result of which the ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons entered into force. It also supported efforts to integrate IHL into the training of the ECOWAS Standby Force through contributions to workshops and field training exercises.

CIVILIANS

To ensure that vulnerable Nigerians and medical personnel were protected in the event of violence, the ICRC engaged in dialogue with a variety of stakeholders likely to have an influence in such situations, raising their awareness of humanitarian principles and the Movement and facilitating National Society/ICRC access to affected populations (see *Authorities* and *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). During the violence in northern states, such dialogue helped ensure that those caught up in clashes, especially children, could return safely to their families. In the Niger Delta, the wounded were able to gain access to medical services after the local JTF commandant agreed, at the ICRC's request, to grant them safe passage.

Following these outbreaks of violence, civilians who had fled their homes to temporary shelter were better able to cope with their displacement after receiving food, essential household items and medical aid from the Nigerian Red Cross, with ICRC financial, material and logistical support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

People separated from their families as a result of violence or other problems were able to seek help in contacting their relatives via tracing and RCM services provided by the National Society and the ICRC in coordination with relevant organizations active in migration matters.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The number of arrests arising from unrest in parts of Nigeria reinforced the importance of familiarizing detaining authorities, including the police, with the ICRC's mandate, particularly its role in ensuring that detention conditions met internationally recognized standards. Representatives of the Nigerian prison and police services, as well as military detention authorities, attended regular meetings with the ICRC to enhance their understanding of its mandate and its standard procedures for visits to detainees.

Such contacts facilitated ICRC operations during the violence in northern states, when wounded detainees held in police stations were able to receive appropriate medical treatment after National Society/ICRC teams discussed their needs with the detaining authorities. Where overstretched prison authorities were unable to provide adequate food, medical care or sanitary facilities for detainees, their needs were covered by the National Society, with technical and financial support from the ICRC (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

AUTHORITIES

Through regular meetings, local, national and regional authorities, including ECOWAS ambassadors, maintained a close dialogue with the ICRC. Such contact served to build their understanding of the ICRC's mandate and activities and to remind them of their responsibility to protect those affected by situations of violence. It also allowed discussion of shared concerns, such as humanitarian issues in the Niger Delta and the incorporation of IHL treaties into domestic law.

With several IHL instruments awaiting ratification or implementation, members of the Nigerian parliament's justice committee attended ICRC briefings on the importance of IHL implementation, including the ratification of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Thirty legal drafters received technical training in drafting legislation. Consequently, a revised Geneva Conventions bill progressed to the National Assembly for consideration. With ICRC sponsorship, senior officials gained experience at an international IHL meeting abroad.

Following the ICRC's accreditation by ECOWAS, the two organizations adopted a joint work plan incorporating ICRC contributions to workshops on topics of mutual interest. At the annual ECOWAS/ICRC workshop in Abuja, member States agreed on a plan of action to accelerate the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. The ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons entered into force after its ratification by nine member States.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Nigerian armed and security forces took steps to integrate IHL and international human rights law into training curricula. The chief of army staff instructed all army units and institutions to conduct IHL training with ICRC input, while the chief of defence staff undertook to establish an IHL committee to coordinate integration. Meanwhile, army and police instructors enhanced their skills and received teaching materials at train-the-trainer courses run with ICRC support. The deputy inspector general of police and the ICRC agreed a handover strategy preparing the police training unit to assume full responsibility for such courses. Officers at training establishments for the armed and security forces, including peacekeeping forces awaiting deployment to Darfur, were briefed on the Movement's mandate and activities.

Nigerian forces deployed to the field attended ICRC briefings and workshops to familiarize them with the Movement and the operational implications of IHL and international human rights law. Dialogue was pursued with the JTF, as well as with individuals with direct links to armed groups, to enable National Society/ICRC teams to access volatile areas safely.

The ECOWAS Standby Force also worked with the ICRC to integrate IHL into standard operating procedures. Owing to such collaboration, members of the force examined the operational implications of IHL at a workshop and tackled IHL-related scenarios on a training exercise.

CIVIL SOCIETY

National media raised awareness of the ICRC and its mandate through numerous articles and broadcasts, with journalists receiving ICRC briefings, media training and publications to help them report accurately on these topics.

Efforts were made to extend the ICRC's network of contacts among influential members of communities, especially in violence-prone areas. Representatives of academic, traditional and religious circles, including sharia police officers, attended events at which they discussed the Movement and the protective properties of the red cross emblem. Muslim charities and National Society volunteers undertook first-aid training together, encouraging them to coordinate their approach in emergencies to better respond to victims' needs.

Legal scholars and representatives of relevant research bodies developed a common methodology for teaching IHL in Nigerian law faculties at an ICRC workshop. Selected lecturers were sponsored to attend IHL courses abroad, rather than the meeting in Abuja originally planned. Teachers and students, as future leaders, learnt about IHL through ICRC presentations.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Together with Movement partners, the Nigerian Red Cross restructured its headquarters, reviewed its statutes and supported its branches in assuming greater responsibility for activities. With ICRC technical, material and financial support, it enhanced its ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies, promote the Movement and provide tracing and relief services to vulnerable groups.

During violence in the Niger Delta and northern states, the National Society administered first aid, evacuated the wounded and supplied food and medical aid to detainees and the displaced. To improve sanitary conditions among vulnerable populations, it supplied materials for latrines to 2,300 beneficiaries and, through its prison sanitation programme, provided 6,376 detainees with hygiene items and upgraded the water and sewage systems in 4 prisons.

National Society branch staff attended workshops boosting their ability to promote the Movement and humanitarian principles among the public, including Nigeria's youth and religious communities.

The National Society also gained experience in helping migrants and IDPs to locate and restore contact with family members. It helped reunite 12 children with their families after the Bauchi crisis and provided a welcome service for vulnerable Nigerians returning from abroad, including enabling them to telephone relatives.



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	3,455
Assistance	2,223
Prevention	301
Cooperation with National Societies	724
General	-

► **6,703**

of which: Overheads 409

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
88	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- visited over 69,200 detainees in both civilian and military places of permanent and temporary detention
- worked with the prison authorities to incorporate detainee health in national health policies, including the national health insurance scheme, and to develop systems to monitor detainee health, nutrition and exposure to disease
- improved detention conditions by rehabilitating water and sanitation facilities in prisons and distributing hygiene items to some 64,500 detainees
- reunited 95 unaccompanied children with their families in Rwanda and across international borders
- supported the Rwandan Red Cross in taking over full responsibility for tracing and RCM activities
- briefed some 2,400 Rwanda Defence Force personnel bound for peace-support operations in Sudan on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities

CONTEXT

Rwanda's *gacaca* court process to try more than 1.5 million people accused of crimes related to the 1994 genocide was set to end in February 2010. As per the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda's 2008 decision, no detainees sentenced for or suspected of genocide were transferred to Rwanda from Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. Eight people convicted by the Special Court for Sierra Leone were transferred to serve their sentences in Rwanda.

Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) restored full diplomatic relations. This followed a month-long military operation launched in January by the DRC and Rwandan armies against the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) in the DRC's North Kivu province (see *Congo, Democratic Republic of the*). Amid military operations in the DRC's Kivu provinces in 2009, an increased number of former FDLR weapon bearers were reportedly repatriated from the DRC to Rwanda through the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration process facilitated by the UN Mission in the DRC (MONUC). Following his arrest in Rwanda in January, Laurent Nkunda, leader of the Congrès national pour la défense du peuple (CNDDP), continued to challenge the legality of his detention. Government discussions over his possible extradition to the DRC were ongoing.

On the whole, Rwanda benefited from strong international support. Diplomatic relations with France and Germany were restored and Rwanda was admitted to the Commonwealth.

Presidential elections in Rwanda were scheduled for August 2010.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Detainees visited	69,212	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	244	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	64,528	
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors</i>				
Number of visits carried out	248				
Number of places of detention visited	79				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	4,871				
RCMs distributed	4,282				
People reunited with their families	67				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	46				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	51				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	77				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom 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/National Society	127				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	67				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	312				
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	16				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC delegation in Rwanda continued to focus on detention-related activities in 2009.

During visits to detainees in both civilian and military places of detention, ICRC delegates monitored living conditions and treatment, paying attention to the situation of particularly vulnerable inmates and people held in connection with the armed conflict in the DRC. Former weapon bearers living in reintegration camps were also visited by the ICRC. Where necessary and appropriate, both oral and written observations and recommendations for improvements were shared in confidence with the relevant detaining authorities.

To help the authorities improve detention conditions, the ICRC provided technical support, such as training and expert advice, to those responsible for prison administration, health, hygiene, nutrition and infrastructure. As the creation of the National Prisons Service's replacement, the Rwanda Correctional Services, had yet to be formalized, ICRC technical support was adapted accordingly. Emphasis was placed on building the capacities of the national prison health and hygiene unit and of the Ministry of Internal Security's prison administration department. In particular, the ICRC worked alongside these bodies to include detainees in the national health insurance scheme, introduce performance-based financing for prison dispensaries and develop a prison health information registry. In addition, ICRC advice contributed

to the development of a nutritional survey in several prisons to assess the impact of recent policy decisions on detainees. The ICRC complemented this technical input by supplying hygiene materials in central prisons and upgrading prison water, sanitation, cooking and health facilities.

To help refugees, returnees and former weapon bearers in the region restore or maintain family links, the ICRC provided the Rwandan Red Cross with financial and technical support in collecting/distributing RCMs and processing tracing requests, responsibilities that the National Society had taken over in 2006 and 2008 respectively. Where children had been separated from their families by conflict, the ICRC traced their relatives, reunited them if appropriate and supported their reintegration into family life.

The ICRC continued to encourage Rwanda to ratify and implement IHL treaties and conducted IHL dissemination sessions for military personnel leaving on peace-support missions. It also maintained contacts with journalists and university lecturers to help bring IHL to the attention of the wider public, including young people. Over the course of the year, the ICRC initiated dialogue with the relevant authorities to analyse and determine the future direction of joint work to integrate IHL into military doctrine, training and operations and into university curricula.

The ICRC remained committed to supporting the National Society in promoting humanitarian principles and in building its emergency response capacity. For example, it consolidated its support

for the training of Red Cross volunteers in the Safer Access approach and jointly organized two public events with the National Society as part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign.

Movement partners working in Rwanda met regularly to share information and coordinate their activities.

CIVILIANS

Separated family members restored and maintained contact through the tracing and RCM services provided by the Rwandan Red Cross with ICRC technical and financial support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Former weapon bearers demobilized and repatriated to Rwanda through MONUC also used these services, made available at the Doha and Mutobo demobilization camps.

Where possible and appropriate, unaccompanied children, including many from the DRC, were reunited with their families. The names of children looking for their parents were broadcast on local radio and printed in newspapers. Some 170 children reunited in Rwanda received visits from ICRC staff to see how they were settling back into their families and communities. Fifteen families with social or economic difficulties received ICRC support in the form of mediation and counselling.

The cases of 94 unaccompanied children still seeking their families were referred to local authorities or other appropriate associations for follow-up. The 360 children living at the Rusayo Centre for Unaccompanied Minors had a new playground constructed for them by the ICRC and received relevant educational and hygiene items.

A 2008 ICRC report recommending that unaccompanied and reunited children be included in broader government initiatives and policies to protect and assist vulnerable children was discussed with the Rwandan authorities.

- 4,505 RCMs collected from and 4,133 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 66 from and 31 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 46 people (10 women; 17 minors at the time of disappearance); 73 people located, including 22 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 77 people (16 women; 41 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 127 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 58 demobilized children); 95 reunited with their families, including 28 registered by another delegation; 312 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 50 demobilized children) still being handled
- 636 names of adults and children seeking or being sought by relatives publicized in the media

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees’ treatment and conditions monitored

Whether held in civilian or military places of permanent or temporary detention, detainees received regular visits from ICRC delegates, conducted in accordance with the organization’s standard working procedures. Detainees’ treatment and living conditions, including respect for their judicial guarantees and access to food and health care, were monitored and the findings and recommendations conveyed confidentially to the authorities. To develop dialogue on specific themes, two reports summarizing the ICRC’s findings regarding the treatment of minors in detention and of detainees in police custody were submitted to the relevant authorities. The Ministry of Internal Security also received a summary of ICRC observations and recommendations following visits to central prisons in 2007 and 2008.

Particular efforts were made to visit people arrested in connection with the armed conflict in the DRC and held in military detention facilities in Rwanda. Emphasis was also placed on monitoring the needs of vulnerable detainees such as minors, women, the elderly, foreigners and those awaiting trial. The separation of adults and children, as advocated by the ICRC, was made easier following the creation of juvenile detention centres in central prisons in February. The names of children and women detained for a prolonged period without trial were submitted to judicial authorities to help expedite the handling of their cases. Some 650 juvenile detainees were provided with school materials to support their education.

Where needed, newly imprisoned detainees and individuals claiming foreign citizenship used the ICRC’s RCM service.

Former members of the FDLR and children formerly associated with armed forces and groups were also visited by the ICRC in camps run by the Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission. The authorities concerned and ICRC delegates pursued a dialogue on the subsequent findings.

- 69,212 detainees visited, of whom 244 monitored individually (12 women; 10 minors) and 141 newly registered (9 women; 8 minors), during 248 visits to 79 places of detention
- 366 RCMs collected from and 149 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 16 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Although the central prison population remained relatively stable at around 60,000 detainees, overcrowding continued to affect the health and well-being of inmates. To help prison authorities identify further measures to meet internationally recognized prison standards, the ICRC conducted briefings for 187 junior prison officers and 90 prison guards on ways to address overcrowding and improve detainee health and nutrition. As the transition from the National Prisons Service to the Rwanda Correctional Services had yet to be formalized, work alongside the prison authorities was adapted to ensure that the relevant government ministries and departments continued to receive appropriate ICRC support to improve detention conditions.

Detainees enjoy improved health care and nutrition

The national prison health and hygiene unit, the Health, Internal Security and Local Government Ministries and the ICRC worked together to integrate detainee health care into national health care policies and procedures. Efforts were also made to bring prison health staff working conditions in line with those of health personnel working in other areas. To this end, health and hygiene unit staff received on-the-job training from the ICRC to enhance their skills and knowledge of specific health issues, including HIV/AIDS. Cross-departmental working groups, such as that focusing on tuberculosis control, or meetings to coordinate prison health care provision also received ICRC technical and financial input. For example:

- ▶ staff of the health and hygiene unit and the Ministry of Health, along with representatives of external organizations, participated in a three-day workshop on integrating prison dispensaries into the performance-based financing system used by the national health service
- ▶ prison directors and Ministry of Local Government representatives attended information and training sessions on including detainees in the national health insurance scheme run by the Health and Internal Security Ministries

To collect in-depth and reliable information on health in prisons, the health and hygiene unit, with ICRC help, developed a system for recording prison health data on a monthly basis. The unit's procedures for monitoring and dealing with epidemics in central prisons also received ICRC technical support. In addition, the unit benefited from ICRC advice on carrying out nutritional surveys to assess the impact of a 2008 ministerial directive restricting families in bringing food to detained relatives and a 2009 decision to outsource prison catering.

Inmates see improvements in water and sanitation

Detainees benefited from improved hygiene conditions and greater access to clean water following the installation of water catchment and rainwater harvesting systems. They were also regularly supplied with hygiene materials, as were the prison authorities, both for distribution to detainees and for cleaning. Pest-control programmes minimized detainees' exposure to infections. The construction of biogas systems waste management combined with energy production also improved sanitation and reduced wood consumption and costs.

Those responsible for prison infrastructure received support from ICRC experts in the management of prison facilities, and, where necessary, detainees' living conditions were enhanced through engineering projects carried out by the ICRC in conjunction with the authorities and based on a 50-50 cost-sharing agreement. Vulnerable detainees saw their sleeping space increased through the rehabilitation of dormitories, and children were better protected as a result of building work to separate their blocks from those of adults. In addition, the cooking capacities of several prisons were increased by repairs to kitchens and the provision of cooking materials.

- ▶ 64,528 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 64,528 from the distribution of hygiene items
 - 53,288 from pest-control programmes
 - 28,925 from repairs to prison kitchens
 - 22,137 from improved water systems

AUTHORITIES

Government officials received ICRC technical support in implementing IHL treaties and ratifying those instruments to which Rwanda was not yet party, including the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. ICRC input was shared with parliament during consideration of the revised penal code. In November, a draft law authorizing the future ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions was approved by the cabinet.

Contacts were fostered with parliamentarians and politicians, including those working with the East African Community (EAC), to raise awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities, particularly its work for detainees.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In mid-2009, high-level defence officials and ICRC delegates initiated a dialogue to ascertain progress made since 2000 in integrating IHL into the doctrine, training and operations of the Rwanda Defence Force (RDF). The review also aimed to analyse the implementation of a 2005 report that identified the steps taken to integrate IHL into RDF training and recommended similar efforts in respect of its doctrine and operations.

Prior to the completion of the review, refresher courses for RDF instructors were not held as planned. Nonetheless, some 2,400 RDF personnel were briefed by delegates on IHL and the ICRC ahead of their deployment on peace-support operations in Sudan. Some 240 junior RDF officers and 36 officers from EAC countries attended similar briefing sessions.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The public learnt about IHL and ICRC activities through newspaper, radio and television coverage of two events organized jointly with the Rwandan Red Cross as part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign.

To identify ways to better support the integration of IHL into tertiary-level teaching, ICRC delegates developed contacts with lecturers at four universities. In the same spirit, IHL resources were donated to university libraries, and one IHL lecturer was sponsored to take part in two regional IHL events.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Rwandan Red Cross remained one of the principal humanitarian actors in the country, thanks to its countrywide network of trained volunteers and its partnership and coordination with other components of the Movement. Its capacity and operations were well regarded by the authorities and the general public, particularly the assistance provided to former refugees returning to Rwanda and to orphaned and other vulnerable children.

To consolidate and develop the National Society’s capacity to respond to emergencies, the Safer Access approach was integrated into the training curriculum of National Society disaster response teams. Also with ICRC support:

- 213 Red Cross staff and disaster response team members introduced to the Safer Access approach
- 23 National Society volunteers trained in the emergency provision of clean water

With ICRC funding, materials and technical advice, the National Society family-links network was strengthened to deal with its increased responsibilities after it took over the processing of all tracing cases in 2008 in addition to collecting and delivering RCMs (seen *Civilians*).

- 45 family-links focal points followed refresher courses in handling tracing requests and RCMs
- 1 secretary hired for the national headquarters’ family-links team
- 100 bicycles and 2 motorcycles provided to help volunteers carry out family-links activities

A network of 60 volunteers throughout the country continued to raise awareness of the Fundamental Principles among National Society members. In addition, the Rwandan Red Cross developed its external communication strategy by strengthening its working relationship with the media in partnership with the ICRC.

- 3,293 people, including National Society volunteers, service beneficiaries or representatives of local authorities, participated in dissemination sessions on humanitarian principles
- 15 new district focal points trained in dissemination techniques
- the new central committee familiarized with the Movement’s mandate and activities
- National Society events, including celebrations to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), covered by the media (see *Civil society*)

Movement partners working in Rwanda met regularly to share information and coordinate their activities.



somalia

The ICRC has maintained a presence in Somalia since 1982, basing its delegation in Nairobi, Kenya, since 1994. It focuses on providing emergency aid to people directly affected by armed conflict, often in combination with natural disasters, and runs extensive first-aid, medical and basic health care programmes. It endeavours to promote respect for IHL, particularly the protection of civilians and medical staff and infrastructure. It also carries out small-scale water, agricultural and cash-for-work projects, designed to restore or improve livelihoods in communities weakened by crises. It works closely with and supports the development of the Somali Red Crescent Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	180
Assistance	46,527
Prevention	897
Cooperation with National Societies	1,235
General	-

► **48,839**

of which: Overheads **2,981**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

16 expatriates
37 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- ▶ remained operational in Somalia, despite a further deterioration in security conditions
- ▶ with the Somali Red Crescent Society, mounted large-scale relief operations, providing hundreds of thousands of people with shelter, food and water
- ▶ supported hospitals treating 5,860 weapon-wounded
- ▶ ensured some 540,000 people had access to free health care by supporting 36 Somali Red Crescent outpatient clinics, 3 of which began supplementary feeding programmes for children
- ▶ with the Somali Red Crescent, helped control cholera outbreaks by chlorinating wells, distributing medical supplies and promoting hygiene
- ▶ repeatedly appealed to parties to conflict to respect IHL, including through radio spots and, new in 2009, comic strips and headline messages in newspapers

CONTEXT

Somalia remained one of the world's most pressing humanitarian emergencies throughout 2009.

Ethiopian troops officially withdrew from Somalia in early 2009 after two years of backing the Somali transitional federal government against armed groups. Shortly after, the interim government, established in October 2004, elected new top officials, expanded parliament to include more former opponents and extended its mandate until August 2011. Fighting, however, rumbled on in Mogadishu, escalating from May, with more suicide and roadside bombings. Outside the capital, various pro- and anti-government militias fought see-saw battles over resources in the centre and south. Hundreds of thousands more Somalis were killed, wounded or displaced by conflict. International peace initiatives, including boosting the African Union force in Mogadishu to just over 5,000 peacekeepers, failed to stem the violence.

The drought persisted and harvests failed again, worsening the situation. Food and water became scarcer, more livestock were dying, and food prices stayed high while the local currency weakened. After 18 years without a functioning government, services such as water and health were poor to non-existent. Amid chronic poverty, crime had become common, while piracy at sea escalated further. Killings, kidnappings and intimidation of aid workers also increased, resulting in more humanitarian organizations leaving or scaling back in Somalia.

In the north, tensions occasionally flared into violence between the semi-autonomous region of Puntland and the self-declared republic of Somaliland.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Economic security, water and habitat				
RCMs collected	7,532	Food	Beneficiaries	464,118	17%	66%
RCMs distributed	14,461		of whom IDPs	224,118		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	562,134	17%	66%
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	1,265		of whom IDPs	562,134		
	of whom women	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	630,528	17%	66%
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	847,156	20%	60%
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	400		of whom IDPs	239,442		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	1,695	Health				
	of whom women	Health centres supported	Structures	36		
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Consultations	Patients	499,265		
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	7		of which curative		139,189	209,611
	of whom girls		of which ante/post-natal		88,360	4,933
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Immunizations	Doses	71,112		
People to whom travel documents were issued		WOUNDED AND SICK				
	110	Hospitals supported	Structures	8		
		Admissions	Patients	8,194	1,625	934
		Operations	Operations performed	13,090		
		Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	140		

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

As the humanitarian crisis deepened, the ICRC remained flexible, focusing resources where they were needed most. It prioritized the speedy delivery of life-saving emergency aid – food, shelter and water – to help conflict victims cope.

Despite an increasingly hostile environment for aid workers (see *Context*), the ICRC stayed operational in Somalia. It even managed to reach people in areas other organizations avoided for security reasons. This was attributable to the ICRC's strictly neutral, impartial and independent stance, its regular contact with parties to conflict, its field officers' flexibility and expertise, and the well-accepted presence countrywide of the Somali Red Crescent Society, the ICRC's main partner in the field. The ICRC voiced concern, however, that, unless security improved, the gap between needs and the humanitarian response would grow.

In large-scale relief operations, tens of thousands more beneficiaries than budgeted for in 2009 (see *Civilians*) received relief goods, emergency food aid and survival water rations delivered by the ICRC and the Somali Red Crescent. The ICRC and WFP closely coordinated food aid, with WFP the main provider and the ICRC, through the Somali Red Crescent, able to reach hotspots.

Alongside relief operations, farmers and pastoralists were assisted in reviving their livelihoods. Most projects aimed to have a quick impact to complement the emergency aid, for example the provision of irrigation pumps and seed and the repair of irrigation and drinking water infrastructure. Slightly fewer projects than planned were carried out, mainly because security constraints prevented the necessary follow-up with beneficiaries.

Keysaney and Medina hospitals in Mogadishu treated over 5,000 weapon-wounded patients (some 2,000 more than in 2008) and were often swamped, but kept functioning, with substantial

ICRC support. A new Mogadishu ambulance service, as well as five first-aid posts and key hospitals outside the capital, also received medical supplies to treat casualties.

Some 540,000 people in central and southern Somalia had access to free health care at 36 Somali Red Crescent outpatient clinics supported by the ICRC. These included two more temporary clinics opened to serve IDPs in Mogadishu. In Galgaduud, three clinics began supplementary feeding programmes to combat rising infant malnutrition. Cholera outbreaks were also brought under control in Kismayo and elsewhere, with the ICRC and Somali Red Crescent together chlorinating wells, distributing supplies to hospitals and promoting hygiene.

Thousands of uprooted Somalis exchanged news with relatives at home and abroad through the family-links service, run by the Somali Red Crescent and the ICRC.

Deeply concerned at the IHL violations, the ICRC kept up its confidential dialogue with parties to conflict, repeatedly stressing their obligations to spare civilians, wounded or captured fighters, medical staff and infrastructure, and aid workers. It publicly deplored the rising number of casualties and relayed humanitarian messages to weapon bearers through radio stations and, new in 2009, comic strips and short headline messages in newspapers.

The Somali Red Crescent gained more expertise and hands-on experience by working on ICRC relief and communication projects and, with ICRC support, was reinforcing its family-links service.

To maximize the impact of aid efforts, the ICRC ensured the coordination of Movement activities, stayed in contact with aid organizations in the field and attended Nairobi-based Somalia coordination mechanisms, comprising donors, UN agencies and NGOs. It stressed the need to separate political initiatives from humanitarian aid and strove to demonstrate in the field the added value of neutral and independent humanitarian action in Somalia's volatile environment.

CIVILIANS

IDPs survive with the help of relief goods and food

Tens of thousands more Somalis were driven from their homes during 2009 by conflict or drought, or both. Many families were already hosting displaced relatives, so could not provide refuge. Thousands of IDPs, therefore, had to stay in or near Mogadishu, moving often as fighting erupted in different neighbourhoods. The drought dragged on, harvests failed yet again, and food became scarcer. Even when food was available, most people could not afford it. The conflict had disrupted trade, contributing to high unemployment and a weak Somali shilling, and the international financial crisis drove food and fuel prices up while remittances from abroad dwindled.

Nearly 500,000 IDPs were able to build shelters, fetch water and cook using relief goods delivered by the ICRC together with the Somali Red Crescent. When torrential rains inundated IDP camps around Mogadishu, some 7,000 families were given tarpaulins for protection. Another 4,000 displaced families who returned to their places of origin repaired their homes with ICRC building materials. Given the prolonged conflict and drought, more than twice the number of beneficiaries budgeted for received relief goods in 2009.

Similarly, some 224,000 near-destitute people – more than four times the number planned – survived with the help of ICRC food rations (rice, beans and vegetable oil) delivered in close coordination with WFP between May and December in the south (Bakool, Lower Juba and Middle Shabelle), Galgadud and Sool.

- ▶ 224,118 IDPs (37,353 households) received food rations for up to six months
- ▶ 562,134 IDPs (93,689 households) received essential household items

Somalis receive life-saving water

As the drought worsened, more water sources dried up. Communities faced serious health risks, and livestock, a key economic asset, began dying, forcing pastoralists to travel far in search of water and pasture.

To help save lives and livestock, nearly 600,000 drought victims – 24% more than budgeted for – each received survival rations of 5 litres of chlorinated water per day trucked in weekly by the ICRC to several hundred villages in southern and central Somalia. Deliveries were made during the 10 weeks prior to the main April/May rainy season and the five weeks leading up to late October when the shorter rainy season started.

- ▶ 596,940 people benefited from the trucking in of some 140 million litres of water over 115 days

People also lacked water because the country's delivery systems broke down frequently, damaged by years of conflict and neglect. Many Somalis and their livestock had access to water again after the ICRC built or repaired key facilities located on nomadic migration routes and in populated areas.

- ▶ 235,155 people benefited from the drilling/construction/repair of boreholes, wells and reservoirs

Communities access free health care

When they fell ill, many Somalis could not afford transport to a clinic, let alone treatment costs. Like water infrastructure, Somali health services had deteriorated, with all clinics now run privately or by NGOs.

By year-end, some 540,000 IDPs and residents in conflict zones in central and southern Somalia had access to free health care at 36 Somali Red Crescent outpatient clinics supported by the ICRC. All clinics received ICRC drugs, dressing materials, funds and staff training for curative and mother-and-child care, while UNICEF provided vaccines. Following fierce fighting, two more temporary clinics were opened in November in camps for displaced people in the north and east of Mogadishu, while the six temporary clinics opened in 2008 for IDPs in and around the capital received additional supplies and staff to cope.

To help reduce rising infant malnutrition, three Somali Red Crescent clinics in drought-stricken Galgadud initiated supplementary feeding programmes in late July for children aged five and under, with the ICRC providing training, food and medicines. By year-end, 253 of the 627 children treated were healthy again.

In the 36 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 467,000):

- ▶ 499,265 people given consultations, including 93,293 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 405,972 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 71,112 vaccine doses administered (including 58,490 to children aged five or under and 12,622 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 4,690 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 1,383 health education sessions held
- ▶ health facilities (average number of consultations per day: 61) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Cholera outbreak stemmed

Conflict, drought, chronic poverty and dilapidated health and water services combined to provide a perfect breeding ground for cholera.

Helped by a rapid ICRC/Somali Red Crescent response, a cholera outbreak in the port town of Kismayo was brought under control between February and May. The number of reported cases dropped by 50% within two weeks and no deaths were registered after the third week. From the outset, medical facilities received ICRC supplies, neighbourhood wells were chlorinated, and Somali Red Crescent clinics in Kismayo and other cholera-prone areas were given oral rehydration salts to treat mild cases of diarrhoea. National Society clinics countrywide promoted hygiene, and nine radio stations broadcast ICRC-produced cholera-prevention spots for two months. These initiatives also helped stem smaller cholera outbreaks in the Shabelles and Mudug.

In a complementary pilot project, health workers and traditional midwives began, after ICRC training, to promote good health and hygiene practices in two villages in the Jubas. As a result, one village decided it needed more latrines and built them.

- ▶ 15,000 people benefited from the chlorination of wells

Farmers get help to boost production and income

Farmers received a variety of ICRC assistance designed to revive food production and generate income, especially in Somalia's agricultural heartland around the Juba and Shabelle rivers.

Farmers with failed harvests received staple-crop seed ahead of both planting seasons and seed to grow vegetables to eat themselves or sell. The worst-off families were also given one-off

food rations to tide them over until the harvest. Many communities were able to boost crop production – some doubled their yield – after the ICRC provided irrigation pumps and repaired 10 sluice gates controlling irrigation. Riverside families also got sandbags and help repairing riverbank breaches so they could protect their fields and homes from annual flash floods. There was only minor flooding in 2009, so fewer sandbags than planned were needed.

In cash-for-work projects, near-destitute people were hired by the ICRC, usually for a month, to rehabilitate a key community water facility. The communities got a short-term cash injection and a tool to improve the local economy over the medium term. Some 200 women heading households also used ICRC grants to buy sewing and milling machines and tea-shop materials to earn an income. Security constraints limited the implementation of both those programmes.

- 630,528 people (105,088 households) benefited from agricultural and micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 382,800 people from distributions of seed
 - 189,000 people from receiving sandbags
 - 57,528 people from cash-for-work projects or initiatives to improve crop irrigation
- 240,000 people (40,000 households) received food rations

Families stay in touch

Thousands of Somalis uprooted by conflict or for other reasons continued to rely on the ICRC/Somali Red Crescent family-links service as one of the few reliable means to locate and exchange news with their families at home and abroad. The ICRC-supported “Missing Persons” radio programme broadcast on the BBC’s short-wave Somali Service remained popular, with thousands of names read out on the show, at relatives’ request. People could also click on www.familylinks.icrc.org and find the names of relatives sought through the radio programme or registered by the Red Crescent and Red Cross network.

At the request of all parties, three Seychellois sailors released by Somali pirates were flown by the ICRC, as neutral intermediary, from Somalia to Nairobi, Kenya, and handed over to the authorities concerned. Similarly, two people released from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba were reunited with their families in Somalia.

- 7,532 RCMs collected from and 14,461 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 1,265 people (307 women; 721 minors at the time of disappearance); 427 people located, including 27 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 1,695 people (449 women; 885 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 3 people registered by another delegation reunited with their families
- 7 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 6,724 names of people sought broadcast by the BBC and 8,727 registered on the ICRC’s website
- 110 people issued with an ICRC travel document

WOUNDED AND SICK

The ICRC deplored the rising number of civilian casualties and indiscriminate attacks on medical staff, ambulances, hospitals and clinics. Parties to conflict were frequently reminded in discussions and through public statements of their duty under IHL to protect the wounded and sick and medical personnel and infrastructure.

More than 5,000 weapon-wounded were treated at the two ICRC-supported hospitals in Mogadishu – Keysaney (run by the Somali Red Crescent) and Medina (community-run). As the main referral facilities for war surgery, both hospitals were often swamped, yet managed to keep functioning, backed by ICRC medical supplies, equipment, training, supervision, funds and maintenance support. Five new interns joined the hospitals, while 20 Somali doctors and 4 nurses honed their skills at a three-day ICRC war-surgery seminar held in Mogadishu in April. A new ambulance service in Mogadishu run by the Lifeline Africa Foundation also regularly received ICRC medical supplies. Because of deteriorating security, the Qatar Red Crescent Society surgical team based at Keysaney Hospital, on standby since November 2008, could not resume working, and their ICRC contract ended in January.

Five first-aid posts covering Bay, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Middle Shabelle received monthly medical supplies, and other medical facilities got ad hoc deliveries to treat weapon-wounded patients. During clashes in Kismayo, for example, medical centres there were restocked and three surgical staff members from Keysaney Hospital helped out temporarily at the city hospital, operating on 137 weapon-wounded patients.

- 8,672 wounded people treated in the 5 ICRC-supported health centres/first-aid posts that provided data

In the 8 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 8,194 patients (including 1,625 women and 934 children) admitted: of whom 5,860 weapon-wounded (including 956 women and 516 children; 99 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 1,467 other surgical cases, and 758 medical and 109 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 13,090 surgical operations performed
- 12,324 outpatients given surgical or medical consultations
- 2 hospitals (140 beds) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Most parties to conflict had contact with the ICRC. During discussions, those parties were reminded repeatedly to take every feasible precaution to avoid causing injuries or loss of life among civilians, to prevent damage to civilian property, and to respect the rights of medical staff and infrastructure, wounded or captured fighters, and aid workers. All sides also had the ICRC's mandate and strict principles of neutrality and impartiality explained to them so that Movement staff could reach needy people safely.

Most Somali weapon bearers were, however, young, poor and raised in a lawless environment, so had not heard of Somali customary law governing conflict, let alone IHL, the ICRC and the Movement. Given security constraints, the safest and most effective way to reach those young men was through radio, Somalis' favourite mass media. Ten radio stations, assisted by the ICRC and Somali Red Crescent, broadcast talk shows, dramas and spots publicizing the links between IHL and Somali law. Similarly, newspapers and other print media began publishing comic strips and, as front page headlines, short humanitarian messages targeting weapon bearers. Another creative project to send humanitarian text messages via mobile phones – almost every Somali owned one – was on hold because of technology problems.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Religious leaders, business people, clan elders and the media in Somalia, as well as Somalis abroad, could all influence public and political opinion, including support for IHL.

Somalia's humanitarian crisis was kept in the public eye through fairly constant international and national media coverage, fed by ICRC press releases, bulletins and fresh field footage. Journalists often quoted the ICRC as deploring the growing number of people killed, wounded or impoverished by conflict, and appealing to all sides to respect IHL. To learn more about war reporting, 90 journalists based in central and northern Somalia participated in two-day sessions covering the Movement, Somali customary law and IHL. These were the first-ever ICRC media briefings held outside Mogadishu.

Traditional leaders and other opinion-makers also learnt about humanitarian issues through radio shows and through comic strips and headline messages published in the Somali press (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Backed by ICRC funds and expertise, Somali Red Crescent communication coordinators met quarterly to evaluate progress and plan new initiatives to better promote the Movement and IHL. In addition, all National Society communication officers participated in a national workshop to hone their skills and share ideas, and regularly received promotional materials for public distribution.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Present countrywide (2 coordination offices, 19 branches and some 130 local offices), the Somali Red Crescent remained the ICRC's main partner in the field. Hundreds of National Society personnel played a major role in ICRC relief, medical and IHL-promotion programmes, at the same time gaining expertise and hands-on experience in those fields (see *Civilians, Wounded and sick, Armed forces and other bearers of weapons* and *Civil society*).

Somali Red Crescent meets main objectives

Despite major challenges, including deteriorating security and a shortage of skilled personnel, the Somali Red Crescent, with Movement support, successfully completed its 2005–09 plan of action and endorsed the next five-year plan, which was set to go before the governance for approval in early 2010. To maintain its set-up, the National Society received ICRC funding to cover salaries and other running costs for some 180 management, technical, family-links, communication and medical staff. Similar support also allowed the Somali Red Crescent to remain active within the Movement, attending the statutory meetings held in Nairobi in November.

Somali Red Crescent personnel responsible for managing family-links and IHL-promotion activities met at quarterly meetings where they evaluated progress, identified unmet needs and planned new initiatives, including ways of working together to support each other's objectives. Among various training events, key branch personnel countrywide participated in a national workshop covering communication, the Safer Access approach and restoring family links. The National Society and the ICRC were also gathering information in Somalia and abroad to assess whether Somali migrants needed the family-links service.

The International Federation and partner National Societies working in Somalia were assisted with security and logistics by the ICRC, as the Movement's lead agency in the country. The partners also attended meetings regularly to coordinate support to the Somali Red Crescent and to people in need. The ICRC and the Qatari Red Crescent continued discussions on future cooperation to provide surgical services in Somalia (see *Wounded and sick*).

sudan



The ICRC opened an office in Khartoum in 1978. In 1984, it initiated operations in the context of the armed conflict between government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army, later adapting its programmes to the transition to peace. Since 2004, it has responded to needs arising from the hostilities in Darfur. It works to ensure that people directly affected by armed conflict are protected in accordance with IHL, receive emergency aid, medical care and livelihood support, and can re-establish family links. It works with the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and provides leadership for other Movement partners active in Sudan.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	12,899
Assistance	52,411
Prevention	7,419
Cooperation with National Societies	4,671
General	-

► **77,401**

of which: Overheads **4,671**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	75%
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PERSONNEL

143 expatriates
1,488 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- helped several hundred thousand people in Darfur improve their economic outlook through agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic projects
- reduced health risks in violence-affected regions by rehabilitating water facilities serving 548,350 people and by supporting 11 Darfur health clinics
- acted as a neutral intermediary in the release and handover of 65 Sudanese soldiers and members of the police force held by armed groups
- built, equipped and co-managed South Sudan's first physical rehabilitation referral centre, opened in January
- worked to improve civilian protection, helping the Sudanese Armed Forces teach IHL and, in Darfur, initiating IHL training with 2 key security forces and broadcasting humanitarian messages on radio
- suspended most activities in Darfur from mid-November following the kidnapping of an ICRC delegate there

CONTEXT

There were fewer large-scale clashes between government forces and armed groups in Darfur compared with 2008, but increasing lawlessness endangered civilians and aid delivery. Ethnic violence erupted elsewhere in Sudan, and tensions mounted countrywide ahead of the first general elections since the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement ended the 21-year north-south conflict.

In Darfur, crime, especially banditry, combined with ethnic violence over resources and sporadic military clashes, killed, wounded or displaced thousands more people. Meanwhile, few of the several hundred thousand people displaced since conflict broke out in 2003 returned home. Linked to the hostilities, Sudan-Chad relations remained tense (see *Chad*).

Ethnic violence increased sharply in South Sudan and disputed north-south border areas, killing hundreds of people and driving thousands from their homes. Raids by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a Ugandan armed group, and fighting in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) also triggered population displacement.

On the political front, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir was indicted on 4 March by the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes in Darfur. Shortly after the indictment, Sudan expelled 13 international NGOs, but remained a major aid recipient.

In July, the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague reversed an earlier ruling on the north-south border through the Abyei region, transferring two oilfields to the north. North-south tensions also rose amid wrangling over voter registration for the April 2010 elections.

The UN-African Union Mission in Darfur remained under-strength, while some 10,000 UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) peacekeepers were in South Sudan.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited	107	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	95	Food	Beneficiaries	319,366	17%	65%
of whom minors	1		of whom IDPs	50,491		
Number of visits carried out	17	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	508,364	21%	60%
Number of places of detention visited	10		of whom IDPs	223,194		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	402,221		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			of whom IDPs	35,865		
RCMs collected	11,466	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	548,350	66%	18%
RCMs distributed	10,927		of whom IDPs	131,000		
People reunited with their families	36	Health				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Health centres supported	Structures	11		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	419	Consultations	Patients	210,996		
of whom women	73		of which curative		56,471	82,146
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	40		of which ante/post-natal		28,253	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	180	Immunizations	Doses	332,651		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	553	WOUNDED AND SICK				
of whom women	98	Physical rehabilitation				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	113	Patients receiving services	Patients	2,372	565	455
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Prostheses delivered	Units	1,114	261	67
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	169	Orthoses delivered	Units	843	228	416
of whom girls	39					
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	35					
of whom girls	9					
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	119					
of whom girls	20					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	27					

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC's Sudan operation remained firmly focused on protecting and assisting victims of armed conflict or other situations of violence. Resources centred on Darfur, but activities increased in central and southern Sudan as violence escalated there.

The ICRC delivered relief goods and, if needed, emergency food rations to 63,277 people affected by military or communal clashes. Sudanese Red Crescent personnel, with ICRC training, played a major role in aid delivery outside Darfur, gaining expertise in relief management. Also in hotspots, ICRC engineers repaired, built or maintained water facilities serving 548,350 people.

Wounded people in isolated areas were treated by the ICRC's flying surgical team, while medical facilities received emergency supplies to care for the weapon-wounded. Also with ICRC assistance, South Sudan's first physical rehabilitation referral centre opened and four prosthetic/orthotic workshops, including Darfur's only such facility, kept functioning.

In Darfur, the ICRC continued working mainly in remote and rural areas to complement the large international aid efforts in urban centres. The aim was to help farmers and nomads be self-sufficient, thus stemming the exodus to urban areas, where they risked aid dependency. Hundreds of thousands of people were able to boost their income and food production through ICRC livelihood-support initiatives, including seed distributions to 352,702 people. The organization also supported 11 Darfur health clinics.

More than 160,000 people in Gereida IDP camp and town (South Darfur) were provided with shelter, health care, water and sanitation, while WFP took over ICRC food aid in January, as agreed. The ICRC had been providing all basic services since the camp opened in July 2004. WFP and OXFAM took over food aid and water respectively during the last half of 2006, but the ICRC was obliged to resume that assistance in January 2007 after a security incident prompted the suspension of activities by most aid agencies.

ICRC delegates visited people detained by armed groups in Darfur but, despite intensifying its efforts, had not yet been granted access to government-held detainees. Sixty-five Sudanese soldiers and members of the police force were released and handed over to the government, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

Thousands of relatives dispersed by conflict got back in touch through the ICRC/National Society-run family-links service.

The ICRC stressed to all parties to conflict their obligations under IHL to ensure the safety of civilians and aid workers. This was complemented by longstanding communication initiatives to develop government and grassroots support for IHL. In the field, delegates raised alleged IHL violations with the relevant parties.

Following the NGOs' expulsion in March (see *Context*), the ICRC voiced its concerns to all relevant stakeholders and reaffirmed its approach in Darfur. Given its neutral and independent stance, the organization subsequently took over an emergency meningitis vaccination campaign in a volatile area.

The security situation in Darfur deteriorated over 2009 (see *Context*), limiting ICRC movements and therefore activities. The Kabkabiya office consequently closed in August. On 22 October, an ICRC delegate was kidnapped in West Darfur, and was still captive at year-end. Most ICRC operations in Darfur were suspended from mid-November. As a result, veterinary, micro-economic and water projects reached 30–50% fewer beneficiaries than planned. Only 50% of the budgeted number of people received relief goods, but this was also because military clashes had subsided in Darfur.

The ICRC facilitated coordination within the Movement and stayed in contact with UN and other agencies in the field to maximize the impact of humanitarian activities.

CIVILIANS

Parties to conflict were repeatedly urged to uphold their humanitarian obligations to protect civilians and aid workers. ICRC delegates raised alleged IHL violations with the relevant parties, recommending measures to stop the abuses. As security deteriorated, ICRC movements were restricted, seriously hampering such protection work.

With the agreement of all parties, two employees of the Irish NGO GOAL kidnapped in Darfur were released and handed over to the relevant authorities in Sudan, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

Victims of violence receive relief goods

Some 63,000 victims of conflict or other situations of violence in Darfur and central and southern Sudan used ICRC relief goods to set up makeshift homes. If other agencies could not provide food immediately, families also received rations. With training, Sudanese Red Crescent personnel worked alongside the ICRC to assess needs and distribute aid outside Darfur, gaining more expertise in relief management.

- 63,277 people (11,410 households), including 39,718 IDPs, received essential household items
- 16,069 people (2,767 households), including 13,777 IDPs, received emergency food rations

Families aided in economic recovery

Conflict-affected residents and IDPs in Darfur with access to land received seed and tools and, if needed, one-off food rations to help them become self-sufficient. Government agricultural research centres also began working with farmers to re-establish stocks of quality local seed, with the ICRC providing foundation seed and expertise. To further boost household economies, needy families were given food in return for clearing farmland, had their fields ploughed by tractors, or received goods such as fishing gear and donkey carts.

To improve livestock health in Darfur, just over 300,000 animals belonging to farmers and nomads were vaccinated against common diseases. Ninety community animal health workers were also trained in or refreshed their basic veterinary skills and 19 people qualified as animal health auxiliaries in courses organized by the Animal Resources Ministry and the ICRC.

- 402,221 people (75,608 households), including 35,865 IDPs, benefited from agricultural, veterinary and micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 352,702 people from distributions of seed and tools, of whom 282,542, including 17,175 IDPs, received food
 - 35,230 people from veterinary projects
 - 14,289 from micro-economic initiatives, of whom 1,216 also received food and 655 (all IDPs) received essential household items
- 277,536 people (53,987 households), including 15,925 IDPs, benefiting from agricultural or micro-economic initiatives received soap to reduce health risks

Communities face fewer health risks

Violence-affected communities, mainly in rural areas, had clean water again after ICRC engineers rehabilitated and maintained over 300 facilities, mainly wells and hand pumps, across Darfur and in central and southern Sudan. Aided by training and spare parts, many villages maintained their water points themselves.

- 417,350 people benefited from water projects

Thousands of people in remote, conflict-affected areas of Darfur had access to basic health care at the ICRC's outpatient clinic in Gereida camp and 10 others which received monthly medical supplies, staff incentives and help with infrastructure maintenance. The NGO Partner Aid International took over one clinic in North Darfur in August and the Health Ministry two clinics in North and South Darfur in December. People in areas inaccessible to the Health Ministry were also vaccinated against disease in ICRC-organized campaigns. When the NGOs' expulsion threatened an emergency meningitis campaign, 74,844 people in the Jebel Marra massif were inoculated by ICRC teams who stepped in. Villages in West Darfur also had the services of a mobile health team, and at year-end, 22 village women from across Darfur began, under ICRC sponsorship, a one-year government-run midwifery course.

In the 11 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 246,000):

- 210,996 people given consultations, including 28,253 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 182,743 attending curative consultations
- 332,651 vaccine doses administered (including 270,679 to children aged five or under and 40,924 to women of childbearing age)
- 773 patients referred to a second level of care
- 644 health education sessions held

Gereida IDP camp has vital services

Gereida IDP camp and town had water and sanitation, a health clinic, an infant feeding programme and shelter provided by the ICRC. In January, WFP took over the delivery of monthly food rations from the ICRC, as agreed (see *ICRC action and results*).

Malnutrition rates in the camp stayed below WHO alert levels. In a nutrition programme run in partnership with the British and Australian Red Cross Societies, children were screened regularly, with the malnourished given food supplements, and families attended hygiene and childcare sessions. Young children at risk received extra supplements during the lean period between harvests. With ICRC training and funds, Sudanese Red Crescent personnel also mobilized the IDPs to maintain latrines and collect and dispose of rubbish and solid waste.

- ▶ 166,896 IDPs (27,816 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 131,000 people benefited from water and sanitation services
- ▶ 19,539 children benefited from supplementary/therapeutic feeding programmes

Families reunite

Thousands of relatives uprooted by violence, nearly 90% of them in Darfur, communicated with each other through the family-links service run by the ICRC and the Sudanese Red Crescent. To reinforce the service, 138 National Society personnel upgraded their skills at ICRC-organized workshops.

In a coordinated action by the DRC and Sudanese National Societies and the ICRC, 169 children who had fled to Sudan from the DRC were housed, fed and schooled until they were reunited with their parents or another solution was found, for example placing them with foster families. Similarly, some children who were in the DRC following LRA raids rejoined family in Sudan. In August, the Sudanese government, UNICEF and the ICRC signed an agreement defining their roles in reintegrating into society children in Darfur associated with fighting forces, with the ICRC responsible for reuniting families.

Sudanese also sent RCMs and spoke on ICRC phones to relatives held in US internment facilities abroad. New in 2009, they could also communicate via videoconference with family members interned in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

- ▶ 11,398 RCMs collected from and 10,902 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 68 from and 57 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 419 people (73 women; 40 minors at the time of disappearance); 216 people located, including 36 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 553 people (98 women; 113 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 1 adult and 39 unaccompanied/separated children reunited with their families, including 4 such children registered by another delegation
- ▶ 169 unaccompanied/separated children registered (including 3 demobilized children); 119 cases of unaccompanied/separated children (including 3 demobilized children) still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Despite increased efforts, negotiations with the government about authorizing ICRC visits to all detainees did not advance.

The ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of a few people held by armed groups in Darfur, helped them contact relatives through RCMs and provided hygiene items, according to its standard working procedures. With the agreement of all parties, 62 Sudanese soldiers and members of the police force held by armed groups in Darfur were released and handed over to the Sudanese authorities, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. Similarly, three captive Sudanese soldiers were repatriated from Chad (see *Chad*). The ICRC also asked the relevant parties for information about people allegedly detained by them and informed the relatives of any news.

- ▶ 107 detainees visited, of whom 95 monitored individually (1 minor) and 68 newly registered (1 minor), during 17 visits to 10 places of detention
- ▶ 68 RCMs collected from and 25 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 27 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

The wounded receive life-saving treatment

Eighty-nine wounded fighters and civilians without access to a medical facility were treated in Darfur and north-south border areas by the ICRC's four-person mobile surgical team. Twelve hospitals received emergency supplies to treat wounded patients, and some 550 people, mostly combatants in Darfur, were trained in first aid. To further reduce fatalities, 38 medical personnel in Darfur and 20 in South Sudan learnt more about treating weapon wounds during two ICRC seminars and one course. As large-scale conflict had subsided in Darfur, the ICRC's surgical team ended its mission in August after four years of saving lives under challenging conditions. Six hospitals in Darfur received the team's surplus supplies.

South Sudan opens first physical rehabilitation referral centre

South Sudan's first physical rehabilitation referral centre opened in Juba in January. Built and equipped by the ICRC, it was to be co-managed until 2012 with the Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs Ministry, while the body built up its capacities. The centre would address the increased demand following the ICRC's closure of its Kenya-based workshop in 2006, which had treated southern Sudanese during the north-south conflict. During 2009, 733 patients were admitted to the centre (around 100 more than forecast), and the 400 from outside Juba had transport, food and accommodation paid by the ICRC.

Government budget cuts disrupted services at the four ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres run by the National Authority for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NAPO) – Addamazeen and Kasala in eastern Sudan, Khartoum and Nyala (Darfur's only such facility). The centres benefited from the services of ICRC experts, components and materials to produce appliances, staff training and infrastructure maintenance. Support to NAPO's Kadugli centre was suspended, pending a court judgement on who owned the land it was on.

To ensure centres had enough skilled staff, 11 Sudanese completed the second year of a three-year prosthetic/orthotic diploma course taught by the ICRC, while another 12 were studying abroad under ICRC sponsorship.

- ▶ 2,372 patients (including 565 women and 455 children) received services at 5 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 504 new patients (including 123 women and 27 children) fitted with prostheses and 356 (including 75 women and 197 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 1,114 prostheses (including 261 for women, 67 for children and 95 for mine victims), 843 orthoses (including 228 for women, 416 for children and 2 for mine victims), and 1,495 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

The safety of civilians and aid workers in conflict and violence-prone areas depended in part on the authorities' commitment to IHL.

Although pressing international and domestic issues took precedence over IHL implementation, Sudanese government officials still met the ICRC regularly to discuss humanitarian issues and were updated monthly on the delegation's activities. Following the NGOs' expulsion, ministry representatives, international and regional authorities, and diplomats were informed of the ICRC's concerns and approach (see *ICRC action and results*).

In South Sudan, government staff changes disrupted plans to assist officials in drafting laws incorporating IHL. After receiving the ICRC's preliminary comments in 2008 on drafts of an armed forces act and a bill on children's rights, South Sudan requested the ICRC's final input, but the organization's slow response meant the bills were passed without its contribution.

Local authorities across Darfur and in violence-prone parts of central and southern Sudan were briefed on IHL and ICRC activities during presentations and discussions in the field.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) reaffirmed their 2008 commitment to a three-year IHL training programme with the ICRC. Thirty-eight SAF instructors were trained to teach IHL and five officers completed courses abroad. In response to a request by the SAF Military Justice Department for help in improving civilian protection, 80 military legal advisers took a three-day IHL course before being deployed to hotspots.

In another breakthrough, IHL training was initiated for the Border Guards, comprising former Darfur militias integrated into the SAF, and the Central Reserve Police, another security force deployed across Darfur. Around 700 members of armed groups were also briefed on IHL. As well as promoting humanitarian principles, such talks paved the way for discussions about alleged IHL violations and ways to ensure the safety of civilians.

In South Sudan, the new deputy head of training of the Sudan People's Liberation Army re-committed the force to a three-year IHL training programme agreed with the ICRC in 2007. An officer took an ICRC-sponsored IHL course abroad, while some 2,300 officers and troops, mostly in field units, as well as 267 UNMIS military observers, attended IHL presentations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Public support for IHL and the ICRC was essential to ensure civilians in conflict zones were not attacked and aid could get through.

National and local Sudanese press, radio and television coverage of humanitarian issues increased significantly in 2009, sparked by ICRC events marking the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign and the worldwide launch of the organization's report on IDPs. During workshops, some 200 Sudanese journalists

discussed reporting on conflicts from a humanitarian perspective. In a breakthrough at year-end, a radio station covering Darfur broadcast an ICRC spot calling for improved protection of civilians and aid workers.

Thousands of people in Darfur and other violence-affected regions, including traditional and religious leaders and members of women's and youth groups, also learnt about IHL through grassroots dissemination, backed by promotional materials designed for illiterate audiences. At the same time, the Sudanese Red Crescent, partnered by the Swedish Red Cross and the ICRC, was building up its public communication programme in central and southern regions: 25 dissemination officers were trained, branches stocked with promotional materials, and a draft IHL training manual produced.

To build up IHL expertise within Sudan, a university law lecturer attended an ICRC round-table in Beirut, Lebanon, and graduate students at four Khartoum universities entered a competition for the best IHL thesis.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Sudanese Red Crescent personnel gained more hands-on experience by playing a major role in ICRC relief operations (see *Civilians*) and by helping to run the family-links service (see *Civilians*) and to promote IHL (see *Civil society*). Backed by ICRC funds, materials and expertise, the National Society also worked to ensure every branch had volunteers able to deliver emergency aid rapidly.

With ICRC support, the Sudanese Red Crescent:

- trained 46 leaders and instructors of emergency action teams countrywide and equipped all 28 teams with emergency materials
- trained 974 volunteer first-aiders countrywide and stocked branches with first-aid materials
- provided some 18,000 flood victims in Khartoum with essential household items
- strengthened its set-up, opening new branches in the north-south border region and receiving 13 ICRC-donated second-hand vehicles, 10 motor bikes and 10 computers
- with Movement partners, organized 2 workshops to evaluate its activities and plan 2010 accordingly

To maximize the impact of aid efforts, Movement partners met regularly to coordinate their activities in Sudan. In September, the Sudanese Red Crescent, the International Federation and the ICRC updated their agreement defining their roles and responsibilities in Sudan, valid until 2011; other National Societies active in Sudan were invited to sign the annex.

uganda



The ICRC has been present in Uganda since 1979. Given the progress towards peace in the north of the country, ICRC assistance activities, many of which are implemented in partnership with the Uganda Red Cross Society, have been scaled down in response to decreasing humanitarian needs. In parallel, the ICRC continues to monitor the treatment of detainees and strives to raise awareness of IHL and humanitarian principles among the armed and police forces.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,156
Assistance	12,660
Prevention	1,102
Cooperation with National Societies	2,008
General	-

► **16,927**

of which: Overheads **1,032**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

27 expatriates
219 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- boosted the livelihoods of 185,324 IDPs/returnees through agricultural and other income-generating initiatives
- improved 110,507 returnees' water supply and sanitation by rehabilitating/constructing water points and, in partnership with the Swedish and Ugandan Red Cross Societies, promoting good hygiene practices
- concluded a three-year project to support Kitgum Government Hospital, providing it with medical supplies and staff training and rehabilitating key infrastructure
- reunited 40 unaccompanied/separated children with their families, including by repatriating 13 to the Democratic Republic of the Congo or Sudan
- improved environmental health in 3 prisons by upgrading sanitation facilities for 3,983 detainees, launching tuberculosis screening programmes and distributing essential household items
- signed an agreement with the Ugandan army to revise military manuals from an IHL perspective

CONTEXT

Following a military campaign launched jointly with the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan in mid-December 2008 against the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the north-eastern DRC, the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) withdrew most of its troops in March (see *Congo, Democratic Republic of the*). The UPDF nevertheless continued to back military operations against the LRA in the DRC and, later in the year, carried out similar operations against the LRA in the Central African Republic.

The security situation in northern Uganda remained calm, however, with IDPs continuing to return to their home villages or to transit camps nearby. Sporadic violence occurred in Uganda's north-eastern Karamoja region as a result of intertribal cattle rustling and UPDF endeavours to disarm traditional warriors.

Ahead of the country's planned 2011 general elections, the national political climate hardened. In September, violent protests broke out in Kampala over a planned visit by the traditional king of the Baganda, Uganda's largest ethnic group, to an area north-east of the capital.

Since 2008, tens of thousands of refugees had arrived in western Uganda, the majority of them fleeing fighting in the DRC's Kivu provinces. Supported by UNHCR voluntary repatriation programmes, many Sudanese and Rwandan refugees in Uganda returned home in 2009.

Localized border disputes with the DRC, Kenya and South Sudan flared up occasionally and were largely addressed at the political level.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	4,032	Economic security, water and habitat			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	179	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	30,914	21%62%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	30,914	
	of whom minors	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	185,324	21%62%
Number of visits carried out	110		of whom IDPs	185,324	
Number of places of detention visited	52	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	110,507	25%50%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of whom IDPs	110,507	
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Health			
RCMs collected	1,934	Health centres supported	Structures	13	
RCMs distributed	806	Consultations	Patients	122,238	
People reunited with their families	40		of which curative		87,03242,363
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of which ante/post-natal		8,501
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	35	Immunizations	Doses	112,344	
	of whom women	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Economic security, water and habitat			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	71	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	5,293	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	33	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	3,983	
	of whom women	WOUNDED AND SICK			
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Hospitals supported	Structures	1	
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Admissions	Patients	14,577	5,4297,708
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	274	Operations	Operations performed	79	
	of whom girls	Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	202	
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	40	Physical rehabilitation			
	of whom girls	Patients receiving services	Patients	240	7170
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	123	Prostheses delivered	Units	89	282
	of whom girls	Orthoses delivered	Units	132	3067
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC delegation in Uganda streamlined and adapted its activities in response to the shift from emergency to development needs. Consequently, it closed its sub-delegation in Pader in January.

To support the sustainable return of IDPs, the ICRC focused on assisting communities in four districts in northern Uganda, namely Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum and Pader. Activities were implemented in close partnership with the Uganda Red Cross Society and, where possible, local and national authorities.

To help vulnerable returnee communities restore their livelihoods and to revive local markets, the ICRC distributed seed, tools and agricultural/cash vouchers. It also undertook cash-for-work projects and micro-economic initiatives. Some people received essential household items after their possessions were destroyed in seasonal fires. IDPs and returnees also had improved access to water and sanitation following the drilling or rehabilitation of village boreholes and hygiene promotion activities conducted by the Swedish and Ugandan Red Cross Societies and overseen by the ICRC.

ICRC support to health facilities in northern Uganda involved the provision of medical supplies, the training of local health staff, including traditional birth assistants, and the rehabilitation of water, sanitation and medical infrastructure. As planned, a project supporting the referral hospital in Kitgum came to an end and the

number of health centres receiving ICRC support was reduced. At the same time, to increase the sustainability and reach of services for disabled people, the ICRC started providing expertise and material input to the rehabilitation centre in Mbale, in addition to the one already assisted in Fort Portal.

ICRC delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of detainees held in civilian and military places of detention. In addition, the ICRC deepened its confidential dialogue with the relevant authorities with a view to gaining access to all detainees falling within its remit and, on the basis of visits, sharing its findings and recommendations with the authorities. The final stage of a project to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria in three prisons focused on improving hygiene conditions and launching TB screening programmes. The ICRC also helped the national prison authorities consolidate and develop agreements with NGOs to ensure the sustainability of these initiatives in the future.

The ICRC continued to support UPDF and Ugandan Police Force (UPF) efforts to integrate IHL and international human rights law and standards into their training, doctrine and procedures. Notably, the UPDF and the ICRC committed to revising military manuals from an IHL perspective.

Government officials attended a seminar on IHL implementation and received ICRC comments on related draft bills. The ICRC also supported IHL teaching in universities and informed the wider public about its mandate and activities through media updates and meetings with key community leaders.

To respond to the influx of refugees from the DRC, the ICRC stepped up support to the National Society's family-links service, including for unaccompanied children. Other ICRC assistance to the Ugandan Red Cross centred on strengthening the National Society's structures and programmes to respond to humanitarian needs in Karamoja, conduct hygiene promotion programmes in northern Uganda and promote the Movement's activities and Fundamental Principles.

ICRC activities were coordinated with those of other humanitarian agencies, including those participating in the UN cluster system, to avoid duplication or gaps in protecting and assisting those most in need.

CIVILIANS

Communities in northern Uganda enjoy improved security

The UPDF and the ICRC kept up their confidential dialogue regarding the protection of people in the north and west of the country and in Karamoja.

The needs of Congolese women and their children living without legal status in northern areas, particularly Acholiland, were brought to the attention of the authorities. Cases requiring specific action were referred to relevant organizations, such as the IOM. Some vulnerable women and their children received essential household items or small cash grants from the ICRC.

Returnees regain their livelihoods

Although improvements in security increased their access to arable land, IDPs/returnees in Amuru, Kitgum and Pader districts faced challenges in re-establishing their livelihoods. They were therefore provided with seed, tools or vouchers for agricultural items or cash to help revive food production and local markets. Returnees who lost crops to drought and had limited food or seed reserves received extra seed for the second farming season.

Cash-for-work projects, such as the rehabilitation of land and access routes, helped boost communities' immediate income and improve agricultural infrastructure for the longer term. Other vulnerable households also generated additional income by producing oil, honey or off-season vegetables after receiving the appropriate equipment and training from the ICRC. In addition, IDPs/returnees received essential household items to meet basic needs, particularly after many people's homes were destroyed in dry-season fires.

- ▶ 185,324 IDPs/returnees (33,695 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 108,229 from distributions of seed, tools or vouchers
 - 77,095 from micro-economic or cash-for-work initiatives
- ▶ 30,914 IDPs/returnees (5,619 households) received essential household items

Rural communities face fewer health risks

To support already stretched health services in returnee catchment areas, medicines and medical equipment were regularly provided to 11 health centres in Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts, with 2 others receiving similar donations until June. All 13 health centres had vital infrastructure, including maternity wards, inpatient departments and staff quarters, upgraded, and medical staff, including traditional birth attendants, received clinical and administrative training. Community health further

benefited from ICRC support provided, in line with Ministry of Health policies, for vaccinations, ante-natal care, family planning and mosquito-net distribution.

In the 13 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 115,400):

- ▶ 122,238 people given consultations, including 8,501 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 113,737 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 112,344 vaccine doses administered (including 101,728 to children aged five or under and 10,616 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 903 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 566 health education sessions held

To improve 92,890 returnees' access to water, 53 boreholes were rehabilitated and 70 new water points installed, in partnership with the National Society, local authorities and communities. Over 560 new latrines were constructed and health groups were set up in villages, transit camps and schools as part of a hygiene promotion project run by the Ugandan and Swedish Red Cross Societies with ICRC input (see also *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). These same communities were also trained in the use of some 1,690 newly installed fuel-efficient stoves.

The relative stability in northern Uganda meant that emergency distributions of water were not needed.

- ▶ 110,507 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including 17,717 people from the hygiene promotion project

Family members get back in touch

People separated by past or ongoing conflict in neighbouring countries restored and/or maintained contact with relatives both within and outside Uganda thanks to the tracing and RCM services provided by the Ugandan Red Cross, with ICRC support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Priority was given to addressing the tracing needs of new Congolese refugees and of unaccompanied children formerly associated with the LRA or left behind by Rwandan refugees who went back to their country.

- ▶ 1,897 RCMs collected from and 779 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 33 from and 143 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 35 people (12 women; 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 85 people located, including 14 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 33 people (6 women; 7 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 274 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 40 reunited with their families (of whom 13 repatriated to the DRC and Sudan); 123 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees falling within the ICRC's mandate were visited by delegates in places of temporary and permanent detention run by the Justice Ministry or the military. Particular attention was paid to people detained in connection with armed conflict in the DRC, the UPDF disarmament campaign in Karamoja and unrest in Kampala.

With a view to gaining access to all detainees of ICRC concern, including individuals formerly associated with the LRA and people arrested by the Joint Anti-Terrorism Task Force, the ICRC developed confidential dialogue with the relevant authorities through bilateral meetings. In addition, military intelligence personnel attended several seminars on the ICRC (see also *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

During ICRC visits, conducted according to the organization's standard working procedures, detainees' treatment and living conditions and respect for their judicial guarantees were monitored. Where necessary, confidential representations were made to the relevant authorities to ensure compliance with human rights standards and IHL, including the principle of *non-refoulement*. Following some such recommendations, the treatment of detainees and food rations improved in several detention facilities in Karamoja. In response to a summary report on 24 months of visits to detainees held by the military, improvements in treatment and material conditions were noted in a number of UPDF barracks.

Detention authorities were reminded of their responsibility to ensure that detainees could maintain contact with their families. Vulnerable detainees, including foreigners and minors, kept in touch with relatives via the RCM service. Upon release, 12 detainees had their transport home paid for by the ICRC.

- 4,032 detainees visited, of whom 179 monitored individually (5 women; 7 minors) and 121 newly registered (4 women; 7 minors), during 110 visits to 54 places of detention
- 37 RCMs collected from and 27 RCMs distributed to detainees

A project to provide over 4,000 detainees in Fort Portal, Gulu and Luzira prisons with preventive and curative treatment for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria entered its final stage of implementation. A TB screening programme was launched in all three prisons in May and a TB-awareness booklet was distributed to staff and detainees. To further improve environmental health and hygiene in the three prisons, staff and detainees received training and detainees were given essential household and hygiene items. Health care and sanitation facilities at Fort Portal and Luzira prisons were rehabilitated, while similar renovations were ongoing in Gulu prison. Vital medical equipment was also repaired or donated to the hospital attached to Luzira prison.

To ensure the sustainability of services, the prison health authorities, with ICRC support, consolidated and developed agreements with implementing partners involved in the screening of new inmates, the provision of laboratory services, voluntary counselling and testing, TB prophylaxis and the follow-up of HIV cases. The Uganda Prison Service (UPS) and the Ministry of Health also began to consider extending the project to more prisons in 2010.

ICRC technical, financial and material support to the UPS also helped improve the water supply and recreational facilities in Kitalya and Kitgum prisons respectively.

- 3,983 detainees benefited from water/sanitation projects
- 5,293 detainees received essential household and hygiene items

WOUNDED AND SICK

To conclude three years of support to Kitgum Government Hospital, patients' treatment was further improved thanks to the provision of medical supplies and training in management and clinical skills. Water and sanitation systems and key buildings, including maternity/paediatric wards and an operating theatre, were also upgraded. Hospital maintenance teams received training and equipment to ensure that patients would continue to benefit from these renovated facilities.

In the 202-bed Kitgum Government Hospital:

- 14,577 patients (including 5,429 women and 7,708 children) admitted: of whom 450 non-weapon-wounded surgical cases, and 10,721 medical and 3,406 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 79 surgical operations performed
- 79,527 outpatients given consultations, including 77,472 attending surgical or medical consultations and 2,055 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

As the number of weapon-wounded patients admitted to Matany Hospital in Karamoja had decreased, local medical staff received a last delivery of medical items and attended a final ICRC surgical training session. During the session, 25 patients, including 9 weapon-wounded, were operated on by a visiting ICRC surgeon. In addition, 22 emergency cases referred to Kalongo Hospital by ICRC-supported health centres in Pader district (see *Civilians*) were successfully treated, with ICRC support.

To increase the sustainability and reach of services for disabled people, physical rehabilitation centres in Fort Portal and, from December, in Mbale, received ICRC technical input and funding.

- 240 patients (including 71 women and 70 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 47 new patients (including 13 women and 1 child) fitted with prostheses and 120 (including 31 women and 55 children) fitted with orthoses
- 89 prostheses (including 28 for women and 2 for children; 19 for mine victims), 132 orthoses (including 30 for women and 67 for children), 36 crutches and 1 wheelchair delivered

AUTHORITIES

Political decision-makers and civil servants learnt about the ICRC and IHL through printed updates and regular meetings with ICRC delegates.

At an ICRC seminar co-organized with the Office of the Prime Minister and the National Society, 31 people, including government, judicial and military personnel and academics, discussed and adopted steps to streamline the national enactment of IHL treaties. The Ministry of Justice received comments from the ICRC on draft bills to implement Additional Protocols I, II and III, the Rome Statute and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. A Ministry of Justice representative attended two IHL events held by the ICRC abroad.

In October, high-level African dignitaries visited a stand exhibiting the work of the Ugandan Red Cross and the ICRC during the African Union (AU) Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs hosted by the Ugandan government (see *African Union*). At the summit, the government signed the new AU Convention on IDPs.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

After years of ICRC advocacy, the UPDF distributed personalized identity cards and tags to its personnel to facilitate the identification of military casualties and to prevent or resolve future cases of missing persons.

Following a review of their 2005 agreement, the UPDF and the ICRC committed to a three-year plan of action to integrate IHL into military manuals and procedures and to consolidate progress made towards integrating IHL into military training. Joint UPDF/ICRC efforts to integrate human rights standards into police training continued, with the UPDF welcoming ICRC comments on its new curricula.

To reinforce the quality of IHL/human rights tuition for military and police personnel, instructors received ICRC training. Teaching materials, including a UPDF film on IHL, were developed or updated with ICRC technical input and funding. In addition, armed and security officers attended briefings given by ICRC delegates.

- ▶ 50 military instructors attended a train-the-trainer course on IHL
- ▶ 2 military instructors and 1 senior UPDF officer participated in IHL courses abroad
- ▶ 133 military officers, including intelligence officers, and 10 from neighbouring countries briefed on IHL/the ICRC
- ▶ 1,904 police officers, including 30 instructors attending a train-the-trainer course, briefed on human rights standards, including those pertaining to the use of force, arrest and detention

CIVIL SOCIETY

The public was kept informed of the ICRC's work through media reports based on ICRC updates, the ICRC president's attendance at an AU summit (see *Authorities*), a field visit for journalists to ICRC-supported health centres (see *Civilians*) and a workshop for 15 news editors in Kampala. Local opinion-leaders also received ICRC documentation, with 350 community members attending information sessions to enhance understanding of ICRC activities and their changing nature in northern Uganda.

To support tertiary-level IHL teaching, the knowledge and skills of lecturers were honed and shared through their participation in regional IHL courses, an IHL seminar in Kampala (see *Authorities*) and a debriefing session for lecturers previously attending IHL courses abroad. Thanks to ICRC sponsorship, students participated in a regional IHL essay competition and, for the first time, in national and international moot court competitions, the latter held in Nairobi, Kenya (see *Nairobi*). In addition, three universities received IHL reference materials.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Ugandan Red Cross worked in partnership with the ICRC in northern and western Uganda (see *Civilians*). With Swedish Red Cross/ICRC support, National Society staff assumed responsibility for hygiene promotion in 36 villages ahead of taking the lead in all Movement hygiene promotion efforts in northern Uganda in 2010. To strengthen the delivery of family-links services, particularly for refugees arriving from the DRC, the National Society received ICRC support in the form of funding, materials, training and joint needs assessments.

The National Society improved its capacity to respond to emergencies, with ICRC technical, financial and material contributions. For example, it expanded and maintained its radio network. Particular emphasis was placed on developing a response to humanitarian needs in Karamoja. Subsequently, Ugandan Red Cross volunteers distributed essential household items to over 3,200 households, drilled or rehabilitated 8 boreholes and initiated hygiene promotion activities, including the digging of latrines. Two new branch offices were also constructed in Moroto and Kotido.

Opinion-shapers countrywide learnt about the Movement and its Fundamental Principles as a result of dissemination activities undertaken regularly by 40 National Society branches. To facilitate these efforts, 37 volunteers were trained with ICRC support.

Movement activities and support to the Ugandan Red Cross were coordinated. As part of this, ICRC delegates contributed to a mid-term review of the National Society's 2007–10 strategic plan. The salaries of some national, regional and branch staff were paid by the ICRC, as were incentives to volunteers involved in ICRC assistance programmes. The National Society also received two-wheeled vehicles and administrative equipment from the ICRC.



abidjan (regional)

In the countries covered by the delegation, established in 1992, the ICRC supports the authorities in implementing IHL, encourages armed and security forces to respect IHL, and carries out protection activities particularly for detainees. It works with and supports the development of the region's National Societies. In Côte d'Ivoire, the delegation focuses on responding to the protection and assistance needs of people affected by the lasting consequences of the crisis that began in 2002.

COVERING

Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,003
Assistance	8,655
Prevention	2,603
Cooperation with National Societies	2,107
General	-

► **15,367**
of which: Overheads 937

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

34	expatriates
240	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- ▶ with the National Society, helped 83,053 people in Côte d'Ivoire rebuild their lives after conflict through the provision of farming materials
- ▶ administered 37,529 vaccine doses, in support of Ivorian government efforts to protect vulnerable women and children against common diseases
- ▶ helped reduce mortality rates in 11 detention facilities in Côte d'Ivoire through a supplementary feeding programme for 1,064 detainees
- ▶ welcomed steps taken by the authorities in Côte d'Ivoire to ensure that detainees had access to adequate food and health care
- ▶ completed its hospital programme in northern Côte d'Ivoire, having prepared medical personnel to provide adequate care for the wounded
- ▶ ahead of presidential elections in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, strengthened the capacities of the National Societies to respond effectively in the event of violence

CONTEXT

The overall situation in Côte d'Ivoire continued to improve slowly, two years after the peace agreement that ended the conflict between government forces and the Forces Nouvelles, although poverty remained on the rise. Both France and the UN reduced the size of their peacekeeping contingents, and many civilians displaced by the fighting returned to their homes. In May, the Forces Nouvelles officially ceded control of the north of the country to the government. However, it announced its intention to retain responsibility for security operations there, claiming that the combined force of government troops and Forces Nouvelles was not ready to assume its responsibilities. The process of disarming and reintegrating former fighters into civilian life, or absorbing them into the new national army, remained slow. A number of intercommunal clashes were reported.

Despite a presidential decree calling for elections in November, they were later postponed again to 2010. Voter registration was seriously delayed owing to strikes among registration agents and issues relating to the eligibility of voters.

Further strikes periodically brought administration, health, transport and education services to a standstill, leaving vulnerable civilians struggling for access to adequate health care, clean water and education. Under-resourcing and inconsistent respect for judicial guarantees led to severe overcrowding, food shortages and unsanitary conditions in prisons, with many detainees suffering malnourishment and health problems.

In Benin, the situation remained calm and stable. However, the prospect of elections in 2010 fuelled disagreements among the contending parties, often resulting in political deadlock.

Preparations for elections, scheduled for 2010, were also under way in Burkina Faso, where a number of associated reforms were adopted in spite of disagreement among the contending parties. The north of the country saw an influx of several hundred people seeking refuge from clashes in neighbouring Mali. In September, floods caused widespread damage, leaving thousands homeless and necessitating a costly government clean-up operation. The president, Blaise Compaoré, played an important role in regional mediation, notably in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Togo.

In Ghana, peaceful elections installed John Atta Mills as president. Although the security situation remained generally stable, intercommunal tensions persisted in the north, giving rise to sporadic clashes.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	12,826	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	219	Food ²	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	4,790	20%
<i>of whom minors</i>	2		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	4,790	60%
Number of visits carried out	224	Essential household items ³	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	14,376	46%
Number of places of detention visited	97		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	14,376	38%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives ⁴	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	83,053	55%
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water and habitat activities ⁴	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,317,000	30%
RCMs collected	297	<i>Health⁴</i>			
RCMs distributed	315	Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	37,529	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	4	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	2	Food ⁴	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,064	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	12	Essential household items ⁴	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	15,072	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	23	Water and habitat activities ⁵	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	11,188	
<i>of whom women</i>	1	WOUNDED AND SICK			
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	3	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	4	
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	6,465	2,833
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5	Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	370	1,936
		Water and habitat activities ⁴	<i>Number of beds</i>	600	

1. Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo

2. Burkina Faso

3. Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire

4. Côte d'Ivoire

5. Côte d'Ivoire and Togo

In Togo, disagreements between the government and the opposition over electoral reforms disrupted government efforts to launch a national reconciliation process ahead of elections in 2010. In April, Kpatcha Gnassingbé, a former defence minister, was arrested with 29 others on State security charges following an alleged coup attempt.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC maintained a countrywide presence in Côte d'Ivoire while concentrating its activities in northern and western regions prone to violence in recent years. By monitoring developments such as the movement of returnees, intercommunal clashes and incidents linked to the electoral process, the organization was able to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of vulnerable civilians, often in cooperation with the National Society.

The ICRC distributed food and essential household items to people displaced by fighting or natural disaster and provided agricultural inputs to farming communities to improve their food security. To help the Ivorian government assume responsibility for basic services such as water and health care, the ICRC provided training, advice and structural support to the national water board and medical facilities in vulnerable areas, completing its support to hospitals in November.

ICRC delegates visited detainees in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, sharing their findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities and, where necessary, working with them to improve detainees' well-being. In urgent cases, the ICRC stepped in to ensure that detainees had adequate food, hygiene items and health care or to renovate prison infrastructure and sanitary facilities. Discussions with the Ivorian authorities

resulted in a number of improvements, including agreement to increase the prison food budget in 2010.

Given the potential for political and intercommunal tensions in the region, the ICRC intensified its dialogue with local and national authorities, armed groups, influential members of society and the media, aiming to build widespread understanding of and respect for universal humanitarian principles. Such efforts helped ensure that ICRC/National Society teams had safe access to those affected by violence. Where necessary, the ICRC made representations to the authorities on the conduct of operations by security forces to remind them of the importance of respecting civilians' basic rights.

To encourage the ratification of IHL treaties and their incorporation into national law, the ICRC worked closely with the region's national authorities. It also promoted IHL and international human rights law among armed and security forces, including armed groups in violence-prone areas and troops leaving on international peacekeeping missions.

The ICRC continued to support the region's National Societies to strengthen their operational capacities, providing structural, financial, material and logistical support as well as training and expert guidance. Close coordination with other humanitarian organizations ensured that people's needs were covered while avoiding duplicated efforts.

CIVILIANS

With security in Côte d'Ivoire gradually improving, many civilians displaced during the conflict returned home. To help them rebuild their livelihoods, farming households, including many headed by war-widows, received seed, tools and fertilizer from National Society/ICRC teams to improve production, increasing their food security. Women's associations were able to boost their revenue after receiving seeds to support market gardening initiatives, or pigs for breeding, together with training in how to care for them.

- 83,053 people (11,119 households) benefited from agricultural/veterinary/micro-economic initiatives

Although the region remained generally calm, sporadic clashes prompted civilians to flee their homes, both within Côte d'Ivoire and from Mali into Burkina Faso. To help them cope, they received food supplies and items such as kitchen sets and mosquito nets from the National Society, with ICRC support. Families affected by flooding in Abidjan and Ouagadougou received similar distributions.

- 4,790 IDPs (476 households) received food
- 14,376 IDPs (2,164 households) received essential household items

Following clashes between security forces and civilians in Côte d'Ivoire, relevant authorities were presented with the ICRC's recommendations regarding the protection of civilians during the conduct of security operations. Military and civilian authorities, as well as the Forces Nouvelles and influential community members, were reminded of the need to respect civilians at all times in accordance with human rights norms. They were also encouraged to establish procedures governing the handling of human remains, so that next-of-kin could be informed systematically in the event of a death.

Civilians able to locate and restore contact with separated family members

While the number of family members dispersed by conflict in the region continued to fall, those seeking to restore contact with relatives had the opportunity to do so using tracing and RCM services provided by the relevant National Society, with ICRC support.

- 183 RCMs collected from and 252 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 1 from and 2 to unaccompanied/separated children
- new tracing requests registered for 4 people (2 minors at the time of disappearance); 12 people located; 23 people (1 woman; 3 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Vulnerable civilians receive preventive medical care

In Côte d'Ivoire, women and children were immunized against common diseases, including polio and diphtheria. Over 24,000 people received insecticide-treated mosquito nets from National Society/ICRC teams and learnt measures to prevent and treat malaria through interventions organized in support of the government's campaign against the disease.

Traditional birth attendants received 3,000 delivery kits containing hygiene articles, helping ensure that home-births in local villages were conducted safely. At the National Society-run feeding centre in Korhogo, Côte d'Ivoire, malnourished children saw their health improve thanks to milk and food supplements contributed by the ICRC.

As the region experienced no large-scale clashes during the year, the ICRC had no need of contingency medical supplies.

- 37,529 vaccine doses administered (including 28,740 to children aged five or under and 8,789 to women of childbearing age)

Ivorian communities gain better access to clean water

Over 1.3 million people in Côte d'Ivoire enjoyed access to clean water supplied by the national water board, which gradually assumed full control of treatment plants previously operated with ICRC input. The board continued to receive support to monitor the water quality, enabling it to undertake corrective action where ICRC analysis indicated that bacteria levels were too high. Where interruptions to the supply posed health risks for local populations, National Society volunteers stepped in to chlorinate water points with ICRC support.

In urban areas lacking access to the main water supply, some 5,400 residents benefited from the rehabilitation of 5 public fountains by the ICRC. Plans to renovate further fountains were put on hold until appropriate construction partners could be identified. In the rural west, people worked alongside the ICRC to improve their sanitation facilities and access to clean water, building or rehabilitating wells and latrines. In support of such projects, the National Society undertook hygiene promotion campaigns benefiting some 15,000 people among local communities, including giving guidance on maintaining water points to maximize long-term health benefits.

- 1,317,000 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, including some of those arrested in connection with the attempted coup d'état in Togo in April, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures to ensure that their treatment and living conditions met internationally recognized standards and that their judicial guarantees were respected. Those visited in Benin had been transferred there after the Benin government agreed to allow people convicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to serve their sentences in the country. Findings and recommendations arising from such visits were shared confidentially with the authorities.

During ICRC visits, detainees were able to exchange news with their families through RCMs.

- Benin: 9 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- Burkina Faso: 2 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 4 visits to 4 places of detention
- Côte d'Ivoire:
 - in government-controlled areas: 12,187 detainees visited, of whom 55 monitored individually (2 minors) and 37 newly registered (2 minors), during 107 visits to 42 places of detention
 - in Forces Nouvelles-controlled areas: 574 detainees visited, of whom 124 monitored individually and 71 newly registered, during 108 visits to 47 places of detention

- ▶ Togo: 54 detainees visited, of whom 29 newly registered and monitored individually, during 4 visits to 3 places of detention
- ▶ 114 RCMs collected from and 63 RCMs distributed to detainees; 575 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in the country
- ▶ 5 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Detainees benefit from essential food, medications and hygiene interventions

The Ivorian penitentiary administration made particular efforts to improve conditions for detainees. Increased respect for judicial guarantees led to the release of some detainees and the acceleration of the trial process for others. In coordination with the Ministries of Justice, Health and the Economy and the ICRC, the administration organized a seminar for prison directors from the north and the south of the country, focusing on budget management and detainees' food, hygiene and medical needs. Following such discussions, the government agreed to raise the prison food budget by about 40% in 2010. In the meantime, 1,064 detainees per month received ICRC supplementary rations, helping to stabilize mortality rates in 11 prisons. The general prison population benefited from repairs to ovens in prison kitchens.

The Ivorian Ministry of Health assigned additional nurses to monitor detainees' health, helping ensure that the sick could receive treatment from National Society nurses or, where appropriate, under national disease-prevention programmes, directly benefiting a number of detainees diagnosed with tuberculosis. Where the authorities lacked the means to provide adequate care, detainees received ICRC medications, hygiene items and cleaning products to improve their health and sanitary conditions. To further reduce health risks, the Ivorian National Institute of Public Hygiene fumigated 17 places of detention and renovations were made to sanitary infrastructure, with ICRC support and advice.

Given precarious health and hygiene conditions in prisons in Burkina Faso and Togo, relevant authorities, including prison directors and guards, were encouraged to address detainees' urgent needs and were briefed on the ICRC's mandate in relation to detention. In Togo, detainees also benefited from the rehabilitation of the wastewater system in three facilities.

- ▶ 15,072 detainees in Côte d'Ivoire received essential items
- ▶ 9,000 detainees in Côte d'Ivoire and 2,188 in Togo benefited from water/sanitation projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Personnel at hospitals in northern Côte d'Ivoire, including Korhogo Hospital (600 beds), received ICRC equipment, training and advice to better prepare them to treat the wounded during outbreaks of violence. As the health service had difficulty procuring drugs, replacing broken equipment and undertaking essential building repairs, five hospitals received ICRC medications and supplies such as surgical instruments and first-aid kits, and improvements were made to infrastructure with ICRC support.

At Korhogo Hospital, medical personnel were able to dispose safely of clinical waste after the rehabilitation of its incinerator and wastewater system. Surgical and nursing staff there completed ICRC training to upgrade their skills, while the hospital management worked to improve patient handling and to ensure proper

maintenance of supplies and equipment following the phasing-out of ICRC support in November.

In the 2 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 6,465 patients (including 2,833 women and 1,936 children) admitted: of whom 52 weapon-wounded, 1,232 other surgical cases, and 3,972 medical and 1,209 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- ▶ 370 surgical operations performed
- ▶ 2,750 outpatients given consultations, including 2,470 attending surgical or medical consultations and 280 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

AUTHORITIES

Regular contact was maintained with local, national and international authorities across the region, including influential administrative and traditional leaders in violence-prone areas. Such occasions raised their awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities, the protective power of the red cross emblem and the protection due to civilians affected by violence.

With ICRC support, the region's governments made progress in implementing IHL. Through briefings and workshops, senior officials in Côte d'Ivoire, members of the national IHL committee in Burkina Faso, and Burkinan and Togolese parliamentarians explored ways of accelerating the ratification and implementation of key treaties. To boost their skills, representatives from Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo participated in the annual ECOWAS/ICRC workshop on IHL held in Abuja (see *Nigeria*). In the course of the year, Burkina Faso adopted legislation on the Rome Statute, on the use of the red cross emblem, on the Chemical Weapons Convention and, along with Togo, on the Mine Ban Convention. Ghana's parliament adopted a law on the 1949 Geneva Conventions and 1977 Additional Protocols. Benin and Togo ratified the ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Ivorian armed forces continued restructuring, gradually incorporating former members of the Forces Nouvelles into their ranks. To support the integration of IHL and international human rights law into the training of the expanded force, the military authorities worked with the ICRC on revising its instruction manuals, while over 40 army and police instructors attended an ICRC workshop focusing on the proper use of force during security operations. Instructors also received sponsorship to attend IHL courses abroad. Efforts continued to incorporate IHL into standard army training elsewhere in the region. The armed forces' IHL committee in Benin reviewed its operations manuals, and Beninese and Togolese IHL instructors built on their skills at training sessions organized by the military authorities with ICRC support.

To promote widespread understanding of IHL among all ranks of the armed forces, officers at military training centres throughout the region were familiarized with the ICRC's mandate, activities and IHL at briefings organized by the military authorities in coordination with the ICRC. In Côte d'Ivoire, similar briefings in the field targeted Forces Nouvelles troops, demobilized fighters and

other armed groups, thereby facilitating Movement activities in violence-prone areas. Participants also received first-aid training, reinforcing their capacities to assist the wounded in line with universal humanitarian principles. In preparation for the Togolese elections, police and *gendarmérie* officers learnt about the relevance of international human rights law when maintaining order.

UN-mandated peacekeepers, including troops serving in Côte d'Ivoire and groups from Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Togo, were briefed on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and operations in the countries to which they were to be deployed.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Across the region, civil society and the media attended ICRC events organized to support their role in fostering public interest in humanitarian issues and in generating support for Movement activities. Such efforts enabled journalists in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo to report accurately on the use of the red cross emblem and on the Fundamental Principles.

A broad cross-section of influential community members, including NGOs, women's and youth organizations, and traditional and religious leaders, attended ICRC seminars at which they learnt about the Movement's mandate and activities and explored how IHL and international human rights law, combined with neutral humanitarian action, could benefit vulnerable groups displaced, detained or otherwise affected by situations of violence.

Academic circles remained keen to enhance their IHL skills, with university lecturers and students readily approaching the ICRC for advice and using IHL resources to support their research. In Côte d'Ivoire, representatives of the principal students' union attended presentations on IHL and first aid. Thanks to ICRC sponsorship, an Ivorian team was able to participate in a regional moot court competition in Niamey, Niger, from which they took home the trophy. Ivorian schools working to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into their curricula were visited twice by the ICRC, enabling teachers to discuss their progress and, where necessary, modify their approach to better prepare them to assume full responsibility for the programme in due course.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued to require support to strengthen their capacities to prepare for and respond to emergencies, restore family links and promote the Movement and its Fundamental Principles effectively. To this end, they received funding, materials, training, logistical back-up and technical advice from the ICRC, in coordination with Movement partners. In Côte d'Ivoire, four National Society branch offices benefited from electrical repairs and structural improvements, providing staff with better working conditions to facilitate their efforts to assist vulnerable populations.

To build emergency response capacities in Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo, 200 volunteers were trained to undertake needs assessments and administer first aid. In view of upcoming elections in Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, branches received first-aid supplies to enable prompt treatment of the injured in the event of associated tensions.

The Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire trained 22 tracing volunteers, enhancing their ability to help separated family members locate and restore contact with each other, while volunteers of the Burkinabé Red Cross Society received logistical support to facilitate the collection and delivery of RCMs.

Burkinan and Ivorian Red Cross volunteers were also trained in presentation and writing techniques, building their capacities to promote the Movement, IHL and correct use of the red cross emblem among influential members of society. To further enhance their skills and understanding, relevant Ivorian Red Cross staff were sponsored to attend the annual meeting of legal advisers in Geneva, Switzerland. With such support, National Society staff and volunteers in Côte d'Ivoire were better equipped to undertake diverse communication activities, including health promotion among communities and IHL promotion in school clubs.



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 armed conflict or other situations of violence in Casamance (Senegal), Mali and 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	2,073
Assistance	8,916
Prevention	3,861
Cooperation with National Societies	3,146
General	-

► **17,996**

of which: Overheads **1,098**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	112%
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PERSONNEL

32 expatriates
150 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- distributed food parcels and essential household items to some 13,700 and 34,500 people respectively affected by violence or natural disaster in Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal
- with the Mali Red Cross, assisted migrants stranded on the northern Mali border by providing them with relief, family-links services and transport to a safe location
- provided essential drugs, medical equipment and supervisory support to 28 primary health care facilities in Senegal's Casamance region
- trained 89 health professionals from Guinea-Bissau and Mali in war surgery
- trained and equipped 391 National Society staff and volunteers, strengthening their capacities to undertake needs assessments and prepare for and respond to emergencies

CONTEXT

In parts of northern Mali and northern Niger, the population continued to be affected by violence and insecurity. Fighting between government forces and armed Touareg groups decreased in intensity, particularly in Niger, where it was reported that negotiations had resulted in a peace agreement. Where security had improved, people displaced during the violence returned to their communities. Meanwhile, regions around Gao in Mali and Tillabéry in Niger witnessed a surge in intercommunal violence, prompting new displacement. The presence of a network of armed Islamist groups in northern Mali led to clashes with the armed forces. Following the abduction of diplomats and tourists, for which members of the network claimed responsibility, many humanitarian organizations suspended their activities in the region.

In May, the president of Niger, Mamadou Tandja, dissolved the parliament, suspended the constitutional court and began to rule by decree. The results of a referendum in August were announced in favour of altering the constitution to allow the president to extend his current term for three years and run for a third term. Opposition parties contested the result, boycotting legislative elections in October. President Tandja retained political control.

In Senegal's Casamance region (hereafter Casamance), the longstanding confrontation between government forces and the Mouvement des Forces Démocratiques de la Casamance (MFDC) remained unresolved. The army was reported to have reinforced its position in the Fogny region, and there was a marked increase in reports of armed attacks and banditry. The insecurity, coupled with the presence of mines, prevented displaced people from returning home, including those who had sought refuge across the border in Guinea-Bissau.

In Guinea-Bissau, President João Bernardo Vieira was assassinated in March, shortly after the killing of the army chief of staff. Despite a volatile political environment during the ensuing election campaign, during which a number of arrests took place, the election in June of Malam Bacai Sanhá as president restored calm to the country.

The countries of the region continued to suffer the effects of the worldwide financial crisis and high food prices, adding to the difficulties facing populations in violence-prone areas. Insecurity hindered access to basic services and markets and, in September, flooding in Niger and Senegal drove thousands from their homes. The region continued to serve as a thoroughfare for migrants, creating a further destabilizing factor.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	5,778	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	174	Food ²	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	13,746	30% 40%
	<i>of whom women</i>	Essential household items ³	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	34,466	30% 40%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives ¹	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	11,476	78% 6%
Number of visits carried out	79	Water and habitat activities ⁴	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	33,776	23% 55%
Number of places of detention visited	32	<i>Health⁵</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	28	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	16,371	
RCMs collected	42		<i>of which curative</i>		3,609 7,114
RCMs distributed	26		<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		2,340 9
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Immunizations	<i>Doses</i>	6,714	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	4	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM⁶			
	<i>of whom women</i>	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	2	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,225	
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	3	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	2,046	
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	1				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	5				

1. Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal

2. Gambia, Mali, Niger and Senegal

3. Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal

4. Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Senegal

5. Senegal

6. Niger

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC pursued its efforts to protect and assist civilians variously affected by conflict or violence in Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal, increasing its activities in northern Mali and northern Niger in response to growing humanitarian needs there. Logistical and security constraints nevertheless prevented the ICRC from carrying out all of its planned interventions. In view of the many and complex factors destabilizing the Sahel region, the ICRC restructured its organizational presence during the year with a view to opening a separate regional delegation in Niamey in 2010.

The ICRC strengthened its contacts with national and local authorities, weapon bearers and influential community members to promote humanitarian principles and enhance support for the Movement, thereby improving its access to affected populations. In response to allegations of abuses of IHL and international human rights law, the ICRC made representations to the parties responsible, reminding them of the need to respect civilians' basic rights. It continued to encourage the national implementation of IHL treaties and the integration of IHL into the training of national and regional armed forces.

In cooperation with the relevant National Societies, the ICRC provided food and essential household items to thousands of people displaced by intercommunal violence or natural disaster. It also supported the Mali Red Cross in assisting migrants stranded on the northern Mali border. In Casamance and Guinea-Bissau and in parts of Mali and Niger where security had improved, the ICRC helped vulnerable residents, IDPs and returnees to boost their food security through a variety of sustainable agricultural initiatives aimed at increasing production and generating income.

The ICRC continued its support to health services in violence-prone regions. In particular, it provided surgical training and equipment to enable treatment of the weapon-wounded and improved access to primary health care by constructing or rehabilitating health and maternity facilities and equipping them with adequate medical supplies and sanitary infrastructure. In Casamance and Guinea-Bissau, it worked with National Societies to improve community health through hygiene promotion and the installation of public water points and latrines.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees in the region, including those arrested in Guinea-Bissau following the events in March. It shared its findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities and supported them in improving general living conditions in places of detention. It also pursued dialogue with the Gambian and Malian authorities with a view to obtaining systematic access to security detainees in those countries.

Under the terms of new cooperation agreements with the region's National Societies, the ICRC provided them with training and material and financial support to boost their capacities to respond to emergencies, promote IHL and deliver family-links services. It convened regular meetings with Movement partners throughout the region to ensure that all their activities were coordinated.

CIVILIANS

In Casamance, northern Mali and northern Niger, civilians continued to be at risk from mines, outbreaks of violence, and banditry. During ICRC visits to affected regions, delegates documented a number of allegations of violations of IHL/international human rights law. Such allegations were the object of representations to the alleged perpetrators, who were reminded of their responsibility to protect civilians.

Displaced civilians and migrants receive vital relief and support in contacting their families

Families uprooted by intercommunal clashes or floods in Casamance, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Niger received ICRC food rations and essential items, such as tents and kitchen sets, through the relevant National Society, to help them cope with their precarious situation. Such distributions eased conditions both for newly displaced people and for those who had been unable to return home for months or even years. Needs assessments were conducted among IDPs in Ziguinchor to enable the ICRC to identify how best to support them during their displacement.

Separated family members were able to communicate with relatives using tracing and RCM services provided by the National Societies with ICRC support. Where necessary, refugees and asylum seekers were issued with travel documents to facilitate their return home or resettlement in host countries.

The region continued to host large numbers of migrants. To enhance understanding of their circumstances, needs assessments were conducted by relevant National Societies and the ICRC. During the year, some 3,000 undocumented migrants stranded on the northern Mali border were provided with food, medical care and temporary lodging by the Mali Red Cross with ICRC support. The most vulnerable were transported to a safe location where they could recuperate and telephone their families.

A meeting in Bamako was convened by the Mali Red Cross, the International Federation and the ICRC, bringing together Movement partners and other concerned actors to better coordinate their response to regional migration issues.

- ▶ 13,746 people (2,677 households) received food
- ▶ 34,466 people (6,731 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 11 RCMs collected from and 26 RCMs distributed to civilians; 788 phone calls facilitated between family members
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 4 people (2 women); 2 people located; 3 people (1 woman) still being sought
- ▶ 5 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Vulnerable residents and returnees receive livelihood support

Populations in areas affected by violence, including formerly displaced people returning home, struggled to preserve or rebuild their livelihoods, often lacking the means and equipment to obtain food.

To boost their food security, farming communities in Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Niger received seed, tools and training from the ICRC to revitalize market gardens. Newly returned families also received food rations to sustain them until the first harvest. Women's associations which, with ICRC support, had re-launched market garden activities in previous years, continued to benefit from advice to increase their yields and income. Where required, water points were constructed to improve irrigation (see below).

In Casamance and Guinea-Bissau, rural communities worked with the ICRC on agricultural initiatives to boost production and generate income. Different groups received new seed varieties to encourage crop diversification, cereal mills to facilitate production and, in remote areas, bicycles or boats for transporting goods to market. Training in project management and marketing accompanied these distributions to maximize their impact.

Livestock breeders and veterinary experts in Casamance and Guinea-Bissau developed a project aimed at protecting livestock from disease, due to get under way in 2010.

- ▶ 11,476 people (1,199 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives

Vulnerable populations benefit from improved access to clean water and sanitation

Rural populations in Casamance (8,430 people) and Guinea-Bissau (19,789 people) and 5,557 returnees to Niger's Agadez region enjoyed better access to clean water following the construction or rehabilitation of wells, hand pumps or rainwater reservoirs with ICRC support. Such interventions reduced the risk of water-borne diseases and supported farmers in tending their crops.

In Guinea-Bissau, the São Domingos water board demonstrated its ability to manage the city's water supply infrastructure independently after receiving ICRC training and equipment. Following a cholera outbreak, high-risk communities benefited from a National Society chlorination campaign undertaken with ICRC support. Wells were disinfected and hygiene promotion sessions held, contributing to a reduction in cholera cases. As part of wider efforts to reduce health risks posed by inadequate sanitation, schools were equipped with water points and latrines.

Given the relative stability in Niger's Diffa region during 2009, planned improvements to the water supply there were put on hold so that delegates could invest efforts and resources in other parts of the country.

- ▶ 33,776 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Civilians have better access to adequate health care

To support the Casamance health service in treating vulnerable populations, personnel in 28 health structures received management training, medical equipment and supplies. Women and children in remote areas were able to seek medical advice after the ICRC provided transport enabling district health personnel to visit them. Communities also stood to benefit from the construction or rehabilitation of health and maternity facilities, including improvements to their sanitary infrastructure.

To help communicate key health messages to a wide audience, 64 community health promoters were trained and provided with condoms and mosquito nets by the health authorities with ICRC support, enabling them to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and malaria. Some 3,700 teachers and students in Casamance and Guinea-Bissau attended National Society workshops on good hygiene, ensuring they derived maximum benefit from ICRC improvements to school sanitation facilities (see above).

In the 28 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 32,700):

- 16,371 people given consultations, including 2,349 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 14,022 attending curative consultations
- 6,714 vaccine doses administered (including 5,698 to children aged five or under and 1,015 to women of childbearing age)
- 65 patients referred to a second level of care
- 329 health education sessions held
- health facilities (average number of consultations per day: 148) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

As security improved in Niger's Agadez region, five health centres were supplied with ad hoc distributions of drugs, furniture and equipment, enabling them to resume their activities with minimum delay.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in connection with the violence in Mali, Niger and Senegal, as well as those arrested following the high-profile assassinations in Guinea-Bissau, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures to monitor their treatment and general living conditions and respect for their judicial guarantees. Findings and recommendations arising from such visits were shared in confidence with the authorities. The relevant authorities and the ICRC pursued dialogue with a view to resuming visits to detainees in Gambia and gaining systematic access to all detainees held in relation to the prevailing situation in northern Mali. Planned visits to detainees held by armed groups in Mali and Niger did not take place owing to their release during the year.

During ICRC visits, detainees had the opportunity to contact relatives through RCMs. Foreign detainees, including illegal migrants, were able, through the ICRC, to notify their consular representatives of their presence in detention. Sixteen detainees were able to see their relatives after those who could not otherwise afford to visit had their travel costs covered by the ICRC.

- Guinea-Bissau: 117 detainees visited, of whom 17 monitored individually (1 woman) and 15 newly registered (1 woman), during 34 visits to 8 places of detention
- Mali: 2,316 detainees visited, of whom 18 monitored individually and 4 newly registered, during 9 visits to 6 places of detention
- Niger: 2,910 detainees visited, of whom 97 monitored individually (1 woman; 1 minor) and 48 newly registered (1 minor), during 23 visits to 13 places of detention
- Senegal: 435 detainees visited, of whom 42 monitored individually and 39 newly registered, during 13 visits to 5 places of detention
- 31 RCMs collected from detainees and 64 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in Mali or Senegal
- 16 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Where necessary, detainees received hygiene products and items such as mosquito nets to improve their sanitation conditions and reduce health risks. Detainees in Niger also received agricultural inputs to support income-generating activities.

Alongside direct distributions to detainees, efforts were made to support the region's authorities in improving general living conditions in detention facilities. Although planned hygiene promotion training did not take place, prison directors in Niger and Senegal attended seminars on prison health and hygiene, organized by their penitentiary administration in cooperation with the ICRC. Health personnel in Niger's prisons received ICRC medical supplies, better equipping them to treat sick detainees, while detainees themselves benefited from improvements to prison sanitation infrastructure with ICRC support.

- in Niger, 1,225 detainees received essential items and 2,046 detainees benefited from water/sanitation projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Victims of violence or mine incidents in Casamance, Mali and Niger were able to receive adequate care after the ICRC stepped in to cover the cost of their treatment, arranging for their evacuation to hospital where necessary. Among them, five mine victims were fitted with prosthetic limbs. Systematic support to physical rehabilitation centres in the region was postponed to 2010.

To support the region's health care services to meet the needs of the wounded, hospitals in Agadez, Niamey and Ziguinchor received medical and surgical supplies, including kits to treat the war-wounded and sterilization and X-ray equipment. In view of the election-related tensions in Guinea-Bissau, similar supplies were provided to the main hospital in Bissau. In Guinea-Bissau and Mali, 89 civilian and military surgeons and nurses enhanced their skills during ICRC war-surgery seminars.

AUTHORITIES

Local, national and regional authorities, international organizations and diplomats strengthened contacts with the National Societies and the ICRC, meeting to discuss humanitarian issues of mutual concern and to learn more about IHL and Movement activities in the region. Special efforts were made to discuss these topics with authorities and traditional leaders in violence-prone areas such as Diffa in Niger and Fogny in Senegal, resulting in greater acceptance of the ICRC and facilitating its access to affected populations.

The region's governments continued to receive legal advice and financial support from the ICRC to support them in ratifying IHL instruments and incorporating them into national legislation. Thanks to ICRC sponsorship, representatives from all six countries participated in an international conference on the Mine Ban Convention (see *Colombia*), as well as the annual ECOWAS/ICRC seminar in Abuja (see *Nigeria*), at which they agreed on ways to speed up IHL implementation. During the year, Mali and Senegal ratified Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, and Niger ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Mali and Niger also adopted legislation governing the use of the red cross emblem.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ongoing clashes affecting civilians in Casamance, Mali and Niger reinforced the need to familiarize all weapon bearers with IHL, international human rights law and the Movement, particularly in volatile areas. Army and police personnel in Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Senegal learnt about these topics through operational ICRC briefings and first-aid training. Armed groups in Senegal also strengthened their dialogue with the ICRC, enabling MFDC elements in Casamance to attend briefings focusing on the need to respect civilians' rights.

Senior military personnel in the region worked with the ICRC towards integrating IHL into tactical and operational training, attending workshops and receiving ICRC reference materials and advice on issuing directives to that effect. In Mali and Niger, army and security officers took part in IHL train-the-trainer courses organized with ICRC support, while the Gambian armed forces signed an agreement with the ICRC on IHL integration. Officers from Gambia, Niger and Senegal received sponsorship from the ICRC to attend IHL courses abroad. *Gendarmes* from francophone African countries benefited from IHL training in Dakar organized by the Senegalese National Gendarmerie School with ICRC support. In light of all these activities, it was not feasible to organize training for police officers during the year.

The UN, the African Union and the Bamako Peacekeeping School supported ICRC efforts to promote respect for IHL, inviting the ICRC to brief peacekeeping troops on humanitarian principles and the neutral, impartial and independent role of the Movement prior to their deployment to other countries. Those in Bamako also participated in training exercises developed with ICRC input during which they explored the operational implications of IHL.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Through regular meetings and events surrounding the "Our world. Your move." and other communication campaigns, the region's media and influential members of society strengthened their association with National Societies and the ICRC, helping to raise widespread awareness of and support for Movement activities. In particular, radio journalists in violence-prone regions attended ICRC workshops, boosting their capacities to report accurately on ICRC assistance operations. Community and religious leaders in volatile parts of Mali, Niger and Senegal received information materials and attended ICRC events enabling them to share humanitarian concerns.

The inauguration of an ICRC IHL documentation centre in Dakar provided academic researchers and others interested in IHL with research resources and a forum for humanitarian dialogue. Representatives of the international community, academic bodies, the authorities and the armed forces were among the participants of an expert-led round-table on small arms availability.

Academic institutions, including Islamic madrasas, consolidated their relationship with the ICRC, receiving IHL documentation to encourage the integration of IHL into standard courses. On completion of the Exploring Humanitarian Law pilot programme in Senegal, the Ministry of Education called for IHL to be taught in all secondary schools. Teachers and school inspectors participating in ICRC train-the-trainer courses indicated they were keen to sustain the programme. Universities in Mali, Niger and Senegal continued to teach IHL with ICRC support, while students from eight francophone African countries attended a moot court competition in Niamey.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Under renewed cooperation agreements with the ICRC, the region's National Societies received training and material, logistical and financial support to help them prepare for and respond to the needs of people affected by violence, natural disaster or outbreaks of disease.

To boost their emergency response capacities, 391 National Society personnel received training in assessment and distribution techniques and first aid. They consolidated their skills in the field, providing effective relief to families displaced by conflict or natural disaster (see *Civilians*). The Red Cross Society of Niger mobilized first-aid cover during the August referendum, while the National Societies in Gambia and Mali provided first-aid training to security forces, helping them coordinate their response in the event of violence.

Training in communication skills enhanced National Society capacities to provide life-saving services to the community, such as promoting awareness of HIV/AIDS or good hygiene (see *Civilians*). Relevant staff were sponsored to attend a meeting of legal experts in Geneva, Switzerland, enabling them to learn more about IHL and the use of the emblem and to pass on this knowledge to volunteers. Such efforts better equipped National Societies to promote these topics through newsletters and radio broadcasts, building support for Movement activities among diverse audiences, including students. A planned distribution of materials to the Mali Red Cross health and social workers' school was not required, these being provided by another organization.

At Movement meetings, National Societies explored ways of developing their family-links activities, focusing on the needs of migrants in northern Mali (see *Civilians*), where National Society personnel received motorcycles, mobile telephones and computers to improve service-delivery and coordination. The region's family-links focal points also worked with the ICRC on revising an instruction manual to enhance volunteer training.

Regular meetings in Dakar with the International Federation and in Bamako, Dakar and Niamey with other Movement partners facilitated the coordination of Movement activities, enabling the pooling of resources and skills to ensure optimum benefit for vulnerable populations.



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 visits and assists detainees in Namibia and Zimbabwe and assists civilians in Zimbabwe. It also helps family members separated by armed conflicts in the region 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, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,507
Assistance	14,367
Prevention	1,357
Cooperation with National Societies	1,287
General	-

► **18,517**

of which: Overheads 1,123

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

26	expatriates
94	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- reached an agreement with the Zimbabwean authorities to start visiting detainees in Ministry of Justice-run prisons
- helped improve the nutritional situation in Zimbabwean prisons by setting up therapeutic feeding programmes for 3,817 detainees and distributing general food rations to 8,774
- provided seed, fertilizer and training to kick-start the livelihoods of 63,500 vulnerable people in 2 Zimbabwean provinces
- improved 1,394,978 people's access to clean water in Zimbabwe by providing technical support and equipment to rural and urban water boards and facilitating community campaigns to combat cholera
- regularly supplied medical and other items to 23 rural and urban primary health care facilities and 2 district hospitals in Zimbabwe, along with food and/or travel allowances for medical staff when needed
- promoted IHL to military and police officers preparing for a Southern African Development Community Brigade training exercise

CONTEXT

In Zimbabwe, after initially inconclusive talks to resolve the impasse over the implementation of September 2008's power-sharing agreement, a new government was officially formed in February, with the Movement for Democratic Change leader, Morgan Tsvangirai, sworn in as prime minister by President Robert Mugabe. Tension between the two main political parties persisted, hampering government reforms and programmes.

Zimbabwe saw deflation for the first time in March after years of hyperinflation. The new government launched a package of economic and social initiatives to rebuild public services severely weakened by under-resourcing and to boost food production and availability disrupted by the struggling economy and poor harvests. The cholera epidemic that took hold from November 2008 to March 2009 further highlighted the need to support public services, such as health and water, as well as the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation. The resulting initiatives and aid helped stabilize public service delivery somewhat over the course of the year.

Presidential and parliamentary elections in Botswana, Malawi and Namibia passed off peacefully.

Regionwide, the global financial crisis compounded unequal wealth distribution, economic hardship and unemployment, with the mining sector, crucial for the Botswanan, Namibian and Zambian economies, particularly affected. An estimated 70,000 refugees were hosted within the region. Economic migration, such as that from Zimbabwe to Botswana and South Africa, created some tension.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) remained a key regional player, dealing with many of the above and other issues.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ²				
Detainees visited	15,497	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	130	Food	Beneficiaries	600	22%	59%
Number of visits carried out	194		of whom IDPs	600		
Number of places of detention visited	62	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	600	22%	59%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of whom IDPs	600		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	63,500	47%	
RCMs collected	1,292	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	1,394,978	51%	32%
RCMs distributed	1,135	Health				
People reunited with their families	3	Health centres supported	Structures	25		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Consultations	Patients	788,027		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	11		of which curative		251,593	272,542
of whom women	5		of which ante/post-natal		73,167	2,702
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	6	Immunizations	Doses	433,120		
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	4	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM ²				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	133	Economic security, water and habitat				
of whom women	10	Food	Beneficiaries	10,745		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	6	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	19,388		
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	6,950		
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	3	WOUNDED AND SICK ²				
of whom girls	3	Hospitals supported	Structures	2		
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	5	Admissions	Patients	529	219	108
of whom girls	2	Operations	Operations performed	283		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	2					

1. Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe

2. Zimbabwe

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC developed its activities in Zimbabwe to help improve detention conditions and support vulnerable communities, including those affected by political violence in 2008. To address malnutrition in prisons, support struggling farmers and increase its support for primary health care facilities in Harare, the organization appealed for more funds in June.

Following a formal agreement regarding the ICRC's standard working procedures, delegates began visiting detainees held in Ministry of Justice-run prisons in April to assess their treatment and living conditions and discussed their recommendations with the authorities. The ICRC launched an emergency assistance operation including setting up therapeutic feeding programmes for malnourished detainees and distributing general food rations to prevent further malnourishment. In addition, prison water, sanitation and cooking facilities were rehabilitated and detainees received hygiene and other essential items. By September, as the nutritional situation in prisons had improved, the ICRC and the authorities worked together to identify ways of sustaining these improvements in the longer term.

The ICRC developed a project to provide farmers with seed, fertilizer and training in methods of increasing agricultural yields in Mashonaland Central and East provinces. Earlier in the year, delegates visited people who had lost their homes during the disturbances in 2008 and provided them with food and essential household items. Victims of sexual violence identified during these visits received similar items and money to cover their travel costs to health facilities for treatment.

The ICRC continued to support health care services in Zimbabwe. Drugs and medical supplies were provided to health centres and referral hospitals in two districts and, as of July, to 12 rather than 8 polyclinics in Harare. Some of these facilities also underwent rehabilitation work, with health staff receiving training and food and/or transport allowances when needed.

Until March, the ICRC provided material and technical support to cholera treatment units, facilitated community prevention campaigns and helped the authorities address the disease in two prisons. As part of ongoing work to improve access to safe water in partnership with other organizations, the relevant water boards received technical support and equipment to maintain and repair the water supply system in Harare and to repair hand pumps in rural areas.

Across the region, delegates pursued dialogue with military, security and political personnel to raise awareness of IHL and the ICRC. Some of these contacts were sponsored to attend IHL seminars abroad, while others were invited to events organized in their home countries. Emphasis was placed on advocating the integration of IHL into military training and operations in the run-up to an SADC Brigade training exercise in South Africa in September. To raise wider awareness of humanitarian principles and action, the ICRC worked alongside media, universities and national youth camps.

The ICRC and the region's National Societies provided family-links services to refugees and unaccompanied children. National Societies received technical and financial support for these services, as well as for emergency preparedness and IHL promotion. With ICRC support, the Namibia Red Cross also organized family visits

to people detained in Namibia in relation to the 1999 Caprivi Strip uprising. These detainees also received visits from ICRC delegates to monitor their detention conditions and to mobilize support for strengthening judicial processes.

The ICRC coordinated its activities with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors to maximize impact, address unmet needs and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Dialogue was fostered with relevant national, provincial and local authorities in the region, including security forces in Zimbabwe, to deepen understanding of humanitarian concerns and of legal provisions to protect and assist people affected by violence.

People in Zimbabwe begin to regain their livelihoods

In early 2009, the ICRC helped address the consequences of successive years of drought and economic hardship compounded by the 2008 political violence in Mashonaland Central and East. As of October, vulnerable farmers began receiving seed and fertilizer, sometimes coupled with one-month food rations. Farmers, along with Ministry of Agriculture employees, were also trained in methods of increasing agricultural yields and in environmentally friendly farming techniques.

Earlier in the year, returnees in Mashonaland whose homes and possessions had been destroyed in political violence in 2008 received food and essential household items to address their immediate needs. Fourteen victims of sexual violence were also visited by ICRC delegates and, where necessary, given food, essential household items and/or money to cover transport costs to get appropriate medical treatment.

- 600 people (102 households) received food and essential household items
- 63,500 people (12,700 households) benefited from agricultural initiatives

Zimbabwean communities have access to improved health services and water supplies

The ICRC's regular provision of drugs and medical items to 8 polyclinics in Harare's densely populated suburbs was extended to all 12 polyclinics across the city in July. Similar items were also distributed to 11 health centres and 2 hospitals in 2 districts (in Masvingo and Matabeleland North provinces). When needed, staff at these health facilities received food packages and/or transport allowances so that they could continue working.

Medical personnel also received technical advice from ICRC delegates, including logistical support for immunization campaigns. Polyclinic nurses attended a week-long seminar on drug management organized by the municipal and national health authorities, with ICRC technical support. In one rural district, nurses were trained in infection control and some 100 traditional birth attendants participated in refresher courses.

In the 25 ICRC-supported health centres and polyclinics (average monthly catchment population: 1,161,000):

- 788,027 people given consultations, including 75,869 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 712,158 attending curative consultations

- 433,120 vaccine doses administered (including 375,933 to children aged five or under)
- 24,841 patients referred to a second level of care
- 3,620 health education sessions held

In addition, in the two district hospitals:

- 529 patients (including 219 women and 108 children) admitted
- 283 surgical operations performed
- 17,557 outpatients given consultations, including 16,369 attending surgical or medical consultations and 1,188 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

Renovation and maintenance works on maternity, water and sanitation facilities in ICRC-supported health centres and polyclinics further improved health services.

Before the cholera outbreak subsided in March, volunteers and environmental health staff visited homes in suburban communities in Harare and Chegutu to identify new cases, disinfect houses with chlorine, distribute water purification tablets and teach good hygiene practices. In addition, 519 patients (including 209 women and 108 children) received medical care at 5 cholera treatment units in Mashonaland West thanks to the ICRC's provision of medical supplies, food for patients and staff incentives.

People in Harare benefited from improvements in the quality and quantity of water supply as a result of ICRC support to the municipal water board. Such support included the provision of spare parts to repair leakages, sand to help filter more water, and other equipment for Harare's main water treatment plant. Following increased international interest in supporting water supply services, coordination was strengthened with other stakeholders, including the French Red Cross, UNICEF and the World Bank. Consequently, the ICRC scaled down its support to the municipal water board towards the end of the year.

Rural communities in three provinces continued to repair and maintain their water systems with hand-pump spare parts provided by the ICRC to the rural water authority.

- 1,394,978 people benefited from water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 34,500 people as part of cholera prevention campaigns
 - 360,000 people in rural areas
 - health facilities (average number of consultations per day: 478)
 - 1,000,000 people in Harare

Separated families re-establish contact

Refugees restored and maintained contact with relatives through tracing and RCM services provided directly by the ICRC in Zimbabwe and jointly by the respective National Societies and the ICRC in Botswana, Malawi and Namibia (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). In Zambia, emphasis was placed on resolving pending tracing cases ahead of the cessation of ICRC family-links activities there in June.

Registered unaccompanied children received support to locate their families. Where possible and appropriate, they were reunited with their relatives in coordination with other competent actors.

- 1,292 RCMs collected from and 1,135 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 5 from and 1 to unaccompanied/separated children

- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 11 people (5 women; 6 minors at the time of disappearance); 4 people located; 133 people (10 women; 6 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 3 unaccompanied/separated children reunited with their families; 5 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Zimbabwe, detainees receive ICRC visits

Detainees held in Ministry of Justice-run prisons began receiving visits from ICRC delegates in April following the ministry's formal acceptance of standard ICRC working procedures at the end of March. During these visits, detainees' general living conditions and treatment, including their nutritional status, access to health care, and food and water supplies, were assessed by ICRC delegates. The findings formed the basis of discussions with the authorities on ways to improve detention conditions.

A dialogue with the relevant authorities to gain access to detainees held in places of temporary detention was ongoing.

- ▶ 15,367 detainees visited during 185 visits to 55 places of detention

Inmates receive food and medical treatment

Therapeutic feeding programmes were set up for malnourished detainees in 14 Ministry of Justice-run prisons starting in April. Prison health staff worked closely with ICRC delegates in implementing these programmes and acquired the related technical and material input. To prevent further malnourishment, detainees' general food intake was boosted by ICRC food rations in 17 prisons. This complemented the Ministry of Justice's own efforts to increase the food supply to prisons. Renovations to improve cooking capacities and ensure adequate water and sanitation facilities were also undertaken in several prisons. Given the stabilization of the nutritional situation in prisons resulting from these interventions, in September the therapeutic feeding programme was handed over to the prison authorities, which then handled cases of malnutrition as needed.

To ensure the sustainability of the improved nutritional situation and to identify areas for joint action, the ICRC submitted a written report to the minister of justice in October. In addition, expert assessments of health care and food production in prisons were conducted in November and December respectively.

To improve basic hygiene, detainees received soap and cooking and eating utensils, as well as blankets to keep warm.

Following their request made in late 2008 for ICRC support in addressing cholera in prisons, the detaining authorities received ICRC recommendations on and training in improving sanitation in one prison and two electric motors for pumping safe water in another.

- ▶ 10,745 detainees received food, including 8,774 through general distributions and 3,817 through therapeutic feeding programmes
- ▶ 19,388 detainees received essential household and hygiene items
- ▶ 6,950 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Detainees' concerns in Namibia are shared with the authorities

The cases of security detainees arrested in Namibia in connection with the 1999 uprising in the Caprivi Strip were followed by the ICRC. Visits to these detainees formed the basis of confidential representations to the relevant authorities concerning detention conditions and treatment, including the legal situation of detainees awaiting trial. In agreement with the authorities, these matters were broached with the international community to build support for strengthening judicial processes. Most detainees received visits from relatives living in the Caprivi Strip and abroad organized by the Namibia Red Cross with ICRC technical oversight and funding.

Two security detainees in Zambia also received a visit from ICRC delegates in October.

- ▶ in Namibia, 128 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 1 newly registered, during 7 visits to 5 places of detention; 126 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ in Zambia, 2 detainees visited and monitored individually during 2 visits to 2 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

Contacts with politicians and decision-makers in the region, including those working for the SADC, were fostered through bilateral and multilateral meetings to deepen understanding of IHL and the ICRC. With ICRC funding:

- ▶ representatives from each country in the region attended an IHL seminar in South Africa (see *Pretoria*)
- ▶ members of national IHL committees in Commonwealth countries participated in an ICRC conference on IHL ratification and implementation (see *New Delhi*)

National IHL committee members in Zimbabwe attended a presentation on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and a workshop on IHL. Zimbabwean High Court judges and parliamentarians with responsibility for the enactment of domestic law incorporating IHL provisions participated in similar events. In addition, IHL materials were donated to the High Court's library.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

To promote the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and operations, contacts were developed with officers responsible for SADC contingents of the nascent African Standby Force. Notably, these contacts enabled the ICRC to ensure that IHL and humanitarian activities were taken into account in the run-up to and during an SADC Brigade training exercise in South Africa in September (see *Pretoria*). Ahead of the exercise:

- ▶ the organizers of an SADC mapping exercise in Angola discussed the ICRC's observations with delegates
- ▶ some 60 police officers from 14 countries were briefed on humanitarian principles by ICRC delegates during an SADC train-the-trainer course in Botswana
- ▶ senior SADC military officers attended a workshop on IHL integration organized by the ICRC and the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre (RPTC) in Harare

During 2009, some 1,100 military, air force and police officers, including those departing on peace-support operations, learnt about IHL and humanitarian principles during presentations given by ICRC delegates as part of courses at the RPTC and other military schools in Namibia and Zimbabwe. In some instances, ICRC-trained IHL teachers received feedback from delegates observing their classes to improve the quality of IHL instruction.

CIVIL SOCIETY

People in the region learnt about humanitarian principles and the work of the Movement through attendance at and media coverage of ICRC events, many of which were organized jointly with the region's National Societies (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Notably, ICRC photo exhibitions were attended by the Namibian President and the Zimbabwean prime minister and, in Zimbabwe, a radio quiz show and a TV interview with Red Cross staff were broadcast nationally. Representatives of private and State-owned media in Zimbabwe participated in a round-table to promote the ICRC's mandate and activities further.

Contacts with university lecturers in the region were maintained to support IHL teaching, although the protracted closure of many universities in Zimbabwe hampered these efforts. Some academic libraries received IHL documentation, and Zimbabwean law lecturers attended an IHL course in South Africa (see *Pretoria*). With ICRC support, Zimbabwean students took part in a moot court competition: the winning team came first in the regional competition (see *Nairobi*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC backing, National Societies in Botswana, Malawi and Namibia provided family-links services to refugees, while the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society provided them to people separated from their relatives for other reasons, such as migration (see *Civilians*). To support service delivery, tracing officers from these four National Societies attended a two-week training workshop run by the ICRC in Harare.

Ahead of elections, the Malawian and Namibian National Societies established first-aid posts and deployed over 500 and 174 volunteers respectively. To boost these and other emergency preparedness efforts, 16 Malawian, 64 Namibian and 23 Zimbabwean Red Cross volunteers were trained, with ICRC support, in first aid and the Safer Access approach. Some volunteers were also trained to pass these skills onto others. In addition, with ICRC funding and technical input, radio networks in Malawi and Zimbabwe, vital for internal communication in emergencies, were repaired and National Society volunteers trained in using and maintaining them.

On World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), National Society events in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe raised public awareness of the Movement and its Fundamental Principles. The celebrations in Malawi and Namibia, the former of which was opened by the country's president, were followed by campaigns to promote and raise funds for National Society activities. To build National Societies' capacities to organize these and other dissemination activities:

- 30 youth club leaders in Malawi and 160 young people attending a youth camp in Zimbabwe trained by the ICRC in promoting the Movement and its activities
- 275 new volunteers in Botswana and Namibia learnt about Movement history, the Fundamental Principles and the Safer Access approach, as did newly elected National Society governing board members
- National Society heads of communication attended an ICRC/International Federation workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa

To coordinate Movement activities, partnership meetings in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe were attended by host National Societies, National Societies working internationally, the International Federation and the ICRC. Bilateral meetings were also held with all five National Societies and with International Federation representatives to identify areas of cooperation and share expertise. Some National Society employees were sponsored to attend Movement meetings abroad.



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 countries covered, namely restoring family links for refugees, protecting and assisting people injured, displaced or otherwise affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence, 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

Comoros, Djibouti, Kenya, Mauritius, Seychelles, United Republic of Tanzania

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,010
Assistance	2,130
Prevention	2,496
Cooperation with National Societies	2,425
General	-

► **9,062**

of which: Overheads 553

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	87%
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PERSONNEL

32	expatriates
333	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- helped 129,000 people in Kenya survive the drought by carrying out an emergency destocking operation
- enabled refugees and detainees regionwide, as well as IDPs in Kenya, to contact relatives through the family-links service
- built and repaired facilities in Kenya that ensured an adequate supply of clean water for 38,558 people
- closed its Bungoma office in Kenya in June after completing projects to assist people affected by the Mount Elgon or 2008 post-election violence and training National Society personnel to implement such projects
- closed its Kigoma office in the United Republic of Tanzania after training the National Society to take over the family-links service for the remaining refugees in the west
- held its first-ever joint workshop on IHL with the Djibouti-based Intergovernmental Authority on Development

CONTEXT

The region regained its stability following the violence of 2008.

Under a Kenyan government programme, all but some 70,000 people of the estimated 300,000 displaced during the early 2008 post-election violence had reportedly returned home or resettled. There were sporadic incidents of unrest, fuelled by ethnic and political grievances and competition for natural resources, especially in drought-hit parts of the north, west and Rift Valley. After more than a year of ethnic violence over land ownership, the western district of Mount Elgon had been calm since March 2008, and most IDPs had returned home.

Kenya's coalition government, forged in 2008 under international mediation to end the post-election unrest, held, but differences slowed progress on promised reforms. Parliament failed to establish a tribunal to try those allegedly behind the violence, as recommended by an inquiry commission. At year-end, the International Criminal Court was considering investigating the individuals cited.

Tensions persisted between Djibouti and Eritrea following their two-day military clash in June 2008. Eritrea rejected suggestions that its troops were on Djiboutian territory, so did not comply with UN Security Council resolutions passed in January and December ordering it to withdraw from the disputed border region (see *Eritrea*).

As conflict escalated in neighbouring Somalia, more Somalis fled into Djibouti and Kenya, overwhelming UNHCR refugee camps. In contrast, the refugee population camped along the west coast of the United Republic of Tanzania had decreased from over half a million in 2005 to several thousand by year-end through government efforts to repatriate, resettle or naturalize remaining refugees, mainly Burundians and Congolese.

The Comoros remained politically unstable and chronically poor, although there was no further violence after the brief military engagement in 2008 to end a year-long rebellion. The opposition boycotted a May referendum which approved constitutional changes to simplify the political structure and extend the president's term of office.

With Tanzanian elections scheduled for 2010, the country's president and main opposition leader met in State House, Zanzibar, their first face-to-face encounter in years, raising hopes of political reconciliation.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ²				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	206	Economic security, water and habitat				
<i>of whom women</i>	1	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	158,400	21%	54%
Number of visits carried out	12	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	44,754	31%	39%
Number of places of detention visited	7					
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications						
RCMs collected	16,914					
RCMs distributed	13,538					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	167					
<i>of whom women</i>	47					
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	74					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	103					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	414					
<i>of whom women</i>	96					
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	150					
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers						
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	8					
<i>of whom girls</i>	1					
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	2					
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	122					
<i>of whom girls</i>	34					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	45					

1. Comoros, Djibouti and United Republic of Tanzania

2. All figures include Kenya; the United Republic of Tanzania is included in the water/habitat figures

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC's regional delegation in Nairobi maintained its focus on promoting IHL and protecting and assisting people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence.

As calm returned to Kenya, the ICRC closed its Bungoma office and wound up its small-scale projects in June to improve water facilities and household economies in communities affected by the Mount Elgon violence or 2008 post-election unrest. The delegation then initiated similar water and cash-for-work projects in Kenya's drought-stricken and clash-prone far north, aiming to help ease tribal tensions over dwindling natural resources. When drought-weakened livestock began dying there, the ICRC replaced its planned veterinary and micro-economic projects with an emergency destocking operation to save lives (see *Civilians*). The Kenya Red Cross Society, with ICRC support, played a major role in implementing all projects, thus gaining the experience to run such activities itself. Similarly, the Tanzania Red Cross Society implemented the ICRC's longstanding water and sanitation programme in the Zanzibar islands.

The ICRC visited POWs and other detainees of Eritrean origin held in Djibouti, monitoring their treatment and living conditions and informing the authorities confidentially of its findings. Djibouti was reminded of its obligations under IHL to release POWs and, if they wished, repatriate them. Delegates also made visits to detainees held in the Comoros in connection with the 2008 violence and in the UN facility of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in the Tanzanian town of Arusha.

Throughout the region, several thousand refugees and detainees, as well as IDPs in Kenya, contacted their families using the family-links service run by the ICRC and National Societies. With ICRC support, the Tanzanian Red Cross took over the service at year-end for refugees still camped in the west of the country (see *Context*): the ICRC's related Kigoma office (opened in 1997) closed in November. The delegation also gave Kenya's internal security minister an updated list of people missing in relation to the Mount Elgon violence and kept the families informed of developments.

Generating political, military and public support for IHL and the Movement was another key ICRC objective, the aim being to ensure that the rights of people in need were respected and that Movement activities ran smoothly. With ICRC input, for example, Kenya's reconstituted national IHL committee began working again to get domestic laws incorporating IHL passed, and the Djibouti-based Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) identified ways to promote IHL among its member States.

All National Societies in the region continued to receive a mix of ICRC funds, goods, expertise and logistics back-up to help develop, as appropriate, their relief, assistance, family-links and communication programmes.

The ICRC's Nairobi-based logistics centre and regional training and assistance units continued to provide ICRC delegations in and beyond the region with relief goods and other supplies, using the most efficient and cost-effective means, and with courses, advice and field support covering the full range of ICRC activities.

CIVILIANS

Violence-affected Kenyans work to regain self-sufficiency

Members of 4,800 families in the violence-affected Mount Elgon, Marsabit and Moyale regions received wages in return for their labour on Kenyan Red Cross/ICRC projects designed to help communities provide for themselves again. The workers, who cleared agricultural access roads, farmland and water sources and built terraces to stop soil erosion, got a short-term cash injection to buy essentials, while the communities gained a resource to boost production in the medium term. In Mount Elgon, 100 widows with no income source also received start-up capital to establish small businesses. This wound up the ICRC-supported Kenyan Red Cross relief action in Mount Elgon (see *ICRC action and results*).

When livestock started dying in the drought-stricken Marsabit and Moyale districts, families survived with the help of an ICRC emergency destocking operation: healthy but weakened livestock were bought and slaughtered, which boosted the local economy, and near-destitute families were given the meat as a vital source of protein. Destocking, given its immediate impact, replaced planned ICRC projects to organize veterinary training and distribute vouchers to buy essentials.

Kenyan Red Cross personnel, backed by ICRC courses and on-the-job training and supervision, played a major role in implementing all the livelihood-support projects, gaining more skills and experience in aiding struggling communities. The nearly 100 Red Cross personnel involved also learned how to teach their new skills to colleagues.

- ▶ 158,400 people (26,400 households) benefited from agricultural, livestock and micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 129,000 people from destocking
 - 29,400 people from cash-for-work projects

Communities face fewer health and security risks

People in areas of Rift Valley and Nyanza provinces affected by the 2008 post-election unrest faced fewer health risks after ICRC-trained and -equipped Kenyan Red Cross volunteers built or repaired water facilities, including in schools.

Similarly, in the drought-hit Marsabit and Moyale districts, where communities sometimes clashed over scarce water and pasture, villagers had clean water closer to hand thanks to new or repaired water sources. In a pilot project, families also received a total of 120 ceramic or sand filters to purify their water at home.

In Kenya's south-east, the population on Pate Island (population: 3,600) in Lamu district had year-round access to affordable, clean drinking water from desalination units installed by the ICRC in 2007. During the year, the facilities needed repairs and redesigning, which delayed the planned handover of maintenance to the Kenyan Red Cross.

- ▶ 38,558 people benefited from water and sanitation projects in Kenya

In the Zanzibar archipelago, 13 villages helped construct wells with hand pumps and learned to maintain them and promote hygiene as part of a Tanzanian Red Cross/ICRC programme begun

in 1999 following a cholera outbreak. With ICRC support, the National Society had been managing the programme since 2008. The Zanzibar water board also worked with ICRC engineers to improve its services by plotting all water sources using a geographic information system.

- ▶ 6,196 people benefited from water and sanitation projects in the United Republic of Tanzania

Relatives get back in touch

Refugees in the region and Kenyans uprooted by the 2008 post-election violence exchanged news with their families through the family-links service. The priority was to restore contact between children and their parents and, if appropriate, reunite them, in coordination with government departments, UNHCR and NGOs.

The region also had a large migrant population, but a 2009 ICRC survey confirmed that most migrants had their own means of contacting family, the exception being those held in detention centres (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

In Kenya, families were informed by the ICRC of any progress made in tracing relatives reported missing in connection with the Mount Elgon violence. After receiving an updated ICRC list of such people in February, the internal security minister said investigations were under way to solve the cases. ICRC workshops for medical and legal personnel on dealing properly with human remains and informing the families were cancelled because the authorities had other priorities.

The family-links service was run jointly by the National Societies and the ICRC in Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania, and by the National Society with ICRC support in Kenya. Kenyan Red Cross/ICRC teams visited the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps and regions affected by the post-election violence to ensure the service met needs. The Tanzanian Red Cross, backed by ICRC training, finances and supervision, took charge on 29 October of the service for the remaining refugees in camps in the west (see *Context*). The ICRC's Kigoma office then closed on 30 November after 12 years of helping thousands of refugees locate and contact their families.

- ▶ 708 RCMs collected from and 783 RCMs distributed to civilians in Djibouti
- ▶ 10,210 RCMs collected from and 7,657 RCMs distributed to civilians in Kenya
- ▶ 5,039 RCMs collected from and 4,014 RCMs distributed to civilians in the United Republic of Tanzania, including 11 from and 39 to unaccompanied/separated children
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 1 person in Djibouti, 165 in Kenya (47 women; 74 minors at the time of disappearance) and 1 in the United Republic of Tanzania; 132 people located, including 29 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 414 people (96 women; 150 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 8 unaccompanied/separated children registered in the United Republic of Tanzania; 2 in Kenya reunited with their families; 122 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- ▶ 45 refugees issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in the Comoros, Djibouti and the ICTR's UN facility in the United Republic of Tanzania were visited by the ICRC, according to its standard working procedures. The authorities were then informed confidentially of any recommendations concerning treatment and living conditions. All detainees visited, as well as foreigners held in detention centres in western Tanzania, could contact their families through RCMs and, where necessary, received hygiene and other basic items. As agreed, the ICTR notified the ICRC of the transfer of its detainees to other countries, and they were then visited by delegates in the new detention facility.

Following ICRC calls to accelerate the judicial process for people held in the Comoros in connection with the 2008 violence, 51 of the 57 such detainees visited by the organization were released on bail in March. The situation continued to be monitored.

The Djiboutian authorities also acted on ICRC recommendations concerning the detention conditions of the POWs captured during the 2008 border conflict with Eritrea, and were reminded that those detainees had the right, under IHL, to be released and repatriated or resettled. Equally, government, UNHCR and ICRC representatives coordinated efforts to determine the status of other detainees of Eritrean origin held in Djibouti. In parallel, Eritrea was again officially requested to provide any information it had on Djiboutian soldiers reported missing in action following the conflict (see *Eritrea*). All the detainees of Eritrean origin contacted a relative in 2009 using ICRC satellite telephones, and one ill POW was treated by an ICRC surgeon. Inmates in Gabode prison, Djibouti's only civilian detention facility, were also visited by ICRC delegates. To support Djibouti's penal reforms, penitentiary administration staff participated in an ICRC workshop in May where they agreed on ways to ensure adequate prison health and sanitation services.

Comoros

- 56 detainees visited and monitored individually during 3 visits to 2 places of detention

Djibouti

- 113 detainees (including 19 POWs) visited and monitored individually, of whom 41 newly registered, during 7 visits to 3 places of detention
- 135 RCMs collected from and 13 RCMs distributed to detainees and 192 phone calls facilitated between detainees/POWs and family members

United Republic of Tanzania

- 37 detainees visited and monitored individually (1 woman), of whom 1 newly registered, during 2 visits to 2 places of detention
- 822 RCMs collected from and 1,071 RCMs distributed to detainees

WOUNDED AND SICK

To help Kenya cope with emergencies, 21 health professionals, including Kenyan Red Cross staff, participated in a course on trauma management – the first of its kind organized by the ICRC in Kenya. The budget for ICRC emergency medical supplies was not spent because no hospitals admitted large influxes of weapon-wounded.

AUTHORITIES

Government officials in the region and the ICRC discussed humanitarian issues, and the authorities were offered technical support to ratify IHL treaties and pass national laws incorporating their provisions.

Kenya's reconstituted IHL committee decided during a two-day workshop with the ICRC in July to focus efforts on getting parliament to pass pending draft laws. As support, three committee members participated in ICRC-organized IHL events abroad. The Nairobi-based diplomatic community also learned more about IHL at an ICRC function featuring a photo exhibition on Movement activities in conflict hotspots worldwide (see also *Civil society*).

The United Republic of Tanzania reaffirmed its intention to establish an IHL committee, but had not yet done so by year-end as the government had other priorities.

The Djiboutian authorities and the ICRC maintained a frank and constructive dialogue on IHL issues related to the June 2008 border conflict with Eritrea (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

In a breakthrough, IGAD and the ICRC held their first-ever joint workshop, identifying ways of working together to promote IHL among IGAD's seven member States.

Children's rights in time of conflict gained another advocate when Mauritius ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in February.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, most military and police academic institutions in the region taught, as appropriate, IHL and international human rights standards, but the subjects were not systematically integrated into doctrine, operations and rank-and-file training.

For the first time, Kenya's Internal Security Ministry and the ICRC discussed working together to integrate human rights law and humanitarian principles into police and security forces training. In parallel, over 1,000 police officers and recruits participated in presentations on those subjects given by the Kenyan Red Cross and the ICRC. Nairobi-based personnel of the East Africa Standby Brigade, a fledgling regional military force, attended similar briefings.

While Kenya's armed forces high command and the ICRC did not meet, the director of military intelligence helped organize an IHL briefing for 24 intelligence officers leaving on peacekeeping missions. Peacekeepers from around the world also attended ICRC lectures on IHL given regularly at Kenya's Peace Support Training Centre.

Comoran and Djiboutian military leaders discussed IHL with the ICRC in relation to the 2008 events in their countries (see *People deprived of their freedom*), and two Comoran officers joined an IHL course for the island's Red Crescent personnel.

A Tanzanian army-ICRC initiative to hold an IHL refresher course for officers was cancelled because of low turnout.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Opinion-makers help highlight humanitarian issues

Opinion-makers remained important relays for drawing public and political attention to humanitarian issues.

Many people were introduced to IHL by attending or reading the media reports on the Movement's "Our world. Your move." photo exhibition in Nairobi. Kenyans were also exposed to a host of media reports on issues ranging from climate change and IDPs to humanitarian neutrality, all generated by publicity surrounding the Movement's week-long statutory meetings held in Nairobi in November. In addition, over 200 journalists or journalism students were better able to report on violence from a humanitarian perspective after participating in ICRC workshops or briefings. To further foster support for IHL, religious leaders in Kenya exchanged views with the ICRC on humanitarian issues and were briefed on Movement activities.

Another successful initiative was the 14th annual IHL course for managerial-level aid workers, where 13 UN and NGO personnel spent a week in the Tanzanian town of Arusha learning about IHL in practice and policy.

Tomorrow's leaders gain IHL expertise

University students honed their IHL knowledge at various contests organized or supported by the ICRC. A highlight was the annual, week-long IHL moot court competition held in November in the Tanzanian town of Arusha, with the University of Zimbabwe winning out over 11 other university teams from 9 anglophone African countries. To support IHL teaching, 19 lecturers in the region updated their knowledge and exchanged teaching ideas at an ICRC-organized workshop in Nairobi, and five Kenyan universities received course materials.

Djibouti, backed by ICRC expertise and funds, was on track to introduce and take over the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in all secondary school grades by end-2010. During 2009, officials tested and fine-tuned the programme modules in the grade eight curriculum, then printed the new textbooks for 2010.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies in the region received ICRC funds, materials, and logistic and technical back-up to help them, as appropriate, respond to emergencies, offer family-links services and promote IHL. To maximize the impact of aid, Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies active in the region, the International Federation and the ICRC coordinated activities through national and regional meetings.

More National Society personnel in the Comoros, Djibouti and the Zanzibar archipelago were trained in first aid, with the Comoros Red Crescent also receiving first-aid materials and training in the Safer Access approach. To help them work effectively and safely, Kenyan Red Cross personnel in clash-prone areas participated in week-long courses covering first aid, disaster response, tracing, dissemination and the Safer Access approach.

In the field, the Tanzania Red Cross Society, using ICRC logistics and materials, aided 3,000 families and reunited some 500 children with their parents following an accidental explosion at a Dar es Salaam military depot. Similarly, the Kenya Red Cross Society stemmed a cholera outbreak in Bungoma and assisted people when an oil tanker exploded. With ICRC support, the Kenyan and Tanzanian National Societies also gained expertise in running family-links networks and helping communities recover from crises (see *Civilians*).

All National Societies, with ICRC support, trained their personnel in IHL and the Movement's Fundamental Principles, and held events and distributed promotional materials to generate political, public and donor support. The Red Crescent Society of Djibouti, for example, staged a play about the Movement's history, the Mauritius Red Cross Society hosted a reception for military and political leaders in the context of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, and the Seychelles Red Cross Society produced DVDs on the red cross emblem for their presentations.



pretoria (regional)

The ICRC opened a regional delegation in Pretoria in 1978. It keeps a close eye on the domestic situation in the countries covered and helps refugees and asylum seekers restore family links severed by armed conflict and other situations of violence. 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. It also visits detainees in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar.

COVERING

Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	843
Assistance	28
Prevention	1,591
Cooperation with National Societies	1,348
General	-

► **3,809**

of which: Overheads 232

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
34	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- provided financial, material and technical support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society, enabling it to give first aid to people injured during the political crisis
- raised awareness of IHL and humanitarian action during a training exercise in South Africa ahead of future African Standby Force peace-support operations
- held events in South Africa to promote the Movement and its activities
- signed a memorandum of understanding with the Pan-African Parliament to formalize cooperation
- ensured detainees in the central prison in Lesotho received HIV/AIDS preventive treatment
- Pretoria delegation assumed responsibility for ICRC activities in Angola following the closure of the delegation there in June

CONTEXT

South Africa retained its political and economic influence within the region, engaging in diplomacy and providing troops for peace-support operations abroad. General elections in April passed off peacefully, with the African National Congress winning 65.9% of votes. Jakob Zuma was subsequently elected as president by the new parliament. There was no repeat of 2008's wave of violence against foreigners in the country, although related tensions persisted and sporadic incidents still occurred.

Following months of political unrest and protests in Madagascar, during which 200 people reportedly died and some 1,500 were injured, President Marc Ravalomanana handed over power in March. With military and high court backing, the former mayor of Antananarivo, Andry Rajoelina, set up a transitional government to run the island. There was widespread international condemnation of the change of government. By year-end, negotiations had ended in stalemate following failed attempts to agree on the line-up of an inclusive government that would organize presidential and legislative elections in 2010. The political upheavals compounded the already precarious socio-economic situation in the country, particularly as much international financial support was withdrawn.

The political situation in Swaziland remained fragile. After refusing to seek bail, the opposition leader, charged with violating 2008's Suppression of Terrorism Act, was acquitted and released in September.

Lesotho stayed calm, despite an assassination attempt on the prime minister in April. An agreement to resolve the dispute between the government and the opposition over the 2007 election results had yet to be reached following the retirement in July of the mediator appointed by the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

In Angola, presidential elections announced for 2009 were postponed until 2012. In October, an estimated 54,000 Angolans were expelled from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Sporadic skirmishes in Angola's oil-rich Cabinda enclave continued to be reported, allegedly between the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda-Armed Forces of Cabinda (FLEC-FAC) and the Angolan national army.

In Mozambique, the ruling party won a large parliamentary majority in October and President Armando Guebuza was elected for another term.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	72
Number of visits carried out	20
Number of places of detention visited	15
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS²	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	272
RCMs distributed	280
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13
<i>of whom women</i>	3
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	8
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	7
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	97
<i>of whom women</i>	22
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	41
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	113

1. Angola (as of July), Lesotho and Madagascar

2. South Africa, apart from 2 RCMs collected from detainees in Lesotho

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC regional delegation in Pretoria focused on strengthening the Movement's emergency response capacity and increasing understanding of IHL. It helped improve detention conditions in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar. The delegation also assumed responsibility for ICRC activities in Angola and for the office in Luanda following the closure of the delegation there at the end of June (see *Angola*).

During the political turmoil in Madagascar, the ICRC increased its support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society to help it meet first-aid needs. Emergency medical supplies were provided, as well as funding and technical support. Coordination between Movement partners was facilitated by the ICRC throughout the crisis, and it appealed to the military and police to respect humanitarian principles. In the run-up to elections in Mozambique and South Africa, ICRC funding and training boosted the respective National Societies' capacities to provide first aid.

The ICRC reinforced its standing in the region as a reference on IHL. As well as discussing the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and operations with the relevant authorities in South Africa, delegates raised awareness of IHL/international human rights law among military/police personnel. Most notably, these efforts involved SADC troops preparing for future African Standby Force operations and other peacekeepers attending South African National Defence Force (SANDF) training institutions.

The ICRC strengthened ties with government representatives and diplomats in Pretoria to facilitate exchanges on humanitarian concerns and action. A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Pan-African Parliament, and national IHL committees and participants attending the regional IHL seminar received advice regarding IHL ratification and implementation.

To raise public awareness of IHL and Movement activities, special promotional events were organized and contacts were made with

opinion-makers, such as the media and religious leaders. The ICRC also provided technical, material and financial support to help National Societies promote humanitarian principles and action in their own countries. Young people learnt about IHL thanks to ICRC support for 14 universities in the region.

ICRC delegates visited detainees in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar, making confidential representations to the authorities regarding their living conditions and treatment where necessary. To ensure continuity in its work to help the Malagasy government improve overall detention conditions, the ICRC drew the new administration's attention to the issues of judicial guarantees and overcrowding. In Lesotho, the ICRC funded HIV/AIDS prevention activities in one prison while another donor was being sought.

The ICRC supported the National Societies in Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland in restoring refugees' and asylum seekers' links with their families. In South Africa, it helped the National Society consolidate its support to people displaced following violence in 2008 by raising the profile of Movement family-links services, including those for unaccompanied children.

All ICRC activities in the region were coordinated with those of Movement partners and other humanitarian actors.

CIVILIANS

Refugees and asylum seekers continued to arrive in South Africa and other countries in the region to flee political and economic strife elsewhere. They were able to maintain contact with relatives through the tracing and RCM services offered by the region's National Societies, particularly the South African Red Cross Society, and the ICRC (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). At the request of various embassies and UNHCR, over a hundred refugees and asylum seekers were able to resettle abroad upon receipt of travel documents issued by the ICRC. Families in South Africa continued to communicate with relatives detained in other countries via the RCM network.

Organizations working alongside refugees and IDPs, particularly those responding to the violence against foreigners, were briefed by the ICRC on the Movement's family-links network in order to promote awareness and use of these services. In addition, staff of NGOs and UN agencies and other humanitarian actors met with ICRC delegates to discuss the protection needs of unaccompanied children and victims of potential further violence and to draw on the ICRC's experience in this field as needed.

- 269 RCMs collected from and 280 RCMs distributed to civilians; 20 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- new tracing requests registered for 13 people (3 women; 8 minors at the time of disappearance); 7 people located; 97 people (22 women; 41 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 113 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees' treatment and conditions monitored

Security detainees in Lesotho, Madagascar and, from July, in Angola's Cabinda province were visited by the ICRC, in accordance with its standard working procedures, to monitor their treatment and living conditions. ICRC delegates discussed their observations confidentially with the relevant authorities and, where necessary, made recommendations for measures to bring detention conditions in line with internationally recognized standards.

- in Angola (since July), 35 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 3 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- in Lesotho, 5 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 2 newly registered, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention
- in Madagascar, 32 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 5 newly registered, during 16 visits to 13 places of detention
- 3 RCMs collected from detainees

A dialogue was pursued with the authorities in Swaziland to gain access to detainees of concern to the ICRC. A formal offer of services was made to the authorities in February.

Authorities in Madagascar mobilized to improve detainees' conditions

As part of ongoing work to support the Malagasy government in bringing detainees' living conditions in line with internationally recognized standards, government staff responsible for prisons met with ICRC delegates, both before and after the change in political administration, who specifically advocated for a reduction in the prison population so that detainees' needs could be better covered with the available budget and prison infrastructure. In addition, to increase respect for judicial guarantees, the judiciary and the police were familiarized with the laws governing detainees' rights before, during and after trial.

In agreement with the authorities, a number of international diplomatic representatives were kept informed about the situation in Malagasy prisons. This enabled them to follow and bolster the government's efforts to improve prison conditions and remain ready to support an emergency response if the situation in prisons deteriorated. Coordination with other actors providing prison services in Madagascar was also pursued.

Detainees in Lesotho have access to HIV/AIDS prevention programmes

Detainees in Lesotho's Maseru Central Correctional Institute continued to receive preventive treatment for HIV/AIDS thanks to the ICRC's funding of a local implementing NGO. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria agreed to assume responsibility for such support.

AUTHORITIES

Diplomats, parliamentarians and civil servants in South Africa discussed humanitarian issues and ICRC operations in Africa with ICRC delegates. Cooperation with the Pan-African Parliament to further promote IHL and humanitarian concerns among the diplomatic community was formalized in a memorandum of understanding. Contacts with the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the African Peer Review Mechanism were also developed.

The region's governments received ICRC technical support in working towards the ratification and implementation of IHL. South Africa ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in September. In addition:

- representatives of 15 African countries attended the annual regional seminar on IHL in Pretoria
- the South African IHL committee was briefed on various IHL treaties pending ratification
- the South African Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministries received ICRC input into a draft act implementing the 1949 Geneva Conventions
- Swaziland's Justice and Foreign Affairs Ministries were advised on reinvigorating the national IHL committee and signing the Convention on Cluster Munitions
- the relevant authorities in Lesotho discussed IHL implementation with visiting ICRC delegates

Owing to the political crisis, the Malagasy IHL committee was unable to meet.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During the unrest in Madagascar, the military and the police were reminded of their responsibility to ensure respect for human rights and humanitarian principles during operations to restore public order. To reinforce understanding of these principles, some 30 Malagasy army officers attended an ICRC information session.

With a view to integrating IHL into future African Standby Force peace-support operations (see *African Union* and *Harare*), simulation exercises involving ICRC delegates helped improve understanding of IHL and humanitarian activities during a command post exercise for SADC Brigade forces in South Africa in September. SANDF military personnel destined for peacekeeping operations in Africa, including many attending SANDF training institutions, also followed IHL training modules delivered by the ICRC.

The SANDF announced the impending creation of administrative and coordinating bodies to oversee the integration of IHL into its doctrine, training and operations. Subsequently, the head of the

SANDF and ICRC delegates met for the first time to discuss these plans, including the need for sufficient human and material resources to implement them. The relevant authorities in Lesotho and Madagascar also talked about IHL integration with ICRC delegates, with a group of officers from each country briefed on IHL. Senior officers from the region attended a workshop on IHL integration organized by the ICRC and the SADC Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre (see *Harare*).

In Swaziland, 24 police officers learnt about international human rights law during a three-day ICRC training session.

CIVIL SOCIETY

People learnt about IHL and Movement activities through events held as part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign. In South Africa, a concert launched the campaign and an art and photo exhibition, marking the anniversary of the Battle of Solferino, featured past and present ICRC activities, including visits to political detainees during apartheid. Promotional materials and television and radio coverage increased the reach of these events, often organized with other Movement actors. Media reports on humanitarian concerns and activities were also inspired by press releases, newsletters and ICRC clubs/workshops for journalists.

To support IHL teaching at 14 universities in Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland, lecturers received visits from ICRC delegates as well as IHL/ICRC materials. Law and journalism students attended lectures delivered by ICRC experts. Also with ICRC support:

- ▶ 24 participants from 12 countries participated in the 8th all-Africa course on IHL in Pretoria
- ▶ the 9th regional meeting for IHL teachers took place
- ▶ 2 student teams participated in a regional moot court competition
- ▶ the 2009 edition of the *African Yearbook on International Humanitarian Law* published

The education authorities in South Africa received input from the ICRC for a report recommending steps to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the secondary school curriculum.

In addition, contacts were strengthened with South African religious leaders and think-tank representatives who, in turn, promoted IHL and Movement activities to their networks.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC material, financial and technical support, provided in coordination with the International Federation, the region's National Societies developed their skills, capacities, statutes and structures to respond to emergencies, restore family links and promote the Movement.

The Malagasy Red Cross received materials, funding, and medical and logistics training to provide first aid, evacuate people to hospital and deal with human remains throughout the political upheaval. As a result of the Red Cross response, the National Society's operational capacity increased. Supported by ICRC funding and training, including in the Safer Access approach, the National Societies in Mozambique and South Africa also stood

ready to provide first aid in the run-up to and during the elections in their respective countries.

The South African Red Cross continued to play a major role in supporting people affected by the violence in 2008 and sporadically in 2009, particularly in terms of the family-links services offered countrywide with ICRC support (see *Civilians*). National Societies in Lesotho and Swaziland also received ICRC technical support for their tracing and RCM activities.

Discussions with the Angola Red Cross were ongoing regarding potential ICRC funding for family-links activities for people expelled from the DRC. With support from the International Federation, the National Society provided expelled people with emergency relief goods, medical care, shelter and sanitation.

To promote humanitarian principles and action, National Societies received ICRC funding, materials and technical oversight:

- ▶ 81 primary and 63 secondary schools in South Africa joined projects to prevent youth violence through football
- ▶ events around the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign held in Lesotho, South Africa (see *Civil society*) and Swaziland
- ▶ in Madagascar, dissemination materials for local, regional and national use developed or enhanced
- ▶ National Society newsletters published to improve internal and external communication

The ICRC, the International Federation and National Societies in the region coordinated 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. It pursues long-standing programmes to spread knowledge of IHL among the authorities, armed forces and civil society, and supports the development of the National Societies.

COVERING

Cameroon, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	444
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,175
Cooperation with National Societies	1,739
General	-

► **4,358**

of which: Overheads 266

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

8	expatriates
43	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- visited security detainees in Equatorial Guinea for the first time since the suspension of such activities in February 2008
- together with the Congolese Red Cross, helped refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo restore contact with their families
- supported the Gabonese Red Cross Society in providing effective first aid to victims of election-related violence
- welcomed Cameroon's accession to four IHL treaties: the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property; Additional Protocol III; the Biological Weapons Convention; and the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques
- organized a regional meeting in Yaoundé on IHL implementation for 20 legal experts from member States of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community

CONTEXT

With the benefits of oil wealth failing to filter down to the general public, much of the region's population continued to struggle with poverty, limited public services and sporadic banditry and violence.

While the situation in Cameroon was generally stable, the government reinforced its efforts to secure border areas. The situation in the Bakassi Peninsula remained volatile, with clashes occurring between security forces and armed groups. High food prices, which triggered hunger riots in 2008, continued to threaten food security.

In Congo, presidential elections in July passed off peacefully, returning Denis Sassou-Nguesso to power for a fourth term. The security situation in the Pool region stabilized, helped by government efforts to demilitarize local armed groups.

Early 2009 saw an increase in tensions in Equatorial Guinea. An armed attack on the presidential palace in Malabo in February led to a cabinet reshuffle and several arrests, amid a tightening of State security. In peaceful presidential elections in November, Teodoro Obiang Nguema was re-elected with 97% of the vote.

In Gabon, the death in June of President Omar Bongo after a 41-year tenure had a profound impact at both national and regional level. Presidential elections in August were won by Omar's son, Ali Bongo. Opposition-led protests resulted in arrests by security forces and outbreaks of violence, some of them fatal.

People uprooted by conflict and instability in the wider region, notably in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), continued to seek refuge in countries covered by the Yaoundé delegation, mainly Cameroon and Congo.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	30
Number of visits carried out	4
Number of places of detention visited	4
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	438
RCMs distributed	564
People reunited with their families	6
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	38
of whom women	6
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	16
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	12
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	22
of whom women	2
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	3
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>	
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	32
of whom girls	25
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	6
of whom girls	3
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	16
of whom girls	8
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1

1. Congo and Equatorial Guinea

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the Yaoundé delegation's remit was extended to cover Congo and Sao Tome and Principe in addition to Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon.

The delegation continued to visit security detainees in Congo, in accordance with standard ICRC working procedures, to assess their treatment and detention conditions. Findings and recommendations arising from such visits were shared with the authorities in confidence, and action was taken to improve the sanitary conditions of detainees where necessary.

In Equatorial Guinea, ICRC visits to detainees had been suspended in 2008 owing to the failure of prison authorities to respect standard ICRC working procedures, and other ICRC programmes were put on standby. In 2009, the ICRC moved its mainland office in Bata to the country's island capital of Malabo to focus on developing its relationship with the authorities, in the hope of reaching agreement and resuming its operations. As a result of such dialogue, the ICRC was granted access to security detainees at Black Beach prison in Malabo in June.

Planned detention-related activities for detainees in Cameroon were postponed until 2010 given the need to direct ICRC detention resources elsewhere in the region.

In cooperation with National Societies, the ICRC worked to meet the needs of people uprooted by violence in the wider region, providing them with the opportunity to make contact with separated family members. The RCM service was also offered to detainees to enable them to communicate with relatives.

The ICRC provided legal support to the region's national authorities in their efforts to ratify and implement IHL treaties. It also worked closely with influential regional organizations, notably the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), both to address humanitarian issues of common interest and to ensure that regional peacekeeping forces were equipped to operate in accordance with IHL. In Cameroon and Congo, the ICRC supported the armed and security forces in familiarizing troops with IHL.

In support of its efforts to promote awareness of and respect for IHL among the public, the ICRC regularly briefed the media on its activities, providing them with written and audiovisual materials to enable them to convey accurate messages to a wide audience. In Cameroon and Congo, it worked with universities and schools to assist in integrating IHL into their curricula and organized seminars tailored to particular student groups. In Congo, it put special emphasis on promoting the protection of civilians in the event of election-related tensions, supporting the National Society in training and equipping its first-aid teams and briefing religious and community leaders, security forces and political actors on its mandate to facilitate Movement operations in case of violence.

With the help of funds, training, materials, equipment and technical advice provided by the ICRC, the region's National Societies built on their preparedness and response capacities and developed their tracing and communication programmes. The ICRC also maintained regular contact with Movement partners and other humanitarian organizations active in the region to ensure effective coordination of humanitarian activities.

CIVILIANS

People fleeing conflict and instability in neighbouring countries continued to seek refuge in countries covered by the Yaoundé delegation, particularly Cameroon and Congo. The end of the year saw tens of thousands of Congolese arrive in eastern Congo from the DRC's Equateur province. Those who had become separated from their families in the process had the opportunity to restore contact with them through tracing and RCM services provided by the region's National Societies, with ICRC support. In particular, children separated from their parents received support to re-establish contact and, where possible, reunite with them.

- 432 RCMs collected from and 562 RCMs distributed to civilians, including 5 from and 1 to unaccompanied/separated children; 8 calls facilitated between family members
- new tracing requests registered for 38 people (6 women; 16 minors at the time of disappearance); 12 people located; 22 people (2 women; 3 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 32 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 6 reunited with their families; 16 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled

Some refugees in temporary camps in Congo's remote east were living in precarious conditions; in particular, lack of access to clean water and basic hygiene items increased the risk of contagious disease. Thanks to the rehabilitation of water points by the ICRC, the most vulnerable groups gained better access to drinking water, thereby improving their sanitary conditions.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Security detainees in Congo continued to receive visits in accordance with the ICRC's standard working procedures, enabling delegates to assess their treatment and detention conditions. ICRC detention-related activities in Equatorial Guinea had been suspended in 2008, pending the agreement of the prison authorities for them to take place according to standard ICRC working procedures. Following fruitful discussions with senior officials, security detainees held in Black Beach prison in Malabo were visited in June.

During visits, detainees in both countries had the opportunity to use the RCM service to contact their families and, where necessary, were provided with basic hygiene items to improve their sanitary conditions. The findings and recommendations from these visits were shared in confidence with the authorities. In Congo, these discussions prompted the authorities to raise their own concerns relating to detention conditions with the ICRC. In view of these priorities, planned seed distributions to boost market garden production in prisons did not take place, but detainees benefited from improvements to sanitation facilities, managed by the National Society with ICRC support.

Given the greater need for ICRC detention-related resources elsewhere in the region, planned detention-related activities for detainees in Cameroon were postponed until 2010.

- Congo: 3 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 3 visits to 3 places of detention; 1 RCM collected from and 2 RCMs distributed to detainees
- Equatorial Guinea: 27 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 1 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention; 5 RCMs collected from detainees
- 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee

AUTHORITIES

National and regional authorities and diplomats met regularly with the ICRC to increase their understanding of IHL and the organization's mandate and activities. In Equatorial Guinea, this dialogue focused on detention-related matters and was strengthened by the establishment of an ICRC office in Malabo. In Congo, a range of political actors attended bilateral meetings with the ICRC, helping ensure that they understood IHL and would support ICRC operations in case of election-related tensions.

The authorities in Cameroon and Congo built their capacities to incorporate IHL into domestic law through participation in ICRC briefings and workshops. Drawing on ICRC technical expertise, the Cameroonian authorities ratified four IHL treaties: the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property; Additional Protocol III; the Biological Weapons Convention; and the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques. The Congolese authorities ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and continued to work on draft legislation to protect the emblem. Members of Congo's IHL implementation committee were sponsored by the ICRC to attend an IHL event in Yaoundé.

In Gabon, IHL implementation made slow progress owing to the death of President Omar Bongo and ensuing changes in the administration. ICRC support for implementation activities in Equatorial Guinea was temporarily put on hold (see *ICRC action*).

Backing up bilateral discussions, regional and international bodies worked closely with the ICRC to promote IHL to a wider audience. At a meeting in Libreville, ECCAS member States examined issues surrounding the protection of IDPs ahead of the adoption of the African Union (AU) Convention on IDPs (see *African Union*). A joint CEMAC-ICRC meeting in Yaoundé enabled 20 legal experts to explore ways of developing IHL implementation in their respective countries.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed and security forces in Cameroon and Congo, including *gendarmes* and private security companies, attended briefings and seminars aimed at raising their awareness of IHL and encouraging its systematic integration into their training and operations. Briefings to the presidential guard were postponed until 2010. Military instructors built on their skills at advanced training and refresher courses organized with ICRC support and received IHL reference materials. Cameroon's Rapid Intervention Battalion,

a unit deployed to maintain security in the Bakassi Peninsula, requested ICRC input into their pre-deployment training. In Congo, emphasis was placed on the application of IHL during law enforcement operations with a view to preventing election-related violence. Participants in the annual peacekeeping seminar at the War School in Yaoundé were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities and their relevance in peacekeeping operations.

Dialogue with the Gabonese Defence Ministry regarding IHL integration was interrupted by the death of Omar Bongo. However, the country's IHL liaison officer was able to broaden his knowledge of IHL at a course abroad, thanks to ICRC sponsorship. In Equatorial Guinea, military authorities maintained contact with the ICRC, although planned briefings were put on standby (see *ICRC action*).

Members of regional organizations, including the AU and ECCAS, continued to cooperate with the ICRC to facilitate the promotion of IHL during the training of regional peacekeeping forces such as the Central African Multinational Force (FOMAC then MICOPAX), drawing on ICRC expertise to examine scenarios with IHL dimensions.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Throughout the region, influential members of civil society, including religious and community leaders and NGOs, learnt about IHL, the Movement and its activities through ICRC seminars. At an ICRC event in Brazzaville, religious leaders explored ways of cooperating to help protect the community in the event of armed conflict.

The region's media helped to raise public awareness of IHL and the Movement, publishing regular reports based on ICRC interviews, press releases and seminars; in Congo, radio question-and-answer games served to engage a wide audience. Eighty-four journalists from CEMAC member States attended seminars at which they learnt about civilian rights to protection in armed conflict, while Cameroonian journalists gained first-hand knowledge of ICRC operations through field trips to improve the accuracy of their reports.

Universities in Cameroon worked with the ICRC to review their progress on integrating IHL into their curricula. Cameroonian and Congolese students received ICRC sponsorship enabling them to test their understanding at a regional IHL competition, while trainee magistrates at the National Magistrates School in Gabon built on their knowledge of IHL at ICRC seminars. Plans to foster contacts with universities in Equatorial Guinea were postponed (see *ICRC action*).

Although school teachers in Congo's volatile Pool region attended IHL seminars, teachers in Cameroon were unable to begin piloting the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme at selected secondary schools owing to a blockage in government funding; the programme was put on hold pending resolution of the problem with the authorities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued to build their capacities and develop their assistance, tracing and communication programmes with the help of funds, training, equipment and technical advice from the ICRC, in coordination with Movement partners.

National Societies trained and equipped first-aid teams, enabling them to respond effectively to a variety of emergencies, including helping the victims of a shipwreck off Malabo and providing first-aid cover during election-related violence in Gabon.

Certain National Societies carried out projects to improve living conditions for particularly vulnerable groups. Volunteers in Congo tended disease-resistant manioc to help provide farming communities with a reliable staple food supply, while in Sao Tome and Principe families benefited from better sanitary conditions following the construction of 40 latrines.

Volunteers also gained experience working with the ICRC to support refugees and migrants and received training to enhance their capacities to restore contact between separated family members (see *Civilians*). This proved vital in meeting the needs of people uprooted by fighting in the DRC's Equateur province.

To raise the profile of the Movement, the National Societies in Cameroon, Congo and Gabon undertook a range of promotional activities, including in the context of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, working with volunteers and journalists to reach a broad public through leaflets, events and radio spots.



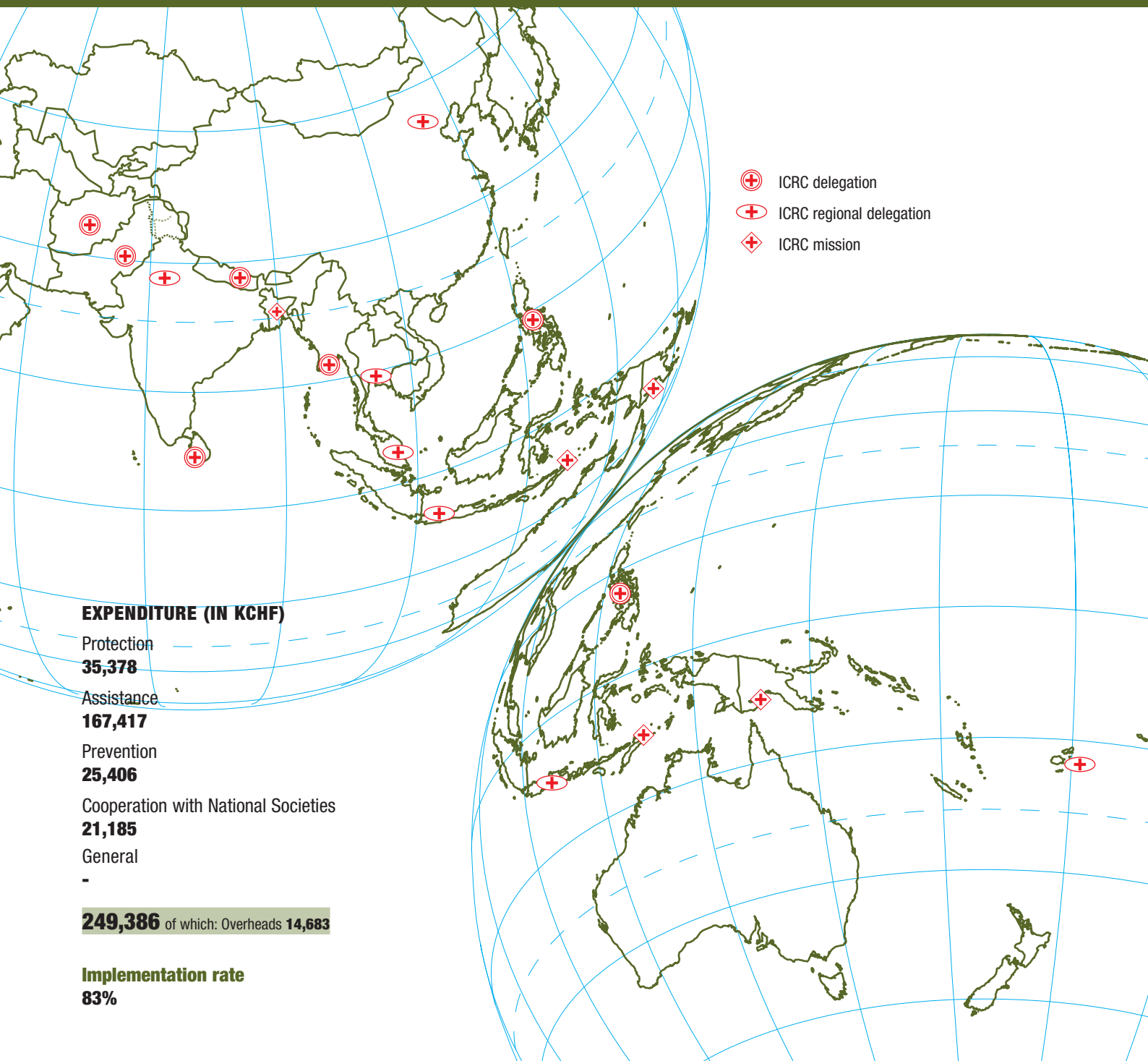
DELEGATIONS

Afghanistan
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Sri Lanka

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Bangkok
Beijing
Jakarta
Kuala Lumpur
New Delhi
Suva

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

35,378

Assistance

167,417

Prevention

25,406

Cooperation with National Societies

21,185

General

-

249,386 of which: Overheads **14,683**

Implementation rate

83%

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

In 2009, the ICRC continued to respond to the needs of people affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence in Asia and the Pacific and focused on addressing issues where its expertise, neutrality and independence brought added value. The deterioration of the situations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Philippines (before the suspension of military operations) and Sri Lanka (prior to the end of active hostilities) required the ICRC to increase its budget for each of those contexts in the face of unforeseen or escalating needs.

Where IHL applied, the ICRC reminded the parties to conflicts of their obligation to protect those not or no longer taking part in the fighting. In all contexts, in dialogue with the authorities and weapon bearers at all levels, the ICRC sought to raise awareness of its neutral, impartial and independent approach with a view to ensuring safe access to victims for its staff. Despite such sustained efforts, access to those affected by violence was often hampered by the fighting itself or by related government restrictions and security measures, the latter being particularly pronounced in Pakistan and Sri Lanka. While the vast majority of ICRC staff were able to work safely, four staff members were killed during the year: one in Afghanistan and three in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, three staff were taken hostage in the southern Philippines in January, prompting the ICRC to suspend trips to the area where they were taken. The final hostage was released in July.

Despite security constraints, the ICRC ran major assistance operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, even managing to extend its activities in Afghanistan, including in the worst-affected provinces. It was able to increase the coverage and effectiveness of its activities by working in operational partnership with the region's National Societies, particularly in Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Many National Societies received specific training in this respect. In parallel, the ICRC provided them with technical, financial and material support to develop their own profiles and activities and to strengthen their capacity to respond to armed conflict, other situations of violence, and natural disasters. As in the past, ICRC activities were also coordinated with other Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, to maximize impact and avoid gaps or duplication.

The deteriorating situations in Afghanistan and Pakistan and the peak of the hostilities in Sri Lanka resulted in rising numbers of civilian casualties and weapon-wounded patients. In these countries, as well as in Nepal, the Philippines, and Thailand, which in 2009 received greater numbers of people wounded over the border in Myanmar, the ICRC sought to improve access to adequate first-aid and surgical care, by, as needed, financing or carrying out evacuations, supporting ambulance services, training medical staff and first responders, supplying and maintaining existing first-aid posts and hospitals, and financing patients' treatment costs. In Sri Lanka, once land crossing points between front lines had closed, the ICRC evacuated over 13,000 people, including 6,600 wounded and sick individuals, on ships. In Afghanistan, it maintained its support for Kandahar's Mirwais Hospital, supplying all departments with drugs and consumables, working alongside and training local medical staff, and improving infrastructure. In Pakistan, it opened its own field hospital in Peshawar, staffed by some 20 expatriates and 200 national staff.

The fighting in these and other contexts caused the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people, sometimes multiple times. In all such situations, the ICRC endeavoured to meet IDPs' immediate needs, tailoring its relief to the differing requirements of those in camps, those with host families and those without any shelter at all. Resident communities hosting IDPs and struggling to cope with the extra burden on resources and those remaining in isolated conflict-affected areas also received assistance. Thus, some 2.2 million violence-affected people received essential household items, often accompanied by emergency food rations, mostly in Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Some 2 million saw conflict-damaged and overstretched water and sanitation facilities improved. In Pakistan, the ICRC supported the National Society and other organizations running services in IDP camps by installing water supplies and constructing latrines and bathing and kitchen facilities. Camps receiving IDPs in Sri Lanka benefited from similar improvements to their water and sanitation facilities.

Livelihood-support projects were implemented in several contexts to help families restore their traditional sources of income. People affected by ongoing fighting, such as residents, returnees and the long-term displaced in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, as well as those still suffering the consequences of past conflicts, as in Nepal, benefited from agricultural and micro-economic initiatives such as seed and tool distributions, agricultural training, and cash grants, enabling them, for example, to set up shops or rent tractor services.

The provision of and access to health care continued to suffer. Primary health centres in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Philippines received supplies, training and maintenance support from the ICRC. In India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the organization supported National Society mobile health clinics that delivered essential preventive and curative care to people unable to reach permanent facilities. Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC facilitated the Afghan population's access to immunization services by accompanying WHO or government health workers on their rounds.

In many countries, delegates continued to visit detainees, particularly those held in connection with armed conflict or for reasons of State security, as in Cambodia, Jammu and Kashmir (India), Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and some islands in the Pacific. After conducting private interviews with the detainees, the ICRC submitted confidential reports to the authorities containing, where necessary, recommendations for improving their treatment or living conditions. In Afghanistan, the ICRC visited detainees/internees in Afghan, US and NATO/International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) custody. Together with the ICRC's delegation in Washington, United States of America, the delegation in Afghanistan discussed with the US authorities their reviewed policies on detention/internment, encouraging them to determine the status and rights of individual detainees/internees and to ensure that they fitted within a proper legal framework. The ICRC called upon the NATO/ISAF authorities to adhere to their standard operating procedures for detention and supported the Afghan authorities in their efforts to respect judicial guarantees. In Pakistan, ICRC delegates visited detainees transferred back to Pakistan from Afghanistan or from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. The ICRC regained access to detainees in Pakistan's Punjab province and began visiting people held in places of detention in Thailand under the responsibility of the Royal Thai Police. In Sri Lanka, over 9,500 alleged former members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam (LTTE) held in rehabilitation centres received visits until access was withdrawn in July. In 2009, a total of 54,669 detainees in the region benefited from ICRC visits, including 18,286 who were monitored individually. The ICRC continued to seek access to others not yet visited.

In many places, the ICRC provided occasional material assistance and carried out ad hoc repair and construction work to improve the detainees' living environment, water supply and access to medical care. Wherever possible, however, it endeavoured to boost the technical and managerial capacities of prison administrations to perform these tasks themselves. Building on the progress achieved, and via three working groups set up to address due process of law, the upgrading of prison infrastructure and tuberculosis in prisons, the ICRC continued to assist the prison administration in the Philippines in its efforts to mobilize the support of the government and local experts in improving conditions. In China and Mongolia, the authorities and the ICRC continued their dialogue on tuberculosis and HIV in prisons. In Afghanistan, the ICRC began to help the authorities implement their national primary health care policy for all detainees in Ministry of Justice facilities.

All delegations pursued the ICRC's core activity of restoring and maintaining contact between family members separated by armed conflict or other situations of violence. The ICRC offered RCM, tracing and sometimes telephone services to people seeking to contact relatives, including those who were detained. Following the resumption of meetings between Korean family members split up by the 1950–53 Korean war, the ICRC continued to impress upon the governments and the National Societies of the Korean peninsula the importance of finding a solution to the prolonged anguish endured by the families, considering in particular the age of those concerned. It also kept up efforts to improve the capacities of governments and local players, in Afghanistan, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, to address the issue of missing persons, including through training in the correct handling of human remains to help ensure people could be accounted for. In Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, it acted as a neutral intermediary in facilitating the handover of the remains of fallen fighters between the parties to the conflict.

The ICRC remained a leading player in the provision of physical rehabilitation services, running or supporting centres in Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Over 100,000 people received services at ICRC-supported centres. In some countries, the ICRC, with the National Society, ran outreach programmes to identify, transport and accommodate vulnerable amputees, particularly those from remote areas, to enable them to obtain prosthetic/orthotic services.

The ICRC had to reduce its operations in Indonesia and Sri Lanka following requests from the authorities. In April, the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested the organization to close its sub-delegations in Papua and Aceh provinces, pending renegotiation of the agreements formalizing its presence and activities in the country. In Sri Lanka, following the end of the active hostilities, the government asked the ICRC to close its offices in the east and curtailed access to the camps in the Vavuniya region where the vast majority of the displaced and alleged former LTTE fighters were housed. Discussions on redefining the ICRC's role in the new context continued into 2010. Meanwhile, the government restrictions imposed on the ICRC in Myanmar remained in place and continued to prevent the organization from discharging its

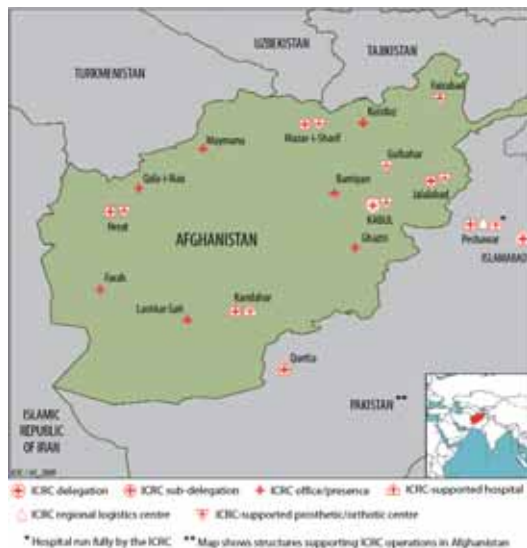
mission in accordance with its internationally recognized working methods. The ICRC spared no effort to re-establish dialogue with the authorities with the aim of resuming visits to people deprived of their freedom.

A large part of the ICRC's activities in the region consisted of promoting IHL and humanitarian issues and enhancing understanding of its work and mandate. In February, a new ICRC office opened in Japan with a view to raising the organization's profile in the country. Throughout the region, the ICRC offered technical support and advice to governments in acceding to IHL instruments and enacting national legislation. It organized major regional events such as the first South Asian IHL Conference, in Nepal, and the South Asia Teaching Sessions on IHL, in India.

The ICRC also worked with armed and security forces to advance the integration of IHL and humanitarian principles into their doctrine, training and operations. As several countries in the region were contributing to international peacekeeping missions, the ICRC gave pre-deployment IHL briefings for many of their troops. It held dissemination sessions for all kinds of weapon bearers, including members of armed groups, to heighten their awareness of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and to 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 curricula, not only in university law schools but also in international relations and journalism faculties. Implementation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme continued in schools in China, India, Malaysia, where it was handed over to the National Society and the Education Ministry, and Mongolia, and was being pilot-tested in Japan and Thailand.

The regional resource centre attached to the regional delegation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, again offered expertise and other support to individual delegations in East and South-East Asia and in the Pacific in promoting IHL implementation and raising awareness of the ICRC's mandate and activities. This included participation in meetings of Asian regional organizations, particularly bodies related to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.



afghanistan

Having assisted victims of the Afghan armed 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; monitoring the conduct of hostilities and acting to prevent IHL violations; 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	7,708
Assistance	59,955
Prevention	3,036
Cooperation with National Societies	4,634
General	-

► **75,334**

of which: Overheads **4,583**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

108 expatriates
1,308 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- thanks to its dialogue with all parties to the conflict, was able to extend its operational reach in conflict-affected areas, opening 5 new offices
- welcomed Afghanistan's accession to the 1977 Additional Protocols as an important step towards increased protection for civilians
- acted as a neutral intermediary between parties to the conflict to facilitate the provision of medical care, the evacuation of the bodies of fallen fighters and the handover of human remains to families
- visited, for the first time since 2001, 3 members of the Afghan security forces held by an armed group, while monitoring individually more than 3,800 other people held by the Afghan authorities, US forces and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force
- provided more than 581,000 conflict-afflicted people with food
- treated more than 70,800 disabled people at 6 ICRC-run physical rehabilitation centres

CONTEXT

In 2009, the armed conflict pitting national and international forces against armed groups intensified yet again. As the fighting spread in most of Afghanistan's provinces, particularly in the north, it led to ever increasing civilian casualties, including the death of an ICRC water engineer, and burgeoning humanitarian needs. Access to conflict victims remained limited for humanitarian actors. Although economic and other hardship persisted, following years of drought, winter and spring rains produced a bumper wheat crop in June. Parts of the north, however, were hit by floods.

The United States of America continued to transfer to Afghan authority internees previously held in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility and the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, as did several countries in the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) holding internees in field detention sites.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited ¹	17,633	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,809	Food	Beneficiaries	581,542	40%	30%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	109,889		
	of whom minors	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	82,957	40%	30%
Number of visits carried out	386		of whom IDPs	82,957		
Number of places of detention visited	121	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	53,935	40%	30%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	1,578,065	24%	52%
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			of whom IDPs	157,806		
RCMs collected	10,650	Health				
RCMs distributed	11,600	Health centres supported	Structures	10		
People reunited with their families	4	Consultations	Patients	113,927		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of which curative		34,909	57,578
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	572		of which ante/post-natal		7,045	
	of whom women	Immunizations	Doses	97,214		
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	242	Economic security, water and habitat				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	349	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	10,350		
	of whom women	WOUNDED AND SICK				
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Hospitals supported	Structures	11		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Admissions	Patients	40,457	19,534	8,868
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	19	Operations	Operations performed	14,687		
		Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	665		
		Physical rehabilitation				
		Patients receiving services	Patients	70,894	11,984	15,706
		Prostheses delivered	Units	3,734	356	145
		Orthoses delivered	Units	9,626	1,287	4,904

1. For people in US custody: all detainees known through the authorities' notifications and followed up by the ICRC

1. For people in US custody; all detainees known through the authorities' notifications and followed up by the ICRC

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The intensifying conflict continued to seriously impede the work of humanitarian actors, and much of the country remained off-limits for the ICRC. Nevertheless, thanks to its contact with all parties to the conflict and to their acceptance of its neutral, impartial and independent approach, the ICRC was able to extend its activities, including in the worst-affected provinces, appealing in April for additional funds for its operation in Afghanistan and opening new offices in Farah, Ghazni, Lashkar Gah, Maymana and Qala-i-Nau. To assist the greatest number of conflict-affected people possible, the ICRC relied on an extensive network of Afghan Red Crescent Society volunteers.

ICRC delegates collected specific allegations of IHL violations and made confidential representations to the parties to the conflict with a view to ending such abuses. They also reminded the authorities and weapon bearers, at all levels, of their obligations in general under IHL, particularly regarding the conduct of hostilities and the duty to protect people not or no longer participating in the fighting. As part of such efforts, the ICRC supported the Afghan National Army in integrating IHL into its doctrine, training and operations, and familiarized army and police personnel already positioned in the field with the basic rules of IHL and international human rights law applicable to their functions. The parties turned to the ICRC to act as a neutral intermediary in the collection of fallen fighters from the battlefield and the handover of their bodies to their families.

ICRC delegates visited people held by the Afghan authorities, the US authorities and NATO/ISAF in order to monitor their

treatment and living conditions and respect for their judicial guarantees. Detainees/internees were able to maintain contact with their families by means of RCMs and videoconference calls. Following visits, delegates' findings, along with any recommendations, were shared confidentially with the relevant authorities. For the first time since 2001, the ICRC was able to visit members of the Afghan security forces detained by an armed group. The US armed forces and the ICRC maintained their systematic in-depth dialogue on the conduct of hostilities and detention matters, while NATO/ISAF and the ICRC continued to discuss the transfer of detainees to other forces. Furthermore, the ICRC offered its expertise on prison infrastructure to help the Afghan authorities use their limited resources to rehabilitate prisons and improve inmates' health and hygiene.

Civilians' basic material needs were frequently unmet, either as a direct result of the violence or owing to poverty or lack of investment caused by years of conflict. The ICRC and the Afghan Red Crescent distributed food and essential household items to families displaced by the conflict and gave food and livelihood support to conflict-affected civilians whose plight had been compounded by drought. It also ran food-for-work programmes in which villagers helped to upgrade irrigation systems benefiting the entire community. Working with urban and rural water boards, the ICRC improved water quality and sanitation.

The ICRC and the National Society's comprehensive approach to medical assistance, ranging from community-based first aid to surgical care, aimed to meet the needs of the growing numbers of conflict casualties. Alongside, given deteriorating access to

government health facilities for much of the rural population, the ICRC supported Afghan Red Crescent primary health care centres in conflict-affected provinces. ICRC-run or -supplied physical rehabilitation centres provided services to the disabled.

Movement components in Afghanistan coordinated their activities. While preserving its independence, the ICRC maintained close contact with other humanitarian actors to coordinate its activities with theirs, thus maximizing impact, identifying unmet needs and avoiding duplication. It also provided financial, material and technical support and training to the Afghan Red Crescent to boost its capacity to meet the needs of conflict-affected people.

CIVILIANS

Even when not wounded in attacks or forced to flee, civilians bore the brunt of the intensifying fighting. They continued to report IHL violations, with the ICRC's expanded presence making it easier for them to share their concerns. Following up these allegations in a confidential dialogue, the ICRC encouraged the parties concerned to take corrective action and prevent any recurrence.

Economic vulnerability reduced

Despite security constraints limiting ICRC/National Society field access, the two organizations ran a large-scale assistance operation over a wider area and reaching significantly more people than in 2008.

People displaced by the conflict or flooding used tarpaulins and essential household items provided by the ICRC/National Society to set up temporary homes. Food distributions helped meet their emergency nutritional needs.

Drought-affected residents in northern provinces were facing impoverishment after selling their assets to buy basic necessities. To help them cope with food shortages until the wheat harvest, they had received a one-month food ration at the end of 2008. A second such ration gave them another boost in early 2009. To secure their livelihoods over the longer term, those who were still vulnerable despite the record harvest were given nut saplings, and some 350 farmers received training to set up orchards or sesame seed to plant and equipment to produce oil. These projects, along with community-managed micro-credit schemes for farming and handicraft businesses, helped kick-start income generation.

Throughout the country, conflict-affected villagers rehabilitated irrigation networks to improve farmland and water availability for livestock in return for food. Progress was slower than expected in some areas, however, as daily wages for bringing in the record harvest were more attractive than food rations.

- 581,542 people (15,746 households) received food, including:
 - 109,889 IDPs
 - 350,280 drought-affected residents
 - 121,373 people engaged in food-for-work programmes
- 82,957 IDPs (11,851 households) received essential household items
- 53,935 people (7,705 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 1,853 patients at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres (see *Wounded and sick*)

Civilians have access to vital health care

People in conflict-affected areas relied on 10 ICRC-supported Afghan Red Crescent primary health care centres. Using knowledge acquired during training and monthly supplies of drugs and consumables, staff dispensed essential preventive and curative care in line with the Health Ministry's primary health care policy, the Basic Package of Health Services.

In the 10 ICRC-supported National Society health centres:

- 113,927 people given consultations, including 7,045 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 106,882 attending curative consultations
- 97,214 vaccine doses administered (including 77,325 to children aged five or under and 19,889 to women of childbearing age)
- 773 patients referred to a second level of care
- 3,575 health education sessions held

The parties' acceptance of the ICRC as a neutral intermediary facilitated delivery of a number of services that might otherwise not have been available. Cholera sufferers in a Kandahar village could receive treatment or be evacuated to hospital thanks to an ICRC-negotiated temporary suspension of hostilities. Children received polio vaccines from Health Ministry/WHO teams for whom the ICRC had obtained security guarantees. The ICRC also used its contacts and credibility to facilitate the work of other actors with purely humanitarian aims, particularly in Helmand province.

Communities enjoy a reliable water supply

A total of 1,578,065 people benefited from ICRC cooperation with local water boards in maintaining or rehabilitating water, sanitation and electrical facilities. In cities, people had increased access to safe water following ICRC repairs to pumping stations and supply systems; new latrines improved sanitation. In rural areas, people benefited from new boreholes that brought clean water closer to them and from hand pumps and supply systems that improved distribution. Villagers from remote rural areas received the materials and training required to repair pumps themselves. Some 47,000 people learned how to improve health through better hygiene practices.

Family members stay in touch

People who had lost contact with family members, including children separated from their parents, approached the ICRC/National Society to ascertain the whereabouts of their relatives. Most of those using the RCM service were contacting detained/interned relatives. The families of Afghans held at Guantanamo Bay were also able to speak on the phone to their interned relatives and in person to ICRC delegates who had visited them. Those with relatives held in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility benefited from face-to-face visits and videoconference calls.

With increasing numbers of people killed, conflict parties received guidelines on handling human remains, including preserving data for future identification, to prevent people from becoming unaccounted for. As neutral intermediaries, the ICRC and the National Society facilitated the evacuation of fallen fighters from the battlefield and the handover of human remains to families.

- 5,192 RCMs collected from and 6,537 RCMs distributed to civilians

- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 572 people (115 women; 195 minors at the time of disappearance); 242 people located; 349 people (64 women; 117 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 4 unaccompanied minors reunited with their families
- ▶ 20 civilians repatriated and 678 sets of human remains transferred

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees/internees in Afghanistan received ICRC visits, carried out in accordance with the organization's standard working procedures, during which delegates monitored their treatment and living conditions and respect for their judicial guarantees. Confidential reports, containing recommendations where necessary, were submitted to the authorities concerned following visits to: people in US custody in the Bagram Theater Internment Facility and field sites; people in NATO/ISAF custody prior to their transfer to Afghan custody; and people held by the Afghan authorities, including security detainees, foreign detainees, and Afghan nationals previously held at Bagram and Guantanamo Bay. Detainees/internees kept in touch with their families through RCMs. Those at Bagram also benefited from face-to-face visits, videoconference calls and telephone calls facilitated by the US authorities and the ICRC.

For the first time since 2001, three members of the Afghan security forces detained by an armed group were visited by ICRC delegates, who shared their findings and recommendations with the captors.

The US authorities and the ICRC pursued discussions about defining the rights of individual detainees/internees and ensuring they fitted into a proper and adequate legal framework providing the relevant procedural safeguards (see *Washington*). As of July, the US Department of Defense systematically notified the ICRC of all new arrests within 14 days. It also shared its revised detainee-review procedures with the ICRC.

During bilateral meetings, the Afghan authorities, including the National Security Directorate and the police hierarchy, and the ICRC discussed the provisions of IHL and international human rights law applicable to detention. The prison authorities received help in improving detention conditions, including in seeking extra government and external financing for infrastructure development. Direct ICRC support focused exclusively on health and hygiene, with inmates benefiting from improved water supply, sanitation and kitchen facilities and from extra clothes and blankets in winter. In accordance with the 2008 agreement between the Health and Justice Ministries to provide the Basic Package of Health Services to all detainees held by the Justice Ministry, prison health care was boosted by the donation of medical supplies, repairs to clinics, the training of health personnel, and the provision of hygiene products and education for detainees.

People in US custody

- ▶ 1,033 internees visited, of whom 996 monitored individually (28 minors) and 501 newly registered (23 minors), during 11 visits to 4 places of detention;
- ▶ 4,072 RCMs collected from and 3,923 RCMs distributed to internees and 2,740 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative interned in the country or abroad; 1,148 phone calls facilitated between internees and family members

- ▶ 219 internees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 67 released internees received clothing and support for their journey home
- ▶ 4 foreign internees repatriated after release

People in NATO/ISAF custody (included in Afghan custody figures below)

- ▶ 71 internees visited and monitored individually (3 minors) during 26 visits to 6 places of detention

People in Afghan custody

- ▶ 16,597 detainees visited, of whom 2,823 monitored individually (17 women; 98 minors) and 1,454 newly registered (7 women; 81 minors), during 373 visits to 116 places of detention
- ▶ 1,386 RCMs collected from and 1,140 RCMs distributed to detainees and 964 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in the country or abroad; 294 phone calls facilitated between detainees and family members
- ▶ 219 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 2 detainees transferred after release
- ▶ 19 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 10,350 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

People held by armed groups

- ▶ 3 detainees visited during 2 visits to 1 place of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

Weapon-wounded patients received first aid to stabilize their condition enough for them to travel to hospital. This life-saving care was dispensed throughout the country, at 8 ICRC first-aid posts and 10 Afghan Red Crescent primary health care centres (see *Civilians*) and by community health workers and army and police medical personnel trained in pre-hospital care by the ICRC/National Society. Some 25 first-aid kits were distributed countrywide each week. Weapon-wounded patients were able to reach medical facilities using ICRC-funded transport organized with local health providers and facilitated by parties to the conflict.

- ▶ 5,173 weapon-wounded people treated at 8 ICRC first-aid posts

Wounded and sick people in the Kandahar region relied on the 380-bed Mirwais Hospital, where more than 20 ICRC expatriate staff worked alongside and trained Afghan staff to improve the most critical services, including surgery, obstetrics and paediatrics, in line with the Health Ministry's secondary health care policy, the Essential Package of Hospital Services. The supply of drugs and consumables to all hospital departments and improvements to electrical and sanitation infrastructure enabled the hospital to provide better care to more people. Hospital maintenance staff received training and equipment to help them repair infrastructure themselves. Patients in north-western Afghanistan attended the 200-bed Shiberghan Hospital, which received supplies and surgical and management training from the ICRC. Those in the east benefited from ICRC support to the surgical department of Jalalabad Public Health Hospital 1 until April, when it was handed over to an NGO supporting the hospital's other departments. All three hospital blood banks received year-round support.

Eight other hospitals received ad hoc supplies to help them cope with mass-casualty situations.

In the 3 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 40,457 patients (including 19,534 women and 8,868 children) admitted: of whom 2,359 weapon-wounded (including 173 women and 368 children; 1,011 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 15,451 other surgical cases, and 9,754 medical and 12,893 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 14,687 surgical operations performed
- 228,971 outpatients given consultations, including 204,129 attending surgical or medical consultations and 24,842 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

Disabled people improve mobility

Physically disabled Afghans received physiotherapy and prosthetic/orthotic devices at six ICRC-run physical rehabilitation centres, which offered outreach programmes for those unable to get to the centres. Staff received on-the-job training and professional development through ICRC/Health Ministry and distance-learning courses. Some 600 disabled people were employed at the ICRC-run centres, and 3,300 others benefited from schooling, vocational training, micro-credit (see *Civilians*) or jobs arranged by the ICRC. Four other centres received raw materials from an ICRC-managed component factory.

People with spinal cord injuries and children with cerebral palsy and their carers received medical appliances, physiotherapy and counselling at the ICRC-run centres and during home visits.

- 70,894 patients (including 11,984 women and 15,706 children) received services at 6 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 806 new patients (including 86 women and 48 children) fitted with prostheses and 3,976 (including 737 women and 1,747 children) fitted with orthoses
- 3,734 prostheses (including 356 for women and 145 for children; 2,394 for mine victims), 9,626 orthoses (including 1,287 for women and 4,904 for children; 40 for mine victims), 8,805 crutches and 982 wheelchairs delivered
- 7,454 home treatments administered to patients with spinal cord injuries

AUTHORITIES

Through frequent bilateral meetings, the Afghan authorities, at all levels throughout the country, and the ICRC maintained their systematic dialogue on issues of humanitarian concern, such as: respect for IHL, including the protection of those not or no longer participating in the fighting; acceptance of and support for the ICRC; and, consequently, safe access to victims for ICRC staff. Meetings were backed up with written materials in English, Dari and Pashto highlighting ICRC activities. Diplomats and representatives of international organizations also received such publications and attended briefings that aimed to enlist their support for the ICRC.

To encourage the government to accede to IHL treaties and to enact domestic legislation, for example on protection of the red crescent and red cross emblems, officials and parliamentarians attended presentations and were sponsored to participate in seminars abroad. The deputy justice minister attended the South Asian Conference on IHL in Kathmandu (see *Nepal*). After years of

ICRC technical support and advocacy, Afghanistan acceded to the 1977 Additional Protocols.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In all dialogue with weapon bearers, including armed groups and private military and security companies, the ICRC reiterated their IHL obligations relating to the conduct of hostilities, including respect for the principles of distinction, proportionality, and precautions in attack, in order to spare those not or no longer taking part in the conflict. On a confidential basis, delegates raised specific allegations of IHL violations with particular forces or groups. By explaining the ICRC's neutrality, impartiality and independence, they also sought to ensure safe and unhindered access to victims.

On the basis of regular ICRC reports and bilateral meetings, the US armed forces and the ICRC maintained their systematic in-depth dialogue on the conduct of hostilities and detention matters, while NATO/ISAF and the ICRC continued to discuss the transfer of detainees to other forces. International military forces benefited from ICRC participation in pre-deployment training exercises in the United States of America and Europe.

In January, the Ministry of Defence Training Directorate issued an IHL policy setting in place a framework for integrating IHL into the doctrine, education and training of the Afghan National Army. In support of this, the head of training at the Defence Ministry attended the South Asian Conference on IHL (see *Nepal*), more than 140 instructors attended five-day train-the-trainer courses, and ICRC teaching materials were translated into Dari. In parallel, the army continued to raise awareness of IHL among its ranks. Officers at training establishments and troops deployed in the field attended ICRC presentations.

Dialogue with the police focused on the findings of ICRC delegates during visits to detainees in police custody. Officers at regional training centres and troops in the field were familiarized with the ICRC and the basic rules of IHL and international human rights law applicable to their functions during ICRC presentations and through written materials in local languages.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Influential community leaders, such as elders, tribal leaders, teachers at religious schools, local shuras, and representatives of NGOs learnt more about the basic rules of IHL and the ICRC and its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action during bilateral meetings and presentations and received ICRC publications in local languages. Such briefings, along with short radio broadcasts, also aimed to ensure that humanitarian messages reached actors with whom the ICRC had no direct contact.

Many media correspondents, local and international, regularly sought interviews with ICRC delegates. In addition, ICRC briefings and press releases led journalists to produce a number of articles and features that accurately portrayed humanitarian issues and ICRC activities.

University lecturers were invited to local-language debates and seminars on humanitarian issues with a view to stimulating their interest in teaching IHL.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Afghan Red Crescent remained the ICRC's main operational partner in providing relief and health care (see *Civilians*) and first aid (see *Wounded and sick*) to conflict victims. In support of these and other activities, it received ICRC financial, technical and material support. Staff and volunteers were trained in needs assessment, relief distribution, management of food-for-work programmes, restoring family links, and IHL promotion. Staff received technical advice and attended Movement meetings abroad to enhance the efficiency of National Society mine action.

Movement partners present in Afghanistan and the ICRC met regularly to coordinate their activities.



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 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 priority activities. It also works with the International Federation to enhance the effectiveness of the National Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,293
Assistance	883
Prevention	491
Cooperation with National Societies	635
General	-

► **3,302**

of which: Overheads 201

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
116	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- facilitated family visits for 769 detainees
- provided training for 157 Myanmar Red Cross Society volunteers in water and sanitation management
- arranged for 6 government officials to attend IHL training sessions abroad
- organized 12 dissemination sessions with the Myanmar Red Cross for over 600 local authority officials, members of social organizations and Red Cross volunteers
- supported the Hpa-an Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre in providing services for 5,223 patients, in cooperation with the Myanmar Red Cross

CONTEXT

The government of Myanmar committed to holding general elections in 2010 as part of its Roadmap to Democracy, a programme of reforms for national reconciliation and democratization. Internationally, the US government initiated a policy of engagement with the Myanmar authorities, with the first high-ranking diplomatic visit to the country since 1995 taking place at the end of the year. Meanwhile, the UN secretary-general met the chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, as well as leaders of 10 political parties, including the National League for Democracy, and 7 ceasefire groups.

The aftermath of Cyclone Nargis, which affected some 2.4 million people when it struck the Irrawaddy Delta in May 2008, continued to be felt. Relief operations, coordinated by the specially created Tripartite Core Group made up of representatives of the Myanmar government, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the international humanitarian community, had wound down by the end of 2008 as the focus shifted to reconstruction and rehabilitation. The mandate of the Tripartite Core Group was extended until July 2010 to implement the Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan. The Tripartite Core Group mechanism did not apply outside the Nargis-affected areas, and longstanding government restrictions on aid agencies remained unchanged.

Low-intensity armed conflicts between government forces and armed groups continued to affect the population in various areas of Shan and Kayah states and eastern Bago division. According to various reports, the relationship between the armed groups that had accepted a ceasefire and the government remained tense owing to slow progress in disarming the fighters concerned and integrating them into the government border guard force, despite the elapsing of various deadlines. In August, government forces clashed with a Kokang "ceasefire group" in northern Shan state. In December, the remaining members of that group, with new leadership, were transformed into a border guard force. However, the situation of the other main "ceasefire groups" remained unchanged.

Arrests and sentencing of people allegedly opposing the government in one way or another continued to be regularly reported. Meanwhile, some 13,400 detainees were granted amnesty over the year. In August, the leader of the opposition National League for Democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi, was sentenced to 18 months of additional house arrest after a foreign national entered her house, breaching the terms of her existing house arrest. Aung San Suu Kyi met a specially appointed government representative three times in 2009.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	106	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	155	
of whom women	13	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	120	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	39	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	5,223	635
of whom women	7	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,635	125
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	926	228
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	4				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	36				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Government restrictions imposed on the ICRC remained in place and continued to prevent the organization from discharging its mandate in accordance with its internationally recognized working methods, which the Myanmar authorities had accepted until the end of 2005. At an operational level, this meant that the ICRC was unable to assist vulnerable civilians living in violence-affected border areas or to visit detainees in places of detention. Some other activities, mainly involving technical and training support, continued. Sustained efforts were made to re-establish a substantive dialogue with the authorities on humanitarian issues.

Detainees previously registered by the ICRC continued to receive family visits funded by the ICRC. The Joint Working Group, set up to discuss ways of raising health care standards in prisons and comprising representatives of the Prison Department, the Ministry of Health and the ICRC, was reactivated.

Physically disabled people continued to receive treatment at the Hpa-an Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre run by the Myanmar Red Cross Society with ICRC support. To improve access to clean water in remote communities, National Society volunteers and local water technicians and masons received training in operating and maintaining rainwater collection tanks and borehole drilling machines.

The national health laboratory and hospitals received some material assistance, including face masks during the height of the influenza A (H1N1) pandemic.

Government officials were sponsored to attend conferences and teaching sessions abroad to strengthen their knowledge of IHL. The Myanmar Red Cross and the ICRC conducted joint dissemination sessions on IHL and basic humanitarian principles for various target audiences across the country.

The National Society reinitiated the process of adapting its legal base to comply with Movement norms, with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC.

CIVILIANS

Owing to the above-mentioned restrictions, ICRC assistance activities for civilians in sensitive areas along the Thai-Myanmar border remained on hold. The ICRC sought to re-establish a dialogue with

the Myanmar authorities on humanitarian issues, including the situation of civilians in violence-affected areas.

People affected by armed conflict approached the ICRC for help in locating their missing relatives. Written representations were made to the authorities regarding five minors who had allegedly been recruited into the armed forces. One boy rejoined his family, while the remaining cases were still being handled at year-end.

- new tracing requests registered for 106 people (13 women); 120 people located; 39 people (7 women) still being sought
- 4 cases of demobilized children still being handled

Although direct ICRC involvement in activities to provide Cyclone Nargis survivors with clean water ceased at the end of 2008, civilians living in remote areas continued to benefit from improved access to clean water thanks to the work of the Myanmar Red Cross, which received ICRC training support.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees had not received ICRC visits, aimed at monitoring their treatment and living conditions, since December 2005, as the authorities would no longer allow the organization to carry out visits in accordance with its standard working procedures. Detainees registered during previous visits and individual cases continued to receive ICRC-supported visits from their families. Upon their release, 132 detainees had the cost of their travel home covered by the ICRC. Detainees and their relatives were unable to correspond with each other through RCMs owing to the lack of ICRC visits to places of detention.

- 769 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 36 detention certificates issued to former detainees

The reactivation in 2009 of the Joint Working Group, comprising the Prison Department, the Ministry of Health and the ICRC, boosted discussion on ways of raising health care standards in prisons, without yet leading to tangible results. It was agreed that a joint training workshop for prison health staff should be organized by the Prison Department and the ICRC in 2010.

The planned work to help improve detainees' access to drinking water and proper sanitation in selected places of detention affected by Cyclone Nargis could not be carried out as a result of access restrictions.

WOUNDED AND SICK

To ease the increased demand on medical services as a result of Cyclone Nargis, the national health laboratory and five civilian hospitals received donations of medicines at the beginning of the year. An infectious diseases hospital in Yangon was given 5,500 face masks during the height of the influenza A (H1N1) pandemic.

Postgraduate medical students benefited from improved resources at the University of Public Health following the donation by the ICRC of medical journals to aid their studies.

Physically disabled people had access to services at the Hpa-an Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre, run by the Myanmar Red Cross with ICRC managerial, technical, financial and training support. To enhance their expertise, two prosthetic/orthotic technicians were sponsored to attend a one-month course at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre in Kompong Speu, Cambodia, while another two received training at the Special Fund for the Disabled training centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The ICRC/Myanmar Red Cross outreach prosthetic programme in south-eastern Myanmar, the area worst affected by landmines, was expanded in 2009 to include new townships in eastern Bago division and Kayah state. A total of 208 amputees living in remote areas were thus referred to, and helped to reach, the Hpa-an centre in order to receive the necessary treatment. Four lower-limb child amputees underwent stump revision surgery.

Three physical rehabilitation centres run by the Ministry of Health received technical visits to monitor the continuity of their services. The overall production of prostheses seemed to have declined compared with previous years when the ICRC was lending its support, possibly as a result of supply problems and difficulty in reaching patients in remote areas.

The number of patients coming independently to the Hpa-an centre was 10% higher than in 2008, owing to a decrease in the availability of other such services. Ongoing assessments of the physical rehabilitation programme were conducted to determine its efficiency.

- 5,223 patients (including 635 women and 286 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 796 new patients (including 64 women and 19 children) fitted with prostheses and 469 (including 140 women and 143 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,635 prostheses (including 125 for women and 60 for children; 1,048 for mine victims), 926 orthoses (including 228 for women and 378 for children; 18 for mine victims), 2,361 crutches and 12 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Every opportunity was sought to engage the Myanmar government in a substantive dialogue in order to overcome differences and clarify possible misunderstandings.

Six representatives of the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs and the Attorney-General's Office expanded their knowledge of IHL-related issues by attending ICRC teaching sessions and conferences abroad, namely: the First South Asian Conference on IHL in Kathmandu, Nepal; the 14th South Asian Teaching Session on IHL at the NALSAR University of Law in

Hyderabad, India; and the Fourth South-East and East Asian Teaching Session on IHL in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

In addition, local and national government officials attended IHL and Movement dissemination sessions given by the Myanmar Red Cross with ICRC technical and financial support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media in Myanmar continued to pick up press releases covering ICRC activities locally and elsewhere in the world, familiarizing the Myanmar public with the ICRC's role and activities.

Students had better access to reference materials on IHL, both at the ICRC delegation and at their universities. Thus, 113 university students majoring in law consulted ICRC and IHL literature available at the delegation's resource centre, while the law departments of 5 universities in Yangon and Mandalay received IHL materials, including the full texts of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

While the Myanmar Red Cross continued to focus on meeting the needs of people affected by Cyclone Nargis, steps were taken to resume normal activities in other areas of the country. The National Society reinitiated the process of adapting its legal base to comply with Movement norms, with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC.

The Myanmar Red Cross's disaster response capacity was strengthened through the provision of training and resources. The ICRC family-links coaching programme was completed in March. Meanwhile, 155 Red Cross volunteers, together with local water technicians and masons, were trained to operate and maintain equipment such as borehole drilling machines and water treatment units and to build cement tanks.

The Myanmar Red Cross conducted 10 dissemination sessions in Nargis-affected townships, with ICRC technical and logistical support and International Federation financial support, and 2 dissemination sessions in non-affected areas with ICRC support. The sessions were designed to promote IHL and basic humanitarian principles, the different roles and responsibilities of the Movement's components, and the Fundamental Principles among government and local authority officials, militia members, representatives of social organizations, journalists and 317 Red Cross volunteers. The National Society also received ICRC technical and financial support in producing Red Cross literature for use in dissemination.

A total of 140 cadets and 10 instructors from the Military Institute of Nursing gained knowledge of IHL and the red cross and red crescent emblems by attending a joint Myanmar Red Cross/ICRC dissemination session.

Leading Red Cross volunteers learnt more about influenza A (H1N1) through an awareness-raising workshop organized by the National Society, with ICRC participation.

The National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC held regular meetings to strengthen Movement coordination, share information and discuss issues of common concern.



nepal

The ICRC initially worked in Nepal out of its regional delegation in New Delhi, opening a delegation in Kathmandu in 2001. Since the May 2006 agreement between the government and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist, the ICRC has focused on: clarifying the fate of missing persons and supporting their families; taking action on behalf of people deprived of their freedom; promoting full compliance with IHL; and improving medical care for the wounded. It works closely with the Nepal Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,289
Assistance	3,091
Prevention	1,280
Cooperation with National Societies	868
General	-

► **6,528**

of which: Overheads 398

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
99	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- published a study on the needs of the families of missing persons in Nepal, making recommendations to the authorities on how to address them
- provided input on the issue of missing persons into draft legislation on the investigation of disappearances, which was then approved by the cabinet
- helped meet the needs of people wounded in unrest by supporting the National Society's first-aid and ambulance services and improving conditions in hospitals
- with the National Society, boosted the income of 7,571 vulnerable people affected by the former conflict through micro-economic initiatives
- with the Nepalese Army, set up a new physical rehabilitation centre accessible to both civilian and military patients

CONTEXT

Little progress was made in Nepal's peace process in 2009. Power struggles between political parties persisted, hampering the government's efforts to fulfil its basic obligations. In May, the Maoist-led government dismissed the chief of army staff, General Rukmangat Katuwal, leading to protests from other elements in the government. The president then reinstated the general, and the prime minister resigned. Madhav Kumar Nepal was appointed the new prime minister, but political parties disagreed over the allocation of ministerial responsibilities. Regular street demonstrations blocked the proceedings of the constituent assembly and parliament. The process of writing the constitution was delayed. Major initiatives envisaged in the peace agreement and interim constitution, including the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission and a commission on missing persons, had yet to take shape. Members of the Nepalese Army and the Maoist People's Liberation Army (PLA) remained in their quartering areas.

Sporadic intercommunal and interreligious violence and nationwide strikes continued. In the eastern and central Terai region, a number of political and sometimes armed groups were demanding more rights for the Madhesi population living in the area, and violent clashes erupted periodically. Other minority groups also organized demonstrations, seeking recognition from the government.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited	1,585	Economic security, water and habitat				
Number of visits carried out	10	Food	Beneficiaries	240	29%	51%
Number of places of detention visited	9		of whom IDPs	240		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	755	32%	45%
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	7,571	30%	45%
RCMs collected	273	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
RCMs distributed	150	Economic security, water and habitat				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	1,176		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	93	WOUNDED AND SICK				
of whom women	6	Hospitals supported	Structures	9		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	13	Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	155		
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	23	Physical rehabilitation				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	1,365	Patients receiving services	Patients	1,156	277	106
of whom women	89	Prostheses delivered	Units	114	26	5
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	153	Orthoses delivered	Units	94	19	32
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	20					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	45					

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to deal with the residual effects of the past armed conflict, while responding to the needs of people affected by current unrest. Most activities were conducted jointly with the Nepal Red Cross Society, whose capacities were boosted through ICRC financial, technical and material support and training. During the unrest and political instability, the ICRC was able to travel freely and its staff worked safely throughout the country.

Efforts were pursued on several fronts to help families clarify the whereabouts of relatives still unaccounted for in connection with the past conflict. The ICRC made representations to the authorities, the armed and security forces and the PLA on behalf of the families and conducted a study to better inform the authorities of the families' needs. It also provided technical input into draft legislation on the investigation of disappearances and built the capacities of several institutions carrying out forensic work. The families of missing persons were among vulnerable households who benefited from micro-economic projects to help them increase their income.

The ICRC supported the National Society's first-aid activities and ambulance service and provided hospitals with supplies to ensure that victims of violence received the medical attention they required. A series of round-tables involving a range of stakeholders sought to prevent the obstruction and vandalism of ambulances during unrest. Conditions in hospitals improved after the ICRC carried out repairs to water and sanitation infrastructure and trained staff in infection control.

Delegates visited detainees to check on their treatment and living conditions, following up with confidential reports to the authorities. The Nepalese Red Cross, with ICRC support, trained detainees and guards in basic first aid to improve prison health care, and ICRC engineers upgraded water, sanitation and kitchen facilities, including through the installation of biogas systems.

After wrapping up its water, sanitation and habitat activities in prisons and hospitals, the ICRC prepared technical reports on the

work undertaken and handed over full responsibility for future such work and for the upkeep of the facilities to the authorities.

The ICRC continued to support physical rehabilitation services at the Green Pastures Hospital by training prosthetic/orthotic technicians. Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Nepalese Army and the ICRC outlining support to the Aarahiti National Rehabilitation Centre, the ICRC fully equipped the centre and began training technicians, enabling them to start treating civilians and military patients. In parallel, with ICRC support, the National Society continued to educate people in ways to reduce the risk of mine accidents.

Work on the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties slowed owing to the political instability. However, the ICRC and the government jointly organized the first South Asian Conference on IHL. Members of the armed and security forces received support in raising awareness of IHL and/or international human rights law among their ranks. Influential members of civil society, such as journalists, university lecturers and representatives of trade unions, as well as representatives of student unions and youth wings of political parties, attended other ICRC events that aimed to improve knowledge of and respect for humanitarian principles.

The ICRC continued to coordinate its activities with those of Movement partners, other humanitarian agencies operating in the country and local human rights organizations, in order to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

While violence relating to the armed conflict had ended in 2006, various disturbances and violent incidents still occurred. Victims of ethnic clashes in March received a two-week food ration, along with clothing, tarpaulins and essential household items, distributed by the National Society and the ICRC, to help them cope following damage to their property.

These and other people affected by violence raised their concerns with the ICRC. To follow up allegations of abuses against civilians, delegates made confidential representations to the parties said to be responsible, urging them to take corrective action and prevent any recurrence. The authorities were also encouraged to ensure that victims of the past armed conflict or their families received the recognition and compensation due to them, in line with government policy.

- ▶ 240 people (28 households) received food
- ▶ 755 people (135 households) received essential household items

Civilians in isolated villages and former conflict areas continued to benefit from improvements to water supply infrastructure made between 2004 and 2008. ICRC/National Society engineers returned to check that everything was still functioning satisfactorily and to prepare technical reports for the authorities ahead of the handover of responsibility for such projects at the end of the year.

Civilians helped to look for their relatives

Bhutanese refugees in Nepal were able to maintain contact with relatives detained in Bhutan (see *New Delhi*) using RCMs. With a view to improving services, National Society staff received training in all aspects of restoring family links, including dealing with tracing requests and the issue of missing persons.

More than 1,300 families were still seeking missing relatives. On the basis of information collected from the families, cases of missing persons were submitted to the authorities concerned with the aim of clarifying their fate. An updated list was published on the website www.familylinks.icrc.org. No new information was forthcoming, however; the political instability was not conducive to systematic dialogue. The ICRC kept in touch with other organizations involved in the issue of missing persons during regular coordination meetings.

Although, following ICRC representations, the government had begun providing interim relief payments to some families of missing persons, its official definition of conflict victims did not include missing persons, which prevented their families from accessing further support mechanisms. The plight of the families was stressed in detail to the authorities in an ICRC study on their psychological, economic and legal needs. The government was encouraged to create an independent body to supervise all activities to clarify the fate of the missing, to adopt relevant legal provisions (see *Authorities*) and reparation policies, and to ensure that families had access to appropriate assistance.

Representatives of family associations had the opportunity to share their concerns with the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction at an ICRC-organized conference. The meeting led the family associations to form a national network to strengthen their campaign. Later in the year, the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction and the Ministry of Education undertook to provide scholarships to the children of missing persons.

Owing to Nepal's vulnerability to natural disasters, representatives of the Home Affairs and Health Ministries, the armed and security forces and the National Society received training in the proper management of human remains, to aid identification and thus prevent people from becoming unaccounted for. Similarly, to promote best practices in the exhumation of human remains, forensic specialists, archaeologists, and laboratory technicians from organizations likely to be involved in exhumations also attended ICRC training.

- ▶ 265 RCMs collected from and 150 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 93 people (6 women; 13 minors at the time of disappearance); 23 people located; 1,365 people (89 women; 153 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 20 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Conflict victims regain some self-sufficiency

Vulnerable households affected by the past conflict or by ongoing disturbances, more than half of which were families whose breadwinner had been killed or was missing, received grants to help them restore their livelihoods through, for example, farming, animal husbandry or small businesses such as grocery stores. They also underwent training in skills that would increase the likelihood of their projects succeeding, such as bookkeeping. Beneficiaries were assisted in forging links with local service providers and other organizations working in similar areas to help with troubleshooting and ensure the sustainability of the projects. A final review of the three-year ICRC/National Society programme showed that the revenue generated contributed an average of 30% to the beneficiaries' monthly household income and that 95% of the projects were continuing beyond the end of ICRC/National Society involvement.

In addition to learning on the job, National Society staff and volunteers received training in assessment, implementation and monitoring to enable them to run similar projects on their own in the future.

- ▶ 7,571 people (1,298 households) benefited from micro-economic initiatives

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Almost all those held in relation to the conflict had been released, but a handful of such detainees remained in custody. They received visits, carried out in accordance with the ICRC's standard working procedures, from delegates, who checked on their treatment and living conditions. Delegates then shared their findings and any recommendations in confidential reports to the relevant authorities. Detainees were able to keep in touch with their families using RCMs, and former detainees received detention certificates, on request, so that they might apply for the government assistance due to conflict victims.

- ▶ 1,585 detainees visited during 10 visits to 9 places of detention
- ▶ 8 RCMs collected from detainees
- ▶ 45 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Detainees' living conditions improve

To enhance detainees' health care, prison personnel and inmates acting as health workers were trained in first aid by the Nepalese Red Cross, with ICRC support.

Recurrent health problems in prisons often stemmed from ill-adapted infrastructure. Wood smoke in insufficiently ventilated premises caused respiratory problems and the absence or poor maintenance of septic tanks posed major risks to public health. Detainees benefited from better living conditions as a result of work carried out with local expert partners: environmentally friendly biogas plants offered a solution to human excreta disposal

and improved cooking conditions by reducing firewood consumption. Smokeless stoves with increased fuel efficiency were also installed. Detainee health and hygiene in two prisons in the Terai also received a boost from an increased number of toilets and a more reliable water supply for cooking, bathing and washing clothes.

A report on completed ICRC water, sanitation and habitat projects in prisons was submitted to the prison authorities in preparation for the handover of responsibility for such projects at the end of 2009. To boost their capacities to effect further improvements, they underwent ICRC-led training in water, sanitation, hygiene and habitat standards in prisons. Participants discussed the possibility of piloting administrative reforms and developing national guidelines on prison infrastructure.

With a view to mobilizing further support, the National Human Rights Commission sought input from a wide range of actors, including the ICRC, for the preparation of a public document listing the work still to be done in places of detention.

- 1,176 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Victims of violence and unrest required urgent medical attention. National Society first-aid trainers underwent training to upgrade their skills and went on to train police officers, journalists and National Society action teams. More than 1,000 people received first aid administered by the National Society using ICRC supplies.

Ambulance services were often hampered during strikes and demonstrations. At seven ICRC-supported round-tables, organized by the National Society, the authorities, representatives of political parties and ethnic groups, the traffic police, ambulance providers and National Society volunteers discussed the use and misuse of ambulances. Fifteen vandalized National Society ambulances were repaired by the ICRC.

Nine hospitals providing care to weapon-wounded people received supplies. Thanks to ICRC interventions, 183 injured people were treated free of charge. Urgent repairs to three hospitals were carried out and staff trained in infection control. Subsequent monitoring revealed improved practices such as the use of disposable rubber gloves, systematic sterilization of equipment and daily cleaning of wards and toilets. Doctors honed their skills during ICRC-run surgical training.

- 3 hospitals (155 beds) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

The Nepalese Army and the ICRC signed an agreement specifying that all Nepalese people irrespective of their class, community or political affiliation had equal access to physical rehabilitation at the Aerahiti National Rehabilitation Centre. As of June, amputees, including mine victims, were fitted with artificial limbs by technicians coached full-time by an ICRC expatriate at the prosthetic/orthotic workshop, which had been fully equipped by the ICRC.

Disabled patients at the Green Pastures Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre had their treatment and transport costs covered by the ICRC and benefited from the skills of technicians trained by the ICRC during a series of stints at the hospital. ICRC-sponsored students of prosthetics/orthotics continued their training in Cambodia.

- 1,156 patients (including 277 women and 106 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 110 new patients (including 25 women and 5 children) fitted with prostheses and 85 (including 19 women and 27 children) fitted with orthoses
- 114 prostheses (including 26 for women and 5 for children; 16 for mine victims), 94 orthoses (including 19 for women and 32 for children) and 191 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

Political uncertainty was not conducive to in-depth discussions between the authorities and the ICRC on IHL implementation. The frequent changes of government officials required the ICRC to re-establish contacts each time. Future government officials learnt about IHL and the Movement during ICRC presentations at the Nepal Administrative Staff College, which agreed to incorporate IHL into its course for new recruits. Local authorities and community leaders were briefed on ICRC/National Society activities with a view to obtaining their backing.

The planned study on the compatibility of Nepalese law with the 1949 Geneva Conventions was not undertaken. However, the national IHL committee, in which the ICRC had observer status, committed to drafting legislation on those treaties. The ICRC stressed the importance of complementing this work by acceding to the 1977 Additional Protocols and other IHL instruments.

The Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction asked the ICRC to comment on draft legislation on the investigation of disappearances, subsequently amending it to include not only forced disappearances but also cases of people missing in relation to the conflict. The cabinet then approved the bill. Furthermore, the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and the ICRC discussed incorporating war crimes and emblem protection into Nepal's penal code. The Nepalese Red Cross and the ICRC considered options for future dialogue with the authorities on clarifying the National Society's legal status, to be pursued in a more stable political climate. Constituent assembly committees were encouraged to incorporate IHL into the new constitution.

The authorities, with ICRC support, organized the first South Asian Conference on IHL in Kathmandu. Representatives of 10 countries exchanged experiences of operating national IHL committees and the steps taken by their governments to implement IHL. Senior Nepalese government officials attended other IHL meetings abroad.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Nepalese Army's IHL Core Group, co-chaired by the adjutant general and the ICRC, continued to oversee the integration of IHL into the force's doctrine, training and operations in line with an order issued by the chief of army staff in 2008. Senior officers, including the adjutant general, were sponsored to attend advanced courses abroad, while officers brushed up their IHL knowledge at ICRC-run seminars or benefited from ICRC participation in army courses. Instructors used ICRC-donated materials and IT equipment and continued work on an IHL manual and training video with ICRC technical support. Troops departing on peace-keeping missions were briefed on IHL and on ICRC activities in their prospective places of deployment.

Members of the PLA, as a separate force, also learnt about IHL during ICRC presentations for its leadership and for troops in quartering areas.

Nepal's Armed Police Force, responsible for maintaining public order, received ICRC support for its efforts to train troops in IHL and international human rights law. Instructors attended ICRC presentations as part of their training courses.

Army and police troops already stationed in the field and other weapon bearers in the Terai attended presentations, conducted in their place of deployment, on IHL, international human rights law and the neutral, impartial and independent nature of Movement activities.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Using ICRC briefings and press releases, journalists produced articles raising public awareness of IHL-related issues. Influential members of civil society and human rights organizations learnt more about such topics during ICRC-run events or by inviting the ICRC to their own. Representatives of trade unions, student unions and the youth wings of political parties attended a first ICRC round-table that aimed to highlight humanitarian issues, build mutual understanding and ensure support for ICRC/National Society activities, particularly during unrest.

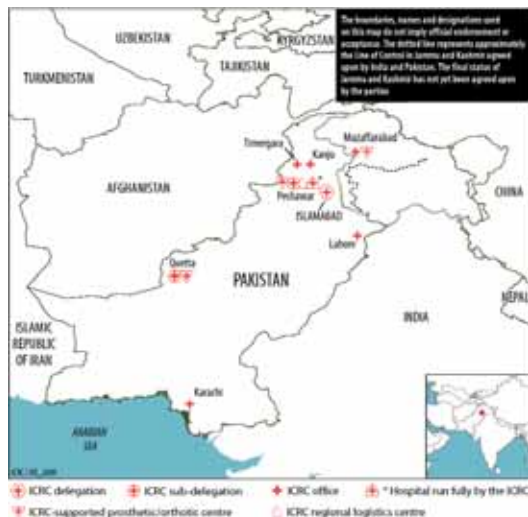
Tribhuvan University and Kathmandu Law School continued to teach IHL. In support of these efforts, lecturers attended a regional IHL meeting and a seminar on recent IHL developments and received reference materials. Students at those universities and at the College of Journalism and Mass Communication attended ICRC presentations. A team of law students tested their IHL skills at a regional moot court competition in Bangladesh.

Although no progress was made in including chapters on the Movement in school textbooks, children were given comics in Nepali describing the history of the Movement.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Nepalese Red Cross remained the ICRC's key operational partner, providing first aid to the weapon-wounded and jointly implementing activities to boost civilians' economic security, improve water supply and sanitation, and restore family links. In addition to receiving technical, material and training support in these fields, the National Society drew on ICRC support for its other activities. Staff were trained in the Safer Access approach and use of electronic mapping software to enhance the National Society's emergency response capacities. To help reduce mine accidents, volunteers were trained in mine-risk education; more than 14,000 people then attended their sessions. Training in IHL promotion also enabled the National Society to raise public awareness of humanitarian issues.

Movement components in Nepal attended regular coordination meetings.



pakistan

The ICRC began working in Pakistan in 1981 to assist victims of the armed conflict in Afghanistan. Its current operations focus on: visiting security detainees; assisting residents and displaced victims of armed violence; supporting the Pakistan Red Crescent Society; ensuring care of the weapon-wounded and the disabled; promoting compliance with IHL among officials and military forces; and fostering dialogue with religious leaders, academic institutions and the media on IHL-related issues, the conduct of hostilities and neutral and independent humanitarian action.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	5,533
Assistance	62,859
Prevention	4,206
Cooperation with National Societies	4,243
General	-

► **76,841**

of which: Overheads **4,366**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	83%
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PERSONNEL

106 expatriates
696 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- monitored individually 62 detainees held for security reasons, while requesting systematic access to all those held in relation to the fighting in the country
- with the National Society, provided 1,635,333 people with emergency food rations and/or essential household items
- with the National Society, enabled family members separated because of the fighting to restore contact by facilitating almost 9,000 phone calls and the exchange of RCMs
- opened its own field hospital in Peshawar to respond to the needs of a growing number of weapon-wounded people
- provided supplies to 62 medical facilities, including National Society mobile health units
- enabled 9,648 disabled patients to receive physical rehabilitation services

CONTEXT

The upsurge in fighting between the Pakistani armed forces and armed groups in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) that began in August 2008 continued into 2009. As of April, the fighting intensified again, alongside ongoing attacks against civilians, sectarian clashes, banditry and kidnappings, prompting an estimated 1.5 million people to flee the affected areas. These people joined the estimated 500,000 already displaced since August 2008. Some IDPs took refuge in camps and public buildings, but the vast majority were hosted by families in areas outside the zones affected by fighting, making it difficult for humanitarian agencies to reach them. As of July, most IDPs from the NWFP began returning home, although low-intensity fighting continued in several districts and agencies; many IDPs from the FATA did not feel it was safe enough to return. In October, the Pakistani armed forces launched a major security operation in South Waziristan, which was then expanded to other agencies and districts in the FATA and southern part of the NWFP. As a consequence, another 250,000 families were reportedly displaced.

In Baluchistan, the border areas continued to be affected by the armed conflict in Afghanistan, with scores of weapon-wounded people crossing the border in search of medical care.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	62	Economic security, water and habitat				
Number of visits carried out	40	Food	Beneficiaries	1,459,830	28%	44%
Number of places of detention visited	23		of whom IDPs	601,686		
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	1,635,333	28%	44%
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			of whom IDPs	779,156		
RCMs collected	700	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	314,916	28%	44%
RCMs distributed	1,304	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	106,967	28%	44%
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of whom IDPs	47,009		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	167	Health				
of whom women	14	Health centres supported	Structures	38		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	36	Consultations	Patients	137,697		
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	63		of which curative		50,863	37,994
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	184		of which ante/post-natal		297	
of whom women	10	Immunizations	Doses	264		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	29	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers		Economic security, water and habitat				
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	4	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	4,000		
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society	2	WOUNDED AND SICK				
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	1	Hospitals supported	Structures	24		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Admissions	Patients	3,472	169	204
People to whom travel documents were issued	5	Operations	Operations performed	6,243		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1	Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	60		
		Physical rehabilitation				
		Patients receiving services	Patients	9,648	1,475	2,384
		Prostheses delivered	Units	855	120	73
		Orthoses delivered	Units	2,227	288	1,232

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC, with its partner, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, conducted a large-scale relief operation to meet the needs of people affected by the fighting. However, because of the security situation it was unable to accomplish all of its goals. Access to those in need was hampered by the fighting and related security measures, such as checkpoints and curfews, and constant population movements. When the authorities could not guarantee the safety of ICRC staff, they would not issue travel authorizations. For example, as of February, ICRC expatriate staff were on the whole unable to go to affected areas of Baluchistan, and in December all activities out of the Peshawar sub-delegation were suspended while the ICRC requested an investigation into a roadside explosion that damaged one of its vehicles. It discussed the matter with various stakeholders. Intermittent access not only hindered the delivery of goods and services, but also meant that ICRC/National Society teams had to make more rapid assessments and were often not able to return to monitor the results of their activities.

As the ability to deliver aid hinged on safe and unimpeded access, the ICRC raised awareness of its neutral, impartial and independent approach during all contacts with military and civilian authorities, armed elements and traditional leaders, with a view to obtaining the necessary assurances of respect for Movement activities.

Despite the difficulties, the ICRC increased its operational reach, opening new offices in Kanju and Timergara and twice appealing for additional funds.

Civilians affected by the fighting received food and hygiene items. The displaced also received essential household items, including goods to help them cope with harsh winter weather. The ICRC supported the National Society and other organizations in running services in IDP camps by improving water supply, constructing latrines and bathing and kitchen facilities, and providing cooked food and basic health care. Outside the camps, it supported the National Society's mobile health units and supplied government health facilities. Family members who had lost touch were able to restore contact using ICRC/National Society tracing, RCM and telephone services. At the end of the year, following their return home, former IDPs received wheat seed and fertilizer to enable them to resume livelihoods disrupted by the fighting.

The ICRC boosted medical treatment for weapon-wounded people by opening a field hospital in Peshawar and supplying other hospitals in the NWFP and the FATA. Disabled people were fitted with artificial limbs and other mobility devices at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres. Patients at the Muzaffarabad centre received training and grants to enable them to run businesses.

ICRC delegates continued to visit people held under the authority of the Ministry of Interior and shared their findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities. The ICRC regained access to detainees in Punjab and offered its services to the authorities to visit all individuals held in relation to current military operations. It also followed cases of detainees repatriated from Afghanistan and the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and helped families keep in contact with relatives held in Pakistan or abroad.

Throughout the year, the ICRC worked to promote IHL among members of the government and the armed and security forces and to raise public awareness of humanitarian issues and principles.

The National Society received financial, technical and material support to boost its capacities to carry out joint operations with the ICRC and to run and expand its own programmes. The ICRC coordinated its activities with those of its delegation in Afghanistan, Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to maximize impact, fill gaps and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Civilians approached the ICRC with allegations of abuses by weapon bearers. The situation in Pakistan did not allow for a systematic approach to addressing their problems, but when possible the ICRC promoted enhanced awareness of the plight of those not or not longer taking part in the violence and of respect for the applicable rules governing the fighting and its consequences, in particular regarding the need to guarantee the safety and dignity of IDPs and to ensure that their return home was voluntary.

Family members back in touch

Displaced people who had lost touch with family members in Pakistan and abroad were able to restore contact using RCMs and free phone services provided by the ICRC/National Society. Several of them, including children, requested help to trace their relatives. The situation in the country was not conducive to discussing the issue of missing persons with the authorities.

The families of Pakistanis held within the country or abroad, including in India and at Guantanamo Bay, kept in touch with their relatives through RCMs and phone calls. The families of internees at the US Bagram Theater Internment Facility in Afghanistan were able to visit their relatives and communicate with them via videoconference calls.

- 658 RCMs collected from and 1,265 RCMs distributed to civilians; 8,940 phone calls facilitated between family members; 376 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- new tracing requests registered for 167 people (14 women; 36 minors at the time of disappearance); 63 people located; 184 people (10 women; 29 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 4 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 2 reunited with their families; 1 case of an unaccompanied/separated child still being handled
- 5 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Civilians better able to cope with the effects of the fighting

Despite the difficulties (see *ICRC action*), the ICRC and the National Society ran a large-scale emergency relief operation for people affected by the fighting in the NWFP and the FATA. These included: residents who remained in isolated areas; IDPs and their host families; and IDPs in camps or public buildings such as schools. All these vulnerable groups, including, as of October, people displaced from the FATA, particularly South Waziristan, into other parts of the NWFP and the FATA or Baluchistan, received food and essential household items. A systematic approach to distributions was not possible, however, owing to insecurity and population movements. For example, only 25% of people could

be given more than a single one-month food ration. With winter looming, many IDPs received quilts, mattresses, winter clothes, stoves and firewood to help them cope with the harsh conditions.

Because of the constant ebb and flow of people, camp services were required for varying lengths of time and in various locations. With ICRC support, the National Society managed camps in the NWFP housing tens of thousands of people. There, and in other camps, IDPs benefited from essential services provided by the ICRC, such as a clean water supply, latrines, bathing and kitchen facilities, and basic health care.

- 1,459,830 people (208,547 households), including 601,686 IDPs, received food
- 1,635,333 people (233,619 households), including 779,756 IDPs, received essential household items, including:
 - 73,194 people who received specific items for the winter
- 47,009 IDPs in camps benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

IDPs in camps used the services of ICRC-run or -supplied basic health care units, and IDPs from Waziristan received treatment at ICRC-supported National Society mobile health units operating in Dera Ismail Khan. Those who remained in Waziristan, where the ICRC had no access, benefited from supplies sent to Ministry of Health facilities. In Baluchistan, till April, such mobile units provided medical care to the population affected by the 2008 earthquake. Health centres in Baluchistan and parts of the NWFP and the FATA were not accessible in a sufficiently consistent way for the ICRC to provide them with the intended comprehensive support, including staff training. Similarly, planned work on water systems in the FATA and Baluchistan could not take place.

In the 38 ICRC-supported health centres and mobile health teams that provided data (average monthly catchment population: 37,000):

- 137,697 people given consultations, including 297 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 137,400 attending curative consultations
- 264 vaccine doses administered (including 159 to children aged five or under and 105 to women of childbearing age)
- 36 patients referred to a second level of care
- 197 health education sessions held

Vulnerable people receive help to boost their economic security

The impact of the fighting on livelihoods was devastating, with wheat crops destroyed or farmers prevented from harvesting their yields by daytime curfews. In October/November, once they had returned to their homes, former IDPs in parts of the Malakand Division in the NWFP began to receive ICRC distributions of wheat seed and fertilizer. Direct monitoring of the resulting crops by ICRC and local specialists, however, was not always possible owing to the security situation. Farmers continued to receive food rations while their crops were growing.

A total of 258 disabled people receiving services at the ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre in Muzaffarabad (see *Wounded and sick*) and their families (1,806 people in all) received a one-off cash grant to set up businesses, such as grocery shops, after undergoing business-management training. They all opened bank accounts and began making average monthly profits representing over 40% of their household income.

It was not possible to train community animal health workers in Baluchistan as planned owing to the lack of access.

- ▶ 314,916 people (44,988 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives

People in Pakistan-administered Kashmir continued to benefit from livelihood-support programmes run by the ICRC and the German Red Cross in the aftermath of the 2005 earthquake. A review concluded that the programmes had largely achieved their objectives: rehabilitated irrigation schemes had increased the land available for cultivation and had enabled higher-value crops to be planted, along with an additional crop off-season; a good harvest from a single walnut tree was able to fetch the equivalent of between one and two months' daily labour wages; and the majority of the donated cows or their offspring were still with the original beneficiaries and still producing the expected quantities of milk.

People who had benefited from ICRC improvements to water infrastructure after the earthquake learnt about the beneficial effects of good hygiene practices and basic maintenance of the facilities in sessions carried out by ICRC-trained National Society volunteers.

- ▶ 59,958 people trained in hygiene and water facility maintenance

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held under the authority of the Ministry of Interior for security reasons in the NWFP, in Punjab and Sindh provinces, and in Pakistan-administered Kashmir received visits, according to standard ICRC working procedures, from delegates, who assessed their treatment and living conditions. Delegates then made confidential reports on their findings and any recommendations to the authorities. The visits to detainees in Punjab were the first since 2008, when the ICRC suspended its visits because it had been prevented from adhering to its standard procedures. Visits to people in Baluchistan, however, remained on hold. In October, the ICRC offered its services to the government to visit all people held in relation to the fighting in the NWFP and the FATA regardless of the detaining authority and the place in which they were held. Dialogue regarding this systematic access was ongoing at the end of the year and took precedence over other matters, such as penitentiary and judicial reform.

Detainees used RCMs to maintain contact with their families and some received recreational items. After assessments, inmates in Karachi central jail in Sindh province saw hygiene conditions improve following the construction of showers and laundry facilities, the upgrade of the water supply system, and hygiene education. The installation of bunk beds made better use of space. The newly opened prison police training institute, which provided training for all prison police staff in Sindh, agreed to include first aid in its curriculum.

Since 2002, detainees/internees repatriated from Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay had been receiving ICRC visits while in Pakistani detention facilities pending their release. After their release, they, along with people released from detention facilities in India, received follow-up visits at home and assistance when they needed medical care or to return to work.

- ▶ 62 detainees visited and monitored individually and 27 newly registered, during 40 visits to 23 places of detention
- ▶ 42 RCMs collected from and 39 RCMs distributed to detainees and 7 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained in the country
- ▶ 4,000 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

Wounded people receive life-saving treatment

The increasing number of weapon-wounded people had access to high-quality surgical care in a 60-bed ICRC field hospital, provided by the Finnish Red Cross, which opened in Peshawar in February staffed by some 20 expatriates and 200 national staff. Administrative difficulties prevented the ICRC from setting up a similar hospital in Quetta. In parallel, a total of 23 other facilities in the NWFP and the FATA, including in Quetta, received medicines, surgical supplies and often other essentials such as fuel for their generators; weapon-wounded people from Afghanistan had the cost of their treatment covered by the ICRC. Although health workers and police officers received first-aid training and supplies, no surgical training sessions took place as ICRC resources were concentrated on the Peshawar field hospital.

In the 7 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 3,472 weapon-wounded patients (including 169 women and 204 children; 49 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war) admitted
- ▶ 6,243 surgical operations performed, of which 831 at the ICRC Peshawar hospital
- ▶ 2,037 outpatients given surgical consultations

Disabled people undergo 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- and violence-affected areas, including from Afghanistan. Patients received services at the Muzaffarabad Physical Rehabilitation Centre, the Pakistan Institute of Prosthetic and Orthotic Sciences in Peshawar and the Christian Hospital Rehabilitation Centre in Quetta. Staff at the centres underwent training to further improve services, and patients at the Muzaffarabad centre were able to apply for livelihood support through an ICRC-run programme (see *Civilians*).

- ▶ 8,045 patients (including 1,272 women and 2,283 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres and 1,603 people with spinal cord injuries received home care from ICRC-supported local health workers after their discharge from medical facilities in Peshawar
- ▶ 850 new patients (including 126 women and 64 children) fitted with prostheses and 1,453 (including 225 women and 716 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 855 prostheses (including 120 for women and 73 for children; 272 for mine victims), 2,227 orthoses (including 288 for women and 1,232 for children; 229 for mine victims), 1,426 crutches and 192 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with the authorities at all levels remained essential for ensuring the protection of civilians and access to victims of the fighting. The ICRC was able to strengthen its contacts with government officials at central and local level and with representatives of the various political parties to remind them of their responsibilities and enlist their support for ICRC/National Society activities.

With the government focused on the security situation, implementation of IHL made little progress. Nevertheless, some 25 high-level representatives of key ministries, such as the Foreign Affairs, Interior, Law and Justice and Defence Ministries attended an ICRC/National Society workshop which aimed to encourage the government to accede to IHL instruments and to incorporate into national law the provisions of those to which Pakistan was already party. Participants also discussed the possibility of establishing a national IHL committee to drive the process. Senior officials were sponsored to participate in IHL conferences abroad.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Meetings with an array of representatives of the armed and security forces and armed elements were an opportunity to remind them of the need to respect medical staff and infrastructure and humanitarian workers and to allow the ICRC, as a neutral and independent humanitarian organization, access to people affected by the fighting.

With the focus on operational deployment, the process of integrating IHL into the doctrine, education and training of the armed forces remained slow. Nevertheless, instructors at army and air force training establishments attended train-the-trainer courses. Senior army officers and middle-ranking air force officers attended presentations to raise their awareness of IHL and the ICRC.

In accordance with the 2008 agreement between the Interior Ministry and the ICRC, the inaugural meeting took place of the joint police/ICRC steering group on the integration of international human rights law and humanitarian principles into the federal police force's doctrine and training. Senior representatives of each provincial police force, the National Police Academy and the Foreign Affairs, Interior, and Law and Justice Ministries discussed future ICRC support for their efforts, including a national review of police standard operating procedures. Subsequently, contacts were established with provincial forces in Baluchistan and the NWFP, with instructors from the NWFP Frontier Constabulary attending a train-the-trainer course. A review of the doctrine of the Punjab provincial force got under way. Police officers attended ICRC presentations to familiarize them with international human rights law.

CIVIL SOCIETY

On the basis of press releases and briefings for journalists, the Pakistani media covered humanitarian issues and ICRC activities in both English and Urdu. In a five-week campaign, radio stations in the NWFP and the FATA broadcast short messages highlighting different ICRC activities and the neutral, impartial and independent nature of the organization.

During bilateral meetings, local authorities, religious and traditional leaders, and NGOs learnt more about the ICRC with a view to enlisting their support for its activities and gaining access to people in need.

To increase knowledge of IHL and the ICRC among future leaders and opinion-makers, students from law and other faculties of Islamic and other universities attended IHL presentations. The winners of a national moot court competition tested their skills against teams from other countries at an international competition in Paris, France.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Pakistani Red Crescent remained the main operational partner for the ICRC in joint activities to provide essential goods and services, including health care and family links, to people affected by fighting in Baluchistan, the NWFP and the FATA and to earthquake victims in Pakistan-administered Kashmir (see *Civilians*). With ICRC financial and technical support and training, the National Society boosted its capacities to conduct such activities and to run its own programmes. In particular, it continued to raise awareness of the Movement's Fundamental Principles, in order to ensure support for its activities, and to train key groups in first aid. Some 10,600 people, including police officers, journalists, students, shopkeepers and its own volunteers, received such training. In addition to first-aid services, the National Society provided ambulance and medical services during emergencies such as bomb blasts in Lahore and Peshawar.

All Movement partners present in the country coordinated their response to the needs arising from the fighting.



philippines

In the Philippines, where the ICRC has worked 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 islands of Mindanao. It acts as a neutral intermediary between opposing forces in humanitarian matters. It visits security detainees and, with the authorities, aims to improve conditions in prisons, through direct interventions and prison reform. It also works with the Philippine National Red Cross, through its network of regional chapters, local branches and volunteers, to assist displaced people and promote compliance with IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,203
Assistance	14,193
Prevention	2,221
Cooperation with National Societies	1,353
General	-

► **20,970**

of which: Overheads **1,280**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	71%
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PERSONNEL

33 expatriates
142 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- endeavoured to increase knowledge of and respect for IHL and the ICRC among weapon bearers, particularly with regard to the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers
- continued to monitor the situation of civilians in conflict- and violence-affected areas, raising allegations of IHL violations and other abuses with the parties concerned
- with the National Society, provided regular relief assistance, including food, to over 165,000 IDPs and improved access to water for nearly 186,000 IDPs and residents in conflict-affected areas
- in response to Tropical Storm Ondoy, supported the National Society in providing safe water and sanitation facilities to 1,800 people in 6 evacuation centres in the Manila region
- supported the efforts of the authorities to improve living conditions in prisons, including through a tuberculosis control project and measures to address delays in the criminal justice system
- provided technical expertise on IHL to State legislators

CONTEXT

Campaigning for presidential, provincial and municipal elections, set for May 2010, gathered momentum in 2009 against a backdrop of political instability. The worst pre-election violence occurred in November, when 57 people, including a large number of journalists and women, were slaughtered while on their way to register a candidate for governor in the southern province of Maguindanao in Mindanao.

The fighting in Central Mindanao between units of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), which had begun to escalate in August 2008, persisted in the first half of 2009, causing further loss of life and livelihoods and large population displacements (calculation of the numbers involved often differed as organizations used different criteria to count IDPs). The humanitarian situation started to improve slowly after the government and the MILF declared a suspension of military operations in late July. In September, the government and the MILF signed an agreement allowing international monitors back into the conflict zone in Central Mindanao. The improved security in the region did not trigger a mass return of IDPs, however.

Follow-up discussions on the implementation of the 1996 Final Peace Agreement between the government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) under the auspices of the Organization of the Islamic Conference made little progress.

The security and humanitarian situation in the Sulu archipelago remained precarious, with ongoing confrontations mainly between the security forces and alleged elements of the Abu Sayyaf Group. In January 2009, three ICRC staff members were kidnapped by an armed group in Jolo. The release of the last hostage was secured in July after multiple efforts to this end.

Elsewhere, the low-intensity conflict between the military and the New People's Army (NPA) carried on throughout 2009, despite attempts by the parties to resume peace talks under Norwegian auspices.

In September, Tropical Storm Ondoy caused widespread flooding and destruction in the Manila region.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited	66,119	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	641	Food	Beneficiaries	167,725	15%	70%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	167,725		
	of whom minors	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	199,650	15%	70%
Number of visits carried out	234		of whom IDPs	199,650		
Number of places of detention visited	139	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	185,711	32%	36%
DOCUMENTS ISSUED			of whom IDPs	183,911		
People to whom travel documents were issued	16	Health				
		Health centres supported	Structures	6		
		Consultations	Patients	31,166		
			of which curative		7,750	12,965
			of which ante/post-natal		4,190	
		Immunizations	Doses	13,129		
		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
		Economic security, water and habitat				
		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	15,671		
		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	8,216		
		WOUNDED AND SICK				
		Hospitals supported	Structures	8		
		Admissions	Patients	27,235	12,319	7,737
		Operations	Operations performed	3,215		
		Physical rehabilitation				
		Patients receiving services	Patients	31	3	1
		Prostheses delivered	Units	26	2	

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Fighting on various fronts in the Philippines, in particular in Central Mindanao, continued to have a direct impact on increasing numbers of civilians in terms of casualties, loss of livelihood and population displacement. The ICRC increased its budget to respond to the crisis, while coordinating its activities with those of the authorities and other international and national organizations.

Following the kidnapping of three of its staff members in Jolo, the ICRC suspended its trips to and field work in the Sulu archipelago. Philippine National Red Cross teams on the spot meanwhile continued to monitor the humanitarian consequences of the upsurge in fighting and distributed some ICRC assistance.

Despite a very challenging security situation in Central Mindanao, the Philippine Red Cross and the ICRC provided a total of 167,725 IDPs with complementary food rations and essential household items, reaching an average of 100,000 IDPs every six weeks. The general health of displaced and host populations improved thanks to the construction of water supply and sanitation facilities and support to six primary health centres in those areas most affected by conflict or violence. Vulnerable civilians and wounded weapon bearers received medical care boosted by ICRC support to surgical centres; weapon-wounded patients had the costs of their treatment covered by the ICRC.

Based on its monitoring of the behaviour of weapon bearers, in particular towards the civilian population, the ICRC followed up allegations of IHL violations and other misconduct with those involved with a view to ending such abuses.

The ICRC further promoted protection of and respect for people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence through regular contact with armed forces, the police and armed groups, through support to the integration of IHL into military training programmes, and through work to enhance knowledge of humanitarian principles among the police and others.

People deprived of their freedom continued to receive ICRC visits to assess their conditions of detention, treatment and access to health care. Confidential reports containing the ICRC's findings and recommendations were shared with the detaining authorities. Close coordination was further developed with the authorities to support ongoing jail decongestion initiatives and to improve conditions of detention. Inmates' basic hygiene and access to clean water improved after infrastructure upgrades were undertaken in 20 jails. A scheme to address tuberculosis (TB) in prisons was piloted together with the Department of Health, WHO and other agencies working in this field. With the technical expertise of the ICRC, the national authorities started to address procedural delays in the criminal justice system, a major cause of overcrowding in prisons.

The authorities received further ICRC support in drafting national legislation to implement IHL. In November, the Congress adopted a bill penalizing war crimes and crimes against humanity, following lobbying efforts by the Philippine Red Cross backed by the ICRC. Targeting future decision-makers, the ICRC and the National Society invited law students and lecturers to participate in IHL events, such as a national moot court competition. The Philippines was selected as one of eight featured contexts in the Movement's "Our world. Your move." communication campaign.

CIVILIANS

The civilian population continued to suffer the consequences of the various armed conflicts and other situations of violence in the Philippines. The military, armed groups, local authorities, residents, and religious and community leaders were all important contacts for the ICRC in gaining a better understanding of the humanitarian situation in violence-affected areas and ensuring the safety of humanitarian action. To contribute to an environment conducive to respect for life and the dignity of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, the ICRC closely monitored the situation of the civilian population and on this basis took various initiatives. Whenever possible, allegations of IHL violations and other abuses were brought to the attention of the parties concerned, who were reminded of their obligations.

Civilians and weapon bearers were made aware of the risks posed by weapon contamination through dissemination sessions.

IDPs receive emergency relief

A study conducted by the ICRC revealed the varying degrees of vulnerability and differing needs of IDPs and returnees, highlighting the complexity of displacement in Central Mindanao. It also confirmed that the lack of security had resulted in more long-term displacement than in the past. Despite changes in the situation over the year, no major return of IDPs occurred, at least not until the last weeks of 2009. Most continued to live in precarious conditions, often in remote areas, cut off from their means of livelihood.

IDPs' needs were assessed by Philippine Red Cross and ICRC teams, and emergency assistance was adapted accordingly. An average of 100,000 IDPs (20,000 households) in Central Mindanao received complementary food rations every six weeks, along with essential household items, to enhance their general economic security. Some 2,000 households also received kits containing shelter materials and essential household items to support their return to their home villages.

Several security concerns delayed assistance to IDPs. Contesting of the beneficiary lists and threats received in September forced a temporary suspension of distributions for two months. A thorough reassessment of the security situation and of the needs led to the distribution of two rounds of food rations at the end of 2009/beginning of 2010 prior to a review of all beneficiaries and their vulnerability level, with a view to adapting assistance in 2010 accordingly.

The priority being the provision of emergency assistance in Central Mindanao, only four communities benefited from the distribution of seed, tools and animal grants, along with training in agricultural practices.

An additional 4,500 IDPs (900 households) affected by armed conflict elsewhere in Mindanao received ICRC shelter materials and essential household items.

- ▶ 167,725 people (33,531 households) received food rations
- ▶ 184,650 people (36,916 households) received essential household items

Civilians have better access to primary health care services

The capacities of six primary health care centres servicing displaced and host communities in Central Mindanao and eight

higher-level referral centres were boosted through regular ICRC support, including tailored donations of drugs and medical materials and equipment. Medical professionals attended on-the-job training, held in coordination with national health service providers.

In the 6 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 146,000):

- ▶ 31,166 people given consultations, including 4,190 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 26,976 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 13,129 vaccine doses administered (including 9,800 to children aged five or under and 1,006 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 753 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 722 health education sessions held

Sanitation conditions for IDPs in nine evacuation centres improved following hygiene promotion activities. After receiving training, 30 Philippine Red Cross hygiene promotion supervisors trained 82 community health workers in hygiene promotion and organized 42 sessions for some 1,300 mothers and child-carers. Some 170 IDPs also received training and equipment to form camp environmental sanitation committees.

Water supply and sanitation improve

IDPs and residents in conflict- and violence-affected areas of Mindanao and Visayas had improved access to water and sanitation facilities following the construction of permanent infrastructure such as toilets, septic tanks, deep wells, reservoirs and small-scale rural water supply systems. This reflected a change in the ICRC response to the needs of the long-term displaced, while maintaining an emergency response capacity in case of new displacements. The projects, conducted by the ICRC in coordination with the local authorities, were community-based and beneficiaries were requested to provide the manpower. The security situation led to considerable delays in implementation.

- ▶ 183,911 IDPs benefited from water/sanitation projects in Central Mindanao, including the patients of 6 health facilities

People affected by the tropical storm receive assistance

People affected by Tropical Storm Ondoy were assisted by the Philippine Red Cross, backed by ICRC material support and expertise. Some 1,800 people in 6 evacuation centres thus regained access to drinking water. Around 15,000 people (3,000 households) received ICRC shelter materials and essential household items.

Given the frequency of large-scale natural disasters in the Philippines, specialists from key government agencies received forensics training to build local capacity to deal appropriately with human remains and to help families ascertain the fate of relatives.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees held in places of detention 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 received ICRC visits. The visits were carried out in accordance with the ICRC's standard working procedures, and confidential reports containing its findings and recommendations were submitted to the authorities. Particularly vulnerable

detainees, such as minors, women, the elderly and the mentally ill, were closely monitored. Individually monitored detainees received visits from relatives, facilitated by the Philippine Red Cross and funded by the ICRC.

- 66,119 detainees visited, of whom 641 monitored individually (40 women; 5 minors) and 175 newly registered (19 women; 5 minors), during 234 visits to 139 places of detention
- 7 RCMs collected from and 3 RCMs distributed to detainees; 5 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained abroad
- 312 detainees visited by relatives with ICRC/National Society support

Armed groups were encouraged to notify the ICRC of any people they captured and to allow it to visit them. In 2009, the ICRC acted as a neutral intermediary in the release of four police officers and one AFP officer held by the NPA. In Central Mindanao, three individuals detained by the AFP were handed over to the ICRC for family reunification.

Living conditions in prisons are tackled

Detainees' general health and access to health care were monitored by the ICRC. Dialogue with prison health staff and management included the importance of a balanced diet and preventive health care for detainees. Seven prison dispensaries were given first-aid items, consumables and medical equipment, while staff received training in health-related issues. A total of 120 inmates needing immediate medical care received direct ICRC support.

Projects to improve living conditions, in particular water and sanitation facilities and kitchens, were carried out in 20 BJMP-run and provincial jails, with ICRC material support and expertise. Sixty-one BJMP engineers received training in the application of international technical standards relating to living conditions in prisons.

Four places of detention (housing 1,888 detainees) flooded as a result of Tropical Storm Ondoy received additional assistance, including materials for disinfection of water and for personal hygiene.

- 15,671 detainees benefited from essential items, including hygiene and cleaning materials, and from recreational items, such as books and games
- 8,216 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Efforts to mobilize the authorities and key government agencies continued at central and local level to support the allocation of more resources to improve prison facilities. Three government working groups, set up with ICRC backing to deal with due process of law, the upgrade of prison infrastructure, and TB control in prisons, stepped up their activities giving rise to tangible results. When needed, the ICRC provided technical expertise to help bring existing regulations and practice into line with international standards. In 2009, the authorities extended the national TB programme to prisons, beginning with seven pilot facilities, benefiting some 30,000 inmates.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Armed clashes and other violent incidents often occurred in remote areas where the population had limited access to health care. Surgeons specializing in treating weapon wounds or burn injuries mainly worked in urban areas and patients could rarely afford to make the journey.

Conflict victims, including 228 weapon-wounded and 31 amputees, benefited from ICRC financial support to ensure they received appropriate medical care and physical rehabilitation. The capacities of local health staff in critical areas such as war surgery and prosthetics/orthotics were enhanced through ICRC training support. Thus, 29 surgeons attended a war-surgery seminar, while one staff member from the Davao Jubilee Centre continued her training at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics and another was seconded for two months of practical training to an ICRC-supported rehabilitation centre in Cambodia. Additionally, hospitals met the increased demand on their resources with medicines, consumables and medical equipment donated by the ICRC.

The Philippine Red Cross's capacity to respond rapidly to civilians' medical needs was strengthened through the pre-positioning of emergency medical items in five chapters in remote conflict- and violence-affected areas, as well as the donation of first-aid kits and training support to 108 first-aiders.

In the 2 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 27,235 patients (including 12,319 women and 7,737 children) admitted: of whom 588 weapon-wounded (including 34 women and 20 children; 329 people injured by mines or explosive remnants of war), 3,194 other surgical cases, and 16,188 medical and 7,265 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 3,215 surgical operations performed
- 43,853 outpatients given consultations, including 34,526 attending surgical or medical consultations and 9,327 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with the authorities at all levels remained a priority for the ICRC as a means of ensuring the protection of civilians and access to conflict victims. The content, pace and dynamics of this dialogue changed after the abduction of three ICRC staff members in Sulu. The ICRC further expanded its network of contacts and many meetings focused on securing the release of the ICRC staff members. In parallel, the ICRC continued to raise awareness of IHL and the respective roles of the National Society and the ICRC.

Activities initially planned to support IHL implementation were only partially carried out. Legislative staff received technical guidance on and training in IHL implementation, with particular regard to legislation on IHL, the emblem, mines and the strengthening of the Philippine National Red Cross Charter. In a major step forward, a bill penalizing serious violations of IHL was enacted. No progress was made on expanding the national IHL committee's role to that of an interministerial body which could coordinate IHL implementation.

In order to enhance awareness and understanding of the ICRC and increase knowledge of its activities and efforts in the country, a quarterly newsletter was launched.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During field dissemination sessions, and through dialogue at leadership level, members of the armed forces, the police and armed groups were reminded of the need to respect civilians and their property and to ensure the safety of humanitarian workers in accordance with IHL.

Representatives of military training institutions expanded their knowledge of IHL during ICRC briefings and a regional workshop, hosted by the Philippine Military Academy, which brought together 26 participants from 11 countries. In cooperation with the AFP Human Rights Office, IHL training manuals and brochures were printed and distributed among troops, while command officers attended a one-day workshop on IHL in operational contexts.

Senior police officers from conflict-affected areas attended a three-day workshop organized jointly with the Philippine National Police Human Rights Affairs Office with the aim of enhancing training in international human rights law, internationally recognized standards of law enforcement and the basic rules and principles of IHL.

Contacts were maintained with the organizers of the US-Philippine Balikatan military exercise, in which the ICRC decided not to take an active part this year.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Philippines was one of the eight contexts featured in the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign. Together, the National Society and the ICRC used this opportunity to promote IHL and the Movement. A photographic exhibition put on in conjunction with the Supreme Court of the Philippines aimed to increase awareness of the State’s obligations under IHL among judges and lawyers. Seminars, public events and briefings organized with civil society groups highlighted the importance of the 1949 Geneva Conventions on the occasion of their 60th anniversary. In addition, many meetings were held with NGOs, think-tanks and religious institutions to promote the ICRC’s protection mandate and working principles.

The media covered the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign and reported on IHL and ICRC activities following regular briefings. During the abduction of the three ICRC staff members, weekly web-interviews ensured that ICRC messages were relayed in a clear and coherent manner.

Law students increased their knowledge of IHL during ICRC-organized debates and a national moot court competition, in which 16 teams took part. In order to promote IHL among scholars and experts, the third volume of the *Asia-Pacific Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law* was printed in cooperation with the University of the Philippines Law Center.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Philippine Red Cross remained a key operational partner for the ICRC, and cooperation between the two organizations enhanced both the ICRC’s proximity to conflict- and violence-affected people and the National Society’s emergency response capacity (see *Civilians, People deprived of their freedom and Wounded and sick*). Joint operations combined with training provided opportunities to strengthen the capacities of local staff and volunteers in assessment, distribution, monitoring and project planning.

The National Society’s emergency preparedness was given a further boost after receiving ICRC material support (water supply and sanitation materials, first-aid kits, new vehicles, VHF radios) and training, in readiness for rapid deployment.

Philippine Red Cross staff attended a psychological support training course, organized by the Department of Health and the University of the Philippines. Consequently, the authorities designated the Philippine Red Cross the official provider of psychological support during emergencies.

As the issue of security remained a priority, Philippine Red Cross management, staff and volunteers attended ICRC briefings on the Safer Access approach. The National Society subsequently updated its own security guidelines.

Regional, provincial and local fora organized by the Philippine Red Cross raised awareness of IHL and the ICRC’s mandate among government officials, armed and police forces and academic circles. Disseminators received training to improve their own knowledge and communication skills.

To strengthen the National Society’s legal base, the ICRC and the International Federation dispatched a joint support mission to assist the Philippine Red Cross in revising its statutes and by-laws.



sri lanka

The ICRC has worked in Sri Lanka since 1989. Operations focus on: protecting and assisting civilians affected by the recent armed conflict; visiting detainees and facilitating family links; providing adequate water supply and economic security for IDPs and resident communities; improving access to physical rehabilitation facilities; and supporting military training in IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	7,702
Assistance	19,927
Prevention	1,722
Cooperation with National Societies	1,565
General	-

► **30,917**

of which: Overheads 1,689

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	73%
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PERSONNEL

62 expatriates
555 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- during the last months of the conflict, repeatedly reminded both parties of their obligations under IHL to protect civilians
- conducted evacuations from the conflict area, by sea, for more than 13,000 people, including 6,600 wounded and sick individuals
- visited 34,430 detainees, monitoring 13,490 of them individually, in 176 places of detention
- with the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, provided food, a clean water supply and essential household items to more than 230,000 IDPs from the Vanni
- provided essential household items, improved water facilities and livelihood support to returnee families and vulnerable residents throughout the country
- following the end of active hostilities and increased restrictions on ICRC access to conflict victims, began discussions with the authorities on the organization's future role in the new context

CONTEXT

Intense fighting in the Vanni peaked in early 2009 as the Sri Lankan armed forces continued to make gains into areas formerly controlled by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The civilian population became trapped in the conflict zone until it was squeezed into a small coastal area between the two forces. Many people were wounded or killed, including three ICRC staff members.

On 18 May, the government announced the end of its combat operations in the north of the country and declared victory over the LTTE, thereby ending active hostilities in the long-running armed conflict. The LTTE acknowledged the deaths of its leaders, and fighters pledged to lay down their arms.

An estimated 300,000 people were displaced by the upsurge in fighting, the vast majority of whom had arrived in Vavuniya, while smaller numbers made their way by sea to Jaffna and Trincomalee districts. These newly displaced people were housed in government camps, to which humanitarian actors had varying degrees of access. The camps remained closed off until October, when the government launched a resettlement process. Large numbers, however, were unable to return to their homes owing to the presence of explosive remnants of war or to a lack of facilities. At year-end, some 100,000 people remained in the Vavuniya camps.

Many LTTE fighters were arrested by government forces. IDPs in camps were screened in order to identify former fighters among them. Other members of the LTTE surrendered to the government and were being held in so-called rehabilitation centres.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	34,430	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	13,490	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	231,113	40%
			<i>of whom IDPs</i>	231,113	20%
	<i>of whom women</i>	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	295,317	40%
	<i>of whom minors</i>		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	279,143	20%
Number of visits carried out	647	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	13,244	40%
Number of places of detention visited	176		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	5,400	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	47,018	41%
RCMs collected	7,700		<i>of whom IDPs</i>	47,018	31%
RCMs distributed	4,077	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	2,365	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	40,500	
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	514	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	13	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	13,587	Operations ¹	<i>Operations performed</i>	294	
	<i>of whom women</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Number of beds</i>	1,900	
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
<i>Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs), including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers</i>		Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	1,126	276
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	96	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	302	72
	<i>of whom girls</i>	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	112	36
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	51				27
	<i>of whom girls</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	24				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	779				

1. ICRC surgical team only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, despite difficulties of access to conflict victims owing to the volatile security situation and a government request in July to scale down operations, the ICRC adapted its approach and its planned activities to help meet the most pressing humanitarian needs at the height of the conflict and during its immediate aftermath. In this endeavour, the ICRC coordinated its activities with those of the UN and other humanitarian actors in order to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.

As the fighting escalated, the ICRC became the last international humanitarian actor working in the conflict zone. Following the closure of the land crossing points between front lines, the ICRC, in its role as a neutral intermediary and with the agreement of both parties, evacuated over 13,000 people from the conflict zone by ship. As the ICRC-operated ships were the only means of entering and exiting the conflict area, they were also used to transport WFP food and limited amounts of government medical supplies for civilians trapped between fighting forces.

Health activities were adapted to better meet urgent conflict-related needs. Hospitals and first-aid posts in government-controlled areas received medical supplies to help them cope with the massive influx of patients. The ICRC also carried out rehabilitation works to increase hospital bed capacities. While road routes remained closed, patients from Jaffna were evacuated to Colombo by air. The Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation received technical and material support to fit patients, including mine victims, with artificial limbs.

ICRC/Sri Lanka Red Cross Society teams provided food and essential household items to IDPs in the north and east and,

with the British Red Cross, helped returnees in the east resume income-generating activities. The ICRC and the National Society also improved water and sanitation facilities for some 90,000 people.

As the conflict intensified, so did the ICRC's contacts with both parties to impress upon them the need to act in accordance with IHL and in particular to respect civilians. Following the end of active hostilities, dialogue with the government focused on legal provisions governing the treatment of IDPs.

Security detainees, including thousands of former LTTE fighters in government custody after surrendering or being arrested, received visits from ICRC delegates, who checked on their treatment and living conditions. Visits to people held by the LTTE also took place until their release at the end of active hostilities.

In July, the government requested the ICRC to close its offices in the east of the country and curtailed its access to the camps in the Vavuniya and Mannar regions, where the vast majority of IDPs and former LTTE fighters were housed. This led to a severe reduction in ICRC activities.

While IHL promotion continued among influential members of society, such as the media, religious leaders and academics, the pace of activities in support of IHL implementation by the authorities and the armed and security forces was particularly slow, at first owing to their focus on the conflict and then to the ICRC's limited access as of July.

Discussions with the authorities on redefining the ICRC's role in the new context were ongoing at the end of the year.

CIVILIANS

The armed conflict between government forces and the LTTE took a heavy toll on civilians, causing casualties and forcing people from their homes. Civilians approached the ICRC to report IHL violations, including the recruitment of minors. Delegates made confidential representations to the alleged perpetrators, urging them to take corrective measures and prevent recurrences. Authorities and weapon bearers from both sides were also reminded of the need to act in accordance with IHL, focusing in particular on the conduct of hostilities and the protection of the civilian population, including by observing the rules of proportionality and distinction, preventing forced displacement and ensuring voluntary return.

With the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, thousands of civilians, wounded and sick patients, and vehicles were able to pass safely between government-held and LTTE-held territories. This included regular WFP relief consignments. Following the last authorized land convoy on 29 January, more than 13,000 civilians, including some 6,600 weapon-wounded or sick patients, were evacuated from the conflict zone in 31 operations using a sea route. WFP food aid and limited Ministry of Health medical supplies were also transported by ship for civilians trapped between fighting forces.

Families in touch again

The hostilities and mass displacements meant that many people needed help in re-establishing or maintaining contact with family members. IDPs arriving at screening points in government-controlled areas often reported losing touch with relatives who had allegedly been arrested or had surrendered (see *People deprived of their freedom*). Because of inadequate access, however, only limited tracing and RCM services could be provided by National Society/ICRC teams to IDPs in camps.

The transfer of human remains across front lines, facilitated by the ICRC, had to cease after the closure of the last land crossing point in January. In an effort to reduce the risk of people becoming unaccounted for, both sides received guidelines on the management of human remains, and four forensic practitioners attended conferences abroad.

- 3,550 RCMs collected from civilians, including 4 from unaccompanied/separated children, and 3,417 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 2,365 people (316 women; 284 minors at the time of disappearance); 514 people located; 13,587 people (516 women; 1,163 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 96 unaccompanied/separated children registered; 51 cases of unaccompanied/separated children still being handled
- 24 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 100 sets of human remains transferred across front lines

Conflict victims' vulnerability reduced

Civilians were displaced, often repeatedly, as the conflict reached its peak, with front lines regularly moving. IDPs in camps, welfare centres and host communities received essential items from the National Society and the ICRC, including emergency food rations, clothing, hygiene items, kitchen utensils, tarpaulins and tents, where necessary. IDPs in makeshift reception sites had improved access to clean water and sanitation after the National Society and the ICRC disinfected wells, built, repaired or extended water

systems and erected temporary latrines. The long-term displaced in welfare centres on the Jaffna peninsula also benefited from rehabilitation and extension work to water and sanitation systems.

As of November, the needs of people from camps in Vavuniya resettling in the north (including in the Vanni) could not be addressed owing to the lack of ICRC access to areas of return. The returning population in Jaffna, however, received materials to build temporary shelters, and vulnerable residents were given essential household items. In addition, returnees in the east were given shelter kits and continued to use water systems and latrines constructed or rehabilitated just prior to the closure of the ICRC offices there.

Following extensive flooding on the Jaffna peninsula early in the year, residents and IDPs had clean drinking water following the rehabilitation of rural water systems and the installation of water storage facilities.

- 231,113 IDPs (57,779 households) received food
- 295,317 people (73,378 households), including 279,143 IDPs, received essential household items
- 47,018 IDPs benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

People begin to regain economic security

Conflict-affected residents and returnees received help in resuming their livelihoods. Vulnerable rice farmers in Vavuniya who had lost their harvest during heavy floods in 2007 received cash grants disbursed in instalments for each stage of the production cycle. The project, which had begun in 2008, drew to a close in February. In the east, projects involving the provision of fruit trees, materials for beekeeping, agricultural tools, and cash grants for purchasing seed or renting tractors, for example, helped families generate income. Bicycles helped increase mobility and therefore business opportunities. Such programmes, run in partnership with the British Red Cross, ended following the closure of ICRC structures in the areas concerned.

- 13,244 people (4,017 households) benefited from agricultural inputs and micro-economic initiatives

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

During the active hostilities, alleged LTTE fighters were arrested by the government under the Emergency Regulations and Prevention of Terrorism Act. The end of active hostilities brought a sharp increase in the number of people arrested as they made their way out of the conflict area. The ICRC monitored the initial screening of IDPs at Omanthai checkpoint and registered some 9,500 of those arrested or who surrendered to security forces. Where possible, their families were then informed of their whereabouts.

Alleged former LTTE members were held in large rehabilitation centres throughout the country, but mainly in the Vavuniya region, where they received visits from ICRC delegates according to the organization's standard working procedures until access was withdrawn in July. Outside the rehabilitation centres, other people arrested in relation to the conflict, including those in police stations, received regular visits all year. Members of the armed forces held by the LTTE were visited until the end of active hostilities, when they were released. Following all visits, ICRC delegates made confidential reports to the relevant detaining authorities containing their findings and any recommendations with regard to detainees' treatment and living conditions.

Detainees were given recreational items, clothing and hygiene items, when necessary, and were able to maintain contact with their relatives through RCMs and family visits. Some 40,500 people in rehabilitation centres set up in old ill-equipped buildings benefited from tents, latrines and water storage facilities.

Government-held detainees

- ▶ 34,423 detainees visited, of whom 13,490 monitored individually (2,214 women; 470 minors) and 12,177 newly registered (2,096 women; 451 minors), during 643 visits to 173 places of detention

LTTE-held detainees

- ▶ 7 detainees visited and monitored individually, including 2 newly registered, during 4 visits to 3 places of detention
- ▶ 1 wounded member of the government armed forces released by the LTTE transferred to government-controlled territory by the ICRC, as a neutral intermediary

Family links for all detainees

- ▶ 4,150 RCMs collected from and 660 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 7,676 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 779 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

Medical structures in government-controlled areas struggled to cope with the large influx of wounded and sick patients from the conflict zone. Patients in Mannar and Trincomalee hospitals benefited from the presence of an ICRC surgical team, which performed 294 surgical operations. During the mass influx of IDPs to the government-controlled area, people arriving at Omanthai crossing point received first aid from a National Society/ICRC team. The capacities of existing hospitals were temporarily increased by some 1,200 beds thanks to the construction of extra temporary wards and sanitation facilities, as well as semi-permanent wards. Hospital morgues were also upgraded and extended. A total of 16 medical facilities received supplies for as long as they remained operational.

Facilities in LTTE-controlled areas suffered from dwindling staff numbers and lack of supplies. Limited Ministry of Health supplies were delivered to the conflict area on the ICRC ship carrying out medical evacuations (see *Civilians*).

Plans for war-surgery seminars and emergency-room trauma courses were cancelled as medical staff were overstretched in dealing with high numbers of casualties.

- ▶ 7,200 wounded people treated in the 2 ICRC-supported first-aid posts that provided data
- ▶ hospitals (1,900 beds) benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Where necessary, patients were transferred between Jaffna Teaching Hospital and Colombo in an ICRC-chartered aircraft until the end of November, when the road connecting Jaffna and Colombo reopened. The aircraft also carried Ministry of Health medical staff and cargo. Owing to the conflict and large-scale displacement, the ministry did not pursue its vaccination and antenatal activities in insecure areas and therefore did not need the ICRC to accompany its teams.

- ▶ 1,719 patients in need of specialized treatment transported to Colombo

The Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation, which provided the only physical rehabilitation services on the peninsula, received technical and material support, including for its outreach programme for those unable to travel to the centre. Prosthetic/orthotic technicians attended professional courses abroad, while the training of physiotherapists was postponed to 2010. Given the conflict and the subsequent lack of ICRC access to the Vanni, the training of medical staff in the care of patients with spinal injuries could not take place either.

- ▶ 1,126 patients (including 276 women and 49 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- ▶ 89 new patients (including 22 women and 4 children) fitted with prostheses and 62 (including 17 women and 8 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 302 prostheses (including 72 for women and 5 for children; 134 for mine victims), 112 orthoses (including 36 for women and 27 for children; 13 for mine victims), 131 crutches and 68 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

As the conflict intensified, contacts with the authorities, both at local level and in the capital, increased in an effort to facilitate ICRC activities and to promote respect for IHL. Along with members of the international community, the authorities received regular updates on the ICRC's activities in the country. After the hostilities had ended, the authorities were reminded of their responsibility to respect the rights of the people held in camps and to ensure that the return home of the displaced was voluntary. Towards the end of the year, a series of high-level meetings took place to discuss the future of ICRC activities in the new context; dialogue was set to continue into 2010.

Given the conflict, followed by preparations for elections due to be held in January 2010, the government focused on matters other than IHL implementation. Nevertheless, senior government officials, including from the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice and the Attorney General's Office, attended regional ICRC events, including those focusing on the work and functioning of national IHL committees. The Sri Lankan IHL committee did not, however, meet during 2009.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

During the conflict, all weapon bearers were reminded of their obligations under IHL, including to protect civilians and to allow humanitarian workers unimpeded access to victims. In the field, members of the armed forces, including the Civil Security Force, and the police and its Special Task Force learnt more about the basic rules of IHL and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action at ICRC dissemination sessions. Members of the forces in charge of security at IDP camps and those manning checkpoints were among the participants. Although it was not possible to organize such sessions for the LTTE, owing to the hostilities and the group's subsequent military defeat, members of Tamil groups in government-controlled areas took part in these sessions.

The armed forces continued to conduct most of their own training, with the ICRC offering support where necessary. Operational deployments, however, slowed the pace of planned training activities. Although some of the events were cancelled or attended by lower-ranking participants, senior officers attended IHL workshops, an advanced refresher course, and ICRC-led classes at the Defence Services Command and Staff College. Implementation of the 2008 agreement between the ICRC and the Special Task Force was also affected, but Special Task Force officers were trained as IHL and international human rights law instructors.

CIVIL SOCIETY

On the basis of ICRC briefings and press releases, journalists reported on the humanitarian situation, the plight of civilians and the need to respect IHL. The security situation prevented the organization of field trips for journalists. As the armed conflict escalated, national media reports on ICRC activities were frequent but often biased. Community and religious leaders, staff of local NGOs and members of the general public, however, increased their knowledge of humanitarian principles during ICRC presentations.

At the University of Colombo, the law faculty taught IHL with ICRC training support, and the international relations department received materials for the IHL component of its course. The fourth-year IHL programme of the University of Jaffna also received reference materials. Two lecturers attended an IHL conference abroad, while law students tested their IHL skills in national, regional and international moot court competitions. At teacher-training and technical colleges in Jaffna, non-law students likely to become influential members of society learnt about the ICRC and the basic rules of IHL at ICRC presentations.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Sri Lankan Red Cross remained an invaluable operational partner for the ICRC in joint activities to provide essential goods and services, including relief items, clean drinking water and the restoration of family links, to the large number of IDPs leaving the conflict zone (see *Civilians*). The National Society received financial, technical and material support and training to boost its capacity to carry out these activities and own programmes, such as running first-aid and ambulance services and mobile clinics. It continued to receive relief goods from the ICRC to enable it to pursue distributions even when the latter no longer had access to IDP camps and/or resettlement areas.

Newly trained volunteers offered family-links services to IDPs released from camps, while services for the Sri Lankan diaspora and overseas workers continued to run smoothly. The National Society received support in organizing its annual family-links meeting.

With the support of Movement partners, the National Society drew up a five-year plan for its core activities in order to boost its disaster management, family-links and communication capacities.

All Movement partners present in the country coordinated their response to the needs arising from the fighting and its aftermath.



bangkok (regional)

Having first established a presence in Bangkok in 1975 to support its operation in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, the ICRC now works 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 and supports National Societies in developing their dissemination and tracing activities. The ICRC visits detainees of concern in Cambodia and Thailand and works to protect and assist vulnerable populations. 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	2,373
Assistance	2,907
Prevention	1,661
Cooperation with National Societies	974
General	-

► **7,915**

of which: Overheads 483

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

24	expatriates
69	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- began visiting people held in custody in police stations in southern Thailand
- established regular contacts with the Royal Thai Army command in charge of southern Thailand, thus ensuring better access to violence-affected areas
- organized a first seminar on health in detention in Cambodia for the authorities, prison health staff and NGOs
- organized 3 seminars on weapon-related injuries in northern Thailand
- marked 30 years of continuous presence and humanitarian action in Cambodia

CONTEXT

Political instability continued to plague Thailand, with the opposition repeatedly seeking to topple the slim majority government. The prime minister, in office since 15 December 2008, placed dealing with the global economic crisis and the situation in the south of the country at the top of his agenda. Meanwhile, violent incidents, in particular drive-by shootings and bombings in public places, continued to occur very frequently in southern Thailand. The regular extension of emergency law continued to give the security forces exceptional powers.

The conflict in Myanmar had a spillover effect in border areas of Thailand, with a continuous flow of civilians seeking refuge in the camps located along the border.

After lengthy delays, the first Khmer Rouge trial opened in February 2009 in Cambodia. However, accusations of corruption and questions regarding an increase in the number of suspects to be charged overshadowed the progress made.

The situation at the contested Preah Vihear temple on the Thai-Cambodian border was tense for much of the year.

In the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), the government pursued its policy of relocating ethnic minorities from remote mountain regions to areas closer to infrastructure. At the end of the year, the Thai and Lao governments repatriated to the Lao PDR in a joint operation over 4,500 Lao Hmong who had sought refuge in or migrated to Thailand.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)²			
Detainees visited	11,990	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	669	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	4,700	30%
Number of visits carried out	54	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM³			
Number of places of detention visited	39	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Essential household items	Beneficiaries	11,748	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	8,156	
RCMs collected	29	WOUNDED AND SICK¹			
RCMs distributed	24	Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	5,375	
		<i>Physical rehabilitation³</i>			
		Patients receiving services	Patients	10,236	1,220
		Prostheses delivered	Units	1,714	117
		Orthoses delivered	Units	1,214	252
					747
					45
					356

1. Cambodia and Thailand

2. Lao PDR

3. Cambodia

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC monitored the violence in Thailand's three southernmost provinces and its consequences on the civilian population. First-hand information on the humanitarian situation was collected during numerous field trips and brought to the attention of the relevant authorities for follow-up. Contacts were also maintained with government representatives and religious and community leaders in order to familiarize them with the ICRC's neutral and independent mission and to work with them for better protection of the civilian population.

Visits to people held in prisons under the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice in relation to the situation in southern Thailand were carried out to check on their treatment and living conditions. A significant development was the start of ICRC visits to people held in custody under the responsibility of the Royal Thai Police. The ICRC submitted confidential reports on its findings and recommendations to the authorities and sought authorization to extend its visits to all people held in other places of temporary detention.

On the Thai-Myanmar border, the ICRC monitored the situation of civilians seeking refuge in Thailand and the effects of the armed conflict and violence in Myanmar. Regular contacts with leaders of groups from Myanmar and the Thai authorities enabled the ICRC to remind them of its mandate and promote respect for humanitarian principles and IHL. The ICRC participated in coordination meetings with other humanitarian actors operating in the area. In Thai hospitals, the ICRC paid for the surgical treatment of people with weapon-related injuries who could not be treated in Myanmar.

In Cambodia, where it also visited detainees, the ICRC increased its support to the General Department of Prisons to help build the capacities of prison management teams to improve detainees' living conditions and health care. With the department, it installed rainwater collection systems and water filters and conducted small-scale maintenance work in several prisons to ensure inmates' access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. Detainees visited received personal hygiene products. Coordination with other actors involved in this field was increased to avoid duplication of activities. A seminar was organized for representatives of various governmental and non-governmental bodies to enhance cooperation in dealing with the main health challenges facing prisons.

The ICRC continued to sustain the provision of physical rehabilitation services in Cambodia through close cooperation with the relevant authorities and support to two regional rehabilitation centres, their outreach programmes and the factory supplying prosthetic/orthotic components to all centres in the country.

Thirty years of continuous ICRC presence and activities in Cambodia were marked by several events, including meetings with the king and prime minister, a photo exhibition, and the formal handover of the digital version of the ICRC's tracing files, compiled between 1975 and 2004, to the Cambodian Red Cross Society.

Vulnerable groups resettled in the Lao PDR benefited from improved hygiene and access to clean water through the construction of latrines and wells in their villages by the Lao Red Cross operating in partnership with the ICRC.

The region's armed forces received support in advancing the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operating procedures. The ratification of humanitarian treaties and the national implementation of IHL by the region's governments were also promoted.

National Societies in the region, supported by the ICRC, increased their capacities in the core fields of restoring family links and the promotion of the Fundamental Principles and IHL.

CIVILIANS

The civilian population continued to suffer the effects of violent incidents in southern Thailand. Field trips to the area enabled the ICRC to gain a better understanding of the humanitarian consequences of the violence, while dialogue with government representatives and other humanitarian organizations provided a clearer picture of the assistance given to victims. During ICRC visits to over 90 villages, residents had the opportunity to voice their concerns to the organization, which endeavoured to follow them up with the relevant authorities and other entities, including community leaders. In addition, local communities, authorities and religious leaders in southern Thailand learnt more about the ICRC and its mandate and activities during meetings and briefings. High-level contacts with the Royal Thai Army and the Royal Thai Police in the three southernmost provinces allowed the ICRC to initiate a dialogue on the issue of civilians affected by the violence.

Contact between civilians and the authorities was, on specific occasions, facilitated by the ICRC, acting as a neutral intermediary. Three schools that had been burnt down received assistance, complementing existing compensation mechanisms.

On the Thai-Myanmar border, the situation of civilians seeking refuge in Thailand and the effects of the armed conflict and violence in Myanmar were monitored by the ICRC. The organization maintained its contacts with Myanmar groups present in the area in order to promote respect for IHL.

In the Lao PDR, living conditions in five villages in Vientiane province improved following the construction of wells and latrines by the Lao Red Cross, with ICRC support. Discussions between government officials, the National Society and the ICRC continued regarding the possibility of providing further Red Cross support to vulnerable minorities, including Hmong families returning from camps in Thailand or resettled inside the country

- 4,700 people benefited from water/sanitation projects

Civilians in the region were able to restore and maintain contact with relatives through the tracing and RCM services.

The digital version of the ICRC's tracing files, containing records of family members who had been separated during past conflict in Cambodia, was handed over to the Cambodian Red Cross in December. The process of digitizing the 1.4 million images had begun in January 2006. Before the official handover, National Society staff were trained in how to install and use the database. Similarly, the Thai Red Cross received training and equipment to enable it to use the digitized tracing files relating to boat people from the Indochina conflict.

- 4 RCMs collected from and 23 RCMs distributed to civilians

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees arrested in relation to the situation in the south of Thailand and those held in prisons and other places under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior in Cambodia received ICRC visits, carried out in accordance with the organization's standard working procedures. The findings and any recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions were shared with the detaining authorities in confidential reports.

More detainees in Thailand visited by the ICRC

In 2009, detainees visited included minors held in three centres under the responsibility of the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection. Following renewed discussions with the authorities, the ICRC was also granted access to people held in places of temporary detention under the responsibility of the Royal Thai Police. The first visits to 11 police stations in the south of the country were conducted in December. Efforts to gain access to all other places of temporary detention continued.

Discussions were held with the authorities on ways of improving health care services for detainees in some prisons.

Whenever necessary, detainees were given the opportunity to stay in touch with relatives via RCMs and received visits from relatives facilitated by the ICRC.

- 648 detainees visited and monitored individually (1 minor) of whom 195 newly registered (1 minor), during 33 visits to 20 places of detention
- 24 RCMs collected from detainees and 1 RCM distributed to a detainee
- 39 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Living conditions for detainees in Cambodia improved

To cope with the increasing number of detainees accommodated in old and overcrowded prisons, the General Department of Prisons initiated a prison-building programme in 2006. In 2009, its newly established engineering unit worked to define national construction and maintenance standards, with ICRC technical support, in coordination with other actors. At the same time, work to upgrade and maintain infrastructure was conducted in 13 prisons, according to priorities agreed by the prison management and the ICRC. Projects included the maintenance and construction of rainwater collection systems and latrines and the repair of sewage and drainage systems.

The General Department of Prisons pursued its efforts to meet the specific health care needs of detainees through increased coordination between its health office, NGOs working on health in detention, and the Ministry of Health. To boost this process, the ICRC organized a seminar on health in detention for high-level representatives of the Ministries of Health and the Interior, prison directors and health staff, provincial vice-governors and NGOs. As well as harmonizing the participants' understanding of the main health challenges affecting people in prison, often the result of overcrowding, the seminar produced a set of specific recommendations for improving health care for detainees.

Prison health staff attended an ICRC-supported seminar on HIV/AIDS, while detainees received hygiene items to help maintain sanitary conditions.

- 11,342 detainees visited, of whom 21 monitored individually (1 woman) and 5 newly registered, during 21 visits to 19 places of detention; 1 RCM collected from a detainee
- 8,156 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - over 5,200 people from anti-scabies measures
- 11,748 detainees received hygiene items

WOUNDED AND SICK

A total of 161 weapon-wounded patients from Myanmar seeking treatment in Thai hospitals had their medical costs covered by the ICRC. This was by far the highest number of weapon-wounded assisted in Thailand since the start of the programme in 2002, the result of an upsurge in hostilities over the border (see *Myanmar*).

Thai surgeons working at Mae Sot hospital and medical staff from Karen areas of Myanmar received training in treating violence-related injuries at three seminars on weapon-wound management, organized by the ICRC along the Thai-Myanmar border. The 75-bed Mae Tao Clinic in Mae Sot, which treated refugees from Myanmar, underwent general repairs to the surgical ward.

Landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), including cluster munitions, continued to be a threat for many rural communities in Cambodia. Longstanding mine-clearance and mine-risk-education activities had helped to reduce the number of new casualties substantially. However, many survivors among the 60,000 recorded mine/ERW casualties and other physically disabled people still required regular rehabilitative and/or medical care.

People in need of treatment had access to appropriate services at the two ICRC-supported regional physical rehabilitation centres in Battambang and Kompong Speu. The national component factory in Phnom Penh, supported by the ICRC, ensured the production of the necessary components for the manufacture of prostheses, orthoses and walking aids and their supply to all physical rehabilitation centres in the country. The process of handing over increased managerial and financial responsibility for running the two centres and the component factory to the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation continued.

- 10,236 patients (including 1,220 women and 747 children) received services at the 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 268 new patients (including 25 women and 7 children) fitted with prostheses and 305 (including 78 women and 102 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,714 prostheses (including 117 for women and 45 for children; 1,495 for mine victims), 1,214 orthoses (including 252 for women and 356 for children; 25 for mine victims), 2,573 crutches and 325 wheelchairs delivered
- 68 patients treated in the 2 ICRC-supported regional physical rehabilitation centres referred to NGOs working in the field of socio-economic reintegration
- 2 physical rehabilitation centres (yearly patient average: 5,300) benefited from a water/sanitation/habitat project

In cooperation with the ICRC and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, the Cambodian Red Cross identified disabled people in remote villages and assisted them in obtaining transport to receive treatment at the physical rehabilitation centres. Teams from the Battambang and Kompong Speu centres carried out 198 and 112 field trips respectively to dispense services to physically disabled people living in remote areas. During the trips:

- 8,743 patients' conditions and needs assessed
- 4,233 prostheses/orthoses and 781 wheelchairs repaired
- 1,215 crutches and 161 wheelchairs delivered
- 229 appointments arranged for patients at the Battambang or Kompong Speu physical rehabilitation centres

AUTHORITIES

At regular meetings with the ICRC, government representatives in all four countries covered were encouraged to take steps to accede to major IHL treaties not yet ratified. The governments of Thailand, Viet Nam and Cambodia were working on accession to Additional Protocols I, II and III respectively. The Lao PDR, the only country of the region to have signed and ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, offered to organize the first international conference of States parties to the convention, probably in late 2010.

At the Fourth Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Lecture on IHL, organized by Thailand's Foreign Ministry with Thai Red Cross and ICRC support, the speakers' experience of the Northern Ireland peace process prompted a discussion on ways of addressing the violence in southern Thailand.

High-ranking Thai civil servants learnt about IHL and humanitarian principles at a first ICRC lecture at the National Defence College. It was agreed that such sessions would be held yearly.

Along the northern Thai-Myanmar border, contacts were maintained with provincial governors and other high-ranking officials to promote ICRC activities, humanitarian principles and IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces in the region continued to develop their capacities to conduct autonomous IHL training programmes. They received ICRC support in holding courses, training instructors, conducting sessions on the basic rules of IHL, and producing relevant materials.

In Thailand, the Judge Advocate General's Department and the Ministry of Defence approved a model IHL curriculum for inclusion in courses for legal and operational personnel in education and training establishments. In addition, officers of the Royal Thai Armed Forces (RTARF) attended:

- an IHL course organized by the Judge Advocate General's Department for instructors from RTARF educational and training institutions
- a workshop on current developments in IHL
- pre-deployment IHL training at the RTARF Peace Operations Centre

In addition, some individual RTARF officers participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations held in Paris, France; a seminar on Internal Security Operations in Jakarta, Indonesia; and a course in San Remo, Italy.

Members of the Royal Thai Police in southern Thailand were introduced to the ICRC's mandate and activities in the area and the importance of facilitating humanitarian access to the victims.

During dissemination sessions in Mae Sot and Mae Hong Son, military personnel based along the Thai-Myanmar border were reminded of their responsibilities under IHL and the importance of neutral and independent humanitarian action. Leaders of armed groups from Myanmar were briefed on the ICRC's activities and the need to respect and promote respect for IHL.

Heads of defence universities in the region learnt about the ICRC and its support for military IHL education while attending an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) regional forum in Bangkok.

Also, with ICRC support:

- ▶ 120 Cambodian armed forces personnel were briefed on IHL prior to deployment on UN missions
- ▶ 50 mid-ranking police officers attended a first seminar on IHL at the Lao Police Academy
- ▶ instructors from military academies in the Viet Nam People's Army followed an IHL instructor's course

CIVIL SOCIETY

Key sectors of civil society, notably the media, NGOs and think-tanks, were familiarized with humanitarian issues and the work of the Movement through presentations and briefings, backed by publications and audiovisual materials in local languages.

Thirty years of continuous ICRC presence in Cambodia were commemorated at various events, including a photo exhibition illustrating the ICRC's various activities.

In southern Thailand, contacts with community leaders helped to improve understanding of the ICRC's neutral and independent mandate and activities. Some 250 students from the Prince of Songkla University in Pattani attended a seminar that aimed to stimulate interest in humanitarian issues.

To mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, presentations on current challenges to IHL and a panel discussion were held by the Srinakharinwirot University of Thailand with ICRC support. Over 90 participants from the Thai armed and police forces, universities, NGOs and ASEAN attended.

A total of 80 students and lecturers from the National University of Laos attended a second IHL seminar.

In Cambodia, 150 students at the Royal University of Law and Economics attended a first series of three ICRC seminars on IHL.

The Thai Ministry of Education, the Thai Red Cross and the ICRC formalized a tripartite agreement to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into the secondary school curriculum, within the Red Cross Youth class. Four days of training were organized for 43 teachers from selected schools, Thai Red Cross Youth Bureau staff and Education Ministry officials.

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 produced dissemination materials in their respective languages and organized training sessions for senior staff, trainers and volunteers.

All the National Societies held events on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May) to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino and as part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign. The "Humanity in War" exhibition was shown at the Thai Red Cross blood bank and at an event organized by the Cambodian Red Cross in Sihanoukville.

Implementation of the Restoring Family Links Strategy for the Movement was discussed with the National Societies. With ICRC support, the Cambodian and Vietnamese Red Cross Societies organized family-links workshops and worked to expand services for migrants and victims of natural disaster. Five National Society participants attended a regional workshop organized by the Indonesian Red Cross Society. The Cambodian and Thai Red Cross Societies received digital versions of ICRC tracing archives (see *Civilians*).

The Cambodian Red Cross hosted an ICRC-sponsored Movement meeting in Siem Reap on weapon contamination. Some 50 representatives of 20 National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation discussed ways of addressing weapon contamination and the Movement's strategy for the coming years.

The Cambodian Red Cross mine-risk education and reduction programme continued, with Australian Red Cross and ICRC support. The Red Cross of Viet Nam launched a pilot project on weapon contamination in Quang Tri province. Three training sessions were organized on the Movement approach to reducing the impact of ERW.



beijing (regional)

Present in the region since 1987, the ICRC moved its regional delegation for East Asia to Beijing in 2005. The delegation fosters support among governments, experts and National Societies for humanitarian principles, IHL and ICRC activities in the region and worldwide. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, military training and academic curricula. It also supports the region's National Societies in developing their dissemination and tracing activities. ICRC/National Society prosthetic/orthotic projects in China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea contribute to meeting the need for affordable, good-quality prostheses.

COVERING

China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Mongolia

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	270
Assistance	1,950
Prevention	3,207
Cooperation with National Societies	1,021
General	-

► **6,449**

of which: Overheads 394

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	75%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
32	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- agreed with the Chinese Ministries of Justice and Public Security to carry out 2 workshops on health in prisons and 2 study tours for senior prison officials in early 2010
- supported physical rehabilitation centres in China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in providing services for 1,971 people
- organized the first course on Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) in China, with the Red Cross Society of China and Peking University
- increased access to material on IHL and humanitarian action through the creation of a Korean-language website and the production of some 40 different publications and films in Chinese, Korean and Mongolian
- completed a cycle of IHL teaching events for law lecturers from different parts of China

CONTEXT

Despite the global financial crisis, the Chinese economy registered steady growth in 2009 – aided by a massive government stimulus package – and the country consolidated its leading position in world trade.

Unrest in China's westernmost province of Xinjiang in the Uyghur Autonomous Region in July, among the worst the country had experienced in decades, reportedly left some 200 people dead and around 1,700 wounded.

Cross-strait relations continued to improve, with several agreements, mainly on economic cooperation, concluded. In August, Taiwan was hit by a typhoon, in which over 650 people died.

Inter-Korean relations remained tense. Following nuclear and ballistic tests by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), its withdrawal from the Six Party Talks on disarmament, and the expulsion of UN weapons inspectors from the country, the international community imposed new, harsher sanctions against the country. In the second half of the year, conciliatory gestures by the DPRK and intense diplomacy, including high-level visits to Pyongyang by Chinese, French, Russian and US officials, gave rise to hopes that bilateral and multilateral talks might resume soon.

In Mongolia, some 4,440 detainees were released following the adoption of an amnesty law in July, including most of the people detained in relation to the violence of July 2008.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

		Total	Women	Children
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals supported ¹	<i>Structures</i>	1		
Admissions ¹	<i>Patients</i>	119		
Operations ¹	<i>Operations performed</i>	119		
Physical rehabilitation²				
Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	1,971	346	48
Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	1,661	283	38
Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	31	9	9

1. DPRK

2. China and DPRK

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to encourage the authorities in China, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Mongolia to ratify and implement key IHL treaties, providing technical support to this end. In Mongolia, the government established a national IHL committee and organized a training workshop for its members. In China and the ROK, events to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions were organized with the authorities.

Dialogue with the region's armed forces was enhanced through contacts with command structures and military education institutions. In China, an agreement was concluded with the Military Law Centre of the China University of Political Science and Law regarding the integration of IHL into a newly launched master's degree in military law. The ICRC also delivered a series of lectures at the Army Command Centre in Nanjing and participated in a major symposium on UN peacekeeping at the Chinese army's new peacekeeping training centre outside Beijing. In the ROK, it held discussions with military decision-makers, provided IHL training to officers and gave context-specific briefings to troops about to be deployed on international peace-support operations. In Mongolia, the ICRC helped produce training materials and gave a pre-deployment briefing to the Mongolian battalion of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad.

In cooperation with the respective National Societies, the ICRC continued to play a key role in the provision of physical rehabilitation services in China and the DPRK. As well as supplying raw materials, it conducted on-the-job training and supervision. Several DPRK technicians received ICRC-supported technical training in Cambodia and India.

In China, discussions were held with the Ministries of Justice and Public Security regarding training in aspects of health in detention. It was agreed to organize two seminars and two study tours in 2010, thus ensuring proper follow-up of the work undertaken in 2008.

The ICRC worked with the Chinese and ROK media to generate coverage of ICRC activities and raise awareness of IHL and humanitarian issues. The amount of information available to the public was increased through the launch of a Korean-language website, the development of the Chinese-language website and the production of relevant materials in Chinese, Korean and Mongolian.

The ICRC promoted the teaching of IHL in major universities in China and the ROK. A cycle of training for law lecturers in China was completed and a consultation meeting on the process of IHL integration held with a core group of them. The ICRC initiated IHL moot court competitions, which were organized in Beijing, Seoul and Taipei in cooperation with the National Societies and partner universities. It also contributed to the organization of the regional Asia-Pacific moot court competition organized by the Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China.

Formal integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula was expanded in China, where the ICRC supported the education authorities in Shanghai and Tianjin and the Chinese Red Cross in adapting teaching materials. In Mongolia, the ICRC worked closely with the Ministry of Education and the Mongolian Red Cross Society to integrate the programme into school curricula.

With ICRC support, the region's National Societies continued to enhance their capacities to disseminate IHL and the Fundamental Principles and began implementation of the Movement's 10-year strategy on restoring family links. In China, a first ever course on Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) was organized for 22 health professionals from National Society branches, the Ministry of Health and the armed and security forces.

The ICRC continued to advocate for a lasting solution to the plight of families separated by the 1950–53 Korean War. It underlined the importance of keeping political considerations apart from humanitarian obligations regarding communication and meetings between family members. It maintained a dialogue with the National Societies concerned and reiterated its readiness to facilitate such contacts. A single meeting of 232 separated families took place at Mount Kumgang in early October.

CIVILIANS

Hundreds of thousands of Korean families were split up by the 1950–53 Korean War. Between 2000 and 2007, some 5,000 families (around 17,000 people) had been able to meet face to face or had contact via video link during 16 family meetings organized by the two governments and the National Societies. Following a slight thaw in relations between the DPRK and the ROK, 232 additional families were able to meet in early October 2009, in the first such encounter to take place in two years. The ICRC continued to share its concerns with both National Societies and the relevant authorities about the delay in improving links between families

separated as a result of the Korean War and sought an approach that would set the humanitarian element of the issue apart from political considerations. The ICRC remained on hand to assist in finding a long-term solution to the plight of separated families.

No Koreans residing in third countries made use of ICRC tracing and RCM services to re-establish or maintain contact with their families at home.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The Chinese authorities showed sustained interest in exchanging views and experiences with the ICRC on health in prisons, in particular tuberculosis (TB) and HIV, following joint seminars held in 2007 and 2008. Preparations for further seminars for prison managers and medical staff – planned for 2009 but postponed until early 2010 – were undertaken by the Ministries of Justice and Public Security, with ICRC support.

In Mongolia, too, the authorities, in particular the General Executive Department of Court Decisions, were keen to pursue dialogue with the ICRC, initiated at the 2008 seminar on health in detention, on the management of places of detention. The TB hospital for detainees and the Central Penitentiary Hospital received visits from ICRC delegates, who observed the general conditions and the treatment of TB patients.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Disabled people in China have access to physical rehabilitation services

Physically disabled people living in China's south-western Yunnan province continued to have access to the rehabilitation services provided in Kunming by the Yunnan branch of the Chinese Red Cross. The majority of beneficiaries had their worn-out prostheses replaced at the physical rehabilitation centre, while others had their appliances repaired or adjusted in the two repair workshops in Kaiyuan and Malipo, near the Vietnamese border. In addition, amputees living in the remote western part of Yunnan province benefited from follow-up services provided by repair technicians who travelled to the region.

The centre and workshops continued to receive components and technical support from the ICRC, which was phasing out its involvement following the handover of full managerial responsibility for the physical rehabilitation programme to the National Society in mid-2008.

- 486 patients (including 97 women and 13 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre and 2 repair workshops
- 72 new patients (including 16 women and 1 child) fitted with prostheses
- 184 prostheses (including 34 for women and 11 for children; 1 for a mine victim) and 4 crutches delivered

DPRK physical rehabilitation centre staff enhance their skills

Physically disabled people continued to receive appropriate treatment at the Rakrang and Songrim physical rehabilitation centres, with support from the ICRC and the Red Cross Society of the DPRK. Five technicians continued their advanced training course at the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics, with ICRC sponsorship, the aim being to boost the centres' capacities and help them attain a sustainable and fully independent status. Four physiotherapy assistants began a one-year training course at the Mobility India Rehabilitation, Research and Training Centre in Bangalore. Meanwhile, on-the-job training given by the ICRC continued in order to upgrade the practical skills of all clinical staff, four of whom (all senior specialists) received training in operational management.

In addition to delivering high-quality prostheses and orthoses, the Rakrang centre carried out stump revisions for both military and civilian amputees. In 2009, a total of 119 surgical procedures were performed. While the centre received some surgical equipment and consumables from the ICRC, the planned training support was postponed pending agreement with the authorities on its exact form and content.

- 1,485 patients (including 249 women and 35 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 684 new patients (including 120 women and 13 children) fitted with prostheses and 12 (including 5 women) fitted with orthoses
- 1,477 prostheses (including 249 for women and 27 for children), 31 orthoses (including 9 for women and 9 children), 1,609 crutches and 77 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The authorities in China, the ROK and Mongolia and the ICRC maintained a regular dialogue on the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. Government representatives engaged in debates on humanitarian action and law at several national events organized by the ICRC in each of these countries to promote understanding of IHL-related issues.

Mongolia formally established a national IHL committee, which worked to become operational by early 2010. Committee members learnt about their duties at a national forum on IHL implementation organized by the Foreign Ministry with ICRC support. The Mongolian authorities and the ICRC discussed the integration of IHL provisions into a planned criminal law reform.

Two symposia on IHL, organized in Beijing and in Seoul to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions, provided an opportunity to examine current challenges to IHL and to review progress made so far in national implementation.

ICRC studies on the current status of IHL implementation in China and the ROK were completed, to serve as a basis for dialogue with the authorities, in particular the national IHL committees.

In the DPRK, government representatives attended an ICRC-organized ceremony to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May). The country's national IHL committee was reminded of the ICRC's offer of support.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The region's armed forces pursued efforts to integrate IHL into their doctrine, training and operations, with ICRC support. In China, an agreement was concluded regarding the integration of an IHL component, to be delivered by the ICRC, in a new master's degree in military law at the Military Law Centre of the China University of Political Science and Law.

At an international symposium on UN peacekeeping held at the Chinese army's new peacekeeping training centre outside Beijing, the ICRC stressed the relevance of IHL in such operations and renewed the offer of pre-deployment briefings for Chinese troops.

The ROK's highest-level military decision-makers and the ICRC met for the first time to discuss the organization's current and potential role on the Korean peninsula. A regular dialogue was maintained with relevant decision-makers in the Ministry of National Defence, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the US-led Combined Forces Command.

In the DPRK, the liaison officer appointed by the Ministry of Defence maintained sporadic contact with the ICRC.

With ICRC support:

- ▶ some 1,000 Chinese officers attended IHL lectures at Nanjing Army Command College; 2 high-ranking officers attended the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris, France
- ▶ staff of the ROK Air Operations Command and legal officers from the army, navy and air force attended advanced IHL seminars
- ▶ ROK and Mongolian troops bound for UN peacekeeping operations attended pre-deployment briefings on IHL
- ▶ in Mongolia, military training material on IHL published and a competition to assess knowledge of IHL held

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public enjoyed increased access to material on IHL and humanitarian issues. Koreans could consult the new Korean-language ICRC sub-site within the ROK National Red Cross web-site, while the number of visitors to the Chinese-language version of the ICRC website almost doubled compared with 2008. The ICRC increased its web presence in Chinese by formally cooperating with the largest Chinese social networking site.

The National Societies of China and the ROK organized six photo exhibitions as part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign. In China, a major news magazine produced a 32-page feature on the Movement's work.

To promote the integration of IHL into the curricula of international law courses, a seminar for university lecturers from different parts of China was organized with Xiamen University, and a consultation meeting was held with a core group of the participants. Similar sessions were organized with Kyung Hee University in Seoul for Korean lecturers. Student interest in IHL was stimulated through IHL moot court competitions, held with ICRC support in Beijing, Hong Kong, Seoul and Taipei, and through ICRC guest lectures.

To foster debate on humanitarian action and law among Chinese think-tanks, a conference was organized with the China Institute of International Studies in Beijing, bringing together experts from China and abroad.

Integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula progressed in China and Mongolia. The education authorities in Tianjin, together with the Tianjin branch of the Chinese Red Cross, adapted programme materials for their student handbook and planned teacher-training sessions. The Shanghai branch of the Chinese Red Cross adapted existing materials to the local context. The National Society organized a national experience-sharing seminar in Tianjin and coordinated an essay writing competition for secondary school students. In Mongolia, an additional 244 teachers received training, and supplementary teaching materials were translated, adapted and published.

At the third ICRC regional Exploring Humanitarian Law seminar in Beijing, participants from nine countries shared experiences and reviewed the development of the programme in the region over the last two years.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of China, the ROK and Mongolia, with ICRC financial and technical support, worked to promote IHL and the Fundamental Principles and to improve their ability to meet humanitarian needs in the event of armed conflict, other situations of violence or natural or man-made disasters.

The Chinese Red Cross and the ICRC reviewed the existing 10-year dissemination programme to identify good practice and ensure that needs were being met. The findings were largely included in the National Society's new five-year development plan. At a joint Movement workshop, core Chinese Red Cross disseminators were brought up to date on Movement issues. Meanwhile, the National Society held its first ever dissemination seminar on basic Red Cross knowledge for 20 staff members from its Tibet branch.

Training and follow-up support was provided for the National Societies' family-links activities, with a particular focus on China in order to build on the experience gained after the 2008 earthquake in Sichuan province. The Chinese Red Cross included restoring family links in peacetime in its newly amended statutes.

In China, a first ever H.E.L.P course was organized for 22 health professionals from National Society branches, the Ministry of Health and the armed and security forces.

The DPRK Red Cross received 150 first-aid kits, and discussions were held on the translation and publication, expected for 2010, of a first-aid manual for volunteers in situations of conflict.



jakarta (regional)

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and in Timor-Leste following its independence in 2002. In each country, the ICRC supports the National Society in boosting its emergency response capacities. The ICRC cooperates with the authorities to improve penitentiary standards, while seeking to visit detainees and monitor conditions. It works with the armed forces (and the police in Indonesia) to promote the inclusion of IHL in their training. It conducts activities with universities to further the study of IHL and humanitarian principles. In Timor-Leste, it provides support to the families of missing persons.

COVERING
Indonesia, Timor-Leste

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,786
Assistance	433
Prevention	1,688
Cooperation with National Societies	2,421
General	-

► **6,327**

of which: Overheads 386

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	75%
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PERSONNEL

12	expatriates
80	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- suspended its activities on behalf of people deprived of their freedom in Indonesia pending the negotiation of new agreements formalizing its presence and activities in the country
- supported the drafting of laws on the Movement's emblems in Indonesia and in Timor-Leste, culminating in the adoption of such a law by the Timor-Leste parliament in December
- continued discussing the establishment of a national mechanism to clarify the fate of missing persons with the Timor-Leste authorities
- in Timor-Leste, met with the families of missing persons to ascertain their needs and verify information previously collected
- facilitated the despatch of relief supplies and the transfer of financial assistance collected by the Indonesian Red Cross Society for victims of the conflict in the Gaza Strip
- issued 44 travel documents to Sri Lankan asylum seekers stranded in Indonesia

CONTEXT

Parliamentary and presidential elections in 2009 consolidated the democratic process in Indonesia. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was re-elected in a landslide victory in July, on the back of improved security and strong growth in South-East Asia's largest economy. The sharp reduction in, if not to say the end of, the main separatist tendencies and past religious confrontations, the successful completion of the post-2004 tsunami reconstruction, the country's resilience to the global financial crisis and its inclusion in the G20 were further signs that Indonesia had entered a new era, characterized by growing regional and global influence.

Sources of internal tension nonetheless persisted in some parts of the country, mainly in Papua. Bomb explosions in two luxury hotels in Jakarta in July served as a stark reminder of the continued threat of "terrorism".

Earthquakes in Java in September and Sumatra (Padang) in October killed thousands of people and destroyed tens of thousands of houses. Local and international humanitarian agencies, among which the Indonesian Red Cross Society played a prominent role, mounted a massive operation and mobilized significant resources to assist the victims.

Timor-Leste enjoyed its longest period of stability since gaining independence in 2002, as the authorities focused on addressing social and economic issues and on institution building.

The Indonesian and Timor-Leste governments held consultations on implementing the recommendations of the Commission for Truth and Friendship, including those regarding the issue of missing persons.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM²			
Detainees visited	7,895	Water and habitat activities	2,655		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	120	Beneficiaries			
Number of visits carried out	25				
Number of places of detention visited	21				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS¹					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	358				
RCMs distributed	375				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	19				
of whom women	3				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	9				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	53				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	2,581				
of whom women	248				
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	581				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	44				

1. Indonesia and Timor-Leste

2. Indonesia

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC suspended its field operations, including activities on behalf of people deprived of their freedom, in Indonesia and closed its sub-delegations in Jayapura, Papua province, and Lhokseumawe, Aceh province, at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, pending the renegotiation of agreements formalizing its presence in the country and its activities on behalf of detainees. Two draft agreements were presented to the ministry to launch the negotiation process with the new government.

Detainees in both Indonesia and Timor-Leste received visits from ICRC delegates, who assessed their treatment and living conditions and reported their findings confidentially to the authorities concerned. However, all activities related to people deprived of their freedom in Indonesia, including support to the detaining authorities regarding health and water and sanitation in prisons, were suspended in February, pending the signature of a new agreement on ICRC detention visits there. Nevertheless, the ICRC undertook small-scale work to improve access to clean water in Indonesian prisons and, in December, organized a workshop on environmental health in prisons jointly with the penitentiary authorities.

A three-month assessment was conducted in Timor-Leste to determine the needs of the families of people who disappeared during the 1975–99 conflict. The study furthermore underlined the need for an in-depth review of the information on missing persons collected by the ICRC in the past. This process began in September and was to continue into 2010. Pursuant to the assessment's conclusions, the ICRC started to provide basic material assistance to some of the families, enabling them to hold proper burial ceremonies for their loved ones.

Meanwhile, the ICRC continued to support the creation of a national mechanism in Timor-Leste to clarify the fate of people unaccounted for between 1975 and 1999, as recommended in the

report of the Commission for Truth and Friendship. Family-links work was carried out with the cooperation of the two National Societies, although delays were experienced in the cross-border transfer of RCMs.

The governments of Indonesia and Timor-Leste worked with the ICRC on IHL implementation. In Timor-Leste, a proposal for a law protecting the emblem passed through parliament. Promotion of IHL and international human rights law among the armed and police forces, including peacekeepers, continued, with the delegation providing support for the conduct of training courses and specialized seminars. Various presentations and competitions were held in order to increase knowledge of IHL among university lecturers and students and to gain support for its inclusion as a compulsory subject in relevant curricula.

Both National Societies remained key ICRC operational partners. They continued to strengthen their capacities in various fields, including emergency preparedness, restoring family links and the promotion of IHL and humanitarian principles. In view of the revised ICRC set-up in Indonesia, the Jayapura chapter received extra material and financial assistance to increase its capacity to conduct activities formerly carried out by the ICRC.

In December, at the urgent request of UNHCR and the Indonesian and Australian governments, the delegation organized two field missions to issue ICRC travel documents to 44 Sri Lankan asylum seekers held in the Tanjung Pinang refugee facility in Sumatra. These documents enabled the refugees to travel for resettlement in Canada, Norway and the United States of America.

Cooperation was strengthened with the Jakarta-based Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which adopted a new legal framework in January 2009. Possibilities were explored for contributing to discussions with newly established bodies such as the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives and the ASEAN Commission on Human Rights.

CIVILIANS

Most of the ICRC's efforts in Indonesia in 2009 were focused on securing a favourable renegotiation of agreements with the government, pending which almost all activities on behalf of civilians were put on hold.

Work continued to help the families of people who disappeared between 1975 and 1999 in relation to the situation in Timor-Leste. Both the Indonesian and the Timor-Leste governments engaged in a dialogue with the ICRC on the issue, although without tangible results. A three-month assessment of the needs of the families of the missing, conducted by an external consultant, revealed new information on some individual cases, including the fact that some families had ascertained the fate of their formerly missing relatives. Therefore, the ICRC began an additional review of the individual files pertaining to missing persons, before taking any further steps. By year-end, the files of 307 out of 2,399 individuals had been reviewed. Needy families received basic material assistance to help them hold proper burial ceremonies for loved ones whose remains had been exhumed and identified.

The ICRC continued to advocate and offer support for the establishment of a national mechanism in Timor-Leste to address the issue of missing persons, as recommended by the 2008 report of the Commission for Truth and Friendship. The ICRC maintained an active dialogue on the matter with the authorities in Timor-Leste and started discussing it with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Indonesia. In December, the Timor-Leste parliament voted unanimously to create a follow-up entity/mechanism to implement the Commission's recommendations.

People in Indonesia and in Timor-Leste continued to use ICRC/National Society tracing and RCM services to restore or maintain contact with relatives from whom they had become separated, either within the country or abroad. The direct transmission of RCMs across the border between Timor-Leste and Indonesia continued to be delayed due to the dysfunctioning of local Indonesian Red Cross branches.

Following the earthquake in Padang, the Indonesian Red Cross, in cooperation with the ICRC, provided family-links services for people who had lost contact with their families.

At the request of UNHCR and the Indonesian and Australian governments, 44 Sri Lankan asylum seekers held at the Tanjung Pinang refugee facility in Sumatra received ICRC-issued travel documents enabling them to travel for resettlement in Canada, Norway and the United States of America via two UNHCR Evacuation Transit Centres in the Philippines and Romania.

Indonesia

- 108 RCMs collected from and 179 RCMs distributed to civilians
- 182 people (10 women; 70 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 case of an unaccompanied/separated child still being handled

Timor-Leste

- 169 RCMs collected from and 120 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 19 people (3 women; 9 minors at the time of disappearance); 53 people located; 2,399 people (238 women; 511 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Patients from isolated areas in the Papua highlands underwent cataract surgery organized by the Indonesian Red Cross and the local health authorities with ICRC support.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Timor-Leste and, until February, in Indonesia (see below), detainees, in particular those held for security reasons, received visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and conditions of detention and gave them the opportunity to write RCMs to their families. Following the visits, conducted according to standard ICRC working procedures, the authorities received confidential reports on the delegates' findings, along with recommendations, if necessary, which aimed to benefit the entire prison population.

A constructive dialogue was maintained with the central and provincial authorities in Timor-Leste. In February, the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested the ICRC to suspend its detention-related activities in the country until the negotiation of a new agreement. The ICRC provided the Indonesian authorities with a draft agreement, which at year-end was still being examined, pending a decision.

Indonesia

- 7,863 detainees visited, of whom 88 monitored individually and 1 newly registered, during 20 visits to 18 places of detention
- 21 RCMs collected from detainees
- 2 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Timor-Leste

- 32 detainees visited and monitored individually (2 women), of whom 2 newly registered (1 woman), during 5 visits to 3 places of detention
- 60 RCMs collected from and 76 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 5 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Efforts to improve living conditions in Indonesian prisons continue

Despite the suspension of ICRC visits to detainees, various meetings were held with the Directorate General of Corrections of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights in order to promote the integration of health, water and habitat seminars into the internal training curriculum for Directorate staff. In December, 40 regional directors from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights representing 32 of the 33 provinces of Indonesia attended a four-day workshop on environmental health in prisons, organized by the ICRC with the Directorate General. The workshop, divided into a seminar and a round-table discussion, resulted in a draft set of "Indonesian Guidelines on Environmental Health in Prisons".

To improve health and sanitary conditions, small-scale rehabilitation work was carried out in the detention facilities of Bogor, Cirebon and Takengon. Detainees received hygiene kits and jerrycans.

- 2,655 detainees benefited from water/sanitation projects

AUTHORITIES

The Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC held several meetings with a view to clarifying positions and expectations and launching the renegotiation of the agreements (see *ICRC action and results*).

In the meantime, the Indonesian parliament, with ICRC technical support, continued to draft a law reconfirming the unity of the National Society and the role of the State in ensuring proper use of the emblem. The Indonesian Ministry of Law and Human Rights and the ICRC discussed the integration of provisions related to war crimes into the revised Law on Human Rights Courts.

In Timor-Leste, the parliament passed an emblem law, drafted with ICRC support. Timor-Leste's newly adopted criminal code, on which the ICRC had provided comments, contained provisions related to war crimes. The government of Timor-Leste ratified Additional Protocol III.

With ICRC support/participation:

- ▶ 85 Indonesian government officials took part in discussions on IHL developments and implementation, while 165 diplomats attended presentations on IHL and the work of the ICRC
- ▶ 75 local government representatives followed a course on IHL and other international standards in Ambon, Maluku Island
- ▶ 21 members of the Regional People's Representative Councils of Aceh attended a two-day briefing on IHL and other international standards
- ▶ some 100 participants from 31 countries took part in a regional conference on the Convention on Cluster Munitions, organized by the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The ICRC was represented at an increasing number of ASEAN meetings on themes relevant to its mission and work. A workshop on civil-military relations, organized jointly with ASEAN and UNHCR, provided a platform to examine the roles of different humanitarian actors in disaster management.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Several military establishments in Indonesia worked to include IHL in their training curricula. Officers and soldiers participated in events, organized with ICRC technical support, tailored to the depth of knowledge required for their functions.

- ▶ 50 legal officers and 170 intelligence and operational officers attended training courses
- ▶ 100 Air Force Academy instructors were trained and 248 officers attended a presentation
- ▶ 810 Indonesian troops stationed in violence-prone areas learnt about IHL and basic humanitarian principles
- ▶ 1,590 armed forces personnel undergoing pre-deployment training for UN peacekeeping and military observer missions attended IHL briefings
- ▶ a senior officer attended the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations held in Paris, France

The Timor-Leste armed forces continued to train troops with support from Australia and Portugal. All those involved met regularly with the ICRC to discuss IHL-related matters.

Promotion of international human rights law among the Indonesian National Police focused on the mobile brigade responsible for riot control and security in urban areas. Some 650 officers attended briefings on basic international human rights rules applicable to law enforcement. A total of 130 police officers about to be deployed in Sudan with the UN Police attended briefings on IHL and international human rights law.

Police officers in four districts of Timor-Leste received booklets and briefings outlining the basic principles of international human rights law. Twelve officers in Liquisa attended a briefing on international human rights law during a first-aid training course conducted by the National Society.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media representatives were encouraged to give coverage to issues of humanitarian concern, while improving their understanding of the ICRC. Thirty journalists from Indonesian local and national media attended an IHL training session co-organized with the Association of Independent Journalists.

Regular meetings were held with representatives of Indonesia's main think-tank, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, in order to enhance their understanding of the ICRC's mission and priorities and explore ways of strengthening cooperation.

Leading law, political science and international relations faculties continued to integrate IHL into their curricula and to produce relevant materials, with ICRC support. Thirty IHL lecturers from various academic institutions gathered to discuss the opportunities for and challenges of IHL teaching at a workshop in Pontianak, Kalimantan. To strengthen the promotion of IHL in Banda Aceh, the Universitas Syiah Kuala and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding.

A team of Indonesian students won the first prize in the ICRC-supported regional IHL moot court competition in Hong Kong (see *Beijing*). A team from Universitas Indonesia won the national competition, organized by the ICRC and the Indonesian Society of International Law, while some 30 students participated in the inaugural Universitas Gadjah Mada IHL debate.

Law students at Timor-Leste University attended an ICRC presentation, thereby increasing their knowledge of IHL and humanitarian issues.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With the technical, material and financial support of the ICRC, the International Federation and other Movement partners working in the region, the two National Societies pursued their activities in various fields, including emergency preparedness, restoring family links and IHL promotion.

Following the closure of the ICRC sub-delegation in Jayapura, the Indonesian Red Cross took over a number of the organization's activities. The Jayapura chapter received extra material and financial assistance from the ICRC to help it meet the increased operational demands.

The five-year Swedish Red Cross/ICRC project to strengthen the Indonesian Red Cross's family-links capacity continued. Assessments of the capacities of chapters and branches were conducted. National Society staff members received training and gained experience while working at the Swedish Red Cross in Sweden. The Indonesian Red Cross hosted an inter-regional workshop on restoring family links, attended by 12 National Societies.

The Indonesian Red Cross strengthened its resource-development division, recruiting a fundraising officer and investigating income-generating opportunities. Both National Societies were given financial support to renovate old and/or purchase new office premises.

Movement Task Force meetings that focused on tsunami-related matters were replaced by a new coordination mechanism led by the Indonesian Red Cross. A consultative Movement Platform, comprising the Indonesian Red Cross, the ICRC and the International Federation, continued to facilitate operational coordination. Both National Societies received ICRC technical advice on promoting respect for the emblem.

The Indonesian Red Cross and the ICRC coordinated the donation of aid by the Indonesian public for civilians in the Gaza Strip.



kuala lumpur (regional)

Having worked in Malaysia since 1972, the ICRC opened its regional delegation in Kuala Lumpur in 2001 and an office in Japan in 2009. It works with government representatives, leaders, experts and National Societies to promote humanitarian issues and 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 and cooperation within the Movement.

COVERING

Brunei Darussalam, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	164
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,555
Cooperation with National Societies	333
General	-

► **2,052**

of which: Overheads 125

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
18	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- officially opened an office in Tokyo with a view to increasing its interaction with the National Society, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other important contacts in Japan
- shared expertise on the management of health issues in detention with the Malaysian authorities
- facilitated the exchange of greetings and RCMs between people held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and their families in Malaysia
- conducted a one-day briefing on contemporary challenges to IHL for staff of the International Affairs Division of the Singaporean Attorney-General's Chambers
- supported the activities of the National Societies in the promotion and dissemination of IHL regionwide, including in the context of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign

CONTEXT

Japan, Malaysia and Singapore were hard hit by the global economic crisis in 2009, leading to drops in export rates and increased unemployment. In response, the governments launched large stimulus packages. By year-end, the economies of East and South-East Asia were showing signs of an early rebound from the downturn.

In a major power swing, the main Japanese opposition party won the general elections in August, casting out the ruling party after almost 50 years at the helm. This led to policy shifts on several fronts, including strengthened regional networking, closer ties with China and the Republic of Korea, and a redefinition of the security relationship with the United States of America.

Malaysia also experienced significant political transition, with the appointment of a new prime minister and cabinet in March. The presence of large numbers of undocumented immigrants continued to be a source of tension. Outbursts of violence between religious communities occurred at the end of the year.

Japan stepped up its contribution to humanitarian and development aid, most notably for the rehabilitation of Afghanistan. It also deployed two Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyers to support NATO's anti-piracy mission off the coast of Somalia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	49
RCMs distributed	173
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	124

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Kuala Lumpur regional delegation's activities focused on developing a dialogue with key regional actors on humanitarian issues, the relevance of IHL, and the mandate and role of the ICRC.

In February, the new ICRC office in Japan was officially opened with a view to raising the profile of the organization in the country, increasing interaction with Japanese officials and other contacts, and promoting closer cooperation with the National Society.

Communication with the region's authorities was maintained in order to encourage accession to and national implementation of IHL instruments and to position the ICRC as a partner on humanitarian issues. In Brunei Darussalam, the ICRC renewed contact with a number of authorities, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For the first time, Singapore's Attorney-General's Chambers accepted the ICRC's offer to conduct a training session for staff members on contemporary challenges to IHL. In Malaysia, the Attorney-General's Chambers organized IHL training for representatives of the national IHL committee.

The region's armed forces continued to work with the ICRC to further the integration of IHL into their doctrine, training and operations. The ICRC also nurtured media and civil society contacts, while pursuing efforts to promote IHL in schools and universities as a means of raising awareness of humanitarian issues among future decision-makers.

As in past years, the ICRC worked with the National Societies of Japan and Malaysia to promote humanitarian principles and IHL, including through joint dissemination programmes and seminars. In Malaysia, the successful Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was handed over to the Malaysian Red Crescent Society and the Ministry of Education in August. Following the handover, and in order to ensure the continuity and quality of IHL teaching in secondary schools, the ICRC shifted its focus to capacity-building measures (train-the-trainer workshops) for Malaysian Red Crescent staff and volunteers.

Families in Malaysia were able to restore or maintain contact with relatives detained/interned abroad via the RCM network, while the ICRC continued to help the Malaysian Red Crescent build its tracing and family-links capacities.

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 prevention activities. These included promoting IHL and other humanitarian standards in the region, networking with think-tanks and other stakeholders in the diplomatic arena, and participating in meetings of Asian regional organizations, particularly the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Cooperation between the ICRC, the International Federation and the region's National Societies was maintained through the organization of events in the context of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign and the distribution of dissemination materials.

CIVILIANS

Families of Malaysian nationals held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay stayed in touch with relatives by means of RCMs.

At the request of UNHCR, refugees and asylum seekers were issued with travel documents enabling them to travel to countries that had accepted them for resettlement.

Work continued to help the Malaysian Red Crescent build its family-links capacity. Staff and volunteers at branch and chapter level, including the family-links field officer at the national headquarters, attended training sessions and took an increasing lead in handling tracing cases. In order to boost their efforts to inform the public about the availability of the family-links service, National Society branches received resource materials.

- 48 RCMs collected from and 172 RCMs distributed to civilians; 29 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained abroad
- 124 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

With a view to establishing a dialogue with the relevant Malaysian authorities regarding the ICRC's role and expertise in respect of people deprived of their freedom, meetings and discussions on the subject were held with representatives of key ministries and agencies. These included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Immigration Department, the Royal Malaysian Police's External Security Division, and the National Human Rights Commission.

At seminars co-organized with the Ministry of Health, the Malaysian AIDS Council and the Centre of Excellence for Research in AIDS, representatives of various government institutions and Malaysian NGOs directly involved in detention-related matters, particularly with regard to irregular immigrants, benefited from ICRC expertise and resources on the management of health issues in custodial settings and shared relevant experiences and concerns. The seminars and other related events also provided opportunities for the ICRC to familiarize the different participants with its work in the field of detention.

- 1 RCM collected from and 1 RCM distributed to a detainee

AUTHORITIES

Contacts with national authorities and regional organizations were pursued with a view to promoting IHL and garnering support for humanitarian action.

The opening of the ICRC Tokyo office boosted these efforts in Japan. A key event was the symposium on humanitarian assistance, organized with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for over 150 representatives of the Foreign and Defence Ministries, foreign embassies and humanitarian organizations. Steps were also taken to improve contacts with parliamentarians in order to generate support for issues of humanitarian concern. Japan ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions in July 2009.

The establishment of a national information bureau and other tracing mechanisms was discussed with the Japanese Red Cross Society.

In Malaysia, members of the national IHL committee sitting on sub-committees on treaties, ethics of warfare, cultural property and dissemination attended basic and advanced ICRC-led briefings on IHL. The Attorney-General's Chambers took further steps to include a section on international crimes in existing penal legislation, aided by ICRC legal advice, and worked on finalizing an IHL compatibility study in Malaysia.

In Singapore, some 30 staff from the International Affairs Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers attended a first one-day briefing on contemporary challenges to IHL.

In Brunei Darussalam, contact was re-established with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Links with the constituent bodies of ASEAN were strengthened. Special attention was paid to areas of possible interaction – disaster/relief management, migration, peacekeeping and counter-terrorism – highlighted in ASEAN's Blueprint documents. The ICRC regularly exchanged views with representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat on issues of common concern and participated in a series of conferences and meetings organized under ASEAN auspices.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Members of the region's armed forces participating in various multilateral military events and exercises or attending command and staff colleges learnt more about their obligations under IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities.

In Japan, military and government officials attended a two-day seminar, co-organized with the influential National Institute for Defence Studies, on issues pertaining to peace-support operations, private military companies and civil-military cooperation. Japanese navy personnel were briefed on IHL prior to their deployment in support of a NATO anti-piracy mission off the Somali coast. Presentations were given to other audiences on the notion in IHL of direct participation in hostilities and the ICRC's experiences of protecting and assisting POWs.

Malaysian military personnel, including navy officers, attending the Peacekeeping Training Centre and participants in a leadership course, were briefed on IHL. During contacts with the Malaysian police, the subject of international policing standards was raised. Malaysian and Singaporean peacekeepers attended pre-deployment briefings on IHL.

Two high-ranking officers from Japan and Malaysia took part in the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris, France.

CIVIL SOCIETY

A wide range of audiences learnt more about IHL, humanitarian issues and the work of the Movement through events surrounding the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign. "Our World at War" photo exhibitions were held with the support of the Japanese and Malaysian National Societies. The distribution of printed materials in local languages backed up these efforts.

The opening of the ICRC office in Tokyo generated media interest and greater subsequent coverage of humanitarian topics and ICRC activities. The production of the quarterly Japanese-language *ICRC Bulletin*, also posted on the ICRC website, boosted this trend.

A planned field trip for journalists from the region to an ICRC operational context, the Philippines, did not take place owing to the security situation there (see *Philippines*).

Dialogue with Islamic organizations in Malaysia was enhanced through the joint organization of two seminars on humanitarian assistance, attended by a wide range of groups.

Following the handover of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme to the National Society and the Ministry of Education in Malaysia, young people continued to learn about humanitarian principles and IHL as part of the national civics and citizenship education curriculum. In Japan, integration of the programme modules into the Red Cross Youth secondary school curriculum progressed.

University students from Japan, Malaysia and Singapore participated in the regional moot court competition in Hong Kong (see *Beijing*), thereby increasing their understanding of IHL. In June, an annual IHL debate organized together with a Malaysian university became regional in scope, involving teams from Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. At a meeting with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations and academics, ways of promoting IHL in Japanese academic circles were explored.

A total of 28 academics from 11 countries attended the Fourth South-East and East Asian Teaching Session on IHL, held in August at the University of Malaya.

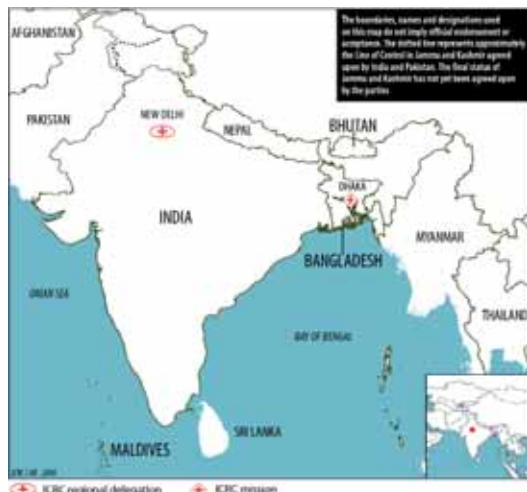
RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Malaysian Red Crescent received support to build its capacity to provide tracing and family-links services, with a view to strengthening its participation in national and international disaster-management efforts. It received ICRC advice on the distribution of donations from the government-administered fund for the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip. Its IHL-related activities were supported through the provision by the ICRC of resource materials and training.

The Japanese and Malaysian National Societies continued to implement the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools and attended training workshops on the subject. Both Societies worked closely with the ICRC to organize events around the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign.

The outstanding work of a Japanese nurse, Mrs Tokiko Saita, during the Second World War was recognized at the Florence Nightingale Award ceremony, organized by the Japanese Red Cross with ICRC participation and attended by Empress Michiko.

Regular coordination took place with other Movement members, in particular with the International Federation’s regional office in Kuala Lumpur.



new delhi (regional)

The regional delegation in New Delhi opened in 1982. It works with 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	3,751
Assistance	1,219
Prevention	2,691
Cooperation with National Societies	2,165
General	-

► **9,827**

of which: Overheads 600

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88%
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PERSONNEL

30	expatriates
101	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- increased visits to detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir
- supported the Indian Red Cross Society in meeting the basic needs of people affected by political or ethnic violence
- co-organized several major events to promote IHL implementation, including the 14th and 15th South Asian Teaching Sessions on IHL and the Second Meeting of Commonwealth National IHL Committees
- began drafting two new IHL degree courses with an Indian university
- welcomed Bhutan's accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

CONTEXT

Violent incidents occurred in some parts of India. Armed confrontations between the security forces and militants persisted in Jammu and Kashmir, and tensions and violence continued to affect local communities in north-eastern states, particularly Assam, and in areas in which Naxalite armed groups were present, such as Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra.

Parliamentary elections saw the United Progressive Alliance, the ruling coalition led by the Indian National Congress, win more than three-fifths of the seats in the Lower House.

The newly elected government in Bangladesh faced multiple challenges during the year, including the mutiny of the Bangladeshi Rifles paramilitary forces in February. In July, Bangladesh's parliament passed a bill incorporating a number of new provisions into the International Crimes (Tribunal) Act 1973 to try those allegedly involved in war crimes during the 1971 liberation war.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ²				
Detainees visited	959	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	925	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	17,500	40%	30%
	6		of whom IDPs	17,500		
	17	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	2,226	30%	30%
Number of visits carried out	80		of whom IDPs	2,226		
Number of places of detention visited	43	Health				
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Consultations	Patients	8,237		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			of which curative		1,111	4,139
RCMs collected		WOUNDED AND SICK				
RCMs distributed	684	Physical rehabilitation				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Patients receiving services	Patients	568	114	41
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	6	Prostheses delivered	Units	129	24	4
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	1	Orthoses delivered	Units	81	20	29
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	8					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	651					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	14					

1. Bhutan, India and Maldives

2. India

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Visits to detainees held in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, both in that state and in others, remained the primary focus of the regional delegation in New Delhi. Delegates obtained access to new places of detention, such as police stations, and were able to register detainees in police custody. Detainees' treatment and living conditions, including access to medical care, formed the basis of a confidential dialogue between the ICRC and the detaining authorities. If detainees or their families were experiencing particular hardship, they received basic material assistance, such as clothing or hygiene items, or school books for their children from the ICRC. Newly released detainees were given essential household items to help them settle back into civilian life and were visited by ICRC delegates to check on their well-being. Security detainees in Bhutan and the Maldives also received visits from ICRC delegates, whose findings and recommendations were the subject of confidential reports to the authorities in those countries. Detainees in Bhutan and India used the RCM service to keep in touch with relatives and received visits from family members living far from the places in which they were held.

In 2009, the ICRC increased its support to Indian Red Cross Society branches in north-eastern states to help them respond to the needs of people affected by ethnic clashes. IDPs in Assam received essential household items to help them cope with their displacement, and schools being used as IDP shelters were equipped with latrines and water points to ensure that the occupants had access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities. Teachers and National Society personnel were trained to raise awareness of the health benefits of improved hygiene practices in helping prevent the spread of disease. ICRC-supported Indian Red Cross teams took vital preventive and curative health care services to people in remote areas of Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra states affected by Naxalite activity and beyond the reach of state services.

Throughout the region, the ICRC continued its efforts at government level to promote ratification of IHL treaties and to encourage the integration of IHL and international human rights law into the doctrine, training and operations of the armed and police forces respectively. Technical support, presentations and ICRC-organized events sought to increase interest in IHL implementation and ensure that the relevant authorities had the knowledge and skills required for this purpose. Seminars and competitions were held for journalists, academics, students and schoolchildren to promote greater understanding of IHL and humanitarian issues among key members of civil society.

In addition to its specific support to Indian Red Cross operations, the ICRC offered technical and financial support to boost the National Society's capacities at institutional level. Similar support was extended to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society. Advice, training and equipment helped improve these National Societies' emergency preparedness and their ability to restore contact between separated family members.

CIVILIANS

Civilians' basic needs met

Civilians in India's north-eastern states and in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra were better able to cope with the effects of armed violence thanks to services provided by the Indian Red Cross with ICRC technical and financial support.

IDPs in Assam received essential household items and hygiene products, and those who took refuge in school buildings designated by the authorities as emergency shelters benefited from improvements to water and sanitation facilities, such as the construction of water points and latrines. To boost the capacity of the National Society to provide such services independently, volunteers were given on-the-job coaching and attended specially organized training sessions. They also received supplies of water and sanitation equipment.

To help improve public health and mental health, National Society volunteers and teachers were trained in promoting the beneficial effects of improved hygiene practices and in running basic community exercises to help people deal with trauma.

- ▶ 17,500 IDPs (2,500 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 2,226 IDPs benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Villagers in remote areas of Maharashtra state, where access to government health care was limited, were able to rely on the services of an ICRC-supported National Society mobile health unit staffed by a doctor and a nurse. In light of the trust established by these services, the government asked the National Society to act as a neutral intermediary in transporting the remains of police officers killed in a clash for handover to their families.

Similarly, people in parts of Chhattisgarh state, where access to medical care was also problematic, benefited from vital preventive and curative health care provided by mobile teams.

Thanks to the 3 ICRC-supported National Society mobile health teams:

- ▶ 8,237 people given curative consultations
- ▶ 375 families given mosquito nets to help prevent the spread of malaria
- ▶ 10 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 1,030 health education sessions held

In 2009, the Indian Red Cross and the ICRC conducted a number of multidisciplinary needs assessments in states such as Chhattisgarh and Nagaland. On the basis of their findings, they began planning an expanded relief operation for 2010, focusing on improving civilian access to medical care.

Refugees able to resettle and families to stay in touch

Bangladesh and India continued to host refugees and stateless persons without passports or other forms of identification. At the request of the embassies of those concerned, and in coordination with UNHCR, some of them were issued with ICRC travel documents to enable them to travel to countries granting them asylum or leave to resettle.

Refugees in and nationals of the countries covered used the tracing and RCM services to keep in touch with family members, including those detained, either in the same country or abroad.

- ▶ in Bhutan, 10 RCMs collected from and 12 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ in India, 265 RCMs collected from and 192 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 6 people; 1 person located; 8 people (1 minor at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 651 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

As a priority, people detained in connection with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, including some held in other states, received visits from the ICRC conducted according to the organization's standard working procedures. Following the visits, ICRC delegates

made confidential reports to the authorities outlining their findings in terms of detainees' treatment and living conditions, including access to medical care and respect for judicial guarantees, and making recommendations where necessary. A greater number of visits took place in 2009 than in 2008, owing in part to improved access to police stations and the ICRC's registration of detainees in police custody. Security detainees in Bhutan and the Maldives also benefited from ICRC visits and from the organization's confidential dialogue with the respective detaining authorities.

Detainees in Bhutan and India kept in touch with their families by means of RCMs and received ICRC-facilitated visits from relatives who lived far away, such as Bhutanese civilians living in a refugee camp in Nepal. Inmates in India were given recreational materials, such as books and stationery, with particularly vulnerable detainees and their families receiving essential household items, such as clothing, food, hygiene products or school books. Upon their release, detainees took such items home with them to ease their return to their families and communities. Former detainees were visited and checked on following their release, with special attention paid to their health. Two ex-detainees were consequently given medical care.

India

- ▶ 860 detainees visited, of whom 826 monitored individually (6 women; 17 minors) and 362 newly registered (3 women; 14 minors), during 73 visits to 36 places of detention
- ▶ 253 RCMs collected from and 113 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 103 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 2 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- ▶ 333 detainees visited after their release

Bhutan

- ▶ 86 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 28 newly registered, during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 156 RCMs collected from and 104 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 23 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 12 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Maldives

- ▶ 13 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 6 visits to 6 places of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

Amputees in India were provided with the limb-fitting, gait-training and physiotherapy services they required at National Society/ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres at the Government Medical College in Jammu and at the Bone and Joint Hospital in Srinagar. The quality of patient services received an immediate boost as technicians used ICRC-supplied raw materials and equipment, while training aimed to ensure the longer-term sustainability of services. Technicians and physiotherapists benefited from on-the-job coaching, and two student technicians were sponsored to attend an 18-month training course on lower-limb prosthetics/orthotics run by Mobility India.

The Assam branch of the Indian Red Cross and the ICRC discussed the possibility of establishing a physical rehabilitation centre at the National Society's Guwahati Hospital. At the end of the year, however, following reconsideration of the project and the constraints involved, it was decided to look at other options for conducting such a project elsewhere in the north-east.

- 568 patients (including 114 women and 41 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 92 new patients (including 13 women and 1 child) fitted with prostheses and 71 (including 18 women and 21 children) fitted with orthoses
- 129 prostheses (including 24 for women and 4 for children; 12 for mine victims), 81 orthoses (including 20 for women and 29 for children), 115 crutches and 29 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Governments in the region continued to make progress on IHL implementation, with Bhutan acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. As well as working towards the ratification of additional IHL instruments, countries sought to incorporate into domestic legislation the provisions of treaties to which they were already party. ICRC technical support and dedicated IHL events assisted governments in these endeavours. Bangladesh, for example, considered accession to the Rome Statute, aided by an ICRC seminar, and Indian government representatives, as members of the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL), were able to take advantage of ICRC support to that institution (see *Civil society*). Representatives of all four countries attended the South Asian Conference on IHL, held in Kathmandu (see *Nepal*).

Bangladesh, India and the Maldives, as Commonwealth States, attended the Second Meeting of Commonwealth National IHL Committees in New Delhi. Representatives of 17 of the 19 Commonwealth IHL committees took part, along with 12 States interested in creating such a committee and the Caribbean Community secretariat. Participants exchanged experiences and reported on their progress over the previous two years, citing more than 40 cases of accession to IHL treaties and the enactment of relevant legislation.

The New Delhi-based Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) and the ICRC worked to promote IHL implementation among the 47 member States, particularly at the 48th AALCO Annual Session in Malaysia.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed and security forces pursued efforts to improve knowledge of IHL. Although it remained difficult to interact directly with troops involved in military operations in India, training centres there and in Bangladesh benefited from ICRC support. In parallel, they were encouraged to set up independent programmes. Officers and cadets attended IHL presentations and benefited from ICRC participation in their seminars; senior officers attended advanced courses abroad. Recommendations for enhancing academic components, formulated on the basis of the ICRC's review of public documents, were shared with the Indian armed forces. The pool of IHL instructors within the air force grew after high-ranking officers attended train-the-trainer courses. Troops departing on peacekeeping missions also learnt about IHL and the ICRC.

Similarly, officers at Bangladeshi and Indian police academies and at Indian paramilitary academies were familiarized with IHL and international human rights norms applicable to their functions. Having rekindled relations, India's National Police Academy and the ICRC began planning greater cooperation in delivering IHL components of the curriculum. Teaching capacities at the Jammu and Kashmir Police Training Academy were boosted as instructors attended training.

Once deployed, Indian air force units and Bangladeshi army, navy and police personnel, including the Rapid Action Battalion, benefited from ICRC field presentations tailored to their immediate roles. Whenever the situation in Naxalite-affected areas and in Jammu and Kashmir permitted, Indian police units also attended such sessions. Dissemination to the Bangladeshi Rifles was put on hold after the mutiny.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Throughout the year, Bangladeshi and Indian journalists produced numerous articles and features, sharing humanitarian messages with a wider audience. They attended briefings, received press releases about ICRC operations around the world, and took part in article-writing competitions and workshops on conflict reporting. Journalists were among participants in seminars on IHL and “terrorism” co-organized by India’s Jamia Millia Islamia university and the ICRC.

To boost IHL knowledge among future opinion-makers, universities in Bangladesh and India sent lecturers and students to ICRC-led seminars and co-organized events. The winners of national moot court competitions tested their skills at a regional IHL competition in Dhaka. Events for the vice-chancellors of 25 Indian universities and for law tutors from 13 Bangladeshi universities generated interest in the inclusion of IHL in university curricula. Indira Gandhi National Open University, one of the world’s largest distance-learning universities, and the ICRC began drafting two IHL degree courses.

Representatives of all four countries participated in the 14th and 15th South Asian Teaching Sessions on IHL organized with Indian universities. Judges, government and military officials, academics, and NGO and think-tank representatives acquired knowledge pertinent to their everyday work. The ICRC-supported Centre for IHL Studies and Research at ISIL remained a key resource for government officials and academics alike.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the pilot stage of the Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme, implemented with the National Society, was completed. The state Education Ministry began reviewing its performance and considering whether to integrate it into the curriculum. A workshop for the Assam Education Ministry familiarized state officials with the programme and enabled them to explore the possibility of piloting it with National Society support.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Indian Red Cross received support in meeting the needs of civilians affected by ethnic clashes or the presence of Naxalite armed groups (see *Civilians*). During the Bangladeshi Rifles mutiny, the Bangladeshi Red Crescent evacuated the wounded and provided relief, first aid and family-links services with ICRC support.

To improve their capacities to deliver effective services in emergencies, the National Societies received equipment, such as computers and first-aid kits. A new warehouse was constructed in Bangladesh and repairs were made to branches in India. Campaigns to promote correct use of the red cross and red crescent emblems, and thereby ensure the protection of Movement workers, were conducted in both countries, and volunteers received training in the Safer Access approach.

National Society family-links services also received technical and financial support. In India, a database to centralize tracing cases was set up and staff received training, including in dealing with unaccompanied children and the management of human remains. In Bangladesh, a new staff handbook and guidelines helped boost capacities. The National Societies cooperated to help Bangladeshi immigrants detained on India’s Andaman and Nicobar Islands maintain contact with their families until their repatriation.

With ICRC financial support, the National Societies continued their other programmes. Indian Red Cross volunteers were trained to help communities reduce the risk of mine accidents, and 1,312 people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts had clean drinking water after the Bangladeshi Red Crescent built wells.

The Maldives government passed a law formally recognizing the country’s Red Crescent Society. With International Federation and ICRC support, the Maldivian Red Crescent then organized its inaugural general assembly and continued working towards recognition by the Movement.



suva (regional)

Since 2001, ICRC operations in the Pacific have been carried out by the Suva regional delegation. In cooperation with the National Societies, 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 and humanitarian issues among academic circles, the media and civil society. The ICRC visits people detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji and Solomon Islands. It also helps build the emergency response capacities of the region's National Societies, particularly in Papua New Guinea.

COVERING

Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and autonomous states, territories and colonies of the Pacific

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	305
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,649
Cooperation with National Societies	972
General	-

► **2,925**

of which: Overheads 179

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	71%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
15	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- raised awareness of IHL among the media in Australia and New Zealand through two conferences on the rights and responsibilities of journalists reporting in war zones
- provided model laws and expertise to support Pacific island governments in implementing the Convention on Cluster Munitions
- continued to support the National Societies in strengthening their capacities to respond to emergencies and promote humanitarian principles
- promoted knowledge among the armed forces, government officials and university students of States' legal obligations and good practices regarding private military and security companies
- published a book highlighting similarities between the behaviour of traditional Pacific warriors and the tenets of IHL
- increased public awareness of the suffering of war victims worldwide by organizing photo exhibitions in Australia, Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu

CONTEXT

In the Pacific island countries, the world economic crisis generated higher unemployment and increased prices, prompting a return to a subsistence economy for some sections of the population. Australia did not formally enter economic recession and registered a recovery in most sectors of the economy in the second half of the year.

Relations between the governments of Fiji and other countries in the region deteriorated after the Fijian president suspended the constitution and imposed emergency rule, including increased powers for the security forces. This led to Fiji's expulsion from the 16-member Pacific Island Forum and a cut in European Union financial aid.

In Papua New Guinea, interethnic tensions persisted, especially in the heavily populated Highlands provinces, periodically erupting into violence. In Tonga, democratic reform progressed, although a state of emergency remained in place in Nuku'alofa.

The Solomon Islands authorities established a truth and reconciliation commission to investigate the 1998–2003 violence and address its consequences.

Australia and New Zealand continued to deploy troops to Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, Sudan and Timor-Leste.

Bushfires ravaged Australia, reportedly resulting in some 200 deaths. A tsunami hit Samoa and Tonga, leaving some 150 dead, while Fiji and Solomon Islands suffered severe floods. The respective National Societies played a central role in assisting the victims. The Pacific island States lobbied intensely for meaningful measures to be adopted by the international community to contain rising sea levels and other effects of climate change and expressed dissatisfaction at the outcome of the UN climate conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	45
Detainees visited and monitored individually	44
Number of visits carried out	5
Number of places of detention visited	5

1. Fiji and Solomon Islands

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Cooperation with the region's National Societies and the International Federation remained a priority for the Suva delegation. It focused its financial and technical support on the Red Cross Societies of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga in order to boost their capacities in the fields of emergency preparedness, restoring family links in disaster situations, and the promotion of humanitarian principles. Cooperation with the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies was strengthened with a view to enhancing the promotion of IHL.

The ICRC continued to visit people detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji, as well as in Solomon Islands, where it worked with the National Society to enable inmates to receive visits from family members.

The region's governments received ICRC technical advice, including model laws, to help them draft legislation implementing IHL. The ICRC welcomed Australia's ratification and implementation of Additional Protocol III, Fiji's implementation of the Rome Statute, Kiribati's adoption of an Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Act, and New Zealand's ratification and implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Work also progressed with the Kiribati and Papua New Guinea governments regarding, respectively, implementation of and accession to the Additional Protocols.

The armed and security forces in Australia, Fiji and Papua New Guinea actively sought ICRC opinions and expertise, including on the Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict (Montreux Document). Workshops, presentations and briefings served as valuable platforms to discuss these countries' responsibilities under IHL in situations of conflict and to raise awareness of the ICRC's mandate and the importance of neutral and independent humanitarian action.

Conferences on the rights and responsibilities of journalists reporting in war zones were organized by the ICRC in cooperation with media organizations in Australia and New Zealand, leading to a public commitment by the media to give greater attention to IHL in their work. The government and NGOs in Australia sought ICRC legal advice and operational experience to shape their position with regard to civil-military relations and the protection of civilians. Close contacts were maintained with academic circles and selected think-tanks to raise awareness of IHL and humanitarian issues among current and future decision-makers and opinion-leaders.

To foster acceptance of IHL in the Pacific island countries, the delegation published a book highlighting the similarities between the behaviour of traditional Pacific warriors and the tenets of IHL. Public awareness of human suffering in war was raised through photo exhibitions in Australia, Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, organized jointly with the respective National Societies to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino.

CIVILIANS

In Papua New Guinea, urban and rural populations alike continued to suffer the effects of endemic violence. The heavily populated Highlands region and Bougainville Island were most seriously affected by tribal strife, while the main cities witnessed high levels of intercommunal violence, aggravated by the proliferation of weapons.

Given this situation, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society continued to strengthen its capacity to respond to situations of violence and assist the victims, with ICRC support. Instructors and trainers were briefed on the Safer Access approach, designed to enhance preparedness in armed conflict or other situations of violence. An ICRC-initiated partnership meeting was held on the role the Red Cross can play in situations resulting from armed violence. Assessments and outreach programmes were set in motion to enable the Papua New Guinea Red Cross to extend its activities in all four Highlands provinces and to prepare the way for volunteer projects in selected urban settlements. The National Society was assisted in reassessing its activities in Bougainville, with a view to launching effective programmes on behalf of victims of violence.

The planned recruitment and training in first aid of 240 volunteers from different tribes was postponed until 2010, as the ICRC and the National Society agreed to focus first on comprehensive planning and organizational preparation. Similarly, the training of young volunteers in settlements around Port Moresby and Lae to perform theatre sketches to raise awareness of first aid and other health issues did not take place.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in connection with past unrest in Fiji and Solomon Islands continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates, who monitored their treatment and living conditions and provided confidential feedback to the relevant authorities. Hygiene, clothing, recreational and educational items were provided as necessary. Detainees held in Honiara, Solomon Islands, received visits from family members living on outlying islands.

- Fiji: 12 detainees visited and monitored individually during 3 visits to 3 places of detention
- Solomon Islands: 33 detainees visited, of whom 32 monitored individually, during 2 visits to 2 places of detention; 23 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support

AUTHORITIES

With the technical support and advice of the ICRC, the Pacific States pursued efforts to implement IHL. Australia adopted legislation to protect the red crystal emblem, in accordance with Additional Protocol III. The government of Papua New Guinea had discussions with the ICRC on accession to Additional Protocols I and II. In Kiribati, the government prepared draft legislation to implement all three Additional Protocols.

The seven States in the region that had signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions were provided with a model law and offered technical support in implementing the Convention. New Zealand subsequently ratified and implemented the Convention.

Accession to and implementation of the Rome Statute was actively encouraged: the Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands governments received technical advice on ratifying the Statute, while the Cook Islands legislature received comments on draft implementing legislation. The Fiji government integrated the crimes contained in the Rome Statute into its Crimes Decree and sought ICRC advice on any further amendments required.

Representatives of the fledgling Cook Islands and Samoan IHL committees participated in the Second Meeting of Commonwealth National IHL Committees in India (see *New Delhi*), returning invigorated to commence their work.

The Australian and New Zealand Ministries of Foreign Affairs entered into discussions with the ICRC on the obligation of States to ensure that private military and security companies operating in armed conflicts complied with IHL and international human rights law. The Australian government took steps to incorporate the recommendations of the Montreux Document into new defence contracts and Status of Forces Agreements. The ICRC used its observer status to inform delegates at the annual meeting of the Pacific Island Law Officers Network about the need to have adequate legislation to ensure nationals who join private military and security companies are accountable for their actions in armed conflict.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Representatives of the Fijian and Papua New Guinean armed and security forces, in particular those departing on peacekeeping missions overseas, participated in ICRC seminars and presentations, including those held at the Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law in Sydney. Such events served to raise awareness of IHL and the ICRC and to provide fora for the exchange of views on IHL-related matters.

The armed forces of Australia and New Zealand invited the ICRC to enter into advanced dialogue on the issue of neutral and independent humanitarian action and the need for a clear distinction between military and civilian roles on the battlefield.

Officers in charge of IHL training in Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea participated in seminars held at the Asia-Pacific level, with ICRC facilitation. Participants in a US Pacific Command Military Operations law course in New Zealand attended an ICRC presentation on the Montreux Document.

Contact with the police forces of Pacific States was maintained through the secretariat of the Pacific Island Chiefs of Police in New Zealand.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Thanks to the provision of regular information and video footage on IHL and ICRC operations around the world, the media increased its coverage of issues of humanitarian concern. In Australia and New Zealand, journalists learnt about their rights and responsibilities under IHL at two conferences, entitled “Reporting Wars: Challenges and Responsibilities”, organized by the ICRC together with the media, academics and the respective National Societies. The participants expressed interest in seeing IHL included in training for journalists preparing to work in war zones or violence-affected environments.

To further increase understanding of and support for IHL in Pacific island countries, law students from the University of the South Pacific conducted ICRC-supported research on the similarities between the behaviour of traditional Pacific warriors and the provisions of IHL. The resulting book was launched at events organized with the National Societies in Australia, Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, coupled with photo exhibitions depicting the suffering of war victims worldwide. Media, academia and armed forces throughout the region showed a marked interest in using the publication.

Students and lecturers in Australia, Fiji and New Zealand learnt more about IHL, the Montreux Document and the relationship between the media and humanitarian actors at ICRC presentations held in partnership with universities. Strong links with selected think-tanks and NGOs also helped to promote a better understanding of the distinction between the Movement and the NGO sector, as well as increased interaction on issues of mutual interest, such as civil-military cooperation.

The *Asia-Pacific Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law*, published by the University of the Philippines Law Center with ICRC support, contained contributions from lawyers and academics from the Pacific region.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of the region benefited from ICRC technical and financial support, which aimed to boost their capacities in core fields of activity. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross thus strengthened its ability to respond to situations of violence (see *Civilians*), while the Solomon Islands Red Cross continued to facilitate family visits to people in detention. The National Societies of Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands expressed an interest in building their family-links capacities, for which training sessions were organized.

The region’s National Societies pursued their activities to promote knowledge of IHL, humanitarian principles and the Movement.

Six National Societies volunteered to form a working group with the ICRC in order to design the content of a basic dissemination package of particular relevance to the Pacific. The Fiji Red Cross Society facilitated presentations given by the ICRC for the military and police forces, while members of the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies attended a series of advanced ICRC briefings on the Movement's activities and the challenges facing it. The Australian Red Cross and the ICRC commemorated the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Solferino by organizing four high-profile events and launching a national IHL essay competition for journalism students. Cooperation with the Australian Red Cross in training delegates to work internationally was further strengthened.

Regular multilateral coordination meetings were held to harmonize cooperation between the various members of the Movement present in the region. Prior to the Movement's statutory meetings held in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2009, the Pacific National Societies met to prepare unified key messages and positions. Together with the International Federation, the ICRC worked with the National Societies on governance issues, providing advice in particular on the question of their legal bases. Representatives of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross took part in a leadership training course organized by the ICRC and the International Federation in Geneva, Switzerland.



ICRC

EUROPE DELEGATIONS

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Georgia
Ukraine

EUROPE REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Budapest
Moscow
Tashkent
Western Balkans

Ankara
Brussels
International Tracing Service
London
Paris

THE AMERICAS DELEGATIONS

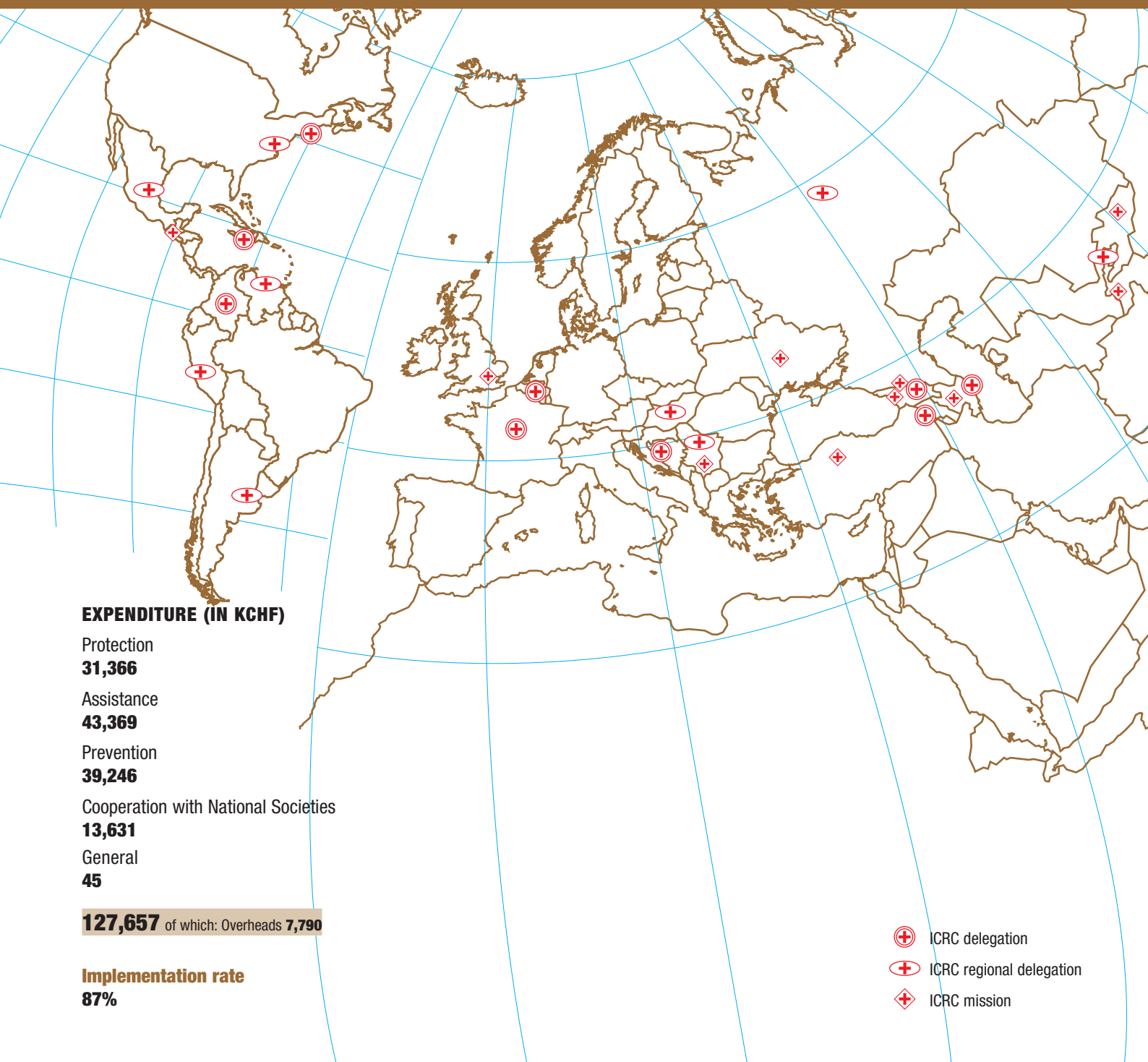
Colombia
Haiti

THE AMERICAS REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Buenos Aires
Caracas
Lima
Mexico City
Washington

New York

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS



EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection

31,366

Assistance

43,369

Prevention

39,246

Cooperation with National Societies

13,631

General

45

127,657 of which: Overheads **7,790**

Implementation rate

87%

⊕ ICRC delegation

⊕ ICRC regional delegation

⬠ ICRC mission

EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

In 2009, the ICRC's priorities were to contribute to better protection of people deprived of their freedom, to help clarify the fate of people unaccounted for from past and current conflicts, and to assist, and improve the protection of, people directly affected by ongoing armed conflict, including displaced persons, particularly in Colombia and the Caucasus. The ICRC also continued to promote IHL and to foster a deeper understanding of its role and activities among authorities, armed and security forces, universities and schools.

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

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

Across the region, delegates continued to visit detainees, particularly those held for reasons of State security, and sought access to others not yet visited. The detainees were able to keep in touch with their families using the RCM network. After conducting private interviews with those held, the ICRC submitted confidential reports to the authorities, recommending measures, where necessary, for improving the detainees' treatment or living conditions.

The ICRC offered its expertise to governments acceding to IHL treaties and enacting national implementing legislation. It also introduced them to the Montreux document on international legal obligations and good practices for States related to the operations of private military and security companies during armed conflict, co-produced with the Swiss government. The ICRC worked with the armed forces to incorporate IHL norms into military doctrine, operating procedures and manuals, while helping them to achieve autonomy in conducting IHL training. A similar approach was employed regarding police training in international human rights standards and humanitarian principles applicable to the use of force. The ICRC encouraged academic institutions and secondary schools to integrate IHL into their curricula. It further consolidated its network of media contacts to spur journalists to highlight humanitarian concerns when reporting on conflicts around the world.

The region covered in this section comprises three sub-regions: Eastern Europe and Central Asia; North America and Western, Central and South-Eastern Europe; and Latin America and the Caribbean. The main ICRC activities in each sub-region in 2009 are summarized below.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

The ICRC continued to deal with the aftermath of the 2008 international armed conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation, notably by helping IDPs and returnees get back on their feet and restoring severed family links. It further developed its dialogue with the Russian authorities on humanitarian concerns worldwide. The ICRC stayed actively involved in ongoing efforts to address the issue of people unaccounted for as a result of the various conflicts in the northern and southern Caucasus. It worked with relatives of missing persons, authorities, forensic institutes, National Societies and others to determine the fate of missing persons, ensure support for their families and promote legislation to this end. At a regional seminar in Moscow, Russian Federation, experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation received training in the use of ICRC ante- and post-mortem data-management software.

In the southern and northern Caucasus, vulnerable households, including the displaced, living in areas affected by armed conflict, violence and/or weapon contamination benefited, as appropriate, from emergency relief, vocational training, agricultural supplies, grants, or access to credit to regain economic self-sufficiency. Health facilities and local water boards received support, and IDP centres and water supply systems were refurbished.

In Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and, with occasional disruptions, Kyrgyzstan, the ICRC visited people detained in connection with armed conflict or for reasons of State security. The national authorities worked with the ICRC to screen and treat tuberculosis (TB) in prisons and to build the necessary national capacities to do so by themselves; in Armenia, responsibility for TB control was handed over to the authorities. POWs and civilian internees held in connection with the Nagorno Karabakh conflict were visited by the ICRC, in accordance with its mandate. In the Russian Federation, where visits to detainees remained suspended owing to the authorities' disagreement with its standard procedures, the ICRC continued to organize family visits for sentenced detainees held far from their homes. In Uzbekistan, visits to people detained by the penitentiary department of the Interior Ministry resumed in September. Negotiations regarding access to detainees continued in Turkmenistan, and were suspended in Tajikistan after an unfavourable reply from the authorities.

In the southern Caucasus, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan, amputees, including many mine victims, were properly cared for and rehabilitated thanks to the ICRC's support to medical facilities, prosthetic/orthotic centres and training for medical professionals. The ICRC, together with National Societies, also worked to heighten awareness of weapon contamination and the need to assist the victims, for example through mine-risk education, data-gathering and advice to the authorities.

Efforts were maintained to promote IHL and other norms applicable to situations of violence among the authorities, armed and security forces and academic target groups. The ICRC signed a protocol of intent with the Secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization. In Central Asia, a highlight was the ICRC's international forum on contemporary challenges to humanitarian norms, which brought together representatives of the region's 12 countries in Kazakhstan.

NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

ICRC activities in the United States of America focused on detention-related issues, notably the new administration's review policies, and dialogue on IHL and the conduct of hostilities. By visiting Washington in April, the ICRC president contributed to strengthening the constructive dialogue with the authorities, as shown by the decision of the US Department of Defense to notify the ICRC of all persons detained within two weeks of their capture. Dialogue with the US military was expanded to include the Office of the Secretary of Defense policy department and Special Operations Command. Delegates continued to visit people held by the US authorities in Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, and in Afghanistan and Iraq. Telephone calls between internees/detainees and their families were facilitated by the authorities in Guantanamo Bay, the ICRC and National Societies in the internees'/detainees' countries of origin around the world. For the first time since their capture, internees/detainees were able to send photos to relatives and interact with them visually via video-conferencing.

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. Ascertaining the fate of the approximately 15,000 people still unaccounted for remained a priority for the ICRC, and it continued to remind all the parties of their obligations in this respect. As in the past, the ICRC provided support for exhumation and identification processes, engaged in dialogue with the families of missing persons, and furnished backing for their associations' advocacy work and projects. It chaired sessions of the Working and Sub-Working Groups on Missing Persons, the only forum for dialogue between Belgrade (Serbia) and Pristina (Kosovo¹) on the issue.

The ICRC's presence in Brussels (Belgium), London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Paris (France), New York and Washington (United States) provided a favourable environment to develop dialogue on IHL, the Movement and neutral and independent humanitarian action, in particular with intergovernmental organizations and their member States, and to enlist their support. The ICRC engaged with various European Union (EU) institutions, UN bodies and agencies and their member States on critical humanitarian issues. It supported initiatives to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions with a series of seminars on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. In Brussels, the ICRC shared its expertise to facilitate the implementation of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid and EU Guidelines on promoting compliance with IHL. From Brussels and Washington, it pursued its dialogue on civil-military relations with NATO commanders and EU and US armed forces and participated in pre-deployment and training exercises, particularly for troops going to Afghanistan and Iraq. In New York, the ICRC contributed to debates and reports on the protection of civilians, coordination of humanitarian aid and weapon issues, and to the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on best practices. Similarly, in Washington, the ICRC maintained close contact with inter-American organizations such as the Organization of American States.

From these capitals, the ICRC also strengthened its network of contacts with NGOs, the media and think-tanks.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In 2009, the ICRC worked to address the consequences of the armed conflict in Colombia and its spillover into the border regions of neighbouring countries, resurging fighting between government forces and Shining Path members in Peru, and situations of violence related to social, electoral, economic or land issues in other countries.

In Colombia, the impact of the lasting armed conflict between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia was increasingly felt in remote border regions, notably in the south and along Colombia's Pacific coastal areas. To mitigate the impact of the fighting on civilians, who remained at risk of abuse by weapon bearers, the ICRC made representations to the alleged perpetrators of IHL violations. It reminded the authorities and weapon bearers of their obligations under IHL, emphasizing the need to respect civilians and health services, and explained the ICRC's neutrality and independence. This helped the ICRC facilitate medical evacuations, the release of people held by armed groups, and the recovery of human remains. It continued to advocate improved services for IDPs, while working with the Colombian Red Cross to provide direct assistance to over 52,000 IDPs and conflict-affected residents. This included improving water and sanitation facilities and access to health services, including physical rehabilitation, and reducing mine risks.

In areas bordering Colombia, notably Ecuador's Sucumbios department, the ICRC worked to develop a dialogue with authorities and weapon bearers on humanitarian concerns. In Panama's Darien region, it assisted remote communities together with the National Society and reinforced contact with the recently established border police.

In response to the political crisis in Honduras, the ICRC opened an office in the capital, Tegucigalpa, and visited people who had been arrested, as it did in Peru after clashes between police and indigenous protesters in Bagua and following arrests made in other violence-prone regions. Regionwide, the ICRC worked with armed and police forces regarding the use of force in law enforcement. With the National Society in Haiti, it developed health and water and sanitation activities in Port-au-Prince's shantytowns and worked with the authorities to overhaul the prison system. In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in partnership with the Brazilian Red Cross, the ICRC expanded its medical and first-aid activities in seven violence-affected *favelas* and broadened its overall dialogue with the authorities. It worked with national mechanisms for missing persons in Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Peru and encouraged better coordination between the authorities and among national organizations working on the issue. It provided authorities and forensic specialists with expertise for the exhumation and identification of human remains, and assisted families of missing persons.

The ICRC monitored the living conditions and treatment of over 16,000 detainees in 12 countries. It shared its findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities and backed their efforts to upgrade penitentiary health care. In Mexico and Venezuela, the ICRC continued to discuss a comprehensive agreement on visits to detainees.

Cooperation on IHL progressed with the region's armed forces. The dialogue engaged with the Conference of Central American Armed Forces facilitated discussions with the military on the use of force and human rights norms applicable to law enforcement.

1. UN Security Council Resolution 1244



armenia

The ICRC has been working in Armenia since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh armed conflict. It focuses on the issue of missing persons and on detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons, or who are otherwise vulnerable; promotes health-related issues, particularly tuberculosis control, in places of detention; and monitors the situation of communities along the international border with Azerbaijan. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into the armed and security forces' doctrine, training and sanctions and into academic curricula. The ICRC works to strengthen the capacities of the Armenian Red Cross Society.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	655
Assistance	492
Prevention	637
Cooperation with National Societies	221
General	-

► **2,004**

of which: Overheads **122**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
29	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- monitored the situation of civilians along the international border with Azerbaijan, discussing any concerns with the authorities
- with the National Society, completed the collection of ante-mortem data from families of persons missing in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- handed over the tuberculosis programme in prisons to the authorities, publishing a review of the programme and continuing to monitor the situation
- visited people detained in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and other security detainees to monitor their living conditions, providing feedback to the authorities as necessary
- signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Defence to integrate IHL into military doctrine, education and training
- raised interest in and enhanced knowledge of IHL among law students and researchers at Armenian universities

CONTEXT

Armenia pursued efforts to decrease its geographical and political isolation. Following a plea by the Council of Europe, the authorities pardoned more than 200 people arrested during the post-election state of emergency in 2008. The global economic crisis severely affected the country, with serious devaluation of the currency.

In a breakthrough, the Armenian and Turkish authorities established a "road map" for the re-establishment of diplomatic relations.

Despite six meetings in 2009 between the presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan, mediated by the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, little progress was made in finding a peaceful solution to the conflict over Nagorno Karabakh. The *de facto* Nagorno Karabakh authorities made repeated requests to the parties and to the Minsk Group to be involved in the conflict-resolution process. There were regular reports of exchanges of fire along the international border with Azerbaijan, with some allegations that the number of ceasefire violations had increased significantly since 2008. The ceasefire violations, along with the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war, continued to affect civilians living along the border.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	10
Detainees visited and monitored individually	10
Number of visits carried out	12
Number of places of detention visited	7
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	19
RCMs distributed	14
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	4
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	405
of whom women	25
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	12

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC in Armenia continued to tackle the humanitarian consequences of the unresolved Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Delegates monitored the situation of civilians through field visits to areas along the international border with Azerbaijan and discussed their concerns with the authorities when necessary. In June, the ICRC, together with the Armenian Red Cross Society, completed the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. The families of the missing also received psychological and vocational support, while a household economic survey was initiated with a view to submitting recommendations on areas of possible support to the authorities.

The ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their freedom, including those detained in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, regularly providing confidential feedback to the authorities. The tuberculosis (TB) programme in places of detention was handed over to the authorities, although the ICRC continued to monitor TB-related activities and provide technical support where necessary. It also sponsored Justice Ministry and prison health staff to attend national and international training courses on HIV and other health issues.

ICRC delegates held regular meetings with the authorities to discuss Armenia's accession to and ratification of IHL treaties and advised them on the adoption of a national law on missing persons. The ICRC and the Defence Ministry signed a cooperation agreement to strengthen the integration of IHL into military doctrine, education and training and supported the training of armed forces IHL instructors. It also continued to assist the education authorities in incorporating IHL into the secondary school curriculum, notably by training textbook authors. The National Society and the ICRC organized a moot court IHL competition for law students and, in cooperation with the Russian-Armenian University, an international IHL conference for young researchers, to further encourage the study of and research in IHL.

In addition to ante-mortem data collection, cooperation between the Armenian Red Cross and the ICRC included building the National Society's capacities in restoring family links, dissemination and first-aid training, in close coordination with the International Federation.

CIVILIANS

Vulnerable civilians share their concerns

Ceasefire violations along the international border with Azerbaijan continued to be reported, with civilians wounded in two cases. Through field trips and its contacts with local civilian authorities and branches of the Armenian Red Cross, the ICRC kept abreast of the situation. During the field trips, civilians were able to raise their concerns with ICRC delegates, who brought them to the attention of the authorities where necessary. The authorities were also reminded of their obligations and responsibilities towards civilians and received further assistance in integrating IHL into military training (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Families are assisted in resolving questions pertaining to missing relatives

RCMs remained the only means for some family members separated by the conflict to communicate with one another. Families benefited from the transfer of official documents between members, and in one case the repatriation of the remains of a relative, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

At the end of 2009, 4,558 people were still unaccounted for as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, and the ICRC was in contact in Armenia with the families of 405 missing persons. Families continued to approach the ICRC for help in finding missing relatives. The Armenian authorities received updated lists of missing persons and discussed the humanitarian nature of the problem and support for families with the ICRC, which provided input to a draft law on the missing (see *Authorities*).

The authorities confirmed their willingness to assume their responsibilities in respect of missing persons and their families, in particular by improving forensic procedures. Two people appointed to manage the ante-mortem database received ICRC training in database management in Moscow, Russian Federation.

The collection of ante-mortem data on persons missing in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict was completed jointly by the Armenian Red Cross and the ICRC in June 2009. Some 320 families of missing persons were interviewed by ICRC-trained Armenian Red Cross volunteers and by ICRC staff, who collected

answers to questionnaires, photographs and documents relating to the missing. Work began on translating the questionnaires into Russian and preparing electronic files for submission to the authorities concerned.

During the interviews, families were informed of the support available from the authorities and the ICRC. The general public and national and international actors in Armenia learnt more about the issue, ways of obtaining information and the ICRC's role through the media and ICRC publications (see *Civil society*).

To provide psychological support, the Armenian Red Cross and the ICRC marked the birthdays of 46 missing persons with their families in Syunik province. In Armavir province, 25 relatives of missing persons participated in computer and English courses to improve their skills and increase their chances of employment in the absence of the family breadwinner. Members of family associations and other groups of families of the missing also received advice from the ICRC and contributed to discussions on the data-collection process.

To assess the economic and other needs of families of missing persons in order to make recommendations to the authorities and mobilize social actors, the ICRC initiated a household survey. The survey also identified other organizations working with families of the missing in Armenia with a view to future collaboration.

- 4 RCMs collected from and 8 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 4 people; 405 people (25 women; 12 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, as well as other potentially vulnerable detainees, including foreigners, women, minors and people arrested in relation to post-electoral events in 2008, were visited by the ICRC in accordance with its standard working procedures. Their treatment and living conditions were monitored and the authorities regularly provided with confidential feedback and reminded of their responsibility to ensure that conditions of detention met internationally recognized standards.

Detainees were able to correspond with their families via RCMs.

- Armenia: 9 detainees visited and monitored individually, during 4 visits to 3 places of detention
- Armenia, in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict: 1 POW visited and monitored individually, during 8 visits to 4 places of detention; 14 RCMs collected from and 6 RCMs distributed to the POW
- 3 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Detainees with TB and other health problems receive treatment

Following the 2008 review of the ICRC's TB programme in Armenia's prisons and the subsequent reduction in ICRC support, the Health and Justice Ministries and the ICRC published a report in Armenian and English summarizing the review's conclusions

and agreed standards covering prevention and care. This marked the final stage of the handover of the programme to the national authorities, although the ICRC continued to monitor the situation and provide technical expertise where necessary, particularly to encourage coordination between the penitentiary and civilian health sectors. In part as a result of this encouragement, the Justice Ministry and the national TB programme together revised two sets of guidelines on TB control in prisons, which were distributed to all prison health facilities. Other international organizations working in the field of TB, as well as educational institutions, pursued dialogue and cooperation with the ICRC where relevant.

To help prison health services increase their capacities to deal with TB and HIV, Justice Ministry staff were sponsored by the ICRC to participate in national and international events on HIV and harm reduction in prisons. Similarly, Justice Ministry health personnel undertook postgraduate training in family medicine and public health, while other prison and national reference laboratory staff attended English courses to increase potential learning opportunities and enhanced their computer skills. The Justice Ministry library also received a set of up-to-date medical reference publications and guides in Armenian.

Detainees and civilians were given educational materials by the ICRC on World TB Day and World AIDS Day.

In other initiatives to improve health in prisons, 19 guards successfully completed first-aid training conducted by the National Society, while the Armenian Centre of Health and Education and the ICRC produced and distributed a manual on stress prevention for psychologists and social workers working in detention centres.

WOUNDED AND SICK

One civilian and one military surgeon were better able to treat wounded people after participating in the ICRC's war- and emergency-surgery seminar held in Vladikavkaz, Russian Federation.

AUTHORITIES

The Armenian authorities and the ICRC met regularly to discuss humanitarian issues of particular interest to the authorities, including ICRC activities, Armenia's progress in the ratification of IHL treaties, such as Additional Protocol III and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and the implementation of such treaties. The authorities also received advice on the rights of missing persons and their families, including input to the government working group producing a draft law on the issue.

Culture, Defence and Foreign Affairs Ministry representatives pursued discussions at the second Commonwealth of Independent States regional seminar on IHL implementation held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation (see *Moscow*), following which the Culture Ministry drafted an amendment to national law to facilitate the implementation of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property. Foreign Affairs Ministry representatives also discussed contemporary challenges to humanitarian norms with experts from 11 other countries at an ICRC forum in Astana, Kazakhstan (see *Tashkent*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Defence Ministry strengthened its commitment to further integrate IHL into military doctrine, education and training and signed a cooperation agreement with the ICRC to consolidate this process. With a view to increasing the quality of IHL training among the armed forces, the two parties co-organized IHL train-the-trainer courses for officers, while other officers attended a course for IHL instructors in the Russian Federation.

Officers and soldiers set to join the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Kosovo learnt about the ICRC's mandate and activities during pre-deployment briefings, which included role-play exercises.

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

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media continued to promote public awareness of humanitarian issues and the ICRC's mandate, publishing articles on ICRC and National Society activities, including those for missing persons and their families and for detainees (see *Civilians* and *People deprived of their freedom*). International organizations, foreign embassies and NGOs were updated on ICRC activities through newsletters and a fact sheet produced in Armenian and English.

The 2009 "Our world. Your move." communication campaign provided an opportunity for the Armenian Red Cross, the International Federation and the ICRC to promote the Movement's Fundamental Principles and activities through the press, national television and the campaign website.

The education authorities and the ICRC made progress in incorporating IHL into the secondary school curriculum. Local authors of school textbooks participated in an ICRC seminar on the basics of IHL, following which they integrated the appropriate content into the current 9th grade military education textbook. Teachers received in-service training in IHL conducted by the Education Ministry and the ICRC. To further stimulate their interest and motivation, 8th grade preliminary military education teachers participated in a competition for the best IHL lesson. Schoolchildren learnt about the history of the ICRC and IHL through a performance staged by pupils as part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign.

IHL lecturers in Armenia's leading universities received updated information and were offered training in the subject. Students honed their skills and increased their interest in IHL at the fifth national moot court competition for law students and an Armenian Red Cross team, organized by the National Society and the ICRC, as well as an international conference for law graduates and young researchers, organized by the Russian-Armenian University and the ICRC. A pool of national IHL experts was also formed, with ICRC support, to further encourage IHL research in universities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Armenian Red Cross continued to respond to the needs of people affected by conflict and to strengthen its capacities in restoring family links, the dissemination of IHL and the Fundamental Principles, and first-aid training, with ICRC technical and financial support provided in close coordination with the International Federation.

The collection of ante-mortem data from the families of missing persons provided valuable experience for Armenian Red Cross staff and volunteers, building skills and capacities and raising the National Society's profile (see *Civilians*). The National Society and the ICRC also discussed other potential tracing needs in the contexts of missing persons and natural disasters.

The Armenian Red Cross undertook IHL dissemination activities, sometimes alongside the ICRC (see *Civil society*). For example, with the Education and Science Ministry, it organized a contest for schoolchildren to test their knowledge of the Movement's history and mandate and the National Society's activities. It also organized a national moot court competition with the ICRC, with a view to assuming responsibility for the organization of future such events (see *Civil society*).

As part of emergency preparedness activities, National Society volunteers and residents in communities close to the international border with Azerbaijan were trained in first aid by the Armenian Red Cross with ICRC support.



azerbaijan

The ICRC has been working in Azerbaijan since 1992 in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh armed conflict. It focuses on the issue of missing persons and on detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons, or who are otherwise vulnerable; provides support for health-related issues in places of detention, particularly tuberculosis control; and monitors the situation of communities along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into armed and security forces' training and into academic curricula. The ICRC works to strengthen the capacities of the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,085
Assistance	1,979
Prevention	885
Cooperation with National Societies	355
General	-

► **6,305**

of which: Overheads 385

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	93%
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PERSONNEL

10	expatriates
80	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- monitored the situation of civilians living along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, discussing any concerns with the authorities
- with the local authorities, provided clean drinking water to 22,743 people in conflict-affected areas through rehabilitation projects
- with the National Society, collected further ante-mortem data from families of persons missing in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict
- co-organized a round-table for parliamentarians, ministry officials and NGO staff on legislation related to missing persons
- visited detainees held under the authority of the Interior, Justice and National Security Ministries, including people detained in relation to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, to monitor their living conditions, providing them with assistance and the ministries with feedback as necessary
- provided substantial support to the Ministry of Justice to treat detainees with tuberculosis or multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis

CONTEXT

A referendum passed in March 2009 extended the term of office of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev indefinitely. A new law was adopted in May requiring all religious organizations in the country to re-register, prompting allegations that the government was increasing control over such organizations.

Despite six meetings in 2009 between the presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan, mediated by the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, little progress was made in finding a peaceful solution to the conflict over Nagorno Karabakh. The *de facto* Nagorno Karabakh authorities made repeated requests to the parties and to the Minsk Group to be involved in the conflict-resolution process. There were regular reports of exchanges of fire along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, with some allegations that the number of ceasefire violations had increased significantly since 2008. The ceasefire violations, along with the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), continued to affect civilians living in these areas.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	13,889	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	143	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,200	85%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	1,200	85%
Number of visits carried out	76	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	22,743	37%
Number of places of detention visited	33				36%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		<i>Health</i>			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	70	
RCMs collected	135	Consultations	<i>Patients</i>	70,733	
RCMs distributed	98		<i>of which curative</i>		25,785
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>			<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>		11,216
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	101	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
	<i>of whom women</i>	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	270	
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	4,153				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	93				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC in Azerbaijan continued to tackle the humanitarian consequences of the unresolved Nagorny Karabakh conflict. During field visits, ICRC delegates monitored civilians' needs and concerns, discussing the findings with the authorities where necessary, and rehabilitated water networks to provide clean drinking water for 22,743 people living along the front line. In Nagorny Karabakh, the ICRC continued to support primary health care facilities and provide vulnerable people with food and essential household items.

In line with an agreement concluded with the Azerbaijani authorities in 2008, the ICRC and the National Society collected ante-mortem data from the families of persons missing in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Although the project was not completed as planned, the majority of families were contacted, despite some difficulties in tracing them. The delegation also participated in a round-table co-organized with the authorities on a law on missing persons. In addition, the ICRC collected ante-mortem data in Nagorny Karabakh, as well as conducting awareness-raising activities and training a *de facto* authority representative in database management.

ICRC delegates monitored the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their freedom, including those detained in connection with the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, regularly providing confidential feedback to the authorities. Given the epidemic of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB) in Azerbaijan's prisons, the ICRC provided materials and expert advice to support the authorities in their efforts to combat both TB and MDR TB and encouraged the Health and Justice Ministries to coordinate their activities, particularly in following up released detainees suffering from MDR TB. These efforts were complemented by ICRC technical assistance and management support to the newly opened national reference laboratory.

As in past years, the ICRC supported the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan in strengthening its tracing and dissemination

capacities and its cooperation with others involved in mine action. With the help of the ICRC and local partners, the National Society constructed three additional safe play areas for children in conflict-affected villages, continued collecting data on mine-related incidents and conducted a mine-action workshop for its branches.

The ICRC strengthened contacts with the media to heighten public awareness of humanitarian issues and its activities, particularly the ante-mortem data collection project. It also pursued discussions with the military authorities on the integration of IHL into military training and training for interior troops. The delegation continued to assist the education authorities in integrating IHL into secondary school curricula and to provide IHL training and other assistance to universities.

CIVILIANS

Vulnerable civilians share their concerns and gain access to clean water

Civilians living near the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, including IDPs, continued to report regular breaches of the ceasefire, the presence of mines and ERW, impeded access to water, health and education, and inadequate housing conditions. They were able to raise their concerns with the ICRC during its regular field trips and, through ICRC intercession, bring them to the attention of the national and local authorities, who were also reminded of their obligations and responsibilities towards civilians.

Planned discussions with the authorities regarding identity documents for minority groups could not take place. Refugees, asylum seekers and members of minority groups continued to be issued with ICRC travel documents to facilitate family reunification or their resettlement in third countries, sometimes at UNHCR's request.

► 93 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Vulnerable civilians living along the front line faced fewer health risks thanks to water-network rehabilitation projects implemented by the residents, authorities and the ICRC in five communities and one IDP collective centre.

- 22,743 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

The Azerbaijani Red Crescent pursued mine action with ICRC support (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

Vulnerable people in Nagorny Karabakh access health care and receive assistance

The elderly, IDPs, returnees and families of missing persons in three conflict-affected districts had access to adequate primary health care services, owing in part to regular ICRC distributions of essential medicines to 70 village health centres. Epidemiological services and the spinal rehabilitation centre received donations of medical supplies, while hygiene-promotion leaflets were printed and distributed to the general public to support epidemiological education campaigns focusing on mother and child health.

No medical emergencies necessitating ICRC intervention took place.

In the 70 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 13,000):

- 70,733 people given consultations, including 28,706 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 42,027 attending curative consultations

Isolated people in the two largest towns, including invalids, elderly people, IDPs and relatives of the missing, received food and essential household items. Following weather-related damage to buildings in Shushi/a, 132 vulnerable people received tents, clothing and blankets.

- 1,200 people received food and essential household items

Families provide data to help trace their relatives

RCMs remained the only means for some family members separated by the conflict to communicate with one another.

The updating and consolidation of lists of missing persons by the State Commission on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons progressed. By the end of 2009, a total of 4,558 people were still unaccounted for as a result of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, with 4,153 cases of missing persons being handled by the ICRC in Azerbaijan.

In line with agreements concluded in 2008 with the State Commission and the Azerbaijani Red Crescent, the collection of ante-mortem data from the families of missing persons continued. National Society volunteers received in-depth ICRC training in data-collection techniques and ways of dealing with the psychological impacts of the collection process on the families. Although there were some difficulties in tracing families, over 1,200 families living in the Baku area, some 780 families in western Azerbaijan and some 60 families in central and southern Azerbaijan completed questionnaires and provided other documents. The National Society provided a telephone support service, and events were held with families to commemorate missing relatives.

In Nagorny Karabakh, the *de facto* authorities were assisted in improving the capacity of the working group on data collection and consolidation, with a member attending a database-management training course in Moscow, Russian Federation, alongside two representatives from the Azerbaijani State Commission. Families of the missing in Nagorny Karabakh provided ante-mortem data to the ICRC, and a survey was conducted to assess their economic vulnerability and needs.

Public campaigns helped to raise awareness of the issue of missing persons and the plight of their families (see *Civil society*).

- 56 RCMs collected from and 54 RCMs distributed to civilians; 14 calls facilitated between family members
- new tracing requests registered for 101 people (16 women; 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 4,153 people (353 women; 97 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees in detention facilities under the authority of the Interior, Justice and National Security Ministries, including people detained in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures. The authorities were provided with confidential feedback and reminded of their responsibility to ensure that conditions of detention met internationally recognized standards.

Detainees were able to correspond with their families via RCMs, while families in Nagorny Karabakh received ICRC financial support to visit their relatives in prison. At the request of all parties, the remains of one Armenian soldier were transferred from Azerbaijan to his family in Nagorny Karabakh, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary.

Vulnerable foreign detainees received clothing and personal items, female detainees were given personal hygiene items and others benefited from donations of books and games. Where necessary, detainees in Nagorny Karabakh received medicines, food and clothes.

Azerbaijan

- 13,881 detainees visited, of whom 135 monitored individually (1 minor) and 51 newly registered (1 minor), during 65 visits to 31 places of detention
- 76 RCMs collected from and 43 RCMs distributed to detainees; 20 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained

In relation to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict

- in Azerbaijan, 7 POWs visited and monitored individually, including 6 newly registered, during 8 visits to 1 place of detention
- in Nagorny Karabakh, 1 POW registered, visited and monitored individually, during 3 visits to 1 place of detention; 3 RCMs collected from and 1 RCM distributed to the POW
- 11 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained
- 4 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support

Detainees with TB and other health problems receive treatment

The authorities pursued efforts to tackle the MDR TB epidemic in prisons, with ICRC technical and financial support, including for the implementation of a directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS)-plus pilot project. The Health and Justice Ministries cooperated to develop joint policies to address MDR TB throughout society through a national working group and attended coordination meetings of international organizations working on TB and HIV alongside the ICRC. A manual on managing MDR TB in prisons was finalized. Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding in March, the Health and Justice Ministries and the ICRC began cooperating in following up 17 detainees with MDR TB after their release, providing them with medical treatment, food and hygiene items, and subsidizing their transport to health facilities.

Penitentiary and civilian doctors and other penitentiary health staff learnt more about the management of MDR TB at WHO-run courses with ICRC support and about HIV/TB co-infection at an ICRC-organized course.

The national reference laboratory opened in May and increased its capacity with ICRC technical, material and training support. Conditions in the prison TB hospital in Baku improved after separate wards were established for infectious and non-infectious patients and sanitation infrastructure was renovated. The Justice Ministry screened detainees, providing treatment where necessary. Until June, ill detainees were given hygiene items and medicines to manage the side-effects of anti-TB drugs by the ICRC, following which the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria took over these activities.

Following an ICRC assessment, 16 disabled detainees received treatment at the Ahmedly Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre (APORC) in Baku.

The general public, health workers and potential donors learnt about TB through a piece of drama performed by a local company and funded by the ICRC.

- ▶ 779 detainees began DOTS treatment
- ▶ 458 detainees successfully completed DOTS treatment
- ▶ 96 detainees began DOTS-plus treatment
- ▶ 270 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

WOUNDED AND SICK

APORC, autonomous since 2007 following the cessation of direct ICRC support, maintained contact with the delegation and received a one-off donation of materials. Disabled Chechen refugees benefited from an ICRC donation of two wheelchairs to a local organization.

Labour and Social Protection Ministry officials and staff of APORC and the physical rehabilitation centre in Nagorny Karabakh learnt more about rehabilitation and reintegration services for mine victims at workshops and seminars abroad. Two military surgeons from Nagorny Karabakh also improved their skills and knowledge at the yearly ICRC war- and emergency-surgery seminar in Vladikavkaz, Russian Federation.

AUTHORITIES

The authorities continued to discuss accession to and implementation of IHL treaties with the ICRC, which encouraged them to create a national IHL committee. The authorities and the ICRC co-organized a round-table for parliamentarians, ministry officials and NGO staff to consider a law to protect the rights of missing persons and their families, at which a study on the issue, commissioned by the ICRC in 2008, was presented. National experts began work on updating Azerbaijan's input to the ICRC study on customary IHL. Improved Azerbaijani translations of the Rome Statute and the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and its two Protocols were published.

Representatives of the Culture, Foreign Affairs and Tourism Ministries discussed IHL and learnt about the ICRC at the second Commonwealth of Independent States regional seminar on IHL implementation held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation (see *Moscow*) and an IHL course in Poland.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The military authorities in Azerbaijan and the ICRC discussed progress made on the integration of IHL into the training of the armed forces, as well as their duty under IHL to protect civilians and detainees and ensure ICRC access to vulnerable populations. Planned IHL train-the-trainer courses did not go ahead as the authorities preferred to focus on other training. Air force and army lawyers and officers gained knowledge of IHL during ICRC-organized courses, including in Nagorny Karabakh, while navy officers attended an ICRC course for the first time to learn about IHL relevant to conflict at sea.

IHL-related topics were integrated into military training curricula and the military school for interior troops with ICRC input and advice. Officers and trainers under the responsibility of the Interior Ministry increased their awareness and knowledge of IHL, international human rights law and the ICRC's mandate and activities during ICRC-organized courses.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media continued to promote public awareness of humanitarian issues, drawing on ICRC press releases, briefings, newsletters and courses. Journalists reported on ICRC and National Society activities in regions along the Line of Contact and the international border with Armenia, including water projects and the construction of safe play areas for children. The round-table on a law on missing persons and their families also received coverage (see *Authorities*), while national and local radio and television stations aired ICRC broadcasts on the ante-mortem data-collection project (see *Civilians*). Journalists in front-line areas learnt about their rights under IHL and international human rights law at an ICRC workshop.

NGOs working with families of missing persons cooperated with the ICRC to increase awareness of the issue. The ICRC did not seek contacts with religious leaders owing to the new law for religious organizations (see *Context*).

Education reforms progressed and representatives of the Education Ministry in charge of developing new curricula consulted the ICRC on the integration of IHL into the new secondary school textbooks. These representatives, along with teachers and advisers from the Institute of Educational Problems, learnt more about IHL at ICRC-organized workshops and received a CD-ROM on teaching IHL. Schoolchildren in Nagorny Karabakh learnt about the history of the ICRC and IHL through a performance staged by pupils as part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign.

For the first time, civil servants attended ICRC presentations given at the request of the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy. Baku State University included IHL in its journalism curriculum, with ICRC advice. Students of the National Academy of Aviation and Azerbaijan University of Languages, law students in Nagorny Karabakh, and IHL lecturers learnt more about IHL and the ICRC at dissemination sessions and seminars run by the ICRC, as well as on courses abroad.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Azerbaijani Red Crescent, with Movement support, continued to respond to the needs of people affected by conflict. Meetings between the National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC increased the efficiency of joint activities.

The collection of ante-mortem data from families of the missing progressed (see *Civilians*). The National Society handled non-conflict-related tracing cases, using tracing guidelines and procedures for field branches drafted with ICRC support.

Volunteers refreshed their knowledge of the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, basic IHL principles, the emblem and the Safer Access approach at an ICRC-funded workshop, and relayed information on these topics to the general public.

Backed by ICRC technical support, the National Society worked with the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA) and others involved in mine action to collect data on mine-related incidents and assessed the needs of families following such incidents with a view to providing the necessary support. It conducted a mine-action workshop for branches along the front line and constructed three new safe play areas for children in mine-affected regions, with support from ANAMA, the Azerbaijan Campaign to Ban Landmines and the ICRC.



georgia

The ICRC has been present in Georgia since 1992. 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. It visits detainees throughout Georgia, including Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and provides expertise on health-related issues, particularly tuberculosis, in places of detention. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into armed and security forces' doctrine, training and sanctions and into academic curricula. In cooperation with Movement partners, the ICRC helps to strengthen the capacities of the Red Cross Society of Georgia.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,019
Assistance	9,051
Prevention	1,673
Cooperation with National Societies	1,064
General	-

► **14,807**
of which: Overheads 904

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	71%
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PERSONNEL

32 expatriates
204 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- provided emergency relief to some 35,000 people and recovery support to nearly 17,000 civilians suffering the effects of the August 2008 hostilities
- helped family members separated by armed conflict to restore/maintain contact, in 35 cases reuniting them with relatives at their request
- assisted local organizations in building their capacities to provide families of missing persons with psychological, administrative and legal support
- supported the Georgian authorities in improving health services in prisons, particularly for detainees with tuberculosis
- supported the Foreign Affairs Ministry in drafting legislation to create a national IHL committee
- with the International Federation, supported the Red Cross Society of Georgia in developing its disaster-management, first-aid and psychological-support capacities

CONTEXT

The effects of the international armed conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation in August 2008 continued to be felt by the civilian population living along the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries. The closure of these boundaries and related arrests affected civilians' freedom of movement, worsening existing economic problems. Many IDPs returned to their homes to find difficult living conditions, while thousands of others could not return and were usually accommodated in collective centres or State-built settlements.

Following the Russian Federation in 2008, three more States recognized the independence of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. In April, Russian border guards began to patrol the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries.

Although the peace negotiations (Geneva Talks) between Georgia, the Russian Federation and the Abkhaz and South Ossetian *de facto* authorities continued, with the UN, the European Union (EU) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) acting as mediators, there were no major breakthroughs. The mandate of the EU Monitoring Mission was extended to September 2010, but those of the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) and the OSCE were not extended after June following disagreement on their status. The EU Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia presented its report to the parties in September. Georgia withdrew from the Commonwealth of Independent States in June.

Opposition political parties demanded the resignation of President Mikheil Saakashvili, and peaceful but disruptive demonstrations took place in Tbilisi between April and July. In May, the Georgian authorities arrested high-ranking military officers, soldiers and civilians in connection with an alleged planned military mutiny.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited	20,159	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	101	Food	Beneficiaries	22,718	45%	12%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	21,682		
	of whom minors	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	35,242	45%	13%
Number of visits carried out	82		of whom IDPs	28,277		
Number of places of detention visited	25	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	16,921	44%	15%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of whom IDPs	10,009		
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	56,266	42%	22%
RCMs collected	1,265		of whom IDPs	1,262		
RCMs distributed	1,095	WOUNDED AND SICK				
People reunited with their families	34	Physical rehabilitation				
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Patients receiving services	Patients	1,077	147	366
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	56	Prostheses delivered	Units	304	40	11
	of whom women	Orthoses delivered	Units	679	73	542
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	130					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	58					
	of whom women					
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	1					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	14					

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to closely monitor the situation of civilians in central and western Georgia, Abkhazia and South Ossetia affected by the August 2008 hostilities, adapting its response to needs.

Vulnerable people received, as required, food and essential household items and, for the winter, clothes and firewood.

The delegation also provided agricultural support to people who had lost access to parts of their land, helped residents repair their houses and built or rehabilitated water supply systems. It improved living conditions and sanitation in collective centres housing IDPs and in newly built government IDP settlements. To extend access to health care, the ICRC rehabilitated clinics and hospitals and donated supplies and equipment. With the permission of the relevant authorities, it also reunited relatives separated by conflict and transported ill people to hospital across the administrative boundaries.

At the same time, the ICRC began to implement longer-term solutions, enabling vulnerable people to increase their income through micro-economic initiatives. Fewer people than planned were helped in this way, however, owing to the need for extensive assessments in the first two-thirds of the year.

The ICRC informed the authorities of the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) and conducted mine-awareness activities with communities at risk. It supported physical rehabilitation centres in Gagra and Tbilisi and enabled South Ossetian patients to receive such services in the Russian Federation.

The ICRC reminded the authorities of their obligations to provide answers to the families of missing persons, offering technical

support to the relevant parties with regard to those missing in connection with the August 2008 hostilities. Following its 2008 assessment of the needs of families of the missing, the delegation conducted two workshops to build the capacities of local organizations to provide such families with psychological support and assessed local psychological-support service providers.

ICRC delegates monitored the individual cases of security detainees, including those detained in relation to conflict and the alleged planned military mutiny in May. The authorities were informed confidentially of the findings. Support was provided to the authorities to improve health care services in prisons, particularly for detainees with tuberculosis (TB). The ICRC formally requested regular access to people detained in South Ossetia.

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

In parallel, the ICRC continued to develop its longstanding efforts to promote IHL among the authorities, armed forces, academics and the general public. The Georgian authorities participated in a workshop on creating a national IHL committee, and armed forces instructors were trained in IHL. The delegation also assisted the Education Ministry in introducing IHL-related topics into school curricula and textbooks and stimulated academic interest in the subject through competitions for university students. Widespread media coverage prompted by ICRC initiatives increased public awareness of humanitarian issues.

In cooperation with the International Federation, the ICRC continued to support the Red Cross Society of Georgia in developing its capacities, particularly in disaster response.

CIVILIANS

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

Civilians receive immediate and longer-term assistance

Vulnerable people living on both sides of the Abkhaz and South Ossetian administrative boundaries continued to be assisted, as needed, by the ICRC and, where possible, the National Society. Where necessary, initial plans were adapted to meet changing needs.

IDPs, returnees and affected residents received food rations, hygiene kits and, in the winter, warm clothes and firewood. Along the South Ossetian administrative boundary, some 15,500 vulnerable people used ICRC-donated seed and agricultural chemicals to maximize the summer harvest. Families in South Ossetian villages received firewood to reduce risks associated with collecting wood in areas contaminated by mines/ERW, while people in central Georgian villages contaminated by such devices were able to restart agricultural activities following mine-awareness activities carried out alongside agricultural distributions. A small number of IDPs in western Georgia were assisted in accessing State entitlements and, in Abkhazia, 180 persons living in the very remote and isolated Kodori valley received food.

Nearly 1,500 vulnerable people in central and western Georgia and in South Ossetia increased their incomes through ICRC micro-economic initiatives, receiving funding and materials, although fewer people than planned benefited (see *ICRC action and results*).

In central and western Georgia, people faced fewer health risks after the ICRC built six water-supply systems, rehabilitated four collective centres hosting IDPs and constructed toilets and showers for IDPs in a new settlement. A database containing the technical specifications of collective centres rehabilitated by the ICRC was handed over to the Georgian authorities. In South Ossetia, IDPs in five collective centres in Tskhinvali/Tskhinval benefited from ICRC rehabilitation work, and rural schools were provided with stoves, while 50 conflict-affected households had their roofs repaired by the ICRC, with other residents receiving materials to make repairs themselves.

To improve access to safe water and sanitation services, the Tskhinvali/Tskhinval water board and South Ossetian rural water boards received equipment and materials so that they could carry out the work themselves, rather than it being done by the ICRC as planned.

Civilians accessed primary health care services thanks to medical equipment for ambulances provided by the ICRC, and the rehabilitation of health centres in South Ossetia and western Georgia. The *de facto* Abkhaz authorities began to fund care provided to elderly people by the Red Cross in Abkhazia, with ongoing monitoring by the ICRC. Where necessary and with clearance from the relevant authorities, people needing medical care were transported by the ICRC across administrative boundaries.

The authorities were informed by the ICRC of the location of mines/ERW. At the ICRC's initiative, organizations involved in mine action, including the National Society, established a working group, and their staff increased their knowledge about the issue. South Ossetian schoolteachers and children also learnt how to reduce mine risks thanks to ICRC training and educational materials.

- ▶ 22,718 people (7,198 households), including 21,682 IDPs, received food
- ▶ 35,242 people (10,681 households), including 28,277 IDPs, received essential household items
- ▶ 16,921 people (5,665 households) benefited from agricultural/micro-economic initiatives, including 15,468 people from distributions of seed, tools, fertilizer and agricultural chemicals, and 1,453 people from micro-economic initiatives
- ▶ 56,266 people, including 1,262 IDPs in collective centres, benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Families and authorities benefit from ICRC assistance and expertise on missing persons

Family members separated by conflict communicated through RCMs and in some cases were reunited across administrative boundaries by the ICRC, with clearance from the relevant authorities.

The authorities concerned were reminded of their obligation to provide answers to the families of people missing in relation to the August 2008 conflict. The Georgian, Russian and *de facto* South Ossetian authorities agreed to establish a mechanism to exchange information on missing persons, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. The parties received the names of 30 people still being sought from the ICRC, data relating to nine cases were relayed between them, and Georgian and Russian forensic laboratories were offered technical support.

The fate of some 2,120 people missing in relation to earlier armed conflicts was still unknown and the Georgian and *de facto* Abkhaz authorities expressed their wish to renew dialogue on this issue. Following a 2008 ICRC assessment of the needs of families of the missing, local psychological-support service providers were assessed, and local NGOs and family associations participated in two ICRC workshops to improve their capacities to provide such support and to help families in addressing their administrative and legal needs.

- ▶ 1,132 RCMs collected from and 966 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 56 people (8 women; 13 minors at the time of disappearance); 130 people located; 58 people (8 women; 8 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 35 people reunited with their families, including 1 separated child and 1 person registered by another delegation
- ▶ 1 person issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 32 official documents relayed between family members across administrative boundaries

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Most security detainees across Georgia, including people held in connection with conflict or the alleged planned military mutiny in May or for crossing the South Ossetian administrative boundary, were visited individually by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures. The authorities were informed confidentially of the findings and any recommendations for improvements in their living conditions and treatment.

Detainees held under the authority of the South Ossetian *de facto* Interior and Justice Ministries received ad hoc ICRC visits. The *de facto* Foreign Affairs Ministry received a formal offer from the ICRC to visit all detainees regularly but had not replied by year-end.

Detainees could contact their relatives through RCMs and receive parcels from their families, some containing medicines otherwise unavailable, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. One detainee held in Abkhazia received a family visit with ICRC help.

Central and western Georgia

- 20,128 detainees visited, of whom 70 monitored individually (2 women) and 47 newly registered, during 49 visits to 19 places of detention
- 72 RCMs collected from and 70 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 14 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

Abkhazia

- 5 detainees visited and monitored individually (2 women), of whom 1 newly registered, during 9 visits to 4 places of detention
- 20 RCMs collected from and 12 RCMs distributed to detainees

South Ossetia

- 26 detainees visited and monitored individually (3 women; 5 minors), of whom 25 newly registered (3 women; 5 minors), during 24 visits to 2 places of detention
- 41 RCMs collected from and 47 RCMs distributed to detainees

Detainees receive health care

To ensure inmates with TB obtained treatment, the authorities received ICRC support to introduce the national TB programme's directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS)-plus strategy into prisons and to install a laboratory in a TB colony, ahead of a planned handover of ICRC activities in 2010.

Formal working groups began overseeing reforms within the prison health system, including the medical follow-up of released detainees with TB. In line with the recommendations of the 2008 health needs assessment, carried out with substantial ICRC input, the authorities piloted primary health care services in two prisons, training staff in mental health care and introducing screening procedures. Planned staff training and other ICRC support were not provided owing to the reforms.

- 909 detainees with TB commenced DOTS treatment
- 56 detainees with TB commenced DOTS-plus treatment
- 771 detainees still under treatment at the end of 2009

In South Ossetia, prison health services received ad hoc supplies of medicines and hygiene items. Planned rehabilitation activities were put on hold pending further needs assessments.

WOUNDED AND SICK

In South Ossetia, the Tskhinvali/Tskhinval hospital, including the maternity ward, improved hygiene conditions thanks to the ICRC's rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities, while the Java and Kvaisa hospitals were given medical supplies and equipment. Outpatient departments and health centres received similar provisions, enabling them to provide free treatment to elderly Georgians remaining in South Ossetia. With the agreement of the relevant authorities, 18 patients were transported by the ICRC across the administrative boundary for emergency medical treatment. In addition, four doctors learnt more about war and emergency surgery at an ICRC seminar in Vladikavkaz, Russian Federation.

In Abkhazia, hospitals and walk-in clinics treated patients using ICRC health care kits.

According to official estimates, there were some 5,600 amputees, including mine victims, throughout Georgia. The Georgian Foundation for Prosthetic Orthopaedic Rehabilitation's centre in Tbilisi increased its financial autonomy but still had some 25% of its costs (down from 40% in 2008) reimbursed by the ICRC. Abkhazia's Gagra Orthopaedic Centre benefited from ICRC rehabilitation work and received equipment and assistance in transporting materials across the administrative boundary. Seven South Ossetian patients were fitted with prosthetic/orthotic appliances at the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre with ICRC support (see *Moscow*).

Experts improved their knowledge about physical rehabilitation and the reintegration of mine victims at a regional seminar organized by the Georgian authorities, the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance and the ICRC.

- 1,077 patients (including 147 women and 366 children) received services at 2 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 118 new patients (including 17 women and 5 children) fitted with prostheses and 322 (including 47 women and 242 children) fitted with orthoses
- 304 prostheses (including 40 for women and 11 for children; 35 for mine victims), 679 orthoses (including 73 for women and 542 for children) and 276 crutches delivered

AUTHORITIES

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

To encourage Georgia's ratification and implementation of key IHL treaties, the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the ICRC held a round-table to discuss establishing a national IHL committee, with the ICRC providing a model of a draft decree. Government officials also participated in the second Commonwealth of Independent States regional seminar on IHL implementation held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation (see *Moscow*).

In June, Georgia acceded to Amended Article 1 and Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

With ICRC support, the Georgian Defence Ministry continued to integrate IHL into the armed forces' training and operations, while its legal department began discussions with the delegation. Members of the armed forces' IHL integration working group established in 2008, IHL instructors and over 60 officers from the army, navy and air force, the national guard and the military police, as well as military lawyers, increased their knowledge of IHL during week-long ICRC courses. No Georgian officers were available to participate as planned in the 2009 Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations held in Paris, France. The Georgian Army Joint Staff and the ICRC printed and distributed 2,000 copies of an IHL handbook for officers and translated a short film on IHL into Georgian, while military education establishments worked to include IHL in field manuals.

In western Georgia, officers at a military base, police and rapid deployment forces were familiarized with the ICRC mandate and activities.

In Abkhazia, military personnel, officers of the *de facto* Defence Ministry, cadets, prison staff, police academy students, members of the Russian armed forces and Russian security service officers participated in introductory presentations on IHL principles and the ICRC.

In South Ossetia, contacts were established with the *de facto* armed and security forces, Russian border guards, members of which were familiarized with the ICRC mandate, the emblem and IHL through ad hoc sessions and with the Russian military commander.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media representatives regularly reported on humanitarian issues and ICRC activities across Georgia. Journalists and journalism students in western Georgia were informed about IHL and the protection of journalists in armed conflict, while journalists in Sukhumi/Sukhum discussed humanitarian challenges and IHL, at ICRC events on these subjects. Public awareness of humanitarian issues was further raised by a touring exhibition and radio programme tying in with the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign.

The Education Ministry continued to finalize the integration of IHL topics into new school curricula and textbooks with ICRC support. Teachers learnt about IHL at courses for trainee teachers at two State universities and through in-service teacher training programmes. Schoolchildren participated in discussions organized by the ICRC to evaluate IHL integration in the education system, at the same time learning more about the organization's mandate and activities.

IHL was an optional subject in the law curricula of leading universities, where students received copies of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols. Student teams from across Georgia learnt more about IHL at ICRC seminars and presentations and participated in national IHL competitions, while a Tbilisi university team was sponsored by the ICRC to take part in the international Jean-Pictet competition on IHL held in France.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Movement partners met regularly to coordinate both aid efforts and support to the Georgian Red Cross. The ICRC also helped the National Society upgrade branch premises and repaired the Tbilisi warehouse.

The Georgian Red Cross and the ICRC worked together to assist people affected by the 2008 hostilities, distributing firewood, blankets and clothes during the winter (see *Civilians*) and providing other aid and training to IDPs, with ICRC funding. National Society staff and volunteers underwent mine-awareness training and helped the ICRC distribute related leaflets (see *Civilians*). With International Federation and ICRC support, the National Society also assisted 822 families affected by the earthquake in western Georgia in September.

In parallel, the National Society, with Movement support, developed its disaster-management and assistance strategies, increasingly working with local authorities to help vulnerable communities. Five key branches established disaster response teams trained to provide first aid, relief assistance and psychological support and to restore family links, and a draft first-aid manual was produced. Branch leaders learnt about the Safer Access approach during ICRC-led workshops, while dissemination volunteers were briefed on IHL, the Movement and its Fundamental Principles.



ukraine

The ICRC has been working in Ukraine since 1995. It promotes the integration of IHL into national legislation, into the training programmes and codes of conduct of the armed forces, and into university curricula. The ICRC seeks to strengthen cooperation with the Ukraine Red Cross Society, in particular to help boost its capacity to respond to emerging needs for humanitarian assistance and for services to restore family links, such as those of detained migrants.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	239
Cooperation with National Societies	355
General	-

► **594**

of which: Overheads **36**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	110%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
3	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- monitored the situation in the Crimea through contacts with local authorities and influential members of the community
- together with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, successfully completed the first stage of a first-aid capacity-building project in the Crimea
- supported Ukrainian Red Cross tracing activities for detained migrants and people affected by the Second World War
- provided the national IHL committee with technical support in the ratification of IHL treaties and the adoption of legislation on missing persons
- welcomed the Ukrainian parliament's ratification of Additional Protocol III

CONTEXT

Ukraine remained politically divided between parties favouring closer ties with the West and those preferring to maintain strong links with the Russian Federation, reflecting divisions within the population. Presidential elections were planned for January 2010.

Concerns over the economic recession and energy supplies superseded those related to nationalist trends and conflicting views over the continued presence of the Russian Black Sea fleet. Although intercommunal tensions, particularly with regard to land rights, persisted on the Crimean peninsula, the situation generally remained calm.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	9

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The maintenance of a presence in Kyiv after the closure of the regional delegation at the end of 2008 enabled the ICRC to continue to monitor the situation in Ukraine, particularly on the Crimean peninsula. The ICRC developed contacts with political parties and influential members of the community on the peninsula to increase its understanding of the situation and to raise awareness of its mandate and activities. The first stage of a first-aid training programme for the Crimean branches of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society was successfully completed. To further boost the National Society's emergency response capacity, the Ukrainian Red Cross and the ICRC co-organized a seminar on the Safer Access approach for the authorities. The Ukrainian Red Cross also received ICRC funding for its countrywide tracing activities related to the Second World War and the restoration of family links for detained migrants.

In light of the continued calm in Ukraine, it was decided to close the mission in Kyiv at the end of the year and hand over responsibility for its activities to the regional delegation in Moscow from September. The presence of an expatriate delegate at the mission, not initially budgeted for, contributed to neutral dialogue with the authorities on current activities and to discussions with all stakeholders in the country about the transfer of activities to Moscow.

Although some activities were reduced as a consequence of the decision to close the mission, the ICRC continued to work with relevant authorities and universities to promote IHL. The national IHL committee received further support in its efforts to advance the ratification of IHL treaties and the adoption of national legislation on missing persons. Representatives of the Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice Ministries attended the second regional Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) seminar on IHL implementation in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, with technical support from the delegation. The ICRC also continued to work with the Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv to further improve IHL education and encouraged closer collaboration between the institute and the national IHL committee.

AUTHORITIES

The Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice reaffirmed their commitment to promoting IHL and to ratifying and implementing IHL treaties. Contacts between the authorities and specialists from the ICRC regional delegation in Moscow were strengthened. The national IHL committee, with ICRC technical support and advice, focused on making progress in the ratification of IHL treaties, in particular the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, the Convention on Enforced Disappearance and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and the completion of a study on the compatibility of national legislation with international law on missing persons. Ukrainian experts completed an update of national aspects of the ICRC study on customary IHL and presented it to the ICRC.

Towards the end of the year, Ukraine ratified Additional Protocol III and was preparing to send the instrument of ratification to the depository.

Representatives of the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice and members of the national IHL committee participated in the second CIS regional seminar on IHL implementation held in St Petersburg (see *Moscow*) and discussed the seminar's recommendations with the ICRC. Representatives of these institutions also increased their knowledge of IHL at other regional and national events supported by the ICRC (see *Moscow*).

Local authorities and community leaders in the Crimean peninsula, including a major Tatar NGO and the main political parties, kept up contacts with the ICRC, facilitating the ICRC's efforts to monitor the situation and raise awareness of its mandate and activities. Other relevant international organizations working in Ukraine also discussed the situation in the Crimean peninsula, as well as humanitarian issues such as migration, with the ICRC.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Contacts with the Ministry of Defence were interrupted by ongoing reforms in the armed forces and the changes to ICRC operations in Ukraine (see *ICRC action and results*). The planned training courses, events and support to the IHL integration committee did not take place.

However, the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice reaffirmed their commitment to promoting IHL integration within the armed forces, and the military authorities expressed interest in continued dialogue with the ICRC.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University, a leading player in the teaching of IHL and IHL research, began working with the ICRC on a formal cooperation agreement to further improve IHL education. The institute's students honed their IHL skills, with a team winning the annual De Martens IHL competition (see *Moscow*). Closer collaboration between the institute and the national IHL committee was encouraged by the ICRC.

Ukrainian academics discussed developments in IHL at the Martens Readings conference in St Petersburg, co-organized by the St Petersburg State University and the ICRC. They also attended the second annual meeting of IHL lecturers from the region, organized by the ICRC alongside the Martens Readings, where they discussed progress on IHL integration and further cooperation with the ICRC (see *Moscow*).

The changes to ICRC operations in Ukraine (see *ICRC action and results*) meant that other activities planned for universities, teachers and students were not carried out.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Ukrainian Red Cross worked with the ICRC to support the capacity building of its Crimean branches and restore family links, coordinating such activities with the International Federation and other National Societies working internationally.

The Ukrainian Red Cross continued to develop its emergency response capacity with ICRC support. Government representatives learned about the Safer Access approach at a seminar co-organized by the ICRC and the National Society, while National Society branches formulated contingency plans related to the 2010 presidential election. Forty volunteers in eight branches of the Ukrainian Red Cross in the Crimea were trained in first aid, received equipment and participated in a competition during the successful initial stages of a first-aid capacity-building programme. The training was undertaken by specialists from National Societies working internationally, while the ICRC provided funding and advice.

Health posts in the Crimea were given a final batch of medical supplies from the ICRC. The Ukrainian Red Cross took over responsibility for the programme, having developed sufficient capacity, with ICRC help, to manage it alone.

The tracing service of the Ukrainian Red Cross received funding to continue its activities, enabling detained migrants to make a total of 2,524 telephone calls to their relatives and assisting people seeking information about family members among the victims of the Second World War. In order to improve coordination with other National Societies regarding tracing activities relating to the Second World War, one staff member of the National Society was sponsored by the ICRC to attend an International Tracing Service seminar (see *International Tracing Service*).

At the request of a number of international humanitarian organizations, nine migrants from various countries were issued with travel documents by the ICRC to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.



budapest (regional)

Prior to its closure at the end of June 2009, the Budapest regional delegation, established in 1997, encouraged and supported the States of the region in their efforts to ratify and implement IHL treaties. It assisted 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 promoted research and debate on IHL and humanitarian issues in academic circles. The delegation supported the development of the region's National Societies. Its remaining activities were handed over to ICRC headquarters and the Western Balkans regional delegation in the second half of the year.

COVERING

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	647
Cooperation with National Societies	555
General	-

► **1,202**

of which: Overheads **73**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	96%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
5	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

Between January and June 2009, the ICRC:

- finalized preparations to close the delegation and to hand over its remaining responsibilities to ICRC headquarters and the Western Balkans regional delegation
- signed a memorandum of understanding with the Austrian Ministry of Defence regarding the continuation of the IHL course for military legal experts held annually in Vienna, Austria
- engaged in high-level discussions with the Czech Republic, as holder of the European Union presidency, on the implementation of the European Union Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

CONTEXT

The countries covered by the Budapest regional delegation remained generally stable in 2009. The global economic crisis affected countries across the region, notably in terms of rising unemployment. Discontent sparked demonstrations in the capitals of Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania. Tensions between Roma and other communities increased, in part owing to growing poverty.

The Czech Republic assumed the European Union (EU) presidency in January 2009, prioritizing economic development and EU enlargement in the Western Balkans. New governments took office in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Latvia.

The longstanding border dispute between Romania and Ukraine was resolved by a ruling of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands.

The armed forces of several countries in the region continued to take part in multilateral military operations, including in Afghanistan and Iraq.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC closed its regional delegation in Budapest at the end of June 2009. During the first six months of the year, the delegation finalized preparations for the closure and for the handover of its remaining responsibilities. From July, ICRC headquarters and the Western Balkans regional delegation shared responsibility for dialogue with national authorities and National Societies in the region. The reasons for the closure and future communication and cooperation channels were discussed with State authorities, National Societies, representatives of civil society and other interested parties.

The ICRC pursued its dialogue with national authorities in the region to encourage the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties and to promote respect for IHL during military operations. ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger's visit to the Czech Republic during its EU presidency provided a further opportunity to promote compliance with IHL across the EU. Military legal experts from the region attended an IHL training course in Vienna, Austria, and the Austrian Ministry of Defence and the ICRC signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure the continuation of the course.

The ICRC continued to assist education authorities, teachers' associations and National Societies in integrating the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula.

ICRC expertise and financial support contributed to building the capacities of the dissemination and tracing services of the region's National Societies. The Red Cross of Romania also received technical and financial support for its disaster preparedness and response programme.

AUTHORITIES

The region's authorities and the ICRC maintained a dialogue on the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties, including through the respective national IHL committees. States continued their work in these areas, with ICRC support in the form of legal advice, particularly on the drafting of legislation, and through bilateral meetings rather than regional events as originally planned. During the ICRC president's visit to the Czech Republic, high-level discussions were held on the implementation throughout EU member States of the European Union Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) (see *Brussels*). The Estonian and Hungarian translations of the summary of the ICRC study on customary IHL were completed and published.

States and the delegation also discussed the relevance and applicability of IHL during military operations and the ICRC's mandate and activities. In the Czech Republic and Poland, discussions focused on strengthening awareness of States' obligations under IHL, particularly in preparation for the deployment of national armed forces in Afghanistan and Iraq. Military legal advisers from across the region enhanced their knowledge of IHL and of the ICRC's mandate and activities at a course in Austria organized by the Austrian Ministry of Defence and the ICRC. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding committing them to continue organizing the course in future years.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Representatives of the media and other key sectors of civil society were briefed on the reasons behind the closure of the delegation and, where relevant, on future channels of communication with the ICRC.

These messages were also conveyed at a ceremony in Budapest to award the "Righteous among the Nations" medal posthumously to former ICRC delegate Eduard Benedikt Brunschweiler, an honour bestowed by the Yad Vashem Institute, Israel, in recognition of his activities when working for the ICRC in western Hungary during the Second World War. Representatives of the authorities, diplomatic and academic circles, religious organizations, the Jewish community, civil society and the media learned about the history of ICRC action in Hungary at this event.

Education authorities and teachers' associations continued working to integrate the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula with ICRC advice and National Society support.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Society dissemination departments received further expertise and financial support from the ICRC in building sustainable programmes. National networks of volunteer disseminators were established to improve communication and cooperation with local authorities, civil society and the media and to increase knowledge of the Movement's Fundamental Principles, IHL and the emblem. The National Societies provided support to national authorities in integrating the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula. Representatives of National Societies attended expert meetings and workshops, including the European Legal Support Group meeting, as part of efforts to foster their integration into wider European National Society networks.

The National Societies received technical and financial support for tracing activities, with a focus on emerging issues such as migration. Tracing officers attended a seminar hosted by the International Tracing Service to improve cooperation in connection with tracing requests relating to the Second World War (see *International Tracing Service*).

The Hungarian Red Cross received legal advice relating to misuse of the emblem.

The Romanian Red Cross received financial and technical support to consolidate its disaster preparedness and response programme.

The region's National Societies held discussions with the ICRC with a view to maintaining strong communication links and a regular consultation mechanism beyond the closure of the delegation.



moscow (regional)

The Moscow delegation, which opened in 1992, combines operations in the Russian Federation with regional functions. The ICRC contributes to efforts to provide answers to families of missing persons and assists vulnerable conflict-affected populations in the northern Caucasus, in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross Society. It supports capacity building of all the region's National Societies, particularly to restore family links and promote IHL. In all the countries covered, it runs long-term communication programmes to promote an environment conducive to the respect of IHL and other relevant norms and foster understanding of the ICRC's mandate and work.

COVERING

Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,976
Assistance	5,225
Prevention	5,011
Cooperation with National Societies	1,561
General	-

► **14,774**

of which: Overheads **901**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	80%
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PERSONNEL

21 expatriates

248 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- encouraged the Russian authorities to establish mechanisms, including a legal framework, to resolve the fate of missing persons
- handed over to the Russian authorities a report on the economic, legal and psychological needs of the families of missing persons in the northern Caucasus, with recommendations on how to better support these families
- with the Russian Red Cross Society, provided the most vulnerable people in the northern Caucasus with relief aid and helped them to recover self-sufficiency through micro-economic initiatives
- supported the Moldovan IHL committee in its efforts to establish and implement legislation on missing persons
- signed a protocol of intent with the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to enhance cooperation in the promotion of IHL and other norms applicable to situations of violence
- organized briefing sessions on international standards in law enforcement and policing for Russian Interior Ministry staff in Ingushetia for the first time since 2001

CONTEXT

The Russian Federation continued to emphasize its interests in the “near abroad” of former Soviet republics, including through regional mechanisms such as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and, to a lesser extent, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. CSTO member States agreed to establish a Collective Rapid Reaction Force. The global economic crisis affected vulnerable people throughout the country.

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

Across the northern Caucasus, skirmishes, armed attacks on law enforcement agencies, including suicide attacks, and ad hoc “security operations” increased, and mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continued to affect rural populations. In Chechnya, infrastructure reconstruction and the return of IDPs continued. The Ingush and North Ossetian authorities developed discussions with regard to Ingush displaced from the disputed Prigorodny district. NGOs alleged human rights violations by security forces in the area, and the murders of two human rights activists raised serious security concerns among humanitarian organizations. The ICRC remained without news of its Grozny staff member abducted in Chechnya in 2003.

In the Republic of Moldova, parliamentary elections in April prompted violent incidents and related arrests. Rapid intervention by European bodies contributed to the stabilization of the situation and the release of those arrested, but the newly elected coalition was unable to elect a president. Meetings between the leaderships of the Republic of Moldova and the breakaway Transnistria region made no significant progress.

Belarus continued to develop political and economic relations with both the Russian Federation and the West.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total ¹		Total	Women	Children	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.) ¹				
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Economic security, water and habitat				
RCMs collected	69	Food	Beneficiaries	2,260	37%	35%
RCMs distributed	78		of whom IDPs	964		
People reunited with their families	1	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	4,960	33%	41%
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of whom IDPs	964		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	376	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	4,424	30%	37%
of whom women	17	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	475,104	30%	40%
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	19	WOUNDED AND SICK ¹				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	21	Hospitals supported	Structures	12		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	1,843	Admissions	Patients	8,483	3,951	2,000
of whom women	65	Operations	Operations performed	3,110		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	64					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	72					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5					

1. Russian Federation only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to promote a comprehensive and systematic approach to resolving the cases of missing persons in the Russian Federation, including through discussions with government ministers and civil society representatives. It reminded the federal and republican authorities of the need to intensify efforts to resolve outstanding cases of missing persons in the northern Caucasus and to provide answers to their families. A report of a 2008 assessment of these families' needs was handed over to the federal and republican authorities and a public version published.

In the northern Caucasus, the ICRC focused on helping vulnerable populations recover from the effects of past conflict and ongoing insecurity. With the National Society, it implemented micro-economic initiatives to boost self-sufficiency, targeting families of the missing and of detainees, patients of the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre, including mine victims, residents of rural mine-affected areas, IDPs and former relief beneficiaries.

At the same time and where necessary, the ICRC provided direct assistance to the most vulnerable people. Victims of violence received medical treatment thanks to ICRC donations of emergency surgical supplies. The delegation also supported the training of health personnel, monitored the functioning of the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre and enabled disabled patients to receive treatment at the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre. With the Russian Red Cross Society, it assisted civilians still displaced in North Ossetia following the August 2008 hostilities in South Ossetia, as well as beneficiaries of a home-visiting nurses programme and families affected by the security situation in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia. The ICRC also rehabilitated rural water infrastructure in cooperation with the Chechen rural water board.

As the Russian federal authorities had not agreed to ICRC standard visiting procedures, delegates were unable to resume visits to people arrested in connection with the situation in the northern Caucasus. However, the ICRC enabled family members to stay in touch with detained relatives through visits and RCMs and, for the first time, to send them parcels.

The regional delegation covered Belarus and the Republic of Moldova from January and Ukraine from September (see *Ukraine*). Delegates promoted the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties in these countries and in the Russian Federation. Emphasis was placed on supporting the Russian and Moldovan IHL committees in their work to advance the adoption of national legislation on missing persons.

The ICRC promoted the integration of IHL and other relevant norms into the education and operations of the region's armed, security and police forces through discussion with the authorities and the provision of advice, training and materials. Training for Russian Interior Ministry representatives in international standards in law enforcement and policing took place in Ingushetia for the first time since 2001.

The ICRC also pursued cooperation with the CIS to encourage the integration of IHL and the promotion of other relevant norms at regional level and signed a protocol of intent with the CSTO secretariat to enhance such cooperation.

The ICRC worked with universities, secondary schools and the media in the region to support dissemination and teaching efforts and with National Societies to boost family-links and other services. The Moscow-based ICRC regional communication centre supported long-term communication and prevention programmes in the Russian Federation and elsewhere in the CIS.

CIVILIANS

Families and authorities benefit from ICRC assistance and expertise on missing persons

Families in the Russian Federation continued to approach the ICRC to register missing relatives. Representations regarding recent individual cases were made on their behalf to the authorities, including to ensure the return of human remains. During regular discussions, the Russian federal and republican authorities were reminded by the ICRC of their responsibilities to the families of the missing and of the need to establish relevant mechanisms, including a legal framework (see *Authorities*), and a federal commission to coordinate lists of missing persons.

To assist the authorities in providing answers to families of the missing, government representatives and forensic experts were trained in the management and identification of human remains. Experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation underwent training in the use of ICRC ante- and post-mortem data management software.

Members of two local NGOs which collected ante-mortem data from families were trained in interview techniques, while civil society and government representatives and the ICRC discussed areas of potential collaboration at three round-tables organized by the NGO Peace Mission of General Lebed.

The authorities also received a summary report on the ICRC's 2008 assessment of the economic, legal and psychological needs of the families of missing persons, with recommendations on how better to respond to these needs.

In Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia, families of the missing benefited from ICRC-funded micro-economic initiatives (see below). In Chechnya, 48 elderly relatives of missing persons received home care from ICRC-supported Russian Red Cross nurses (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*), trained by a psychologist in assisting families of the missing.

As in past years, relatives separated by conflict communicated through the Russian Red Cross family-links service (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Family members wishing to reunite were assisted in acquiring the relevant documents and, where necessary, accompanied by the ICRC. On request, refugees and asylum seekers received travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries.

- ▶ 58 RCMs collected from and 29 RCMs distributed to civilians; 3 calls facilitated between family members
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 376 people (17 women; 19 minors at the time of disappearance); 21 people located; 1,843 people (65 women; 64 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- ▶ 1 person reunited with family
- ▶ 72 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 5 official documents relayed between family members

Civilians' protection concerns shared with the authorities

The humanitarian consequences for civilians of the deteriorating security situation in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia continued to be monitored by the ICRC. The authorities were reminded of their obligations under IHL and other relevant

norms to respect and protect people not or no longer participating in armed conflict or other situations of violence, with reference to specific incidents where necessary. They were also encouraged, where relevant, to ensure that civilians received State-guaranteed entitlements and were adequately compensated for loss and damage to property. This led, for example, to two families obtaining death certificates from the authorities, which enabled them to claim their pension entitlements following the death of a civilian family member.

The authorities and the ICRC regularly discussed the return of Chechen IDPs from Ingushetia, with the delegation stressing that such returns must be on a voluntary basis. The situation of other IDPs was also monitored by the ICRC.

Vulnerable people receive help and begin to regain economic security

The worst-off people in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia were able to increase their income and cover subsistence costs through ICRC-funded micro-economic initiatives. The programme focused on families of missing persons and of detainees, patients of the Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre, including mine victims, residents of rural mine-affected areas, people displaced from Chechnya and the Prigorodny district, and former relief beneficiaries. The recipients of grants and vocational training were primarily women.

Other needy individuals in the northern Caucasus received ad hoc donations of food and essential household items from the Russian Red Cross, supported by the ICRC. The recipients included people still in North Ossetia after fleeing the August 2008 hostilities in South Ossetia, beneficiaries of the Russian Red Cross home-visiting nurses programme, and families adversely affected by the security situation in Chechnya, Daghestan and Ingushetia.

- ▶ 2,260 people (1,574 households) received food
- ▶ 4,960 people (2,714 households) received essential household items
- ▶ 4,424 people (832 households), including 1,306 members of families of the missing (248 households) and 252 people (49 households) living in mine-affected areas, benefited from micro-economic initiatives

Civilians access safe water supplies

The population in rural Chechnya was able to obtain safe drinking water thanks to water rehabilitation projects run by the Chechen rural water board in partnership with the ICRC. By the end of the year, the water board was able to undertake such projects independently with ICRC technical advice.

Following damage to a water network during a “security operation”, civilians in three Chechen villages regained access to safe drinking water after the ICRC provided repair materials to the water board and upgraded and extended the system.

- 475,104 people benefited from water projects

Families benefit from mine-risk education and assistance

Despite regular dialogue with the Chechen authorities, little was achieved to step up demining efforts and establish a relevant coordination mechanism. Nevertheless, the authorities continued to conduct mine-awareness activities for children and young people. Following the cessation of direct ICRC funding for such activities at the end of 2008, the authorities and other organizations involved in mine action received technical advice and ad hoc material support.

Families in villages where fields were suspected of mine/ERW contamination participated in ICRC micro-economic initiatives (see above). The security situation meant that fewer families than planned were assisted.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

As the Russian federal authorities had not agreed to the ICRC’s standard visiting procedures, people arrested in connection with the situation in the northern Caucasus were unable to receive visits from delegates. However, the ICRC continued to make written representations to the authorities on their behalf. Given the lack of developments in this area, the ICRC decided to limit future activities for detainees to enabling them to maintain links with their families.

Families were able to keep in touch with relatives detained in penal colonies across the Russian Federation through RCMs and ICRC-supported visits. For the first time, those unable to visit could send parcels via the ICRC. The most vulnerable families had access to ICRC-funded micro-economic initiatives (see *Civilians*). The authorities were encouraged to notify families of changes in their detained relatives’ situation; relatives were able to bring home the body of a deceased detainee with ICRC support.

- 11 RCMs collected from and 49 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 355 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 5 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

Medical facilities better able to provide care

In Chechnya and Ingushetia, some 175 victims of explosions and suicide bombings received medical treatment, thanks in part to ICRC-provided surgical supplies. Six hospitals in Chechnya were

given a one-off supply of drugs and consumables to boost their contingency stocks, and the central blood bank in Grozny received spare parts to keep the generator functioning.

Support for the authorities in training health personnel, and therefore in improving the quality of emergency medical care, was expanded across the northern Caucasus. Eighteen traumatologists and surgeons completed certification courses, while ten nurses participated in advanced trauma and surgery courses. The North Ossetian State Medical Academy and the ICRC developed their partnership to strengthen training, including through the yearly ICRC war- and emergency-surgery seminar for 27 specialists from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation and through an emergency-room trauma course attended by 16 North Ossetian specialists.

In the 12 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 8,483 patients (including 3,951 women and 2,000 children) admitted: of whom 424 weapon-wounded (including 119 women and 28 children; 119 people injured by mines or ERW), 4,207 other surgical cases, and 2,139 medical and 1,713 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 3,110 surgical operations performed

Disabled people access physical rehabilitation services

The Grozny prosthetic/orthotic centre, now fully financed by the authorities, who conducted major repair work, produced more prosthetic/orthotic devices than in 2008. Its work was closely monitored following the cessation of direct ICRC support in 2008.

Disabled people, including mine victims, continued to receive appropriate physical rehabilitation services at the centre. Staff included orthotic technicians and a physiotherapy nurse who had undergone ICRC-supported training. Four orthotic technicians upgraded their skills at seminars in Moscow thanks to ICRC sponsorship.

Seven disabled patients from South Ossetia received treatment at the Vladikavkaz Orthopaedic Centre with ICRC assistance. The centre extended its agreement with the ICRC until 2010.

AUTHORITIES

The region’s authorities and the ICRC discussed the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties. The Russian authorities maintained a dialogue with the ICRC on their obligations under IHL and other relevant norms, including humanitarian access to victims of violence and the safety of ICRC staff. The Russian Academy of Science and the ICRC organized a round-table for government representatives and civil society on the use of weapons.

The Russian IHL committee and the ICRC continued work on a study on the compatibility of national and international law on missing persons, and the authorities considered amending national legislation in line with the relevant CIS model law. The Moldovan IHL committee organized a round-table on missing persons with ICRC support, at which a similar compatibility study was handed to the authorities. In Belarus, the national IHL committee focused on protecting cultural property, also presenting a compatibility study to the authorities at a round-table. With ICRC assistance, the committee organized an IHL conference to mark the 60th anniversary

of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, attended by government officials, academics and its counterparts in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

Representatives of 10 State governments in the region, national IHL committees, the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly (IPA) and the CSTO attended the second ICRC regional seminar on IHL implementation, hosted by the CIS in St Petersburg, to present progress made at the national level and learn about legislative developments concerning the use of weapons, private military service providers and IHL integration by the armed forces.

The CIS IPA continued to cooperate with the ICRC, approving amendments to existing model laws protecting the emblem and the rights of children in armed conflict and developing recommendations on implementing the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions. The CSTO secretariat and the ICRC signed a protocol of intent to foster cooperation and dialogue on IHL.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces boost IHL expertise

The integration of IHL into the operational, educational and legal systems of the Russian armed forces continued despite ongoing major reforms, which resulted in changes in staff, reducing interaction with the ICRC.

Following ICRC workshops for Defence Ministry staff, ministry IHL regulations were revised, including draft instructions on cooperation between the ministry and the ICRC during hostilities and on ERW. The Russian army's legal services and Military Prosecutor's Office discussed issues relating to military crimes with the ICRC for the first time.

Although only four of the six planned IHL train-the-trainer courses for armed forces instructors were held owing to the reforms, pupils of military academies and schools attended ICRC sessions on IHL. Armed forces members destined for peacekeeping operations or operations in the northern and southern Caucasus were briefed on the ICRC's humanitarian activities and basic IHL norms.

The Belarusian Defence Ministry discussed new IHL instructions for the armed forces with the ICRC, while the Moldovan Defence Ministry established a unit responsible for IHL integration. The CSTO and the ICRC discussed future cooperation in IHL training.

The police and security forces are familiar with applicable norms

The Russian Interior Ministry and the ICRC significantly increased dialogue on the integration of basic tenets of IHL and international human rights law into staff training, and the ministry began revising recommendations for law enforcement officers to include information about relevant international law and the ICRC.

Ministry representatives in Ingushetia were briefed on international standards in law enforcement and policing for the first time since 2001. Some 3,000 police officers and ministry troops involved in "special operations" in the northern Caucasus and representatives of police training centres participated in similar sessions.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The Russian media covered humanitarian and IHL-related issues, including ICRC activities with regard to missing persons. Public awareness of the problem was further raised by the publication of a report on the needs of the families of missing persons (see *Civilians*), while in Chechnya over 500 people attended a photographic exhibition on the issue.

Leading universities in the region continued to work with the ICRC to stimulate interest in IHL and research in and teaching of the subject. Five Russian universities signed agreements with the ICRC to further consolidate cooperation and were given IHL materials for their libraries. University teams from across the region participated in the 12th de Martens regional IHL competition in Moscow and the international Jean-Pictet IHL competition in France. The International Institute of Labour and Social Relations in Belarus organized the 4th International Olympiad on IHL, with ICRC support.

Academics from the region discussed developments in IHL at the Martens Readings conference in St Petersburg, co-organized by St Petersburg State University and the ICRC. They also attended the second annual meeting organized by the ICRC alongside the Martens Readings, where they discussed progress on IHL integration and further cooperation.

The ongoing Russian education reform process gave the ICRC the opportunity to lobby for the further integration of IHL into student and teacher-training curricula. Some 28,000 teachers received IHL training with ICRC support.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued work to improve their legal base, management and performance, with ICRC and International Federation support. They also continued to provide family-links services, focusing on Second World War-related enquiries and helping migrants and their families restore contact. The Russian Red Cross produced a tracing manual for branches. In order to increase coordination with other National Societies, tracing officers from the Red Cross Society of Belarus and the Russian Red Cross attended an International Tracing Service seminar (see *International Tracing Service*). The Belarusian Red Cross also conducted IHL dissemination courses for volunteers.

Russian Red Cross branches in the northern Caucasus consolidated their emergency preparedness and assistance programmes with ICRC support, training some 4,000 people in first aid and providing vulnerable people with assistance (see *Civilians*). The home-visiting nurses programme focused on chronically ill people living alone in remote areas, including elderly relatives of missing persons. IDPs, especially children, and vulnerable members of the local population benefited from psychological and social support at National Society playrooms and a centre in Ingushetia.



tashkent (regional)

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

COVERING

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	3,016
Assistance	1,582
Prevention	2,817
Cooperation with National Societies	982
General	-

► **8,397**

of which: Overheads 512

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	83%
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PERSONNEL

21 expatriates
86 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- resumed visits to detainees in Uzbekistan held under the authority of the Interior Ministry, following a six-month trial period in 2008 and subsequent meetings
- visited people held in places of detention in Kyrgyzstan, advocating with the relevant authorities for regular access to detainees
- remained ready to resume discussions on access to detainees in Tajikistan following the government's announcement that standard ICRC working procedures were incompatible with national legislation
- pursued efforts to gain access to all detainees held in Turkmenistan
- provided technical and material assistance to the Kyrgyz authorities in controlling and treating tuberculosis, particularly multi-drug-resistant strains, in places of detention
- signed agreements with education authorities, National Societies and universities in the region to ensure IHL integration into secondary and higher education

CONTEXT

Central Asia was affected by the global economic crisis, particularly in terms of reduced remittances from migrants abroad. In Tajikistan, torrential rains and landslides worsened economic conditions in mountainous regions.

Tensions persisted between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan over border demarcation and water-related issues, particularly in the Ferghana Valley. A number of violent incidents took place between armed groups and security forces in Tajikistan, and "counter-terrorist" operations were undertaken in May and July.

In Kyrgyzstan, President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was re-elected in July, following which he significantly reorganized the government. The elections were accompanied by public protests and related arrests.

Stricter laws regulating religious associations were adopted in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, leading to arrests. The Kyrgyz Supreme Court ruled against an appeal lodged by detainees arrested in connection with public demonstrations in October 2008.

At the regional level, member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) agreed to establish a Collective Rapid Reaction Force, to which Uzbekistan remained opposed. Kyrgyz-Uzbek relations were strained by the announcement that the CSTO was to open a second base in Kyrgyzstan close to the border with Uzbekistan.

Kazakhstan prepared to chair the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 2010.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	10,361
Detainees visited and monitored individually	784
<i>of whom women</i>	59
<i>of whom minors</i>	1
Number of visits carried out	88
Number of places of detention visited	44
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	305
RCMs distributed	250
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13
<i>of whom women</i>	3
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	5
Tracing requests closed positively (persons located)	3
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	10
<i>of whom women</i>	3
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	3
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	137
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1

1. Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan

2. Kyrgyzstan

	Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM²			
<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Water and habitat activities	2,796		
<i>Beneficiaries</i>			

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Detention-related activities remained an important focus of the Tashkent regional delegation. Following a six-month trial period of visits to detainees in Uzbekistan in 2008 and subsequent discussions with the Uzbek authorities, the ICRC resumed visits to people detained under the authority of the Interior Ministry in September. Delegates monitored detention conditions and reported confidentially to the authorities on their findings.

Despite major changes in the government structure in Kyrgyzstan, which necessitated renewed discussions on ICRC access to places of detention, the delegation continued to visit detainees held under the authority of the Interior and Justice Ministries, as well as of the new department responsible for detention, the GSIN, established in November. Delegates monitored the living conditions and treatment of detainees and informed the authorities confidentially of their observations and any recommendations. Delegates also conducted a trial visit to detainees held by the State security services in Kyrgyzstan and persevered in requesting further visits.

At the same time, the ICRC continued to support the efforts of the Kyrgyz Health and Justice Ministries and the GSIN to control multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB) in places of detention, and particularly in implementing the directly observed treatment, short course (DOTS)-plus strategy. ICRC engineering teams renovated TB control infrastructure and improved the general living conditions of detainees.

Following written confirmation by the Tajik authorities of the incompatibility of standard ICRC working procedures with the relevant national legislation, negotiations on access to detainees had to be suspended after 16 years of sustained advocacy by the

ICRC. Meanwhile, the delegation continued discussions with the Turkmen authorities on access to detainees.

The delegation handed over responsibility for supporting the authorities in running the physical rehabilitation centre in Tajikistan to the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled.

Representatives of the region's governments and the ICRC regularly met to discuss ways of advancing the implementation of IHL treaties and respect for other norms applicable to situations of violence. To this end, the ICRC supported their participation in international meetings on IHL and humanitarian issues. It also pursued its dialogue with the region's Defence Ministries on ways to ensure the permanent integration of IHL norms into the decision-making processes of the armed forces. In addition, the delegation discussed potential areas of collaboration with representatives of the region's Interior Ministries, holding courses for interior troops on international norms related to crowd control and the appropriate use of force.

The ICRC worked with National Societies and the relevant authorities to help enhance the sustainability of IHL teaching in universities, schools and military lyceums, organizing national and regional courses, workshops and competitions for officials, teachers and students. To support this process, it signed cooperation agreements with the National Societies and Education Ministries in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and with universities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

Central Asian National Societies continued to receive International Federation and ICRC assistance in developing their family-links, IHL-promotion and disaster-preparedness programmes, in strengthening their legal bases and in coordinating their programmes.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Kyrgyzstan

People held in places of detention under the authority of the Interior and Justice Ministries and the department responsible for detention from November, the GSIN, including penal colonies, pre-trial facilities and police stations, continued to receive visits from ICRC delegates. They assessed detainees' treatment, health and living conditions, particularly those of women, minors, foreigners, detainees serving life sentences, and people detained following public protests in October 2008 and during the presidential elections in July. The authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's observations and any recommendations. The interministerial working group established in 2007 to improve coordination between ministries with regard to the treatment of detainees and respect for judicial guarantees did not meet in 2009, despite encouragement from the ICRC.

Detainees re-established or maintained contact with family members through RCMs collected and distributed by the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan and the ICRC. Also through the family-links service, a woman detainee was able to see her son for the first time in three years, and the whereabouts of three other children whose mothers had been detained was established by the National Society and the ICRC.

A trial visit to detainees held by the State security services was conducted in January for the first time since 2007. However, following this visit, access to detainees according to the ICRC's standard working procedures was not granted, despite written government authorization issued in 2008 and regular ICRC requests.

Towards the end of the year, changes in the government structure nullified the agreement between the Justice Ministry and the ICRC on access to places of detention under its authority. The GSIN, the Interior Ministry and the ICRC initiated discussions on new agreements.

- 9,653 detainees visited, of whom 76 monitored individually (2 women; 1 minor) and 23 newly registered, during 70 visits to 34 places of detention
- 58 RCMs collected from and 42 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 5 detainees visited by their relatives with National Society and ICRC support

Kyrgyzstan had one of the world's highest rates of MDR TB, posing a serious threat to the success of TB-control activities both within and outside prisons. Many detainees did not receive their identity documents on release, which impeded their access to public services, including health care for those with TB. The Interior Ministry was encouraged by the ICRC to resolve this issue.

Following an ICRC review of progress achieved since the government's introduction of MDR TB treatment in places of detention, the Health and Justice Ministries and the GSIN received increased technical support from the delegation, alongside national and international partners, to increase their capacities to treat and follow-up detainees with TB. Government officials increased their knowledge of TB, including through the participation of GSIN staff in WHO courses on TB management and MDR TB in Estonia and Latvia and of an MDR TB coordinator from the Justice Ministry in an international congress on TB and lung disease in Croatia, organized with ICRC technical input. In addition, penitentiary medical personnel attended national and international seminars and courses with ICRC support, including a WHO/ICRC course on MDR TB.

The Health and Justice Ministries and the GSIN pursued efforts to bring TB under control in detention centres through the DOTS-plus programme. With ICRC funding and technical back-up:

- detection, diagnostic and treatment activities supervised
- MDR TB patients given medication to minimize the side-effects of treatment and food parcels to supplement their diet
- national TB experts monitored the condition of detainees in remote penal colonies and pre-trial facilities
- a small number of released detainees were able to continue treatment in civilian TB clinics

Detainees, including women, minors and those with TB, also benefited from improved hygiene and medical conditions thanks to the ICRC's construction or rehabilitation of treatment rooms, sanitation facilities, heating and water-supply systems, showers, and a hospice for detainees with TB. The deputy heads of 18 penitentiary facilities also learnt more about maintaining prison infrastructure at a two-day ICRC course. In another initiative to improve sanitation, vulnerable women detainees received hygiene kits.

- 2,796 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects

Tajikistan

The Tajik authorities informed the ICRC that its standard working procedures for visits to detainees were incompatible with Tajik legislation. Following this, negotiations were suspended after 16 years of sustained efforts by the ICRC to gain access to detainees. The ICRC expressed its willingness to resume discussions on this issue.

Detainees were still able to maintain contact with their relatives through RCMs collected and distributed by the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan.

- 47 RCMs collected from and 59 RCMs distributed to detainees

Turkmenistan

The Turkmen authorities and the ICRC discussed a potential agreement on access to detainees in the country. To aid discussions, penitentiary authorities and staff learnt about the ICRC's standard working procedures at three seminars.

Uzbekistan

Following extensive discussions with the Uzbek authorities after a six-month trial period that ended in August 2008, ICRC visits to detainees resumed in September 2009. People detained under the authority of the Interior Ministry, including those in penal colonies and in some pre-trial facilities, were visited by delegates in accordance with standard ICRC working procedures and a 2001 agreement with the Uzbek authorities. Delegates assessed detainees' treatment, health and living conditions, particularly those of security detainees, women, minors and foreigners. The authorities were confidentially informed of the ICRC's observations and any recommendations. Some detainees re-established or maintained contact with family members through RCMs.

- 708 detainees visited and monitored individually (57 women) and 489 newly registered (33 women), during 18 visits to 10 places of detention
- 56 RCMs collected from and 21 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee or his/her family

WOUNDED AND SICK

The Tajik Labour and Social Protection Ministry continued to run the physical rehabilitation centre in Dushanbe. In January, to help ensure that the centre's services were sustainable, the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled took over the provision of advisory, technical and financial support from the delegation, which monitored the situation and encouraged further capacity building. The handover was a successful conclusion to 10 years of direct ICRC involvement.

AUTHORITIES

Although the States of the region were party to many IHL treaties, mechanisms for their integration into national legislation were often lacking. The authorities received ICRC advice on advancing implementation, on ratifying further IHL treaties and on promoting respect for other norms applicable to situations of violence. To support this process, government representatives attended various relevant events, including an international forum for Central Asian and Eastern European authorities and academics on contemporary challenges to humanitarian norms, held in Astana, Kazakhstan, and the second regional seminar on IHL implementation held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation (see *Moscow*).

In a positive development, Kazakhstan acceded to Additional Protocol III in June and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols I, III and IV in July. The Kazakh IHL committee was assisted in drafting a law on the red crescent emblem, including through the commissioning of a study on the compatibility of relevant national and international legislation.

Tajik authorities and civil society representatives discussed the issue of missing persons, including model legislation, with the ICRC. The Kyrgyz authorities benefited from ICRC input at a round-table on creating a national preventive mechanism to implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The Turkmen authorities also received ICRC support in establishing a permanent IHL working group within the interministerial committee on human rights.

Representatives of international and regional organizations and NGOs regularly discussed areas of common interest with the ICRC and were updated on the delegation's activities.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Building on a decade of cooperation in IHL teaching and training in Central Asia, the region's Defence Ministries and the ICRC met on at least 10 occasions to decide on specific measures to ensure the permanent integration of IHL into the armed forces' decision-making processes. To support these discussions, senior general staff officers in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and field officers in Turkmenistan participated in specialized ICRC courses on IHL integration. In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, these senior officers then began assessing the IHL content of the armed forces' doctrine and formulating IHL integration orders based on an ICRC model. To further boost interest in IHL, military cadets from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and, for the first time, Turkmenistan competed in the seventh al-Farabi IHL competition organized by the Kazakh Defence Ministry and the ICRC.

The region's Interior Ministries and the ICRC continued to assess the integration of international standards applicable to policing into national legislation, training programmes and standard operating procedures. Interior troops in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan attending ICRC workshops learnt about international norms related to crowd control and the appropriate use of force.

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

CIVIL SOCIETY

Opinion-makers and the general public increased their awareness of IHL and humanitarian issues and their support for ICRC activities was strengthened thanks to media coverage based on ICRC press releases, events such as round-tables and a press conference to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and publicly distributed fact sheets.

In each country, the Education Ministry, the National Society and the ICRC discussed ways to maintain IHL teaching in secondary education. In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the three parties signed cooperation agreements on IHL integration into secondary and higher education. In Kazakhstan, the parties began evaluating the level of integration of IHL into secondary education and planning further activities.

To reinforce interest in IHL, Education Ministry representatives attended round-tables, schoolteachers participated in train-the-trainer courses, and pupils and teachers competed in events. Military lyceum directors from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, as well as Defence Ministry representatives from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, discussed IHL integration at a regional workshop on pre-military training organized by the Uzbek Education Ministry and National Society and the ICRC.

Universities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan also concluded agreements with the ICRC to ensure the sustainability of IHL teaching and received IHL materials, while the Turkmen Institute of International Relations and the ICRC discussed future cooperation. Senior academics, lecturers and students from the region deepened their IHL knowledge at courses run by the ICRC with local partner universities and at international events in Armenia and the Russian Federation, as well as at the Astana forum (see *Authorities*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies continued building their capacities and strengthening their legal bases with financial support and advice from the International Federation and the ICRC. The National Societies of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were supported in drafting laws defining their national status and role, while the Kazakh Red Crescent Society advocated for the government's adoption of a law on the emblem (see *Authorities*). In December, Tajikistan adopted a law regulating the status of the National Society.

The National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC met regularly to coordinate their activities, to monitor joint programmes and to plan future cooperation. With Movement support, the Kyrgyz Red Crescent hosted the annual meeting of the leadership of the region's National Societies, at which common goals and strategies were formulated.

Leaders and staff of the National Societies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan improved their disaster preparedness capacities by learning about the Safer Access approach and humanitarian assistance at an ICRC workshop.

The five National Societies assisted in disseminating IHL and humanitarian values, especially in schools (see *Civil society*), while the Tajik Red Crescent was involved in mine action with ICRC support, particularly for staff training.

Families in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan benefited from family-links services run by the relevant National Societies. Refugees and asylum seekers in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan received travel documents to enable them to resettle in third countries, at the request of third parties.

- 144 RCMs collected from and 128 RCMs distributed to civilians;
- 4 phone calls facilitated between family members
- 137 people issued with an ICRC travel document



western balkans (regional)

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

COVERING

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo,¹ Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	4,406
Assistance	1
Prevention	1,911
Cooperation with National Societies	1,709
General	-

► **8,028**

of which: Overheads 490

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91%
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PERSONNEL

13	expatriates
75	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- chaired 3 sessions of the Working Group on Missing Persons in Kosovo, which resulted in the exchange of new information between the authorities in Belgrade and in Pristina and the handover of 90 sets of human remains to families
- continued searches in the archives of international organizations and military contingents in Kosovo, enabling gravesites to be located and exhumations conducted
- pursued efforts to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the Missing Persons Institute in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- provided training and other resources for National Societies and family associations to support activities for families of missing persons
- participated in IHL training for the region's armed forces, welcoming the integration of IHL into military training manuals in Serbia and into the curricula of the Peace Support Operations Training Centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia
- visited people detained on war-crime or security-related charges and other vulnerable detainees across the region

CONTEXT

Serbia renewed relations with the international community and cooperated with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and with the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), which was able to increase its presence and deploy across the whole territory of Kosovo. At the same time, Serbia requested the legal opinion of the International Court of Justice regarding Kosovo's independence, due to be pronounced in mid-2010.

The international community and NATO continued to harbour concerns about ethnic divisions, the fragile security situation, political instability and growing poverty in Kosovo. Members of the Serbian community protested against the presence of EULEX and resisted efforts by Pristina to extend its control, while members of the Albanian community opposed proposed police cooperation between EULEX and Serbia. Nevertheless, NATO decided to reduce the number of Kosovo Force (KFOR) troops from 2010.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, political tensions persisted and progress towards European Union (EU) membership stalled. The mandate of the Office of the High Representative, Peace Implementation Council, was extended because the conditions set in 2008 had not been met, and the high representative in turn prolonged the mandates of foreign officials within the country's court and prosecutor's office, raising tensions. The UN Security Council extended the mandate of the European Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR) for another year, ahead of planned elections in 2010.

Progress towards the European integration of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) halted owing to the ongoing dispute over the country's name. Albania and Croatia became full NATO members, while the FYR Macedonia started working towards NATO membership. Albania, Montenegro and Serbia also submitted their official applications for EU candidate status.

Owing to the global economic crisis, reforms in Montenegro lost momentum. The other countries in the region were also affected by worsening economic conditions.

1. UN Security Council Resolution 1244

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	71
Number of visits carried out	34
Number of places of detention visited	23
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	45
<i>of whom women</i>	4
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	3
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	1,028
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	12,966
<i>of whom women</i>	1,489
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	716
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	315

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to focus on supporting efforts in the region to determine the fate of persons missing in relation to past conflicts and to ensure that their families' legal, psychological and economic needs were met. It assisted the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo in analysing existing and drafting new legislation to protect the rights of the families of missing persons. At the same time, dialogue between the authorities of Kosovo and of Serbia through the ICRC-chaired Working Group on Missing Persons, combined with ICRC efforts to glean new information from the archives of international organizations and national military contingents in Kosovo, resulted in the exchange of information and the location of several gravesites and subsequent exhumations. ICRC lobbying also contributed to the establishment by the authorities in Kosovo of the Government Commission on Missing Persons, and the delegation continued to support the capacity-building of the Missing Persons Institute (MPI) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. To boost assistance to families of the missing, the delegation trained National Societies in the provision of psychological support and gave funds and advice to family associations.

In accordance with its standard working procedures, the ICRC visited people deprived of their freedom throughout the region, focusing on those detained on war-crime or security-related charges and members of ethnic minorities. The authorities were provided, in confidence, with the findings of these visits and any recommendations. The ICRC also facilitated visits by relatives to detainees held in Croatia, Kosovo and Serbia, contacts between people held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba and their families, and the return of two former Guantanamo internees to their country of origin.

National authorities in the region received advice from the ICRC on acceding to and implementing IHL treaties. Judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers dealing with war-crimes cases attended presentations on IHL and its relevance to their work. The ICRC maintained a dialogue with the region's armed forces regarding the integration of IHL into military training, participated in training events and helped develop training manuals. It also gave presentations on its activities to armed and police forces in

Kosovo and provided input to Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) training sessions.

The ICRC raised awareness of humanitarian issues, particularly those relating to missing persons, through public events and dialogue with media and civil society representatives throughout the region. It also assisted the authorities in completing the integration of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula by supporting systematic teacher training and monitoring. University students participated in IHL competitions and other events thanks to ICRC support.

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

CIVILIANS

Families of missing persons receive information and the authorities benefit from ICRC expertise

Bosnia and Herzegovina conflict 1992–95

Although the fate of some 970 persons missing in relation to the conflict was resolved, the families of more than 11,000 others remained without information on their missing relatives or compensation. The authorities were reminded by the ICRC of their obligations to these families, and the relevant national institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia exchanged information at regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and the ICRC. With ICRC input, the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina drafted amendments to the law on missing persons, and the delegation supported discussions on its implementation. The 11,426 names of those still being sought were published on the ICRC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org).

The MPI benefited from ICMP and ICRC expertise and material assistance, including seminars to boost communication and coordination both internally and with family associations. It was also given ICRC data on missing persons to assist with the

establishment of a national central register of missing persons. Meanwhile, the ninth edition of the *Book of Missing Persons in the Territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina*, published by the ICRC in January 2009, remained the only publicly available paper version of the list of the names of the missing.

- new tracing requests registered for 39 people (3 women; 2 minors at the time of disappearance); 974 people located; 11,052 people (1,235 women; 624 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Kosovo conflict 1999

Progress was made in identifying persons missing in relation to the Kosovo conflict, although some 1,900 individuals still remained unaccounted for. For the first time in several years, Belgrade and Pristina exchanged new information about gravesites at three meetings of the ICRC-chaired Working Group on Missing Persons. This resulted in 90 sets of human remains being handed over to families in Kosovo and Serbia. The Sub-Working Group on Forensic Issues also pursued its discussions. The relevant authorities in Kosovo and Serbia received 10 ICRC requests with additional detailed information about the events and circumstances relating to the disappearance of 189 people. In addition, five submissions on alleged gravesites were passed to the EULEX Office on Missing Persons and Forensics (OMPF), and some of its staff members were trained in the use of the ICRC ante/post-mortem database. The 1,921 names of those still being sought were published on the ICRC website (www.familylinks.icrc.org).

Several gravesites were located and human remains exhumed as a result of ongoing ICRC efforts to obtain new information from the archives of international organizations, including the ICTY and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and those of national military contingents in Kosovo. The Serbian authorities gave their permission to use Serbian police documents containing information about gravesites in response to intensive ICRC advocacy. Two graves were located in Kosovo thanks to information received from countries contributing troops to KFOR.

In another initiative, the authorities in Kosovo completed a first draft of a law on missing persons, with support and expertise offered by foreign embassies, international organizations and the ICRC, and presented it to families of the missing and their associations for input. These authorities also established a Government Commission on Missing Persons following sustained ICRC lobbying and with ICRC training. The commission began collecting archive material, supporting the Pristina delegation to the working group and providing financial and psychological assistance to families of missing persons.

- new tracing requests registered for 6 people (1 woman; 1 minor at the time of disappearance); 54 people located; 1,869 people (249 women; 91 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Croatia conflicts 1991–95

After sustained advocacy by the ICRC, the Croatian and Serbian authorities resumed meetings to exchange information on persons missing in relation to the conflicts in Croatia, while ante-mortem data was provided to the relevant authorities in both countries. Some 340 files on missing persons whose families lived in Serbia were handed over to the Red Cross of Serbia, which also received assistance to develop its electronic database. The Croatian Red Cross and the ICRC began work on a second edition of the *Book*

of Missing Persons in the Territory of the Republic of Croatia. The Croatian Red Cross also pursued efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons and assist their families, while the ICRC sought information on non-conflict-related cases (31 people, including 5 women).

- 1 person issued with an ICRC travel document

FYR Macedonia

In the FYR Macedonia, 14 people (1 minor at the time of disappearance) were still being sought by the ICRC.

Montenegro

The Montenegrin Commission on Missing Persons met with its Serbian counterpart for the first time since its formation in 2007 and re-established contact with the ICRC after several months of non-communication.

Families of the missing are supported

Family associations throughout the region received funding, materials and advice to support their efforts to help families of the missing by raising public awareness, holding commemoration ceremonies and providing economic assistance, and to improve their cooperation with National Societies and national institutions.

Staff of National Societies and family associations were trained in providing psychological support to the families of missing persons, including through the use of an ICRC handbook. Families were able to travel to identify the remains of their relatives with ICRC financial help.

As part of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign, to mobilize international and local support to resolve issues relating to missing persons from the region and to commemorate the people involved, the ICRC began work on a book of stories and photographs attesting to the plight of the families.

Minority communities are protected and vulnerable people assisted

Minority communities in Kosovo were able to raise their concerns with the ICRC. The authorities responsible for protecting minority communities, international organizations involved in relevant activities and the ICRC maintained contact to ensure a coordinated response to any needs.

Some 340 particularly vulnerable families in Kosovo, including families of missing persons, received firewood to help them through the winter.

- Serbia: 1 RCM collected from a civilian

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in the region, including those held on war-crime or security-related charges and other potentially vulnerable detainees, were visited by the ICRC according to its standard working procedures, and the authorities were informed confidentially of delegates’ observations and recommendations. Particular attention was paid to the situation of people from ethnic minorities detained in Croatia and the FYR Macedonia, as well as in Serbia, where visits were conducted on an ad hoc basis. In addition, contacts were developed with the Kosovo Correctional Services, which notified the delegation, at its request, of detained individuals of ICRC

concern. People sentenced by the ICTY and held in European countries not covered by the regional delegation were also visited. Following ICRC recommendations, the Macedonian authorities undertook rehabilitation work to improve detention conditions.

Internees held at Guantanamo Bay were able to contact their families living in Bosnia and Herzegovina through video links. With ICRC assistance, two Algerians who had been transferred to Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina following their release from Guantanamo Bay returned to Algeria. A Serbian detainee held by the ICTY in The Hague, Netherlands, was visited by his family, while detainees held in Croatia, Kosovo and Serbia in relation to past conflicts were visited by their relatives living in Serbia and Kosovo. The transport of these family members was financed by the ICRC.

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 42 detainees visited and monitored individually, including 36 newly registered, during 14 visits to 9 places of detention; 286 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- Croatia: 6 detainees visited and monitored individually, including 2 newly registered, during 4 visits to 3 places of detention
- FYR Macedonia: 3 visits to 2 places of detention (average: 1,500 detainees)
- Kosovo: 2 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 1 newly registered, during 3 visits to 3 places of detention; 21 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- Montenegro: 2 detainees visited and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- Serbia: 19 detainees visited and monitored individually, of whom 9 newly registered, during 9 visits to 5 places of detention; 8 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

The region's authorities and the ICRC continued to discuss accession to and national implementation of IHL treaties. In Croatia and Macedonia, the national IHL committees received advice from the ICRC on IHL implementation and in preparing for international conferences. The Serbian parliament was encouraged to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions, with particular emphasis placed on this issue during a presentation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union/ICRC IHL handbook for parliamentarians. It also received advice on establishing a national IHL committee. In May, Bosnia and Herzegovina acceded to the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, while in June Albania ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the FYR Macedonia doing so in October.

Judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers dealing with war-crime cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina benefited from IHL courses organized by or with input from the ICRC, as did members of the law enforcement community throughout the region. Academic institutions in Belgrade and Sarajevo were given funds to review national war-crime verdicts and, in Belgrade, to analyse existing regulations on the protection of missing persons' personal data in order to help the authorities identify and address possible gaps in legislation. Discussions continued on amending the law protecting the rights of missing persons and their families in Bosnia and Herzegovina and on drafting a similar law in Kosovo (see *Civilians*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The armed forces and Defence Ministries of the region made progress in integrating IHL into their training and operations. They maintained a dialogue with the ICRC, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, and the delegation provided input to national and international military training courses for officers and promoted IHL integration and respect for neutral and independent humanitarian action.

The Serbian armed forces finalized an IHL training manual and the Belgrade Faculty of Political Science, the General Staff, the National Society and the ICRC began work on a manual integrating IHL into military exercises.

Teams from the military academy in Belgrade participated in national and international IHL competitions, while the Albanian armed forces received training with ICRC input prior to deployment with NATO. Commanders of EULEX, KFOR and the Kosovo police force, as well as officers participating in training courses run by the PSOTC in Belgrade and Sarajevo, were briefed on ICRC activities, including its efforts to help clarify the fate of missing persons. The PSOTC integrated IHL into its curriculum.

CIVIL SOCIETY

National and international media representatives in the region raised public awareness of IHL and were encouraged by the delegation to increase accurate coverage of ICRC activities, particularly to address the issue of missing persons and the suffering of their families. Civil society organizations in Kosovo were also briefed on ICRC activities related to the missing in order to enlist their support. Public interest in humanitarian issues was further raised by the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, which included a concert in Sarajevo and a round-table in Pristina.

Most countries in the region had integrated the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into school curricula. In Kosovo, the Education Ministry was advised on the implementation of the programme and its further integration into the syllabus. To ensure the sustainability of the programme in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, support was provided for systematic teacher training and monitoring, while education authorities and National Societies from the region met to discuss ways to complete the integration of the programme. The region's universities were encouraged to include relevant training in the curricula for future civic education teachers. Schoolchildren from the region and beyond shared what they had learnt from the programme at a youth camp in Serbia organized by the National Society and the ICRC.

The region's major universities continued to offer IHL education and to contribute to national IHL implementation. To stimulate interest in IHL, students and lecturers participated in national and international competitions, including one held in Sarajevo. In Serbia, the National Society held a national moot court competition, while the IHL centre of the Faculty of Political Science organized a regional IHL course in Belgrade, with assistance from foreign embassies and the ICRC. University training events and summer schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo also received ICRC support, while young people in Kosovo learnt more about the ICRC and its activities for the missing and their families at specialized youth sessions.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The region's National Societies were given International Federation and ICRC support to build their capacities in IHL dissemination, mine action and restoring family links. The two Red Cross entities in Kosovo continued to cooperate with the Movement, while the Red Cross of Kosova was advised on the revision of its statutes to conform to Movement standards. The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina was supported in amending its statutes.

As part of mine-action initiatives, volunteers trained by the ICRC went on to teach 5,000 schoolchildren and adults in Kosovo about mine risks, to gather data on mine-related incidents in 15 areas of Albania, and to liaise between communities and the authorities in both countries. The Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMIC) took over responsibility for the mine victim database from the National Society. The region's National Societies and authorities shared their experiences with regard to weapon contamination at a conference organized by the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina, BHMIC and the ICRC.

In Montenegro, 60 National Society volunteers were trained in disaster management, including first aid, assistance, restoring family links and the Safer Access approach.

Across the region, volunteers learnt about IHL, the Movement and its Fundamental Principles and shared their knowledge with the public.

National Society ownership of tracing activities was increased through the strengthening of staff capacities to provide support to families of the missing, to manage data and to collaborate with family associations and national institutions responsible for missing persons (see *Civilians*). At a regional meeting, National Society tracing volunteers discussed the issue of missing persons and the Movement's family-links strategy.



ankara

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	91
Assistance	-
Prevention	762
Cooperation with National Societies	119
General	-

► **972**

of which: Overheads **59**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
4	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- notified the authorities of Turkish nationals detained/interned in Iraq and visited by the ICRC
- handed over to the Ministry of Justice a Turkish version of a CD-ROM on internationally recognized health norms in prisons
- published a Turkish version of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, produced in conjunction with the Galatasaray University in Istanbul
- with the Ministry of Education and the Turkish Red Crescent Society, trained 160 Ministry of Education officials and teachers responsible for pilot-testing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Turkish schools
- gave presentations on IHL to over 300 officers from Turkey and some 30 other countries at the NATO Partnership for Peace Training Centre in Ankara
- participated in a round-table organized by Galatasaray University on customary IHL and the relevance of IHL in the fight against "terrorism"

CONTEXT

For 2009 and 2010, Turkey was elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, and in 2009 it joined the "G-20". Turkey stepped up its foreign policy involvement in the Caucasus, Europe and the Middle East. It established high-level strategic cooperation councils with Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic and lifted visa requirements for Jordanian, Libyan and Syrian nationals. Turkey also took an important step towards normalizing relations with Armenia when the foreign ministers of the two countries signed protocols providing for the establishment of diplomatic relations and the reopening of their common border.

US President Barack Obama chose Turkey as the destination for his first bilateral visit abroad in April and discussed issues of mutual concern with Turkey's leadership. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan reciprocated by paying an official visit to Washington in December.

On 21 December, Turkey and the European Union (EU) opened the environment chapter of negotiations in the nation's bid to join the EU. With the move, Turkey had opened 12 out of the total 35 negotiating chapters.

Halfway through the year, the Turkish government launched a comprehensive approach to end the "Kurdish problem", resulting in greater cultural and linguistic rights for Kurds and the return to Turkey of 34 Kurds from Iraq, 26 of whom had been staying in a UN-supervised camp there.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

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

Dialogue with the Turkish authorities centred mainly on operational matters related to the conflict in Iraq, but possibilities for developing ICRC activities in Turkey were also explored. ICRC activities in relation to the situation in Iraq included notifying the authorities of the detention of Turkish nationals there and enabling such detainees to exchange news with their families through RCMs.

The ICRC kept the authorities informed about its mandate, activities and IHL and worked towards the possible provision of assistance to the Turkish Armed Forces in integrating IHL into their training programmes.

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

Discussions on a proposed headquarters agreement, submitted to the Turkish government in September 2007, which would establish a permanent ICRC presence in Turkey, remained on hold.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Turkish families continued to renew or maintain contact with relatives detained/interned in Iraq through the ICRC family-links service.

The Turkish authorities were notified of a further 14 Turkish nationals detained/interned in Iraq and visited by the ICRC.

In April, the Turkish head of consular affairs for Iraq and ICRC representatives met to determine the nationality of detainees who had been visited by the ICRC in Iraq and already notified to the Turkish authorities. A list of 13 detainees/internees whose nationality was to be confirmed was submitted to the Turkish authorities.

The Turkish version of the ICRC-produced CD-ROM on prison health was handed over to the Ministry of Justice for use by prison doctors and others concerned with ensuring adequate health conditions in Turkish prisons, including the Istanbul Bar Association and the Turkish Human Rights Commission. This followed a 2008 seminar on delivering health in prisons, organized by the EU's Technical Assistance Information Exchange Office (which provides technical assistance to EU candidate countries) in cooperation with the Turkish Ministry of Justice and attended by some 100 doctors and psychologists providing primary health care in Turkish prisons.

AUTHORITIES

The Turkish authorities were kept up to date on IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities during various meetings. Members of the 550-seat parliament received the Turkish version of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols translated and published by the Galatasaray University in Istanbul with ICRC support.

The ICRC also stood ready to help organize an expert meeting to follow up on the recommendations of the round-table on customary IHL held by Marmara University in Istanbul in 2008 (see *Civil society*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

More than 300 participants – including members of the Turkish Armed Forces and officers from around 30 other countries – received training in IHL and related issues during some 12 courses run by the NATO Partnership for Peace Training Centre in Ankara. Twice in 2009, the ICRC took part in field exercises in the context of courses focusing on the IHL provisions related to military operations. As part of its ongoing cooperation with the centre, the ICRC gave presentations on IHL and its mandate and activities and distributed sets of relevant ICRC publications to participants.

In parallel, the ICRC briefed military circles on the Turkish version of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

CIVIL SOCIETY

During the 5th World Water Forum held in Istanbul in March, government representatives and members of civil society taking part heard the ICRC's call for a serious commitment to protect water and sanitation systems in times of war and to maintain services in conflict-prone areas to prevent them from collapsing. The Turkish media extensively covered an ICRC press release and messages issued during the forum.

The Turkish Journalists Association organized a seminar in Istanbul on the media and humanitarian values, with the participation of UNHCR and the ICRC. Some 20 participants representing 6 media organizations in the country were informed about the ICRC's roots, mandate, principles and services, as well as its role within the Movement. Leading Turkish media outlets covered the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

With ICRC support, Galatasaray University published a new Turkish translation of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, which was distributed to universities and other relevant stakeholders in December.

Some 40 experts representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a number of universities participated in a round-table on customary IHL and the relevance of IHL in the fight against "terrorism", organized by Galatasaray University with ICRC support. Participants received a report on the first round-table on customary IHL organized by Marmara University in 2008, as well as the Turkish version of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

Students from Sabancı University in Istanbul and Ankara University and Bilkent University in Ankara learnt about IHL and the ICRC's mandate, history and activities during ICRC presentations.

The Ministry of Education and the Turkish Red Crescent, with ICRC support, were engaged in integrating the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme into secondary school curricula. A total of 160 Ministry of Education officials and teachers participated in three training sessions to enable them to pilot-test the revised modules in their schools. The pilot phase was postponed to 2010 owing to staff changes at the Ministry of Education.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Council of Ministers endorsed the new statutes of the Turkish Red Crescent in February.

The Turkish Red Crescent finalized its five-year strategic plan and restructuring framework, the implementation of which was its main priority.

The ICRC explored possible areas of cooperation with the National Society, notably in relation to the latter's logistics centre for Iraq and in terms of training in restoring family links. Based on bilateral agreements with the National Societies concerned, the Turkish Red Crescent carried out international operations providing assistance in the Gaza Strip, Iraq, Pakistan and Sudan and cooperated with Movement partners at field level. In March, the Turkish Red Crescent and the ICRC vice-presidents met in Istanbul and discussed Movement coordination in the Gaza Strip, among other issues.

The Turkish Red Crescent distributed to members of parliament and cabinet ministers the latest edition of the *International Review of the Red Cross* in Turkish, covering the humanitarian situation in Iraq.



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 Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, 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, NATO, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and key armed forces in Western Europe

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	3,119
Cooperation with National Societies	187
General	45

► **3,351**

of which: Overheads 205

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	112%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
11	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- president met high-level representatives of States holding the European Union (EU) presidency in their home countries
- provided technical input into a review of the implementation of the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL
- held the 4th annual meeting with NATO staff to discuss humanitarian issues and operational contexts
- organized, with the College of Europe, the 10th Bruges Colloquium on IHL for students and representatives of political and humanitarian organizations

CONTEXT

The European Union (EU) remained involved in conflict resolution world-wide through political mediation and direct military intervention. In 2009, the EU expressed particular concern about the crisis in the Gaza Strip, the armed conflicts in Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sri Lanka, and violence in Pakistan. It also supported efforts to find a settlement to the conflict regarding South Ossetia, in particular as co-chair, with the UN and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), of the continuing Geneva Discussions. Within the framework of the European Security and Defence Policy, EU field missions were ongoing in 13 countries.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) continued to be heavily deployed in Afghanistan. In Kosovo,¹ NATO forces were leading a peace-support operation, in cooperation with the UN, the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo and other actors. The training of local troops and members of other security structures was a growing part of NATO involvement in both of these contexts. Both NATO and the EU had increasing operations to counter piracy off the Somali coast.

Other issues and contexts of ICRC concern continued to be addressed by political institutions based in Brussels. Following a review of their implementation, a revised version of the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL was adopted by the European Council. In line with the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, a new Council of the EU working group on humanitarian assistance was created and the European Commission adopted new policies to guide implementation of the Consensus. The European Council also outlined its migration and asylum policies for the next five years.

In 2009, the Czech Republic and Sweden held the EU presidency. To mark the anniversaries of the Battle of Solferino in Italy, and the 1949 Geneva Conventions, they adopted respective declarations emphasizing the importance of IHL. The previously stalled process to ratify the EU Constitution as envisaged in the Lisbon Treaty was completed in 2009. Thus, the new posts of European Council president and high representative for foreign affairs were created at the end of the year.

1. UN Security Council Resolution 1244

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC continued to strengthen dialogue with EU institutions, the Council of Europe, NATO and the OSCE to ensure that IHL was included in Europe-wide decisions, policies and programmes. It also drew attention to humanitarian issues and contexts to contribute to European efforts to protect and assist conflict victims worldwide.

To these ends, the ICRC developed strong bilateral contacts with the Council of the EU. Notably, in parallel with discussions pursued in Brussels, the ICRC president travelled to the Czech Republic, Sweden and Spain to meet ministers overseeing the EU presidencies in 2009 and the first half of 2010. As a result of this dialogue, the ICRC was invited to share its IHL expertise with EU officials working on the implementation of the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL. In addition, in partnership with the Czech and Swedish presidencies, the ICRC organized two IHL events for EU civil servants and State officials.

Official meetings or consultations held by the European Parliament, the European Commission, including its Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), and by the Council of Europe, the OSCE and NATO provided the ICRC with opportunities to contribute to deliberations on humanitarian issues. Such discussions centred on the humanitarian situation in contexts where the organization had operations, the implementation of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, and other IHL-related issues such as migration, the role of private security companies, weapon use and regulation, and the fight against “terrorism”. Contacts made within these institutions enabled the ICRC to arrange subsequent meetings allowing for a more in-depth dialogue. For example, discussions with NATO political representatives were consolidated during an annual meeting of senior ICRC and NATO staff, during the ICRC president’s visit to the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and during an ICRC briefing for ambassadors on humanitarian issues in South Asia.

Dialogue on civil-military relations, particularly regarding neutral and independent humanitarian action, was pursued with commanders of NATO, EU and US Africa Command (US AFRICOM) forces. The ICRC also gave presentations on IHL during training activities, including pre-deployment exercises, for EU and NATO forces.

Participation in events run by NGOs and think-tanks based in Brussels enabled the ICRC to increase knowledge of IHL and humanitarian action. The ICRC and the College of Europe also organized IHL courses for students and the 10th Bruges Colloquium on IHL. In addition, the ICRC and ECHO implemented a joint communication plan to better promote humanitarian issues and action among European audiences.

To ensure the coherence of Movement humanitarian diplomacy, cooperation was maintained with European National Societies and the International Federation through the Red Cross/EU Office in Brussels. The ICRC also shared its IHL expertise with Red Cross networks dealing with issues such as disaster management, immigration policy and IHL.

AUTHORITIES

Council of the EU helps promote IHL

To integrate IHL into EU activities and decisions, dialogue was fostered with the Council of the EU, including the EU presidencies and the General Secretariat. In parallel, high-level ministers responsible for the 2009 Czech and Swedish presidencies and the 2010 Spanish presidency met the ICRC president in their home countries. Examples of topics broached included European Security and Defence missions, particularly in ICRC operational contexts, and the notion in IHL of direct participation in hostilities.

As a result of dialogue regarding the EU Guidelines on Promoting Compliance with IHL, the Council of the EU’s working group on international law received ICRC technical input into its study on the implementation of the Guidelines and heard a presentation on the ICRC’s review of IHL references in EU documents. The ICRC also participated in a related expert meeting in Prague, Czech Republic.

EU civil servants and Council members were invited to an IHL training seminar and a conference on the 1949 Geneva Conventions organized by the ICRC with the Czech and Swedish presidencies respectively. These events helped the ICRC promote IHL ratification and implementation and thus follow up pledges made by EU States at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Diplomatic community addresses humanitarian concerns

To monitor and contribute to humanitarian-related developments, regular contact was maintained with representatives of EU member States and relevant bodies of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the OSCE and NATO. Official institutional meetings provided further opportunities for ICRC input into multilateral and bilateral deliberations on humanitarian issues.

The European Parliament’s Committee on Foreign Affairs and its Sub-committees on Human Rights and on Defence and Security reflected on humanitarian issues, including private security companies and anti-personnel mines, thanks to ICRC input during open hearings. General awareness of the humanitarian consequences of and responses to armed conflict was raised by an ICRC exhibition hosted in the European Parliament.

The European Commission and the ICRC pursued dialogue regarding humanitarian assistance, mainly with a view to obtaining ECHO funding for ICRC activities (see *Civil society*). Several of the ICRC’s suggestions, including on the financing of protection activities, were retained in policies adopted by the Commission to implement the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid. The new Council of the EU’s working group on humanitarian assistance invited the ICRC to attend a meeting. An ICRC training session on IHL was held for Commission staff and State delegates.

During their sessions, the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly and its Committees on Migration, Refugees and Population, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, and Political Affairs relied on ICRC delegates for support in incorporating IHL into their work on issues such as migration.

Regular meetings were held with representatives of the OSCE General Secretariat and the office of NATO's assistant secretary general for political affairs and security policy to promote IHL and humanitarian action. Bilateral dialogue with NATO was further enhanced during the annual meeting of senior ICRC and NATO staff in Geneva, Switzerland, and during an ICRC operational briefing on South Asia for 28 NATO ambassadors. Sessions of NATO's Parliamentary Assembly and the OSCE's Ministerial Council allowed for discussion of IHL-related topics such as piracy, climate change, cluster munitions and the situations in Afghanistan and the southern Caucasus. Similar issues were raised when the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council met the ICRC president in June.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Exchanges on issues of common interest, including civil-military relations and the importance of neutral and independent humanitarian action, took place with commanders of EU, NATO and US AFRICOM forces, notably:

- ▶ officers with NATO Joint Forces Commands discussed the humanitarian situations in Afghanistan and the Balkans with ICRC delegates
- ▶ senior NATO officers based in Lisbon, Portugal, and responsible for NATO/African Union military relations met ICRC delegates for the first time
- ▶ US AFRICOM and the ICRC discussed IHL training provided to armed forces based in Africa's Great Lakes region
- ▶ the EU Military Committee chairman and commanders overseeing the EU's counter-piracy operation exchanged views with ICRC delegates on humanitarian contexts and issues, including judicial guarantees
- ▶ bilateral contacts with Italian, Polish and Spanish military commanders were strengthened

Through ICRC participation in NATO and EU military exercises, including preparatory events, participants learnt about IHL and the organization's mandate and activities. Military personnel were also briefed by the ICRC on IHL when attending courses or pre-deployment training sessions held by the NATO School, the NATO Defense College and Joint Forces Commands.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Participation in events organized by think-tanks and NGOs enabled the ICRC to raise awareness of humanitarian concerns and action. A network of European NGOs (Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies) and the ICRC co-organized a conference on women in armed conflict.

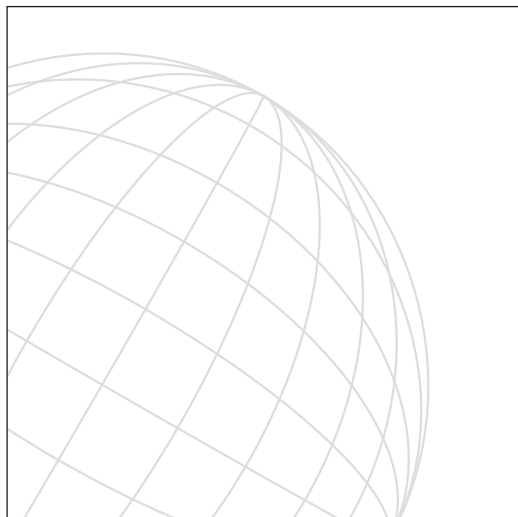
To familiarize young people with humanitarian principles, the ICRC ran IHL courses at College of Europe campuses in Bruges, Belgium, and Warsaw, Poland. At the 10th Bruges Colloquium on IHL, organized jointly with the College of Europe, representatives of political, humanitarian and academic institutions explored the qualification of armed conflicts.

As part of a joint communication plan, cinema-goers in five EU countries watched an ECHO/ICRC spot highlighting the plight of children in armed conflict and the partnership between the two institutions (see *Authorities*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Coordination between the Red Cross/EU Office and the ICRC facilitated coherence in Movement-wide humanitarian diplomacy with European institutions. Notably, European National Societies, the International Federation and the ICRC coordinated their input during a conference organized by the Council of Europe and the French Red Cross on forced return and unaccompanied minors.

Participation in meetings of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants, the European Legal Support Group and the Disaster Management Working Group also allowed the ICRC to share its IHL expertise and encourage follow-up of EU member State pledges made at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.



international tracing service

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	510
Assistance	-
Prevention	159
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **669**

of which: Overheads 41

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
0	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ITS:

- provided answers to 11,809 enquiries (relating to 64,564 persons), of which 8,684 were from victims of Nazi persecution and/or their families and others from public and academic institutions, genealogists and the media
- increased access to a section of the archive catalogue by making online search tools available
- completed the digitization of post-Second World War documents
- improved its services for researchers and other visitors, including by establishing a library and reading room
- took an active part in the debate on the future of the institution

CONTEXT

In 2009, the International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen remained an invaluable resource for civilians persecuted under the Third Reich and for their families, particularly those residing in Eastern Europe. It used its archive of documents to record and confirm the incarceration of individuals and their subjection to forced labour and other forms of Nazi persecution. It also undertook worldwide searches for persons missing from that period.

Interest in the work of the ITS, particularly from researchers, research institutions and memorial and educational bodies, continued to increase following the opening of the archives to the public in 2007.

The Strategic Study Group established in 2008 by the International Commission for the ITS further discussed the future and organizational structure of the Service. At its annual meeting in May in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the International Commission formally approved the recommendation of the Strategic Study Group to add research, education and commemoration to the existing ITS mandate. The mandate of the Strategic Study Group was also extended for 12 months with a view to finalizing a new treaty on the ITS, which would allow the ICRC to withdraw from its management and administration role.

ITS ACTION AND RESULTS

CIVILIANS

Victims of Nazi persecution and their families receive answers

Victims of persecution under the Third Reich, and/or their family members, continued to receive timely responses to their enquiries, including certificates to enable them to access due compensation. A total of 8,684 humanitarian enquiries were answered, the majority of them within eight weeks of submission. In addition, 1,927 enquiries relating to the archives and 308 enquiries from the media were answered.

With a view to providing better tracing services for victims of Nazi persecution and their families, the ICRC led a joint evaluation with the ITS of the processing of tracing requests, which identified a number of further improvements and recommended ways of integrating these into future ITS activities. A study on the protection of sensitive personal data was also conducted.

At a three-day seminar co-organized by the ITS and the ICRC Central Tracing Agency, more than 40 participants from 27 National Societies in Eastern and Western Europe, Israel and North America discussed ways to improve cooperation in responding to tracing requests relating to the Second World War.

People seeking answers have easier access to the archives

Relatives of victims of Nazi persecution, scholars and journalists were able to access information in the archives more easily. Under the supervision of a trained archivist, electronic search applications, including for documentation relating to the “death marches” and concentration camps, were improved for visitors. Work also began on widening access to a section of the archive catalogues by creating online search tools.

To accelerate the process of cataloguing and indexing the archives, the ITS concluded an agreement with Yad Vashem in Israel and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. It also began working with the Freie Universität Berlin to develop a digital archive on forced labour in the Third Reich during the Second World War.

Work to complete the digitization of archived documents continued with the conversion of all post-Second World War documents (including displaced persons’ registration cards and emigration requests and lists of Jewish survivors of persecution) and the documents relating to the tracing of children.

Research and remembrance institutions in Luxembourg and Belgium received digital copies of ITS archive data for the first time, while those in Israel, Poland and the United States of America that first received data in 2008 were sent further digitized archival material. In December, France also requested a copy of the digital information.

Visitors learn about the historic importance of ITS documents

The number of visitors to the archives increased, with some 1,975 visits in 2009 (compared with 1,300 in 2008). They benefited from further work to improve the infrastructure, including the establishment of an academic library and a reading room with computers, as well as the expansion of the visitors’ service to include assistance with searches and guided tours. The ITS hosted its first exhibition, on loan from Yad Vashem and entitled “Private Tolkatiev at the gates of hell”, consisting of illustrations reflecting a soldier’s impressions during the liberation of concentration camps.

Visitors were also able to view the results of the ITS’s ongoing conservation and restoration work.

Media coverage of the work of the ITS also grew, with the Service providing special tours for journalists, improving communication via the ITS website and publishing a brochure outlining its work.

In order to boost its research capacity and provide more in-depth analysis for victims of Nazi persecution, their families, researchers and the public, the ITS increased its staff of researchers and archivists and cooperated with other research institutions.

The ITS’s future is discussed

With a view to ensuring the sustainability of its support to people who suffered from Nazi persecution, their family members and historical researchers, the ITS and the ICRC continued to take an active part in the work of the Strategic Study Group to determine the future of the institution (see *Office of the Director General*).



london

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	6
Assistance	-
Prevention	665
Cooperation with National Societies	111
General	-

► **782**

of which: Overheads 48

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	107%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
0	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- president met representatives of the British authorities to discuss humanitarian issues
- assisted in drafting national laws implementing IHL, which were introduced in the House of Commons
- organized an event to promote relevant IHL rules among representatives of private military and security companies
- began implementing an agreement with the British Red Cross to consolidate cooperation

CONTEXT

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereafter UK) played an important role on the international scene. The British armed forces remained engaged in Afghanistan but withdrew from Iraq in April. The situations in both these countries, as well as in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Sudan, featured regularly in the media and were of public concern. Along with its participation in multilateral military operations, the UK remained politically active in many contexts of interest to the ICRC.

London was home to influential think-tanks and civil society and academic institutions with an international focus. It also hosted conferences, seminars and workshops dealing with international relations, security, humanitarian issues, conflict analysis and military intervention. As one of the world's foremost media centres, the city was a focal point for international debate on current global issues. A large number of news organizations with worldwide reach were based in London, as was a high concentration of foreign media from all continents, including all major transnational satellite broadcasters.

In April, the British government announced that self-regulation was its preferred option for governing the actions of private military and security companies, although this was deemed insufficient by the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

With a view to enhancing its network for humanitarian diplomacy, the ICRC strengthened its relations with the British political authorities and other key stakeholders, including through visits to London by senior ICRC staff. The ICRC also reinforced its links with UK-based media, encouraging journalists to give prominence to humanitarian issues when reporting on conflicts around the world. It organized events with the British Red Cross and fostered ties with academic institutions and think-tanks to increase public awareness of IHL, humanitarian action and ICRC activities.

The ICRC continued to develop its IHL training activities with the British armed forces. These included supporting officer training at the Joint Services Command and Staff College and participating in training events for troops heading for Afghanistan.

The British Red Cross and the ICRC began to implement an agreement to consolidate cooperation.

AUTHORITIES

Key decision-makers in the British parliament and civil service and ICRC representatives met regularly to discuss issues of mutual concern, thus improving mutual understanding. These included UK security policy and force deployment and the ICRC's mandate and neutral and independent humanitarian action. The ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger visited London and met various ministers, senior politicians and civil servants to exchange views on humanitarian issues and to raise the question of formalizing the ICRC's UK presence. Senior politicians from all parties were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities.

The UK ratified Additional Protocol III in October. The authorities, the British Red Cross and the ICRC discussed the content of bills implementing this protocol, incorporating IHL provisions on the protection of humanitarian personnel and ratifying the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which were then introduced in the House of Commons.

The authorities continued to support Commonwealth national IHL committees, including at the second meeting of these bodies co-organized by the British Red Cross, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the ICRC (see *New Delhi*).

The ICRC also remained ready to assist any future consultation to establish a legislative framework under IHL that would ensure the accountability of private military and security companies operating in armed conflicts.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Senior Defence Ministry officers and civil servants and ICRC personnel engaged in dialogue on areas of operational interest, particularly Afghanistan, and the ICRC's neutral and independent humanitarian position.

Military officers, as well as troops to be deployed in contexts such as Afghanistan, including those responsible for detainees, learnt about IHL and the ICRC's mandate and humanitarian activities during training and regular briefings. Officers at the Joint Services Command and Staff College took part in IHL training sessions,

to which the ICRC was the only humanitarian organization invited to give presentations and lead role-play exercises. Participants in training courses run by the UK Joint Civil-Military Cooperation Group and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst also learnt about ICRC activities and their relevance to British military operations.

Military legal advisers and academics discussed the ICRC study on customary IHL at a round-table organized by the British Red Cross, the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law of the University of Cambridge, and the ICRC.

Representatives of major private military and security companies and the British Association of Private Security Companies (BAPSC) attended an event organized by the ICRC to promote its Interpretive Guidance on the Notion of Direct Participation in Hostilities under International Humanitarian Law, and the delegation took part as an observer in the annual BAPSC conference.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Representatives of UK-based media, NGOs and think-tanks met regularly with senior ICRC personnel and learnt about the organization's mandate and humanitarian activities in conflict zones and the importance of neutral and independent humanitarian action. The delegation's capacity to interact with key individuals and monitor debate and discussion effectively increased thanks to additional staff at its disposal.

Events hosted by think-tanks, NGOs, academic institutions and the media provided opportunities to increase knowledge of IHL and awareness of other topics of ICRC concern among influential members of civil society. In a joint venture, the London School of Economics and the ICRC organized an international conference on IHL and human rights law for judges and government officials.

The British media extensively covered stories based on ICRC statements and press releases, helping to increase public awareness of IHL and ICRC activities worldwide, including in Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The British Red Cross and the delegation also worked together to boost the public profile of the Movement, IHL and humanitarian action, with activities such as a series of debates and the "Humanity in War" photographic exhibition and launch of the accompanying book.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The British Red Cross and the ICRC began to implement a partnership framework agreement, which established clear objectives and processes to support institutional cooperation. The National Society also agreed to formalize the ICRC's presence in the country and to support the delegation's discussions with the authorities on this issue. Monthly working meetings took place in London, while high-level strategic discussions were held in London and Geneva, Switzerland. As part of the agreement, the British Red Cross and the ICRC began to implement a joint communication plan (see *Civil society*) and undertook training activities.

Conferences on civil-military relations and the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, co-hosted by the British Red Cross and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, provided the ICRC with the opportunity to give presentations on IHL and its protection activities to government officials, academics, members of civil society and the military.



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	69
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,244
Cooperation with National Societies	58
General	-

► **1,371**

of which: Overheads **84**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	102%
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PERSONNEL

1	expatriate
4	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- raised public awareness of IHL, humanitarian issues and its mandate and activities, including through web-based public debates, exhibitions and a blog
- with the French Red Cross, began implementing a joint project to provide first-aid training for the National Societies in Chad and Guinea
- was granted observer status by the Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme
- re-established contacts with the Commandement des Opérations Spéciales and briefed armed forces officers on IHL

CONTEXT

France continued to play an important role in international affairs in 2009, undertaking high-profile diplomatic initiatives in contexts of interest to the ICRC. The French armed forces remained engaged in Afghanistan and Chad and participated in UN and European Union peacekeeping and military operations. The government also moved ahead with plans to reintegrate France into the command structure of NATO and undertook major political reforms.

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

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Paris delegation remained a key part of the ICRC's humanitarian diplomacy network, through which the organization sought support for its operations worldwide, promoted IHL, increased understanding of its mandate, and stimulated debate on humanitarian issues. In France, this network included the French authorities, particularly the Office of the President and the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice, foreign political movements based in the country and Paris-based international organizations, as well as NGOs and the media.

The delegation continued to assist the authorities in their efforts to train the French armed forces in IHL, briefing some 550 officers on the ICRC's mandate and operations. The French armed forces also received support in organizing the Third Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris.

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

The ICRC and the French Red Cross continued to discuss practical issues regarding contexts in which both were working. Together, they mounted the "Humanity in War" photographic exhibition and began implementing a project to boost National Society first-aid training and services in Chad and Guinea.

AUTHORITIES

The French authorities and ICRC representatives met to discuss topics of mutual concern and the humanitarian situation in the contexts where the ICRC was working. These exchanges included comprehensive briefings on the ICRC's mandate and activities. At the request of the authorities, the ICRC was present as a neutral observer on the arrival in France of a former detainee from the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

Parliamentarians and Defence, Foreign and Justice Ministry representatives worked with the ICRC to assist France in acceding to and implementing IHL treaties and incorporating the repression of war crimes into its criminal code. An interministerial meeting enabled the authorities and the ICRC to examine France's position on the ICRC study on customary IHL. In another positive development, the Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme granted the ICRC official observer status after restarting work in September. The French Red Cross also conferred with the ICRC on government plans to set up a Prisoners of War Information Bureau.

Foreign political movements and international organizations based in France, including UNESCO and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, increased their understanding of the ICRC's mandate and role through regular contact with the organization, facilitating ICRC operations in the field.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The Defence Ministry and the ICRC continued to discuss IHL training, including the integration of IHL into military curricula. The Directorate-General for External Security regularly met the ICRC to exchange views on contexts in which the organization was operational.

Military officers, cadets and Defence Ministry legal advisers, as well as some 550 senior officers from the main military training establishments, including the Groupement Interarmées des Actions Civilo-Militaires, were briefed on IHL, the importance of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and ICRC activities. The Commandement des Opérations Spéciales re-established contact with the ICRC, and officers participated in an IHL dissemination session. Owing to Defence Ministry budgetary constraints, planned IHL briefing sessions for officers at the Ecole de gendarmerie de Rochefort and air force cadets did not take place.

The French armed forces, with ICRC support, organized the third two-week Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris for 47 officers from 46 countries.

A University of Poitiers conference on private security companies working in conflict zones benefited from ICRC expertise.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Members of the media, academic circles and NGOs were kept informed on topics of ICRC concern, and relevant articles appeared in the French-language press. An international audience also enjoyed access to high-quality television and radio programmes on IHL-related subjects selected by members of the Paris-based International Radio and Television University, including the ICRC. The Monte Carlo Television Festival again featured an ICRC-sponsored prize for a documentary focusing on a humanitarian topic.

Lecturers, researchers and students from leading academic institutions and research centres increased their knowledge of IHL during ICRC presentations and courses. The University of Paris, other partners and the ICRC organized an international colloquium entitled "Rape in Wartime: A History to be Written".

Academics, journalists and the wider public could also follow and discuss humanitarian issues and ICRC activities on the ICRC blog, which received an average of 700 visits a day, and through a Facebook page. The blog featured video comments by diplomats, humanitarian actors and journalists on the ICRC "Humanity in War" photographic exhibition, which was shown in Paris and Perpignan with the assistance of the French Red Cross.

In another successful initiative, NGO representatives, academics, researchers and journalists joined four ICRC public debates on humanitarian issues, streamed live at www.lesinfos.com and posted on the ICRC blog. French humanitarian NGOs and other relevant organizations invited the ICRC to participate in conferences and debates, contributing to the coordination of humanitarian action.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The French Red Cross and the ICRC regularly discussed practical issues regarding operational contexts in which both were working, as well as issues of common interest. The National Society organized a conference on migration for Movement members in which the ICRC participated.

The two organizations began implementing a joint project making French Red Cross first-aid expertise available to other National Societies and ICRC programmes, beginning with Chad and Guinea. The National Society also received advice on improving its family-links service, for example in connection with Somalia and Sri Lanka.

In other cooperative activities, during French Red Cross events to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the International Federation, the ICRC president and vice-president delivered speeches in Paris.



colombia

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	6,755
Assistance	21,105
Prevention	5,365
Cooperation with National Societies	1,373
General	-

► **34,598**

of which: Overheads 2,111

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	90%
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PERSONNEL

65	expatriates
281	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- firmly reminded authorities and weapon bearers of their obligations under IHL to protect those not, or no longer, taking part in the fighting, to prevent abuses and to ensure that their needs were met
- with 2 army divisions, examined the conduct of military operations and possible corrective measures in After Action Review exercises
- strengthened Colombia's response to the missing persons issue by building forensic and legal capacities and helping to launch national policy guidelines and psychological support standards
- with the authorities and the Colombian Red Cross, co-organized the first national seminar on the protection of medical personnel and infrastructure
- in coordination with the Brazilian authorities, facilitated the release of 7 people held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
- with the Colombian Red Cross, provided emergency relief to over 52,000 newly displaced people and conflict-affected residents

CONTEXT

The topic of President Alvaro Uribe's possible re-election dominated Colombia's political and media landscapes.

The non-international armed conflict between the armed forces and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) continued unabated. Military activity shifted away from the north to remote eastern and south-western areas. A government directive issued in March paved the way for civil-military operations in the worst-affected conflict zones. This raised concerns that the population, already threatened by abuses, displacement and restrictions on movement and access to basic services, would come under further pressure from weapon bearers. Communities of Afro-Colombian and indigenous descent along the Pacific coast were particularly at risk.

Early in 2009, the FARC freed seven of their captives. Further releases were announced, but did not materialize as fighting increased in some parts of the country, especially towards the end of the year after the governor of a southern province was abducted and murdered.

More mass graves were located, lending renewed urgency to the missing persons issue.

New armed groups with links to the drug trade continued to expand their presence from urban to rural areas.

Tensions with Venezuela rose sharply after Colombia authorized the United States of America to use Colombian military bases.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	5,897	Economic security, water and habitat			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,785	Food	Beneficiaries	17,915	26% 53%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	17,058	
	of whom minors	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	52,196	26% 53%
Number of visits carried out	199		of whom IDPs	51,176	
Number of places of detention visited	121	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	44,994	26% 53%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS			of whom IDPs	39,959	
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	12,982	26% 49%
RCMs collected	75		of whom IDPs	1,298	
RCMs distributed	53	Health			
People reunited with their families	8	Health centres supported	Structures	5	
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Consultations	Patients	1,692	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	191		of which curative		431 611
	of whom women		of which ante/post-natal		16
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Immunizations	Doses	65	
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	107	WOUNDED AND SICK			
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	286	Admissions	Patients	772	
	of whom women	Physical rehabilitation			
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Patients receiving services	Patients	25,468	6,255 11,151
		Prostheses delivered	Units	1,050	221 108
		Orthoses delivered	Units	7,049	1,436 3,628

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC maintained a dialogue with all parties to the conflict regarding respect for civilians and unhindered access to conflict-affected areas, as required by IHL. This was key to the success of its activities.

For example, acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC was able to facilitate the release of people held by the FARC and to ensure patients' safe access to health services. It continued to negotiate with the parties to the conflict access to remote, mainly Afro-Colombian and indigenous minorities affected by the conflict. ICRC delegates documented IHL violations committed against civilians and impressed on the parties the need to end such practices. With the Colombian armed forces, the ICRC held After Action Review exercises in which they examined the conduct of military operations based on case studies and sought to identify possible corrective measures.

The lack of respect for medical personnel and infrastructure remained a major concern, prompting the Ministry of Social Protection, the vice presidency, the ICRC and the Colombian Red Cross to co-organize the first national seminar on the issue. Year-round, the ICRC worked with the authorities and the Colombian Red Cross to improve the protection of medical services through training and awareness-raising.

Support was stepped up to State bodies, NGOs and family associations concerned with the missing persons issue. The ICRC strengthened Colombia's forensic capacity by providing expertise and financial support, gave advice regarding legislation, and helped launch psychological support standards and guidelines for a national policy.

Authorities and humanitarian organizations were kept up to date on ICRC concerns, particularly regarding the legal and humanitarian implications of the government directive on civil-military operations.

The ICRC's multidisciplinary field activities focused on 25 priority areas. The Florencia office was upgraded to a sub-delegation, both to relieve the Cali sub-delegation and to free up capacities to assess and respond to the needs of remote minorities along the Pacific coast. Assisting them involved relatively complex and costly logistics. Following the shift of the conflict, the Barranquilla and Apartado offices were closed and a new office was opened in Quibdó at year-end.

The ICRC maintained a proactive role in assisting and protecting IDPs in coordination with State bodies. In its discussions with the authorities, it continued to advocate a better institutional response to IDPs' needs. In parallel, the ICRC provided assistance directly, in partnership with the Colombian Red Cross, which remained essential to the success of its activities for civilians.

IDPs and residents were provided with food and other supplies, as well as vocational/psychological guidance, while agronomy projects were carried out to boost self-sufficiency and prevent displacement. The ICRC repaired or upgraded water and sanitation facilities and refurbished schools and health and reception centres.

Weapon contamination was addressed through: community-based activities, including data gathering, victim assistance and mine risk education, carried out with the National Society and the Norwegian Red Cross; physical rehabilitation services at five ICRC-supported centres; and training to build local prosthetic/orthotic capacities. The ICRC also advised national authorities and the international community on mine programming and related issues and helped organize the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World.

Based on its visits to people detained in connection with the conflict, the ICRC further strengthened its dialogue with the penitentiary authorities (INPEC) and the Interior and Justice Ministries regarding the living conditions and treatment of detainees and improvements to the prison health system.

CIVILIANS

Civilians remained at risk of abuses by weapon bearers, including threats, disappearances, summary executions, sexual violence, the forced recruitment of minors, displacement, the occupation of property, and weapon contamination by mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). Abuses were frequently reported to ICRC delegates, who discussed the allegations with military and political authorities and weapon bearers with a view to ending such IHL violations. In some cases, this dialogue led to remedial action (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

Victims of death threats were directed to specialized organizations or, if necessary, were given the means to move to a safer place within Colombia. Families of people who had been killed in connection with the conflict received help with funeral expenses, if needed.

Risk of weapon contamination reduced

Community members and local authorities in weapon-contaminated areas, as well as Red Cross staff countrywide, received training in safe behaviour and victims' rights, organized by the Norwegian Red Cross and the ICRC alongside the National Society. Communities were provided with alternative solutions enabling them to adopt safer livelihoods, for example through the distribution of fishing nets.

Mine/ERW victims were referred for specialized care by the ICRC (see *Wounded and sick*). Some participated in ICRC model projects to facilitate their socio-economic reintegration.

IDPs and residents better able to cope with the effects of conflict

Prompted by the fear or actual experience of IHL violations, individual households and larger groups continued to flee their homes and land, though less so than in 2008. As before, relevant authorities and organizations were urged to improve services for longer-term IDPs. The worst-affected IDPs were assisted jointly by the ICRC and the Colombian Red Cross, through the provision of food rations for three months (up to six months if necessary), basic supplies and psychological/vocational counselling. The IDPs improved their chances of social integration as relief handouts were gradually replaced by vouchers under a programme extended to 11 cities. Government-run reception centres, charities and National Society branches concerned with IDPs received staff training and equipment or were refurbished.

Remote resident communities suffered, either because they were sharing resources with IDPs or because they were affected by weapon contamination or restrictions imposed by weapon bearers. They received food and essential supplies; in 25 communities, health and school facilities were upgraded. Small agricultural and income-generating projects helped shore up economic security and stopped people from moving to already crowded cities.

- ▶ 17,915 people (4,479 households), of whom 17,058 IDPs (4,264 households), received food

- ▶ 52,196 (13,049 households), of whom 51,176 IDPs (12,794 households), received essential household items
- ▶ 39,959 IDPs (9,990 households) benefited from a voucher programme
- ▶ 4,436 people (1,109 households) benefited from agricultural initiatives and 599 from other micro-economic initiatives
- ▶ 12,982 people benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including:
 - 1,301 people, mainly children, in remote communities from upgraded health posts and schools
 - 607 IDPs in reception centres from renovated facilities
 - 11,074 IDPs from improvements to 4 National Society branch facilities

IDPs and residents access health services

Sometimes patients simply needed to be directed to government services, while others required help with transport and treatment costs. Victims of mine/ERW injuries or of sexual violence were referred for specialized care. People in remote conflict-affected areas continued to benefit from services provided by local health teams, whenever necessary with ICRC support. In its role as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC accompanied two mobile health units to ensure their safe passage and, on one occasion, when the security of the national health workers was at risk, the ICRC sent its own staff. Health personnel received training in their rights and obligations under IHL, such as marking their gear and facilities with a protective emblem. Three new health facilities built by the ICRC were marked to this end. Following a national workshop co-organized with the authorities and the National Society, some 60 health officials were tasked with implementing national guidelines on the protection of medical services. Health personnel attended HIV/AIDS training co-organized with the National Society.

In the 5 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 10,300):

- ▶ 1,692 people given consultations, including 16 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 1,676 attending curative consultations
- ▶ 65 vaccine doses administered (including 8 to children aged five or under and 42 to women of childbearing age)
- ▶ 68 patients referred to a second level of care
- ▶ 12 health education sessions held

Concerns of missing persons' families addressed

State entities and family associations continued their work, with ICRC backing, to clarify the fate of over 40,000 people (official estimate) missing as a result of the conflict.

The Forensic Institute and other State institutions began to act on an ICRC report on the needs of missing persons' families and related institutional, forensic and legal aspects. Jurists used ICRC expertise to draft legislation. The Colombian Congress passed a related bill, to be approved by the Constitutional Court. The national planning authorities adopted a document on the consolidation of search and identification mechanisms.

Standards for psychological support to missing persons' families and guidelines for a national policy, produced jointly by State institutions, NGOs, the OHCHR and the ICRC, were presented at a high-profile event.

The Colombian authorities acted on ICRC advice regarding human remains management. Six ICRC-sponsored Colombian experts studied DNA profiling and human remains management at events abroad. The Forensic Institute used ICRC expertise to upgrade Colombia's ante/post-mortem database and to publish a revised reference manual on forensics, which was launched at a national seminar in July. A working group was created and tasked with ensuring that scientific standards and procedures were applied countrywide. The third meeting of Latin American national forensic institutes was co-organized by the Forensic Institute and the ICRC in Bogotá.

Some people approached the ICRC hoping to trace relatives. Families of missing persons were systematically encouraged to contribute ante-mortem data to the Forensic Institute's database, thereby increasing chances of identifying human remains. Others, including demobilized child soldiers, used the RCM service to restore family links.

People resorted to the services of the ICRC as a neutral intermediary, for example to facilitate the hospitalization of an under-age fighter and the transfer of two people's remains from a conflict zone to the authorities.

- 49 RCMs collected from and 34 RCMs distributed to civilians
- new tracing requests registered for 191 people (42 women; 37 minors at the time of disappearance); 107 people located; 286 people (54 women; 53 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in connection with the conflict were regularly visited by ICRC delegates, according to standard ICRC working procedures. They checked that their living conditions and treatment corresponded to internationally recognized standards and shared findings and recommendations confidentially with the various detaining authorities. Detainees contacted relatives via the RCM service, and many received family visits with the ICRC's help.

- 5,897 detainees visited, of whom 3,785 monitored individually (240 women; 4 minors) and 1,240 newly registered (118 women), during 199 visits to 121 places of detention
- 26 RCMs collected from and 19 RCMs distributed to detainees
- 1,835 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- 87 detainees provided with prosthetic/orthotic appliances under a co-financed ICRC/INPEC programme

Under the ICRC/INPEC prison health project, the authorities received the results of a two-year assessment made in prisons in and around Bogotá. Similar assessments started in prisons elsewhere. New prison directors and guards were briefed on detainee health and the third national seminar on the subject went ahead. INPEC outsourced and restructured medical care. With ICRC/INPEC technical and financial backing, three universities finalized a training project for prison health promoters.

While access to people held by armed groups continued to be denied, the ICRC nonetheless facilitated the release and transport home of people and human remains across frontlines. On one occasion, with logistical support from the Brazilian authorities, 7 people (including civilians as well as members of the police and the military) were freed by the FARC.

- 9 people and 2 sets of human remains transferred

WOUNDED AND SICK

Patients needing specialized care were referred to the national health system. Some had their transport, accommodation and/or medical fees paid. Community representatives and State health staff were trained in first aid and weapon-wound management at ICRC-supported courses co-organized by the Ministry of Social Protection, the National Society and university medical faculties. Thirty-five surgeons attended ICRC-sponsored seminars on war surgery.

- 772 patients referred to appropriate health facilities, of whom 299 given financial support

Patients requiring physical rehabilitation, including mine/ERW victims, had access to such services at ICRC-supported centres, including transport, food and accommodation and, in some cases, job training. In three cities, hostels converted by the ICRC offered accommodation for mobility-impaired people, who also received a new "health and mobility" guide. With the arrival of an additional ICRC surgeon, a prosthetic/orthotic technician and a physiotherapist, services improved further.

Nineteen students sponsored by the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics and/or the ICRC continued their prosthetic/orthotic training in El Salvador and Panama; 20 trainees were selected for a new course offered by Colombia's National Training Service. Staff of the centres were trained in cost calculation and polypropylene technology.

- 25,468 patients (including 6,255 women and 11,151 children) received services at 5 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- 150 new patients (including 21 women and 6 children) fitted with prostheses and 25 (including 6 women and 9 children) fitted with orthoses
- 1,050 prostheses (including 221 for women and 108 for children; 211 for mine victims), 7,049 orthoses (including 1,436 for women and 3,628 for children; 18 for mine victims), 147 crutches and 22 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

The Colombian authorities and the ICRC pursued dialogue on issues of humanitarian concern (see *Civilians*), during which delegates reiterated the authorities' obligations under IHL regarding respect for civilians and the emblem.

Drawing on ICRC expertise, Colombia ratified amended Article 1 of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. After signing the Convention on Cluster Munitions, it began destroying weapon stocks. Ratification of other treaties was being examined.

The Office of the Public Prosecutor and the ICRC prepared to train magistrates in applying measures to repress war crimes, as provided by the penal code.

National authorities and the international community continued to look to the ICRC for advice, for example in organizing the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention in Cartagena, which adopted a five-year plan on assistance to mine victims. The Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four created a permanent sub-committee on mine action, an initiative prompted by the ICRC.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Through numerous briefings, over 14,500 members of Colombia's armed and police forces in conflict areas deepened their understanding of the ICRC's role, neutrality and impartiality, and need for easier access to such areas. More than 1,700 officers and sub-officers similarly learnt about the importance of protecting medical personnel and infrastructure and respecting the emblem.

The armed forces upper echelons discussed with the ICRC measures taken to reduce summary executions and murders committed by the military. The Ministry of Defence and armed forces command received an ICRC report on the conduct of military operations covering July–December 2008. A similar report covering 2009 was being finalized.

The armed forces had integrated IHL into military education, training and doctrine. Legal advisers and human rights officers were closely associated with integrating IHL norms into the planning and execution of military operations, and more than 500 of them enhanced their skills in this regard at nine ICRC-led workshops. The Defence Ministry used ICRC expertise in preparing an operational manual combining human rights and IHL elements, aiming to improve their application at field level. The manual was published at year-end.

More than 300 commanders and human rights officers from two divisions participated in two After Action Review exercises, co-organized by the Defence Ministry and the ICRC. The exercises, for the first time held at division level, focused on examining the conduct of military operations and possible corrective measures, using IHL violations documented by ICRC delegates as case studies.

At the ICRC's initiative, police officers and members of the Colombian Red Cross assessed the level of IHL integration in 14 police schools and training centres.

Contact continued with various armed groups countrywide regarding protection matters and release operations involving the ICRC.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The media used ICRC communication materials to inform a wide audience about humanitarian issues, particularly regarding the effect of Colombia's conflict on civilians and the ICRC's response. At eight ICRC media workshops, more than 300 journalists enhanced their understanding of IHL concerns and the ICRC's action in Colombia, enabling them to report more accurately on these topics.

Six universities received IHL materials for their courses, and medical faculties participated in ICRC projects (see *People deprived of their freedom* and *Wounded and sick*). Students and lecturers briefed by the ICRC provided IDPs and victims of sexual violence with free advice. Contact was strengthened with private sector representatives in the field, for example the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights initiative, for which the ICRC was granted observer status.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Society and the ICRC worked in close partnership, particularly regarding IDP assistance and weapon contamination (see *Civilians*). The partners decentralized their cooperation from Bogotá to field/operational level, which enabled National Society branches to be more closely involved in the planning process and tailor their operational response better to beneficiaries' needs.

New statutes paved the way for the overhaul of the Colombian Red Cross structure at national and branch level. The National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC signed a cooperation and coordination framework agreement. Red Cross branches in conflict zones continued to receive equipment and training in first aid, the Safer Access approach, tracing and dissemination co-organized by the National Society and the ICRC.

During the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Convention, the Colombian Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross, with technical support from the ICRC, organized a conference for 20 National Societies aiming to identify steps towards implementing the Movement Strategy on Landmines, Cluster Munitions and other Explosive Remnants of War.



haiti

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,180
Assistance	2,787
Prevention	837
Cooperation with National Societies	495
General	-

► **5,298**

of which: Overheads **323**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
58	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- as part of its efforts to upgrade the living conditions of Haiti's prison population, shared a report with the authorities on the negative effects of prolonged detention without trial
- stepped up its dialogue with weapon bearers regarding the appropriate use of force in law enforcement and the need to respect civilians and medical services
- supported the Haitian National Red Cross Society in developing its community-based activities in Cité Soleil and Martissant
- assisted the water board in supplying water to 207,000 inhabitants of Cité Soleil
- with its Movement and other partners, worked to enhance coordination of emergency response efforts in case of natural disaster

CONTEXT

In October 2009, Haiti's prime minister, Michèle Pierre-Louis, was ousted by the senate after one year in office and replaced by another member of her government, Jean-Max Bellerive. This led to a ministerial reshuffle. The provisional electoral council was restructured and tasked with organizing legislative elections in February/March 2010.

Haiti was still suffering from the devastating effects of tropical storms in 2008. Despite international efforts, the necessary funds for reconstruction and economic revival were slow to materialize.

The security situation improved as Haitian police backed by the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) maintained a strong presence in violence-prone shantytowns. However, violent demonstrations against poor social and economic conditions were on the rise.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	9,363	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	316	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	207,000	35%
	<i>of whom women</i>	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
	<i>of whom minors</i>	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Number of visits carried out	77	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	6,960	
Number of places of detention visited	31	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	4,836	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	4				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Improving detainees' treatment and living conditions in Haiti's overcrowded prisons remained a major concern, which the ICRC addressed by mobilizing and supporting and, where necessary, substituting the national authorities. Its projects to upgrade water supply and shelter focused on Port-au-Prince's central prison, which held half the country's detainee population. These projects were accompanied by efforts to support the authorities in improving medical and social assistance available to detainees and reforming the judiciary so as to limit protracted preliminary detention, one of the main factors contributing to overcrowding. To this end, the ICRC provided the authorities with a report on the consequences of prolonged detention without trial. It also stepped up contacts with Canadian and other international stakeholders, with whom it shared expertise on detention-related issues.

The ICRC strengthened its confidential dialogue with Haiti's national police. The police authorities were receptive to an ICRC report on arrest and detention practices and recommendations presented to them at the end of the year and expressed their willingness to discuss these matters.

As a matter of priority, the ICRC kept a close eye on the situation and helped the Haitian National Red Cross Society consolidate its presence in the violence-prone Cité Soleil and Martissant neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince. By intensifying its dialogue with community leaders, weapon bearers and humanitarian and development organizations, the ICRC worked to make the Red Cross and its neutral, impartial and independent approach widely known and accepted. This dialogue also enabled the ICRC to deepen its understanding of the dynamics and trends of the violence and the needs of shantytown residents. Consequently, the ICRC reviewed its strategy, broadening it from supporting the Haitian Red Cross's first-aid and ambulance services in Cité Soleil and Martissant to helping the National Society develop community-based activities from its first-aid posts in the two neighbourhoods. This included training volunteers in popular drama techniques to raise awareness of sexual violence, organizing related events and briefing local health staff on the treatment and referral of victims of sexual violence and on other health issues. In this endeavour, it maintained close cooperation with Médecins du Monde and Médecins Sans Frontières.

The ICRC continued to monitor the use of force by members of the Haitian police and MINUSTAH and to brief them on IHL, international human rights law, the ICRC's mandate and the Fundamental Principles.

The ICRC maintained its assistance to the city water board, thereby ensuring a regular supply of water for Cité Soleil, and contributed to building the capacity of the local water management committee.

To improve Movement response and coordination in case of natural disaster, the ICRC financed two training courses for Haitian Red Cross volunteers on first aid and restoring family links. It participated in drafting a memorandum of understanding defining the responsibilities of the ICRC, the International Federation and other organizations in such situations.

CIVILIANS

Communities alerted to effects of sexual violence and taught ways of helping victims

Although the security situation had significantly improved, the residents of the violence-prone Cité Soleil and Martissant shantytowns continued to face poverty and limited access to basic services. In view of the past violence, the ICRC kept a close eye on developments, strengthened cooperation with the Haitian Red Cross and engaged in dialogue with weapon bearers, including gang members in Martissant, to whom it explained basic humanitarian principles and the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. It also reinforced its network of contacts within the community and with the national and international NGOs active in the shantytowns, with which it shared information on the situation of vulnerable groups, particularly women and children, who were often targets of crime and sexual violence.

After assessing medical needs in the two neighbourhoods, the ICRC reoriented its approach. Instead of supporting medical facilities, it decided to concentrate on working with the existing network of Red Cross volunteers and traditional birth attendants to address sexual violence and other community health issues in Cité Soleil and Martissant. Consequently, with ICRC technical and financial back-up, the Haitian Red Cross recruited a coordinator to develop community-based activities, organized first-aid refresher training for 40 volunteers and coached another 109 in the use of popular drama techniques to raise awareness of sexual violence and where to get help.

Meanwhile, 130 specially trained volunteers continued to operate the ICRC-supported Haitian Red Cross first-aid and ambulance services in Cité Soleil and Martissant. People with minor injuries were treated at the two first-aid posts, while those requiring further care were transported to medical facilities. Women had better access to care during pregnancy and childbirth at the local hospital in Cité Soleil, where the ICRC built and equipped an emergency room and provided training to 20 traditional community birth attendants.

Red Cross workers, staff of the local hospital and birth attendants were briefed on sexual violence and HIV/AIDS by Médecins du Monde in conjunction with the ICRC, which enabled them to refer victims to the appropriate services for help.

During a visit to Haiti, the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled donated materials, via the ICRC, to the prosthetic/orthotic centre of the Healing Hands for Haiti Foundation.

► 699 people transferred to hospitals and 3,440 dressings provided

Residents of Cité Soleil have a safe water supply

Residents of Cité Soleil enjoyed a regular supply of drinking water ensured by the city water board and the local water management committee, which strengthened their capacities and recruited new staff with ICRC technical assistance and salary support. This enabled them to maintain the water distribution network (on one occasion with fuel provided by the ICRC to keep a pumping station going), to repair a water reservoir and 24 communal fountains, and to refurbish the building housing the water committee and a National Society first-aid post.

► 207,000 people benefited from water and sanitation projects

Families learn the fate of relatives missing after tropical storms

As every year, the tropical storm season left many people uncertain of the fate of family members. To be able to deal with cases where only remains of the missing relatives could be found, the officer in charge of the National Society family-links service attended human remains management training in Geneva, Switzerland. This in turn enabled some 30 volunteers to be trained locally by the Haitian Red Cross.

A number of civilians used the RCM service to contact family members.

► 4 RCMs collected from civilians

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People detained in prisons and police stations continued to be visited by the ICRC, according to its standard working procedures, to check that their treatment and living conditions conformed to internationally recognized standards. The authorities were informed, in confidence, of the ICRC's findings and recommendations.

As part of their confidential dialogue with the ICRC, Haiti's national police authorities received two reports detailing observations and recommendations regarding arrest and detention-related matters. Dialogue on these topics also started with the six regional police directorates, with which the ICRC shared its observations in working notes. The authorities of Port-au-Prince's central prison were briefed

on humanitarian principles, as were prison guards. The prison's social and legal services discussed the special needs of vulnerable inmates at two round-tables organized by the ICRC. As a result, the prison authorities began to work with the ICRC on improving social services, for example in the form of family visits for detainees.

Overcrowding remained the main problem in Haiti's poorly resourced prisons and was mainly due to the large number of detainees – approximately 80% of the prison population – still awaiting trial. The judiciary and detaining authorities discussed the issue and possible solutions in meetings with the ICRC. To advance these efforts, the authorities were given a report outlining the physical and psychological effects of protracted preliminary detention on inmates of Port-au-Prince's central prison, some of whom had been held without trial since 2004. With the agreement of the authorities, the report was also shared with international stakeholders involved in penitentiary reform, such as UNDP, and with MINUSTAH.

► 9,363 detainees visited, of whom 316 monitored individually (10 women; 119 minors) and 218 newly registered (4 women; 112 minors), during 77 visits to 31 places of detention

Detainees live in healthier surroundings

Inmates of Port-au-Prince's central prison (average detainee population: 4,300) lived in more salubrious conditions thanks to a number of projects carried out by the ICRC. These included the installation of a submersible pump and a better kitchen ventilation system, and the creation of a new space for incoming detainees to have medical consultations. At the end of the year, as part of a series of measures launched to improve conditions in prison cells, detainees were provided with bench beds. With ICRC technical and material support, the prison administration was able to tackle water distribution and disposal problems through emergency water-trucking and wastewater evacuation.

Detainees held in the Gonaïves and Petit-Goâve police stations also benefited from water and habitat improvements. These included the addition of a centrifugal pump and the refurbishment of latrines and shower facilities in Gonaïves, and improvements to the water supply and disposal systems and installation of a new kitchen in Petit-Goâve.

To reduce health risks stemming from poor hygiene resulting from overcrowding, more than 13,000 detainees in 17 places of detention were given personal hygiene and cleaning products. They also received recreational and writing materials.

Detainees suffering from tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS and other transmissible diseases had hopes of better access to health care as prison authorities began to tackle these health problems at both the national and individual prison levels, with the ICRC's encouragement and technical support. In Port-au-Prince's central prison, the authorities recruited 23 nurses and doctors in October, in addition to the 7 health staff already hired and salaried by the ICRC. The newly recruited health workers received technical coaching from the ICRC, while the penitentiary medical department benefited from expertise provided by the ICRC during regular meetings. The Ministries of Health and Justice concerted their efforts, signing a protocol paving the way for a pilot project to address TB and HIV/AIDS in Port-au-Prince's central prison. Detainees had access to consultations and treatment at the prison dispensary, or were hospitalized if necessary, and diagnosis was improved through the use of

laboratory exams. More than 6,000 consultations and over 1,300 laboratory exams were carried out. The national TB programme decided to include the prison population in its five-year action plan and budget, partly owing to the ICRC's persistent awareness-raising efforts. The ICRC also fostered contact with international stakeholders working to improve conditions in Haiti's prisons. For example, the Canadian Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force took on board recommendations regarding a prison-building project.

- ▶ 4,836 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects in Port-au-Prince's central prison and 2 police stations
- ▶ 6,960 detainees received hygiene kits and recreational materials

WOUNDED AND SICK

Wounded and sick people in Cité Soleil and Martissant benefited from better access to health care thanks to the services provided by the National Society, with ICRC support (see *Civilians*).

AUTHORITIES

National authorities and representatives of the international community were encouraged to support reform of the penitentiary system, particularly in terms of health care and living conditions (see *People deprived of their freedom*). Their attention was drawn to residents' needs in the shantytowns, where the ICRC sought to coordinate Red Cross activities with those of other organizations.

With political circles focusing on senate elections and other issues, IHL implementation was not a priority for Haiti's parliament.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Haiti's police, backed by MINUSTAH, were involved in crime-fighting and operations to restore public order. They continued to be briefed by the ICRC on the activities of the Movement, international human rights norms, the appropriate use of force in policing, and humanitarian principles. MINUSTAH units that had expressed an interest attended a special presentation on IHL.

Some 700 cadets of Port-au-Prince's police academy were informed about ICRC protection activities. Police from a newly opened commissariat in Cité Soleil were briefed on the ICRC's work for detainees and the organization's standard procedures for visits.

Armed gangs in Martissant were engaged in continuous dialogue by the ICRC, which facilitated obtaining safety assurances for the ambulance service operated by Haitian Red Cross volunteers in the neighbourhood.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Haitian artists played an increasing role in campaigning against violence. Some began to cooperate with the ICRC on promoting humanitarian principles. This resulted in the production of 2,000 copies of a music album titled "Limanite an premye" (Humanity First), songs from which were to be broadcast to a wide audience via the media. The same artists played at a concert to mark the launch of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, to which national and international organizations working in Cité Soleil and Martissant also contributed material. The campaign afforded international journalists based in Haiti a deeper insight into the plight of victims of the violent recent past of Port-au-Prince's shantytowns and the devastating damage inflicted by tropical storms.

The law faculty of Haiti State University maintained contact with the ICRC with a view to integrating IHL into its syllabus, once current reforms had been completed.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Haitian Red Cross continued to enjoy a positive image among the population, partly thanks to its ambulance services in Cité Soleil and Martissant (see *Civilians*). It was encouraged to start work on emblem legislation.

Ahead of the tropical storm season, Movement partners worked with the National Society to strengthen its emergency response capacities. In high-risk areas, 360 volunteers were coached in first aid and restoring family links during two ICRC training courses and equipped with ICRC financial support. The Haitian Red Cross set up contingency stocks of essential household items with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC. Movement partners drafted a memorandum of understanding aimed at enhancing coordination among them and with other organizations, particularly UNHCR, in case of natural disaster.



buenos aires (regional)

From its Buenos Aires regional delegation, established in 1975, the ICRC visits security detainees in Chile and Paraguay. It also responds to situations of internal strife and social unrest, often in conjunction with the region's National Societies, which it supports in developing the capacity to act in such situations, particularly in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and into the doctrine and training of the armed forces. Similarly, it works with police forces on the integration of human rights laws applicable to the use of force.

COVERING

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	677
Assistance	682
Prevention	2,271
Cooperation with National Societies	1,535
General	-

► **5,166**

of which: Overheads 315

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
33	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- with various partners, launched a multidisciplinary action plan to address the humanitarian consequences of armed violence in 7 of Rio de Janeiro's worst-affected neighbourhoods
- extended its cooperation on integrating human rights norms to the São Paulo police
- monitored the treatment and living conditions of people detained in connection with social and ethnic grievances in Chile and Paraguay, while supporting the region's authorities in upgrading prison health services
- urged States and regional bodies to address the missing persons issue, providing them with expertise to this end
- with the Brazilian authorities, coordinated the logistics of an operation to facilitate the handover and return home of 7 people released by a Colombian armed group

CONTEXT

Social, economic and ethnic disparities remained major destabilizing factors in the region, exacerbated by the worldwide economic crisis. Land distribution issues and indigenous grievances fuelled outbreaks of violence which left many dead or wounded and led to numerous arrests.

In Brazil, armed violence, often related to drug trafficking and involving the use of heavy weaponry, raged in Rio de Janeiro's deprived neighbourhoods, known as *favelas*, and also affected some other sectors of the city.

In Paraguay, a year after the new president was elected on an agrarian reform agenda, there were renewed violent confrontations as landless farmers clashed with landowners and law enforcement agents, frequently backed by the military.

In Chile, tension persisted between security forces and Mapuche communities in the south and between indigenous militants and mining companies. Opposition candidate Sebastian Piñera won the first round of December's presidential elections.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	83
Detainees visited and monitored individually	82
of whom women	6
of whom minors	2
Number of visits carried out	31
Number of places of detention visited	14
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2

1. Chile and Paraguay

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Addressing the humanitarian consequences of growing violence due to social, economic, indigenous and land issues plaguing various regions and communities in Brazil, Chile and Paraguay remained the ICRC's operational priority. To be better able to respond, the ICRC moved its regional delegation from Buenos Aires to Brasilia in December 2009, hired additional national and expatriate staff and reinforced its logistics.

In addition to promoting respect for IHL and humanitarian principles regionwide, the ICRC focused on developing activities to help civilians caught up in the armed violence affecting *favelas* in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At the same time, it pursued negotiations with the authorities with a view to assessing conditions in prisons, where much of the violence was rooted.

After jointly conducting a first-aid and medical evacuation project in four *favelas* in 2008, Brazilian Red Cross/ICRC teams extended their presence to seven of these neighbourhoods. They carried out health information campaigns in close coordination with public health and social workers and NGOs present on the ground. In parallel, the ICRC began to work with Rio de Janeiro's education department to launch a violence prevention programme, adapted from its Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, for teachers and pupils in some schools located in and around the seven *favelas*.

Mirroring its programmes already under way in seven other violence-prone Brazilian states, the ICRC developed cooperation on regulating the use of force with police and security forces in Rio de Janeiro, including those working in and around *favelas*, and extended it to São Paulo police. In Paraguay, a similar cooperation agreement with the police was renewed.

In violence-affected southern Chile and central and northern Paraguay, operational cooperation with local Red Cross branches was strengthened. In both contexts, the ICRC also continued to monitor the treatment and living conditions of people detained in connection with protests over land rights and indigenous issues and supported the authorities in addressing prison health issues. In addition, the Paraguayan Red Cross managed family visits for detainees registered by the ICRC and launched a project for women detained in Asunción.

Under tripartite cooperation agreements, the region's National Societies received training and material and financial support from

the ICRC, in coordination with the International Federation. This was aimed at strengthening their structures and operational capacities in case of emergencies.

With the region's armed forces, the ICRC worked to accelerate the process of integrating IHL into their doctrine, training and operations and provided IHL training to UN peacekeepers.

Work went on with the authorities to integrate IHL into domestic legislation, although some IHL-related events did not take place owing to staff constraints. Governments were introduced to the Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict. Discussions with the authorities also covered: the Convention on Enforced Disappearance, as part of the ICRC's efforts to support States in addressing the issue of persons who went missing during past regimes or conflicts; the Rome Statute; and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. These and other issues of common interest were discussed with regional fora such as the Organization of American States (OAS), MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) and PARLATINO (Latin American Parliament).

Cooperation was maintained with universities on integrating IHL into their curricula. In Chile and Uruguay, the ICRC supported the education authorities in taking over the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, into its seventh year.

CIVILIANS

Communities' protection concerns and health needs get a response

Armed violence remained rife in Rio de Janeiro's *favelas*, with serious consequences for the inhabitants. In seven of the worst-affected neighbourhoods, the population was provided with community first-aid training. A medical evacuation network was set up involving 100 residents trained to transport patients safely from the *favelas* to hospital. The training was provided jointly by ICRC-trained National Society staff and residents, with the participation of the fire department, as part of an ICRC project initiated in 2008. Through health awareness campaigns conducted jointly by Brazilian Red Cross/ICRC teams, public health staff and ICRC-trained residents, the inhabitants of seven *favelas* (with a total population of about 1 million) learnt ways of lowering the risk of contracting dengue fever, TB and sexually transmitted diseases. Teachers in *favela* schools worked with the ICRC to find

means of teaching youngsters ways of limiting violence and to secure school premises. An ICRC assessment of the effects of violence on public services confirmed that *favela* residents, including teenage mothers and their children and people in distress as a result of the violence, lacked access to adequate health care. The municipal health department agreed to work in partnership with the ICRC to address these community health needs.

Cooperation started with police working in and around the *favelas*, aimed at integrating human rights norms into law enforcement procedures (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*).

In central and northern Paraguay, tension related to land distribution ran high, with more armed forces being deployed to these regions. Security concerns increased with the alleged appearance of an armed group in two northern provinces. Local authorities and social welfare organizations discussed potential humanitarian issues with ICRC delegates, who visited the region in February, June and December. With ICRC training and other support, the National Society's northern branches strengthened their emergency preparedness capacities, particularly in terms of first aid (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

In Chile, leaders of the Mapuche community, whose members continued to be arrested in connection with social protests, shared their concerns with ICRC delegates, who visited the country's troubled south in April, August and December. Their grievances were relayed to the authorities by the ICRC with the aim of helping to address them.

Together with NGOs and National Societies, the ICRC established a shared database to document situations of violence regionwide.

The plight of missing persons' families is addressed by national and regional authorities

Many people in the region were still trying to find out what happened to relatives who disappeared during the years of military rule in the 1970s and 1980s. Governments in the region supported a draft resolution on missing persons presented at the OAS General Assembly. Paraguay was encouraged to ratify the Convention on Enforced Disappearance. Chile's presidential committee on missing persons and their identification, set up with the ICRC's support and expertise, convened in May, with an ICRC observer present. In Argentina, the authorities examined domestic legislation using ICRC expertise to check that it complied with ICRC recommendations regarding the missing persons issue, including assistance to their families. Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay took similar steps. The Argentinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited the ICRC to join the national working group tasked with drafting a forensics manual to facilitate investigations, and an Argentinian specialist sponsored by the ICRC attended a course on forensics at the University of Preston, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Families of victims of past and current conflicts used the family-links service provided by the ICRC and National Societies in the region and elsewhere, mostly to locate or make contact with a relative.

► 4 RCMs collected from and 2 RCMs distributed to civilians

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People continued to be detained for security reasons in Chile, mostly in connection with grievances of the Mapuche community over land rights, and in Paraguay, mainly in relation to political and land issues. Their detention conditions and treatment were regularly monitored by delegates in the course of visits conducted according to standard ICRC procedures. The authorities were informed, in confidence, of the ICRC's findings and recommendations concerning detainees' treatment and living conditions and, in some cases, arrest procedures. Detainees were able to contact their relatives via the RCM service and, in Paraguay, to receive family visits through a programme managed by the National Society.

Paraguay's authorities continued to work on upgrading detainee health care, with ICRC technical support. In March, all stakeholders concerned with the issue had the opportunity to participate in the first national forum on prison health care, co-organized by the authorities and the ICRC in Asunción. It resulted in recommendations aimed at further enhancing coordination between the Health and Justice Ministries, as set out in their 2008 cooperation agreement, developing information tools and recruiting health promoters among the prison population.

In Chile, the national penitentiary administration and the German development agency co-hosted a similar event, to which the ICRC contributed a presentation. In Argentina, federal and provincial prison officials addressed prison health issues at a seminar co-organized by the Foreign Ministry, the National University of La Plata and the ICRC.

In Brazil, the authorities were still examining the ICRC's offer, submitted in late 2008, to assess the living conditions and treatment of detainees held in Rio de Janeiro's prisons, where much of the violence in the *favelas* was rooted.

Preparations were ongoing for a Latin American seminar on prison health, to be held in Paraguay in 2010.

Seven people held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia were released and reunited with their families in an operation involving close coordination between the ICRC and the Brazilian authorities, which made available the necessary helicopters.

- in Chile, 53 detainees visited and monitored individually (2 women, 2 minors), of whom 48 newly registered (2 minors), during 21 visits to 10 places of detention
- in Paraguay, 30 detainees visited, of whom 29 monitored individually (4 women), during 10 visits to 4 places of detention
- 5 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

Through dialogue with the ICRC, governments became increasingly aware of the need to strengthen respect for IHL and international rules governing the use of force in situations of violence, and to address questions relating to missing persons (see *Civilians*) in national legislation and in regional fora, including the OAS.

National IHL committees continued their work, with ICRC technical support; those of Argentina, Brazil and Chile convened with ICRC participation. Brazil and Chile ratified Additional Protocol III, and Chile acceded to Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Argentina and Brazil enacted implementing legislation for the Rome Statute and introduced measures to repress war crimes, incorporating ICRC recommendations, and Chile ratified the Rome Statute. In Paraguay, draft legislation was on hold owing to the change of government.

Uruguay ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions. At a regional meeting organized with the ICRC's participation in Santiago, Chile, other States were encouraged to follow suit.

Governments were briefed extensively by the ICRC and Swiss diplomats on the Montreux Document (see *ICRC action and results*). Experts from the region discussed the issue of children in armed conflict at a meeting organized by the ICRC in Geneva, Switzerland.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces integrate IHL and regulate the use of force

The armed forces of the region continued to cooperate with the ICRC on integrating IHL into doctrine, training and operations. As shown by an evaluation, Argentina and Uruguay were integrating IHL into military directives with increasing autonomy. In Uruguay, further efforts were required to incorporate the law into military doctrine. In Paraguay, the armed forces were finalizing a directive on incorporating IHL into education and training but still needed to work on doctrine and sanctions. Chile presented recent advances in integrating IHL into military doctrine at a working meeting in Santiago. In Brazil, drafting continued, with the approval of the defence authorities and chiefs of staff, of a new armed forces manual including IHL elements, using the ICRC's input, as did the development of IHL courses for military academies.

The region's armed forces remained major troop contributors to UN peacekeeping operations, mostly in Haiti. Peacekeeping battalions, primarily from Brazil, but also Argentina and Paraguay, received IHL training from the ICRC before departing on mission.

In Brazil and Paraguay, the armed forces participated alongside police in law enforcement operations. Regulating the use of force in such situations remained a priority for the ICRC. Drawing on ICRC expertise, the Paraguayan armed forces began drafting a directive and rules of conduct for the military in such situations. In Brazil, the topic was regularly discussed with the military.

Senior officers from Argentina, Chile and Paraguay participated in an advanced IHL course in France.

Police and security forces integrate human rights norms

In Brazil, the police renewed cooperation with the ICRC. The police unit dealing with situations of violence at national level showed increasing autonomy in training human rights instructors and incorporating human rights norms into directives, frequently resorting to e-learning courses produced with ICRC input. Police and security forces in eight states were at various stages of integrating human rights norms, in cooperation with the ICRC, and were briefed on concerns regarding violence linked to indigenous and land issues.

In Rio de Janeiro, law enforcement officials operating in and around the *favelas* worked with the ICRC on a new agreement regarding the integration of international human rights norms and standards for the use of force into policing. Various police branches were regularly briefed on ICRC activities in the *favelas* and reminded to use force appropriately during their operations. First contact was made with new police units permanently deployed to keep the peace in the *favelas*. Police in São Paulo signed an agreement with the ICRC on integrating international human rights norms into police education, training, doctrine and sanctions.

Police in Paraguay, having completed the first phase of integrating human rights norms, renewed cooperation with the ICRC. Brazilian, Paraguayan and Peruvian police officers attended an ICRC train-the-trainer course on human rights norms in Asunción.

In Chile, the ICRC worked on establishing contact with the national police (*carabineros*).

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public learnt about humanitarian issues and ICRC activities worldwide through the ICRC's Portuguese and Spanish websites, the "Humanity in War" travelling photo exhibition shown as part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, and the ICRC's stand at the ninth World Social Forum held in Belém, Brazil.

In Rio de Janeiro, civil society audiences were informed about National Society/ICRC activities in the *favelas* with a view to mobilizing their support.

Law, international relations and journalism faculties regionwide kept close contact with the ICRC, which supplied them with IHL reference literature.

Young people in Chile and Uruguay were learning about humanitarian principles through the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme. The authorities worked with the ICRC on integrating the programme into the national curriculum to ensure its continuation after the end of ICRC involvement in December 2009. A context-specific version of the programme was introduced in Rio de Janeiro's *favelas* (see *Civilians*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Societies of Chile and Uruguay strengthened their structures and operational capacities in working sessions with the International Federation and the ICRC. In Brazil, a similar tripartite meeting resulted in the adoption of an action plan to tackle the National Society's structural problems. The Argentine and the Paraguayan Red Cross signed agreements with the International Federation and the ICRC on the National Societies' development.

National Societies received ICRC training and financial and material support to reinforce their emergency response, communication and Safer Access capacities and activities for vulnerable communities. The Rio de Janeiro branch of the Brazilian Red Cross worked with the ICRC to help residents of seven violence-prone *favelas* (see *Civilians*). In southern Chile, Mapuche communities received health assistance from the Temuco branch of the Chilean Red Cross. The Paraguayan Red Cross provided first-aid training in 20 tension-prone communities and conducted activities for detainees (see *People deprived of their freedom*).



caracas (regional)

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

COVERING

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	203
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,480
Cooperation with National Societies	383
General	-

► **2,065**

of which: Overheads 126

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

2	expatriates
9	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- through prison visits, made sure the treatment and living conditions of security detainees in Grenada and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela complied with internationally recognized standards
- ensured that international standards relating to the use of force in policing were included in 2 Venezuelan police handbooks
- with the Venezuelan Ministry of Defence, implemented the annual action plan on IHL training and dissemination for the military
- with the Venezuelan Red Cross, launched a first-aid programme in 2 communities near the Colombian border
- with the education authorities of Trinidad and Tobago, ensured that the ICRC's Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was permanently integrated into secondary school curricula
- provided expertise contributing to the implementation of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I by Trinidad and Tobago

CONTEXT

As Venezuelan society became increasingly polarized, President Hugo Chávez further secured his position in February's popular vote giving him the right to run in any number of future presidential elections. Some opposition voices came under government scrutiny and a couple of high-profile arrests were made. Violent crime continued to take a heavy toll on the population. The global economic downturn and dropping oil prices over the first eight months of the year contributed to stalling economic growth while fuelling inflation.

Relations between the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Colombia deteriorated sharply. The use of Colombian military bases by the United States of America was harshly criticized by President Chávez. The situation remained particularly tense in the two main border regions, governed by the opposition. Insecurity was rife, as reflected by such incidents as the abduction and killing of 11 Colombians by unknown perpetrators in October. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) region faced major challenges, including escalating crime and gang violence.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	34
Number of visits carried out	7
Number of places of detention visited	4
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	32

1. Grenada and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, ICRC delegates continued to visit and monitor the living conditions and treatment of security detainees, despite some disruptions (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

In terms of cooperation with the security forces, the ICRC's dialogue with the Ministry of Home Affairs and Justice proved constructive, resulting in the production of two revised police handbooks that included international standards on the appropriate use of force in policing, arrest and detention. This successful joint endeavour later facilitated the ICRC's participation in an international seminar on crime prevention held in Caracas. A similar project concerning the creation of materials on human rights law was awaiting approval by the authorities.

Building on its smooth working relationship with the four services of the Venezuelan armed forces and with the National Bolivarian Militia, which specifically requested an introduction to IHL, the ICRC developed its programme to spread IHL awareness among the military through training and dissemination. Moreover, it prepared to cooperate on drafting/updating IHL handbooks for the various categories of the armed forces and to train more IHL instructors to facilitate the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and operations should the authorities give the go-ahead.

Given tensions in Venezuelan regions bordering Colombia, the ICRC directed its efforts to these potential flashpoints. In the state of Zulia, it launched a community first-aid programme jointly with the local Red Cross branch and trained Red Cross workers in the Safer Access approach.

Contacts with the media were strengthened in these regions, as well as in Caracas, and extended to journalism faculties. This was both to satisfy the demand for information on ICRC activities worldwide, for example during the intense fighting in the Gaza Strip in late 2008/early 2009, and, through briefings and training events, to enable journalists to relay humanitarian messages and report more accurately on the ICRC and IHL.

In line with their 2007 cooperation agreement, the ICRC and the CARICOM Secretariat continued to work together to promote and implement humanitarian standards and principles regionwide. The ICRC carried out missions to Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname focusing on the promotion of IHL among the armed and security forces and on cooperation with the National Societies. In addition, the ICRC visited Trinidad and Tobago and the CARICOM Secretariat to formally discuss the closure of the ICRC office in Port of Spain in early 2010. The Exploring Humanitarian Law programme was handed over to the education authorities of Trinidad and Tobago in October.

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, IHL implementation activities remained limited as the authorities had other priorities.

Similarly, given developments in the country and ICRC staff constraints, the IHL university programme was not pursued as planned. Instead, the delegation concentrated on involving lecturers from selected journalism faculties in efforts to mobilize support for the work of the ICRC and to heighten awareness of humanitarian issues currently affecting Venezuelan society.

The ICRC and the International Federation worked to strengthen National Society capacities throughout the region. To this end, they coordinated a capacity-building workshop on updating National Society statutes and the annual cooperation meeting for National Societies of the CARICOM region.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, riots, hostage-taking and violent deaths reportedly remained commonplace in prisons. The tense political climate at times encumbered the ICRC's activities for detainees. Security detainees held by the defence authorities remained inaccessible to the ICRC, and visits to some detainees held by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Justice were suspended in July by the newly instated authorities and penitentiary administration. Negotiations regarding renewed access were ongoing at the end of the year, as were discussions with the authorities regarding a formal agreement on visits to people deprived of their freedom in any place of detention.

Nonetheless, the majority of security detainees of ICRC concern continued to receive visits. Delegates checked that the detainees' living conditions and treatment complied with internationally recognized standards and shared observations and recommendations for improvements confidentially with the authorities, in accordance with ICRC standard practice. Discussions on the need for prison reform were ongoing.

Prison health activities could not be implemented as the planned regional seminar in Paraguay, which three Venezuelan representatives were to have attended with ICRC sponsorship, was postponed to 2010 for logistical reasons.

In Grenada, people held in connection with the assassination of the island's prime minister in 1983 continued to be visited by ICRC delegates, as described above, until their release in September 2009.

In both contexts, all detainees visited were offered the RCM service to contact their families.

- ▶ in Grenada, 7 detainees visited and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 27 detainees visited and monitored individually, 6 newly registered, during 6 visits to 6 places of detention

AUTHORITIES

The ongoing dialogue with the Venezuelan authorities focused on the ICRC's work for detainees, cooperation with the armed and police forces, and ICRC/National Society activities along the border with Colombia. IHL implementation took a backseat as the authorities had other priorities.

CARICOM States were encouraged to implement the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols and to ratify Additional Protocol III. They were provided with the necessary legal resources and expertise jointly by the CARICOM Legislative Drafting Facility and the ICRC. Trinidad and Tobago enacted legislation implementing the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I, and initiated the parliamentary process to implement the Biological Weapons Convention. Guyana ratified Additional Protocol III. Jamaica continued to refine a draft Geneva Conventions bill, while Suriname was still revising its criminal code to bring it in line with the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute. Contact was maintained with the regional offices of the Organization of American States (OAS), and the work of other regional bodies was closely followed. At the Fifth Summit of the Americas held in Port of Spain, Trinidad, the OAS and the ICRC held informal discussions on the ICRC's mandate.

At the request of UNHCR, 32 people, mainly Colombian nationals at risk, received an ICRC travel document to ease their resettlement abroad.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces enhance their IHL knowledge

Cooperation advanced between the Venezuelan armed forces and the ICRC regarding IHL dissemination and training for the army, navy, air force, National Guard and National Bolivarian Militia. Under the 2009 action plan, the militia command had their first briefing on IHL and over 50 militia and air force officers, instructors and staff attended IHL training; one of the air force officers in turn instructed another 23 officers in IHL. At an ICRC workshop, 25 army and air force officers learnt about the application of IHL in military operations. Staff of the Ministry of Defence were similarly briefed.

Regarding the integration of IHL into military doctrine, training and operations, a key meeting with the committee tasked with reviewing IHL handbooks for the armed forces was still pending.

At CARICOM level, the chiefs of defence of Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago discussed with the ICRC the integration of IHL into their operating procedures. As a result, an IHL course was held in Jamaica for military instructors from the region and the IHL training needs of the Jamaica Defence Force were assessed. In Guyana, 30 senior military officers were briefed on IHL and international human rights law.

With ICRC support, two senior officers from Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela attended advanced IHL courses in Europe.

Police integrate rules on the use of force into training

The Venezuelan authorities invited the ICRC, as the only outside participant, to join the Police System Commission in revising two manuals, leading to the inclusion of norms and procedures for the use of force and the treatment of detainees in police training. Another police project to create human rights law materials with ICRC input was still awaiting official approval.

Police representatives from various countries in Latin America attended a high-profile seminar on Venezuelan police reform, organized in Caracas by the authorities with ICRC support. Police and academics discussed crime prevention at two workshops facilitated by the ICRC, and other external specialists.

Participants in the 24th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Police Commissioners in Guyana studied human rights law applicable to policing. They were encouraged to produce a CARICOM police manual modelled on the Jamaican example, as already recommended at a regional ICRC workshop in 2008.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In view of the polarization of Venezuelan society and tensions in areas bordering Colombia, the need became more pressing to highlight ways to limit violence and promote respect for the emblem and support for the ICRC's work. Contacts were strengthened with representatives of key media and media organizations, who participated in ICRC briefings and training events. More than 30 participants attended the sixth ICRC regional course for journalists working in armed conflict and other situations of violence, which included a National Society briefing on first aid.

The university programme was refocused on selected journalism faculties (see *ICRC action and results*), whose lecturers took part in ICRC media briefings and training.

On completion of the pilot-testing of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, carried out in partnership with the ICRC, Trinidad and Tobago's Education Ministry assumed full responsibility for the programme's permanent implementation in secondary schools, including recommendations made by the ICRC after the test phase.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Under a programme launched jointly with the ICRC late in the year in the Venezuelan state of Zulia bordering Colombia, the local Red Cross branch trained 30 inhabitants of two communities in first aid. The branch members themselves were trained in the Safer Access approach by the ICRC. National Society staff in areas with refugee and migrant populations from Colombia deepened their understanding of migration issues at an ICRC workshop.

With coordinated support from the ICRC and the International Federation, National Societies in the region revised their statutes. The Venezuelan Red Cross received the comments of the Movement's Joint Statutes Commission on its revised statutes, and the National Societies of Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia submitted updated draft statutes for approval. These and other concerns were addressed at an ICRC/International Federation capacity-building workshop on statutes and at the annual cooperation meeting of National Societies from the CARICOM region, dedicated to migration and internal violence.

The National Societies of Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago were trained in the Safer Access approach by the ICRC. Those of Guyana and Suriname also received financial support for their communication departments.



lima (regional)

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

COVERING

Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,732
Assistance	298
Prevention	1,699
Cooperation with National Societies	644
General	-

► **4,373**

of which: Overheads 267

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	98%
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PERSONNEL

7	expatriates
32	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- responded to the violence affecting Peru's Bagua province by visiting people detained, assisting the wounded and engaging the authorities in a dialogue on the appropriate use of force
- registered and individually monitored people arrested in connection with the resurging violence in Peru's Apurímac-Ene valley and Alto Huallaga
- strengthened its presence in northern Ecuador to assess the humanitarian consequences of the armed conflict in Colombia
- welcomed the creation of a general human rights/IHL directorate by the Ecuadorean Defence Ministry, and a committee on human rights/IHL integration by the Peruvian Defence Ministry
- through dialogue with the Bolivian and Peruvian authorities, legal training and health promotion, contributed to upgrading detainees' living conditions and prison health services
- welcomed a humanitarian directive issued by Peru's attorney general to facilitate forensic investigation, as part of longstanding efforts to address the country's missing persons issue

CONTEXT

Bolivian President Evo Morales was re-elected for a second time, his position reinforced by the country's new constitution and his party's two-third majority in Congress.

In Peru, Amazon indigenous communities protested against new laws facilitating the sale of communal lands. This led to clashes with police near the city of Bagua, in which 34 people were reportedly killed and many more injured. A number were arrested. In the Apurímac-Ene valley, armed forces clashed repeatedly with members of the "Shining Path" armed group, causing casualties among both weapon bearers and civilians.

Ecuador resumed diplomatic relations with Colombia, suspended in March 2008 after a Colombian military strike against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia on Ecuadorean territory. The situation in Ecuador's northern Sucumbios department bordering Colombia remained tense, with an increased presence of Ecuadorean armed forces.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	802
Detainees visited and monitored individually	376
of whom women	40
of whom minors	6
Number of visits carried out	55
Number of places of detention visited	32
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	7
RCMs distributed	5
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2

1. Plurinational State of Bolivia and Peru

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Lima delegation kept a close eye on the humanitarian situation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru and worked to alleviate consequences of violence and their impact on civilians through dialogue with weapon bearers and authorities, visits to detainees and the provision of assistance. At the same time, it contributed financial and technical support to strengthen the operational capacities of the three National Societies, which were key partners for the ICRC in helping victims of violence.

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the ICRC extended its network of contacts in La Paz and in the various departments to raise its concerns more effectively, notably regarding arrest and detention issues and respect for the emblem and medical services. In Peru, the ICRC made frequent field trips to the Apurímac-Ene valley to assess humanitarian needs arising from repeated clashes between security forces and “Shining Path” fighters. After the upsurge of violence in Bagua in June, delegates visited detainees and delivered medical supplies to health facilities. In meetings with civilian authorities, the police and the armed forces, including the chief of staff, they emphasized the need for weapon bearers to use force appropriately in carrying out their duties.

In both the Bolivian and the Peruvian contexts, by visiting people detained in connection with the violence and sharing its observations confidentially with the authorities, the ICRC was able to address questions concerning detainees’ living conditions and treatment. It continued to support the authorities in upgrading prison health conditions, for example by organizing seminars and training health promoters.

The issue of persons missing as a result of Peru’s past 20-year conflict remained a major concern for the ICRC. It carried out wide-ranging activities to raise general awareness of the problem and to involve the authorities, the media, civil society and the international community in addressing the needs of families still uncertain as to the fate of loved ones or wishing to give their relatives’ remains a dignified burial.

In Ecuador, joint ICRC and Ecuadorean Red Cross teams stepped up visits to the Sucumbíos department bordering Colombia to gain a better understanding of how the spillover of Colombia’s conflict was affecting the population. They identified the need for

a strengthened ICRC presence in the area. Delegates established dialogue with armed forces commanders stationed there, as well as in Quito, regarding the protection of the civilian population in the region. In addition, the ICRC began to support a community-based rainwater recycling project of the Ecuadorean Red Cross.

In all three countries, the ICRC’s ongoing work with the armed forces focused on providing expertise regarding the integration of IHL into military manuals and doctrine. In Ecuador and Peru, cooperation agreements with the armed forces facilitated this work. The ICRC also strove to incorporate international human rights norms into police forces’ doctrine, education, training and operations. It continued to provide expertise to the authorities, via national IHL committees, aimed at promoting implementation of IHL, and to universities, aimed at promoting IHL teaching and research.

With national and international health authorities, the ICRC discussed a contingency plan for prisons in response to the influenza A (H1N1) outbreak.

CIVILIANS

Civilians’ protection concerns are addressed

Social unrest resulted in casualties and arrests in Peru’s Bagua province, where indigenous protesters clashed heavily with police. In Peru’s Apurímac-Ene valley, civilians were affected by weapon contamination, restrictions on movement and other effects of the surge in fighting between armed forces and “Shining Path” members. Civilians living along Ecuador’s northern border were at increased risk as more troops were deployed on the Ecuadorean side to deal with the spillover effects of the conflict in Colombia.

ICRC delegates frequently visited these areas, documented allegations of excessive use of force or abuses against civilians and brought them to the attention of those concerned, with a view to ending such practices (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). In all dialogue with the authorities, weapon bearers and communities, the ICRC stressed the need to respect basic humanitarian principles, the emblem and medical services. Efforts were ongoing to develop a structured dialogue with all the protagonists.

Bolivian communities affected by the violence that erupted in Pando in 2008 were closely involved in a needs assessment and the subsequent development of a psychological and social assistance project, to be implemented in 2010 through an indigenous women's organization.

In Peru, people arrested in connection with the violence in Bagua were visited by the ICRC (see *People deprived of their freedom*), 10 medical centres were assessed and 3 of them assisted, and over 60 victims of violence shared their accounts of events with delegates. In Ayacucho, 32 families were given basic necessities by the National Society and the ICRC after heavy rainfall destroyed their belongings. Additionally, on a few occasions civilians used the RCM service to restore or maintain contact with family members.

In Ecuador, the situation of border communities in the Sucumbíos region was assessed jointly by the Ecuadorean Red Cross and the ICRC. Protection issues were brought to the attention of the parties concerned (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). Eight communities in the Upper Putumayo region were selected for a rainwater recycling project to be carried out by the National Society with ICRC support.

- in Peru, 4 RCMs collected from and 3 RCMs distributed to civilians; 8 phone calls facilitated between family members

Families of missing persons in Peru receive improved forensic and psychological help

State bodies and NGOs worked to optimize their coordination and practices to clarify the fate of some 15,000 people missing as a result of Peru's past armed conflict and to assist their families, with ICRC technical and financial back-up. The need for closer coordination was reaffirmed by representatives of government ministries and State bodies at two round-tables organized by Peru's national IHL committee, with ICRC participation.

The attorney general issued a humanitarian directive to ease the work of prosecutors in charge of forensic investigations. Prosecutors and judges were coached by Peru's forensic anthropology team to enhance their technical capacities and ability to provide credible answers to missing persons' families. Forensic workers attended training and information-sharing events in Peru and abroad.

As part of an ICRC-supported project, an NGO specializing in forensics and the State Reparations Commission jointly collected over 800 completed ante-mortem data forms from families of missing persons to be used later to identify human remains. Local experts were trained in the use of database software developed by the ICRC for the management of ante- and post-mortem data.

Missing persons' families in the Ayacucho region received psychological support from NGOs, co-financed by the ICRC. Various State bodies and NGOs finalized a document on minimum standards for psychological and social support to families during exhumations. Two NGOs trained additional State health personnel in two provinces so that they could provide families with appropriate psychological and social support. Criteria for the training of health staff in mental health issues were defined with a view to enhancing support to families.

Through radio spots and brochures produced with ICRC input, families of missing persons were informed of the assistance available to them (see *Civil society*).

The national association of missing persons' families prepared a joint action plan with the ICRC, drew on ICRC advice to enhance its management tools and acquired expertise through training provided by the ICRC and through a meeting with family associations from other countries.

With their travel expenses covered by the ICRC, 487 relatives of missing persons were able to take part in preliminary investigations and travel to exhumation sites, while 138 received the remains of their missing relatives for burial. Where needed, families were provided with coffins by the ICRC, which also facilitated the transport of the human remains.

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, forensic specialists shared expertise with their counterparts at a meeting of Latin American and Caribbean forensic institutes and at the annual conference of the Latin American Association of Forensic Anthropology.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, a number of people were held in connection with the state of emergency in Pando or for other security reasons. In Peru, people continued to be detained on "terrorism" charges, and more people were arrested in Bagua and the violence-prone Alto Huallaga and Ayacucho regions. The detainees were visited by delegates according to standard ICRC procedures and had the opportunity to contact their families via the RCM service and, in Peru, to receive family visits. Detainees' conditions at a naval base in Peru were assessed by an ICRC doctor. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, staff of a rehabilitation centre in La Paz were trained in working with young offenders.

In both countries, the authorities were informed confidentially of the ICRC's findings and recommendations regarding detainees' living conditions and treatment to ensure they met internationally recognized standards.

In Ecuador, the ICRC monitored the situation in terms of arrests made in connection with acts of protest, ready to visit detainees of ICRC concern if necessary.

- in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 19 detainees visited, of whom 17 monitored individually and 10 newly registered, during 11 visits to 3 places of detention; 2 RCMs collected from detainees
- in Peru, 783 detainees visited, of whom 359 monitored individually (40 women, 6 minors) and 105 newly registered (4 women, 6 minors) during 44 visits to 29 places of detention; 36 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support; 1 RCM collected from a detainee
- 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee

Authorities improve penitentiary system with ICRC technical and financial back-up

In Peru, more than two-thirds of the prison population were awaiting trial. To speed up the judicial process, the Peruvian Ministry of Justice trained court-appointed lawyers in the new criminal justice code, enabling them to give adequate legal counsel. The ministry produced 1,000 manuals informing detainees and lawyers of the new procedures and detainees' rights. Prison officials in three regions attended workshops on prison management and human rights organized by the ICRC in coordination with the national penitentiary institute. The Bolivian authorities worked on

completing the establishment of a central detainee registry, including health data.

To enhance health education and contain the spread of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in prison, the Bolivian and Peruvian penitentiary authorities prepared instructors for the training of future health promoters recruited from among the inmates. In both countries, prison health professionals shared their expertise and defined priorities for action at national seminars organized by the authorities with ICRC support.

AUTHORITIES

National authorities, OAS permanent missions and member States of the Andean Community were familiarized with ICRC recommendations regarding the use of force, the protection of persons, the emblem and medical services in situations of violence, and measures to prevent disappearances. The Plurinational State of Bolivia ratified the Convention on Enforced Disappearance. Peru ratified Protocol V to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, as did Ecuador, and signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions. It adopted regulations outlawing the use of anti-personnel mines, approved draft legislation to implement the Biological Weapons Convention and continued to promote a resolution on the missing persons issue at the OAS General Assembly. Ecuador ratified the amended Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons; emblem legislation had yet to be examined by the presidency.

The region's national IHL committees promoted the adoption of legislation implementing the Rome Statute, with ICRC technical support. The Bolivian and Peruvian parliaments examined, and Ecuador's national IHL committee revised, draft bills on the repression of war crimes. All three committees held IHL seminars for national authorities and, in violence-prone areas, promoted rules governing the use of force. Through a report and a workshop, Peru's committee highlighted the need to revise legislation on the use of force by the military.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces regulate the use of force

The Ecuadorean authorities, army and police agreed with the conclusions of a regional expert meeting, organized in 2008 by the ICRC in Lima, highlighting the need to regulate the use of force. The ICRC started a dialogue with the armed forces in Quito and the Sucumbíos region on protection issues related to the spillover of the conflict in Colombia. Ecuador's Defence Ministry ordered the creation of a general human rights/IHL directorate to head the committee on IHL integration, which endorsed the integration of IHL into military doctrine, education and training. Military academies studied an ICRC proposal to integrate an IHL module into their curricula. The Defence Ministry, the Ecuadorean Red Cross and the ICRC conducted IHL courses for the military.

In Peru, after hearing ICRC concerns about abuses against civilians in the Apurímac-Ene valley, the armed forces chief of staff pledged to take measures to prevent such incidents. The Defence Ministry created a committee on the integration of human rights/IHL into military doctrine, with the ICRC as a member, and sought the ICRC's advice on bringing legislation on the use of force in line

with international standards. The armed forces human rights/IHL centre organized a related course for technical staff and officers.

Military observers and peacekeepers going to Haiti were briefed on IHL by Peru's peacekeeping training centre.

Military representatives from all three countries attended IHL courses abroad, with ICRC sponsorship.

Police are trained in human rights norms

Bolivian police were made aware of the need to apply international standards governing the use of force. Thirty police officers were trained as instructors. Departmental human rights and police school directors discussed with the ICRC how to standardize their human rights approaches and strengthen training. In three violence-prone regions, 180 police officers were trained accordingly and received a manual on human rights norms.

In Ecuador, the Ministry of the Interior and the police general command continued to support the integration of standards regulating the use of force into policing. These were taken on board by training centres and programmes, resulting in the printing of 5,000 copies of a manual for law and order forces.

In Peru, police attention focused on the disturbances in Bagua and violence elsewhere, leaving little room for planned activities with the ICRC. A manual for police participating in law and order operations was officially approved but not distributed, and the revision of a manual on human rights norms was postponed. A workshop on such norms was nonetheless held for high-ranking officers, and 300 police officers were similarly trained in Lima and violence-affected regions.

Peruvian police officers attended an instructors' course on human rights norms held in Asunción, Paraguay.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Regionwide, the media worked with the ICRC to promote the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign and, in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Peru, the "Humanity in War" photo exhibition. Bolivian media and journalists' associations were familiarized with the ICRC.

In Peru, missing persons' families were informed of the assistance available to them from the State, NGOs and the ICRC through radio spots and leaflets produced in Asháninka, Quechua and Spanish. Some 140 journalists from violence-prone regions participated in ICRC media workshops.

A final evaluation of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Peru showed that 65% of the participating teachers were teaching the programme and that all the schools involved were using human rights and IHL materials.

Lecturers from the region produced a report on transitional justice, and seven universities participated in a human rights/IHL competition in Peru. A Bolivian university integrated an IHL module into a law course, and Peru's Catholic University helped promote the ICRC's call for a revision of current legislation regulating the use of force by the military.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies strengthened their emergency response capacities with ICRC support.

The Bolivian Red Cross prepared a five-year strategic plan and revised its statutes. Four rapid response teams were trained and equipped in violence-prone regions. The Movement called for action to stop widespread illegal use of the emblem, such as by government vehicles.

The Ecuadorean Red Cross underwent restructuring and consolidated its management. It maintained its strategic partnership, formed in 2007, with the ICRC. This enabled the National Society to assist the victims of clashes in Macas and to strengthen its presence in Sucumbíos alongside the ICRC (see *Civilians*).

The Peruvian Red Cross slowly emerged from its internal crisis with the election of a new leadership. Three branches assisted victims of violence or natural disaster.

Movement cooperation was strengthened. The three National Societies participated in a seminar on restoring family links and, with the International Federation, in a first regional strategic planning meeting, both organized by the ICRC in Lima.



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, assists people in Panama's Darién region affected by the conflict in neighbouring Colombia, monitors the conditions of detainees, and endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons, particularly in Guatemala. It helps integrate IHL into armed forces' doctrine and training and into academic curricula. It advises security forces in integrating human rights norms applicable to the use of force into their doctrine, training and operations. The delegation hosts the Advisory Service on IHL for Latin America and the Caribbean.

COVERING

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

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,030
Assistance	166
Prevention	2,322
Cooperation with National Societies	801
General	-

► **4,319**

of which: Overheads 264

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	79%
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PERSONNEL

9	expatriates
32	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- worked with the Conference of Central American Armed Forces and the Guatemalan and Mexican armed and security forces on integrating human rights norms into law enforcement procedures
- trained the region's National Societies in the Safer Access approach
- supported the Guatemalan, Honduran, Mexican and Salvadorean Red Cross Societies in assisting vulnerable migrants
- helped meet the needs of remote communities in Panama's Darién province and of missing persons' families in Guatemala
- responded to the political crisis in Honduras by opening an office in Tegucigalpa and visiting security detainees
- welcomed 10 ratifications of IHL treaties by States in the region and the creation of a national IHL committee by Mexico

CONTEXT

In addition to the worldwide economic downturn, growing violence linked to the expansion of organized crime continued to plague the region. The armed forces were increasingly deployed alongside security forces to maintain public order.

Mexico's government stepped up the fight against drug-related crime. Thousands of people were arrested. Human rights abuses were reportedly frequent. The country was temporarily paralysed by the spread of influenza A (H1N1).

Guatemala suffered political turmoil and a food crisis.

Honduras experienced political upheaval when President José Manuel Zelaya was removed from power by the army in late June. The interim presidency was held by the speaker of the Congress until general elections in November, from which the leader of the opposition National Party emerged as the country's new president.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)²			
Detainees visited	96	<i>Health</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	39	Health centres supported	Structures	4	
	<i>of whom women</i>	Consultations	Patients	2,488	
Number of visits carried out	26		<i>of which curative</i>		410
Number of places of detention visited	17		<i>of which ante/post-natal</i>	162	130
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>					
RCMs collected	2				
RCMs distributed	3				

1. Honduras, Mexico and Panama

2. Panama

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Given the armed and security forces' increasingly strong response to political turmoil and growing violence, the need to regulate the use of force in law enforcement was a priority. The ICRC therefore concentrated on strengthening its dialogue with the Guatemalan army and Mexico's Navy and Defence Secretariats, and at the regional level with the Conference of Central American Armed Forces. Based on an agreement signed in 2008, the ICRC pursued cooperation with Mexico's public security authorities on the integration of human rights norms into policing. In El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama, police upper echelons attended awareness workshops on human rights standards and humanitarian principles. In parallel, the region's armed forces continued to integrate IHL into military doctrine, training and operations, with ICRC technical back-up.

In response to violence related to social unrest, elections or crime, the ICRC provided the National Societies of the region with training in the Safer Access approach, enabling them to assist victims more safely and effectively. As the political crisis erupted in Honduras, the ICRC sent delegates, opened an office in Tegucigalpa and visited people arrested in connection with the situation. To address the needs of vulnerable migrants, the ICRC increased financial support to Guatemalan, Honduran, Mexican and Salvadorean Red Cross branches running ambulance services for sick or injured migrants in border regions. A physical rehabilitation facility treating such patients in Mexico and three physical rehabilitation centres in Guatemala received training and other support.

The ICRC visited, according to its standard procedures: people detained for alleged links with armed groups or in connection with social unrest in Mexico; people arrested in relation to the political crisis in Honduras; and Colombian nationals detained in Panama for alleged links with armed groups. It also worked with the Red Cross Society of Panama to ensure the provision of medical and dental care for Colombian refugees and indigenous families in the Darién region bordering Colombia.

In Guatemala, the ICRC concentrated on providing technical support and financial assistance to State institutions and NGOs working on the missing persons issue, and on helping families cope with the administrative, legal and economic problems arising from the disappearance of their relatives. In addition, the ICRC conducted a study on the violence affecting Guatemalan society.

The ICRC accomplished its 2004–09 plan aimed at supporting universities in integrating IHL into their syllabuses. IHL was being taught at 27 universities in 8 countries, and cooperation involving IHL courses for students continued with the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in San José, Costa Rica.

The ICRC continued to share its humanitarian concerns with regional and sub-regional organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Central American Integration System (SICA). It worked with the authorities in various countries, mainly via the national IHL committees, to advance the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties, thereby contributing to 10 new treaty ratifications in 2009. The ICRC introduced governments to the Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict.

As part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, the ICRC organized the "Humanity in War" photo exhibition and related events in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, highlighted the plight of victims of war and violence, and promoted its humanitarian action vigorously through the media.

In response to the outbreak of influenza A (H1N1), the ICRC prepared a contingency plan, in coordination with the Mexican authorities.

CIVILIANS

Missing persons' families are better able to tackle their specific problems

The families of people missing as a result of Guatemala's past non-international armed conflict continued to face administrative, legal and economic problems. They received assistance from State institutions and NGOs working to ascertain the fate of missing persons, reunite families and provide psychological support, in some cases with the ICRC's technical, financial and material contribution. This included a training workshop on the new national ante- and post-mortem database based on specially designed ICRC software. In 2009, thanks to the work of State institutions and NGOs, 71 cases were investigated and 25 people who had been separated from their families as children were reunited with kin. A total of 64 exhumations were carried out and 56 families were able to give the remains of their relatives a proper burial. Some 300 birth and death certificates were delivered to facilitate administrative procedures.

Uprooted families access health care and contact relatives

In four communities in the remote Alto Tuira region of Panama's Darién province, Colombian refugees and indigenous families affected by armed incursions from Colombia were struggling to meet their basic needs. As before, they received medical and dental care at four ICRC-supported health centres, whose work was monitored by the ICRC and the Panamanian Red Cross during a joint mission in April. In response to ad hoc needs, all four centres were equipped with baby scales and children were treated for lice.

To address protection issues with authorities and weapon bearers, the ICRC still needed to strengthen its presence in the region. To this end, it examined the possibility of longer-term assistance projects, some involving the health authorities.

In the 4 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 2,400):

- 2,488 people given consultations, including 299 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 2,189 attending curative consultations
- 7 patients referred to a second level of care
- 12 health education sessions held

Uprooted families were also offered ICRC services to locate or restore contact with relatives.

- 1 person located; 10 people (1 woman; 4 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Injured migrants have access to physical rehabilitation

Many sick or injured migrants from Guatemala and Honduras remained stranded in border regions; 18 were transported home by Guatemalan, Honduran, Mexican or Salvadorean Red Cross ambulances, with the ICRC covering the costs. Those who had injured or lost a limb were given appropriate care by an ICRC-trained technician at a shelter on the Mexican side or at one of three physical rehabilitation centres in Guatemala, supplied by the ICRC with equipment and raw materials for prosthetic/orthotic devices.

- 12 migrants fitted with 14 prostheses at 4 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres in Mexico and Guatemala

In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC monitored the food situation in Guatemala in light of potential outbreaks of violence. The first in a series of planned studies on situations of violence in the region was carried out in Guatemala. It gave the ICRC a better understanding of the phenomenon and potential ways of addressing it, for example by supporting a National Society project to prevent violence in destitute neighbourhoods of Guatemala City.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Mexico, people detained for alleged links with armed groups and those arrested in connection with social unrest mainly in the southern states received visits from the ICRC, according to its standard working procedures. Delegates checked that the detainees' treatment and living conditions complied with internationally recognized standards and informed the authorities, in confidence, of their findings and recommendations. Efforts to secure a

comprehensive agreement on prison visits continued with the public security authorities, which had appointed new officials to deal with the matter.

Similarly, people temporarily detained as a result of the political crisis in Honduras and Colombian nationals arrested in Panama for alleged links with armed groups had their living conditions and treatment monitored by the ICRC, which then made recommendations to the authorities. Three of the Colombian detainees were transferred to a US prison in April 2009. Panama's last detainee held in relation to the 1989 US invasion benefited from ICRC visits. All detainees were offered the opportunity to contact their relatives through RCMs and to receive family visits with ICRC support.

- in Honduras, 52 detainees visited during 8 visits to 5 places of detention
- in Mexico, 36 detainees visited, of whom 32 monitored individually (2 women) and 16 newly registered, during 13 visits to 10 places of detention; 6 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- in Panama, 8 detainees visited, of whom 7 monitored individually (1 woman) and 1 newly registered, during 5 visits to 2 places of detention; 2 RCMs collected from and 3 distributed to detainees; 1 detainee visited by family with ICRC support

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue with the Guatemalan and Mexican authorities focused on promoting the appropriate use of force by armed and security forces conducting law and order operations. Mexico adopted a federal law on the use of force, which still required regulations to implement it fully.

The OAS, SICA and the Central American Parliament drew on the ICRC's expertise in promoting IHL. SICA signed an agreement with the ICRC. The OAS General Assembly adopted resolutions reflecting ICRC concerns, for example those tabled by Mexico on respect for IHL and IDPs.

Work with the existing national IHL committees was stepped up. In consultation with the ICRC, Mexico set up its own national IHL committee.

Several countries organized conferences to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions. The planned IHL study day with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights was postponed owing to staff changes within the court.

Governments in the region were introduced to the Montreux Document (see *ICRC action and results*).

In El Salvador, the legislative assembly amended emblem legislation. Guatemala adopted a new law on weapon control. Among other developments:

- Mexico and Nicaragua ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions
- Cuba acceded to the Convention on Enforced Disappearance
- the Dominican Republic ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention on Cultural Property

- Costa Rica and Guatemala ratified the amended Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons; Costa Rica also ratified its Protocol V and 2 instruments dealing with war crimes and weapon control, respectively
- the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua acceded to Additional Protocol III

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The region's armed forces continued to integrate IHL into military doctrine, training and operations, with ICRC technical back-up. In Guatemala, the armed forces incorporated IHL into 12 manuals. The Salvadorean armed forces and the ICRC jointly assessed the state of IHL integration, resulting in recommendations for both parties to step up their respective efforts. In Mexico, 300 senior officers and students of military academies attended IHL lectures. The dialogue engaged in with the Conference of Central American Armed Forces contributed not only to IHL-promotion objectives, but also facilitated discussions with the military in each country on the use of force in law enforcement. Cooperation began with the Mexican navy, which approved a directive on law enforcement operations.

- 600 officers and cadets of the Mexican navy and Guatemalan army and 106 troops and 14 instructors of the Central American peacekeeping battalion in Haiti attended lectures on human rights norms
- senior officers from 3 countries attended an advanced IHL course in France

Given Mexico's social tension and extensive security operations against drug-related crime, implementing the agreement signed with the country's public security authorities on integrating human rights norms and the appropriate use of force into law enforcement became urgent (see *Authorities*). Some 270 federal, state and municipal police and security officials from across the country studied human rights standards and humanitarian principles at 12 workshops. Federal police began to incorporate these norms into doctrine and education and prepared a handbook on human rights, with ICRC input. Forty federal police officers qualified as human rights instructors.

In El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama, police upper echelons attended awareness workshops on human rights standards and humanitarian principles.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The general public was kept informed on humanitarian issues and ICRC activities in the region and elsewhere through press conferences, radio and TV interviews and a broad range of publications.

The "Humanity in War" photo exhibition was shown and other events organized in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico as part of the worldwide "Our world. Your move." communication campaign to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions, giving thousands of people an opportunity to learn about the Movement.

In Honduras and Mexico, media professionals with ICRC support held three workshops for journalists on security issues in situations of violence. In El Salvador, the press covered two ICRC workshops for police on human rights norms.

As a result of cooperation between universities and the ICRC, IHL was made a mandatory course in six universities in Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. Twenty-one other universities introduced optional IHL modules as part of law, social communication and/or journalism studies. Simultaneously, IHL was being promoted among authorities, armed forces, National Societies and universities in eight countries by members of a pool of 58 ICRC-trained lecturers. ICRC-sponsored students from Costa Rica and Mexico participated in the 21st Jean-Pictet Competition on IHL held in France, and others attended courses at the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in Costa Rica.

Under the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Honduras, humanitarian principles were being taught in secondary schools by 81 ICRC-trained teachers. The handover of the programme to the authorities was postponed owing to the country's political crisis.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With ICRC financial and technical back-up, the National Societies of Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama made contingency plans and trained board members, staff and volunteers in first aid and the Safer Access approach. The Honduran Red Cross ran ambulance and first-aid services during the political crisis. It maintained its youth programme, involving families from poor neighbourhoods of Tegucigalpa in community activities. Guatemalan, Honduran, Mexican and Salvadorean Red Cross branches operated ambulance services for sick or injured migrants (see *Civilians*).

The region's nine National Societies provided staff and volunteers with training in restoring family links and introduced volunteers and the general public to IHL, the Fundamental Principles and resolutions adopted at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Board members of the Salvadorean Red Cross received training in the Fundamental Principles and Movement resolutions.

- 3,100 volunteers of the National Societies of Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico trained in the Safer Access approach and first aid
- 2,468 young people participated in Red Cross activities in Honduras
- some 13,100 volunteers regionwide learnt dissemination techniques and organized special events to mark the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions



washington (regional)

Established in 1995, the Washington regional delegation engages in a regular dialogue on IHL and issues of humanitarian concern with government officials and bodies, academic institutions and other interested groups in Canada and the United States of America. The delegation heightens awareness of the ICRC's mandate, mobilizes political and financial support for ICRC activities and secures support for IHL implementation. It visits people held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba. It works closely with the American and Canadian Red Cross Societies, focusing on their international activities and the promotion of IHL.

COVERING

Canada, United States of America, Organization of American States (OAS)

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,955
Assistance	-
Prevention	3,275
Cooperation with National Societies	1,123
General	-

► **6,354**

of which: Overheads 388

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	101%
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PERSONNEL

11	expatriates
16	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- president, by meeting representatives of the new US administration, paved the way for a constructive relationship and a proactive dialogue on detention issues, policy reviews and operational matters
- for the first time, enabled detainees/internees in US custody at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba to send photos to their families and interact visually with them via videoconferencing
- highlighted humanitarian concerns through the "Our World at War" photo exhibition and associated events co-hosted with the American and Canadian National Societies in major North American cities

CONTEXT

Pursuant to the executive orders issued by President Barack Obama upon taking office, panels established to review US detention and interrogation policies began their work. The US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba remained in operation at the end of 2009, despite the president's declared intention to close it within a year.

The Guantanamo review panel confirmed that certain individuals would be transferred to the United States of America to be tried in US federal civilian courts, while a second category would be brought before military commissions (under the new Military Commissions Act 2009) and a third category would remain interned without prosecution. Detainees/internees belonging to the second and third categories were to remain under the responsibility of the Department of Defense.

Domestically, the Obama administration concentrated on health care reform and the economy, the latter crippled by meagre growth, rising unemployment and a USD 12 trillion public debt.

International issues facing the new government included climate change, nuclear weapons eradication, a review of US policy in Afghanistan, and the ongoing counter-terrorism strategy with respect to Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen.

In Canada, the involvement of Canadian armed forces in Afghanistan since 2006, notably regarding detention activities and compliance with IHL, featured prominently in parliamentary enquiries, before the Military Police Complaints Commission and in the media.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited	244
Detainees visited and monitored individually	233
Number of visits carried out	12
Number of places of detention visited	3
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	3,474
RCMs distributed	1,992
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	4
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	6

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 AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC focused on establishing a dialogue with the new US authorities. By meeting cabinet officials in Washington early in the year, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger contributed to building relations with the new administration and relevant government agencies. The United States of America reiterated its strong financial support for the ICRC.

The Washington delegation established contacts with newly appointed officials responsible for matters of ICRC concern, which enabled it to contribute its expertise and views regarding the detention and interrogation review processes ordered by the US president. In so doing, it aimed to help establish a detention regime with adequate judicial and procedural safeguards, as part of the ICRC's ongoing dialogue with the US government on IHL issues.

Activities for detainees/internees held in Guantanamo Bay remained a priority. Delegates regularly visited them to assess their treatment and living conditions and shared their findings and recommendations with the authorities in a confidential dialogue. The ICRC helped detainees/internees and their families in various parts of the world maintain contact through RCMs, family photos, telephone calls and, most recently, videoconferences.

The delegation contributed to the ICRC's institutional dialogue with US authorities concerning its military activities in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, focusing on detention issues, the protection of civilians and the conduct of hostilities.

The ICRC worked with the US and Canadian armed forces to familiarize them with its mandate, activities and humanitarian concerns. In the United States of America, the ICRC expanded its dialogue to include the Special Operations Command and the Policy Department of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The ICRC gave briefings to army and marine units deployed abroad, particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq, extending these to relevant support units such as the military police and civil affairs. More broadly, the ICRC engaged in a dialogue on military doctrine and participated in various conferences and workshops. It also had regular contacts with the Canadian authorities and national IHL committee.

Communication efforts centred on sharing the ICRC's perspective on humanitarian themes and contexts worldwide with its target audiences and increasing awareness of legal obligations

associated with IHL. The Washington delegation strengthened its communication structure and strategy, adding one post in 2009, and continued to refine its approach to the various audiences and issues.

Influential members of think-tanks, the media, academic institutions and NGOs learnt about IHL, the ICRC and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. The "Our World at War" photo exhibition was shown in major North American cities. The ICRC supported conferences and courses on IHL issues attended by policy-makers, members of the National Security Law Faculty and students.

The ICRC provided direct support to the American Red Cross IHL/Exploring Humanitarian Law programmes and some protection-related initiatives of the Canadian Red Cross. It worked with both National Societies to promote IHL and humanitarian concerns among civil society.

The ICRC worked with the Organization of American States (OAS) and other bodies to promote within the inter-American system awareness, acceptance and implementation of IHL and human rights norms in situations of violence.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

The ICRC continued its constructive dialogue on issues related to US detention/internment in Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay and Iraq with the new US authorities. A number of ICRC recommendations regarding the treatment and living conditions of internees in Guantanamo Bay were reflected in the detention review conducted by the Department of Defense (known as the Walsh Report). The US authorities began as of July to notify the ICRC of all detainees/internees held in relation to armed conflict within a fortnight of their arrest.

Regarding the repatriation of detainees/internees or their transfer to other countries, the US authorities were reminded of their obligation to respect the principle of *non-refoulement*; 34 Guantanamo detainees/internees were interviewed prior to their departure to make sure they were returning to their countries of origin or being resettled in a third country according to their wishes.

At the end of the year, 198 people remained in US custody in Guantanamo Bay, where they were regularly visited by the ICRC. Two people previously visited in Department of Defense facilities were transferred to the custody of the Department of Justice on US soil.

At Guantanamo Bay, restoring and maintaining links between detainees/internees and their families remained a priority. The phone call programme running since April 2008 was stepped up to an average of 15 calls per week. The calls were made to 27 countries and involved 15 ICRC delegations and 6 National Societies. Detainees/internees were allowed to make “humanitarian calls” rapidly following the death of a close relative. They also maintained contact with their families through the RCM network. In February, the US authorities agreed to an ICRC initiative enabling 121 detainees/internees to send photos of themselves to their relatives. For nearly all the families, this was the first picture of their relatives they had seen since their internment. In addition, the US authorities gave the green light for a videoconference programme starting in September, allowing detainees/internees to interact visually with their families in 13 countries for the first time since being detained.

A small number of detainees/internees were excluded by the US authorities from the phone call and photo programme for security reasons. Options allowing these people more direct family contact were being explored with the US authorities. Family visits for all persons held in Guantanamo Bay continued to be recommended by the ICRC, which offered its services to facilitate them.

Guantanamo Bay Naval Station

- 242 detainees/internees visited, of whom 231 monitored individually, during 4 complete and 6 ad hoc visits
- 34 pre-departure interviews carried out
- 3,474 RCMs collected from and 1,992 RCMs distributed to detainees/internees
- 664 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of their detained/interned relative
- 391 phone calls facilitated between detainees/internees and their relatives in their home countries, including 10 special calls following the death of a close relative and 31 videoconferences
- photos of 121 detainees/internees taken and 119 sent to their relatives
- 2 detainees/internees repatriated, upon their release, to their country of origin according to their own wish
- 6 detention certificates issued to former detainees/internees or their families

Detention facilities on the US mainland

- 2 internees visited and monitored individually, during 2 visits to 2 places of detention; 1 phone call with family members facilitated

AUTHORITIES

In addition to contacts with many government departments, ICRC President Jakob Kellenberger met the secretaries of state and defense, the attorney-general, the national security advisor, the directors of national intelligence and the CIA, and the deputy secretary of homeland security, which facilitated the dialogue with the new US administration.

Departments concerned with the detention of individuals in relation to armed conflict consulted the ICRC, as the only organization cited in the president's executive orders of 22 January 2009 regarding policy reviews and IHL matters.

Strengthened contacts with key members of Congress and staff of relevant congressional committees focused on the ICRC's humanitarian concerns and operations and States' legal obligations associated with IHL. Congress members and staff gained insights into ICRC working methods through discussions and visits to field operations in Haiti and Uganda.

Congressional staff attended an IHL seminar for US policy-makers, co-hosted by the Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School, the University of Virginia School of Law and the ICRC, and a workshop on IHL and Guantanamo Bay hosted by the Congressional Research Service.

The Canadian authorities and the ICRC regularly discussed policy reviews, IHL trends and operational contexts.

- The United States of America ratified the Hague Convention on Cultural Property, the amended Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols III, IV and V

IHL is promoted throughout the Americas

The OAS and its related bodies continued to seek the ICRC's expertise, for example at the Ministerial Conference on Public Security and the Fifth Summit of the Americas. At their first inter-American meeting, forensic experts drew on ICRC contributions regarding missing persons and related issues.

Frequent exchanges with representatives of OAS member States and the Committees on Hemispheric Security and on Juridical and Political Affairs contributed to the adoption of an updated OAS resolution calling for IHL to be respected and promoted, and the renewal of resolutions addressing missing persons and IDP issues.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The US military and the ICRC further consolidated relations through dialogue, particularly involving the Policy Department of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Special Operations Command, on military education development and operational matters. Contacts with the US Special Operations Forces opened a new chapter in relations between the ICRC and the US military, paving the way for initial briefings and training activities.

Top officials of the Army Training and Doctrine Command and the Joint Warfighting Center visited the Washington delegation. Joint activities were pursued with the military academies at West Point and Fort Belvoir, at their invitation, and with the US Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute.

Familiarizing US army and marine combat units being deployed abroad, particularly to Afghanistan, with the ICRC's mandate and work remained a priority. The ICRC participated in Marine Corps seminars and exercises and pre-deployment briefings at the two main US army combat training centres. Returning troops gave positive feedback concerning the ICRC's input during pre-deployment training.

Contacts were extended to army civil affairs units and the Military Police School. Career officers at specialized military schools were briefed on the ICRC and IHL. Contacts were established with army divisions responsible for provincial reconstruction teams, civil affairs and detention training sites.

Regarding doctrine, the US military included specific passages on the ICRC in three manuals and joint publications on humanitarian assistance.

Hundreds of current and future military planners and decision-makers learnt about the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent action as a result of ICRC participation in role-play and mission rehearsal exercises. The ICRC participated in major US and Canadian briefings for troops deploying to the Horn of Africa, Afghanistan and Iraq.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Key target audiences were made aware of humanitarian issues through the "Our World at War" photo exhibition shown in major Canadian and US cities and at related commemorative events.

Media based in Washington and other cities remained key relays for raising public awareness of issues of concern to the ICRC, which kept them updated through news releases, briefings, networking and prompt response to media enquiries, in close coordination with the American and Canadian National Societies.

The libraries of the Army Judge Advocate General's School and of Congress co-published IHL texts in electronic version with the ICRC. Authority and civil society representatives received an electronic newsletter on ICRC activities.

Policy-makers, law faculties and students, and NGOs attended IHL seminars co-hosted by five key universities and the ICRC and events to which the ICRC contributed its expertise, such as the annual Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research Seminar held at Harvard. The American Society of International Law was introduced to the ICRC's Interpretive Guidance on the Notion of Direct Participation in Hostilities under International Humanitarian Law.

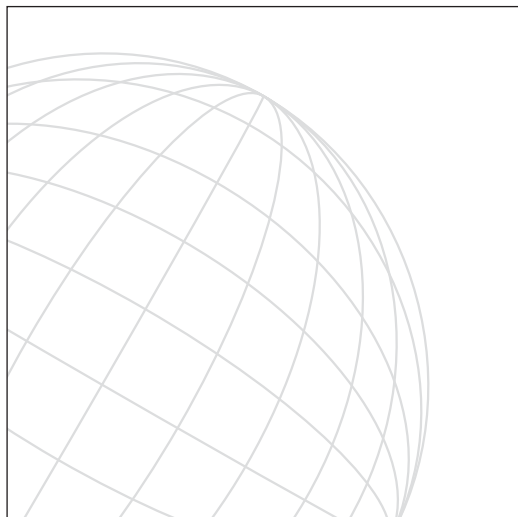
Think-tanks and institutions, such as the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, the US Institute of Peace Working Group on Civil-Military Relations and the 2009 Harvard Humanitarian Action Summit, invited the ICRC to contribute briefings and expertise. Jewish-American leaders paid a visit to ICRC headquarters in Switzerland and the International Tracing Service in Germany, arranged by the ICRC.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The two National Societies worked with the ICRC to promote IHL, highlight humanitarian concerns and inform the media. The American Red Cross Exploring Humanitarian Law programme received ICRC support to hire additional staff, train instructors and produce promotional materials. The American Red Cross's four-hour IHL course was accredited by the State Bars of California and Ohio as valid for mandatory continuing legal education credits for practising lawyers.

The American Red Cross hosted the "Our World at War" photo exhibition and organized related events.

The Canadian Red Cross and the ICRC continued to engage with the Canadian government and military on issues of common concern. With ICRC support, the Canadian Red Cross co-organized a conference on non-State armed groups with the Liu Institute for Global Issues and began projects on detention issues, family links and an updated guide for National Societies in time of conflict. The Canadian Red Cross continued to provide the ICRC with staff, and ICRC staff participated in their training courses.



new york

The multiple tasks and activities of the UN often have implications of a humanitarian nature. Operating since 1983, the ICRC delegation to the UN serves as a support and a liaison for ICRC operational and legal initiatives. The delegation conveys the ICRC's viewpoint, keeps abreast of trends and developments relating to humanitarian issues and promotes IHL.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	-
Assistance	-
Prevention	2,228
Cooperation with National Societies	-
General	-

► **2,228**

of which: Overheads **136**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
6	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- president exchanged views on humanitarian issues and contexts with senior government and UN officials attending the UN General Assembly's 64th Session
- made 6 official statements at the UN General Assembly on humanitarian coordination, disarmament, the protection of civilians in armed conflict (more specifically children, women and IDPs) and peacekeeping operations
- co-organized with New York University School of Law the 26th annual seminar on IHL for UN-accredited diplomats
- organized briefings for State and UN officials on contemporary humanitarian challenges and contexts during visits by ICRC legal and operational experts to New York

CONTEXT

The diplomatic community in New York continued to address humanitarian issues and contexts of relevance to the ICRC.

The UN Security Council oversaw UN peacekeeping operations and examined, debated and monitored situations in which the ICRC had operations. In January, the Security Council held an open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, as well as a first ever special session on IHL. An open debate on the same topic was held in November, during which the Council adopted a resolution urging increased compliance with IHL to improve the protection of civilians affected by armed conflict. Two resolutions were also adopted in October to highlight the impact of armed conflict on women.

In March, the UN General Assembly's Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations adopted a report acknowledging the protection of civilians in armed conflict as a mandated task of UN peacekeeping operations. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) briefed the committee on various issues, including pre-deployment training standards. In December, the DPKO and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) published a joint study on the protection of civilians in the context of UN peacekeeping operations.

During the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly, disarmament re-emerged as a key issue. In parallel, the UN Security Council convened a special session on nuclear disarmament and adopted a resolution warning of the threats posed to international peace and security by nuclear weapons.

The Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) met twice in New York and once in The Hague, Netherlands. Preparations for the first ICC Review Conference to be held in Kampala, Uganda, in 2010 continued, as did progress towards universal accession to the Rome Statute. The ICC's indictment of Sudan's president continued to cause controversy, however, with the UN Security Council divided over whether to suspend the prosecution under Article 16 of the Rome Statute.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, to contribute to international efforts to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict worldwide, the ICRC maintained contact with UN bodies, member States, observers and civil society groups in New York. Through seminars, meetings, reports and bilateral dialogue, the ICRC shared its legal and operational expertise with UN and State officials to encourage the incorporation of IHL and related humanitarian issues into UN activities, policies, programmes and resolutions.

The ICRC held monthly meetings with the president of the UN Security Council, attended UN General Assembly and Security Council debates as an observer and made official statements where appropriate. Such meetings enhanced mutual understanding of humanitarian issues and strengthened ties with State representatives. Bilateral meetings also provided opportunities to pursue dialogue on topics such as the protection of civilians in armed conflict. For example, during the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly, high-level UN and State representatives met the ICRC president to discuss humanitarian concerns in contexts where the ICRC had operations.

As part of its ongoing activities to promote IHL among the diplomatic community in New York, the ICRC encouraged UN, member State and NGO representatives to consult it on matters within its expertise and organized briefings on related topics. On two separate occasions, the ICRC was invited to brief diplomats of certain UN Security Council member States on IHL and the protection of civilians in armed conflict. In March, State diplomats attended the 26th annual IHL seminar organized jointly by New York University School of Law and the ICRC. The ICRC also held or took part in numerous other events focusing on the proposed Arms Trade Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and policy on and methodologies for protection work. Briefings were often planned to coincide with ICRC experts' visits to New York to facilitate the sharing of first-hand information on humanitarian situations and action in specific contexts.

To monitor international debates and developments on humanitarian and IHL-related issues, including international criminal justice, peacekeeping and humanitarian coordination, the ICRC maintained regular contact with the UN Secretariat and other UN bodies and agencies. Both the ICRC president and director-general met the heads of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), the DPKO and OCHA in New York. At these and other coordination meetings, ICRC delegates from New York and around the world briefed UN officials on ICRC operational contexts and promoted the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent approach to humanitarian action. In December, the DPKO and the ICRC held a workshop to deepen mutual understanding of IHL and identify avenues for future cooperation.

Workshops and seminars organized by NGOs provided further opportunities to enhance understanding of the ICRC's activities and mandate and the importance of humanitarian coordination. The delegation also liaised with ICRC headquarters and field delegations, as well as with the International Federation's representatives in New York, to coordinate humanitarian diplomacy efforts.

AUTHORITIES

Diplomatic community takes IHL into account

Attendance at official UN meetings enabled the ICRC to monitor developments related to IHL and to foster bilateral dialogue with decision-makers at national and international level.

During the UN Security Council's special session on IHL, at which the ICRC gave a statement on IHL implementation, several Council members reiterated their support for the ICRC and IHL. Many States also acknowledged the importance of the 1949 Geneva Conventions at November's open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The ensuing resolution, adopted unanimously, stressed the importance of compliance with IHL and of UN/ICRC consultation and cooperation.

In addition to bilateral dialogue pursued at these sessions, monthly meetings between the Security Council president and ICRC delegates permitted regular discussion of humanitarian concerns and contexts on the Council's agenda. Delegates' attendance at open debates served to further such discussions, including those on children in armed conflict and on international criminal tribunals. Council members were also informed of emerging humanitarian needs and responses through the distribution of ICRC reports and press releases. Following two separate requests, representatives of non-permanent members of the UN Security Council attended briefings organized by the ICRC on IHL and the protection of civilians.

The 64th Session of the UN General Assembly provided another opportunity to encourage the incorporation of provisions to protect and assist conflict victims into multilateral decisions and national positions. During the session, State representatives heard six ICRC statements on humanitarian coordination, disarmament, the protection of civilians in armed conflict (more specifically children, women and IDPs) and peacekeeping operations. High-level State and UN representatives and the ICRC president, who attended the session, then discussed these statements and specific humanitarian situations, including Darfur (Sudan) and Sri Lanka.

The ICRC monitored preparations for the Economic and Social Council's 2009 session. Subsequently, references to the Movement's humanitarian activities and Fundamental Principles were included in the secretary-general's report on humanitarian coordination. An ICRC expert also participated in a panel on humanitarian principles.

To further monitor UN-wide developments, particularly with regard to humanitarian and peacekeeping activities in ICRC operational contexts, contacts were fostered with the UN Secretariat and other UN bodies. In 2009, this involved meeting with and/or observing meetings of the Department of Field Support, the DPA, the DPKO, OCHA, the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Peacebuilding Commission, UNDP and UNICEF. At these and coordination meetings, including those organized by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, UN officials and ICRC delegates from New York and around the world discussed the importance of safeguarding neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action and strengthening the complementarity of UN and ICRC protection and assistance activities. Notably, the under-secretaries-general for humanitarian affairs, peacekeeping operations and political affairs

met the ICRC's president once and its director-general twice. The UN legal counsel and the head of the ICRC's Legal Division also met twice to discuss contemporary developments in IHL.

As one result of these ongoing discussions, a DPKO/ICRC workshop was organized in December to deepen understanding of IHL and to identify areas for future cooperation, including the further development of guidelines and training modules for peacekeepers.

By attending sessions of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute and informal preparatory meetings for the 2010 Review Conference, ICRC delegates monitored developments in international criminal law, including its interaction with IHL, and discussed them with State diplomats. During an informal seminar organized by some member States in May, ICRC delegates also met and exchanged views with the new ICC president and other officials.

Diplomatic community addresses specific humanitarian concerns and contexts

Throughout the year, UN and member State representatives were encouraged to consult the ICRC on matters within its expertise. Requests for bilateral consultation or the organization of follow-up briefings were often sparked by officials' attendance at events held by or with the participation of the ICRC. Many such events/briefings included input from ICRC operational and legal experts visiting New York. For example, State, UN and NGO representatives were invited to attend operational briefings given by ICRC delegates with first-hand experience of the humanitarian situations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and the occupied territories, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Yemen.

State and/or UN representatives also attended:

- the 26th annual IHL seminar (organized jointly by the New York University School of Law and the ICRC) at which developments in and current challenges facing IHL were reviewed
- presentations on the ICRC's protection policy and operational methodology, including its efforts to develop, with other concerned actors, a clear set of professional standards for protection work
- working lunches organized by the ICRC on issues such as landmines and the proposed Arms Trade Treaty
- an event during which the ICRC gave a presentation on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and showed the organization's new DVD entitled *Time to Act*
- events marking the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, including a ministerial working session organized by the Swiss government

On another occasion, over 70 army officers from some 50 States attending courses at the US Naval Staff College were briefed on the ICRC's mandate and activities worldwide.

To coordinate the above efforts in humanitarian diplomacy, information on UN-related activities/policies affecting ICRC operations was exchanged regularly with ICRC headquarters and ICRC field delegations. Coordination with the International Federation's New York delegation on matters of common concern was also strengthened.

CIVIL SOCIETY

ICRC participation in workshops and seminars organized by think-tanks and NGOs helped strengthen humanitarian coordination and facilitated the exchange of views and expertise. They also helped promote understanding of the ICRC's mandate and activities, as did the distribution of ICRC publications. Additional bilateral meetings between NGO representatives and ICRC delegates, including experts visiting New York, deepened dialogue on humanitarian issues, such as the implementation of the Rome Statute.

UN media services and UN-accredited media included information based on ICRC news releases in their reports. Upon request, students and academics received briefings from the ICRC on IHL and humanitarian action.





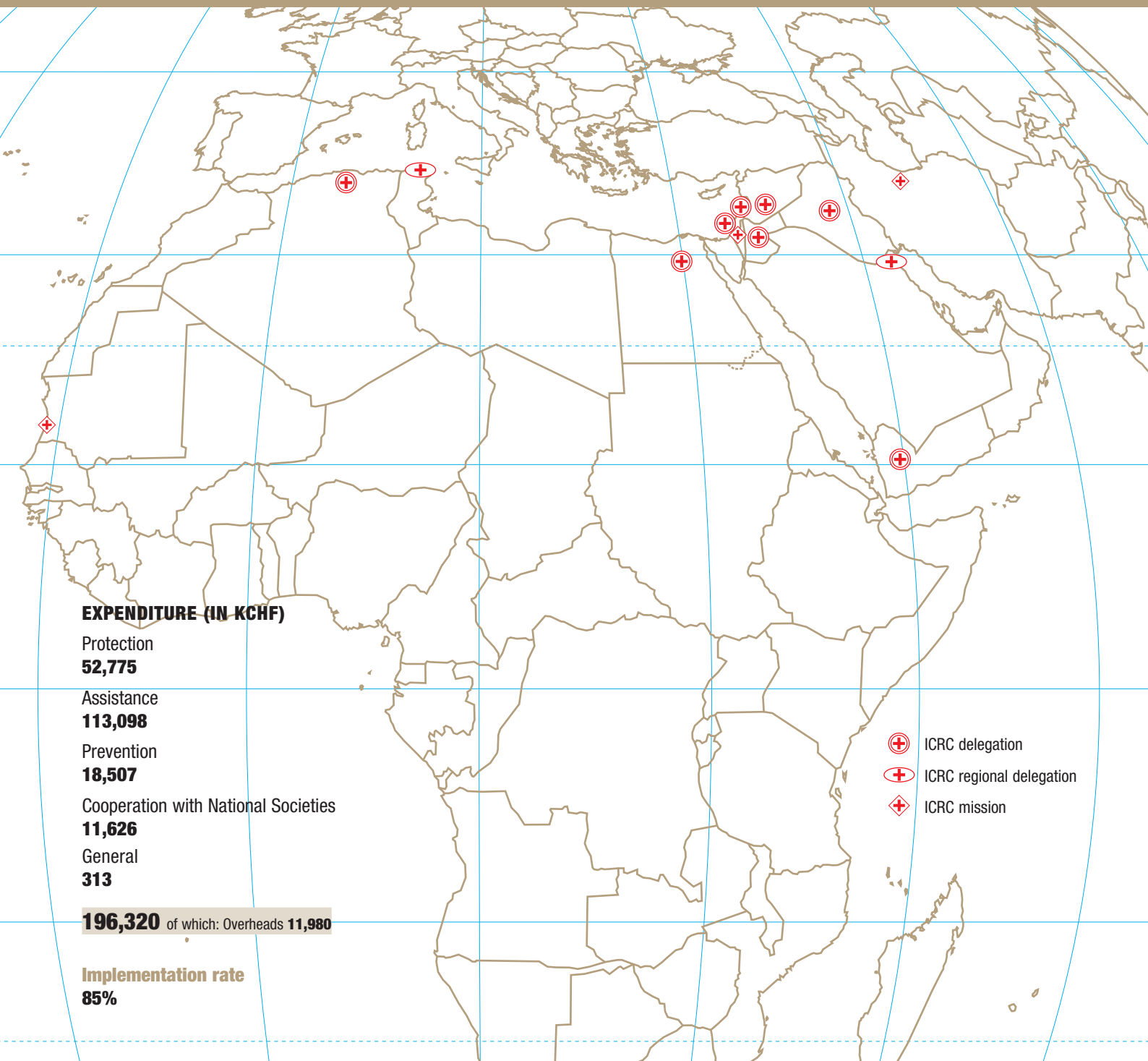
DELEGATIONS

Algeria
Egypt
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Israel and the Occupied Territories
Jordan
Lebanon
Syrian Arab Republic
Yemen

REGIONAL DELEGATIONS

Kuwait
Tunis

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

In 2009, the ICRC maintained a strong presence and wide operational reach in order to meet the multiple urgent needs of thousands of victims of past and current conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa. It did so through a wide range of protection and assistance activities accompanied by preventive action to secure stronger support for and stricter compliance with IHL. ICRC action varied according to the operational objectives in each context but in all cases was rooted in the organization's neutral, independent and impartial approach to its strictly humanitarian mission.

In contexts experiencing ongoing or recurrent armed conflict, such as Israel and the occupied territories and Yemen, the ICRC sought as a priority compliance with the provisions of IHL relative to the conduct of hostilities and/or occupation by the parties directly concerned. It maintained relations with government authorities, armed groups, influential sectors of civil society, religious circles and militant groups. Its president's visit to Baghdad in March contributed to its efforts to gain acceptance of and support for its work and to reassert the relevance of IHL in contemporary forms of armed conflict and violence. By nurturing these relations, the ICRC also aimed to enhance understanding of the humanitarian norms common to both IHL and Islamic law insofar as they reflect the universality of certain basic principles of humanity.

The ICRC 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 those deprived of their freedom were treated humanely. Restoring family links and determining the fate of people unaccounted for from past and current conflicts also remained core activities in many countries in the region.

ICRC operations in Iraq and in the occupied Palestinian territory were again by far the organization's largest in the region. Meeting humanitarian needs stemming from the recurrent armed violence in Yemen also remained at the forefront of ICRC operations.

The year began with an acute crisis when the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) launched a military operation against armed groups and the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip. The intensity of the operation and the use of force in this densely populated area resulted in high numbers of casualties among civilians and widespread destruction. Civilians in southern Israel lived in fear of rockets fired from within the Gaza Strip. Both the IDF and Hamas received written representations from the ICRC regarding their conduct of operations in Gaza. The Palestine Red Crescent Society carried out life-saving medical evacuations, with the ICRC facilitating the smooth running of its ambulance service. In addition, the ICRC supplied hospitals and carried out critical repairs to keep water, electricity and waste systems running for over 900,000 people. Substantial human and material resources were required to address the severe crisis that had already been exacerbated by an 18-month Israeli blockade of the territory. To cover the cost of its emergency response, which also included the provision, in close cooperation with the Palestine Red Crescent, of shelter, basic necessities and livelihood support, the ICRC appealed for additional funds in a budget extension appeal launched in February.

Yemen experienced rising tension and conflict, notably in the north of the country. The growing need for humanitarian assistance thus generated compelled the ICRC to step up its

activities there and to extend its budget accordingly. The worsening fighting at times hampered access to populations in need. By constantly adapting its presence to the extremely fragile security environment, the ICRC, together with the Yemen Red Crescent Society, nonetheless managed to provide emergency relief to some 100,000 and water and sanitation services to some 190,000 conflict-affected residents and IDPs.

Following improvements in terms of security, the ICRC gradually stepped up direct implementation of its activities inside Iraq, basing permanent expatriate staff in various locations, notably in Baghdad. It gave priority to activities for detainees, primarily those under Iraqi authority, the search for missing persons from past conflicts, and a training programme for emergency medical staff throughout Iraq. Water and sanitation facilities repaired and/or maintained by the ICRC served some 3.8 million people. Monthly relief distributions to IDPs diminished progressively, while particularly vulnerable groups, such as IDPs living in collective settlements and households headed by women, continued to receive emergency assistance and, increasingly, livelihood support.

In Lebanon, where the situation remained relatively calm, the ICRC continued to strengthen the capacities of the Lebanese Red Cross ambulance and first-aid services to respond to humanitarian needs should violence flare once again. It also worked to promote respect for IHL and the Movement, networking with influential circles, including weapon bearers and religious leaders, in potentially volatile regions to ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access to victims in the event of recurring violence. The ICRC completed the first phase of its project to improve health services for the Palestinian refugee population in Lebanon, which consisted of providing five Palestine Red Crescent medical facilities in the country with training and up-to-date equipment.

ICRC delegates continued to visit people interned or detained in Algeria, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, the occupied Palestinian territory, Qatar and Tunisia. The largest number of detainees visited was in Iraq (some 46,300 people held in US-controlled internment facilities or places of detention under the central Iraqi or Kurdish regional authorities) and in Israel (about 21,200 people). Around 13,700 detainees in the region were monitored individually by ICRC delegates. Efforts were made to increase access to security detainees held in various countries in connection with the fight against "terrorism". For the first time, security detainees held in Kuwait were visited by ICRC delegates pursuant to an agreement concluded with the government of Kuwait at the end of 2008.

Discussions were pursued with the authorities in other countries in the region with a view to securing access to detainees, notably in Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Despite repeated requests, the ICRC had still not been granted access to an Israeli soldier held by Hamas by year-end.

The ICRC continued to engage in comprehensive and confidential dialogue with the detaining authorities, sharing with them its delegates' findings, making recommendations whenever necessary, and offering and providing support to enhance detainees' treatment and living conditions.

Detainees received direct assistance from the ICRC as required. As a priority, the specific needs of women were taken into account wherever possible. In Yemen, for example, in a project carried out

with the National Society, female detainees received vocational training and literacy courses to enhance their prospects of reintegration after release, while in Jordan, the ICRC worked to ensure the safe reintegration into society of women detained for their own protection from so-called honour crimes. In many cases, detainees, including those held at the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, 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. For the first time, people held at Guantanamo Bay were able to send photos of themselves to their families and interact with them visually via videoconferencing. More than 16,300 detainees, mainly in Iraq and Israel, were able to receive family visits facilitated by the ICRC. This included families in Iraq paying their first visits to relatives detained in Kuwait's central prison since the 1990–91 conflict. More than 22,000 former inmates or their families received ICRC certificates of detention, which sometimes qualified them to obtain State allowances.

In many countries, demand remained high for ICRC tracing and RCM services as a means of restoring or maintaining contact with family members detained/interned in their home country 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 large and sometimes rising numbers of refugees, many of whom were able to locate and restore contact with their families by means of RCMs. Some 2,500 people, mainly 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 territory 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 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict, the 1975–91 armed conflict in Lebanon, the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war and the 1990–91 Gulf War. Following the agreement signed by the authorities of Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran and by the ICRC in 2008, the rules of procedure for the Tripartite Committees aimed at clarifying the fate of former POWs and Missing and Human Remains of the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war were drafted and made ready for signature and implementation. The ICRC facilitated the repatriation of remains of Iranian and Iraqi combatants and provided both countries with forensic expertise, for example by advising Iraqi experts on identification of human remains and providing Iranian experts with DNA material. In Lebanon, where hundreds of families were still without news of relatives missing as a result of the armed conflict, associations and NGOs were provided with specially designed ICRC software for the management of data on missing persons. The Lebanese security forces received forensic training abroad, arranged by the ICRC. Dialogue 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 also acted as a neutral intermediary to facilitate a number of repatriation operations in the region, notably between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq and between Israel and Lebanon.

ICRC technical and material support was maintained for physical rehabilitation centres in Algeria, the Gaza Strip, Iraq and Yemen. In Iraq, where the number of disabled people continued to rise, physical rehabilitation centres either run or supported by the ICRC remained the major structures providing such services in the country. The Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ICRC co-organized a workshop for Iranian National Society experts on polypropylene technology, and an international seminar on physical rehabilitation.

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 pursued efforts to encourage adherence to IHL and its incorporation into military training and doctrine and into school and university curricula. The Cairo delegation organized seminars and briefings on IHL and produced written and audiovisual materials on IHL translated into Arabic for distribution to governments and civil society audiences, including key media, in the region. Governments received assistance from the ICRC Advisory Service in assessing the compatibility of national legislation with IHL and adapting it accordingly. The Arab League's Military Affairs Department co-organized a regional seminar with the ICRC, providing a forum for high-ranking officers from 12 Arab States to discuss the integration of IHL into military training. This was followed up by support missions to the various countries. The Cairo delegation was also the focal point for the promotion of the ICRC's "Our world. Your move." communication campaign across the region.

National Societies were the ICRC's main operational partners in several countries of the region, and cooperation with them therefore remained a key component of ICRC activities. The primary aim was to strengthen the National Societies' emergency-response capacities, particularly with respect to ambulance services, first aid, tracing, restoring family links and mine action, and to spread awareness of IHL.

Close coordination was maintained with Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian players, particularly in conflict zones, in order to maximize impact and identify unmet needs for relief aid.



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	918
Assistance	52
Prevention	546
Cooperation with National Societies	227
General	-

► **1,744**

of which: Overheads 106

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	84%
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PERSONNEL

6	expatriates
9	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- following visits to people held in places of detention, shared with the detaining authorities its findings and recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions
- presented its mandate and activities in Algeria and worldwide to military and civilian doctors, including health professionals working in prisons, and to Algerian media representatives
- co-organized with the Ministry of Defence a training seminar for military instructors, with a particular focus on the integration of IHL into theoretical and practical military training
- co-organized with the Ministry of Religious Affairs a second seminar for influential religious leaders on the main principles common to IHL and Islamic law
- presented IHL and the Movement at events organized by various universities and by Algerian radio to mark the ICRC's "Our world. Your move." communication campaign
- together with the National Society, initiated a grassroots process to strengthen the National Society's capacity to restore family links

CONTEXT

An amendment to the constitution adopted by parliament in November 2008 paved the way for incumbent president Abdelaziz Bouteflika to bid for a third term in presidential elections held in April 2009. Mr Bouteflika – running as an independent candidate with the support of three major parties – won the elections and was sworn in for a third five-year term. There were no major changes within the government following the vote.

During the election campaign, Mr Bouteflika promised to continue implementing his plans to boost the economy, focusing on reducing unemployment and improving public infrastructure.

While reasserting its determination to eradicate violent armed groups in the country, the government pursued its efforts to apply a Charter for Peace and National Reconciliation designed to heal the rifts in society caused by the violence of the 1990s. Prior to his re-election, the president proposed a new referendum on whether to pardon armed Islamists if they gave themselves up. Thousands of former fighters had already been amnestied and reintegrated into society as part of the national reconciliation policy.

Although the situation remained relatively calm compared with 2008, localized clashes between Algerian forces and armed groups persisted in 2009. Social unrest linked to decreasing purchasing power caused by rising prices of food and other necessities culminated in strikes and riots in various cities.

Owing to tighter restrictions on entry into Europe, large numbers of irregular migrants continued to arrive in the country, many of whom were either arrested or deported.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total			Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Detainees visited	18,610	Physical rehabilitation				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	139	Patients receiving services	Patients	41	7	9
of whom women	5	Prostheses delivered	Units	18	5	
Number of visits carried out	60	Orthoses delivered	Units	27	2	15
Number of places of detention visited	59					
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications						
RCMs collected	102					
RCMs distributed	165					

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

ICRC activities in Algeria focused mainly on visits to people deprived of their freedom to assess their treatment and living conditions and on maintaining a confidential dialogue with the Ministry of Justice on detention issues based on delegates' findings and recommendations.

With ongoing ICRC support, the tracing and RCM services of the Algerian Red Crescent continued to provide Algerians with the opportunity to restore or maintain contact with family members detained/interned abroad or living in conflict-affected countries. To strengthen the capacity of the National Society's tracing department, the ICRC and the Algerian Red Crescent carried out a joint assessment of the service. The findings, including recommendations for action, were discussed with the leadership of the National Society, whose president reconfirmed its commitment to developing family-links activities.

Contacts with the recently created national IHL committee were reinforced and support provided to its work. On two occasions, the committee invited the ICRC to present the Movement in general and ICRC activities in Algeria in particular to journalists and civilian and military doctors, respectively.

The Ministry of Defence continued to strengthen the integration of IHL into military training with ICRC support, more particularly by enhancing the training of instructors and starting the revision of IHL teaching manuals.

The Algerian media frequently referred to ICRC activities and IHL in print and on air, on the basis of regular contacts with the delegation and information received. The "Our world. Your move." communication campaign was a useful tool to support the promotion of the Movement and ICRC activities in the country.

Dialogue with the Ministry of Religious Affairs led to the organization of a second seminar attended by imams and female religious leaders to discuss the main principles common to IHL and Islamic law.

The authorities and the ICRC reached an agreement on the cessation of direct ICRC support to the Ben Aknoun Hospital's physical rehabilitation centre in Algiers in June 2009. The centre had received ICRC material, technical and financial support since 2001.

CIVILIANS

Through the Algerian Red Crescent's tracing and RCM services, families in Algeria located and restored or maintained contact with relatives detained/interned abroad (and visited by ICRC delegates) or living in conflict-affected countries such as Iraq where communications remained difficult. Families exchanged news with relatives held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, or detained in Lebanon, by means of phone calls organized by the National Society in coordination with the authorities and the ICRC.

The Algerian Red Crescent, which had stepped up activities to restore family links since August 2008, requested and received ICRC support to reinforce its capacity in this domain. Both of its national tracing coordinators received training. A joint assessment of the national family-links service was conducted. It included a review of all pending tracing cases at the National Society's headquarters and a first joint visit to its Oran branch, followed by visits by the national tracing coordinators to other branches, with ICRC support. The findings were discussed with the National Society's leadership, in particular with its president, who confirmed his organization's commitment to strengthening family-links services and provided the necessary support to enhance their quality.

The ICRC remained at the disposal of the Algerian authorities to help them clarify the fate of people unaccounted for in relation to past violence in the country.

- ▶ 102 RCMs collected from and 165 RCMs distributed to civilians
- ▶ 14 calls facilitated between family members and 55 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained abroad

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

At the end of 2009, around 55,000 people were being held in Algeria's 127 prisons, some of which suffered from overcrowding. To alleviate this structural problem, and in addition to the construction of new prisons scheduled to open in 2010 and 2011, the implementation of measures provided for in the 2005 penitentiary code, such as partial or conditional releases, was in progress.

People deprived of their freedom in prisons, police stations and *gendarmeries* continued to receive regular visits from the ICRC, in accordance with its standard working procedures. Visits were followed up by confidential oral and written reports to the authorities including the findings along with recommendations for improvements in detainees' treatment and living conditions when necessary.

Visits to detainees held in places of temporary detention under the authority of the Ministries of the Interior and Defence were stepped up, enabling the ICRC to further develop its dialogue with the Ministry of Justice regarding living conditions and treatment in such establishments. During all visits, particular attention was paid to the treatment and living conditions of detained women, minors and, more recently, foreign nationals, as well as to respect for judicial guarantees.

To facilitate contacts between detainees and their families, the detaining authorities started to install telephones in all prisons, which was a welcome development.

Health professionals working in prisons attended a presentation on the ICRC's mandate and activities in Algeria and worldwide (see *Authorities*).

- 18,610 detainees visited, of whom 139 monitored individually (5 women) and 60 newly registered (4 women), during 60 visits to 59 places of detention

WOUNDED AND SICK

Until June 2009, disabled people with limited means and not registered under the national social security system were fitted free of charge with artificial limbs and other mobility aids at the Ben Aknoun Hospital's physical rehabilitation centre in Algiers. The centre received ICRC material, technical and financial support under a programme initiated in 2001 in agreement with the Algerian Ministry of Health.

The authorities and the ICRC reached an agreement that the ICRC would cease direct support to the Ben Aknoun centre in June 2009, after providing the hospital one last time with materials and components enabling the centre to give free services until mid-2011. The hospital administration and the Pedagogical Institute for Paramedical Training were informed, however, that the ICRC remained at their disposal should they need its technical expertise. The centre's only prosthetic/orthotic technician left in October and had not been replaced by year-end.

From January to June:

- 41 patients (including 7 women and 9 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 19 new patients (including 6 women) fitted with prostheses and 18 new patients (including 2 women and 9 children) fitted with orthoses
- 18 prostheses (including 5 for women and 3 for children, 8 for mine victims), 27 orthoses (including 2 for women and 15 for children), 9 crutches and 1 wheelchair delivered

AUTHORITIES

The Algerian authorities and the ICRC had regular contact to discuss humanitarian issues of mutual concern in the country and elsewhere.

The national IHL committee, established in 2008, worked closely with the ICRC, which helped move forward the process of incorporating the provisions of ratified IHL instruments into national legislation. All committee members deepened their IHL knowledge during a one-day briefing. Five committee members, including officials from the Foreign Affairs and Justice Ministries, attended regional seminars on IHL organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC (see *Egypt*).

The national IHL committee invited the ICRC to give a presentation at a seminar on IHL organized for military and civilian doctors, including health professionals working in prisons. Participants learnt about the Movement and ICRC activities in Algeria and worldwide, focusing on detention issues and the role of doctors in prisons. The committee also invited the ICRC to address Algerian media representatives on IHL and its provisions regarding the protection of journalists. Parliamentarians attended a one-day IHL briefing.

In November, 250 future magistrates from the Ecole Supérieure de la Magistrature attended a session on ICRC activities and IHL, more particularly on the protection afforded to detainees under IHL.

Algeria reportedly destroyed all its anti-personnel mines by the deadline set within the framework of the Mine Ban Convention, under the supervision of an interministerial committee.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Pursuant to a formal order by the armed forces command, IHL was integrated into the curriculum of all military training establishments. In 2009, the Ministry of Defence and the ICRC strengthened their cooperation with a view to reinforcing the training of military instructors and their teaching tools.

The Cherchell Military Academy organized a training seminar for 60 military IHL instructors. In addition to IHL training, participants learned about ICRC detention-related activities in general and in Algeria in particular. The Ministry of Defence was provided with various IHL manuals and technical documents on topics such as the rules governing the conduct of hostilities and the use of weapons to facilitate the revision of IHL teaching manuals.

Cadets at the academy learnt about the activities of the ICRC and the Movement during an ICRC presentation.

Dialogue with the national *gendarmerie* continued with a view to organizing IHL dissemination sessions and briefings on ICRC activities for officers.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking within key civil society sectors continued in order to promote the ICRC and its activities and services in the country and elsewhere and to gain support for its action. The wide distribution of the ICRC's Arabic-language quarterly *Al-Insani* proved supportive in this process.

The Algerian media frequently referred to ICRC activities and IHL in print and on air. In particular, *El Djazair* News regularly published ICRC press releases in its "humanitarian section" as part of a project to increase local knowledge of ICRC activities in Algeria and worldwide. As part of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, the Channel 3 radio station twice invited the ICRC to present the history of the Movement and ICRC activities in Algeria. A forum organized by *El Moudjahid* enabled key media representatives and the ICRC to discuss IHL issues.

The inclusion of IHL in Algerian law curricula continued to progress. By year-end, 14 faculties had incorporated IHL into their curricula and were provided with specialized IHL training and educational materials. Universities regularly invited the ICRC to give briefings on its activities and IHL-related issues, such as that given at the University of Batna during a seminar on "60 years of the Geneva Conventions and their integration into national law".

Contacts with influential religious leaders and institutions were further strengthened. In February, 73 imams and 23 female religious leaders participated in a second seminar on IHL and Islamic law, organized jointly with the Ministry of Religious Affairs. As in 2008, the seminar provided an opportunity for participants to explore and discuss similarities and differences between the two bodies of law. Members of Islamic law faculties also attended a seminar on similar issues organized by Al-Qarawiyyin University in Morocco (see *Tunis*). The ICRC was invited to speak about its neutral and independent humanitarian action at an event marking the 100th anniversary of the Tariqa Alawiya, a Muslim Sufi religious order.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Algerian Red Crescent remained in a transition phase involving major management and structural changes. In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC stood ready to support the National Society's efforts to regularize its governance and operational structures in line with the Movement's Fundamental Principles and the Seville Agreement and its Supplementary Measures.

The National Society received ICRC support to reinforce its capacity to restore family links (see *Civilians*).



egypt

The ICRC has been in Egypt, with some interruptions, since the beginning of the Second World War. It 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 also seeks to visit people deprived of their freedom in Egypt.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	239
Assistance	-
Prevention	827
Cooperation with National Societies	114
General	-

► **1,179**

of which: Overheads **72**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	88%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
34	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- supported the Egyptian Red Crescent Society in its handling of some 25,000 tonnes of drugs and relief material during the hostilities in the Gaza Strip at the beginning of 2009
- together with the International Federation and the Egyptian Red Crescent Society, developed a contingency plan to respond to any emergency at the Egypt-Gaza border
- together with the League of Arab States, actively promoted the integration of IHL into national legislation, university and school curricula, and the training of national armed forces throughout the Arab world
- signed an agreement with the Al Arabiya and Al Jazeera pan-Arab satellite broadcasters, at their request, to organize IHL training sessions twice a year for their senior correspondents and news editors
- restored and maintained contact between family members separated by conflict, detention or displacement through RCMs, phone calls and – for the first time ever in Egypt – videoconference calls
- pursued discussions with the Egyptian authorities on ICRC access to security detainees in Egypt

CONTEXT

Egypt continued to play an important role in efforts to defuse tensions in the region.

Egypt was a key transit route for relief aid to the Gaza Strip during and after the hostilities there at the beginning of 2009 and for the evacuation of the wounded from the territory for emergency medical treatment. In March, Egypt hosted an international conference attended by some 80 countries to discuss funding for the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip. Egypt started construction of a steel wall sunk deep into the ground between Egypt and the Gaza Strip, reportedly intended to stop smuggling through underground tunnels to Gaza. This resulted in heightened tension and violent demonstrations in the border area. Rival Fatah and Hamas Palestinian factions were invited to Cairo for talks on forming a unity government.

Egypt also organized a peace conference on Sudan aimed at ending the long-running conflict in Darfur, doubled the number of its peacekeeping troops deployed there to 1,600, and stated its willingness to host a conference on the reconstruction and development of Darfur during the first half of 2010.

US President Barack Obama's choice of Egypt to deliver a speech in June on relations between the Muslim world and the West was widely regarded as an acknowledgment of the central role that the country played in the Arab and Islamic world. The Egyptian president visited the United States of America later in the year for the first time since 2004.

Egypt continued to suffer from high levels of unemployment and poverty, compounded by exponential population growth and a decline in earnings from tourism, the Suez Canal and remittances from Egyptians working abroad.

A number of Islamist militants held responsible for sporadic acts of violence in the country were arrested.

Large numbers of people fleeing armed conflict, other situations of violence and economic hardship, mainly from the Horn of Africa, continued to enter Egypt seeking asylum, refugee status or resettlement in third countries. Since 2008, several hundred of them have reportedly sought irregular entry into Israel via Egyptian territory. Some of these were allegedly killed by Egyptian border guards in the process, while the majority were detained and deported.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	124
RCMs distributed	258
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	26
<i>of whom women</i>	12
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	8
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	3
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	40
<i>of whom women</i>	15
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	12
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	1,578

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Egypt continued to be the regional base of ICRC activities to promote greater knowledge and acceptance of IHL and neutral and independent humanitarian action, as well as to advance the national implementation of IHL in the 22 member countries of the League of Arab States.

Government officials, parliamentarians, judges, academics, military staff 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 information from the ICRC's regional documentation and promotion centre in Cairo, which continued to produce written and audiovisual materials on IHL. The ICRC's Cairo-based Arabic-language website remained a key reference on IHL-related issues.

Another priority for the delegation was to promote IHL and knowledge of the ICRC's specific mandate among key civil society audiences, such as the national and international media, human rights NGOs and faith-based Arab humanitarian organizations, in order to gain their active support.

During and after the hostilities in the Gaza Strip, the International Federation and the ICRC assisted the Egyptian Red Crescent Society in the handling of relief aid transiting Egypt en route for the Gaza Strip. The International Federation and the ICRC also helped the National Society develop a contingency plan to respond to any emergency at the Egypt-Gaza border. The ICRC president participated in the conference on Gaza's reconstruction organized by Egypt in Sharm el-Sheikh, during which he addressed the 80 donor countries present and held bilateral meetings on humanitarian issues related to the Gaza Strip.

People in Egypt, including refugees, and their relatives detained/interned abroad or living in countries affected by armed conflict exchanged family news through ICRC family-links services. Receipt of ICRC certificates confirming the detention of a relative enabled families to obtain social welfare allowances and to enrol their children in school. A number of refugees, mainly nationals from countries in the Horn of Africa, including

unaccompanied children, were issued with ICRC travel documents in order to facilitate their family reunification or resettlement in third countries once they had been granted refugee status. This process was coordinated with the embassies of destination countries, UNHCR and other relevant organizations.

The ICRC pursued discussions with high-level officials regarding authorization to visit people held on charges of endangering State security or in connection with the fight against "terrorism", as yet to no avail.

CIVILIANS

Dispersed family members stay in touch

Asylum seekers and refugees, particularly from sub-Saharan Africa, continued to rely on ICRC family-links services to exchange news with relatives in their home countries. Families living in Egypt used the same services to trace and re-establish contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad or present in countries where communications had been disrupted by armed conflict or other situations of violence. Videoconference calls facilitated by the ICRC were used for the first time in Egypt to establish contact between families there and their relatives held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba.

Families of Egyptian nationals still detained/interned abroad were visited by ICRC staff to deliver RCMs from and collect RCMs for their relatives and to organize telephone calls between them. Certificates confirming the detention of their relatives enabled families to obtain social welfare allowances and to enrol their children in school. The situation of former detainees/internees released and transferred back to Egypt was assessed with a view to helping the most indigent among them. Thus, two Egyptian nationals formerly interned at Guantanamo Bay received one-off assistance to help them start a small income-generating project.

A number of unaccompanied minors were issued with ICRC travel documents to enable them to join family members in other countries and, while awaiting reunification, received psychological and vocational counselling provided by an NGO, with ICRC support. The ICRC and other organizations dealing with unaccompanied minors in Egypt coordinated their activities to ensure that such family reunifications were in the best interests of the children concerned.

Family-links activities were carried out in close coordination 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 held within these circles and a workshop on disaster preparedness for 30 government officials raised awareness of the Movement family-links network, thereby encouraging its use when required.

The National Society, together with the International Federation and the ICRC, developed a contingency plan to respond to any cross-border emergency arising from hostilities in the Gaza Strip. The plan included measures to respond to a sudden influx of Gaza residents into Egypt, particularly in terms of their potential family-links needs.

- 124 RCMs collected from and 258 RCMs distributed to civilians; 26 phone calls facilitated between family members; 21 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- new tracing requests registered for 26 people (12 women; 8 minors at the time of disappearance); 4 people located, including 1 for whom a tracing request had been registered by another delegation; 40 people (15 women; 12 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 1 person reunited with family

Refugees are assisted in resettling 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 some from other countries in the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes region and West Africa and from Iraq. Only a limited number were granted refugee status and accepted for resettlement in third countries. Those who were accepted but had no valid identification papers were provided with travel documents by the ICRC in coordination with the embassies of destination countries, government agencies, the IOM, NGOs and UNHCR.

- 1,578 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 by the Movement's statutes, the ICRC continued to engage in discussions with high-level government officials regarding authorization to visit people held on charges of endangering State security or in connection with the fight against "terrorism". The ICRC endeavoured to explain how, when visiting detainees according to its standard working procedures, it could contribute to helping the detaining authorities comply with internationally recognized standards applicable to detention. No agreement had been reached by year-end.

Egyptian families whose male heads of household were detained/interned abroad were issued with certificates of detention required to obtain social welfare allowances and to enrol their children in school.

AUTHORITIES

Members of the Egyptian government and the Cairo-based League of Arab States regularly discussed issues of common interest with the ICRC, enabling it to enlist support for its operations. Many meetings focused on the provision of emergency assistance in the Gaza Strip. The ICRC president was given the opportunity to address the 80 donor countries represented at the conference hosted by Egypt in Sharm el-Sheikh on the Gaza Strip's reconstruction and, during the conference, to hold bilateral meetings with participants on humanitarian issues related to the Gaza Strip.

The 22 member States of the Arab League were encouraged to accede to IHL instruments to which they were not yet party and to incorporate the relevant legal provisions into their national legislation. Together, the Arab League and the ICRC organized regional seminars for government officials, in particular members of national implementation bodies, to refine mechanisms for the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and into the curricula of training institutes for future judges and diplomats.

- representatives of 17 Arab States, including Egypt, participated in the eighth meeting of government experts on IHL in Amman, Jordan
- 37 civil servants from 15 Arab States acquired the necessary skills to teach the subject to their peers at 2 two-week courses on IHL, co-organized with the Centre for Legal and Judiciary Studies in Beirut, Lebanon

Governments and the 13 existing national IHL committees were provided with legal expertise, IHL-related documentation and draft model laws. Various organizations invited the ICRC to share its expertise and views on IHL at conferences and seminars.

In Egypt, the national IHL committee, the National Centre for Judicial Studies and the ICRC worked on ways to accelerate progress on IHL implementation, including through the conduct of a study on the compatibility of national legislation with IHL. The national IHL committee worked on draft legislation to incorporate the provisions of the Hague Convention on Cultural Property and the repression of war crimes into national law. Scores of Egyptian civilian and military judges and public prosecutors attended regular IHL training courses.

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 a meeting of military officials at its Cairo headquarters. At a joint regional seminar held there, 31 high-ranking officers from 12 Arab States discussed ways to promote the integration of IHL into their military teaching and training programmes. The ICRC followed this up with support missions throughout the region.

In Egypt, military forces about to be deployed in Darfur, Sudan, were briefed on IHL, as were personnel at various military academies.

A high-ranking Egyptian officer was invited to participate in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Paris, France.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Pan-Arab media gave extensive coverage to ICRC operations, relaying key humanitarian messages to their audiences. In this, they were aided by background materials in Arabic on IHL and the ICRC, including the ICRC's Cairo-based Arabic-language website and quarterly *Al-Insani* magazine. At their request, the Al Arabiya and Al Jazeera pan-Arab satellite broadcasters and the ICRC signed an agreement to organize IHL training sessions twice a year for their senior correspondents and news editors, reflecting heightened interest in IHL in the region.

In Egypt, contacts with the media, human rights associations and religious circles helped promote IHL and raise awareness of the ICRC's mandate. Eighty media representatives attended three training courses and NGO staff in Cairo five lectures on IHL and ICRC activities in the region.

Teachers were trained in the use of a practical guide produced by the Ministry of Education on teaching the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. The Ministry of Education and the ICRC signed an agreement to turn the programme over to the ministry by the end of 2010.

In addition to courses organized with the Arab League's Centre for Legal and Judiciary Studies (see *Authorities*), PhD students from different Arab States studying in Egyptian universities received literature on IHL. Students in Cairo attended presentations on IHL given in collaboration with UNHCR.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

At the end of December 2008, the president of the Egyptian Red Crescent convened Movement meetings to coordinate the Gaza relief operation. The National Society mobilized more than 300 volunteers and successfully managed the handling and transport from Egypt to the Gaza Strip of tonnes of donations from all over the world.

Together with the International Federation and the ICRC, the National Society developed a contingency plan to respond to any emergency resulting from the situation in the Gaza Strip, such as a sudden influx of Gaza residents into Egypt, and to meet potential needs for restoring family links.

The National Society received training materials to support the ongoing rehabilitation and modernization of first-aid training centres in its 27 branches. It provided training in the promotion and dissemination of IHL to its volunteers and youths from other organizations, with ICRC support.

Plans to help construct a National Society warehouse on the Egyptian side of the border with Gaza were abandoned owing to difficulties in finding an appropriate location for the project.



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 Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in the fields of tracing, the promotion of IHL, 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 country in support of ICRC operations in the region.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,811
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,213
Cooperation with National Societies	548
General	-

► **3,572**

of which: Overheads 218

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	103%
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PERSONNEL

5	expatriates
46	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- helped finalize rules and procedures for the implementation of a tripartite agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq aimed at clarifying the fate of people unaccounted for in connection with the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war
- provided forensic expertise and DNA equipment to Iranian organizations involved in the recovery and identification of human remains linked to the same conflict
- welcomed the mention of the Movement's role and the need to respect IHL in the final communiqué of an international conference held in Tehran for prosecutors from Islamic countries
- promoted the national implementation of IHL, the introduction of its basic principles in school curricula and the teaching of IHL in Iranian universities
- developed its operational partnership with the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in the fields of restoring family links, physical rehabilitation and mine-risk education

CONTEXT

Incumbent president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was declared the victor in presidential elections in June and sworn in for a second term in August. The new cabinet included women for the first time since the founding of the Islamic Republic in 1979.

Rival candidates challenged the election result, alleging vote-rigging, sparking a wave of street demonstrations and violent clashes with security forces that reportedly resulted in several deaths and hundreds of arrests.

Parliament approved a bill restricting subsidies for staple foods and energy to low-income groups within five years to replace the existing subsidization system that benefited the whole population.

Two explosions occurred in Sistan-Baluchestan province in May and October. The first reportedly killed 25 civilians and the second 42 Revolutionary Guard commanders. The People's Resistance Movement of Iran (PRMI), formally known as Jundullah, claimed responsibility.

The Iranian authorities continued to refute allegations by the United States of America and other Western countries that the Islamic Republic of Iran was trying to develop atomic weapons, repeatedly asserting that its nuclear programme was for peaceful purposes only. By year-end, they had not formally replied to a proposal by five UN Security Council members plus Germany to have their uranium supplies enriched abroad.

In December, the Islamic Republic of Iran started discussions with Iraq on border marking between the two countries following a dispute over control of the Al-Fakkeh oil wells located in the border region.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	88
RCMs distributed	81
People reunited with their families	2
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons¹</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	99
<i>of whom women</i>	26
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	40
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	10
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	81
<i>of whom women</i>	22
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	33
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	2
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	772

1. Not including people missing as a consequence of the 1980–88 Iran–Iraq war

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, ICRC operational priorities continued to focus on addressing the humanitarian consequences of the 1980–88 Iran–Iraq war, promoting the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties, 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.

Concrete progress was achieved in the framework of the joint memorandum of understanding signed by the Iranian and Iraqi governments in 2008 aimed at clarifying the fate of thousands of combatants and civilians on both sides still unaccounted for in connection with the 1980–88 Iran–Iraq war, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. In technical meetings with the Iranian authorities, the rules and procedures of two tripartite committees tasked with resolving these cases were finalized. To facilitate their work, the ICRC provided Iranian organizations involved in recovering and identifying human remains related to the conflict with forensic expertise and DNA equipment and offered them help in setting up an ante- and post-mortem database.

The National Society and the ICRC continued to develop their operational partnership, particularly in the fields of restoring family links, physical rehabilitation and mine-risk education. Areas of cooperation were also identified in potential rapid deployment scenarios, including camp management, and in work to ensure that National Society relief items conformed to Movement standards.

Families and refugees restored and maintained contact with relatives detained/interned abroad through tracing and RCM services operated jointly with the Iranian Red Crescent. A number of unaccompanied Afghan minors were reunited with their families, and Iranian nationals were voluntarily repatriated from Iraq.

Based on a cooperation agreement on physical rehabilitation signed in 2008 by the Iranian Red Crescent and the ICRC, a training workshop took place for National Society technicians and an international seminar on ways to enhance services for the disabled was attended by representatives of three international organizations and twelve countries.

Mine-risk education programmes, carried out with local organizations, made good progress. Nearly all 30,000 students in Ilam province and residents of 40 contaminated villages in Kurdistan province were alerted to the dangers of mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) and advised on the safe behaviour to adopt in this regard. A regional seminar on weapon contamination hosted by the Iranian Red Crescent and the ICRC provided a unique forum for Movement members and Iranian entities involved in this field to share experiences on activities.

The Iranian Committee on Humanitarian Law (ICHL), created in 1999 to oversee and promote the national implementation of IHL, continued to receive ICRC support, and relations were maintained with the Tehran-based Parliamentary Union of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Member States, a partner in the implementation process in its member States. During the conflict in the Gaza Strip in January, the delegation was invited to address various conferences and meetings on IHL-related issues and on the ICRC's neutral and independent approach to humanitarian action in general and in the Gaza Strip in particular. This resulted in extensive media coverage of these topics.

CIVILIANS

Action is pursued to clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for from the Iran–Iraq war

Further steps were taken to implement a joint memorandum of understanding signed by the Iranian and Iraqi governments in 2008, with the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary, aimed at clarifying the fate of thousands of combatants and civilians on both sides still unaccounted for in connection with the 1980–88 Iran–Iraq war and relieving the anguish of their families, who have had no news of their relatives for more than two decades.

Agreement was reached on the rules and procedures of two tripartite committees that were to meet once a year within the framework of the memorandum with the respective tasks of resolving 1) cases of former and presumed POWs still unaccounted for and 2) cases of persons missing or killed in combat, including the recovery, identification and handover of human remains.

In the framework of a joint mechanism agreed upon by the Iranian authorities and the ICRC in 2004, new updated lists of former Iraqi POWs released in the Islamic Republic of Iran who remain unaccounted for were handed over to the Iranian authorities for review. In parallel, the ICRC contacted former Iraqi POWs still in the Islamic Republic of Iran and issued them with detention certificates that qualified them for State allowances.

Iranian organizations involved in recovering and identifying human remains linked to the conflict were provided with forensic expertise and DNA equipment and offered assistance in setting up an ante- and post-mortem database using ICRC software. Staff of the Kawsar Genetic Research Centre attended a forensic course in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland organized by a British university and the ICRC. The centre was responsible for all operations concerning the excavation and recovery of human remains related to the Iran-Iraq war and was under the authority of the Search and Recovery Committee of the general staff of the armed forces, with which contacts were also developed.

Relatives separated by armed conflict maintain contact

People in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including third-country nationals, mainly from Afghanistan and Iraq, were able to restore or maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad (in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US internment facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba) through ICRC tracing and RCM services, operated jointly with the Iranian Red Crescent.

Cases of Afghan unaccompanied/separated children were brought to the ICRC's attention, and efforts were made to reunite them with their families, whenever possible and appropriate.

A number of Iranian nationals were repatriated voluntarily from Iraq under ICRC auspices.

- 88 RCMs collected and 81 RCMs distributed in the country, of which 16 from and 12 to detainees
- new tracing requests registered for 99 people (26 women; 40 minors at the time of disappearance); 10 people located; 81 people (22 women; 33 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 2 Afghan minors reunited with their families in Austria
- 9 Iranian nationals voluntarily repatriated from Iraq under ICRC auspices
- 772 detention certificates issued to former POWs or their families
- 2 people issued with an ICRC travel document

Mine-risk education is developed in contaminated regions

The problem of mines and ERW in the Islamic Republic of Iran remained a serious threat to the civilian population living in or transiting contaminated areas, as well as an obstacle to economic development. The affected regions were the five provinces bordering Iraq. ICRC-supported activities to raise awareness of the risks posed by, the consequences of and the needs arising from weapon contamination were developed.

The mine-risk education programme run by the Welfare Organization of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security was completed. Around 95% of the nearly 30,000 students in Ilam province received mine-risk advisories as part of the programme conducted in the five contaminated provinces. In addition, the Maaf Institute, an NGO in the Kurdistan province, organized

mine-awareness sessions for residents of 40 contaminated villages. These programmes were implemented in coordination with the Mine Action Centre and other actors.

The report of a study conducted by Janbazan Medical and Engineering Research Centre (JMERC) to assess the quality of mine/ERW victims' lives in the country was finalized for publication in English and Farsi. As a follow-up to this study, and in order to gather further information on the subject, JMERC and the Martyrs Foundation organized a three-day session for some 40 minors injured by mines/ERW and their families to determine their medical needs and how mine/ERW incidents had affected their lives.

To continue raising awareness of the humanitarian, social and economic consequences of mines/ERW, JMERC and the ICRC initiated two projects, respectively to collect and store data on mine/ERW incidents and victims and to conduct a comparative study on the incidence of post-trauma disorders among mine/ERW victims and chemical attack survivors.

A regional seminar on weapon contamination hosted by the Iranian Red Crescent and the ICRC in Khuzestan, one of the affected southern provinces, was attended by National Society representatives from Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tajikistan, as well as ICRC experts working in many of these countries. It was a unique forum for Movement members and Iranian actors involved in this field to share experiences on activities to counter the dangers posed by weapon contamination. Discussions between the National Society and the ICRC to initiate a joint weapon-contamination programme resumed at the end of the year.

The Ministry of Defence invited the ICRC to address an event it had organized to mark International Mine Awareness Day on 4 April.

AUTHORITIES

The ICHL remained a key partner in promoting the implementation of IHL in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The ICHL undertook joint projects with the ICRC, such as the translation into Farsi of an ICRC book on elements of war crimes and follow-up of the ICRC comparative study on ratified IHL treaties and Iranian domestic law. The Iranian judiciary submitted a draft law on war crimes to the parliamentary legal commission.

Representatives of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, the ICHL and the Iranian Human Rights Council attended IHL seminars abroad. The secretariat of the IHL-Islam Conference based in Qom organized training in Islamic law and IHL for students of Al-Mostafa International University and other religious centres in Qom and Mashhad and established a library for researchers working on these subjects.

IHL was explicitly referred to by political leaders during the conflict in the Gaza Strip. The final statement of a conference organized by the Iranian judiciary for prosecutors from Islamic countries to assess legal measures to prosecute alleged Israeli war crimes in the Gaza Strip stressed the role of the Movement and the need to respect IHL.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, political, military and judicial authorities, as well as academics and researchers, exchanged views on IHL at an ICRC-organized round-table.

An ad hoc interministerial committee was set up to address administrative issues related to the ICRC mission in the Islamic Republic of Iran as a transitory measure pending the conclusion of a headquarters agreement formalizing the ICRC's presence in the country.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The ICRC could not have direct contacts with the Iranian armed forces to support the integration of IHL into military training, doctrine and operations.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Local media consulted the ICRC website in Farsi and other ICRC information sources to report on IHL-related issues and ICRC activities in the country and worldwide. IHL topics were particularly prominent in media, academic and cultural circles during the fighting in the Gaza Strip and in the context of events marking the ICRC's "Our world. Your move." communication campaign.

Following a successful pilot of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, the Ministry of Education had yet to formally approve its integration into school curricula. Contacts with universities were developed with a view to encouraging them to include IHL in their courses. The University of Tehran and the ICRC agreed to conduct research on challenges facing IHL in the country. Lecturers and students at other universities were briefed on IHL, and a first national moot court competition was held involving seven university teams.

Other highlights:

- ▶ the School of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Irish Centre for Human Rights and the ICRC held workshops on "IHL and Terrorism" and "Palestine and International Law"
- ▶ representatives of 20 NGOs and National Society staff attended IHL workshops, co-organized with the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
- ▶ two film festivals highlighting humanitarian issues were organized with ICRC support, one for the general public and the other for young people
- ▶ the Payam Azadegan cultural institute started production of a documentary on ICRC visits to Iranian POWs during the Iran-Iraq war

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Iranian Red Crescent and the ICRC continued to develop their operational partnership, particularly in the fields of restoring family links, physical rehabilitation and mine-risk education. Areas of cooperation were also identified in potential rapid deployment scenarios, working with National Societies operating in their own countries, and joint action to ensure that Iranian Red Crescent relief items conformed to Movement standards.

In implementation of a cooperation agreement on physical rehabilitation, 16 National Society technicians attended a workshop as a first step towards their possible participation in ICRC prosthetic/orthotic programmes. As a second step towards this goal, an international seminar on ways to enhance services for the disabled, organized jointly with the National Society, was held for representatives of three international organizations and twelve countries.

The National Society decided to run independently a programme providing psychological and social support to women affected by war. The programme had initially been a joint National Society/ICRC undertaking.

Other highlights:

- ▶ various events were held in the context of the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign
- ▶ several hundred National Society headquarters and branch staff and members of the national IHL committee participated in 7 IHL sessions
- ▶ the National Society joined the core group developing an IDP strategy for the Movement and the Restoring Family Links Strategy Implementation Group
- ▶ senior National Society management staff participated in ICRC leadership development courses in Geneva, Switzerland



The ICRC has been present in Iraq since the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980. Protection activities focus in particular on people detained by the Iraqi government, the United States/multinational forces in Iraq and the Kurdistan regional authorities and on efforts to restore contact between separated family members with the support of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society. Assistance activities involve helping IDPs and residents restore their livelihoods, supporting hospitals and physical rehabilitation centres, and repairing and upgrading water, sanitation, health and detention infrastructure. The ICRC continues to promote IHL among weapon bearers.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	21,939
Assistance	57,304
Prevention	5,682
Cooperation with National Societies	813
General	-

► **85,739**

of which: Overheads **5,232**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	89%
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PERSONNEL

94 expatriates
506 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- increased its presence and direct control of operations in Iraq, enabling it to assess and respond to humanitarian needs in a more comprehensive manner
- extended its access to people held in places of detention under the responsibility of the Iraqi authorities
- in conjunction with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, enabled thousands of families to visit and exchange news with detained/interned relatives
- provided emergency relief to some 280,000 people, mainly IDPs, and livelihood support to some 111,700 people
- promptly provided 450 tonnes of life-saving supplies to 51 hospitals treating the wounded and supported 10 physical rehabilitation centres countrywide serving some 31,200 disabled people
- improved water supply for some 3.8 million Iraqis through 64 water projects countrywide

CONTEXT

An electoral law passed in December set the stage for national elections in March 2010.

Although levels of violence in Iraq decreased, owing in large part to a reduction in sectarian killings and to more targeted military operations, suicide bombings and other forms of violence continued to kill hundreds of civilians each month, highlighting the country's continuing volatility and the fragility of the political process of national reconciliation. Parts of Baghdad and the disputed territories in northern Iraq remained particularly volatile.

Despite a ceasefire announced by the Kurdistan Workers' Party in April, Iranian and Turkish shelling of Kurdish militant bases in areas of northern Iraq reportedly continued, causing temporary civilian displacement.

US troops withdrew from Iraqi cities on 30 June, in compliance with the Status of Forces Agreement reached between the Iraqi and US authorities, which foresaw the complete withdrawal of US forces from Iraq by the end of 2011. People in US custody were progressively being released or transferred to Iraqi jurisdiction. The biggest internment facility in Iraq, Camp Bucca, closed on 17 September.

Some population groups, such as women-headed households and people living in the disputed areas, remained particularly vulnerable, in particular while awaiting integration into the public food distribution system. Unemployment was a major issue for both residents and IDPs. While the delivery of basic services in urban areas improved, their availability in rural and disputed areas was far more limited. Drought and destroyed, inadequate or neglected infrastructure contributed to a reduction of water resources. Increased salinity forced some farmers from the south to move northwards.

Despite widespread weapon contamination in the country, hardly any organizations were involved in clearance, risk reduction and education, and national capacities in this field were limited.

Many families remained without news of relatives who went missing during conflicts involving Iraq since 1980.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Detainees visited ¹	46,283	Economic security, water and habitat				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	3,158	Food	Beneficiaries	267,279	25%	53%
	of whom women		of whom IDPs	119,021		
	of whom minors	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	280,656	25%	54%
Number of visits carried out	203		of whom IDPs	191,242		
Number of places of detention visited	66	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	Beneficiaries	111,716	25%	50%
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	3,826,430	30%	39%
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications			of whom IDPs	426,093		
RCMs collected	94,847	Health				
RCMs distributed	107,717	Health centres supported	Structures	27		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons ²		Consultations	Patients	176,202		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	140		of which curative		56,649	67,844
	of whom women		of which ante/post-natal		4,923	
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	153	Immunizations	Doses	15,960		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	2,874	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM				
	of whom women	Economic security, water and habitat				
	of whom minors at the time of disappearance	Essential household items	Beneficiaries	8,838		
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	3,917		
People to whom travel documents were issued	502	WOUNDED AND SICK				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2,386	Hospitals supported	Structures	51		
		Admissions	Patients	50,840		
		Operations	Operations performed	33,461		
		Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	7,664		
		Physical rehabilitation				
		Patients receiving services	Patients	31,196	4,673	9,251
		Prostheses delivered	Units	3,447	421	132
		Orthoses delivered	Units	12,615	1,885	8,387

1. All detainees notified by the authorities and followed up by the ICRC

2. Including people missing as a consequence of the 1990–91 Gulf War/not including people missing as a consequence of the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war

1. All detainees notified by the authorities and followed up by the ICRC

2. Including people missing as a consequence of the 1990–91 Gulf War/not including people missing as a consequence of the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to expand its geographical presence and operational reach in Iraq, enabling a better response to the needs of people affected by the non-international armed conflict through activities carried out in previously inaccessible regions. With additional expatriate staff now based permanently in Iraq, the shift initiated in mid-2008 from remote-controlled management from Amman, Jordan, to direct supervision of operations was completed.

To gain access to victims of the conflict in remote areas and to ensure the safety of its staff, the ICRC strengthened its contacts with all stakeholders. Meetings between senior government officials and religious leaders and the ICRC president provided opportunities to discuss humanitarian issues of mutual concern. Extended networking with community and tribal leaders and religious circles in remote areas contributed to better mutual understanding and respect. Media coverage based on information provided by the ICRC raised public awareness of both the humanitarian consequences of the conflict and the ICRC's action and working methods.

Regular visits continued to thousands of people in the custody of the US forces in Iraq and the Kurdish regional authorities and, increasingly, to people in detention centres run by the central authorities. Joint Iraqi Red Crescent Society/ICRC operations enabled thousands of detainees to receive visits from and exchange news with their families. With the closure of the US internment facility at Camp Bucca in September, the ICRC ended its family-

visit programme, which since 2005 had made it possible for thousands of destitute families to visit relatives held there.

Work continued with the Iraqi authorities to clarify the fate of people still unaccounted for from the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war and the 1990–91 Gulf War, including the provision of ICRC expertise and material assistance to boost the capacities of medico-legal institutes (MLIs) to store and identify human remains.

Monthly relief distributions to IDPs in general were wound down progressively and ceased in the spring, in line with the results achieved and needs assessed. However, particularly vulnerable groups, such as IDPs living in settlements and women-headed IDP households, continued to receive emergency assistance. The latter were assisted by the ICRC in registering for State welfare entitlements. Given the positive results of projects initiated in 2008, livelihood-support programmes were expanded in 2009. People mainly living in poorly served areas and hosting IDPs received help to enhance their water supply and access to health care services, and more than 3.8 million people benefited from ICRC water and sanitation construction or rehabilitation projects.

Scores of hospitals were provided with emergency medical and surgical supplies to help them cope with mass-casualty emergencies. A project undertaken with the health authorities served to strengthen essential hospital emergency services and trauma management in Iraq. Training, material and technical support to physical rehabilitation centres across the country increased their capacities to provide services to the growing number of people with conflict-related disabilities.

ICRC activities were coordinated with those of UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations operating in the country in order to identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

Parties to the conflict are urged to respect IHL

A wider expatriate presence in Iraq increased the ICRC's ability to collect first-hand information on IHL violations. However, most civilian lives were lost in bombings and suicide attacks. All parties directly concerned were nonetheless called upon publicly to respect IHL, notably its provisions prohibiting attacks targeting civilians and indiscriminate attacks.

Conflict victims receive emergency aid and help to restore livelihoods

Monthly relief distributions to IDPs in general were discontinued in spring 2009, in line with the results achieved and updated needs assessments. Regular food and hygiene assistance had contributed to alleviating the economic hardship of beneficiaries, as they were able to redirect their money to purchasing other essential commodities or services. Food distributions had covered 50% of beneficiaries' food needs as planned.

However, particularly vulnerable groups, such as IDPs living in settlements and women-headed IDP households, continued to receive emergency assistance throughout the year, for example pending registration for State welfare entitlements. Livelihood support was expanded based on the positive results of projects initiated since 2008. Drought-affected farmers cultivated their fields and covered their basic food needs with ICRC aid instead of being forced to move to towns. Food production had also increased in areas where the ICRC had upgraded irrigation canals. Disabled people benefiting from ICRC income-generating projects increased their earnings by 45%.

- 267,279 people (44,607 households), including 119,021 IDPs and 2,650 women-headed households, received food
- 280,656 people (46,569 households), including 191,242 IDPs and 2,570 women-headed households, received essential household items
- 100 women registered for State welfare allowances
- 111,716 people (18,589 households) benefited from micro-economic initiatives, including:
 - 109,628 people from livelihood support, mainly agricultural inputs
 - 300 disabled people (total number of family members: 1,950) from various income-generating initiatives
 - 23 women heading households from training in starting a business

Water supply and health care are improved for people in remote areas

People, mainly those living in poorly served areas and hosting IDPs, received help to enhance their water supply and access to health care services.

- 3,826,430 people, including 426,093 IDPs in host communities, benefited from 64 water/sanitation projects, including:
 - 288,273 people from a response to an emergency, often including water-trucking

- 1,243,625 people from the repair and rehabilitation of infrastructure, including 13 primary health care centres
- 1,036,850 people from major projects, such as the rehabilitation of water supply systems and the construction of 1 primary health care centre

In the 27 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 638,000):

- 176,202 people given consultations, including 4,923 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 171,279 attending curative consultations
- 15,960 vaccine doses administered
- 20 patients referred to a second level of care
- 36 health education sessions held

Communities are made aware of weapon contamination

Communities continued to be informed of the threat posed by weapon contamination through National Society awareness-raising activities, including the provision of educational materials, with ICRC support.

To tackle weapon contamination in Iraq, an ICRC project to clear explosive remnants of war (ERW) was developed in the south of the country in parallel with activities to build the capacity of the national Mine Action Authority.

Families are helped to exchange news with relatives

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC continued to encourage the parties concerned to clarify the fate of people still unaccounted for from the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war and the 1990–91 Gulf War in bilateral meetings and through the related mechanisms (see *Iran, Islamic Republic of* and *Kuwait*).

MLIs received further support in the identification and storage of human remains. Some 36 forensic experts attended specialized DNA training sessions conducted by the ICRC, as did the head of the Baghdad MLI's DNA unit, who was sponsored to participate in a forensics course conducted at the University of Lancashire in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In addition, MLI and hospital mortuaries were refurbished or supplied with mortuary fridges, as needed.

People restored family links, mainly with detained/interned relatives, via the Iraqi Red Crescent/ICRC RCM service.

- 47,203 RCMs collected from and 55,196 RCMs distributed to civilians; 8 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- new tracing requests registered for 140 people (6 women; 7 minors at the time of disappearance); 165 people located, including 12 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 2,874 people (24 women; 127 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 9,453 names of people and their present whereabouts or requests for information on the whereabouts of relatives published on the ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org
- 86 official documents relayed between family members
- 502 people issued with an ICRC travel document

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People in the custody of the Iraqi central government, the Kurdistan regional government and the multinational forces continued to receive ICRC visits carried out according to the organization's standard working procedures.

Improved security enabled the ICRC to visit detainees in additional places of detention and to reinforce the confidential dialogue on findings and recommendations with the central detaining authorities. This led to improvements in the detainees' living conditions and treatment. Concerns regarding respect for judicial guarantees were raised with the detaining and judicial authorities. Prison health care deficiencies were identified and discussed with the authorities concerned, including during a two-day seminar, and resulted in a decision by the Health and Justice Ministries to task a committee to design a coordinated policy for health in detention.

Concerted dialogue with representatives of the Kurdistan regional government provided opportunities to discuss issues of particular concern, such as respect for judicial guarantees and the detention conditions of people sentenced to death. A summary report on respect for judicial guarantees was submitted to the new prime minister in November.

Dialogue with the Iraqi and US authorities centred on the process of the release/transfer to the Iraqi authorities of people in US custody, focusing primarily on their safety and judicial rights.

- ▶ Iraqi central government: 22,765 detainees visited, of whom 1,010 monitored individually (35 women; 20 minors) and 587 newly registered (32 women; 20 minors), during 81 visits to 29 places of detention
- ▶ Kurdistan regional government: 3,943 detainees visited, of whom 676 monitored individually (20 women; 13 minors) and 392 newly registered (12 women; 12 minors), during 109 visits to 32 places of detention
- ▶ US-controlled internment facilities: 19,575 detainees/internees visited, of whom 1,472 monitored individually (19 minors; 114 foreigners) and 1,000 newly registered (16 minors) during 13 visits to 5 places of detention

Detainees in the custody of the Iraqi central government and Kurdistan regional government benefited from direct support provided by the ICRC to enhance their living conditions.

- ▶ 8,838 detainees received essential household items, including winter clothes, mattresses, blankets and books
- ▶ 3,917 detainees benefited from water/sanitation/habitat projects, including the provision of air conditioners/heaters for detainees living in tents

Family news

- ▶ 47,644 RCMs collected from and 52,521 RCMs distributed to detainees/internees; 552 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained/interned relative
- ▶ 2,386 certificates of detention issued to former detainees/internees or their families
- ▶ 10,302 detainees/internees visited by their relatives with ICRC support (26,093 family visits)
- ▶ 29 detainees/internees transferred or repatriated after their release, with ICRC support

WOUNDED AND SICK

Following military operations, suicide bombings and other forms of violence, the emergency and surgical services of 51 hospitals in 16 provinces provided care to the wounded and sick, in part thanks to the delivery of some 450 tonnes of ICRC medical and surgical supplies. Baghdad hospitals received water trucked in daily.

In May, the Iraqi central government, the Kurdistan regional health authorities and the ICRC signed an agreement to strengthen emergency services in hospitals, including the provision of emergency-care training for more than 580 doctors and nurses. By year-end, 114 doctors and 136 nurses from 16 provinces had completed the training course. In addition, 76 doctors, surgeons and first-aiders were trained in advanced first aid, trauma management and war surgery. In parallel, two hospitals in Najaf and Sulaymaniya, acting as reference facilities, worked with ICRC support to implement standard organizational and technical protocols linked to the management of emergency services and nursing practices.

Patients at the Al Rashad Psychiatric Hospital in Baghdad benefited from an ICRC occupational therapy programme.

The mortuaries of several MLIs and hospitals were rehabilitated to prepare them to cope with influxes of bodies.

In the 23 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- ▶ 50,840 patients admitted: of whom 4,600 weapon-wounded (including 48 people injured by mines or ERW), 30,383 other surgical cases and 15,857 medical patients
- ▶ 33,461 surgical operations performed
- ▶ hospitals (7,664 beds) benefited from the rehabilitation of their water/sanitation systems and the improvement/upgrade of buildings

Physically disabled people continue to receive assistance

The paediatric clinic in Erbil and three crutch-production units in Baghdad, Basra and Erbil received ICRC material, maintenance and technical support, as did Ministry of Health physical rehabilitation centres in Baghdad, Basra, Falluja, Hilla, Najaf and Tikrit and the ICRC's own centre in Erbil.

An agreement was signed with the Ministry of Health to construct a physical rehabilitation centre in Nasiriya, with a capacity to fit 500 patients with mobility appliances annually.

- ▶ 31,196 patients (including 4,673 women and 9,251 children) received services at 10 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 1,808 new patients (including 280 women and 92 children) fitted with prostheses and 8,551 (including 1,669 women and 4,916 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 3,447 prostheses (including 421 for women and 132 for children; 341 for mine victims), 12,615 orthoses (including 1,885 for women and 8,387 for children; 120 for mine victims), 2,161 crutches and 96 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Relations with local authorities were further developed with the aim of spreading knowledge and acceptance of IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities. The dialogue between senior representatives of the Iraqi government and the ICRC president in March in Baghdad, as well as the president's meetings with Iraqi religious leaders, contributed to this objective. It also offered an opportunity to discuss mutual concerns. These included the need to respond to the suffering and expectations of families of people still missing as a result of successive conflicts and the obligation to respect the judicial guarantees afforded to detainees under international law. During his stay in Iraq, the ICRC president visited Rusafa Prison in Baghdad.

Representatives of the Foreign, Defence and Interior Ministries and the National Security Council attended various regional seminars on IHL and its national implementation. Discussions were held with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs legal department on the creation of a national IHL committee, with the ICRC providing input for the relevant legislation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs received documentation to facilitate Iraq's accession to Additional Protocol I. Iraq signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Parliament was offered ICRC input on draft legislation to regulate the activities of private military and security companies.

In meetings with high-level officials in the Kurdistan regional government, the ICRC encouraged them to take into account the relevant provisions of IHL when elaborating and adopting regional legislation and the future constitution. However, as the constitution had already been drafted and was pending approval, no changes or amendments to it were possible.

Regular bilateral and multilateral meetings between the ICRC and UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations active in Iraq ensured coordination in fields of common interest.

Iraqi officials and representatives of the international diplomatic community in Iraq received monthly electronic operational updates and were made aware of the ICRC's activities and mandate thanks to the organization's increased visibility, press articles and media interviews.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Extended networking with various parties to the conflict led to an overall better understanding and acceptance of the ICRC's mandate. Substantive dialogue was maintained with the Defence Ministry's training hierarchy on integrating IHL into military doctrine and training manuals. The ministry ordered all military training units to cooperate with the ICRC to accelerate this process.

Senior Iraqi military and security personnel, as well as officers of the Peshmerga and Assayesh forces in the Kurdistan Region, attended dissemination sessions. Four Iraqi military instructors and commanders and one member of the Kurdistan Security Agency participated in IHL training sessions abroad and subsequently started delivering their own courses.

Access to and information exchanges with US combat units and the NATO training mission were stepped up, as was dialogue with private security companies, generally reflecting increasing acceptance of the ICRC as a reference on IHL and related humanitarian principles.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media outlets reported on ICRC activities and the continuing humanitarian consequences of the conflict in Iraq, based on regular briefings of journalists and ICRC information materials. Journalists attended a training workshop in Baghdad on IHL and the ICRC.

Networking with Iraqi religious leaders increased as a result of the ICRC's expanded presence in Iraq. Meetings between Shiite and Sunni religious leaders and the ICRC president provided opportunities to discuss common concerns. Representatives of the Kurdistan regional Ministry of Endowment and Religious Affairs, university lecturers and law students attended three round-tables on Islamic law and IHL in Erbil. Shiite and Sunni religious leaders and academics attended a conference on IHL and Islam in Najaf. Contacts were also developed with tribal leaders and local NGOs on the ground.

Academic institutions were assisted in promoting the teaching of IHL in universities. A meeting with 17 Iraqi law lecturers from various universities assessed the current state of IHL teaching. An IHL research competition was held in the law faculties of 11 State universities and prizes awarded to the best three papers. The deputy deans of Al Nahrain University in Baghdad and Dohuk University participated in the annual IHL course for Arab governmental and academic circles in Beirut, Lebanon (see *Egypt*).

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Throughout 2009, operational cooperation with the National Society continued in the field of restoring family links (see *Civilians*). Branches received support for events related to volunteers, youth, mine action and dissemination. Together with the ICRC, the Iraqi Red Crescent headquarters reviewed its visual identity (i.e. developing a new letterhead, flags and stickers) to ensure the correct use of the National Society's name and logo. Information sessions on needs assessment training helped shape the National Society's capacity-building strategy, to be implemented in 2010.

In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC lent its support to the Iraqi Red Crescent in re-establishing a sound statutory base in line with the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, to reform and restructure its finances and to organize a general assembly for all of its members. Joint International Federation/ICRC action was taken to urge the three northern branches to uphold the unity of the National Society following their decision to cut all ties with its Baghdad headquarters.



israel and the occupied territories

The ICRC has been present in Israel and the occupied 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	18,729
Assistance	37,125
Prevention	3,525
Cooperation with National Societies	5,371
General	-

► **64,749**

of which: Overheads 3,951

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	80%
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PERSONNEL

89	expatriates
287	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- repeatedly sought compliance by Israel with its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation, as well as respect for civilians by Palestinian authorities and armed groups
- handed over reports on the conduct of hostilities during the military operation in the Gaza Strip to the Israeli authorities and to the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip
- with the Palestine Red Crescent Society, responded to the emergency needs of hundreds of thousands of people in the Gaza Strip during and after Israel's military operation
- supported livelihood projects for vulnerable people and maintained vital water and sanitation infrastructure in the occupied Palestinian territory
- shared confidentially with the detaining authorities findings and recommendations regarding detainees' treatment and living conditions following visits to some 21,000 people held by Israel and 3,300 held by the Palestinian authorities
- provided extensive assistance to the Palestine Red Crescent emergency medical services and medical and surgical supplies and equipment to Palestinian hospitals, particularly in the Gaza Strip

CONTEXT

More than 1,200 Gaza residents reportedly died and over 5,000 were wounded during Israel's three-week military operation in the Gaza Strip which ended in January, while Israel reported 13 dead and a number of wounded. Medical facilities, civilian housing and public infrastructure suffered extensive damage and thousands were left homeless.

A UN fact-finding mission report, endorsed by the General Assembly, recommended international legal action against Israel and Hamas for alleged war crimes and possible crimes against humanity. By year-end, the UN Security Council had not taken any action regarding a report it had received on separate domestic investigations by Israel and Hamas on the conduct of their forces during the Gaza fighting.

Israeli restrictions on the movement of goods and people into and out of the Gaza Strip continued to stifle the economy and impede reconstruction of the territory. In the West Bank, movement restrictions were relaxed slightly but still hampered people's everyday lives, as did settlement building and settler violence against Palestinians.

Likud party leader Benjamin Netanyahu was appointed prime minister and formed a coalition cabinet in April after his party won elections in February. In November, Israel's security cabinet voted a 10-month partial freeze on settlement construction, which fell short of Palestinian demands for a permanent freeze. The peace process remained stalled, with no resumption of talks between Israel and the Palestinian Authority despite efforts deployed by the US administration.

Egyptian mediation to encourage Fatah and Hamas to form a unity government failed to produce tangible results, while Turkish-mediated peace talks between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic remained suspended.

Some 9,200 Palestinians continued to be held by the Israeli authorities at year-end – 18% less than two years earlier. Administrative detention also decreased by near 50%. Conversely, the number of foreign detainees, mostly irregular migrants from African countries without diplomatic relations with Israel, rose by 70% in 2009.

Renewed negotiations on a prisoner exchange agreement that would see the release of an Israeli soldier captured by Hamas in 2006 remained unsuccessful.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited ¹	24,604	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	9,026	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	8,882	26% 47%
		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	82,592	26% 46%
	<i>of whom women</i>	Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	76,630	25% 50%
	<i>of whom minors</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	943,000	26% 47%
Number of visits carried out	754	PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM			
Number of places of detention visited	103	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	2,050	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		WOUNDED AND SICK			
RCMs collected	9,959	Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	43	
RCMs distributed	10,099	Admissions	<i>Patients</i>	312,832	
People reunited with their families	4	Operations	<i>Operations performed</i>	79,996	
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>		Water and habitat activities	<i>Number of beds</i>	1,101	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13	<i>Physical rehabilitation</i>			
	<i>of whom women</i>	Patients receiving services	<i>Patients</i>	1,721	224 783
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	Prostheses delivered	<i>Units</i>	95	22 6
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	8	Orthoses delivered	<i>Units</i>	305	15 261
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	25				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	12				
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	14,328				

1. All detainees known through the authorities' notifications and followed up by the ICRC

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

During the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, the ICRC reminded the Israeli political and military authorities, the Palestinian authorities and armed groups of the rules applicable to the conduct of hostilities, in particular regarding respect for medical personnel and infrastructure and civilians. It also appealed to all authorities concerned to ease humanitarian access to the wounded and sick and other civilians affected by the hostilities.

Following the fighting, confidential ICRC reports were submitted to the Israeli and *de facto* Gaza authorities regarding the conduct of hostilities and their impact on civilians.

Joint Palestine Red Crescent Society/ICRC emergency relief operations during and immediately after the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip focused on facilitating the evacuation of the wounded, donating medical supplies and equipment to hospitals, assisting emergency medical services (EMS), ensuring water supply, and providing essential household items to homeless families.

To carry out this emergency operation, which included support to both the Palestine Red Crescent and the Magen David Adom appeals, the ICRC increased its initial budget.

In parallel, Israel continued to be reminded of its obligations under IHL towards the Palestinian population living under its occupation. The humanitarian consequences of the West Bank barrier were the object of an ICRC report to the Israeli authorities. Settler violence against Palestinians and the disproportionate use of force by Israeli soldiers during law enforcement operations were also among the main topics of ICRC representations.

After the emergency relief operation, cash-for-work projects were stepped up for Gaza's most impoverished families. West Bank families worst affected by movement restrictions received agricultural inputs or benefited from income-generating projects, and people living in the most severely restricted areas of Hebron received regular assistance.

In the Gaza Strip, projects carried out with the local authorities to enhance water supply and sanitation, including for medical facilities, benefited more than half of the population. In the West Bank, local water boards continued to construct or rehabilitate water schemes with ICRC support. In some cases, ICRC projects favoured the development of long-term solutions, thus helping improve public health while protecting the aquifer.

Support to the Palestinian health sector continued on the basis of regular assessments of needs, the use of ICRC assistance, and the impact of movement restrictions on health services. Technical support in post-surgical rehabilitation and physiotherapy was provided to centres treating the increasing numbers of amputees in the Gaza Strip.

People detained by Israel, as well as people held by the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and by the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip, continued to receive regular visits from the ICRC, which in particular enabled them to exchange news with and receive visits from family members. Following ICRC visits, delegates shared their findings and recommendations confidentially with the relevant detaining authorities. ICRC efforts to gain access to the Israeli soldier captured in June 2006 and held by Hamas remained unsuccessful.

The Magen David Adom and the Palestine Red Crescent continued to receive ICRC support to reinforce their operational capacities.

CIVILIANS

Parties constantly reminded of the respect due to civilians

More than 1,650 oral and written representations were made to the Israeli authorities regarding the adverse impact of certain Israeli policies and practices on the civilian population, urging them, *inter alia*, to:

- ▶ respect the rules of IHL applicable to the conduct of hostilities and facilitate the provision of relief to civilian victims and the wounded and sick
- ▶ treat the occupied population in accordance with the relevant rules of IHL
- ▶ refrain from routing the West Bank barrier across the Green Line into Palestinian territory, in violation of IHL
- ▶ find viable solutions for ensuring access to essential services for Palestinian communities trapped on the Israeli side of the barrier
- ▶ refrain from the disproportionate use of force during law enforcement operations

A confidential report was submitted to the Israeli authorities regarding the conduct of Israeli forces during the Gaza offensive (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*). The humanitarian consequences of the West Bank barrier were also the object of a report shared with the Israeli authorities and selected States' representatives.

Representations were made to the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip regarding in particular the need to cease rocket and mortar fire targeting civilians in Israel. Hamas and the Qassam Brigades received reports on alleged abuses against Palestinian individuals in the Gaza Strip during the Israeli offensive and following intra-Palestinian clashes in August.

Civilians receive emergency aid and help to restore or boost their livelihoods

Families whose houses were damaged or destroyed during the Gaza fighting received emergency assistance from Palestine Red Crescent/ICRC teams. After the emergency relief operation, cash-for-work projects were stepped up for Gaza's most impoverished families. Income-generating initiatives developed more slowly than planned, however, owing to import constraints.

West Bank families worst affected by movement restrictions benefited from agricultural inputs or income-generating projects. To ease their dire economic conditions, people living in the most severely restricted areas of Hebron continued to receive regular assistance provided with the help of 25 Palestine Red Crescent volunteers.

- ▶ 8,882 people (1,404 households) received food, including 6,729 in Hebron Old City who received monthly distributions
- ▶ 82,592 people (12,579 households), including 73,615 in the Gaza Strip, received essential household items
- ▶ 76,630 people (12,734 households), including 44,994 in the Gaza Strip, benefited from micro-economic initiatives

People have access to safe water and better sanitation conditions

People in the Gaza Strip and the West bank, benefited from ICRC water and sanitation projects implemented with local water boards.

During and after the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, municipal workers repaired or maintained water and electricity facilities. Immediately after the military operation ended, projects to enhance water supply, sanitation and environmental conditions started or resumed. To overcome the scarcity of building materials and spare parts, local materials were salvaged and reused.

In the West Bank, local water boards continued to construct or rehabilitate water schemes. Such work, for example, started for the 61,000 inhabitants of Al Hul, Anabta and Dar Salah and continued for 11 villages in south Nablus.

- ▶ 943,000 people benefited from water/sanitation projects including:
 - some 560,000 people from emergency assistance and rehabilitation and construction work improving water supply and sanitation in 5 hospitals in the Gaza Strip
 - some 150,000 people in Khan Younis from the rehabilitation of the stormwater drainage network and the construction of a wastewater treatment plant, alleviating the risk of epidemics and protecting the aquifer
 - some 25,000 people in Al Oarara from construction of a well
 - people in Rafah from rehabilitation of the city's stormwater drainage network, averting the risk of flooding
 - 35,000 inhabitants in Beni Zaid and south Hebron from the construction of water supply systems

Separated relatives remain in contact

Because of borders, front lines and movement restrictions, people needed help to exchange news with family members and to travel between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic, between Lebanon and Israel, and sometimes between locations in the Palestinian territory.

- ▶ 5,898 RCMs collected from and 3,687 RCMs distributed to civilians (mainly families of detainees held by Israel)
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 13 people (2 women; 6 minors at the time of disappearance); 8 people located; 25 people still being sought (5 women; 6 minors at the time of disappearance)
- ▶ 4 people, including 3 unaccompanied/separated children, reunited with their families
- ▶ 13 Lebanese civilians and the remains of 3 others repatriated to Lebanon (see *Lebanon*)
- ▶ travel for 797 people between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic facilitated (see *Syrian Arab Republic*)
- ▶ 4 handicapped children and 2 blind women transferred from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank or vice-versa
- ▶ 12 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 159 official documents relayed between family members

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People held by Israel

More than 21,000 detainees held by the Israeli authorities in prisons, interrogation centres, provisional detention centres and police stations, including people arrested in connection with the Gaza offensive, continued to receive regular visits from the ICRC, conducted according to its standard working procedures.

Particular attention was paid to detainees under interrogation, detainees in prolonged solitary confinement, and detainees fearing retribution upon their release, as well as to detained minors, women and migrants. Confidential reports on delegates' findings and recommendations submitted to the detaining authorities resulted in significant improvements in material conditions in two prisons.

Detainees from the Gaza Strip and their families, who had been prevented by Israel from visiting their detained relatives since July 2007, exchanged news through more frequent authorized phone calls and through ICRC delegates who directly relayed family news.

Twenty Palestinian women released by the Israeli authorities in October against proof that an Israeli soldier held by Hamas was alive were repatriated to Gaza and the West Bank under ICRC auspices.

- 21,241 detainees visited, of whom 5,663 monitored individually (81 women; 739 minors) and 3,077 newly registered (24 women; 548 minors), during 397 visits to 39 places of detention
- 3,969 RCMs collected from and 6,383 RCMs distributed to detainees and 3,260 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- 6,007 detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC and Palestinian Red Crescent support
- 4 detainees repatriated after release
- 12,902 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 831 detainees received monthly allowances of 150 shekels and 521 received medical items

People held in the Palestinian territory

Detainees in the West Bank continued to receive regular ICRC visits. Confidential reports on delegates' findings and recommendations, related in particular to detainees' treatment and respect for their judicial rights, were shared with the Palestinian detaining authorities. A number of corrective measures were introduced following the submission of a summary report on ICRC visits carried out in the West Bank in 2008.

After being disrupted during the Israeli offensive, visits resumed to detainees in Gaza's new central prison, as well as to security detainees held in connection with intra-Palestinian clashes in Rafah in August. Efforts to visit the Israeli soldier captured in June 2006 and to enable him to communicate with his family remained unsuccessful.

- 3,363 detainees visited and monitored individually (16 women; 90 minors), of whom 2,893 newly registered (5 women; 78 minors), during 357 visits to 64 places of detention
- 92 RCMs collected from and 29 RCMs distributed to detainees and 2,586 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- 1,426 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 2,050 detainees in the Gaza Strip received hygiene kits

WOUNDED AND SICK

During and after the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, wounded patients were evacuated to local or referral hospitals in surrounding countries by the Palestine Red Crescent with ICRC support. The Palestine Red Crescent EMS and the *de facto* Ministry of Health EMS and hospitals in Gaza received substantial material and financial assistance to help them respond to the emergency needs. Medical personnel at Al-Shifa Hospital were assisted by an ICRC surgical team.

The results of an assessment of the emergency units of seven Gaza hospitals and their interaction with EMS providers, along with recommendations for improvements, were shared with the Palestine Red Crescent and the *de facto* health authorities in the Gaza Strip and with those in the West Bank. This led to the initiation of an ICRC programme to support the emergency services in Al-Shifa Hospital.

Hospitals throughout the Palestinian territory were monitored to assess needs for medical supplies, equipment and spare parts, the use of ICRC-donated drugs, consumables and medical equipment, and the impact of movement restrictions on essential hospital activities. Hospital staff were familiarized with the provisions of IHL protecting medical personnel and facilities.

In the 30 ICRC-supported hospitals that provided data:

- 312,832 patients admitted: of whom 7,097 weapon-wounded, 83,034 other surgical cases, and 130,032 medical and 93,669 gynaecological/obstetric patients
- 79,996 surgical operations performed
- 798,791 outpatients given consultations, including 671,093 attending surgical or medical consultations and 127,698 attending gynaecological/obstetric consultations

People benefited from rehabilitation and construction work improving the EMS and hospitals (1,101 beds) in the Gaza Strip.

With ICRC support, EMS, in particular those operated by the Palestine Red Crescent, developed EMS standards, improved coordination and efficiency, and maintained and adapted their ambulance fleets.

The Israeli authorities were urged to allow patients in the Palestinian territory access to appropriate treatment in Israel or elsewhere when needed. Patients' access to medical treatment in Israel or elsewhere and ambulance movements were facilitated by the ICRC in its capacity as a neutral intermediary.

- 5,017 ambulatory patients and 359 ambulance cases evacuated from the Gaza Strip

Gaza's Artificial Limbs and Polio Centre received support to enable it to respond to the needs of amputees in the territory. ICRC post-surgical physiotherapy training and material support at Al-Shifa Hospital were extended to Gaza's European Hospital. One technician was sponsored by the ICRC to participate in a prosthetics and orthotics course in India.

- 1,721 patients (including 224 women and 783 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 84 new patients (including 19 women and 7 children) fitted with prostheses and 282 (including 15 women and 241 children) fitted with orthoses

- 95 prostheses (including 22 for women and 6 for children), 305 orthoses (including 15 for women and 261 for children), 36 crutches and 1 wheelchair delivered

AUTHORITIES

Dialogue was maintained with the Israeli and Palestinian authorities on operational and IHL-related issues (see *Civilians*).

There was no opportunity to engage with the Israeli authorities regarding the ratification or national implementation of IHL treaties.

Representatives of the Palestinian Foreign Affairs and Interior Ministries attended regional meetings on IHL. Several hundred Palestinian officials, including representatives of the *de facto* authorities in the Gaza Strip, village councils and political parties, attended information sessions on IHL and the ICRC.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Following the ICRC report regarding the conduct of Israeli forces during the Gaza offensive (see *Civilians*), the Israeli Ministry of Defence defined a confidential working process for ensuring follow-up of the report. Its International Law Department, the Military Law School and the ICRC also discussed IHL training within the armed forces.

To promote respect for IHL/international human rights law and support for the ICRC:

- 545 officers from the Israeli armed and security forces attended 22 sessions on the ICRC
- a senior Israeli officer participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris, France
- 1,200 members of the Palestinian security services learnt about the ICRC and human rights norms applicable to law enforcement during 55 ICRC-organized presentations
- 200 Palestinian militants from different armed groups attended 5 workshops on the ICRC, IHL and first aid

CIVIL SOCIETY

Information provided to the international, Israeli and Palestinian journalists generated extensive coverage of IHL-related issues and ICRC activities in the Israeli-Palestinian context. During 28 information sessions, Israeli Arab and Palestinian NGOs, Palestinian religious leaders and imams were familiarized with the same issues and the similarities between Islamic law and IHL. Twelve West Bank scholars of Islam also attended a regional workshop in Amman, Jordan.

Forty-five classes in one school in Israel and 221 schools in the West Bank taught the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme. Teacher training was organized in the Gaza Strip. The Palestinian Ministry of Education produced a promotional newsletter and a video aimed at raising alternative sources of funding to sustain the programme beyond 2011 when ICRC support was to end.

Following teacher training, organized at the request of the UN Relief and Works Agency, the basics of IHL were integrated into the curriculum of 40% of Gaza's schools.

- 4 Ministry of Education representatives attended a regional meeting on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in Cairo, Egypt

After five years of ICRC support, nine Gaza and West Bank law or sharia faculties taught IHL. Joint events organized with universities there or in Israel contributed to the promotion of IHL teaching. These included:

- a conference on compliance with IHL organized by Hebrew University
- a round-table on IHL organized by Israel's College of Management School of Law to tie in with the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign
- the third Israeli national IHL competition
- a conference on "IHL in the occupied Palestinian territory: challenges and prospects", organized with West Bank universities and deans of law

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Monitoring of the 2005 agreement between the Magen David Adom and the Palestine Red Crescent was facilitated by the ICRC.

The Palestine Red Crescent reinforced its capacity to respond to humanitarian needs during emergencies, in particular following the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip. With the support of the International Federation and the ICRC, it established a coordination cell to facilitate management of in-kind donations from Movement partners. It worked closely with the ICRC in the implementation of various programmes benefiting the Palestinian population (see *Civilians* and *Wounded and sick*).

With ICRC support, the Palestine Red Crescent:

- ran its EMS; started rehabilitation of damaged EMS structures and replacement of EMS equipment in the Gaza Strip
- hired 5 regional disaster-management coordinators
- conducted disaster-preparedness and first-aid workshops and dissemination sessions in Gaza and the West Bank for some 700 staff and volunteers
- held regular coordination meetings involving all Movement partners working in the occupied Palestinian territory

With ICRC support, the Magen David Adom:

- reinforced its EMS in minority communities and conflict-prone areas and organized additional training for 1,038 volunteers and EMS staff
- renovated a medical centre for refugees
- organized a summer camp for 700 youth volunteers
- boosted its family-links service
- participated in international training events on emergency response and dissemination



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	2,247
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,470
Cooperation with National Societies	386
General	-

► **4,103**

of which: Overheads 250

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

20	expatriates
118	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- following visits to people held in places of detention, shared with the detaining authorities its findings and recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions
- helped organize 3 national seminars under the patronage of the Ministry of Interior for 220 administrative governors aimed at ensuring correct implementation of Jordan's Crime Prevention Act
- organized a round-table with 100 senior members of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement in Jordan on the ICRC's activities and humanitarian concerns in the region
- supported the efforts of the Jordan Armed Forces to introduce IHL systematically into military teaching and training programmes
- strengthened the capacities of the Jordan Red Crescent Society in the fields of dissemination, first aid, tracing and mine-risk
- remained a key logistical and administrative hub for ICRC operations in the region

CONTEXT

The Jordanian government's main focus in 2009 was on the introduction of economic policies and stimulus packages aimed at protecting the country from the global economic downturn and its repercussions in the region. Nonetheless, a weakened job market and a sharp decline in remittances from Jordanians working abroad led to a deterioration of the socio-economic environment in Jordan.

King Abdullah II dissolved parliament in November, half way through its four-year term, paving the way for parliamentary elections in 2010. The king appointed a new prime minister, and a new cabinet was sworn in in December 2009 in what was widely perceived as an attempt to accelerate economic reforms.

The evolution of the situation in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory continued to be a source of concern for the kingdom. The conflict that took place in December 2008 and January 2009 in the Gaza Strip sparked public anger throughout the country, with parliamentarians, political groups and hundreds of public demonstrations calling on Jordan to break its ties with Israel. Jordan sent substantial assistance to the Gaza Strip.

Jordan strengthened diplomatic relations with its neighbours, notably with Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, and remained actively involved in various diplomatic initiatives, in particular the promotion of rapid and comprehensive implementation of the Middle East peace initiative endorsed by the League of Arab States in 2002. During meetings with leaders from the region and from around the world, including with US President Barack Obama, King Abdullah II repeatedly urged all countries concerned to actively support this initiative and the establishment of a Palestinian State.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
Detainees visited	6,802
Detainees visited and monitored individually	351
Number of visits carried out	43
Number of places of detention visited	9
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	445
RCMs distributed	436
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	5
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	2
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	6
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	92
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	11

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

ICRC operations in Jordan focused on monitoring the treatment and living conditions of detainees and on restoring and maintaining family links disrupted by past and current conflicts in the region.

The ICRC continued regular visits to people in detention, sharing its findings and recommendations with the detaining authorities with the aim of bringing detainees' treatment and living conditions in line with internationally recognized standards. Particular attention was paid to security detainees, women detainees and respect for judicial guarantees. The Interior Ministry, with ICRC support, organized three seminars for administrative governors countrywide to discuss proper and uniform application of Jordan's Crime Prevention Act, particularly regarding administrative detention, and the Act's compliance with the procedural safeguards of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Sustained dialogue with the Ministry of Health continued, and training was organized for staff working in prison clinics with a view to improving health care for all detainees.

People affected by past or current armed conflicts in the region were able to restore or maintain contact with their families and to exchange official documents through the ICRC's family-links service. They included a small group of Iranian refugees stranded in a strip of no-man's-land between the Jordanian and Iraqi borders. Refugees without appropriate identity papers were issued with ICRC travel documents to facilitate their resettlement in third countries, in close cooperation with UNHCR.

Further steps were taken to promote the integration of IHL into national legislation and university curricula, whilst the ICRC's involvement in the Exploring Humanitarian Law school programme, initiated in 2002, was successfully completed and handed over to the Ministry of Education. The programme to integrate IHL into the theoretical and operational training of the armed and security forces also made progress.

The Jordan National Red Crescent Society received further training, material and financial support for its dissemination, first-aid, tracing and mine-risk education programmes.

The ICRC in Jordan remained a key logistical and administrative hub for ICRC operations in the region, in particular in Iraq, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian territory and Yemen. Amman also continued to be the main training centre for ICRC delegations working in the Middle East, the Balkans and the Caucasus.

CIVILIANS

No-man's-land camp residents receive assistance

For the first six months of the year, a group of 194 Iranian Kurds blocked in a makeshift camp in a strip of no-man's-land between Jordan and Iraq after fleeing Iraq in 2005 continued to receive regular ICRC visits and assistance. The group was supplied with water-storage tanks and had water trucked in three times a week. Vulnerable medical cases and other specific humanitarian needs were notified to UNHCR, which had taken over responsibility from the ICRC for medical evacuations from the camp.

Members of the group were able to maintain contact with their families by means of the RCM service. A family of eight was issued with ICRC travel documents and resettled by UNHCR in Ireland.

In July, the camp was closed and the remaining 186 refugees were temporarily relocated to the Al-Walid refugee camp in Iraq close to the Syrian border. Consequently, the delegation handed over the file to the ICRC delegation in Iraq for any future follow-up.

- in addition to RCMs, 77 family photos and official documents exchanged between refugees in the no-man's-land camp and relatives abroad
- 20 refugees in the no-man's-land camp in need of medical treatment referred to UNHCR for follow-up action

Relatives keep in touch

People in Jordan who had lost touch with family members in neighbouring countries continued to request ICRC assistance to locate and contact them. Most cases concerned relatives presumed to be detained/interned or located in Iraq, Israel or the occupied Palestinian territory.

Iraqi nationals in Jordan were acquainted with ICRC protection and family-links activities in Iraq through a promotional campaign, including the distribution of a pamphlet to a large network of organizations working with them. However, feedback indicated that this population required little help in restoring ties with family members in Iraq.

ICRC services for the exchange of urgent family news between Jordan and the occupied Palestinian territory were terminated in view of the more reliable communications links between these locations. The ICRC's longstanding intermediary role in facilitating the transfer of patients and human remains between the occupied Palestinian territory and Jordan was also discontinued since such transfers could now be organized directly through coordination between the Jordan and Palestine Red Crescent Societies and the Israeli authorities.

The transfer of the DNA profiles of four families in Jordan to the Lebanese authorities enabled them to ascertain that the remains of their missing relatives were among those recovered following the 2007 armed confrontation in Nahr el-Bared Palestinian refugee camp (see *Lebanon*).

The fate of 18 Jordanians missing in Israel since the 1980s remained unresolved, despite continuing efforts to clarify these cases in close coordination with the authorities concerned and the ICRC delegation in Israel and the occupied territories.

Transit through Jordan was facilitated for 15 former detainees of various nationalities heading home after their release in Iraq (11) and Israel (4) and for five Palestinian children from the Gaza Strip en route to reunite with their parents in Sweden.

- 367 RCMs collected from and 401 RCMs distributed to civilians; 61 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained abroad; 39 visits made to families living in precarious conditions and unable to come to the ICRC office to distribute and collect family news
- 58 family parcels collected in Jordan for delivery to relatives detained/interned in Iraq
- new tracing requests registered for 5 people; 2 people located; 6 people still being sought
- 92 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 84 official documents relayed between family members

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People held in detention centres run by the General Intelligence Directorate (GID) and the Public Security Directorate (PSD) continued to receive regular ICRC visits, carried out according to the organization's standard working procedures, to monitor their treatment and living conditions, with a particular focus on security detainees and women.

The main concerns taken up with the detaining authorities related to: detainees' treatment and access to medical care; the social reintegration of women and juvenile females held in detention to

protect them from retribution for so-called honour crimes; the duration of administrative detention in regard to foreign detainees; respect for the principle of *non-refoulement*; and the right of detainees to have family contacts and visits. More general issues discussed included the poor state of prison infrastructure and the lack of recreational activities for inmates.

The detaining authorities received separate confidential reports on the treatment of detainees in the custody of the GID and on respect for judicial guarantees at the State Security Court. In addition, confidential written and oral recommendations were made at various levels, providing the ICRC with an opportunity to engage the detaining authorities in an in-depth dialogue on ways to enhance detainees' treatment and living conditions. This led to certain improvements.

On the ICRC's recommendation, detainees were informed of their right to legal representation through notices posted by the authorities in places of detention. At the request of the PSD, in charge of Correctional and Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs), the ICRC organized training for CRC staff to apprise them of international standards related to the treatment of detainees and to ensure they acted accordingly. The ensuing five training sessions for some 100 CRC staff members also gave them a clearer understanding of the ICRC's mandate on behalf of people deprived of their freedom and its standard working procedures during detention visits.

CRC staff, including general practitioners, social workers and security officers working in prison clinics, received training in ways to improve detainees' social and health care. Conducted by specialists from the Ministries of Health and Social Affairs, with ICRC support, the training covered mental health issues, including ways to distinguish between psychological and social cases, in order to assist psychiatrists in their work in places of detention. It was conducted on the recommendation of a 2008 round-table on prison health organized by the ICRC for representatives of the Ministries of Health and Social Affairs and the PSD, which led to closer coordination and dialogue between the Ministry of Health and the ICRC on the main problems arising in the provision of adequate health care for all detainees. To monitor progress on implementation of these recommendations and to identify the daily challenges CRC medical personnel faced, an ICRC doctor visited six CRC centres and held follow-up meetings with Health Ministry officials and the CRC Directorate.

A survey was conducted among national and international organizations providing medical and psychological support to victims of ill-treatment with a view to addressing their potential medical needs.

With regard to the fate of women deprived of their freedom for their own protection against potential retribution for so-called honour crimes, the ICRC continued to liaise with the relevant authorities and with women's organizations working to find durable solutions other than detention for the women concerned. Five such cases were referred to an NGO. As of June 2009, the ICRC stopped these referrals as the NGO following up on this issue had regular access to the places of detention where these women were detained.

The Ministry of Interior accepted an ICRC offer of services to assist in its efforts to ensure proper and uniform application of Jordan's Crime Prevention Act, and thus avoid arbitrary detention. The ministry, with ICRC support, held three training sessions to familiarize 220 administrative governors and first and second rank government employees countrywide with the topic to ensure the

Act's compliance with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and with Jordan's obligations.

The ICRC endeavoured to ensure that foreign detainees fearing persecution in their home countries benefited from the principle of *non-refoulement*. Five cases of foreign detainees seeking asylum in Jordan were brought to the attention of the State Security Court and notified to UNHCR.

Detainees in Jordan visited by the ICRC were able to communicate with family members through the Red Cross and Red Crescent family-links network.

- ▶ 6,802 detainees visited, of whom 351 monitored individually (including 1 woman) and 259 newly registered, during 43 visits to 9 places of detention
- ▶ 78 RCMs collected from and 35 RCMs distributed to detainees and 589 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative
- ▶ 11 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

The authorities at central and governorate level and the ICRC had regular contact to review humanitarian issues of mutual concern in Jordan and elsewhere (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

The authorities continued working on the ratification of IHL treaties to which Jordan was not yet party and on the implementation of those already ratified, with ICRC support.

The draft law amending the Jordan Red Crescent Law to incorporate provisions on the protection of the emblem went into effect in January 2009. The legal working group set up at the Foreign Affairs Ministry produced a draft law on the Rome Statute. The Foreign Ministry formally confirmed Jordan's support for the Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict.

Dialogue on Jordan's possible adhesion to the Convention on Cluster Munitions continued. The National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR) and the ICRC also discussed ICRC support to mine-risk education.

In addition to regular contacts with the ICRC, the national IHL committee invited the ICRC to attend its major meetings. Together they organized a meeting with 21 parliamentarians to review current humanitarian challenges. Government officials and members of the national IHL committee attended regional IHL meetings organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC in Amman and Beirut (see *Egypt*).

Civilian judges attended IHL train-the-trainer courses at the Judicial Institute of Jordan, after which four of them became recognized IHL trainers.

Under the auspices of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, events to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions held at the Jordan Museum raised awareness among more than 170 representatives of the authorities, civil society and the diplomatic corps of IHL and the humanitarian consequences of armed conflict.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

By the end of 2009, some 200 Jordan Armed Forces instructors had been trained by the ICRC to carry out IHL teaching and training autonomously, using an IHL teaching manual produced with ICRC support.

Jordanian military and security forces officials, including *gendarmerie* directorate personnel, and the ICRC continued working together to review the latest IHL developments, discuss IHL teaching and training, and organize training events.

Military and security forces personnel attended IHL briefings prior to their deployment on international peacekeeping missions.

A senior Jordanian officer was invited to participate in the Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Paris, France.

The PSD organized training for prison staff with ICRC support (see *People deprived of their freedom*).

- ▶ 1,396 military officers of various nationalities attended presentations on IHL/the ICRC
- ▶ some 4,290 military, police and *gendarmerie* personnel briefed prior to their departure on peacekeeping missions
- ▶ 1,024 officers and other ranks of the National Palestinian Security Forces deployed in West Bank towns briefed on the ICRC, international human rights law and humanitarian principles applicable to law enforcement operations

CIVIL SOCIETY

In the framework of intense networking with community leaders, political parties, research centres, and professional and charitable organizations, 100 senior members of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement discussed ICRC activities in the region and IHL issues at a round-table organized by the ICRC. The ICRC's Arabic-language quarterly *Al-Insani* was widely distributed among official and civil society circles.

National media gave extensive coverage to ICRC activities in Jordan and worldwide drawing on information provided via news releases and events organized for them.

In October, the Ministry of Education assumed full ownership of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and confirmed its integration into school textbooks, marking the end of ICRC support to the programme.

By year-end, 14 of Jordan's 16 law faculties had integrated IHL into their curricula. The law faculty of Jordan University provided updated input for the ICRC's study on customary international humanitarian law. At two round-tables organized with the national IHL committee, lecturers in political science, journalism and sharia explored how to integrate IHL into their curricula and drafted some recommendations. The dean of the law faculty of Zarqa University participated in the annual regional IHL seminar co-organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC in Amman.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Jordan National Red Crescent Society continued to receive ICRC support in strengthening its capacities in the fields of dissemination, first aid, tracing and mine-risk education.

Members of nine National Society branches attended three training sessions on project management. Staff and volunteers attended dissemination sessions organized countrywide. By year-end, the National Society had consolidated its cooperation with the NCDR so as to continue carrying out mine-risk education without ICRC support.

Regional logistics support continues

The ICRC in Jordan remained a key logistical and administrative hub for ICRC operations in the region, in particular Iraq, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian territory and Yemen. Its training centre serving ICRC delegations in the Middle East, the Balkans and the Caucasus conducted 43 courses for 508 ICRC staff members.



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	1,814
Assistance	4,418
Prevention	1,505
Cooperation with National Societies	1,518
General	-

► **9,254**

of which: Overheads **565**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	79%
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PERSONNEL

17 expatriates
40 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- welcomed certain improvements in detainees' living conditions following action taken by the authorities based on ICRC recommendations made following its visits to places of detention
- provided the 5 hospitals run by the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Lebanon with staff training and medical equipment to improve health services for the more than 300,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon
- improved water supply for over 250,000 people in marginalized rural and conflict-prone areas through the emergency repair, rehabilitation and upgrade of water systems
- reinforced emergency preparedness through substantial support to the Lebanese Red Cross Emergency Medical Services
- provided tools and training to help family associations and NGOs preserve and consolidate information on people unaccounted for in relation to past conflicts
- continued networking with influential contacts, including members of armed groups and religious leaders, to advocate for safe and unimpeded access to victims in the event of violence

CONTEXT

Throughout 2009, Lebanon remained relatively calm and the main political groups pledged not to resort to the use of weapons to settle their political differences.

Tensions rose briefly along the border with Israel in January, September and October, when incidents of rocket fire from southern Lebanon and retaliatory artillery fire from Israel occurred. No casualties were reported. Sporadic intra-Palestinian violence, intermittent clashes between majority and opposition party supporters in Beirut and frequent skirmishes between rival factions in Tripoli persisted but were limited in scope and rapidly brought under control by army and security forces.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri formed a national unity government in early December after his bloc won a close victory over the Hezbollah-led opposition in parliamentary elections in June. He then paid a landmark official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, widely perceived as a turning point in relations between the two countries that would contribute to consolidating Lebanon's political stability and internal security.

Hundreds of unresolved cases of people unaccounted for in relation to past conflicts in Lebanon continued to be a source of deep anguish for the families concerned.

Several marginalized rural and conflict-prone areas remained without adequate water supply. The water authorities lacked sufficient funding and qualified manpower to operate, maintain and develop water supply systems, while most major water infrastructure projects financed internationally prioritized urban regions.

Lebanon continued to host some 300,000 Palestinian refugees living in precarious conditions in 12 camps across the country. Unable to qualify for medical treatment under the Lebanese health system, they relied on external assistance for health services, essentially Palestine Red Crescent Society hospitals, which lacked human and material resources.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Detainees visited	5,971	<i>Economic security, water and habitat</i>			
Detainees visited and monitored individually	378	Food	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	32,027	20% 60%
		Essential household items	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	20,000	26% 46%
	<i>of whom women</i>	Water and habitat activities	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	251,489	20% 60%
	<i>of whom minors</i>				
Number of visits carried out	162	<i>Health</i>			
Number of places of detention visited	24	Health centres supported	<i>Structures</i>	6	
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		WOUNDED AND SICK			
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>		Hospitals supported	<i>Structures</i>	47	
RCMs collected	295				
RCMs distributed	211				
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	15				
	<i>of whom women</i>				
	3				
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	14				
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	13				
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	42				

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2009, the ICRC in Lebanon remained focused on visiting security detainees to monitor their treatment and living conditions, improving medical care for Palestinian refugees, rehabilitating water infrastructure and maintaining an operational capacity to respond to emergencies alongside the Lebanese Red Cross. As a result of the relative prevailing calm, ICRC emergency stocks were reduced.

Confidential reports to and dialogue with the detaining authorities following visits to security detainees in prisons and interrogation centres led to certain improvements in detainees' access to water supply, health care and contacts with their families. A large-scale ICRC project was launched to improve the water supply network in Roumieh prison, the country's largest. In parallel, a comprehensive assessment of prison health care needs countrywide was completed with a view to assisting the detaining and health authorities in improving health in detention.

The first phase of a programme to improve the quality of health care in the five hospitals run by the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Lebanon was completed successfully. Two years of ICRC training for hospital staff, along with material support, helped to update theoretical knowledge and improve general practices.

More than 250,000 people benefited from emergency repair work on collapsed water facilities and from the upgrade or extension of water supply infrastructure, primarily in remote, marginalized rural and conflict-prone areas.

Families, detainees and migrants continued to rely on the ICRC family-links service to exchange news with relatives in Lebanon or abroad, including in countries disrupted by conflict. Lebanese nationals who wished to return home from self-imposed exile in Israel and the remains of Lebanese nationals who died there were repatriated under ICRC auspices.

A number of cases of people unaccounted for in relation to the 2007 armed confrontation in Nahr el-Bared Palestinian refugee

camp were resolved. Conversely, no progress was made in responding to the hundreds of families still without news of relatives missing as a result of the 1975–1990 civil war. Staff from the forensic department of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) were given DNA identification training, and family associations and NGOs were supplied with and trained in the use of ICRC software to manage ante/post-mortem data.

Government representatives were encouraged to accelerate the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties during meetings and through their participation in IHL events. Networking in influential circles in some of the most volatile regions continued, especially among Islamist groups in the north, in the Bekaa Valley and in the Palestinian camps, in order to promote respect for IHL and the humanitarian mission in the event of renewed armed violence. The opening of a new office in the conflict-prone Tripoli region allowed for broader networking in the north.

Lebanese Red Cross personnel, in particular Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff, received further training and technical, material and financial support to boost their capacities to respond to emergencies. The ICRC's operational partnership with the National Society and the Lebanese branch of the Palestine Red Crescent Society continued to address current and potential humanitarian problems. Volunteers from both Societies were trained to carry out relief activities.

CIVILIANS

Emergency preparedness capacity is maintained with reduced emergency stocks

The ICRC maintained a capacity to respond rapidly to emergencies together with the Lebanese Red Cross.

ICRC food and hygiene kits to cover the immediate needs of 4,000 households (20,000 individuals) for approximately one to two weeks were donated to charitable institutions for use before their expiry dates. Reliable local suppliers able to deliver equivalent quantities within the first 48 hours of an emergency were identified.

Lebanese Red Cross and Palestine Red Crescent personnel received further training to boost their capacities to carry out needs assessments and relief distributions during emergencies. This resulted in the creation of a pool of 150 volunteers trained in emergency relief management.

- ▶ 32,027 and 20,000 people, mainly orphans, elderly people and physically disabled people, received food and hygiene items respectively

Rural populations gain improved access to drinking water

Over 251,400 people benefited from improved access to clean water following the completion of 22 water projects carried out with ICRC support. Beneficiaries were living in neglected and marginalized areas where water facilities were inadequate, non-existent, or had collapsed due to lack of maintenance. The water authorities also received further technical and training support to rehabilitate conflict-damaged or decaying water infrastructure, to maintain or extend existing water supply systems and to respond to emergencies.

In order to get an overall picture of water infrastructure in the north, the water authorities and the ICRC launched a project to establish a data bank centralizing technical information on the current state of existing water schemes.

Families receive information on missing relatives

DNA samples from nine families living in Algeria, Jordan and Lebanon transmitted to the Lebanese authorities facilitated the identification of seven people who died during the 2007 armed confrontation in the Nahr el-Bared Palestinian refugee camp. Their families were duly informed of the deaths and the burial site.

Hundreds of families remained without news of relatives missing as a result of the 1975–1990 civil war. However, family associations and NGOs started to preserve and standardize their data on missing persons after being supplied with and trained in the use of ICRC software to manage ante- and post-mortem data. The Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) and the ISF requested similar ICRC assistance, foreseen to start in 2010. Members of the ISF forensic department, the official focal point for solving cases of missing persons in Lebanon, were trained in the use of DNA for identification purposes during a course conducted by the ICRC in collaboration with a British university.

Relatives keep in contact despite armed conflict

Families in Lebanon restored or maintained contact and exchanged official documents with relatives detained or residing abroad, mainly in Israel, through the ICRC family-links service.

Lebanese nationals, including four children issued with ICRC travel documents, returned voluntarily from self-imposed exile in Israel under ICRC auspices. The remains of three Lebanese nationals who died in Israel were also repatriated at the request of their families.

- ▶ 135 RCMs collected from and 126 RCMs distributed to civilians in Lebanon; 3 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained abroad
- ▶ 16 Lebanese civilians and the remains of 3 Lebanese civilians repatriated from Israel
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 15 people (3 women); 14 people located; 13 people (1 woman) still being sought

- ▶ 4 death and 8 birth notifications for Lebanese civilians who died or were born in Israel established in Beirut, following translation of the original Hebrew documents issued by the Israeli Ministry of Interior

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Security detainees in prisons and interrogation centres received ICRC visits to assess their treatment and living conditions. Dialogue with the authorities was ongoing to ensure timely access to all security detainees after their arrest, in compliance with the agreement concluded with the Lebanese government in 2007 and with the organization's standard working procedures stipulated therein.

Following visits, delegates' findings and recommendations were discussed confidentially with the authorities concerned. The LAF, the ISF and the highest judicial authorities received oral and written reports dealing with various issues, including the treatment of security detainees at the various stages of their detention, respect for their judicial rights, and their living conditions, access to health care and contact with their families.

The authorities implemented some of the ICRC's recommendations, in certain cases with support from the organization. For example, several detainees in urgent need of medical care received treatment, and foreign detainees were able to phone their families abroad.

A comprehensive assessment of prison health care needs country-wide was completed with a view to assisting the detaining and health authorities in improving health care in places of detention.

Work began on improving the quantity and quality of water supply in Roumieh Central Prison, the country's largest, housing some 3,500 inmates, by installing a centralized water distribution system. The installation of 27 triple and 2 double bunk beds in Zahleh prison provided more sleeping space for detainees. Inmates in Tebnine prison benefited from improved shower facilities fitted with water-heating solar panels.

In response to emergency needs arising from prison riots, 150 detainees in a Beirut prison received clothing and hygiene items, and the prison medical unit in Tripoli was able to continue functioning after two destroyed refrigerators were replaced.

- ▶ 5,971 detainees visited, of whom 378 monitored individually (12 women, 9 minors) and 186 newly registered (10 women, 2 minors), during 162 visits to 24 places of detention
- ▶ 160 RCMs collected from and 85 RCMs distributed to detainees; 760 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of their detained relatives
- ▶ 1 foreign detainee visited by relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ 42 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families

WOUNDED AND SICK

Health care improves in Palestine Red Crescent hospitals

The first phase of a teaching programme to improve the quality of health care in five hospitals run by the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Lebanon was completed successfully. It provided two years of theoretical and practical training in best practices related to operating theatre nursing, midwifery, and intensive care unit and emergency room clinical care. It also included the training of Palestine Red Crescent counterparts to continue the training of hospital staff after the ICRC handover. A concluding workshop enabled participants to share information on achievements and recommendations for the future based on an evaluation of the teaching programme carried out jointly by the Palestine Red Crescent and the ICRC.

As part of this phase, the Palestine Red Crescent and the ICRC jointly selected required medical equipment in order to ensure acceptable standards of patient care. Subsequently, the hospital management staff benefited from ICRC expertise in terms of safe use of the equipment, as well as equipment maintenance and replacement needs.

The Palestine Red Crescent was allocated a plot of land for a community health clinic in Nahr el-Bared refugee camp to replace the one destroyed in the 2007 armed conflict by the end of 2009. Construction was scheduled to begin in 2010.

Emergency preparedness continues

To enable an appropriate response to health needs in case of an emergency, a list of health structures and services countrywide was kept up to date and contacts with their health directors were pursued. In view of the situation, the emergency medical stock was not renewed.

Health structures (3 ambulance services, 42 hospitals and 6 dispensaries) received some medical assistance to treat a small number of casualties resulting from relatively minor clashes (see *Context*).

The Lebanese Red Cross EMS continued to receive ICRC support in implementing its five-year strategy (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). Some 170 surgeons, including 22 from 8 other countries in the region, attended 2 war-surgery seminars organized with the support of Beirut universities. Further training of managers of medium-sized hospitals or of EMS/main ambulance services did not take place in 2009.

AUTHORITIES

Meetings with various representatives of the Lebanese authorities and regular networking with the main political, religious and secular groups, in particular in the Bekaa Valley, in Tripoli and in Palestinian camps, aimed to improve mutual understanding and support for IHL and the ICRC and to facilitate the current humanitarian mission and activities in response to any outbreaks of violence.

Discussions with representatives of the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Justice centred on the role and relevance of a national IHL committee and on the need to accelerate the process of ratifying and implementing IHL treaties. In this connection, six Lebanese legal experts attended a regional seminar on IHL, organized in Beirut by the League of Arab States and the ICRC (see *Egypt*). Participants in a conference in Beirut organized by UNESCO received comprehensive information from the ICRC on legal aspects of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property.

The diplomatic community and intergovernmental organizations received regular information on ICRC operations in Lebanon and elsewhere in the region.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Cooperation between the LAF and the ICRC proceeded smoothly. During a round-table, the LAF high command and the ICRC discussed in detail the ICRC's mandate and working methods in armed conflict. The key outcome was the establishment of a mechanism to ensure efficient direct communications/coordination in the event of a crisis.

The LAF were gradually incorporating IHL into their teaching. LAF brigades deployed countrywide, students in LAF training centres and members of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) attended regular presentations on IHL and the ICRC. The ISF and the ICRC agreed on and started the organization of similar sessions for ISF staff, with a particular focus on ICRC work for detainees.

- 2,700 LAF, 325 ISF and 400 UNIFIL personnel attended presentations on IHL and the ICRC
- 75 military police, 60 police officers and 20 detention personnel learned about ICRC standard working procedures during visits to detainees

Some 80 members of various factions in the Ein El Helwe camp, including Ansar Allah, Fatah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, attended presentations on basic IHL principles, the protection of medical services and the ICRC.

CIVIL SOCIETY

The public was kept abreast of ICRC activities and IHL-related issues through the organization of various events and media reports based on regular ICRC information and the briefing of 28 journalists.

A three-month countrywide bus tour, jointly organized by the Lebanese Red Cross, the International Federation and the ICRC in the context of the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign, raised awareness of the relevance of IHL in armed conflict. The campaign and various other events received extensive media coverage and provided opportunities to develop contacts within, and to convey operational and IHL-related messages to diverse segments of civil society.

By the end of 2009, the Ministry of Education had not taken any decision on the formal integration into secondary school curricula of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme, the pilot phase of which the ICRC supported from 2004 to 2008.

Deans of all law faculties in Lebanon explored ways to promote IHL teaching during a round-table organized by the ICRC.

- ▶ 650 students from 4 universities and 7 law faculty deans attended dissemination sessions on IHL and 3 law faculties each received an IHL library

Some 50 hospital staff from the Ein El Helwe and Rashidieh Palestinian camps attended a briefing on the protection of medical personnel and infrastructure.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

ICRC cooperation with the Lebanese Red Cross centred on strengthening the National Society’s emergency response capacity, in accordance with its five-year strategy to develop its EMS. A clear understanding of each other’s complementary roles in armed conflict and other situations of violence reinforced the operational partnership between the National Society and the ICRC. Regular coordination meetings between the National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC enhanced cooperation activities.

The construction/rehabilitation of EMS stations and the procurement of related basic equipment neared completion. The National Society logistics unit developed its capacity to supply emergency services in a timely manner. Operational coordination meetings led to improved dialogue at both headquarters and field level.

With ICRC support:

- ▶ 196,883 first-aid interventions carried out by the EMS
- ▶ 87 trainers trained in first aid by 23 EMS instructors, facilitated by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- ▶ 3 new EMS stations built in Becharre, Bekaata and Spears
- ▶ security guidelines developed for operations in weapon-contaminated environments
- ▶ plans initiated to develop a capacity to restore family links in emergencies, with a focal person appointed to lead the process

An ICRC financial contribution also helped the Lebanese Red Cross medico-social services and blood bank carry out their activities. More work was needed regarding the revision of the National Society’s statutes.



syrian arab republic

The ICRC has been present in the Syrian Arab Republic since 1967. It acts as a neutral intermediary on issues of humanitarian concern for Syrian inhabitants of the part of the Golan occupied by Israel. It facilitates travel for certain categories of people, such as students and pilgrims, between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic, and maintains links between separated family members. It works to spread knowledge of IHL in government, military, academic and media circles, and cooperates closely with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. The ICRC also seeks to visit people detained in the Syrian Arab Republic.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	355
Assistance	-
Prevention	491
Cooperation with National Societies	478
General	-

► **1,324**

of which: Overheads **81**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	94%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
9	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- facilitated contacts between inhabitants of the occupied Golan and their families in the Syrian Arab Republic and travel between the two locations by 797 pilgrims, students and humanitarian cases
- ensured the transport to the Syrian Arab Republic of 8,000 tonnes of apples produced by farmers in the occupied Golan as a means of improving their livelihoods
- helped families locate and maintain contact with relatives detained abroad, mainly in Iraq, Lebanon and the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba
- organized with the authorities concerned IHL workshops or training for representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice, Syrian military instructors and for Syrian police and security officers
- helped the Syrian Armed Forces complete an IHL training manual
- helped the Syrian Arab Red Crescent conduct a countrywide campaign to promote its new logo and the protection of the emblem

CONTEXT

In 2009, the Syrian Arab Republic remained relatively stable.

Turkish-mediated peace talks between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic over the occupied Golan, broken off during the Israeli military offensive in the Gaza Strip in January 2009, remained suspended. President Bashar al-Assad nonetheless emphasized that Damascus was committed to resuming the Turkish channel of mediation.

Relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and other countries developed. Several foreign political leaders, including the king of Saudi Arabia and the Lebanese prime minister, paid visits to Damascus. High-level delegations from the United States of America held talks in Damascus with the Syrian leadership. The Syrian president paid a state visit to France.

Tensions rose between the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq after the Iraqi authorities accused the Syrian Arab Republic of allowing foreign fighters to enter Iraq from its territory, an allegation refuted by Damascus.

According to various reports, a number of alleged "Islamist militants" of Kurdish origin and human rights activists continued to be arrested. A small number of Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic returned home, while several hundred thousand others stayed in the country, mostly in Damascus.

A growing concern was the effects of the drought, now in its fourth year, which severely affected the north-east of the country. Reports painted a dire picture of poor agricultural productivity, loss of income for many farmers, growing unemployment and increased migration to urban centres.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	579
RCMs distributed	714
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	5
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	5
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	57
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom travel documents were issued	300

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

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 armed conflict in neighbouring Iraq; and strengthening the National Society's emergency response capacity.

Syrians living in the occupied Golan could not resume visits to relatives living on the other side of the demarcation line, despite ongoing ICRC diplomatic efforts to this end. Such family visits were stopped by the Israeli authorities in 1992.

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC facilitated travel by students and pilgrims from the occupied Golan to and from Damascus for academic or religious purposes and the exchange of official documents between relatives living on opposite sides of the demarcation line. In addition, farmers in the occupied Golan boosted their income as a result of ICRC action to ensure the transfer of their apple harvest – their main livelihood – to Syrian markets. The aforementioned activities were carried out in coordination with the Syrian and Israeli authorities and with the UN peacekeeping forces deployed along the demarcation line between the occupied Golan and Syrian territory.

Demand remained steady for ICRC tracing and RCM services, which sought to help Syrian nationals and Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic locate and re-establish contact with family members detained/interned or unaccounted for abroad, mainly in Iraq but also in Lebanon and the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. At the request of UNHCR and in close cooperation with the authorities concerned, the ICRC issued travel documents to Iraqi and other refugees accepted for resettlement in third countries.

On the basis of a formal agreement reached in July with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the minister of state for Red Crescent affairs, the authorities concerned and the ICRC started to take further action to promote IHL among diplomats, judges and university lecturers. Two such events subsequently took place for officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice. Cooperation continued with military training centres and with the Ministry of Interior regarding the integration of IHL into practical military instruction and the dissemination of IHL/international human rights law among police and security forces.

The ICRC further developed its partnership with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, focusing mainly on strengthening the National

Society's capacities in the fields of first aid, the Safer Access approach (in particular relating to weapon contamination), and internal and external communication. The two organizations also conducted a joint assessment of the situation in the drought-ridden north-east of the country and drew up plans to assist farming communities there in accessing water.

CIVILIANS

Inhabitants of the occupied Golan benefit from humanitarian services

Family members cut off from each other since 1967 by the separation zone between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic were able to maintain a minimum of contact through the ICRC, acting as a neutral intermediary. However, people in the occupied Golan could not resume visits to relatives living on the other side of the demarcation line despite ongoing ICRC diplomatic efforts to this end. Such visits had not been allowed by the Israeli authorities since 1992 and their resumption remained a priority objective for the ICRC.

Students and pilgrims living in the occupied Golan travelled to the Syrian Arab Republic and back home with the help of the ICRC, in coordination with the UN Disengagement Observer Force and the Israeli and Syrian authorities. Travel from the occupied Golan to the Syrian Arab Republic was also facilitated for urgent family reasons such as the death of a relative.

As in previous years, Golan farmers boosted their livelihoods by sending their apple harvest to Syrian markets via transportation provided by the ICRC, acting as a neutral intermediary at their request and that of the Israeli and Syrian authorities.

Syrian nationals in the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic continued to rely on the ICRC to convey official papers, such as power of attorney documents, property claims and birth, death and marriage certificates, back and forth between them. Such documents enabled the recipients to qualify for pensions or to settle personal issues such as inheritance or property rights.

- travel for 230 students, 524 pilgrims and 43 individual humanitarian cases facilitated between the occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic
- 8,000 tonnes of apples transported from the occupied Golan to Syrian markets
- 92 official documents relayed between family members in the occupied Golan and relatives in the Syrian Arab Republic

Family contacts severed by conflict re-established

Through the ICRC family-links network, families in the Syrian Arab Republic located and re-established contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad or previously unaccounted for. Providing people with information on family members presumed to have died or to be in the custody of the central authorities in Iraq remained a major challenge despite the expansion of ICRC visits to more places of detention there. Syrians repatriated voluntarily after their release from detention in Iraq were met by their families at the airport under ICRC auspices.

Despite ICRC availability to act as a neutral intermediary, families in Israel and Lebanon as well as in the Syrian Arab Republic remained without information on the fate of close relatives presumed missing in the Syrian Arab Republic or in Israel in relation to past conflicts.

Refugees, primarily Iraqi and stateless persons, resettled in third countries with the aid of ICRC travel documents issued at the request of UNHCR in coordination with the authorities concerned.

- 579 RCMs collected from and 714 RCMs distributed to civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic, mainly for and from relatives detained/interned abroad; 8 telephone calls facilitated between family members and their relatives detained/interned abroad, including 2 videoconferences between Syrian families and relatives held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba; 96 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- some 50 parcels collected from families and forwarded to their relatives detained/interned in Iraq and Lebanon
- new tracing requests registered for 5 people; 5 people located; 57 people still being sought (mostly in Iraq)
- 4 Syrian nationals released from detention in Iraq repatriated, 2 by the Syrian authorities and 2 under ICRC auspices
- 300 refugees issued with an ICRC travel document

Drought-affected farmers' needs assessed

During the second half of 2009, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and the ICRC carried out a joint assessment of water availability in drought-ridden rural areas in the north-east of the country. It confirmed that agricultural communities increasingly lacked access to water sources and faced difficulties in sustaining their livelihoods. In coordination with the relevant authorities, the National Society and the ICRC jointly prepared a plan of action to mitigate the impact of the drought on rural farming communities in 2010.

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 and reiterated several times since, to visit people deprived of their freedom in the Syrian Arab Republic.

In its dialogue with the Syrian Foreign Ministry, the ICRC sought any opportunity to demonstrate how the organization could contribute to helping the detaining authorities comply with internationally recognized standards applicable to detention.

On the basis of family tracing requests, the ICRC also asked the Syrian detaining authorities to provide information on individuals presumed to be held somewhere in the country and to allow them to correspond with their families via RCMs. In a positive outcome,

two families received information on relatives repatriated in 2008 after their release from detention in Iraq and were allowed to visit them in a Damascus prison.

AUTHORITIES

The president of the national IHL committee and minister of state for Red Crescent affairs and the ICRC held several meetings to explore ways to promote the ratification and implementation of IHL instruments, in particular to reactivate the committee's work and to jointly organize IHL workshops for representatives of various Syrian ministries.

As a priority, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice were encouraged to include IHL in their respective teaching programmes for trainee diplomats and magistrates. Subsequently, in July, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of state for Red Crescent affairs approved the organization of IHL events for diplomats, judges and university lecturers. Thus, for the first time in two years, the Syrian authorities and the ICRC organized two events on IHL. These meetings also presented an opportunity to promote the ICRC's mandate and work, in particular in the field of protection.

- 23 diplomats working in different departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and 10 judges from the Ministry of Justice working in different courts and in the public prosecutor's office participated in a two-day seminar on IHL
- 2 government officials participated in a regional seminar on IHL for representatives of Arab countries, organized with the League of Arab States in Amman, Jordan (see *Egypt*)

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

The process of integrating IHL into theoretical and practical military training gathered momentum as several senior ICRC-trained officers had acquired sufficient knowledge of IHL to teach the subject to the rank and file autonomously.

The national training manual on IHL for the armed forces was successfully completed and published, with ICRC technical and financial assistance.

- 45 Syrian Armed Forces instructors participated in an IHL training session
- 440 officers, including 30 participants from other Arab and non-Arab States attending a course at the Syrian Command and Staff College, heard an ICRC presentation on the integration of IHL into the military decision-making process

The Ministry of Interior, with ICRC support, continued to run its IHL/international human rights law training programme initiated in 2008 for police and security force personnel.

- 30 police and security officers participated in a workshop on IHL/international human rights law relevant to law enforcement operations and the treatment of detainees and on the ICRC's mandate and activities

Some 20 UN peacekeeping force officers deployed along the occupied Golan-Syrian demarcation line attended an IHL dissemination session.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Media outlets reported on ICRC activities and humanitarian issues, drawing on regular ICRC information materials provided locally to both Syrian and international media, thereby improving public understanding of the ICRC's mandate and knowledge of its activities in the country and worldwide. Meetings with various contacts, research centres and local NGOs provided further opportunities to promote the ICRC's mandate and work.

During a meeting in November, the minister of higher education and the ICRC reviewed means to promote the inclusion of IHL in university curricula.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Syrian Arab Red Crescent, with ICRC support, developed additional capacity and resources, in particular in the fields of first aid, the Safer Access approach, and internal and external communication.

As part of the Movement's worldwide "Our world. Your move." communication campaign, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, with the support of the International Federation and the ICRC, organized a photo exhibition on humanitarian issues in Aleppo, Damascus, Deir Ez-Zor and Homs. In Aleppo, a week of activities organized by the Syrian and Swiss governments to mark the cordial relations between the two countries included a one-day event in memory of Henry Dunant.

With ICRC support, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent:

- ▶ conducted a countrywide campaign to promote its new logo, designed to reinforce its public image and visibility, and to protect its emblem from misuse
- ▶ conducted a ten-day training course for 30 first-aid instructors, held basic, advanced or refresher first-aid courses for 75 first-aiders and received 3,000 disposable cardio-pulmonary resuscitation masks
- ▶ trained 95 volunteers in the basics of IHL, the ICRC, the Movement and its Fundamental Principles, and tracing
- ▶ sent newly recruited volunteers on an ICRC field trip to the area near the Kuneitra demarcation line for briefings on the ICRC's mandate and action on behalf of residents of the occupied Golan
- ▶ alerted 35 volunteers, schoolteachers and members of women's associations to the dangers of weapon contamination in the Kuneitra region
- ▶ published 3 editions of the Damascus branch's youth magazine
- ▶ had 50% of the salary of its national communication coordinator 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 civilians affected by hostilities in northern Yemen. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and its introduction into academic curricula and into the training programmes of the armed and police forces. Physical rehabilitation centres also receive assistance. ICRC tracing activities enable refugees to restore family links and Yemeni nationals to locate and contact relatives detained/interned abroad. The ICRC also seeks to resume visits to detainees in accordance with its standard procedures.

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,273
Assistance	13,593
Prevention	869
Cooperation with National Societies	1,192
General	-

► **16,927**

of which: Overheads **1,033**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	85%
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PERSONNEL

22 expatriates
85 national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- jointly with the Yemen Red Crescent Society, ran 5 camps in Sa'ada province providing shelter, food, water, health care, sanitation and other essentials to up to 14,000 IDPs
- in partnership with the National Society, provided 105,619 people, mainly IDPs, with essential household items, shelter materials and hygiene kits and 102,694 people with food rations in Amran and Sa'ada provinces
- kept some 20 health centres serving the wounded and sick in Amran and Sa'ada provinces fully operational through the monthly supply of medicines and dressing materials
- with local water boards, organized water trucking and repaired or built water supply networks serving some 192,000 people in north Yemen
- in partnership with the National Society, organized events for representatives of the Sa'ada provincial government, traditional and religious leaders and the media, to raise awareness of IHL, the Movement and joint National Society/ICRC operations
- supported physical rehabilitation services for almost 6,000 disabled patients

CONTEXT

Yemen's security and cohesion continued to be undermined by the escalating conflict in the north, mounting unrest in the south and acts of violence by armed groups allegedly linked to al-Qaeda. Parliamentary elections, initially scheduled for April, were postponed for two years, further exacerbating tensions.

Early in 2009, the fighting in the north between government forces and the Houthis spread from Sa'ada province to the neighbouring provinces of Amran and Al-Jouf. It intensified in August when government forces launched a major air and ground offensive. In October, the conflict spilled over into the border areas with Saudi Arabia, involving Saudi armed forces.

The hostilities exacted a heavy toll in terms of casualties, population displacement, lost livelihoods, and the destruction of civilian houses and farms and vital public health and water infrastructure. Entire communities in the conflict zones fled to safer areas, while others remained trapped in remote villages often inaccessible to aid agencies. Many had no choice but to live in abandoned buildings, schools, damaged houses or even in the open air.

In the south, social unrest mounted in May, leading to increased clashes between security forces and anti-government demonstrators calling for secession.

Sporadic acts of violence against both national and foreign targets by armed groups, including "Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula" (AQAP), presented another security challenge for the government. A suicide attack in the south in March killed four South Korean tourists and their guide. After the abduction of nine foreigners in the Sa'ada region in June, the bodies of three of them were found, but the fate of the remaining six remained unclear. In mid-December, government air strikes targeted alleged AQAP positions in Abyan, Sana'a and Shabwa provinces, reportedly resulting in a number of casualties and arrests. Tensions rose between the government authorities and certain tribes allegedly allied to or members of AQAP.

A steady flow of refugees and migrants, mostly from the Horn of Africa, put further strain on Yemen, which had the highest unemployment and poverty levels in the Arabian Peninsula.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS		CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications		Economic security, water and habitat			
RCMs collected	3,352	Food	Beneficiaries102,694	27%	55%
RCMs distributed	3,852	Essential household items	Beneficiaries105,619	27%	55%
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			of whom IDPs105,619		
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	71	Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries191,833	55%	40%
of whom women	24		of whom IDPs38,366		
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	7	Health			
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	24	Health centres supported	Structures20		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	107	Consultations	Patients185,087		
of whom women	31		of which curative	50,833	54,183
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	15		of which ante/post-natal	2,149	
DOCUMENTS ISSUED		Immunizations	Doses2,435		
People to whom travel documents were issued		WOUNDED AND SICK			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	17	Hospitals supported	Structures5		
		Physical rehabilitation			
		Patients receiving services	Patients5,943	1,349	2,663
		Prostheses delivered	Units833	213	209
		Orthoses delivered	Units3,128	608	1,761

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

During the first five months of 2009, working alongside the Yemen Red Crescent Society, the ICRC widened its access to conflict victims in the north and subsequently increased its budget to implement a larger operation than originally foreseen.

However, the abduction of nine expatriate humanitarian workers in June followed by the deterioration of security in August and the forced relocation of ICRC delegates from Sa'ada to Sana'a in September compelled the ICRC to review its operation in the north. The Yemeni Red Crescent and the ICRC reinforced their partnership and put in place working procedures and guidelines to carry out activities via remote control in the Amran and Sa'ada provinces through Yemeni Red Crescent volunteers and ICRC local staff. Even so, the ICRC was unable to fulfil all of its objectives. Conflict-affected people could not be reached and others only sporadically, which resulted, for example, in irregular relief distributions and less aid getting through than originally planned.

Parties to the conflict in the north were reminded regularly of their responsibilities under IHL. Extended networking countrywide with authorities, as well as with traditional and religious leaders at community level, enabled the ICRC to share with them issues of humanitarian concern such as respect for IHL and humanitarian access to people in need.

Despite the constraints, thousands of families in Amran and Sa'ada provinces received food, shelter, essential household items, water and basic medical assistance in joint Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC operations. IDPs in Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC-run camps in Sa'ada city and one close to the border with Saudi Arabia set up in October were among the most regular beneficiaries of emergency relief. IDPs in camps relied on regular water-trucking and, in rural locations in Amran and Sa'ada provinces, whenever security permitted, the ICRC repaired or replaced water outlets damaged or destroyed during the fighting. As of July, some 25 health facilities, including mobile clinics, were able to serve the needs of some

300,000 people thanks to the monthly or ad hoc supply of drugs and dressing materials by the ICRC.

Given the situation, the ICRC significantly stepped up coordination in fields of common interest with international and local aid agencies present on the ground. Food distributions in particular were closely coordinated with WFP.

Three physical rehabilitation centres, which provided care to almost 6,000 disabled patients in 2009, continued to receive ICRC technical, training and material support.

The authorities and the ICRC had not yet reached agreement regarding ICRC visits, carried out according to its standard working procedures, to people deprived of their freedom. However, dialogue continued, as did assistance programmes for women in prison and for irregular migrants awaiting deportation, in both cases implemented in partnership with the National Society. ICRC tracing and RCM services also enabled refugees in Yemen to stay in touch with their families and Yemeni nationals to re-establish and maintain links with family members detained/interned abroad.

CIVILIANS

Fighting parties are urged to show respect for IHL and humanitarian services

Parties to the conflict, including the Saudi authorities after fighting broke out between Saudi forces and Houthi militants along the Saudi-Yemen border, were repeatedly reminded of their responsibilities under IHL. Public appeals and confidential meetings focused on the imperative need to take all necessary precautions to spare the civilian population, respect health services and allow the unimpeded passage of humanitarian aid. Extended networking with community traditional and religious leaders enabled contacts with weapon bearers at local level.

Conflict victims receive aid vital for their survival

Despite the insecurity, thousands of families, both residents and IDPs, in Amran and Sa'ada provinces received emergency assistance from Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC teams, including food, shelter materials, essential household items, water and basic medical assistance. However, particularly from August onwards, security constraints prevented regular aid distributions (see *ICRC action and results*).

IDPs in five Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC-run camps, four in and around Sa'ada city and one close to the border with Saudi Arabia, as well as IDPs in Sa'ada old city, were among the most regular beneficiaries of assistance. The camp population swelled from some 7,000 in January to 14,000 by year-end. They received essential household items, including shelter materials and hygiene parcels. Food distributions were coordinated with WFP. IDPs in Sa'ada were usually able to rely on water trucked in daily by the ICRC and benefited from improved hygiene and sanitation conditions after the installation of water-storage tanks, latrines and septic tanks.

In Amran province, following joint Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC assessments, some 10,500 and 15,800 conflict-affected people benefited from a one-off distribution of food and essential household items in March and September respectively. Despite the identification of other needy families, the security situation did not allow for further distributions.

Where possible, water networks and outlets damaged or destroyed in the fighting were replaced or repaired. For example, some 23,000 inhabitants of remote villages benefited from rehabilitated water facilities, as did patients from the refurbishment of three health centres in Amran and Sa'ada provinces.

Some 3,500 flash-flood victims in Sa'ada's Al-Boqa district close to the border with Saudi Arabia were reached by Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC teams. Food and essential household items provided in a one-off relief operation, as well as the daily trucking of 44,000 litres of drinking water for one month, helped them restore their livelihoods.

- 102,694 people (13,342 households) received food
- 105,619 people (14,484 households) received essential household items
- 191,833 people benefited from ICRC water and rehabilitation projects

Health facilities remain operational

Seven mobile primary health care clinics and one health centre in Amran and Sa'ada provinces run by the National Society or the health authorities with ICRC support ceased to function when full-scale hostilities erupted in August, owing to the insecurity or because they were destroyed in the fighting.

Subsequently, in Sa'ada province, 10 National Society and government primary health care clinics and 9 National Society mobile clinics received monthly supplies of drugs and dressing materials. Another 12 functioning government health facilities in the provinces received ad hoc medical supplies as required. In areas of Sa'ada province not accessible to government health personnel, the National Society facilitated a government measles vaccination campaign.

In Amran province, two health-care centres in the north and one in Amran city received regular medical supplies to help them deliver an average of 1,400 consultations a week. In view of the increased influx of IDPs in Amran city, an assessment was conducted in December in order to adapt health-care services accordingly. Government health professionals attended workshops on influenza A (H1N1) treatment, organized with ICRC financial support, to address the high prevalence of the virus in the region.

In 2009, in the some 20 ICRC-supported health centres (average monthly catchment population: 216,000):

- 185,087 people given consultations, including 2,149 attending ante/post-natal consultations and 182,938 attending curative consultations
- 2,435 vaccine doses administered (including 1,935 to children aged five or under and 486 to women of childbearing age)
- 2,328 patients referred to a second level of care
- 580 health education sessions held

Separated family members stay in touch

Families in Yemen restored or maintained contact with relatives detained/interned in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba through the ICRC's tracing and RCM network. These contacts were enhanced through ICRC-facilitated phone calls between families and their detained/interned relatives. Families also received direct news from their relatives held at Guantanamo Bay from an ICRC delegate who had visited them there.

Refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from countries in the Horn of Africa, also continued to rely on the same services for contact with family in their home countries or elsewhere abroad.

Government officials and NGOs involved in the recovery and identification of remains of people from the Horn of Africa washed up on Yemen's shores attended six training sessions on how to manage human remains and received materials to perform dignified burials as well as tools to collect and manage post-mortem data for possible later identification.

- 3,297 RCMs collected from and 3,850 RCMs distributed to civilians; 179 phone calls facilitated between family members and relatives detained/interned in Guantanamo Bay or in Afghanistan; 265 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of their relative detained/interned there
- new tracing requests registered for 71 people (24 women; 7 minors at the time of disappearance); 51 people located, including 27 for whom tracing requests had been registered by another delegation; 107 people (31 women; 15 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought
- 17 detention certificates issued to former detainees or their families
- 2 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- 153 Interior Ministry officials and local NGO representatives trained in the management of human remains

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Dialogue was pursued with the Public Security Office and the Ministry of Interior with a view to resuming visits, in accordance with standard ICRC working procedures, to people held in all places of detention in Yemen. Although no agreement was reached, five security detainees previously transferred from Guantanamo Bay or from Jordan were allowed to receive an ICRC visit. The detaining authorities also agreed to notify the ICRC of all such cases and to allow them to receive family visits.

Some 180 representatives of prison authorities, as well as officials and National Society volunteers dealing with migrants, attended 4 training sessions, which gave them the opportunity to learn more about the ICRC's mandate and working methods and internationally recognized prison health standards and to look at practical solutions to public health issues.

The Houthi leadership responded positively to an ICRC request to visit people held in their custody in connection with the current conflict in the north. However, no visits took place in 2009 owing to security constraints that prevented access to the areas concerned.

Detained irregular migrants receive assistance

Irregular migrants from the Horn of Africa held in precarious conditions while awaiting deportation in a place of detention run by the Ministry of Interior continued to receive emergency assistance to ensure their well-being and good health, in a joint Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC operation.

Irregular migrant cases were notified to UNHCR and their respective embassies, if they so wished.

- ▶ between 250 and 350 irregular migrants awaiting deportation provided monthly with food, nutritional supplements, medical treatment and supplies, and hygiene materials
- ▶ 55 RCMs collected from and 2 distributed to irregular migrants; 125 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of their relative detained in Yemen

Detained women improve their social reintegration prospects

Female detainees continued to benefit from a vocational training programme run by the Yemeni Red Crescent with ICRC training and material support. The programme aimed to facilitate the detainees' reintegration after release and improve their living conditions in detention through income generated from the sale of their products. For the first time, the programme included computer training in Aden and Sana'a prisons. Day nursery facilities were provided for female detainees accompanied by their children.

- ▶ some 300 female detainees in central prisons received vocational training

WOUNDED AND SICK

No ICRC surgical field team could deploy in Sa'ada province owing to government restrictions on movement, particularly in areas controlled by the Houthis. Five hospitals received some emergency medical and surgical materials following information provided on their activities and needs. However, security restrictions prevented the ICRC from providing the full support required by hospitals.

Emergency medical cases in the Yemeni Red Crescent/ICRC-run IDP camps were evacuated to one of the two referral hospitals in Sa'ada city, which received financial aid, basic drugs and surgical materials.

Sixty-four health professionals (three women), including some from Sa'ada province, attended a war-surgery seminar in Sana'a held in cooperation with the health authorities in November.

Government physical rehabilitation centres in Aden, Mukalla and Sana'a continued to receive ICRC technical training and material support in producing prostheses and other orthopaedic appliances using ICRC polypropylene technology. An additional government centre, opened in Sa'ada for patients unable to access the Sana'a centre owing to security constraints, also received ICRC support.

Seven Yemeni technicians sponsored by the ICRC continued training at a specialized school in India.

- ▶ 5,943 patients (including 1,349 women and 2,663 children) received services at 3 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centres
- ▶ 788 new patients (including 209 women and 204 children) fitted with prostheses and 2,181 (including 441 women and 1,102 children) fitted with orthoses
- ▶ 833 prostheses (including 213 for women and 209 for children; 246 for mine victims), 3,128 orthoses (including 608 for women, 1,761 for children; 38 for mine victims), 640 crutches and 12 wheelchairs delivered

AUTHORITIES

Parties to the conflict were urged to act according to their obligations under IHL (see *Civilians*). As a priority, networking was intensified countrywide with authorities, including Houthi and other religious and military leaders, providing useful platforms to discuss issues of humanitarian concern, notably respect for IHL and safe humanitarian access to conflict victims for Yemeni Red Crescent and ICRC staff. As part of these efforts, 53 staff members from the Sa'ada governor's office for the first time attended information sessions on the ICRC.

Although the work of the national IHL committee slowed, owing to the prevailing situation in the country, some activities in support of measures to integrate IHL into domestic legislation took place:

- some 30 judges and prosecutors participated in a three-day workshop focusing on IHL principles, the International Criminal Court and related topics
- some 40 trainee diplomats learnt about IHL at a three-day workshop, organized with the Yemeni Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the participation of 3 ICRC-trained Yemeni IHL lecturers
- 3 members of the national IHL committee and 1 from the Human Rights Information and Training Centre attended regional seminars organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC
- 32 jurists from Arab countries learnt about IHL during a seminar organized with the Arab Lawyers Union in Sana'a

The diplomatic community in Sana'a received regular information about the National Society/ICRC operation, and coordination was ensured with all organizations working on the ground.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Networking to gain acceptance of neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action included contacts with Islamist militants (see *Civilians and Authorities*).

As a step towards making IHL an integral part of military training, the Moral Guidance Department of the Ministry of Defence completed the final draft of IHL teaching materials. ICRC-trained Yemeni officers gave lectures on IHL for the first time to Yemeni armed forces units and military institutes. The Moral Guidance Department and the ICRC renewed their agreement on the publication of ICRC and IHL-related articles in the Yemeni armed forces' monthly magazine *Al-Jaish*.

Some 100 military officers based in the conflict-affected north-west, 1,500 officers and cadets at the Sana'a Staff and Command College, 140 officers at the Sana'a Military Academy and 80 officers at the Police Academy attended four IHL dissemination sessions. Some 1,100 police recruits learnt about humanitarian principles applicable to law enforcement during the first information sessions held at the Police Training School in Sana'a.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In order to gain acceptance of the ICRC and safe access to conflict victims, networking with tribal, religious, social and political decision-makers was stepped up (see *Civilians and Authorities*). From October onwards, tribal leaders and political decision-makers in Sana'a invited the ICRC to share information with them on its humanitarian mission at various forums.

In Sa'ada, 32 local journalists attended a first round-table and 24 attended a second similar event organized after the conflict intensified in the north. This, combined with regular information channelled to the media, contributed to more accurate and extensive coverage of IHL-related issues and ICRC activities in Yemen, including by the main radio station in Sa'ada.

The Ministry of Education continued to implement the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in 64 schools and was close to finalizing relevant school materials. Its seven staff members involved in the programme participated in a regional seminar in Cairo to discuss its implementation (see *Egypt*).

In a common effort with the national IHL committee, following meetings with university lecturers and the ICRC, the Education Ministry issued a circular calling on the nine law faculties to promote the teaching of IHL. Fourteen students graduated from a two-year IHL course run in coordination with the Human Rights Ministry. The three winners of the 2008 moot court competition received IHL reference documentation to help them pursue their studies. Around 100 pre-graduate students at Aden University attended an IHL information session.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Yemeni Red Crescent remained the ICRC's main operational partner (see *Civilians*).

In October, the National Society adopted revised statutes incorporating recommendations of the Movement's Joint Statutes Commission.

With ICRC support, the National Society:

- briefed some 500 branch volunteers, doctors and nurses and some 2,500 people on the Movement
- trained some 100 volunteers in disaster management, economic security assessment and the Safer Access approach, and another 100 volunteers in first aid
- Amran, Hajja and Sa'ada branches received office/IT equipment, second-hand vehicles and generators
- Sa'ada branch's health centre received medical supplies and equipment
- assessed needs with a view to implementing communication activities at branches in the provinces
- organized events around the "Our world. Your move." communication campaign
- produced its bi-monthly magazine *al-Ithar*

Regular Movement coordination meetings took place, and Movement partners were briefed by the ICRC on security issues in Yemen upon request.



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 remaining from that war and those arising from the current armed conflict in Iraq, and to work relating to people deprived of their freedom in the Gulf Cooperation Council 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 violence. Reinforcing cooperation with the National Red Crescent Societies of the region is another priority.

COVERING

Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council, namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	930
Assistance	-
Prevention	943
Cooperation with National Societies	520
General	313

► **2,705**

of which: Overheads 165

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	105%
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PERSONNEL

4	expatriates
21	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- encouraged the parties to step up efforts to recover the remains of people killed in connection with the 1990–91 Gulf War to help clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for from that time
- conducted a first visit to Kuwaiti and foreign security detainees in Kuwait
- facilitated the first visits by family members from Iraq to their relatives detained in Kuwait since the 1990–91 Gulf War
- enabled families in Kuwait to communicate with relatives held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba for the first time via videoconference calls
- worked with National Societies in Gulf Cooperation Council countries to coordinate assistance activities in conflict areas and to enlist their support for ICRC operations in terms of staff secondment and financing
- actively promoted the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, university education and the training programmes of national armed forces in Gulf Cooperation Council countries

CONTEXT

In January, Kuwait hosted a League of Arab States economic summit during which Arab leaders discussed closer cooperation to offset the adverse impact of the global economic downturn and falling oil prices on regional development, including through the creation of a pan-Arab common market, a customs union and joint infrastructure projects. At the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit in December, also hosted by Kuwait, GCC leaders agreed to set up a joint rapid deployment force to address security threats in the region.

The spillover of the conflict in Yemen to Saudi Arabia led to clashes between Saudi forces and Houthi fighters from northern Yemen along the two countries' mutual border. Amidst allegations in some Arab quarters that the Islamic Republic of Iran was supporting the Houthis, all GCC countries expressed their backing for Saudi Arabia in the conflict, which caused casualties, the displacement of civilians and the capture of prisoners in both countries.

The Saudi government announced sweeping cabinet changes in February. It included the appointment of the kingdom's first-ever female cabinet member and, according to the media, the replacement of conservatives, such as the head of the country's religious police and a controversial high-ranking member of the judiciary, with more liberal officials.

In Kuwait, early parliamentary elections were held in May following the resignation of the government and the simultaneous dissolution of parliament by the emir in March. The election, notable in that women were elected for the first time, saw conservative Islamists lose their majority. The new parliament was inaugurated on 31 May and the emir reappointed the same prime minister to form a new government.

In Bahrain, 194 security detainees were pardoned under a royal decree and released from prison. The group included people accused of planning "terrorist" acts in the country.

Dubai's giant government-owned investment conglomerate Dubai World requested a moratorium on debt repayments, prompting fears in world markets that it might default on billions of dollars of debt held abroad.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹	
Detainees visited and monitored individually	71
<i>of whom women</i>	4
Number of visits carried out	9
Number of places of detention visited	4
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS	
<i>Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications</i>	
RCMs collected	195
RCMs distributed	740
<i>Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons²</i>	
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	13
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	3
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	89
<i>of whom women</i>	5
<i>of whom minors at the time of disappearance</i>	8
DOCUMENTS ISSUED	
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	2,971

1. Kuwait and Qatar

2. Not including people missing as a consequence of the 1990–91 Gulf War

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Resolving humanitarian issues still outstanding from the 1990–91 Gulf War and others arising from the regional consequences of the armed conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq remained top priorities for the ICRC.

Four meetings of the Tripartite Commission's Technical Subcommittee and one meeting of the Tripartite Commission itself – the mechanism set up to bring together representatives of the States concerned to address the issue of people missing since the 1990–91 Gulf War (during the occupation of Kuwait and at the time of its liberation) – were held in Kuwait under ICRC chairmanship. Exhumation work in Kuwait resulted in the recovery of the remains of some Iraqi soldiers killed during the liberation of Kuwait. Exhumation teams dispatched to sites in Iraq to pursue the work initiated in 2004 and suspended since then owing to security constraints had produced no tangible results by the end of the year.

Further ICRC visits were made to people deprived of their freedom in Kuwait and Qatar to assess their treatment and living conditions and to report confidentially to the authorities on the findings and recommendations. A first round of visits to Kuwaiti and foreign security detainees took place following an agreement concluded with the government of Kuwait at the end of 2008. ICRC delegates made their annual visit to people serving sentences in Qatar in connection with the 1996 failed coup d'état in that country.

After years of effort, the ICRC, in coordination with the Kuwaiti and Iraqi authorities, enabled families in Iraq to pay their first visits to relatives detained in Kuwait's central prison since the 1990–91 conflict.

Negotiations on ICRC access to Saudi nationals detained by the Saudi authorities after their transfer from the US internment facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba or from any other place of detention abroad remained at a standstill.

After the fighting broke out between Saudi forces and Houthi militants along the Saudi-Yemen border, the ICRC reminded the Saudi authorities of their responsibilities under IHL. No formal response had been received by year-end to an ICRC offer of services to the Saudi authorities to visit people captured and held in detention in Saudi Arabia in connection with the fighting.

In Bahrain, the ICRC reopened dialogue with the authorities on resuming visits to detainees (discontinued since 2001).

As before, the ICRC together with National Societies helped families in GCC countries to trace and re-establish contact with relatives detained/interned abroad or living in countries where communications remained unreliable.

The delegation continued to promote the incorporation of IHL into national legislation, university curricula and armed forces teaching and training programmes across the region.

National Societies in the region and the ICRC enhanced their operational cooperation within the Movement framework in places such as the Gaza Strip, Pakistan and Yemen.

CIVILIANS

Relatives separated by armed conflict restore contact

Families in GCC member States, including migrants, continued to require assistance in restoring or maintaining contact with relatives either detained/interned abroad, in particular in Guantanamo Bay or Iraq, or present in countries disrupted by conflict, other situations of violence or natural disaster.

Family links were assured through the ICRC's tracing and RCM services, which benefited from reinforced cooperation with State authorities and Red Crescent Societies of the region enabling RCMs to be collected and distributed with minimum delay. Whenever possible, these services were supplemented by telephone contact between internees in Guantanamo Bay and their families

in the region. Starting in autumn, families in Kuwait were able to communicate with their relatives interned in Guantanamo Bay via videoconference calls, and steps were taken to offer the same service to families in Saudi Arabia.

Staff of the Saudi and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Red Crescent Societies enhanced their tracing capacities through ICRC training (see also *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*).

- ▶ 164 RCMs collected from and 736 RCMs distributed to civilians in GCC countries; 189 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/interned abroad
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 13 people (1 woman); 3 people located; 89 people (5 women; 8 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought

Human remains from 1990–91 Gulf War recovered

Hundreds of Kuwaiti and Iraqi nationals, both civilians and combatants, remained unaccounted for from the 1990–91 Gulf War, a source of deep anguish for their families.

Under the chairmanship of the ICRC, one meeting of the Tripartite Commission and four meetings of its Technical Sub-Committee dealing with cases of persons missing from the 1990–91 conflict took place in 2009. Several exhumation operations carried out in Kuwait to recover the remains of Iraqi soldiers killed during the conflict produced some results towards the end of the year. The recovered remains were sent for DNA profiling to determine the number of people found. Exhumations in a Kuwaiti army base to find the remains of two Kuwaiti officers killed during Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and others conducted in Iraq by the Iraqi Ministry of Human Rights to recover the remains of Kuwaiti nationals had yielded no results by year-end. In July, the US army recovered the remains of a US pilot shot down flying a combat mission over west-central Iraq during the 1990–91 Gulf War.

In June, the ICRC assembled a group of French, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, UK and US forensic experts in Kuwait to discuss the use of the latest technologies for the extraction of DNA samples from human bones that had been subjected to extreme temperatures in the desert for many years. They also exchanged information on the newest means to locate buried human remains with greater precision, including the possible use of ground-penetrating radar equipment.

First family visits made to Iraqis detained in Kuwait since the 1990–91 Gulf War

In April, under ICRC auspices, Iraqi families were for the first time able to travel to Kuwait to visit relatives detained in Kuwait's central prison since the end of the 1990–91 conflict (see *People deprived of their freedom*). The possibility of organizing family visits to Saudi nationals detained/interned in Afghanistan and Iraq was being explored.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Kuwait, Iraqi nationals, stateless persons and Palestinians held in the central prison for men and in the deportation centre received regular ICRC visits conducted according to the organization's standard working procedures. Both Kuwaiti and foreign security detainees received a first visit in June after an agreement on such

visits was reached with the Kuwaiti authorities at the end of 2008, and a confidential report on the visit was submitted to the Foreign Ministry in September. A complete visit to Kuwait central prison was carried out in November to study the detention system as a whole.

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 and recommendations of ICRC delegates made during visits to detainees were shared confidentially with the authorities concerned. Discussions with the detention authorities were also initiated regarding the ICRC's possible support role in the training and capacity-building of prison staff.

Dialogue was reopened with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bahrain regarding the possible resumption of ICRC visits to detainees (discontinued since 2001). The ministry and the ICRC co-organized a seminar on detention-related issues for representatives of the Ministries of the Interior, Health and Justice as well as of numerous local NGOs. By year-end, the last known security detainees in Bahrain had been released under a royal decree, according to the media.

A formal response was awaited to an ICRC offer of services to the Saudi authorities to visit people captured and held in detention in Saudi Arabia in connection with the fighting between Saudi forces and Houthi militants along the border between Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Negotiations on access to Saudi nationals held by the Saudi authorities after their release or transfer from Guantanamo Bay or from other places of detention in Afghanistan or Iraq remained at a standstill.

Former detainees, in particular Iraqi POWs previously held in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia who had been visited and registered by the ICRC in the past, or their families were issued with certificates of detention on request. In many cases, this entitled recipients to receive State allowances.

- ▶ Kuwait: 53 detainees visited and monitored individually (4 women) and 35 newly registered (3 women), during 8 visits to 3 places of detention; 5 Iraqi detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC support
- ▶ Qatar: 18 detainees visited and monitored individually during 1 visit to 1 place of detention
- ▶ 31 RCMs collected from and 4 RCMs distributed to detainees
- ▶ 2,971 detention certificates issued to former POWs/detainees or their families

AUTHORITIES

After the fighting broke out between Saudi forces and Houthi militants along the Saudi-Yemen border, the Saudi authorities were reminded by the ICRC of their responsibilities under IHL.

Diplomats, judges, prosecutors and parliamentarians from GCC countries attended nine IHL seminars in the region, organized by the ICRC in conjunction with national parliaments, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice, and legal, diplomatic and strategic studies institutes. Four took place in Bahrain, two in Kuwait, two in Oman and one in the UAE. IHL sessions organized with the Bahraini and Kuwaiti parliaments for senior staff of the Kuwait

National Assembly and lawmakers of both houses of parliament in Bahrain were the first of their kind in the region. Both the Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions were systematically discussed during all seminars.

The three existing national IHL committees in the region (Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the UAE) and the ICRC kept in regular contact to discuss the adoption and implementation of IHL treaties, while Oman and Qatar were encouraged to create similar committees.

Nineteen participants from GCC States, mainly heads of department at the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice, attended the eighth regional seminar on IHL in Amman, Jordan, organized with the League of Arab States (see *Egypt*).

Together with the political authorities, the Saudi-based secretariats of the GCC and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (and its subsidiary organ, the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent) remained important focal points for conveying humanitarian messages and gaining acceptance of both IHL and neutral and independent humanitarian action in their member States. Administrative delays in obtaining multiple entry visas for Saudi Arabia hampered the ICRC's efforts to step up regular meetings with these organizations, although towards the end of the year visa formalities for ICRC personnel were facilitated by the Saudi authorities thanks to the intercession of the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE had formally integrated IHL rules into their military instruction and training programmes or had shown an interest in doing so. Bahrain, Oman and Qatar had established national military IHL committees.

In order to further develop IHL dissemination for national armed forces in the region that had not yet started such activities or lacked the teaching resources to do so, the GCC Department for Military Affairs and the ICRC explored the possibility of expanding or reinforcing the IHL teaching process. This included plans to organize a regional seminar on IHL for representatives of all GCC armed and security forces. Meetings were held with high-ranking officers representing the military legal departments of Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia to discuss potential (Saudi Arabia) or further (Bahrain, Qatar) training for their respective armed forces.

- some 90 officers at the Kuwait Command and Staff College often deployed with multinational forces in conflict regions briefed on IHL, ICRC relations with weapon bearers in armed conflicts in general, and the common ground between Islamic law and IHL
- some 30 Kuwaiti military legal officers briefed on IHL rules
- 2 officers from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia participated in the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in Paris, France
- some 20 Qatari armed forces officers attended the first IHL course held in Qatar in more than four years

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking with the media, NGOs, and religious and community leaders aimed to ensure an accurate perception of the ICRC and elicit support for its work, as well as to increase public awareness of humanitarian principles and issues.

Pan-Arab and local media regularly reported on ICRC action and humanitarian issues inspired by briefings, interviews, press releases and an annual newsletter focusing on the ICRC's humanitarian role in GCC countries. Around 30 journalists representing various media outlets in Kuwait attended presentations, organized in coordination with the Gulf Press Association, on the relationship between the ICRC and the media and on the protection of journalists in conflict situations.

Other sectors of civil society in GCC countries, such as Islamic circles and charities, expressed interest in learning more about IHL and the relevance of neutral and independent humanitarian action. They regularly invited the ICRC to attend events, thus providing opportunities for them to learn more about these topics.

In nearly all GCC member States, IHL was part of the law curriculum in at least one university. With ICRC advice, 13 universities across the region extended IHL teaching from law faculties to social science and arts faculties, and 8 law faculties integrated the subject into undergraduate and postgraduate courses. The faculty of law of Kuwait University started to plan a master's degree in IHL. In 2009, more than 470 lecturers and students participated in 6 ICRC seminars on IHL.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Societies and the ICRC jointly operated the family-links network (see *Civilians*). They held discussions on extending the service to migrant workers and migrants in detention.

Communication experts from the Red Crescent Societies of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE attended a training workshop in Oman, co-organized with the International Federation, on promoting media coverage of the Movement's worldwide "Our world. Your move." communication campaign. Public events and photo exhibitions highlighting the campaign, organized jointly with the Red Crescent Societies of Bahrain and Kuwait, generated extensive local media coverage.

Some 50 Kuwaiti Red Crescent volunteers attended a course on first aid in armed conflicts co-organized with the National Society.

National Societies and the ICRC explored ways of working together more closely to improve coordination and cooperation at the international level, in accordance with the Movement's Fundamental Principles and policies. National Societies were encouraged to increase their support to ICRC operations and to develop joint rapid deployment capacities. The Red Crescent Societies of Kuwait and Qatar were particularly active in this respect in 2009.

All National Societies received regular updates on ICRC operations in contexts of particular interest to them, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, Pakistan and Yemen.



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, including its integration into national legislation 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	2,521
Assistance	605
Prevention	1,436
Cooperation with National Societies	461
General	-

► **5,024**

of which: Overheads 307

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	86%
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PERSONNEL

14	expatriates
32	national staff (daily workers not included)

KEY POINTS

In 2009, the ICRC:

- shared with the detaining authorities its findings and recommendations following visits to over 27,000 people deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia
- enabled families in the region to restore and maintain contact with their relatives detained/ interned abroad via RCMs, telephone calls and videoconferencing
- acting as a neutral intermediary, pursued dialogue with the Moroccan authorities and the Polisario Front aimed at clarifying the fate of persons still unaccounted for from the Western Sahara conflict
- provided limb-fitting and physical rehabilitation services at its centre, serving as a priority mine victims residing in Sahrawi refugee camps in south-western Algeria
- provided IHL training in the region for diplomats, armed forces personnel, civilian magistrates, academics and influential members of civil society
- strengthened cooperation with the region's National Societies, in particular with the Libyan Red Crescent in the field of tracing and with the Mauritanian Red Crescent to boost its strategic planning and institutional reform process

CONTEXT

Security forces throughout the region remained on high alert as clashes with armed Islamist groups in Algeria and the Sahel region were reported. Moroccan officials announced the continued dismantlement of extremist Islamist cells in the country, while Mauritania reported its first ever suicide bombing, two kidnappings of foreigners and the targeted killing of another. Security operations resulted in an undisclosed number of arrests throughout the region.

General Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz, leader of the August 2008 military coup in Mauritania, won presidential elections in July with 52% of the vote and took up his post in August. Foreign observers stated the poll was largely honest, but the main opposition candidates alleged fraud. Donor aid programmes suspended after the military coup resumed progressively thereafter. The newly elected president's vigorous anti-corruption campaign raised internal political tensions.

Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was re-elected to a fifth term in office in October.

The final status of Western Sahara remained a point of contention between Morocco and the Polisario Front. On 30 April, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara by one year. The fate of both civilians and combatants unaccounted for from that conflict remained a source of deep anguish for the families concerned. Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) scattered throughout the region during the Western Sahara and previous conflicts continued to pose a threat to the population.

The Maghreb remained a transit route for sub-Saharan nationals and others seeking irregular entry to Europe. Tighter controls on irregular immigration into Europe increased the number of would-be migrants seeking to settle in countries in North Africa, as well as the number of migrants forcibly returned from Europe.

Lower levels of foreign investment linked to the global economic downturn adversely affected large-scale construction and infrastructure projects in various countries.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	Total		Total	Women	Children	
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹		WOUNDED AND SICK				
Detainees visited	28,271	Physical rehabilitation				
Detainees visited and monitored individually	616	Patients receiving services	Patients	257	69	41
Number of visits carried out	84	Prostheses delivered	Units	23		
Number of places of detention visited	49	Orthoses delivered	Units	50	27	5
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS						
Red Cross messages (RCMs) and reunifications						
RCMs collected	422					
RCMs distributed	416					
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons ²						
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	105					
of whom women	28					
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	32					
Tracing cases closed positively (persons located)	12					
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	103					
of whom women	30					
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	27					
DOCUMENTS ISSUED						
People to whom travel documents were issued	14					
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	1,476					

1. Mauritania and Tunisia

2. Not including people missing as a consequence of the Western Sahara armed conflict

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

Visits to people deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia to monitor their treatment and living conditions, and the subsequent confidential dialogue with the detaining authorities with a view to addressing identified needs, remained a cornerstone of the ICRC's action in the region. Addressing humanitarian issues stemming from the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict was another.

In Tunisia, the Ministry of Justice and the ICRC cooperated in particular on a joint analysis of the causes of prison overcrowding and potential remedial action in the framework of long-term development of the penitentiary and penal systems. The authorities, supported by the ICRC, pressed ahead with reforms aimed at reducing prison admissions by progressively developing alternatives to imprisonment. In Mauritania, detainees' access to clean water and open spaces was enhanced as a result of ICRC financing of prison infrastructure projects, while the provision of medical supplies bolstered the capacity of the prison directorate's medical division to meet detainees' health needs.

Acting as a neutral intermediary between Morocco and the Polisario Front, the ICRC pursued efforts to clarify the fate of both civilians and combatants unaccounted for in connection with the 1975–91 Western Sahara conflict in order to relieve the anguish of the families concerned.

Families in the region were able, through the RCM network, phone calls and videoconferencing, to restore or maintain contact with relatives detained/interned in Afghanistan, Iraq and the US internment facility at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba. Migrants in the region also benefited from these services.

Production continued at an ICRC prosthetic/orthotic workshop and physical rehabilitation centre close to the Sahrawi refugee

camps in south-western Algeria to fit mine victims and other disabled refugees with mobility appliances. Since it opened in 2007, the centre had decreased the cost of providing limb-fitting services as patients no longer had to travel to Algiers or even abroad, and also reduced the time needed to repair patients' mobility aids. It also trained locally hired personnel in order to ensure a sustainable limb-fitting service over the long term.

Networking and joint activities with the region's armed forces and key sectors of civil society, such as the media, universities, NGOs, professional organizations and religious institutions, continued to develop as a means of promoting IHL and increasing understanding of and support for the ICRC's mandate and activities. The active promotion of IHL in countries covered by the regional delegation also involved a sustained dialogue with civilian authorities and national implementation bodies.

In close coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC lent its support to Red Crescent Societies in the region, with a focus on developing their activities in accordance with the Fundamental Principles, in particular in the fields of IHL promotion and tracing.

CIVILIANS

Family contacts severed by conflict are re-established

Families in North Africa continued to rely on ICRC tracing and RCM 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. Migrants or their families also requested these services – directly or through National Societies – notably in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Families had regular and direct contact by telephone or videoconferencing with their relatives held at Guantanamo Bay and at

Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan, while family contacts with persons held in Iraq were mainly via RCMs.

Efforts are pursued to resolve missing persons cases from the Western Sahara conflict

Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC maintained a dialogue with the Moroccan authorities and with the Polisario Front to help clarify the fate of combatants and civilians still missing from the Western Sahara conflict. After being urged by the ICRC to each establish an officially mandated structure to collect, process and exchange relevant information with a view to resolving these cases and, with ICRC support, informing the families of the outcome, Morocco appointed the Consultative Council on Human Rights (in 2008) and the Polisario Front the "Saharawi Red Crescent" (in 2009) for that purpose. In order to facilitate this task, to increase the level of information exchanged and to provide information and support to the families, the authorities concerned benefited from ICRC technical expertise in handling the issue of missing persons.

In the region:

- ▶ 356 RCMs collected from and 409 RCMs distributed to civilians; 35 phone calls and 4 videoconferences arranged between families living in Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritania and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and their relatives detained/ interned abroad; 123 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a relative detained/ interned abroad
- ▶ new tracing requests registered for 105 people (28 women; 32 minors at the time of disappearance); 12 people located; 113 people (30 women; 25 minors at the time of disappearance) still being sought (figures not including people missing as a consequence of the Western Sahara armed conflict)
- ▶ 14 people issued with an ICRC travel document
- ▶ 1,475 detention certificates issued to former prisoners of the Western Sahara conflict or their families

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in Mauritania and Tunisia received regular visits from the ICRC, in accordance with its standard working procedures and the two agreements signed with the respective authorities in 2005. Emphasis was placed on visits to people convicted of acts endangering State security, as well as to particularly vulnerable people such as foreign detainees, minors, migrants and those sentenced to death. The authorities received confidential reports containing the ICRC's findings and recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions, including on some individual cases requiring follow-up.

In Morocco, contacts were made with the penitentiary authorities to secure ICRC access to a Moroccan formerly interned in Guantanamo Bay and detained since his repatriation.

A resumption of visits to detainees held by the Polisario Front was agreed to in principle but had not yet started by year-end.

Mauritania

- ▶ 1,952 detainees visited, of whom 70 monitored individually (1 minors) and 17 newly registered (1 minor), during 28 visits to 12 places of detention
- ▶ 58 RCMs collected from and 3 RCMs distributed to detainees

Political changes in the country in 2009 did not create an environment conducive to tackling penitentiary reform nor to introducing structural measures to improve the prison medical service.

Infrastructure projects improve access to clean water and open space in Mauritanian prisons

Detainees in Nouakchott central prison, mainly held under the 2005 anti-terrorism law, received regular ICRC visits. People held in the Nouakchott civil prison, which housed almost 70% of the country's total prison population, began to participate in a hygiene education programme run by an NGO, with ICRC support, in coordination with the Ministry of Justice. Ministry of Justice infrastructure projects carried out with ICRC financial and technical support improved access to clean water for detainees in Nouakchott civil prison and to open air in Nouadhibou civil prison, the country's second largest. Detained children and women benefited from assistance and training through a local NGO. The provision of medical supplies boosted the capacity of the prison directorate's medical division, set up in 2008, to meet detainees' health care needs.

Tunisia

- ▶ 23,319 detainees visited, of whom 546 monitored individually (1 woman; 1 minor) and 223 newly registered (1 minor), during 56 visits to 37 places of detention
- ▶ 8 RCMs collected from and 4 RCMs distributed to detainees and 2 phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of their detained relative
- ▶ 1 detention certificate issued to a former detainee or his family

Relations between the Tunisian Ministry of Justice and the ICRC developed. With ICRC support, the authorities continued to engage in long-term reform of the penal and penitentiary systems. They also followed up recommendations regarding the treatment and living conditions of people in solitary confinement for disciplinary reasons or regarding the role of doctors in prisons, while pursuing a constructive dialogue with the ICRC on many issues, such as the situation of people sentenced to death.

A solution is sought to prison overcrowding

In Tunisia, the Ministry of Justice and the ICRC worked on a joint analysis of the causes of prison overcrowding in order to find viable alternatives in the framework of the long-term development of the penal and penitentiary systems. Senior Tunisian prison administration staff undertook a one-week working visit to Switzerland to compare standards and operating procedures in prisons there. The implementation of identified reforms aimed at reducing prison admissions by developing alternatives to imprisonment was expected to take several years.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Disabled people continued to benefit from services provided by the ICRC limb-fitting and physical rehabilitation centre set up in 2007 close to the Sahrawi refugee camps in south-western Algeria. The centre, located in the Tindouf region, had the capacity to produce 80 to 100 prostheses a year, as well as orthoses, crutches and wheelchairs. It catered as a priority to the needs of the estimated 450 Sahrawis residing in refugee camps who had been maimed by mines or ERW. Local technicians continued their training with the support of the ICRC technician.

The centre significantly lowered the cost of limb-fitting for disabled patients, who no longer had to travel to Algiers or even abroad for such services, and reduced the turnaround time for repairs to mobility aids.

- 257 patients (including 69 women and 41 children) received services at 1 ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centre
- 14 new patients fitted with prostheses and 37 (including 21 women and 1 child) fitted with orthoses
- 23 prostheses (21 for mine victims), 50 orthoses (including 27 for women and 5 for children; 3 for mine victims), 43 crutches and 6 wheelchairs delivered

Mine-awareness activities were postponed to 2010 owing to the lack of specialized staff to initiate them.

AUTHORITIES

In Mauritania, the authorities and the ICRC signed a headquarters agreement formalizing the ICRC's presence and activities in the country, while dialogue continued with the Moroccan authorities on reaching a similar agreement in Morocco.

Authorities in Morocco and Tunisia worked on IHL instruments to be ratified or integrated into national legislation, with ICRC technical advice, documentation and financial support.

In Morocco, national IHL committee members for the first time attended a seminar on IHL and their role. This accelerated their work. They organized various seminars and workshops on the Additional Protocols, the Rome Statute and legislation on protection of the emblem. Nineteen diplomats attended a seminar on IHL and the ICRC organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In Tunisia, the national IHL committee pursued the training of magistrates identified as future instructors, 20 of whom also attended a three-day ICRC seminar on issues ranging from IHL to penal procedures. Three of the participants subsequently attended a regional IHL course, organized with the League of Arab States in Beirut, Lebanon (see *Egypt*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Armed forces in the region continued to strengthen their IHL education and training capacities, with the technical and financial support of the ICRC. The work achieved also enhanced their knowledge of the ICRC's mandate and work in armed conflicts.

The Libyan armed forces integrated IHL provisions into their training manuals and completed the training of future trainers. The Tunisian armed forces published an IHL training manual and the Staff College received two full sets of IHL documentation. In both countries, the armed forces had become autonomous in the teaching of IHL.

Training of officers and instructors in IHL continued in Mauritania and Morocco.

In 2009, no officer from the region participated in the annual Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

- 15 armed forces instructors attended a four-day course on IHL
- 23 military magistrates and prosecutors attended a three-day workshop on IHL/international human rights law and the international penal system
- 30 members of the African Union's Standby Force (Northern Brigade) executive committee familiarized with IHL and the ICRC's mandate and operations
- 19 legal advisers attended a three-day IHL workshop in preparation for their participation in peacekeeping operations

Mauritania

- 32 army, national guard, *gendarmérie* and security officers attended a three-day workshop on international standards governing the use of force and firearms in peace and wartime
- 15 officers attended a first presentation on the same subject held at the Command and Staff College

Morocco

- 25 officers attended a refresher course on IHL and the ICRC at the Collège Royal d'Enseignement Militaire Supérieur
- 30 military legal experts attended a four-day workshop on IHL and the international penal system
- 40 officers attended a seminar on IHL prior to their deployment on an international peacekeeping mission

CIVIL SOCIETY

Networking continued with influential members of civil society, including the media, to enlist their support in the promotion and implementation of IHL and for ICRC activities.

The media gave wide coverage to various events held in the region to mark the “Our world. Your move.” communication campaign, for example its launch with a photo exhibition by the Tunisian Red Crescent.

These events also promoted IHL and the ICRC’s mandate and activities among various audiences, including diplomats, magistrates, parliamentarians and academics. This was the case during the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions in Tunis organized by the Association des Etudes Internationales together with the National Society and the national IHL committee.

In Morocco, the national IHL committee held a one-day round-table with 30 university deans and lecturers to review and promote IHL teaching and research in the country (see *Authorities*). Al-Qarawiyyin University organized for the first time a three-day regional seminar on the provisions of Islamic law and IHL, attended by lecturers and researchers from all five North African countries. Fifty Libyan lecturers from Benghazi University participated in a first round-table on Islamic law and IHL.

The Moroccan Ministry of Education held two events for inspectors and teachers focusing on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme and producing the relevant teaching materials. In December, the ministry announced the creation of a scientific council tasked with overseeing the educational reform process integrating the ICRC programme.

During 2009, the Tunisian authorities took over full ownership of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Cooperation between the region’s National Societies and the ICRC continued in close coordination with the International Federation, in particular with the Libyan Red Crescent in the field of tracing and with the Mauritanian Red Crescent to boost its strategic planning and institutional reform processes.

Together with the International Federation, the ICRC encouraged National Societies to develop a regional approach to the humanitarian challenges posed by the growing trend of irregular migration affecting countries in North Africa. A greater understanding of the needs of migrants in the Sahel was gained through several initiatives, including a meeting organized by the ICRC in Mali attended by all five National Societies in North Africa.

Around 150 volunteers from all National Societies in the region attended a disaster management session hosted by the Libyan Red Crescent and organized by the International Federation. The ICRC provided input on restoring family links and ensured that the Safer Access approach was integrated into the training session.

Twenty volunteers from the five southern branches of the Moroccan Red Crescent located in the Western Sahara under Moroccan administration were trained in the dangers of weapon contamination. The participants would develop communication activities to sensitize the public to mines and ERW.

At the request of the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO), the ICRC organized an IHL session hosted by the Tunisian Red Crescent for all ARCO member National Societies.

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	479,669	147,305	140,718	61,034	130,612
Detainees visited and monitored individually	43,152	3,708	19,760	5,999	13,685
Detainees newly registered in 2009	28,170	2,177	14,929	2,335	8,729
Detainees released	29,382	1,440	3,322	1,021	23,599
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	120	72	13	2	33
Number of visits carried out	5,370	1,859	1,481	715	1,315
Number of places of detention visited	1,890	630	576	370	314
Number of detainees who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	28,079	128	9,390	2,247	16,314
Detained women					
Detained women visited and monitored individually	2,882	61	2,280	366	175
Detained women newly registered in 2009	2,425	47	2,126	162	90
Detained women released	511	36	262	72	141
Number of detained women who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	1,278	-	1,200	78	-
Detained minors					
Detained minors visited and monitored individually	1,759	114	619	134	892
Detained minors newly registered in 2009	1,486	107	575	126	678
Detained minors released	1,292	74	106	29	1,083
Number of detained minors who benefited from the ICRC's family visits programme	224	1	219	-	4
International armed conflicts (Third Geneva Convention)					
Prisoners of war (POWs) visited	205	23	-	182	-
POWs newly registered in 2009	7	-	-	7	-
POWs released	39	-	-	39	-
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	1	-	-	1	-
Number of visits carried out	36	8	-	28	-
Number of places visited	9	3	-	6	-
International armed conflicts (Fourth Geneva Convention)					
Civilian internees (CIs) and others visited	5,594	-	-	-	5,594
CIs and others newly registered in 2009	3,029	-	-	-	3,029
CIs and others released	12,421	-	-	-	12,421
of whom repatriated or transferred by/via the ICRC	-	-	-	-	-
Number of visits carried out	383	-	-	-	383
Number of places visited	41	-	-	-	41
RESTORING FAMILY LINKS					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)					
RCMs collected	253,764	117,539	20,456	5,361	110,408
of which from detainees	71,921	5,725	10,181	3,904	52,111
of which from unaccompanied minors/separated children	2,465	2,459	5	-	1
of which from civilians	179,378	109,355	10,270	1,457	58,296
RCMs distributed	254,960	108,545	18,136	3,590	124,689
of which to detainees	70,833	3,330	6,060	2,365	59,078
of which to unaccompanied minors/separated children	1,911	1,911	-	-	-
of which to civilians	182,216	103,304	12,076	1,225	65,611
RCMs not distributed (back to sender)	17,036	10,578	622	137	5,699
Other means of family contact					
Telephone calls facilitated between family members (by cellular or satellite phone)	12,054	993	10,382	421	258
Telephone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	12,971	691	3,711	695	7,874
Names published in the media	36,076	34,728	1,348	-	-
Names published on the ICRC website	83,093	58,945	1,348	13,347	9,453

	WORLD	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families	1,063	1,015	6	35	7
Civilians transferred	15,150	54	13,465	51	1,580
Human remains transferred	781	-	778	3	-
Civilians repatriated	64	21	20	-	23
Human remains repatriated	3	-	-	-	3
Tracing requests					
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	7,810	3,181	3,344	793	492
who were women	1,292	662	468	61	101
who were minors at the time of disappearance	2,260	1,540	538	82	100
Tracing requests closed positively (person located)	4,128	1,559	1,024	1,309	236
Tracing requests closed negatively (person not located)	5,906	4,233	426	187	1,060
Tracing requests still being handled at 31 December 2009 (people)	45,605	4,358	18,121	19,731	3,395
of whom women	3,951	934	934	1,950	133
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	5,009	1,780	2,044	957	228
Missing persons ¹					
Cases of missing persons newly opened	1,425	-	809	616	-
who were women	68	-	28	40	-
who were minors when reported missing	84	-	45	39	-
Cases of missing persons closed positively	1,196	2	85	1,107	2
Cases of missing persons closed negatively	180	-	52	128	-
Cases of missing persons still being handled at 31 December 2009	37,186	160	16,044	19,496	1,486
of whom women	2,496	-	575	1,916	5
of whom minors at the time of disappearance	2,375	-	1,422	908	45
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SCs)					
UAMs/SCs newly registered	2,306	2,194	109	-	3
by the ICRC and/or the National Society	2,294	2,187	104	-	3
of whom girls	598	562	35	-	1
UAMs/SCs reunited with their families ³	1,642	1,575	63	1	3
by the ICRC and/or the National Society	1,025	1,015	6	1	3
of whom girls	272	271	-	-	1
UAMs/SCs cases still being handled at 31 December 2009	1,698	1,641	57	-	-
of whom girls	505	486	19	-	-
Unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers ²					
Demobilized child soldiers newly registered	667	662	5	-	-
by the ICRC and/or the National Society	656	656	-	-	-
of whom girls	10	10	-	-	-
Demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families ³	584	579	5	-	-
by the ICRC and/or the National Society	408	408	-	-	-
of whom girls	13	13	-	-	-
Cases of demobilized child soldiers still being handled at 31 December 2009	272	268	4	-	-
of whom girls	2	2	-	-	-
DOCUMENTS ISSUED					
People to whom travel documents were issued	4,152	407	886	357	2,502
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	23,473	225	894	351	22,003
Other attestations issued	469	40	69	227	133
Documents transmitted/transferred	3,790	113	-	37	3,640
PERSONS SOLICITING ICRC OFFICES IN THE FIELD					
People who visited or telephoned ICRC offices	932,905	24,467	103,912	23,284	781,242

1. Figures for missing persons are included in the figures for tracing requests above

2. Figures for unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers are included in the figures for unaccompanied minors and separated children above

3. 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

GENERAL

Child/minor

A person under 18 or under the legal age of majority.

Girl

A female child/minor.

Woman

A female person aged 18 or above or of the legal age of majority.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees visited

During the period under consideration, the 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

The 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

The number of detainees visited for the first time since their arrest and registered during the period under consideration.

Detainees released

The 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

The 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

The number of detainees who were visited by a relative via an ICRC-organized or -financed visit during the period under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS (THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION)

Prisoners of war (POWs) visited

The number of POWs visited and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs newly registered

The number of POWs visited for the first time since capture, and monitored individually during the period under consideration.

POWs released

The number of POWs released during the period under consideration.

POWs repatriated by/via the ICRC

The number of POWs released and repatriated by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

Number of visits carried out

The number of visits to POWs carried out during the period under consideration.

Number of places visited

The 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

The 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

The 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

The number of CIs and other persons protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention who were released as per information received from various sources, including those transferred or repatriated by the ICRC upon release, during the period under consideration.

Number of visits carried out

The 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

The 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

The number of RCMs collected, regardless of the destination of the RCM, during the period under consideration.

RCMs distributed

The number of RCMs distributed, regardless of the origin of the RCM, during the period under consideration.

RCMs not distributed and sent back to sender

The 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.

OTHER MEANS OF FAMILY CONTACT**Telephone calls facilitated between family members (by cellular or satellite phone)**

The number of calls between family members facilitated by the ICRC, which provided the means of communication.

Telephone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative

The number of calls made by the ICRC to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative.

Names published in the media

The number of names of people sought by their relatives or providing information about themselves for their relatives published in the media (e.g. newspaper or radio broadcast).

Names published on the ICRC website

The number of names of people sought by their relatives or providing information about themselves for their relatives published on the ICRC website www.familylinks.icrc.org.

REUNIFICATIONS, TRANSFERS AND REPATRIATIONS**People reunited with their families**

The number of people reunited with their families under the auspices of the ICRC during the period under consideration.

Civilians transferred/human remains transferred

The 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

The 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**

The 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 being sought by their families, or were presumed to have been arrested and/or detained – and whom the ICRC is going to take steps to locate or clarify their fate.

Tracing requests closed positively

The 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

The 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

The 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**

The number of people for whom a missing person file was opened during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons closed positively

The number of people whose case was resolved (closed positively), i.e. people who were located or confirmed deceased, during the period under consideration.

Cases of missing persons closed negatively

The 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

The 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**

The number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers registered by the ICRC, the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or by another organization during the period under consideration, and whose data are centralized by the ICRC.

UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families

The number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers reunited with their families by the ICRC, the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or by another organization during the period under consideration.

Cases of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers still being handled at 31 December

The number of UAMs/SCs/demobilized child soldiers whose cases were opened but who had not yet been reunited by the ICRC, the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or by another organization during the period under consideration; these include cases concerning children whose parents were being sought, or those concerning children whose parents had been found but with whom they had not yet been reunited.

1. All cases of people whose fate is not known to either 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. A child under 18 or under the 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. A child under 18 or under the legal age of majority separated from both parents or from his/her previous legal caregiver but accompanied by another adult relative

DOCUMENTS ISSUED

People to whom travel documents were issued

The number of beneficiaries of travel documents issued by the ICRC during the period under consideration.

People to whom a detention attestation was issued

The 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

The number of attestations – not related to detention – issued during the period under consideration.

Documents transmitted/transferred

The 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

The number of people who contacted an ICRC office in the field, either in person or by telephone, during the period under consideration.

ASSISTANCE FIGURES AND INDICATORS

	WORLD ¹	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
ECONOMIC SECURITY (Number of beneficiaries)					
Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)					
Essential household items	1,719,698	452,829	956,063	13,181	297,625
Food	2,295,329	559,153	1,439,926	4,389	291,861
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	2,305,100	1,716,117	384,266	16,371	188,346
Internally displaced people					
Essential household items	2,658,165	1,111,057	1,275,449	80,417	191,242
Food	1,757,230	597,981	1,000,524	39,704	119,021
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	625,589	570,221	5,400	49,968	-
Detainees					
Essential household items	110,239	64,972	27,419	6,960	10,888
Food	16,105	16,105	-	-	-
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	72	72	-	-	-
Total all target populations					
Essential household items	4,488,102	1,628,858	2,258,931	100,558	499,755
Food	4,068,664	1,173,239	2,440,450	44,093	410,882
Agricultural and veterinary inputs and micro-economic initiatives	2,930,761	2,286,410	389,666	66,339	188,346
WATER AND HABITAT (Number of beneficiaries)					
Civilians (residents, returnees, etc.)					
Water and habitat activities (number of beneficiaries)	13,323,260	5,733,651	1,647,059	773,248	5,169,302
Internally displaced people					
Water and habitat activities (number of beneficiaries)	767,736	405,001	318,438	847	43,450
Detainees					
Water and habitat activities (number of beneficiaries)	157,976	111,604	34,553	7,902	3,917
Wounded and sick					
Water and habitat activities (number of beds)	17,852	2,987	6,100	-	8,765
Total projects all target populations					
Water and habitat activities (number of beneficiaries)	14,248,972	6,250,256	2,000,050	781,997	5,216,669
Water and habitat activities (number of beds)	17,852	2,987	6,100	-	8,765
COMMUNITY HEALTH (Number of beneficiaries)					
Health centres supported					
Number of health centres supported	330	144	54	79	53
Monthly average of health centres supported	180	112	26	20	22
Estimated population covered by these health centres (monthly average)	3,295,678	2,243,597	183,462	14,648	853,971

1. Sum of available data, which may not always reflect the full extent of ICRC operations

	WORLD ¹	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Activities					
Number of ante/post-natal consultations (total)	283,176	235,551	11,532	29,021	7,072
5 < Age < 15	25,952	8,332	-	17,620	-
Age ≥ 15	257,224	227,219	11,532	11,401	7,072
Number of immunization activities (total)	1,299,586	1,170,519	110,607	65	18,395
Age ≤ 5	1,083,420	994,193	87,284	8	1,935
5 < Age < 15	54,205	51,853	2,323	15	14
Age ≥ 15	145,975	124,473	21,000	42	460
Age unknown	15,986	-	-	-	15,986
Of which: number of polio immunizations (total)	654,196	611,138	37,535	65	5,458
Age ≤ 5	628,469	591,030	37,431	8	-
5 < Age < 15	14,587	14,476	96	15	-
Age ≥ 15	5,682	5,632	8	42	-
Age unknown	5,458	-	-	-	5,458
Number of curative consultations (total)	2,261,183	1,581,579	279,495	45,892	354,217
Age ≤ 5	636,065	460,322	84,063	2,779	88,901
5 < Age < 15	288,554	223,733	28,613	3,082	33,126
Age ≥ 15	1,336,564	897,524	166,819	40,031	232,190
Of which: number of females attending curative consultations (total)	1,254,507	915,664	150,052	29,618	159,173
Age ≤ 5	297,092	219,744	40,472	1,412	35,464
5 < Age < 15	140,247	107,493	14,947	1,580	16,227
Age ≥ 15	817,168	588,427	94,633	26,626	107,482
Number of health education sessions held (total)	14,465	8,301	5,524	24	616
Number of cases referred from first- to second-line health facilities (total)	37,515	33,527	1,572	68	2,348
Age ≤ 5	7,213	6,010	195	2	1,006
5 < Age < 15	2,969	2,783	180	6	-
Age ≥ 15	27,333	24,734	1,197	60	1,342
Of which: number of gynaecological/obstetric cases referred (total)	10,663	9,928	93	8	634
5 < Age < 15	90	88	2	-	-
Age ≥ 15	10,573	9,840	91	8	634

HOSPITAL SUPPORT ²

Hospitals supported					
Number of supported hospitals that provided statistics	105	25	15	12	53
Number of supported hospitals that did not provide statistics	163	19	51	-	93
Monthly average of supported hospitals that provided statistics	51	13	12	1	25
Monthly average of supported hospitals that did not provide statistics	35	8	9	-	18
Activities					
Inpatient surgical activities					
Number of weapon-wounded admitted (total)	25,586	6,502	6,191	1,196	11,697
Women	1,560	1,044	397	119	-
Men	11,123	4,894	5,180	1,049	-
Girls < 15 years	376	218	148	10	-
Boys < 15 years	830	346	466	18	-
Age unknown	11,697	-	-	-	11,697

1. Sum of available data, which may not always reflect the extent of ICRC operations

2. Breakdown of women/men/children not available for hospital support in the Middle East and North Africa

	WORLD ¹	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Of which: number of patients admitted with injuries caused by mines or explosive remnants of war (total)	1,678	118	1,393	119	48
Women	90	13	64	13	-
Men	1,209	96	1,013	100	-
Girls < 15 years	42	1	38	3	-
Boys < 15 years	289	8	278	3	-
Age unknown	48	-	-	-	48
Number of non-weapon-wounded surgical cases admitted (total)	143,347	7,959	18,764	4,207	112,417
Women	9,136	2,884	4,767	1,485	-
Men	15,139	3,743	9,503	1,893	-
Girls < 15 years	2,569	551	1,645	373	-
Boys < 15 years	4,086	781	2,849	456	-
Age unknown	112,417	-	-	-	112,417
Number of operations performed	161,405	20,280	24,558	3,110	113,457
Inpatient medical activities					
Number of medical patients admitted (total)	202,942	28,643	26,271	2,139	145,889
Women	14,667	6,896	7,105	666	-
Men	13,571	5,393	7,816	362	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	4,128	2,154	1,729	245	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	3,773	1,682	1,854	237	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	10,722	6,681	3,714	327	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	10,192	5,837	4,053	302	-
Age unknown	145,889	-	-	-	145,889
Inpatient gynaecological/obstetric activities					
Number of gynaecological/obstetric patients admitted (total)	129,211	13,671	20,158	1,713	93,669
Women	128,637	13,503	19,784	1,681	93,669
Girls < 15 years	574	168	374	32	-
Outpatient activities, including specialized clinics					
Number of surgical outpatients treated (total)	491,624	12,005	124,465	-	355,154
Women	29,336	3,664	25,672	-	-
Men	55,163	5,224	49,939	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	12,545	929	11,616	-	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	20,702	986	19,716	-	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	8,158	636	7,522	-	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	10,566	566	10,000	-	-
Age unknown	355,154	-	-	-	355,154
Number of medical outpatients treated (total)	578,182	146,013	116,230	-	315,939
Women	89,660	51,668	37,992	-	-
Men	63,908	29,908	34,000	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	19,939	13,219	6,720	-	-
Boys 5 < Age < 15	19,293	11,646	7,647	-	-
Girls ≤ 5 years	36,520	22,577	13,943	-	-
Boys ≤ 5 years	32,923	16,995	15,928	-	-
Age unknown	315,939	-	-	-	315,939
Number of gynaecological/obstetric outpatients treated (total)	171,777	10,723	33,356	-	127,698
Women	43,186	10,602	32,584	-	-
Girls 5 < Age < 15	893	121	772	-	-
Age unknown	127,698	-	-	-	127,698

1. Sum of available data, which may not always reflect the extent of ICRC operations

	WORLD ¹	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
First-aid activities					
First-aid posts supported					
Number of supported first-aid posts that provided statistics	15	5	10	-	-
Number of supported first-aid posts that did not provide statistics	28	21	2	-	5
Monthly average of supported first-aid posts that provided statistics	11	5	6	-	-
Monthly average of supported first-aid posts that did not provide statistics	7	7	-	-	-
Number of wounded treated in the first-aid posts (total)	22,072	8,672	13,400	-	-
Women	5,089	2,194	2,895	-	-
Men	10,286	4,299	5,987	-	-
Girls < 15 years	2,912	832	2,080	-	-
Boys < 15 years	3,785	1,347	2,438	-	-
PHYSICAL REHABILITATION					
Number of physical rehabilitation centres supported (total)	82	25	26	11	20
Activities					
Number of patients receiving services from the centres (total)	182,712	16,156	100,853	26,545	39,158
Women	32,479	3,425	16,330	6,402	6,322
Men	102,731	8,861	65,155	8,626	20,089
Girls < 15 years	20,711	1,612	7,867	5,644	5,588
Boys < 15 years	26,791	2,258	11,501	5,873	7,159
Number of amputees receiving services from the centres (total)	68,860	4,790	36,824	6,635	20,611
Women	9,471	797	3,146	2,293	3,235
Men	55,361	3,675	32,740	3,579	15,367
Girls < 15 years	1,596	134	390	285	787
Boys < 15 years	2,432	184	548	478	1,222
Number of new patients fitted with prostheses (new to the ICRC) (total)	8,821	2,062	3,778	268	2,713
Women	1,420	370	498	38	514
Men	6,793	1,562	3,116	219	1,896
Girls < 15 years	228	44	64	2	118
Boys < 15 years	380	86	100	9	185
Number of prostheses delivered (total)	20,057	4,117	10,170	1,354	4,416
Women	2,741	694	1,125	261	661
Men	16,224	3,173	8,669	974	3,408
Girls < 15 years	426	95	159	39	133
Boys < 15 years	666	155	217	80	214
Of which: number of prostheses delivered to mine victims (total)	7,138	904	5,372	246	616
Women	519	82	326	34	77
Men	6,448	797	4,986	207	458
Girls < 15 years	55	10	16	1	28
Boys < 15 years	116	15	44	4	53

1. Sum of available data, which may not always reflect the extent of ICRC operations

	WORLD ¹	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & THE AMERICAS	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Number of non-amputees receiving services from the centres (total)	113,850	11,366	64,027	19,910	18,547
Women	23,007	2,627	13,184	4,109	3,087
Men	47,373	5,187	32,417	5,047	4,722
Girls < 15 years	19,114	1,478	7,476	5,359	4,801
Boys < 15 years	24,356	2,074	10,950	5,395	5,937
Number of new patients fitted with orthoses (new to the ICRC) (total)	20,148	2,298	6,434	347	11,069
Women	3,952	512	1,239	53	2,148
Men	5,890	764	2,431	43	2,652
Girls < 15 years	4,362	435	1,066	116	2,745
Boys < 15 years	5,944	587	1,698	135	3,524
Number of orthoses delivered (total)	42,279	4,115	14,311	7,728	16,125
Women	7,166	981	2,139	1,509	2,537
Men	11,740	1,327	5,205	2,049	3,159
Girls < 15 years	10,030	765	2,653	1,968	4,644
Boys < 15 years	13,343	1,042	4,314	2,202	5,785
Of which: number of orthoses delivered to mine victims (total)	535	31	325	18	161
Women	98	3	64	1	30
Men	312	20	220	16	56
Girls < 15 years	47	1	15	-	31
Boys < 15 years	78	7	26	1	44
Crutches and sticks delivered (total units)	26,860	6,310	17,237	423	2,890
Women	3,911	922	2,350	79	560
Men	20,892	4,832	13,526	329	2,205
Girls < 15 years	772	231	493	5	43
Boys < 15 years	1,285	325	868	10	82
Wheelchairs delivered (total)	2,652	828	1,686	22	116
Women	537	208	305	3	21
Men	1,741	558	1,072	19	92
Girls < 15 years	85	17	67	-	1
Boys < 15 years	289	45	242	-	2
Components delivered to non-ICRC projects					
Artificial feet	114	-	114	-	-
Artificial knees	611	-	611	-	-
Alignment systems	2,801	-	2,801	-	-
Orthotic knee joints (pairs)	732	-	732	-	-

1. Sum of available data, which may not always reflect the extent of ICRC operations

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 is one person who has benefited from **some form of** economic security support at least once over the course of the year. A person who has benefited from **the same form of** 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 that 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 2009 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 2009 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 input (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 is 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 that 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 number of detainees in the structures supported.

Wounded and sick

The figures shown represent the 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 during the year.

Activities

Beneficiaries are registered according to the service they receive (ante/post-natal 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

The total number of hospitals regularly supported during the year.

Inpatient activities

Beneficiaries are registered according to the service they receive (surgical, medical, gynaecological/obstetric).

Outpatient activities

The 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 (prostheses, orthoses, wheelchairs, walking aids) or for physiotherapy.

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

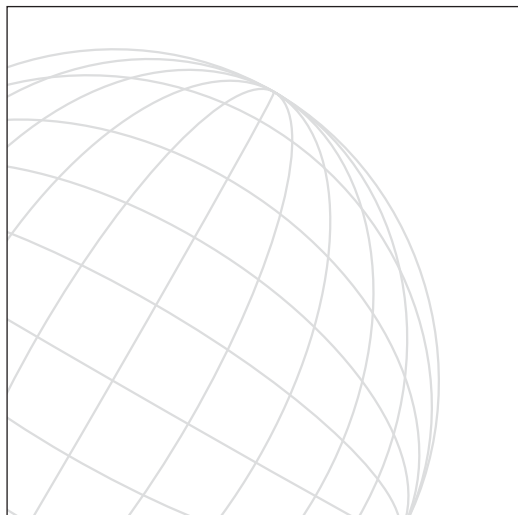
The total number of wheelchairs delivered during the year.

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 2009

The 2009 financial exercise was marked by the difficulties ICRC operations faced in terms of security and access, which led to a lower implementation rate compared with previous years. With the biggest initial budget ever (KCHF 996,800), a total of eight budget extension appeals (KCHF 126,304) were issued in order to meet the most pressing needs of the victims. Overall, 2009 was a challenging year still affected by the aftermath of the turmoil in the financial markets which contributed to extreme volatility in the currency markets. Amid this global economic upheaval, donor support remained strong and the ICRC focused on ensuring that the funds provided by its donors would not in any way be at risk. By applying the “security, liquidity, yield”, or SLY, principle to manage its treasury, the ICRC ensured that its funds were both secure and readily available for its operations, even though this meant lower or no yield. The ICRC reassessed counterparty risks and reduced its exposure accordingly.

EMERGENCY APPEALS

The initial budget of KCHF 996,880 increased by KCHF 126,304 as a result of budget extensions related to the outbreak or escalation of conflict or other situations of violence in areas covered by ICRC delegations in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Israel and the occupied territories, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Total field expenditure amounted to KCHF 942,861, compared with KCHF 990,624 in 2008, representing an 86% implementation rate. Contributions to the field budget reached KCHF 956,800.

HEADQUARTERS APPEAL

The difficulties faced by field activities led to a need for increased support services from headquarters in 2009, resulting in a level of expenditure of KCHF 174,230, which was an implementation rate of 101%. The Directorate confirmed its four-year budget framework, agreed in 2007, of some KCHF 160,000 (cost of living fluctuations not included), so significant increases were not to be expected until 2010. The challenge ahead was therefore to balance headquarters resources with strong and consistent field support.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

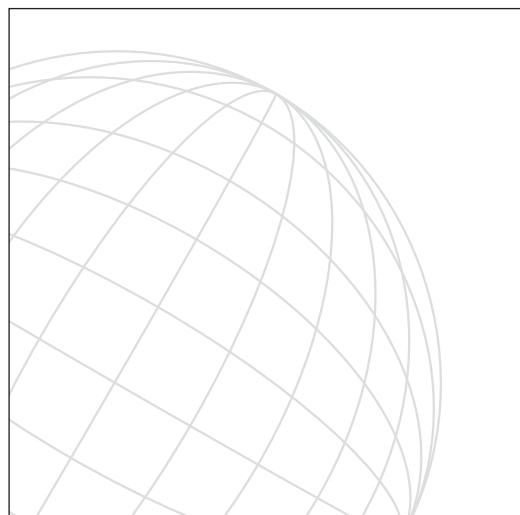
No significant changes occurred in the consolidation perimeter and improved adherence to International Financial Reporting Standards was maintained to ensure further transparency in ICRC financial statements. After consolidation of the results of field and headquarters financial structures, there was an overall surplus for activities of KCHF 50,156, compared with a surplus of KCHF 28,096 in 2008. The consolidated results reflected the operational challenges posed by access and security problems the ICRC faced throughout 2009. Regarding field funding, the sum of temporary deficits of operations was KCHF -15,409, compared with KCHF -1,495 in 2008.

As per Swiss legal requirements with regard to internal control systems, the external auditors have confirmed unreservedly the existence of such a system at the ICRC.

BALANCE SHEET

Significant drivers in the balance sheet remained human resources and long-term donor commitments. Better predictability and shorter payment terms for the latter improved the asset side.

Unrestricted reserves were increased by KCHF 28,882 to enable the ICRC to deal with its future risks and commitments.



consolidated financial statements of the ICRC 2009

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009 (in KCHF)

ASSETS	Notes	2009	2008
Current Assets			(restated)
Cash and short-term deposits	7	387,494	343,993
Investments	8	74,394	64,713
Derivative financial instruments	36	279	691
Accounts receivable	9	141,093	118,889
Prepayments	10	13,393	12,221
Inventories	11	31,489	36,780
Total Current Assets		648,142	577,287
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	12	135,991	113,134
Intangible assets	13	14,429	13,977
Long-term receivables	14	16,127	37,987
Other financial assets	15	1,637	1,480
Total Non-current Assets		168,184	166,578
Total ASSETS		816,326	743,865
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	16	37,163	36,479
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	17	603	11,103
Other financial liabilities	18	146	4
Provisions	19	2,230	667
Employee benefit liabilities	20	28,413	25,958
Accrued expenses and deferred income	22	128,187	84,941
Total Current Liabilities		196,742	159,152
Non-current Liabilities			
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	17	11,924	8,132
Employee benefit liabilities	21	55,563	52,570
Deferred income	22	16,127	38,197
Total Non-current Liabilities		83,614	98,899
Total LIABILITIES		280,356	258,051
Restricted Reserves			
Total funds and foundations		29,911	27,742
Total funding of field operations	24	35,810	16,705
Total Restricted Reserves		65,721	44,447
Unrestricted Reserves			
Total reserves designated by the Assembly	25	455,849	426,967
Total other unrestricted reserves	26	14,400	14,400
Total Unrestricted Reserves		470,249	441,367
Total RESERVES		535,970	485,814
Total LIABILITIES and RESERVES		816,326	743,865

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (in KCHF)

	Notes	2009	2008
Total CONTRIBUTIONS	27	1,104,161	1,146,503
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	28		
Staff-related costs	21/30	-519,022	-488,840
Mission costs		-59,848	-56,757
Rentals		-100,862	-113,953
Subcontracted maintenance		-44,594	-39,359
Purchase of goods and materials		-232,691	-297,225
General expenditure	28	-86,534	-86,738
Depreciation		-21,888	-20,017
Total OPERATING EXPENDITURE		-1,065,439	-1,102,889
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF OPERATING ACTIVITIES		38,722	43,614
OTHER INCOME			
Contributed assets		74	732
Financial income	32	7,160	3,341
Other	33	17,800	15,292
Total OTHER INCOME		25,034	19,365
OTHER EXPENDITURE			
Foreign exchange losses, net	32	-6,873	-27,252
Other	33	-6,727	-7,631
Total OTHER EXPENDITURE		-13,600	-34,883
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES		11,434	-15,518
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		50,156	28,096
ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR			
Allocation to reserves, net		-47,987	-27,884
Allocation to funds and foundations		-2,169	-212
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER ALLOCATIONS		0	0

As defined by International Accounting Standard 1 the ICRC does not have any comprehensive income.

CONSOLIDATED CASH-FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (in KCHF)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes	2009	2008
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		50,156	28,096
Adjustment to reconcile surplus/(deficit) to net cash flows			
Non-cash			
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant and equipment		19,165	16,819
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets		2,791	2,615
Provision and losses on inventories		794	661
Movement in provisions, receivables and specific risks		1,453	-75
Interest and securities income	32	-2,386	-10,018
Interest expense	32	878	340
Losses (gains) on securities, net	32	-4,774	6,677
Gains from disposal of fixed assets, net		-5,936	-4,186
Contributed assets (gifted)		-74	-732
Working Capital Adjustments			
Accounts receivable and prepayments		-427	80,793
Inventories		4,497	1,557
Other assets		-157	-57
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and deferred income		22,001	-89,740
Employee benefit liabilities		5,448	12,035
Net Cash from Operating Activities		93,429	44,785
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-43,905	-35,123
Purchase of intangible assets		-3,243	-5,123
Purchase of securities		-29,479	-24,051
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		7,893	4,906
Proceeds from sale of securities		24,573	21,975
Interest received	32	293	7,582
Income from securities, net	32	1,527	1,298
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities		-42,341	-28,536
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Interest paid	32	-878	-340
Repayment secured and unsecured loan	17	-10,209	-568
Increase of loan		4,000	-
Net Cash from Financing Activities		-7,087	-908
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		44,001	15,341
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		343,878	338,690
Effect of foreign exchange-rate changes		-779	-10,932
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	7	387,100	343,099

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (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 2007 (as reported)			406,138			
Restatement			4,264			
Balance at 31 December 2007	27,530	5,386	410,402	14,400		457,718
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year					28,096	28,096
Balance before transfers to/from reserves	27,530	5,386	410,402	14,400	28,096	485,814
Allocation of surplus/(deficit) of funds and foundation	212				-212	-
Decrease of field operations with temporary deficit financing		31,348			-31,348	-
Decrease in donors' restricted contributions for specific operations		-20,029			20,029	-
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-39,450		39,450	-
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			56,015		-56,015	-
Total movement, net	212	11,319	16,565	-	-28,096	
Balance at 31 December 2008	27,742	16,705	426,967	14,400		485,814
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year					50,156	
Balance before transfers to/from reserves						
Allocation of results of funds and foundations	2,169				-2,169	
Increase of field operations with temporary deficit financing		-13,914			13,914	
Increase in donors' restricted contributions for specific operations		33,019			-33,019	
Use of reserves designated by the Assembly			-50,105		50,105	
Allocation to reserves designated by the Assembly			78,987		-78,987	
Total movement, net	2,169	19,105	28,882	-	-50,156	
Balance at 31 December 2009	29,911	35,810	455,849	14,400		535,970

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009 (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 International Red Cross and Red Crescent 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 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 2009 cover the activities of Geneva headquarters, all ICRC delegations, six funds and two foundations. They were approved by the Directorate on 29 March 2010 for issue to the Assembly Council on 1 April 2010 and for approval by the Assembly on 22 April 2010.

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
- ▶ Augusta Fund
- ▶ Florence Nightingale Medal Fund
- ▶ French Fund Maurice de Madré
- ▶ Paul Reuter 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 for the following new and amended IFRS and International Financial Standards Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) interpretations that become effective 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 as required by IFRS 7 and to the new presentation of the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure.

(in KCHF)

IFRS 2 Share-based Payment (Revised)

IFRS 3R Business Combinations and International Accounting Standard (IAS) 27R Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements (early adopted)

IFRS 7 Financial Instruments

IFRS 8 Operating Segments

IAS 1 Revised Presentation of Financial Statements

IAS 23 Borrowing Costs

IAS 32 Financial Instruments: Presentation and IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements – Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations Arising on Liquidation

IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement – Eligible Hedged Items (early adopted)

Improvements to IFRSs, May 2008

IFRIC 13 Customer Loyalty Programmes

IFRIC 15 Agreement for the Construction of Real Estate

IFRIC 16 Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation

IFRIC 17 Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners (early adopted)

IFRIC 18 Transfers of Assets from Customers (early adopted)

IFRS 1 Additional Exemptions for First-time Adopters (early adopted)

IFRS 2 Group Cash-settled Share-based Payment Transactions (early adopted)

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments (early adopted)

IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures (early adopted)

IAS 32 Classification of Rights Issues (early adopted)

IFRIC 14 Prepayments of a Minimum Funding Requirement (early adopted)

IFRIC 19 Extinguishing Liabilities with Equity Instruments (early adopted)

4. FUTURE CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Standards issued but not yet effective up to the date of issuance of the ICRC's financial statements are listed below:

Improvements to IFRSs, April 2009

In April 2009 the IASB issued amendments to its standards, primarily with a view to removing inconsistencies and clarifying wording. The ICRC will apply the appropriate amendments to the consolidated financial statements from 1 January 2010 onwards.

5. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgments, 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.

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 consolidated into the financial statements (see Note 2).

INVENTORIES HELD ON BEHALF OF BENEFICIARIES

In various delegations certain inventories 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 inventories 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. When value-in-use calculations are undertaken, management estimates the expected future cash flows from the asset and chooses a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

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, employee rotation 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.

(in KCHF)

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 inventory 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	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
USD	1.0298	1.0555	1.0848	1.0789
EUR	1.4836	1.4885	1.5080	1.5929
GBP	1.6705	1.5266	1.6832	2.0307

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.

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 on the basis of 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 inventories 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 inventories 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.

(in KCHF)

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 100 ¹

(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 using 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 20 years
Fixed installations	10 years
Equipment and vehicles	5 to 8 years
Hardware	3 years

Land is not depreciated.

6.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost minus any accumulated amortization and any accumulated impairment losses except for assets with indefinite useful lives (see below). 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.

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 “depreciation”. 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 Non-current assets held for sale

Non-current assets classified as “held for sale” are measured at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Non-current assets are classified as “held for sale” if their carrying amounts will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition. Management must be committed to the sale, which should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification.

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets once classified as “held for sale” are not depreciated or amortized.

6.10 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.

6.11 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.

(in KCHF)

6.12 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 2009.

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 four 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. The reserve also contains funds received from donors for specific fixed assets and is amortized over the life of the asset.

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.

6.13 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 Commission, 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

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 purpose 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

(in KCHF)

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.

6.14 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.

6.15 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 minus past service cost not yet recognized, minus the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly, minus 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 and can neither be withdrawn or used as collateral by the employer. This independent fund is 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 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.

6.16 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.

6.17 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 2009 (see Note 37).

6.18 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 arises 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.

6.19 Fair value of financial instruments

The ICRC determines the fair value of financial instruments (see Note 36) on the basis of the following hierarchy:

Level 1. The fair value of financial instruments quoted in active markets is based on their quoted closing price at the balance sheet date.

Level 2. The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques based on observable market data.

Level 3. This level includes instruments where one or more of the significant inputs are not based on observable market data.

(in KCHF)

6.20 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.

6.21 Restatements

In 2009 the ICRC recognized publications warehoused in Switzerland as inventory which had previously been expensed. Consequently the opening balances of Inventory and Reserves have been restated by KCHF 4,264 (see notes 11 and 25). The inventory was expensed over a number of years and the effect of the change is not material over the prior periods.

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PROVIDE A BREAKDOWN OF THE MAIN ITEMS ON THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION, THE STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, THE CASH-FLOW STATEMENT AND THE STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES.

7. CASH AND SHORT-TERM DEPOSITS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Cash at banks and on hand	79,431	57,235
Short-term deposits	308,063	286,758
Cash and short-term deposits	387,494	343,993

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 2009, the ICRC had available KCHF 85,000 (2008: 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)	2009	2008
Cash at banks and on hand	79,431	57,235
Short-term deposits	308,063	286,758
Bank overdrafts	-394	-894
Cash and cash equivalents	387,100	343,099

8. INVESTMENTS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Debt and equity securities	72,555	61,858
Deposits	1,839	2,855
Total investments	74,394	64,713

Deposits included in investments have an original maturity of over three months.

9. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Pledges (see also Note 37)	137,341	112,237
Re-invoiced costs commercial	1,533	1,275
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	595	1,100
Withholding taxes	1,728	3,999
Other income receivable	566	1,138
Allowance for accounts receivable	-670	-860
Total accounts receivable	141,093	118,889

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 2009 with the following unrealized gains or (losses).

	2009	2008
USD	-1,564	-138
EUR	-2,647	-4,851
GBP	-6,879	-26,426
Other	-139	-998

(in KCHF)

As at 31 December, the ageing analysis in respect of pledges, re-invoiced costs and National Societies is as follows:

(in KCHF)		Neither past due nor impaired	Past due but not impaired				
	Total		< 30 days	31–60 days	61–90 days	91–120 days	> 120 days
2008	113,752	112,678	227	21	67	25	734
2009	138,799	136,677	1,873	57	4	56	132

Movements in the provision for individual impairment of receivables were as follows:

(in KCHF)	Total
At 1 January 2008	1,200
Charge for the year	19
Utilized	-359
At 31 December 2008	860
Charge for the year	1,393
Utilized	-1,583
At 31 December 2009	670

11. INVENTORIES

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Breakdown by category of goods		(restated)
Relief	6,843	9,182
Medical and physical rehabilitation	13,130	15,266
Water and habitat	2,611	3,448
Publications	4,293	4,264
Other	5,022	4,981
Allowance for inventory	-410	-361
Total inventories	31,489	36,780

10. PREPAYMENTS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Prepaid expenses	8,065	8,357
Social security and insurance contributions	724	263
Advance payments to suppliers	1,539	90
Advance payments to employees	3,065	3,511
Total prepayments	13,393	12,221

All inventories comprise finished goods. Inventory written off and charged to expenses is KCHF 745 (2008: KCHF 543).

(in KCHF)

12. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

(in KCHF)	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2009 property and equipment
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2009	108,143	118,833	226,976
Additions	25,617	18,362	43,979
Disposals	-868	-17,162	-18,030
Balance at 31 December 2009	132,892	120,033	252,925
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2009	-37,360	-76,482	-113,842
Depreciation charge for the year	-3,600	-15,565	-19,165
Disposals	210	15,863	16,073
Balance at 31 December 2009	-40,750	-76,184	-116,934
Net book value as at 31 December 2009	92,142	43,849	135,991
(in KCHF)	Land and buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Total 2008 property and equipment
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2008	91,260	112,248	203,508
Additions	16,883	18,972	35,855
Disposals	-	-12,387	-12,387
Balance at 31 December 2008	108,143	118,833	226,976
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2008	-34,228	-74,462	-108,690
Depreciation charge for the year	-3,132	-13,687	-16,819
Disposals	-	11,667	11,667
Balance at 31 December 2008	-37,360	-76,482	-113,842
Net book value as at 31 December 2008	70,783	42,351	113,134

a) Work in progress

At 31 December 2009, assets include work in progress comprising KCHF 11,376 for construction and renovation of buildings (2008: KCHF 13,463) and KCHF 455 for equipment (2008: KCHF 2,081).

b) Insurance value

The buildings owned and utilized by the ICRC have a total insurance cover of KCHF 150,839 (2008: KCHF 123,279). The buildings owned by the ICRC have an insurance value of KCHF 107,879 (2008: KCHF 81,580).

c) Security: mortgage on property

The loan of KCHF 10, 000 secured by mortgage over the headquarters building No.3 was repaid in 2009.

(in KCHF)

13. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

(in KCHF)	Software	Red crystal emblem	Total 2009 Intangibles
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2009	36,563	405	36,968
Additions	3,243	-	3,243
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2009	39,806	405	40,211
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2009	-22,991	-	-22,991
Depreciation charge for the year	-2,791	-	-2,791
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2009	-25,782	-	-25,782
Net book value as at 31 December 2009	14,024	405	14,429

(in KCHF)	Software	Red crystal emblem	Total 2008 Intangibles
Historical acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January 2008	35,583	354	35,937
Additions	5,072	51	5,123
Disposals	-4,092	-	-4,092
Balance at 31 December 2008	36,563	405	36,968
Accumulated depreciation and value adjustments			
Balance at 1 January 2008	-24,468	-	-24,468
Depreciation charge for the year	-2,615	-	-2,615
Disposals	4,092	-	4,092
Balance at 31 December 2008	-22,991	-	-22,991
Net book value as at 31 December 2008	13,572	405	13,977

a) The computer software was purchased from third parties and has a finite life.

b) Work in progress

At 31 December 2009, intangible assets include work in progress comprising KCHF 6,978 for software in development acquired externally (2008: KCHF 5,392).

14. LONG-TERM RECEIVABLES

Accounts receivable schedule

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Deferred income	16,127	37,987
Total long-term receivables	16,127	37,987

(in KCHF)	One year	2-5 years
Deferred income	84,068	16,127

(in KCHF)

15. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Guarantee deposits	1,637	1,480
Total other assets	1,637	1,480

16. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	667	577
Suppliers	7,749	7,953
Social security and insurance contributions	26,605	23,755
Salaries due to employees	2,058	1,681
Sundry items	84	2,513
Total accounts payable	37,163	36,479

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)	2009	2008
Bank overdrafts	394	894
Interest-bearing loan	-	10,000
Current portion of non-current financial liabilities	209	209
Total current financial liabilities	603	11,103

Non-current (in KCHF)	2009	2008
Unsecured loan	12,133	8,341
Current portion	-209	-209
Total non-current financial liabilities	11,924	8,132

Terms and loan repayment schedule	Total	within 1 year	2-5 years	more than 5 years
Unsecured loan				
KCHF – granted at 0%	12,133	209	1,154	10,770
Total	12,133	209	1,154	10,770

The interest-bearing loan of KCHF 10,000 secured by a mortgage on a building at the headquarters in Geneva was repaid in 2009. There are two unsecured loans, both interest free. One was granted for the training centre in Ecogia-Geneva, Switzerland, (initially KCHF 9,800), final repayment in 2048, and the second for the logistics building in Geneva, with repayments from 2011 to 2059. Notional interest for a contributed service of KCHF 229 (2008: KCHF 277) has been recorded as expenditure and as income at 2.73 % (2008: 3.24 %).

The fair value of non-current financial liabilities amounts to KCHF 7,283 (2008: KCHF 5,080).

18. OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Forward currency contracts (see Note 36)	146	4
Total	146	4

19. PROVISIONS

Current provisions for specific risks (in KCHF)	2009	2008
Balance at 1 January	667	435
Allocations during the year	2,230	667
Use of provisions during the year	-667	-435
Total	2,230	667

The balance represents operational claims that are principally legal in nature that management considers will probably be paid by the ICRC (see also Note 38).

20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

Current employee benefit liabilities (in KCHF)	2009	2008
Staff vacation accruals	28,413	25,958
Total current employee benefit liabilities	28,413	25,958

21. PENSION AND OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Early retirement	15,048	16,691
End-of-service benefits	40,515	35,879
Total non-current employee benefit liabilities	55,563	52,570

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	2009 Total	2008 Total (restated)
Current service cost	25,783	3,617	5,765	35,165	29,809
Interest cost	26,833	74	1,333	28,240	27,960
Expected return on plan assets	-33,466	-	-	-33,466	-40,682
Actuarial (gain)/loss recognized in current year	-	-	-	-	99,099
Change in excess funding not capitalized	-	-	-	-	-72,433
Amortization of unrecognized (gain)/loss	14,717	-	2,605	17,322	932
Expense for pension plan	-	-	-	-	-
Expenses recognized in the income statement	33,867	3,691	9,703	47,261	44,685

Changes in the present value of plan obligations during year (including unfunded plans) (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of- service	Total
Defined benefit obligation at 1 January 2008	767,602	10,711	33,236	811,549
Current service cost	21,218	3,202	5,389	29,809
Interest cost	26,391	338	1,231	27,960
Employee contribution	16,968	-	-	16,968
Benefits paid	-33,224	-1,842	-4,909	-39,975
Experience (gain)/loss on obligation	36,725	-	932	37,657
Liability (gain)/loss due to assumption changes	18,442	-	-	18,442
Allocation from/(to) reserves	-	4,282	-	4,282
Defined benefit obligation at 31 December 2008	854,122	16,691	35,879	906,692
Current service cost	25,783	3,617	5,765	35,165
Interest cost	26,833	74	1,333	28,240
Employee contribution	17,572	-	-	17,572
Benefits paid	-38,135	-2,036	-5,067	-45,238
Administration expenses	-1,190	-	-	-1,190
Experience (gain)/loss on obligation	-8,406	-	2,605	-5,801
Liability (gain)/loss due to assumption changes	13,533	-	-	13,533
Allocation from/(to) reserves	-	-3,298	-	-3,298
Defined benefit obligation at 31 December 2009	890,112	15,048	40,515	945,675

Changes in fair value of plan assets during the year (excluding unfunded plans) (in KCHF)	Pension
Fair value of plan assets at 1 January 2008	840,035
Employer contribution	33,593
Employee contribution	16,968
Benefits paid	-33,224
Administration expenses	-
Expected return on plan assets	40,682
Actuarial gain/(loss) on plan assets	-199,986
Fair value of plan assets at 31 December 2008	698,068
Employer contribution	35,124
Employee contribution	17,572
Benefits paid	-38,135
Administration expenses	-1,190
Expected return on plan assets	33,466
Actuarial gain/(loss) on plan assets	82,166
Fair value of plan assets at 31 December 2009	827,071

The ICRC expects to contribute KCHF 36,002 (2008: KCHF 34,432) to its defined benefit pension plan, KCHF 3,783 (2008: KCHF 3,628) to the early retirement plan, and KCHF 5,270 (2008: KCHF 5,105) to the end-of service plan in 2010.

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.

(in KCHF)

Amounts recognized in the balance sheet are determined as follows (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2009 Total	2008 Total
Present value of defined benefit obligations	890,112	15,048	40,515	945,675	906,692
Fair value of plan assets	-827,071	-	-	-827,071	-698,068
Unrecognized actuarial gains (losses)	-63,041	-	-	-63,041	-156,054
IAS 19.58b limitation	-	-	-	-	-
Liability (asset) recognized in balance sheet	-	15,048	40,515	55,563	52,570

Amounts for the current period and previous two periods are as follows (pension plan) (in KCHF)	2009	2008	2007
Obligation, end of year	-890,112	-854,122	-767,602
Fair value of plan assets, end of year	827,071	698,068	840,035
Surplus/(deficit)	-63,041	-156,054	72,433
Experience adjustment on plan liabilities	8,406	-36,725	16,057
Experience adjustment on plan assets	82,166	-199,986	-38,302

The percentage of total pension plan assets invested in each major asset category at 31 December was:	2009 %	2008 %
Equity securities	44.6	35.6
Bonds	36.4	40.3
Real estate	15.8	17.9
Other	3.2	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0

Actual return on plan assets (in KCHF)	Pension	Early retirement	End-of-service	2009 Total	2008 Total
Expected return on plan assets	33,466	-	-	33,466	40,682
Actuarial gain/(loss) on plan assets	82,166	-	-	82,166	-199,986
Actual return on plan assets	115,632	-	-	115,632	-159,304

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:	Pension 2009	Pension 2008	Early retirement 2009	Early retirement 2008	End-of-service 2009	End-of-service 2008
Discount rate	3.20%	3.30%	1.24%	1.54%	4.0 %	4.0%
Expected return on plan assets	4.80%	4.90%	-	-	-	-
Future salary increase	2.50%	2.50%	-	-	4.0%	4.0%
Future pension increase	0.00%	0.00%	0.92%	1.07%	-	-
Employee rotation	21.0%	21.0%	-	-	-	-

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 2009, contributions to the Avenir Foundation amounted to KCHF 9,662 (2008: KCHF 10,013), and the Foundation paid out KCHF 5,580 (2008: KCHF 6,584) for training purposes, professional integration outside the ICRC and early retirement.

22. ACCRUED EXPENSES AND DEFERRED INCOME

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Accrued expenses	15,021	20,106
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundations and funds	338	364
Deferred income	112,828	64,471
Total accrued expenses and deferred income	128,187	84,941

Non-current deferred income (in KCHF)	2009	2008
Deferred income	16,127	38,197
Total non-current deferred income	16,127	38,197

(in KCHF)

23. FUNDS AND FOUNDATIONS

The following balances have been included in the consolidated financial statements from the funds and foundations.

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Cash and bank accounts	1,276	4,368
Securities	30,016	23,898
Accounts receivable and accrued interest	1,011	371
Deferred income	2,924	4,572
Contributions	4,810	7,851
Operational expenditure	-5,168	-5,090
Financial income (net securities gains/(losses))	2,579	-2,188
Other expenditure	-137	-361

24. FUNDING OF FIELD OPERATIONS

a) Field operations with temporary deficit financing

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Loosely earmarked balances	-15,409	-1,495
Tightly earmarked balances	-	-
Total	-15,409	-1,495

Field operations are classified as 'deficit financing' as soon as contributions do not cover expenditure.

b) Donors' restricted contributions

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Loosely earmarked balances	49,042	17,268
Tightly earmarked balances	2,177	932
Total	51,219	18,200
Total funding of field operations	35,810	16,705

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 2007	191,292	29,502	164,216	14,863	8,780	1,749	410,402
Use/release during 2008	-	-1,108	-1,572	-31,031	-5,291	-448	-39,450
Allocations 2008	-	2,080	4,548	32,883	15,725	779	56,015
Balance as at 31 December 2008 (restated)	191,292	30,474	167,192	16,715	19,214	2,080	426,967
Use/release during 2009	-	-2,486	-108	-38,125	-7,306	-2,080	-50,105
Allocations 2009	11,339	1,715	16,044	45,704	3,945	240	78,987
Balance as at 31 December 2009	202,631	29,703	183,128	24,294	15,853	240	455,849

The future operations reserve is intended for situations with insufficient operational funding, which is estimated at an average of 4 months of expenditure in cash, kind and services (including overheads) over the previous four years, including both at headquarters and in the field. The theoretical level is KCHF 357,145 (in 2008, 2.5 months: KCHF 206,259).

26. OTHER UNRESTRICTED RESERVES

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
General reserves	14,400	14,400
Total	14,400	14,400

See also Note 6.12 (b).

27. CONTRIBUTIONS

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Governments	897,706	916,638
European Commission	116,723	129,147
International organizations	2,033	4,131
Supranational organizations	52	60
National Societies	52,752	52,985
Public sources	6,431	7,697
Private sources	28,464	35,845
Total	1,104,161	1,146,503

(in KCHF)

28. OPERATING EXPENDITURE BY CASH, KIND AND SERVICES

Operating expenditure (in KCHF)	Cash	Kind	Services	Total 2009	Total 2008
Field					
Staff-related costs	-378,036		-14,104	-392,140	-366,688
Mission costs	-54,690			-54,690	-51,414
Rentals	-95,408		-252	-95,660	-108,642
Subcontracted maintenance	-40,999			-40,999	-36,840
Purchase of goods and materials	-217,467	-11,888		-229,355	-294,134
General expenditure	-62,040			-62,040	-63,470
Depreciation	-15,948			-15,948	-14,112
Total	-864,588	-11,888	-14,356	-890,832	-935,300

Operating expenditure (in KCHF)	Cash	Kind	Services	Total 2009	Total 2008
Headquarters					
Staff-related costs	-126,245		-638	-126,883	-122,152
Mission costs	-5,158			-5,158	-5,343
Rentals	-2,109		-3,093	-5,202	-5,311
Subcontracted maintenance	-3,595			-3,595	-2,519
Purchase of goods and materials	-3,336			-3,336	-3,091
General expenditure	-24,236		-258	-24,494	-23,268
Depreciation	-5,939			-5,939	-5,905
Total	-170,618		-3,989	-174,607	-167,589
Total field and headquarters	-1,035,206	-11,888	-18,345	-1,065,439	-1,102,889

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 below under c). The following analysis reconciles the audited consolidated financial statements with the management financial results of the Emergency Appeal.

- a) The reconciliation of **headquarters overhead income** results in the following breakdown over the past two years:

2009 (in KCHF)	Notes	Headquarters	Field	Total
Contributions	27			1,104,161
Less funds and foundations	23			-4,810
ICRC contributions		142,551	956,800	1,099,351
Internal allocation from field budget		56,820	-	56,820
Total income related to Emergency Appeal		199,371	956,800	1,156,171

2008				
Contributions	27			1,146,503
Less funds and foundations	23			-7,851
ICRC contributions		140,889	997,763	1,138,652
Internal allocation from field budget		59,911	-	59,911
Total income related to Emergency Appeal		200,800	997,763	1,198,563

(in KCHF)

b) The reconciliation of **field overhead expenditure** is as follows:

2009 (in KCHF)	Notes	Headquarters	Field	Total
Operational expenditure	28	-174,607	-890,832	-1,065,439
Internal allocation to headquarters budget			-56,820	-56,820
Total expenditure related to Emergency Appeal		-174,607	-947,652	-1,122,259

2008

Operational expenditure	28	-167,589	-935,300	-1,102,889
Internal allocation to headquarters budget			-59,911	-59,911
Total expenditure related to Emergency Appeal		-167,589	-995,211	-1,162,800

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 102,712 (2008: KCHF 97,817), which represents 9.69% (2008: 8.91%) of overall operational expenditure.

30. STAFF-RELATED COSTS AND FIGURES

(in KCHF)	2009	2008 (restated)
Wages and salaries	389,109	368,807
Social insurance and social benefits	67,909	63,500
Contributed services	14,743	11,848
Pension costs	47,261	44,685
Total	519,022	488,840

The average number of positions/employees during 2009 (2008) was:

in the field:

- ▶ 1,364 (2008: 1,347) expatriate staff, including 149 (2008: 124) seconded by National Societies
- ▶ 10,065 (2008: 9,778) locally recruited employees under ICRC contract
- ▶ 1,398 (2008: 1,446) local daily workers

at headquarters:

- ▶ 874 (2008: 862) staff, including 9 (2008: 5) seconded by National Societies, which represents
- ▶ 769 (2008: 760) full-time positions

(in KCHF)

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 97 million was recognized as rental expense in the statement of income and expenditure with respect to operating leases (2008: CHF 110 million), as follows:

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Premises and equipment	39,172	36,717
Transport	58,345	73,797
Total	97,517	110,514

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:		
- within 12 months	2,281	2,945
- within 1-to-5 years	5,148	3,301
- over 5 years	-	315
Total	7,429	6,561

b) Operating leases as lessor

In 2009, KCHF 383 (2008: KCHF 414) 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

The ICRC has no finance lease obligations.

32. FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSE

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Securities at fair value:		
Gains/(losses) on securities	4,774	-6,677
Securities' income, net	1,527	1,298
Total net income on securities	6,301	-5,379
Interest income	859	8,720
Financial income	7,160	3,341
Interest expense ⁽¹⁾	-878	-340
Total financial income, net	6,282	3,001
Foreign exchange gains/(losses), net	-6,873	-27,252

(1) Interest expense is classified within operating expenditure consistent with the requirements of agreements with donors.

33. OTHER INCOME AND OTHER EXPENDITURE

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Decrease in allowance for accounts receivable	190	340
Re-invoiced costs	6,388	5,127
Income arising from prior period	1,186	2,955
Other	9,741	6,179
Adjustments of operations	295	691
Total other income	17,800	15,292

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Increase in allowance for specific risks	-2,212	-400
Increase in allowance for obsolete stock	-49	-118
Expenditure arising from prior period	-542	-178
Other	-3,924	-6,935
Total other expenditure	-6,727	-7,631

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, accounts payables, accrued expenses 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 cash-flow exposures denominated in a currency other than Swiss francs. 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 2009 or 2008.

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.

(in KCHF)

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 the Swiss franc, 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.

The ICRC is not exposed to foreign exchange translation risk as all financial statements under consolidation are denominated in Swiss francs.

Most financial instruments are denominated in Swiss francs, except the following:

		2009	2008
Cash and cash equivalents	euro	6,054	20,838
	US dollar	11,841	13,528
Accounts receivable	euro	82,383	61,849
	pound sterling	16,756	52,151
	US dollar	31,686	7,360
Accounts payable	euro	623	2,686
	US dollar	886	600
Accrued expenses	euro	80	38
	US dollar	2,811	5,553
Other accounts (liabilities)	euro	83,140	41,958
	pound sterling	26,784	45,915
	US dollar	1,427	635

The ICRC uses a value at risk (VAR) computation to estimate the potential annual loss in the fair value of its financial instruments.

The VAR estimates are made assuming normal market conditions, using a 95% confidence interval. The ICRC cannot predict the actual future movements of exchange rates, therefore the below VAR numbers neither represent actual losses nor consider the effects of favourable movements in underlying variables. Accordingly, these VAR numbers may only be considered indicative of future movements to the extent that the historic market patterns repeat in the future.

The VAR computation includes the ICRC foreign currency trade payables and receivables and bank account balances.

The estimated potential annual loss from the ICRC's foreign currency exposures is as follows:

(in KCHF)	2009	2008
Instruments sensitive to foreign currency exchange rates	-21,560	-15,695

b) Interest rate risk

The ICRC does not have any exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates.

c) Credit risk

The ICRC has a treasury policy which focuses on security of cash and cash equivalents. Those are held in banks of high credit ranking, and there is no significant exposure to banks in risky countries. Given the current financial crisis, the ICRC has expanded the number of bank counterparties, limited the exposure to any one bank and used a facility with the Swiss National Bank to maximise security. The treasury policy is approved by the governing bodies and supervised by a Treasury Committee composed of the director of Resources and Operational Support, the head of finance, the head of accounting and the treasurer.

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.

(in KCHF)

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.

The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the ICRC's financial liabilities:

Year ended 31 December 2009 (in KCHF)	Total	< 1 year	2 – 5 years	> 5 years
Interest-bearing loans	12,527	603	1,154	10,770
Accounts payable	37,163	37,163	-	-
Derivative financial instruments	44,621	44,621	-	-
Accrued expenses	15,021	15,021	-	-
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundation and funds	338	338	-	-
	109,670	97,746	1,154	10,770

Year ended 31 December 2008	Total	< 1 year	2 – 5 years	> 5 years
Interest-bearing loans	19,235	11,102	835	7,298
Accounts payable	36,479	36,479	-	-
Derivative financial instruments	15,692	15,692	-	-
Accrued expenses	20,106	20,106	-	-
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, organizations, foundation and funds	364	364	-	-
	91,876	83,743	835	7,298

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 (2009 1.5:1; 2008 1.5:1) 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.

(in KCHF)

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 instruments. 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, accrued expenses, other financial assets, 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)	2009	2008
Purchase of foreign currencies	10,662	1,778
Sale of foreign currencies	-33,959	-13,914

The net result of marking forward exchange contracts to market at the balance sheet date was a charge of KCHF 555 (2008: income of KCHF 118).

Set out below is a comparison by class of the carrying amounts and fair values of the ICRC's financial instruments and their corresponding measurement levels:

Financial Assets (in KCHF)	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Fair Value Hierarchy		
			Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Cash and cash equivalents	387,494	387,494			
Investments	74,394	74,394	74,394		
Derivative financial instruments	279	279		279	
Accounts receivable	141,093	141,093			
Guarantee deposits	1,637	1,637			

Financial Liabilities (in KCHF)	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Fair Value Hierarchy		
			Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Accounts payable	37,163	37,163			
Loans and borrowings	12,133	7,283			
Derivative financial instruments	146	146		146	

During the reporting period ending 31 December 2009, there were no transfers between the fair value measurement levels.

37. CONTINGENT ASSETS

In 2009, pledges amounting to KCHF 2,450 (2008: KCHF 2,400) fell due after five years and were considered as contingent assets.

(in KCHF)

38. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The ICRC has operational claims that are principally legal in nature (local employment contracts, social charges, rental contracts), with the definitive amount and exact timing of each claim 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 13,270 (2008: KCHF 9,684).

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.

39. CAPITAL AND CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

Capital commitments

Capital expenditures of KCHF 21,606 (2008: KCHF 19,001) have been approved but not provided for in these consolidated financial statements.

Contractual commitments

Open purchase orders of KCHF 6,888 (2008: KCHF 29,380) have been issued to third parties but not provided for in these consolidated financial statements.

40. RELATED PARTIES

a) Identity of related parties

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

There were no transactions with key management personnel except those described under c) 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.

c) 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 3,407 (2008: KCHF 3,342), 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 2009	Total 2008
Short-term employee benefits	2,761	2,701
Post-employment benefits	606	601
Other long-term benefits	40	40
Total remuneration	3,407	3,342

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.



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To the Assembly of
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Geneva

Lancy, 6 April 2010

Independent Auditor's report

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) (consolidated balance sheet, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure, consolidated cash flow statement, consolidated statement of changes in reserves and notes) for the year ended 31 December 2009.

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Directorate and Assembly. 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.

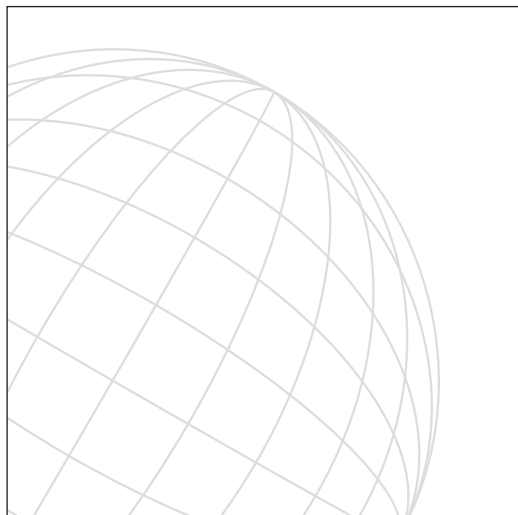
Ernst & Young Ltd

Mark Hawkins
Licensed audit expert
(Auditor in charge)

Thomas Madoery
Licensed audit expert

Enclosures

- Consolidated financial statements (consolidated balance sheet, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure, consolidated cash flow statement, consolidated statement of changes in reserves and notes)



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A. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE RELATED TO THE 2009 EMERGENCY AND HEADQUARTERS APPEALS

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2009 Initial budget	Amendments	2009 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2009 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)										
Africa	399,779	16,386	416,166	56,720	236,218	40,994	35,566	-	369,498	22,366
Asia and the Pacific	191,680	108,007	299,687	35,378	167,417	25,406	21,185	-	249,386	14,683
Europe and the Americas	147,445	-	147,445	31,366	43,369	39,246	13,631	45	127,657	7,790
Middle East and North Africa	210,506	19,372	229,878	52,775	113,098	18,507	11,626	313	196,320	11,980
Contingency	47,470	-17,461	30,009							
TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	996,880	126,304	1,123,185	176,239	560,103	124,154	82,008	358	942,861	56,820
2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL										
Headquarters general										
2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT										
Africa	23,978	517	24,496	3,329	14,566	1,892	1,253	6,973	28,013	
Asia and the Pacific	13,363	279	13,642	2,247	7,055	1,485	490	3,341	14,619	
Europe and the Americas	14,929	-268	14,660	1,881	5,843	2,653	311	4,756	15,445	
Middle East and North Africa	11,545	162	11,707	2,241	6,054	1,399	311	2,990	12,994	
SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS										
FIELD SUPPORT	63,815	691	64,506	9,698	33,518	7,429	2,364	18,061	71,070	
2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES										
Assembly, Presidency and Management Control	4,362	143	4,505	-	-	40	-	4,252	4,293	
Directorate	13,775	932	14,707	477	422	567	-	12,241	13,708	
Operations	41,307	998	42,305	7,721	6,372	2,318	1,040	18,981	36,433	
Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement	21,313	443	21,756	-	-	10,315	3,840	7,375	21,530	
Communication	24,050	894	24,945	-	-	15,871	1,342	9,982	27,196	
SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS										
OTHER ACTIVITIES	104,807	3,410	108,217	8,198	6,795	29,112	6,223	52,832	103,160	
TOTAL HEADQUARTERS	168,622	4,101	172,723	17,896	40,313	36,541	8,587	70,893	174,230	
3. TOTAL FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS								5,498	5,498	
4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE (according to Consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure)										
Total ICRC income and expenditure				194,136	600,415	160,695	90,595	76,748	1,122,588	56,820
Deduction of field non-operating income										
Deduction of headquarters non-operating income										
Deduction of overheads				-10,750	-33,470	-7,574	-5,004	-22	-56,820	-56,820
Deduction of cross-charging (foundations and funds)								-330	-330	
TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE				183,385	566,946	153,121	85,591	76,726	1,065,439	-

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	2009 Total income		2008 Donors' restricted contributions brought forward	2008 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2009 Donors' restricted contributions	2009 Field operations with temporary deficit financing		
370,660	2,135		3,024	4,903	380,723		17,004	- 998	208	27,438		1. EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	
250,543	1,365		8,800	5,785	266,493		737		15	22,160	- 4,301	Africa	
120,316	710		24	1,247	122,297		291		74		- 4,995	Asia and the Pacific	
187,692	662		27	2,613	190,994		66	- 497	1	357	- 6,113	Europe and the Americas	
97			1,070		1,167		96			1,263		Middle East and North Africa	
929,308	4,873	-	12,945	14,548	961,673		18,195	- 1,495	297	51,219	- 15,409	Contingency	
												TOTAL EMERGENCY APPEALS (FIELD)	
136,828	2,319	56,820	1	3,322	199,289							2. HEADQUARTERS APPEAL	
												Headquarters general	
												2.1 HEADQUARTERS FIELD SUPPORT	
-	-		-	-	-							Africa	
-	-		-	-	-							Asia and the Pacific	
-	-		-	-	-							Europe and the Americas	
-	-		-	-	-							Middle East and North Africa	
-	-		-	-	-							SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS	
-	-		-	-	-							FIELD SUPPORT	
-	-		-	17	17							2.2 HEADQUARTERS OTHER ACTIVITIES	
1,193	-		-	120	1,313		2					Assembly, Presidency and Management Control	
-	13		-	118	131		3		- 3			Directorate	
40	38		-	400	478							Operations	
500	1		-	13	514							Law, Policy and Cooperation within the Movement	
												Communication	
1,733	52		-	667	2,453		4	-	- 3	-	-	SUBTOTAL HEADQUARTERS	
												OTHER ACTIVITIES	
138,561	2,371	56,820	1	3,989	201,742		4	-	- 3	-	-	TOTAL HEADQUARTERS	
5,139					5,139							3. TOTAL FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS	
1,073,007	7,244	56,820	12,946	18,537	1,168,554		18,199	- 1,495	295	51,219	- 15,409	4. OPERATING ACTIVITIES-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE	
	- 4,873				- 4,873							Total ICRC income and expenditure	
	- 2,371				- 2,371							Deduction of field non-operating income	
	- 56,820				- 56,820							Deduction of headquarters non-operating income	
												Deduction of overheads	
- 330					- 330							Deduction of cross-charging (foundations and funds)	
1,072,678	-	-	12,946	18,537	1,104,161		18,199	- 1,495	295	51,219	- 15,409	TOTAL ICRC OPERATING ACTIVITIES-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE	

B. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2009 EMERGENCY APPEALS

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)						
	2009 Initial budget	Amendments	2009 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2009 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)
Africa										
Angola	2,153	-	2,153	1,041	-	144	608	-	1,793	109
Burundi	8,872	-	8,872	2,544	3,895	1,208	738	-	8,385	512
Central African Republic	15,072	-	15,072	1,601	9,054	1,530	1,293	-	13,478	822
Chad	31,662	-	31,662	6,462	17,695	2,490	1,182	-	27,829	1,696
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	52,922	9,728	62,651	12,877	38,806	4,681	4,233	-	60,597	3,579
Eritrea	11,013	-	11,013	1,877	5,760	476	425	-	8,537	521
Ethiopia	10,026	-	10,026	2,140	3,862	1,818	692	-	8,512	519
Guinea	7,926	-	7,926	1,314	3,127	1,173	1,710	-	7,325	446
Liberia	11,866	-	11,866	-	6,103	1,680	2,301	-	10,083	615
Nigeria	3,999	-	3,999	294	-	1,991	1,697	-	3,982	243
Rwanda	6,917	-	6,917	3,455	2,223	301	724	-	6,703	409
Somalia	49,985	-	49,985	180	46,527	897	1,235	-	48,839	2,981
Sudan	102,795	-	102,795	12,899	52,411	7,419	4,671	-	77,401	4,671
Uganda	18,801	-	18,801	1,156	12,660	1,102	2,008	-	16,927	1,032
Abidjan (regional)	17,854	-	17,854	2,003	8,655	2,603	2,107	-	15,367	937
Dakar (regional)	16,060	-	16,060	2,073	8,916	3,861	3,146	-	17,996	1,098
Harare (regional)	12,789	6,658	19,447	1,507	14,367	1,357	1,287	-	18,517	1,123
Nairobi (regional)	10,386	-	10,386	2,010	2,130	2,496	2,425	-	9,062	553
Pretoria (regional)	3,813	-	3,813	843	28	1,591	1,348	-	3,809	232
Yaoundé (regional)	4,868	-	4,868	444	-	2,175	1,739	-	4,358	266
Total Africa	399,779	16,386	416,166	56,720	236,218	40,994	35,566	-	369,498	22,366
Asia and the Pacific										
Afghanistan	73,112	7,917	81,029	7,708	59,955	3,036	4,634	-	75,334	4,583
Myanmar	3,773	-	3,773	1,293	883	491	635	-	3,302	201
Nepal	7,645	-	7,645	1,289	3,091	1,280	868	-	6,528	398
Pakistan	24,157	68,327	92,484	5,533	62,859	4,206	4,243	-	76,841	4,366
Philippines	12,193	17,461	29,654	3,203	14,193	2,221	1,353	-	20,970	1,280
Sri Lanka	27,792	14,301	42,093	7,702	19,927	1,722	1,565	-	30,917	1,689
Bangkok (regional)	8,569	-	8,569	2,373	2,907	1,661	974	-	7,915	483
Beijing (regional)	8,577	-	8,577	270	1,950	3,207	1,021	-	6,449	394
Jakarta (regional)	8,394	-	8,394	1,786	433	1,688	2,421	-	6,327	386
Kuala Lumpur (regional)	2,237	-	2,237	164	-	1,555	333	-	2,052	125
New Delhi (regional)	11,128	-	11,128	3,751	1,219	2,691	2,165	-	9,827	600
Suva (regional)	4,105	-	4,105	305	-	1,649	972	-	2,925	179
Total Asia and the Pacific	191,680	108,007	299,687	35,378	167,417	25,406	21,185	-	249,386	14,683

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	2009 Total income		2008 Donors' restricted contributions brought forward	2008 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2009 Donors' restricted contributions	2009 Field operations with temporary deficit financing
											Africa
	1,196	562	1	-	1,759			33			Angola
	8,372	13	-	-	8,385						Burundi
	13,072	17	3	54	13,146	297		35			Central African Republic
	24,963	112	26	162	25,263	2,552		14			Chad
	53,131	65	1,957	582	55,735	4,862					Congo, Democratic Republic of the
	8,525	16	15	- 19	8,537						Eritrea
	8,084	192	3	233	8,511			0			Ethiopia
	7,252	2	12	59	7,325						Guinea
	9,850	80	4	105	10,039			44			Liberia
	3,952	2	1	27	3,982						Nigeria
	6,523	36	2	132	6,693			10			Rwanda
	64,147	2	1	291	64,441		- 998	52	14,656		Somalia
	76,768	761	853	2,506	80,889	9,294		0	12,782		Sudan
	16,486	86	9	345	16,927						Uganda
	15,300	- 33	5	96	15,367						Abidjan (regional)
	17,941	17	4	33	17,996						Dakar (regional)
	18,043	65	118	281	18,506			11			Harare (regional)
	8,956	77	8	19	9,059			2			Nairobi (regional)
	3,799	4	1	-	3,804			5			Pretoria (regional)
	4,299	59	1	-	4,358						Yaoundé (regional)
	370,660	2,135	3,024	4,903	380,723	17,004	- 998	208	27,438	-	Total Africa
											Asia and the Pacific
	69,033	168	241	1,965	71,407			12	386	- 4,301	Afghanistan
	2,955	148	2	-	3,105	197					Myanmar
	6,484	18	2	23	6,528						Nepal
	81,828	18	5,300	2,382	89,528				12,687		Pakistan
	20,547	13	3	407	20,970						Philippines
	35,110	952	3,246	523	39,831			3	8,917		Sri Lanka
	7,724	5	-	29	7,758	328			170		Bangkok (regional)
	6,412	6	-	30	6,449						Beijing (regional)
	6,180	13	2	132	6,327						Jakarta (regional)
	1,938	5	1	110	2,052						Kuala Lumpur (regional)
	9,419	8	2	184	9,614	213		0			New Delhi (regional)
	2,913	12	0	-	2,925						Suva (regional)
	250,543	1,365	8,800	5,785	266,493	737	-	15	22,160	- 4,301	Total Asia and the Pacific

B. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY DELEGATION RELATED TO THE 2009 EMERGENCY APPEALS (cont.)

(in KCHF)

	BUDGET			EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME (Cash, kind and services)							
	2009 Initial budget	Amendments	2009 Final budget	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation with National Societies	General	2009 Total expenditure	Overheads (already included in the total expenditure)	
Europe and the Americas											
Armenia	2,358	-	2,358	655	492	637	221	-	2,004	122	
Azerbaijan	6,811	-	6,811	3,085	1,979	885	355	-	6,305	385	
Georgia	20,931	-	20,931	3,019	9,051	1,673	1,064	-	14,807	904	
Ukraine	538	-	538	-	-	239	355	-	594	36	
Budapest (regional)	1,257	-	1,257	-	-	647	555	-	1,202	73	
Moscow (regional)	18,414	-	18,414	2,976	5,225	5,011	1,561	-	14,774	901	
Tashkent (regional)	10,106	-	10,106	3,016	1,582	2,817	982	-	8,397	512	
Western Balkans (regional)	8,853	-	8,853	4,406	1	1,911	1,709	-	8,028	490	
Ankara	1,093	-	1,093	91	-	762	119	-	972	59	
Brussels	2,987	-	2,987	-	-	3,119	187	45	3,351	205	
International Tracing Service	798	-	798	510	-	159	-	-	669	41	
London	729	-	729	6	-	665	111	-	782	48	
Paris	1,344	-	1,344	69	-	1,244	58	-	1,371	84	
Colombia	38,574	-	38,574	6,755	21,105	5,365	1,373	-	34,598	2,111	
Haiti	6,331	-	6,331	1,180	2,787	837	495	-	5,298	323	
Buenos Aires (regional)	5,425	-	5,425	677	682	2,271	1,535	-	5,166	315	
Caracas (regional)	2,325	-	2,325	203	-	1,480	383	-	2,065	126	
Lima (regional)	4,464	-	4,464	1,732	298	1,699	644	-	4,373	267	
Mexico City (regional)	5,436	-	5,436	1,030	166	2,322	801	-	4,319	264	
Washington (regional)	6,314	-	6,314	1,955	-	3,275	1,123	-	6,354	388	
New York	2,358	-	2,358	-	-	2,228	-	-	2,228	136	
Total Europe and the Americas	147,445	-	147,445	31,366	43,369	39,246	13,631	45	127,657	7,790	
Middle East and North Africa											
Algeria	2,064	-	2,064	918	52	546	227	-	1,744	106	
Egypt	1,348	-	1,348	239	-	827	114	-	1,179	72	
Iran, Islamic Republic of	3,478	-	3,478	1,811	-	1,213	548	-	3,572	218	
Iraq	95,882	-	95,882	21,939	57,304	5,682	813	-	85,739	5,232	
Israel and the Occupied Territories	67,295	13,893	81,189	18,729	37,125	3,525	5,371	-	64,749	3,951	
Jordan	4,334	-	4,334	2,247	-	1,470	386	-	4,103	250	
Lebanon	11,747	-	11,747	1,814	4,418	1,505	1,518	-	9,254	565	
Syrian Arab Republic	1,410	-	1,410	355	-	491	478	-	1,324	81	
Yemen	14,543	5,479	20,022	1,273	13,593	869	1,192	-	16,927	1,033	
Kuwait (regional)	2,579	-	2,579	930	-	943	520	313	2,705	165	
Tunis (regional)	5,826	-	5,826	2,521	605	1,436	461	-	5,024	307	
Total Middle East and North Africa	210,506	19,372	229,878	52,775	113,098	18,507	11,626	313	196,320	11,980	
Contingency											
Contingency	47,470	-17,461	30,009								
TOTAL FIELD	996,880	126,304	1,123,185	176,239	560,103	124,154	82,008	358	942,861	56,820	

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	2009 Total Income		2008 Donors' restricted contributions brought forward	2008 Field operations with temporary deficit financing brought forward	Adjustments and transfers	2009 Donors' restricted contributions	2009 Field operations with temporary deficit financing	
											Europe and the Americas
1,996	2	1	5	2,004							Armenia
6,295	6	4	-	6,305							Azerbaijan
14,480	57	2	268	14,807							Georgia
594	0	0	-	594							Ukraine
872	56	0	-	929	273						Budapest (regional)
14,269	400	5	99	14,774							Moscow (regional)
8,350	12	2	33	8,397							Tashkent (regional)
7,820	23	1	184	8,028							Western Balkans (regional)
972	0	-	-	972							Ankara
3,351	0	0	-	3,351							Brussels
669	0	-	-	669							International Tracing Service
739	0	-	42	782							London
1,371	0	-	-	1,371							Paris
32,964	43	6	417	33,430	18				- 1,150		Colombia
1,395	3	1	42	1,442			11		- 3,845		Haiti
5,120	45	1	-	5,166							Buenos Aires (regional)
2,050	15	0	-	2,065							Caracas (regional)
4,254	35	1	82	4,373							Lima (regional)
4,230	5	0	21	4,256			63				Mexico City (regional)
6,297	3	-	53	6,354							Washington (regional)
2,227	1	0	-	2,228							New York
120,316	710	24	1,247	122,297	291	-	74	-	- 4,995		Total Europe and the Americas
											Middle East and North Africa
1,728	1	0	15	1,744							Algeria
1,178	1	1	-	1,179							Egypt
3,553	16	1	-	3,570			1				Iran, Islamic Republic of
81,832	65	11	1,125	83,034	66				- 2,639		Iraq
62,496	461	6	1,035	63,997		- 497		357	- 1,606		Israel and the Occupied Territories
3,927	93	3	79	4,103							Jordan
9,158	4	1	91	9,254							Lebanon
1,286	0	0	38	1,324							Syrian Arab Republic
14,912	18	2	127	15,060					- 1,867		Yemen
2,703	1	0	-	2,705							Kuwait (regional)
4,918	3	1	102	5,024							Tunis (regional)
187,692	662	27	2,613	190,994	66	- 497	1	357	- 6,113		Total Middle East and North Africa
97		1,070		1,167	96			1,263			Contingency
929,308	4,873	12,945	14,548	961,673	18,195	- 1,495	297	51,219	- 15,409		TOTAL FIELD

C. CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2009

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	131,330,455	754,620,713	339,026	886,290,195	7,782,376	923,767	894,996,338		894,996,338
2. European Commission ⁽¹⁾		117,421,873	- 699,279	116,722,594			116,722,594		116,722,594
3. International organizations					2,032,675		2,032,675		2,032,675
4. Supranational organizations					52,414		52,414		52,414
5. National Societies	5,634,725	29,729,174	- 39,269	35,324,630	2,786,809	14,257,613	52,369,053		52,369,053
6. Public sources		3,358,680		3,358,680		3,072,620	6,431,300		6,431,300
7. Private sources	1,074,030	25,100,244	- 1,695	26,172,579	291,560	283,118	26,747,257	73,500	26,820,757
GRAND TOTAL	138,039,210	930,230,684	- 401,216	1,067,868,678	12,945,834	18,537,118	1,099,351,631	73,500	1,099,425,131

(1) Member of the Donor Support Group

Reconciliation between the consolidated contributions of the ICRC 2009 and the summary of the contributions to the ICRC (see above)

Total consolidated contributions of the ICRC (see subtotal above)	1,099,351,631
Contributions received from funds and foundations of the ICRC	5,138,561
Adjustment of the consolidated funds and foundations of the ICRC to the ICRC actions (Table 7 below)	
Foundation for the ICRC	-302,751
Special Fund for the Disabled	-26,923
Total contributions of the consolidated accounts of the ICRC (see A. Income and expenditure related to the 2009 Emergency and Headquarters Appeals)	1,104,160,519

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						146,467	146,467		146,467
Algeria	36,040		36,040	72,079			72,079		72,079
Andorra	21,700	55,757		77,457			77,457		77,457
Armenia	3,372			3,372			3,372		3,372
Australia ⁽¹⁾	1,478,598	23,320,880		24,799,478			24,799,478		24,799,478
Austria	990,390	445,230		1,435,620			1,435,620		1,435,620
Azerbaijan	8,431			8,431			8,431		8,431
Bahamas	25,931			25,931			25,931		25,931
Barbados	1,053			1,053			1,053		1,053
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	1,116,375	10,127,825		11,244,200			11,244,200		11,244,200
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10,117	76,034		86,151			86,151		86,151
Brunei Darussalam			41,980	41,980			41,980		41,980
Bulgaria	33,724	151,520		185,244			185,244		185,244
Cambodia	1,686			1,686			1,686		1,686
Canada ⁽¹⁾	2,785,200	35,986,747		38,771,947			38,771,947		38,771,947
Chile	42,512	274,758		317,270			317,270		317,270
China	580,000			580,000			580,000		580,000
Colombia	168,597			168,597			168,597		168,597
Costa Rica	30,641			30,641			30,641		30,641
Czech Republic	473,828			473,828			473,828		473,828
Denmark ⁽¹⁾	4,068,640	6,479,629		10,548,269		572,717	11,120,987		11,120,987
Egypt	148,387			148,387			148,387		148,387
Estonia	19,022	135,586		154,608			154,608		154,608
Finland ⁽¹⁾	1,487,100	9,529,058		11,016,158	1,902,424		12,918,581		12,918,581
France ⁽¹⁾	1,506,600	16,119,725		17,626,325			17,626,325		17,626,325
Georgia	5,059			5,059			5,059		5,059
Germany ⁽¹⁾	2,250,308	28,550,130		30,800,438			30,800,438		30,800,438
Greece	1,004,988			1,004,988			1,004,988		1,004,988
Guyana	1,342			1,342			1,342		1,342
Holy See	5,400	59,055		64,455			64,455		64,455
Iceland		96,692		96,692			96,692		96,692

1. GOVERNMENTS (CONT.) (in CHF)

	Headquarters Appeal	Emergency Appeals	Adjustments on previous years	Total cash	Total kind	Total services	Subtotal	Total assets	Grand total
India					3,085,298		3,085,298		3,085,298
Iraq						86,676	86,676		86,676
Ireland ⁽¹⁾	196,976	10,419,500		10,616,476			10,616,476		10,616,476
Israel	105,550			105,550			105,550		105,550
Italy ⁽¹⁾	757,600	9,532,920		10,290,520			10,290,520		10,290,520
Japan ⁽¹⁾	762,272	29,445,000		30,207,272			30,207,272		30,207,272
Korea, Republic of	280,705	316,650		597,355			597,355		597,355
Kuwait	1,088,500	5,442,500		6,531,000			6,531,000		6,531,000
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1,686			1,686			1,686		1,686
Latvia	2,007			2,007			2,007		2,007
Lebanon			38,932	38,932			38,932		38,932
Liechtenstein	200,000	500,000		700,000			700,000		700,000
Luxembourg ⁽¹⁾	1,190,800	9,303,125		10,493,925			10,493,925		10,493,925
Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	8,431			8,431			8,431		8,431
Madagascar	3,114		3,186	6,300			6,300		6,300
Mauritius	18,548			18,548			18,548		18,548
Mexico	85,118			85,118			85,118		85,118
Monaco	100,000	104,097		204,097			204,097		204,097
Montenegro	1,686			1,686			1,686		1,686
Mozambique	1,686		- 1,599	87			87		87
Namibia		10,177		10,177			10,177		10,177
Netherlands ⁽¹⁾	5,682,000	36,695,650		42,377,650			42,377,650		42,377,650
New Zealand	300,293	2,146,457		2,446,750			2,446,750		2,446,750
Nicaragua	4,554			4,554			4,554		4,554
Norway ⁽¹⁾	4,175,400	41,957,155		46,132,555	2,794,655		48,927,209		48,927,209
Oman	5,869			5,869			5,869		5,869
Pakistan	10,795			10,795			10,795		10,795
Panama	25,908		2,286	28,194			28,194		28,194
Philippines	85,341		63,775	149,116			149,116		149,116
Poland	581,134	446,070		1,027,204			1,027,204		1,027,204
Portugal	200,000	100,000		300,000			300,000		300,000
Qatar	52,775			52,775			52,775		52,775
Romania		151,940		151,940			151,940		151,940
San Marino	50,000		50,000	100,000			100,000		100,000
Saudi Arabia	227,720			227,720			227,720		227,720
Serbia	35,411			35,411			35,411		35,411
Singapore	26,828	26,828		53,655			53,655		53,655
Slovakia	35,000			35,000			35,000		35,000
Slovenia	19,948	76,585		96,533			96,533		96,533
South Africa	207,000	185,799		392,799			392,799		392,799
Spain ⁽¹⁾	1,072,190	22,241,620		23,313,810			23,313,810		23,313,810
Sweden ⁽¹⁾	6,307,785	63,256,735		69,564,520		117,906	69,682,426		69,682,426
Switzerland ⁽¹⁾	71,200,000	34,543,232		105,743,232			105,743,232		105,743,232
Tajikistan	620			620			620		620
Thailand	114,491	17,607		132,098			132,098		132,098
Tunisia	8,596			8,596			8,596		8,596
Turkey	20,064			20,064			20,064		20,064
United Arab Emirates	53,655			53,655			53,655		53,655
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ⁽¹⁾	915,960	90,682,055		91,598,015			91,598,015		91,598,015
United States of America ⁽¹⁾	16,801,400	265,610,387		282,411,787			282,411,787		282,411,787
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of			104,427	104,427			104,427		104,427
Total from governments	131,330,455	754,620,713	339,026	886,290,195	7,782,376	923,767	894,996,338		894,996,338

(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)		117,421,873	- 699,279	116,722,594			116,722,594		116,722,594
Total from European Commission		117,421,873	- 699,279	116,722,594			116,722,594		116,722,594

(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				1,950,031			1,950,031		1,950,031
Various UN				82,644			82,644		82,644
Total from international organizations				2,032,675			2,032,675		2,032,675

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
Médecins Sans Frontières				52,414			52,414		52,414
Total from supranational organizations				52,414			52,414		52,414

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
Albania	1,298			1,298			1,298		1,298
Area under Palestinian Authority	826			826			826		826
Armenia	118			118			118		118
Australia	266,112	1,822,888		2,089,000		1,202,366	3,291,366		3,291,366
Austria	90,297	29,682		119,979		42,417	162,396		162,396
Azerbaijan	847			847			847		847
Barbados	1,083			1,083			1,083		1,083
Belgium	113,134	1,013,007		1,126,141		163,664	1,289,805		1,289,805
Benin	108			108			108		108
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	1,044			1,044			1,044		1,044
Botswana	1,771			1,771			1,771		1,771
Bulgaria	2,200			2,200			2,200		2,200
Cambodia	2,715			2,715			2,715		2,715
Canada	142,335	78,344		220,679		1,426,920	1,647,599		1,647,599
Cape Verde	2,243			2,243			2,243		2,243
Chile	11,058			11,058			11,058		11,058
China	169,145			169,145			169,145		169,145
China/Hong Kong		293,814		293,814		36,277	330,091		330,091
Croatia	4,131			4,131			4,131		4,131
Czech Republic	16,879	2,884		19,763			19,763		19,763
Denmark	105,878	180,032		285,910		109,527	395,437		395,437
Dominica	118			118			118		118
Egypt	13,928			13,928			13,928		13,928
Estonia	5,076			5,076			5,076		5,076

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
Ethiopia	6,020			6,020			6,020		6,020
Finland	105,524	623,802		729,326	1,256,130	1,686,575	3,672,031		3,672,031
France	577,409		- 213,106	364,303		145,298	509,601		509,601
Georgia	239			239			239		239
Germany	776,393	208,390		984,783		353,482	1,338,265		1,338,265
Honduras	2,034			2,034			2,034		2,034
Hungary	5,000			5,000			5,000		5,000
Iceland	50,165	71,665		121,830		110,771	232,601		232,601
Indonesia		28,625		28,625			28,625		28,625
Iran, Islamic Republic of					78,000		78,000		78,000
Ireland	45,326	227,267		272,593		1,043,660	1,316,253		1,316,253
Italy	302,460	7,564		310,024			310,024		310,024
Japan	826,248	1,769,346		2,595,594		463,237	3,058,831		3,058,831
Jordan	1,180			1,180			1,180		1,180
Kenya	5,000		5,000	10,000			10,000		10,000
Korea, Republic of	394,475			394,475			394,475		394,475
Kuwait					916,000		916,000		916,000
Kyrgyzstan	114			114			114		114
Lao People's Democratic Republic	472			472			472		472
Lebanon	3,777			3,777			3,777		3,777
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	4,603			4,603			4,603		4,603
Liechtenstein	2,000	73,000		75,000			75,000		75,000
Lithuania	2,951	12,187		15,138			15,138		15,138
Luxembourg	12,040	51,941	3,011	66,992			66,992		66,992
Madagascar	472			472			472		472
Malaysia		313,225		313,225			313,225		313,225
Mali			108	108			108		108
Malta			670	670			670		670
Mexico	5,000			5,000			5,000		5,000
Micronesia, Federated States of	354		339	693			693		693
Monaco	32,658			32,658			32,658		32,658
Mongolia	1,200			1,200			1,200		1,200
Morocco	1,285			1,285			1,285		1,285
Mozambique	1,298			1,298			1,298		1,298
Myanmar	590			590			590		590
Namibia	826			826			826		826
Netherlands	269,239	2,625,387	- 12,049	2,882,576		400,606	3,283,182		3,283,182
New Zealand	50,617	73,517		124,134		1,402,104	1,526,237		1,526,237
Niger	118			118			118		118
Norway	301,654	8,293,521		8,595,175	223,923	1,206,449	10,025,548		10,025,548
Pakistan	4,721			4,721			4,721		4,721
Paraguay	949			949			949		949
Philippines						13,117	13,117		13,117
Qatar						121,530	121,530		121,530
Romania	6,138			6,138			6,138		6,138
Saint Lucia	339			339			339		339
Samoa	118			118			118		118
Saudi Arabia		105,550		105,550			105,550		105,550
Seychelles	118			118			118		118
Singapore	7,424	155,010		162,434			162,434		162,434
Slovakia	8,138			8,138			8,138		8,138
Spain						144,760	144,760		144,760
Suriname	2,007			2,007			2,007		2,007
Sweden	89,057	3,729,977		3,819,033		1,620,295	5,439,328		5,439,328
Switzerland	152,738	168,308		321,046	159,000	48,021	528,067		528,067
Syrian Arab Republic			2,514	2,514			2,514		2,514
Thailand	30,335			30,335			30,335		30,335
Timor-Leste	342			342			342		342
Togo	912			912			912		912
Tonga	118		113	231			231		231
Tunisia			967	967			967		967
Uganda			2,079	2,079			2,079		2,079
United Arab Emirates		527,750		527,750			527,750		527,750
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	178,870	6,270,111	171,085	6,620,066		2,411,909	9,031,976		9,031,976
United States of America	408,720	972,383		1,381,103		104,627	1,485,731		1,485,731
Vanuatu	236			236			236		236
Viet Nam	1,889			1,889			1,889		1,889
Zimbabwe	472			472			472		472
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies					153,756		153,756		153,756
Total from National Societies	5,634,725	29,729,174	- 39,269	35,324,630	2,786,809	14,257,613	52,369,053		52,369,053

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
Basel - Landschaft, Canton of		100,000		100,000			100,000		100,000
Bellinzona, City of		5,000		5,000			5,000		5,000
Fribourg, Canton of		30,000		30,000			30,000		30,000
Geneva, Canton of		3,000,000		3,000,000		2,481,372	5,481,372		5,481,372
Geneva, City of		50,000		50,000		12,740	62,740		62,740
Lausanne, City of		10,000		10,000			10,000		10,000
Lucerne, Canton of		3,000		3,000			3,000		3,000
Lüterkofen		680		680			680		680
Valais, Canton of		150,000		150,000			150,000		150,000
Vernier, City of		10,000		10,000			10,000		10,000
Versoix, City of						578,508	578,508		578,508
Total from public sources		3,358,680		3,358,680		3,072,620	6,431,300		6,431,300

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		2,272,786		2,272,786			2,272,786		2,272,786
Online donations		264,771	- 719	264,051			264,051		264,051
Spontaneous donations from private individuals	40,000	10,486,570		10,526,570	2,375	22,927	10,551,871		10,551,871
Donations from foundations/funds									
Broad Reach Foundation Inc.		24,535		24,535			24,535		24,535
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)						228,913	228,913		228,913
Fondation Hans Wilsdorf ⁽¹⁾	500,000			500,000			500,000		500,000
Fondation pour le CICR	302,751			302,751			302,751		302,751
Kantonale St. Gallische Winkelriedstiftung		20,000		20,000			20,000		20,000
Liechtenstein Charitable Foundation		20,064		20,064			20,064		20,064
Parthenon Trust ⁽²⁾	224,197			224,197			224,197		224,197
RPH-Promotor Stiftung		19,000		19,000			19,000		19,000
Ted H. and Elsbeth Pfeiffer Trusts		423,134		423,134			423,134		423,134
The Link Foundation		35,112		35,112			35,112		35,112
Others and less than CHF 10,000		4,353,733		4,353,733			4,353,733		4,353,733
Total donations from foundations/funds	1,026,948	4,895,578		5,922,526		228,913	6,151,439		6,151,439
Legacies		3,227,501		3,227,501			3,227,501		3,227,501
Donations from private companies									
Abb Asea Brown Boveri Ltd ⁽¹⁾		200,000		200,000			200,000		200,000
Crédit Suisse ⁽¹⁾		500,000		500,000			500,000		500,000
Firmenich		50,000		50,000			50,000		50,000
Holcim Ltd ⁽¹⁾		250,000		250,000			250,000		250,000
Zurich Financial Services ⁽¹⁾		166,666		166,666		16,500	183,166		183,166
Other private companies	7,082	1,145,688	- 946	1,151,825	289,185	14,778	1,455,788	73,500	1,529,288
Total donations from private companies	7,082	2,312,354	- 946	2,318,491	289,185	31,278	2,638,954	73,500	2,712,454
Donations from associations and service clubs									
Comité International Olympique		15,000		15,000			15,000		15,000
Förderverein Rotary Club Waldshut-Säckingen		45,902		45,902			45,902		45,902
MINE-EX Rotary Schweiz-Liechtenstein		800,000		800,000			800,000		800,000
UEFA		651,520		651,520			651,520		651,520
Other associations and service clubs		118,263	- 30	118,233			118,233		118,233
Total donations from associations and service clubs		1,630,684	- 30	1,630,654			1,630,654		1,630,654
Various donors		10,000		10,000			10,000		10,000
Total from private sources	1,074,030	25,100,244	- 1,695	26,172,579	291,560	283,118	26,747,257	73,500	26,820,757

(1) Member of the Corporate Support Group.

(2) As a tribute to Professor Jacques Forster who completed his mandate as vice-president of the ICRC at the end of 2007, the Parthenon Trust pledged to support the ICRC's training programmes as they are crucial for maintaining the high standard of the organization's humanitarian activities. This generous contribution will support the training programmes at the ICRC's staff training centre at Ecogia (Geneva).

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.

D. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO INTEGRATED PROJECTS (IPs) 2009 (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				1,010,593		191,773	1,347,420	1,539,193		1,202,366	5,907
Austria				42,417						42,417	122
Belgium				163,664						163,664	1,100
Canada			- 15,561	1,442,481						1,426,920	8,880
China/Hong Kong				36,277						36,277	102
Denmark				109,527						109,527	563
Finland		1,256,130	143,573	1,543,002					1,256,130	1,686,575	4,934
France				145,298						145,298	410
Germany				353,482						353,482	2,452
Iceland				110,771						110,771	304
Iran, Islamic Republic of		78,000							78,000		
Ireland			32,304	1,011,356						1,043,660	3,051
Japan				463,237						463,237	1,101
Kuwait		916,000							916,000		
Netherlands				400,606						400,606	1,938
New Zealand				1,402,104						1,402,104	3,951
Norway		223,923	150,566	838,307		217,576	4,291,194	4,508,770	223,923	1,206,449	4,065
Philippines				13,117						13,117	43
Qatar				121,530						121,530	246
Spain				144,760						144,760	439
Sweden			119,808	1,058,874		441,613	2,026,119	2,467,732		1,620,295	5,481
Switzerland		159,000		48,021					159,000	48,021	119
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland			207,428	1,842,880		361,602	3,079,298	3,440,900		2,411,909	11,406
United States of America				104,627						104,627	232
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies		153,756							153,756		
Subtotal	2,786,809		638,117	12,406,932		1,212,564	10,744,031	11,956,595	2,786,809	14,257,613	56,846
GOVERNMENTS											
Afghanistan				146,467						146,467	
Denmark				572,717						572,717	
Finland		1,902,424							1,902,424		2,138
India		3,085,298							3,085,298		
Iraq				86,676						86,676	
Norway		2,794,655							2,794,655		
Sweden				117,906						117,906	
Subtotal	7,782,376			923,767					7,782,376	923,767	2,138

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.

D. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, IN SERVICES AND TO INTEGRATED PROJECTS (IPs) 2009 (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		1,950,031							1,950,031		
Various UN		82,644							82,644		
Subtotal		2,032,675							2,032,675		
SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS											
Médecins Sans Frontières		52,414							52,414		
Subtotal		52,414							52,414		
PUBLIC SOURCES											
Geneva, Canton of			2,481,372						2,481,372		
Geneva, City of			12,740						12,740		
Versoix, City of			578,508						578,508		
Subtotal			3,072,620						3,072,620		
PRIVATE SOURCES											
Spontaneous donations from private individuals		2,375		22,927					2,375	22,927	
Fondation des immeubles pour les organisations internationales (FIPOI)			228,913						228,913		
Zurich Financial Services			16,500						16,500		
Other private companies	778	288,407	33,312	- 18,534					289,185	14,778	
Subtotal	778	290,782	278,725	4,393					291,560	283,118	
GRAND TOTAL	778	12,945,057	3,989,462	13,335,092	1,212,564	10,744,031	11,956,595		12,945,834	18,537,118	58,984

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.

E. COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS (in KCHF)

	2009	2008' Restated	2007' Restated	2006' Restated	2005
Balance Sheet					
Current assets	648,142	577,287	610,641	510,286	486,287
Non-current assets	168,184	166,578	180,322	227,463	93,668
Total Assets	816,326	743,865	790,963	737,749	579,955
Liabilities	-280,356	-258,051	-337,509	-361,517	-207,126
Total Net Assets	535,970	485,814	453,454	376,232	372,829
Funds and foundations	29,911	27,742	27,530	19,790	14,462
Funding of current operations	35,810	16,705	5,386	-21,976	22,998
Unrestricted reserves designated by the Assembly	455,849	426,967	406,138	364,018	320,969
Other unrestricted reserves	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400
Total Reserves	535,970	485,814	453,454	376,232	372,829
Income and Expenditure Statement					
Contributions	1,104,161	1,146,503	1,007,326	943,849	959,652
Operational expenditures	-1,065,439	-1,102,889	-948,702	-964,124	-910,731
Operational Result	38,722	43,614	58,624	-20,275	48,921
Net result of non-operational activities	11,434	-15,518	12,827	11,288	23,938
Result for the year before transfers	50,156	28,096	71,451	-8,987	72,859
Administrative costs	102,712	97,817	89,988	86,541	84,446
Ratios					
Reserves in % of assets	65.7%	65.3%	57.3%	51.0%	64.3%
Administrative cost in % of operational expenditure	9.7%	8.9%	9.5%	9.0%	9.3%

(1) Restated figures, not comparative to 2005.

F. ASSISTANCE ITEMS FIGURES

The statistical data in the following tables can be summarized as follows.

RECEIPT OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS BY CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND AND PURCHASES IN 2009

All assistance items received as contributions in kind or purchased by the ICRC and inventoried in the context of final destination between 1 January and 31 December 2009. 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 item purchases comprise all procurements carried out both with non-earmarked and earmarked financial contributions ("cash for kind"). The grand total is CHF 174,438,421.

RECEIPT OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS BY CONTEXT IN 2009 (CHF)

All assistance items received as contributions in kind or purchased by the ICRC and inventoried in the context of final destination between 1 January and 31 December 2009.

DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS IN 2009

All assistance items delivered by the ICRC in the field between 1 January and 31 December 2009. These goods were either purchased or received in kind during 2009 or taken from stock already constituted at the end of 2008.

RECEIPT OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS BY CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND AND PURCHASES IN 2009

(by donor and purchase, according to stock entry date)

Donors	Food	Seed	Blankets	Tents	Kitchen sets	Clothes	Other economic security * items	Economic security *	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Grand total
	(Tonnes)	(Tonnes)	(Units)	(Units)	(Units)	(Tonnes)	(Tonnes)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)
National Societies	4,735,224	-	67,116	-	9,542	-	775,887	5,416,918	1,790,572	237,189	93,485	7,538,164
Belgium							23,865	87,981				87,981
Canada												-
Denmark							17,811	90,003				90,003
Iran, Islamic Republic of			15,000				22,500	78,000				78,000
Ireland	87,446		7,389				28,869	141,512				141,512
Finland	182,920		8,110				276,136	364,932	1,200,384			1,565,316
France												-
Germany									28,580	529		29,109
Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China							31,115	105,116				105,116
Italy												-
Kuwait	2,000,000							916,000				916,000
Luxembourg			1,337		600		9,448	36,426				36,426
Norway	1,154						2,687	24,365	231,082	102,789		358,236
Singapore							39,785	109,867	29,698			139,565
Sweden	5		30,280		5,942		165,003	587,000			80,121	667,121
Switzerland			5,000		3,000		41,154	220,198	53,676			273,874
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2,463,699						2,137	1,982,495	247,152	133,871	10,489	2,374,007
United States of America							80,967	522,142				522,142
International Federation							34,410	150,881			2,875	153,756
Governments	10,291,785	-	99,220	-	49,476	200,000	677,286	10,912,207	2,968,214	-	-	13,880,421
Canada	2,441,568							1,403,449				1,403,449
Denmark	134,481				3,275		74,821	430,905	142,943			573,848
Finland			73,900		5,336		439,227	1,974,587				1,974,587
France	6,206,504		25,320		865		71,238	4,048,565				4,048,565
India	1,500,000				40,000	200,000	92,000	2,989,017	96,300			3,085,317
Norway	9,232							65,684	2,728,971			2,794,655
Various donors	2,356,672	-	-	6	36	2,688	34,857	2,081,903	296,891	2,800	2,976	2,384,570
United Nations (UNHCR, UNICEF WFP)	2,331,662				36		33,977	2,023,050	150		2,880	2,026,080
Médecins Sans Frontières	25,003			6		2,428	572	52,414				52,414
Roche									53,460			53,460
Other donors	7					260	308	6,439	243,281	2,800	96	252,616
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND	17,383,681	-	166,336	6	59,054	202,688	1,488,030	18,411,028	5,055,677	239,989	96,461	23,803,155
ICRC												
ICRC PURCHASES	69,467,424	4,928,608	254,887	34	111,011	762,940	16,034,667	96,057,153	5,627,509	1,184,677	10,035,205	112,904,544
ICRC FROM STOCKS	412,578	10,303	442,184	8,725	79,466	40,499	3,350,386	11,480,223	16,449,635	4,355,120	5,445,744	37,730,722
TOTAL ICRC	69,880,002	4,938,911	697,071	8,759	190,477	803,439	19,385,053	107,537,376	22,077,144	5,539,797	15,480,949	150,635,266
GRAND TOTAL	87,263,683	4,938,911	863,407	8,765	249,531	1,006,127	20,873,083	125,948,404	27,132,821	5,779,786	15,577,410	174,438,421

* Economic security includes food, essential household items, seed, and agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic inputs.

RECEIPT OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS BY CONTEXT IN 2009

(CHF)

Context	GIFTS IN KIND				PURCHASES BY THE ICRC				TOTAL RECEIVED				
	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Total
AFRICA	2,734,067			2,880	39,512,180	6,425,075	1,481,041	7,251,377	42,246,247	6,425,075	1,481,041	7,254,257	57,406,620
Angola					1,684				1,684				1,684
Burkina Faso					65,246				65,246				65,246
Burundi					89,304	22,334	311	463,949	89,304	22,334	311	463,949	575,898
Central African Republic					1,513,714	64,791		341,919	1,513,714	64,791		341,919	1,920,424
Chad	19,559				1,610,364	370,520	174,156	258,034	1,629,923	370,520	174,156	258,034	2,432,633
Comoros					322				322				322
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	1,935,152				6,775,753	866,705	160,486	1,422,417	8,710,905	866,705	160,486	1,422,417	11,160,513
Côte d'Ivoire					1,137,324	230,903		206,870	1,137,324	230,903		206,870	1,575,097
Djibouti					13,969				13,969				13,969
Equatorial Guinea					694				694				694
Eritrea					750,872	8,157	79,214	605,045	750,872	8,157	79,214	605,045	1,443,288
Ethiopia					150,631	46,413	611,916	197,981	150,631	46,413	611,916	197,981	1,006,941
Guinea	10,481				191,821	45,974		8,096	202,302	45,974		8,096	256,372
Guinea-Bissau					66,334	23,017	691	147,457	66,334	23,017	691	147,457	237,499
Kenya					54,750	5,823		163,698	54,750	5,823		163,698	224,271
Liberia					232,418	61,643		143,782	232,418	61,643		143,782	437,843
Madagascar					1,169	194		1,519	1,169	194		1,519	2,882
Mali					595,000	8,204			595,000	8,204			603,204
Mauritania					7,617				7,617				7,617
Namibia					2,575	342			2,575	342			2,917
Niger					864,289	80,528	2,202	38,194	864,289	80,528	2,202	38,194	985,213
Rwanda					219,344	830		125,799	219,344	830		125,799	345,973
Senegal					186,460	28,078		158,815	186,460	28,078		158,815	373,353
Somalia					15,036,151	2,068,978		620,971	15,036,151	2,068,978		620,971	17,726,100
Sudan	652,990				5,591,904	442,059	333,924	1,013,404	6,244,894	442,059	333,924	1,013,404	8,034,281
Tanzania, United Republic of					496		1,204	27,354	496		1,204	27,354	29,054
Togo					92,521			868	92,521			868	93,389
Uganda	2,869				1,664,697	235,222	116,937	533,949	1,667,566	235,222	116,937	533,949	2,553,674
Zambia					182				182				182
Zimbabwe	113,016			2,880	2,594,575	1,814,360		771,256	2,707,591	1,814,360		774,136	5,296,087
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	4,425,373	4,249,146		2,875	45,319,637	8,389,925	2,216,231	3,087,974	49,745,010	12,639,071	2,216,231	3,090,849	67,691,161
Afghanistan	210,705				9,618,820	4,834,287	710,569	748,395	9,829,525	4,834,287	710,569	748,395	16,122,776
Bhutan					439				439				439
Cambodia					155,391	34,297	365,817	67,373	155,391	34,297	365,817	67,373	622,878
China							14,156				14,156		14,156
Fiji					1,325				1,325				1,325
India					28,481	6,644	61,464	736	28,481	6,644	61,464	736	97,325
Indonesia					14,632	1,180		2,285	14,632	1,180		2,285	18,097
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of					11,816		178,396	21,707	11,816		178,396	21,707	211,919
Lao People's Democratic Republic						24,319		43,204		24,319		43,204	67,523
Myanmar					19,361	9,637	93,318	32,923	19,361	9,637	93,318	32,923	155,239
Nepal					358,516	29,450	75,064	5,187	358,516	29,450	75,064	5,187	468,217
Pakistan	1,075,000	4,152,846			24,487,458	3,233,161	628,081	1,047,857	25,562,458	7,386,007	628,081	1,047,857	34,624,403
Philippines					7,612,612	201,065	13,374	344,101	7,612,612	201,065	13,374	344,101	8,171,152
Sri Lanka	3,139,668	96,300		2,875	3,009,704	14,095	75,992	774,206	6,149,372	110,395	75,992	777,081	7,112,840
Thailand					836	1,790			836	1,790			2,626
Timor-Leste					246				246				246

* Economic security includes food, essential household items, seed, and agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic inputs.

Context	GIFTS IN KIND				PURCHASES BY THE ICRC				TOTAL RECEIVED				
	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Economic security*	Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Total
EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS	2,375				10,766,650	318,934	429,729	996,711	10,769,025	318,934	429,729	996,711	12,514,399
Armenia					26,879	37,794		139	26,879	37,794		139	64,812
Azerbaijan	2,375				22,436	21,716	7,530	9,695	24,811	21,716	7,530	9,695	63,752
Bosnia and Herzegovina					141				141				141
Georgia					2,027,679	42,047	39,509	227,988	2,027,679	42,047	39,509	227,988	2,337,223
Kosovo**					31,728				31,728				31,728
Kyrgyzstan					52,637	17,522		59,880	52,637	17,522		59,880	130,039
Russian Federation					869,521	32,144		136,044	869,521	32,144		136,044	1,037,709
Uzbekistan					216		502		216		502		718
Bolivia, Plurinational State of					3,239	77			3,239	77			3,316
Colombia					7,495,785	59,251	330,241	276,070	7,495,785	59,251	330,241	276,070	8,161,347
Guatemala							45,011				45,011		45,011
Haiti					210,675	105,657		276,313	210,675	105,657		276,313	592,645
Mexico							6,936				6,936		6,936
Panama					135				135				135
Paraguay					2,430				2,430				2,430
Peru					19,005	2,726		10,582	19,005	2,726		10,582	32,313
United States of America					3,574				3,574				3,574
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of					570				570				570
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA					20,116,725	7,479,758	1,649,985	4,235,545	20,116,725	7,479,758	1,649,985	4,235,545	33,482,013
Algeria						592	34,792			592	34,792		35,384
Iraq					10,857,402	1,922,351	1,254,958	3,019,516	10,857,402	1,922,351	1,254,958	3,019,516	17,054,227
Israel (including the occupied territories)					3,832,336	5,009,388	193,120	802,720	3,832,336	5,009,388	193,120	802,720	9,837,564
Jordan					105				105				105
Lebanon					98,635	138,213		35,382	98,635	138,213		35,382	272,230
Tunisia						3,473		2,283		3,473		2,283	5,756
Western Sahara					2,758		2,730		2,758		2,730		5,488
Syrian Arab Republic													
Yemen					5,325,489	405,741	164,385	375,644	5,325,489	405,741	164,385	375,644	6,271,259
REGIONAL STOCKS	1,181,094	269,983	2,800	48	1,890,303				3,071,397	269,983	2,800	48	3,344,228
Geneva and Nairobi (contributions in kind only)	1,181,094	269,983	2,800	48					1,181,094	269,983	2,800	48	1,453,925
Field neutral stocks					1,890,303				1,890,303				1,890,303
GRAND TOTAL	8,342,909	4,519,129	2,800	5,803	117,605,495	22,613,692	5,776,986	15,571,607	125,948,404	27,132,821	5,779,786	15,577,410	174,438,421

* Economic security includes food, essential household items, seed, and agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic inputs.

** UN Security Council Resolution 1244.

DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE ITEMS IN 2009

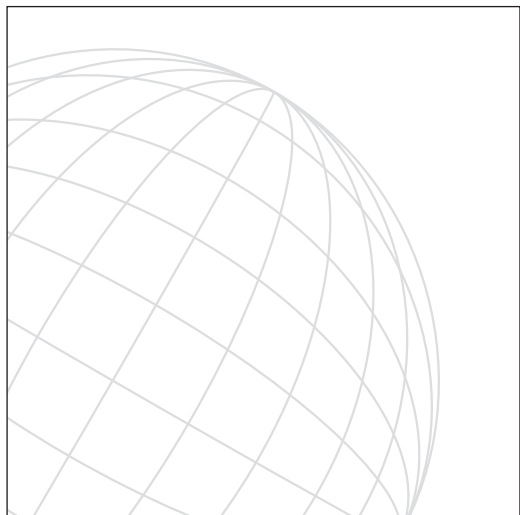
Context	Economic security *		Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Total
	(CHF)	(Tonnes)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)
AFRICA	47,751,336	37,313,469	5,452,159	1,366,229	7,007,841	61,577,565
Angola	1,684	497				1,684
Burkina Faso	65,246	19,649				65,246
Burundi	90,885	33,932	22,748	311	627,469	741,413
Central African Republic	1,289,118	896,429	63,451		310,832	1,663,401
Chad	1,651,791	1,262,751	289,054	174,099	252,305	2,367,249
Comoros	322	230				322
Congo			2,540		5,556	8,096
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	9,259,078	7,687,670	891,995	177,709	1,285,167	11,613,949
Côte d'Ivoire	1,244,558	1,104,807	265,326		208,315	1,718,199
Djibouti	13,969	8,462				13,969
Equatorial Guinea	694	1				694
Eritrea	686,233	236,891	8,157	79,214	664,593	1,438,197
Ethiopia	314,041	64,054	32,163	479,681	150,527	976,412
Guinea	422,783	105,825	58,613		57,312	538,708
Guinea-Bissau	48,595	3,926	11,853	691	54,330	115,469
Kenya	54,750	11,861	5,823		163,698	224,271
Liberia	327,151	115,959	169,172		216,902	713,225
Madagascar	1,169	1,035	194		1,519	2,882
Mali	598,701	43,453	7,517			606,218
Namibia	2,575	425	342			2,917
Niger	845,553	316,611	15,383	2,111	18,176	881,223
Nigeria					3,176	3,176
Rwanda	294,297	272,094	14,719		119,865	428,881
Senegal	163,387	22,453	19,183		151,549	334,119
Somalia	15,008,788	14,122,716	2,027,476		620,971	17,657,235
Sudan	10,761,111	8,099,896	257,206	333,924	923,711	12,275,952
Tanzania, United Republic of	496	297		1,204	27,354	29,054
Togo	92,521	20,801			868	93,389
Uganda	2,182,846	696,322	308,411	117,285	529,841	3,138,383
Zambia	182	38				182
Zimbabwe	2,328,812	2,164,384	980,833		613,805	3,923,450
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	49,402,790	54,190,237	8,351,262	2,619,547	3,149,142	63,522,741
Afghanistan	9,379,954	9,568,720	4,162,999	835,192	790,041	15,168,186
Bhutan	439	50				439
Cambodia	155,391	45	34,297	305,123	67,373	562,184
China				14,156		14,156
Fiji	1,325	1				1,325
India	28,481	58	5,270	30,823	736	65,310
Indonesia	60,128	11,342	2,882		2,285	65,295
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	11,816	1,660	24,319	677,244	21,707	735,086
Lao People's Democratic Republic					43,204	43,204
Myanmar	58,452	2,994	65,728	93,318	274,839	492,337
Nepal	279,047	14,789	12,155	75,064	7,178	373,444
Pakistan	23,044,431	33,675,291	3,558,651	502,508	858,433	27,964,023
Philippines	7,061,581	7,192,637	118,211	13,374	353,829	7,546,995
Solomon Islands						-
Sri Lanka	9,273,658	3,708,436	358,526	72,745	675,248	10,380,177
Thailand	836	14	1,790			2,626
Timor-Leste	47,251	14,200	6,434		54,269	107,954

* Economic security includes food, essential household items, seed, and agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic inputs.

Context	Economic security *		Medical	Physical rehabilitation	Water and habitat	Total
	(CHF)	(Tonnes)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)	(CHF)
EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS	11,409,592	6,068,473	366,591	535,540	1,091,362	13,403,085
Armenia	28,279	13,778	33,598		139	62,016
Azerbaijan	24,184	9,483	40,736	7,530	9,618	82,068
Bosnia and Herzegovina	141	20				141
Georgia	2,723,654	1,925,612	74,019	39,509	281,358	3,118,540
Kosovo **	31,728	16,260				31,728
Kyrgyzstan	53,037	29,305	22,267		66,517	141,821
Russian Federation	970,357	541,095	42,866		132,484	1,145,707
Tajikistan				105,811		105,811
Uzbekistan	216	108		502		718
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	3,239	1	77			3,316
Colombia	7,440,785	3,510,036	78,236	330,241	275,324	8,124,586
Guatemala				45,011		45,011
Haiti	108,258	21,748	72,066		323,745	504,069
Mexico				6,936		6,936
Panama	135	15				135
Paraguay	2,430	397				2,430
Peru	19,005	78	2,726		2,177	23,908
United States of America	3,574	384				3,574
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	570	153				570
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	24,389,404	19,467,695	9,289,584	985,066	4,613,799	39,277,853
Algeria			592	34,792		35,384
Iraq	14,989,572	14,011,195	3,408,938	674,589	3,540,194	22,613,293
Israel (including the occupied territories)	4,048,953	1,681,871	5,579,444	193,120	706,291	10,527,808
Jordan	105	10				105
Lebanon	561,961	226,684	135,841		4,436	702,238
Mauritania	7,617	3,226				7,617
Western Sahara	2,758	1,312		2,730		5,488
Tunisia			3,473		2,283	5,756
Yemen	4,778,438	3,543,397	161,296	79,835	360,595	5,380,164
TOTAL	132,953,122	117,039,874	23,459,596	5,506,382	15,862,144	177,781,244

* Economic security includes food, essential household items, seed, and agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic inputs.

** UN Security Council Resolution 1244.



funds and foundations

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FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,083	3,499
Securities	17,238	12,080
Accounts receivable and accrued interest	4,944	6,238
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	16	492
Total Assets	23,281	22,309
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Liabilities		
Expenses payable	2	
Deferred income	4,750	6,000
Total Liabilities	4,752	6,000
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
Inalienable capital	886	886
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Inalienable capital designated by the Board</i>		
Balance brought forward	14,428	10,840
Allocation/use during the year	1,129	3,588
<i>Financial risk reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	692	2,033
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	1,077	-1,341
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	303	530
Allocation/use during the year	-303	-530
Result for the year after transfer from/to reserves	317	303
Total Unrestricted Reserves	17,643	15,423
Total Reserves	18,529	16,309
Total Liabilities and Reserves	23,281	22,309

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Contributions	1,127	3,588
Income from securities	378	351
Realized gains on securities	4	0
Bank interest	2	12
Total	1,511	3,951
Expenditure		
Bank charges	-54	-49
Realized losses on securities	-2	-4
Fundraising charges	-3	-1
Audit fees	-6	-6
Total	-65	-60
Result for the year before transfers from/to reserves	1,446	3,891
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	303	530
Allocation to unrestricted reserves		
Inalienable capital designated by the Board	-1,129	-3,588
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-303	-530
Result for the year after transfer from/to reserves	317	303

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 5 and 11 members appointed by the ICRC

AUGUSTA FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	135	127
Total Assets	135	127
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
Florence Nightingale Medal Fund, current account		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	3	3
Total Current Liabilities	3	3
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
Inalienable capital	100	100
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	15	18
Use during the year	-1	-3
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	9	23
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	9	-14
Total Unrestricted Reserves	32	24
Total Reserves	132	124
Total Liabilities and Reserves	135	127

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	2	0
Total	2	0
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-3	-3
Total	-3	-3
Result for the year before attribution to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/to reserves	-1	-3
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Attribution to Florence Nightingale Medal Fund	-	-
Result for the year after attribution to the Florence Nightingale Medal Fund and transfers from/to reserves	-1	-3

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.

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	440	406
Augusta Fund, current account		
Stock of medals	62	69
Total Assets	502	475
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	4	3
Total Current Liabilities	4	3
Unrestricted Reserves		
<i>Capital</i>	75	75
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	368	370
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-4	-2
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	29	88
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	30	-59
Total Unrestricted Reserves	498	472
Total Liabilities and Reserves	502	475

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	6	0
Attribution from the Augusta Fund		
Other income		1
Total	6	1
Expenditure		
Presentation of medals, printing and dispatching circulars	-7	
Audit fees	-3	-3
Total	-10	-3
Result for the year before transfers from/to reserves	-4	-2
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-4	-2

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 18th 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.

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

CLARE BENEDICT FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	1,918	1,760
Total Assets	1,918	1,760
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	3	3
Total Current Liabilities	3	3
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>	1,633	1,633
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	0	19
Use during the year	0	-19
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	22	22
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	126	322
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	134	260
<i>Retained result at the end of the year</i>		
Balance brought forward	-2	0
Allocation during the year	2	0
Total Unrestricted Reserves	282	124
Total Reserves	1,915	1,757
Total Liabilities and Reserves	1,918	1,760

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	27	1
Total	27	1
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-3	-3
Total	-3	-3
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	24	-2
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	-	19
Attribution to unrestricted reserves		
Retained result at the end of the year	-2	
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross		-19
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	22	-2

Establishment

1 February 1968.

Purpose

The Fund's income is attributed to assistance activities for the victims of armed conflicts, in accordance with Miss Benedict's wishes.

Administration

A commission composed of three people appointed by the ICRC.

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

MAURICE DE MADRE FRENCH FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	4,496	4,258
Accounts receivable	0	12
Total Assets	4,496	4,270
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	61	138
Allocations to be paid	155	142
Total Current Liabilities	216	280
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Donors' restricted contributions</i>		
Balance brought forward	20	12
Use during the year	-20	-12
Allocation during the year	17	20
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>		
Balance brought forward	3,665	3,681
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-10	-16
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	305	778
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	303	-473
Total Unrestricted Reserves	4,263	3,970
Total Reserves	4,280	3,990
Total Liabilities and Reserves	4,496	4,270

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Contributions		13
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	74	3
Foreign exchange gains, net	1	
Total	75	16
Expenditure		
Allocations		
- Allocations paid during the year	-68	-132
- Allocations to be paid	-13	115
Audit fees	-3	-3
Other expenses	-4	-4
Total	-88	-24
Result for the year before transfers from/to reserves	-13	-8
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Use of restricted reserves		
Donors' restricted contributions	20	12
Allocation to restricted reserves		
Donors' restricted contributions	-17	-20
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-10	-16

N.B. Allocations to be paid were 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 5 people appointed by the ICRC, currently:

- ▶ 2 ICRC members or staff

- ▶ 1 representative of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- ▶ 1 representative of the de Madre family
- ▶ 1 member from outside the Movement

In 2009:

The Fund's Board held its official annual meeting on 11 May; its secretariat handled 75 files on Movement staff.

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

OMAR EL MUKHTAR FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	891	820
Total Assets	891	820
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	3	3
Total Current Liabilities	3	3
Reserves		
RESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>Capital</i>	761	761
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	0	8
Use during the year	0	-8
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	7	7
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	59	150
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	61	120
<i>Retained result at the end of the year</i>		
Balance brought forward	-2	0
Allocation during the year	2	0
Total Unrestricted Reserves	127	56
Total Reserves	888	817
Total Liabilities and Reserves	891	820

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	12	1
Total	12	1
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-3	-3
Total	-3	-3
Result for the year before attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	9	-2
Use of unrestricted reserves		
General reserves	-	8
Attribution to unrestricted reserves		
Retained result at the end of the year	-2	-
Attribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross	-	-8
Result for the year after attribution to the ICRC and transfers from/to reserves	7	-2

Establishment

Pursuant to decision No. 5 of the Executive Board of 20 November 1980, adopted by the Committee in December 1980.

Purpose

A fund in dollars, made up of one or more donations by the authorities of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the income of which is to be used to finance the ICRC's general assistance.

Administration

A Board composed of three ICRC representatives.

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

PAUL REUTER FUND (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Share of the overall capital of the special funds	599	562
Total Assets	599	562
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current Liabilities		
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account	15	13
Total Current Liabilities	15	13
Unrestricted Reserves		
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ICRC		
<i>Initial capital</i>	200	200
<i>General reserves</i>		
Balance brought forward	309	321
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-6	-12
<i>Share of the overall provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>		
Balance brought forward	40	104
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	41	-64
Total Unrestricted Reserves	584	549
Total Liabilities and Reserves	599	562

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009	2009	2008
Income		
Share of net revenue from the overall capital of the special funds	9	1
Total	9	1
Expenditure		
Audit fees	-3	-3
Allocation to the Jean-Pictet Competition	-10	-10
Other expenses	-2	
Total	-15	-13
Result for the year before transfers from/to reserves	-6	-12
Use of unrestricted reserves	-	-
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	-6	-12

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. To that effect, the fund awards a prize every two years to work, to assist in the implementation of a project or to make a publication possible.

Administration

- ▶ a committee composed of 1 member of the ICRC, who is its chairman, and 2 members of ICRC staff, appointed by the Directorate
- ▶ 2 people from outside the ICRC who, with the Committee members, make up the Paul Reuter prize jury

Assets

In order to optimize returns, risk management and bank charges, the assets of the fund are managed within two portfolios held jointly by the six ICRC-related funds. Each fund holds a share of these portfolios proportional to its initial investment and subsequent inflows/outflows.

ICRC SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DISABLED (in KCHF)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009		2009	2008
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		194	869
Securities		4,234	3,816
Accounts receivable		829	367
Accrued interest		32	32
Total Assets		5,289	5,084
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES			
Current Liabilities			
International Committee of the Red Cross, current account		1,690	1,354
Expenses payable		5	6
Deferred income		511	
Total Current Liabilities		2,206	1,360
RESTRICTED RESERVES			
<i>Donors' restricted contributions</i>			
Balance brought forward	337		603
Use for Ethiopia project	-61		-58
Use for Viet Nam project	-142		-445
Use for Nicaragua project	-134		-100
Allocation for Ethiopia project			61
Allocation for Viet Nam project	21		142
Allocation for Nicaragua project		21	134
			337
Total Restricted Reserves		21	337
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD			
<i>Initial capital</i>			
		1,000	1,000
<i>Provision for portfolio unrealized gains</i>			
Balance brought forward	108		497
Increase/decrease of unrealized gains during the year	303	411	-389
			108
<i>General reserves</i>			
Balance brought forward	2,278		2,478
Use for Ethiopia project	-43		
Use for Nicaragua project	-743		
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	159	1,651	-199
			2,279
Total Unrestricted Reserves		3,062	3,387
Total Reserves		3,083	3,724
Total Liabilities and Reserves		5,289	5,084

ICRC SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DISABLED (in KCHF)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009										2008
	Ethiopia project	Viet Nam project	Nicaragua project	Bangladesh project	Tajikistan project	India & Lao PDR project	Albania project	General	Total	Total
Operating Activities										
Contributions Received in Cash										
<i>Governments</i>										
Australia		365							365	496
Austria	303								303	321
Liechtenstein	50								50	50
Norway	604		303	62	12	142	27		1,150	1,328
P. Leahy War Victims Fund/USAID	792								792	1,389
Spain	151								151	158
Switzerland*	100		100						200	133
<i>National Societies/Movement</i>										
Austria			7						7	8
Monaco	7								7	8
Norway			119						119	133
Switzerland		250							250	350
International Committee of the Red Cross					27				27	
<i>Private sources</i>										
CR Machinery										60
Hoffmann la Roche										5
OPEC Fund for International Development	307	211							518	226
Proceeds from sale of Mr Robin Coupland's paintings										45
Pro-Victimis				70					70	84
Various donors	2								2	4
Contributions Received in Services										
<i>National Societies</i>										
Canada										10
Total Contributions	2,316	826	529	132	39	142	27		4,011	4,808
Operating Expenditure										
Cash expenditure	-2,420	-947	-1,406	-132	-39	-142	-27		-5,113	-5,064
Services expenditure										-10
Total Operating Expenditure	-2,420	-947	-1,406	-132	-39	-142	-27		-5,113	-5,074
Net Result of Operating Activities	-104	-121	-877	0	0	0	0		-1,102	-266
Non-operating Activities										
Financial Income										
Securities income								100	100	77
Bank interest								1	1	15
Realized gains on securities, net								7	7	
Foreign exchange gains, net								82	82	
Total Financial Income								190	190	92

* Out of which CHF 160,000 have been channelled via the ICRC.

ICRC SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DISABLED (in KCHF)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009										
2009										2008
	Ethiopia project	Viet Nam project	Nicaragua project	Bangladesh project	Tajikistan project	India & Lao PDR project	Albania project	General	Total	Total
Financial Expenditure										
Bank charges								-23	-23	-19
Audit fees								-7	-7	-6
Realized losses on securities, net										-20
Non-refundable withholding taxes								-1	-1	0
Fundraising charges								0	0	0
Foreign exchange losses, net										-246
Total Financial Expenditure								-31	-31	-291
Net Result of Non-operating Activities								159	159	-199
Result for the year before transfers from/to reserves	-104	-121	-877	0	0	0	0	159	-943	-465
Use of unrestricted reserves										
General reserves	43		743						786	0
Use of restricted reserves										
Donors' restricted contributions	61	142	134						337	603
Allocation to restricted reserves										
Donors' restricted contributions		-21							-21	-337
Result for the year after transfers from/to reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	159	159	-199

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 SFD remained to a large extent unchanged, i.e. to support physical rehabilitation services in low-income countries, with priority given to former projects of the ICRC. Although the SFD had become a more independent body, its projects 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

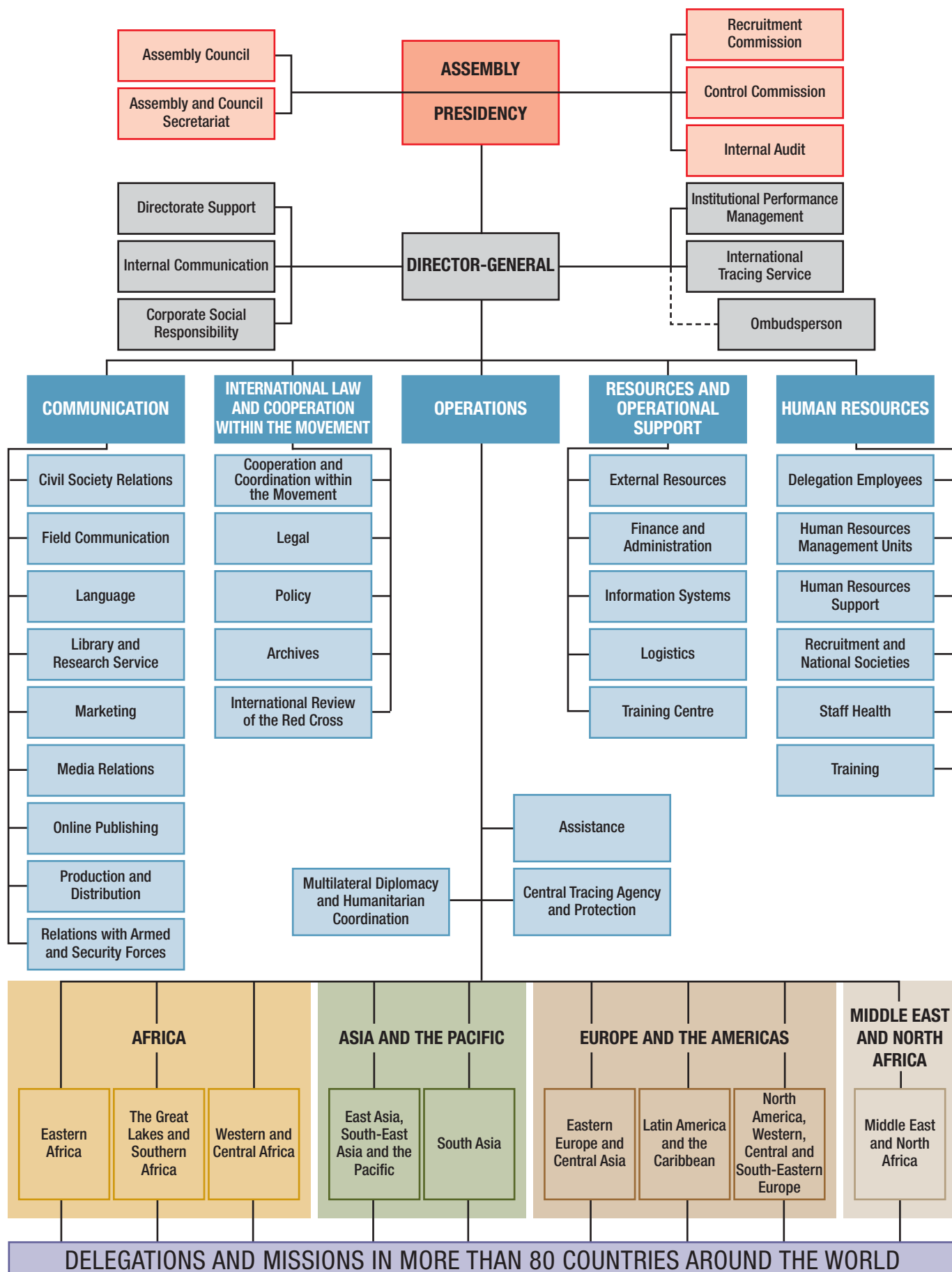
In 1983, the ICRC donated an initial 1 million Swiss francs to set up the SFD. Further support is since given to the SFD by various governments, a number of National Societies and by private and public sources.

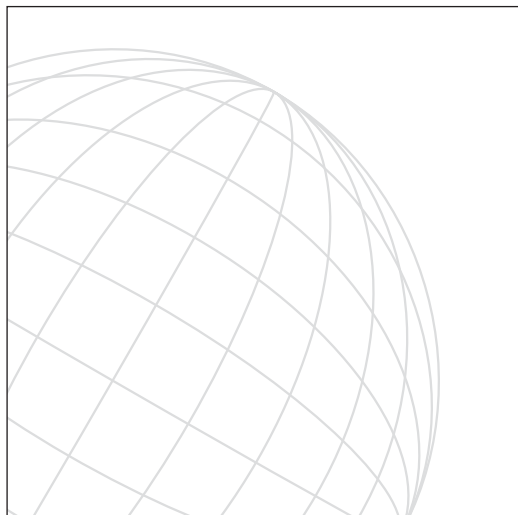


ANNEX



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 four to six times a year for ordinary sessions and can decide to hold an extraordinary session at any time.

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

Mrs Christine Beerli, permanent vice-president, lawyer, former managing director of the Technical and Information Technology Departments of Bern University of Applied Sciences, former senator (Swiss Council of States) (2005)

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)

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)

Mr Paolo Bernasconi, Bachelor of Law, barrister, professor of fiscal law and economic criminal law at the Universities of St. Gallen, Zurich and Milan (Bocconi), former public prosecutor in Lugano (1987)

Ms Anne de Boccard, Bachelor of Political Sciences, diploma from the Swiss Banking School, chief executive officer of Citadel Finance, Geneva, since 1999 (2007)

Mr Jean de Courten, Bachelor of Law, former delegate and former director of Operations at the ICRC (1998)

Mr Bernard G.R. Daniel, Bachelor of Laws, diploma from the International Institute for Management Development in Lausanne. Former Nestle secretary-general and previously secretary to the Board of Directors, former ICRC delegate (2009)

Mr Jacques Forster, Doctor of Economics, former professor at the Graduate Institute of Development Studies in Geneva (1988), former permanent vice-president of the ICRC (2007)

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)

Ms Claude Le Coultre, honorary professor at the University of Geneva Faculty of Medicine

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)

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 Yves Sandoz, Doctor of Law, lecturer at the University of Geneva, former director of International Humanitarian Law and Principles at the ICRC (2002)

Mr Rolf Soiron, doctorate in history, Program for Management Development Harvard Business School. Former chairman of the management boards of Holcim, Lonza and Nobel Biocare, former member of the Grand Council of the Canton of Basel-City (2009)

1. As at 31 December 2009

Mr Jenö Staehelin, Doctor of Law (University of Bern), former Ambassador of Switzerland (2006)

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 Senior Management Program certificate, former chairman of the von Moos Group, industrialist (1998)

Honorary members:

Mr Jean Abt, Mr Peter Arbenz, Mr Jean-Philippe Assal,
Mr Jean-François Aubert, 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, 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 the president, the permanent vice-president and three members elected by the Assembly. The Assembly Council 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.

Mr Jakob Kellenberger, president

Mrs Christine Beerli, permanent vice-president

Ms Claude Le Coultre, member of the Assembly

Mr Jacques Moreillon, member of the Assembly

Mr Jenö Staehelin, 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, and leads their work. The president maintains a standing dialogue with the Directorate on all activities conducted by the ICRC and can take appropriate measures in cases of extreme emergency.

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 a 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. Since 2007, the external auditing has been 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

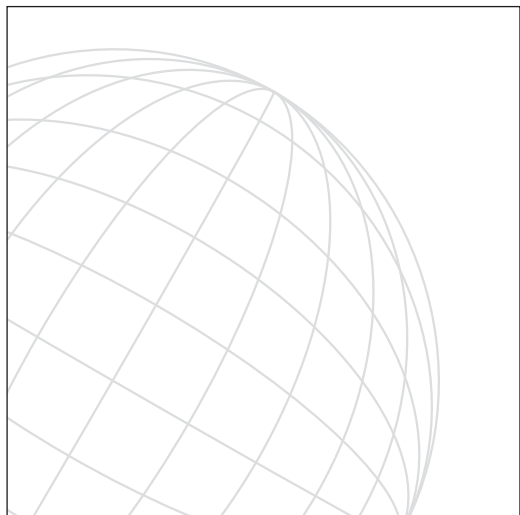
Mr Yves Daccord, director of Communication

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 2008–2011 (7th GROUP)

The purpose of the Group of International Advisers, which is re-appointed by the ICRC every four years to provide counsel and support for ICRC 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 2008–2011 Group follows on from six previous groups of advisers that have assisted the ICRC since 1984. It met twice during 2009 for confidential discussions with the ICRC leadership and was composed of 10 people with confirmed international experience:¹

Ms Maruja Milagros B. Asis (Philippines)

Mr Jan Eliasson (Sweden)

Mr Amara Essy (Côte d'Ivoire)

Sir Mike Jackson (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Mr Rami G. Khouri (Jordan)

Mrs Irina Kobrinskaya (Russian Federation)

Mrs Sonia Picado (Costa Rica)

Mr William Howard Taft IV (United States of America)

Mrs Yu Xintian (China)

Mr Sabah Zanganeh (Islamic Republic of Iran)

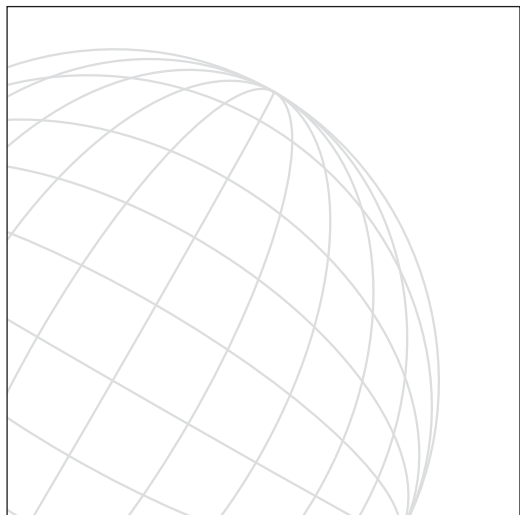
In 2009, the Group met in March and in August with members of the Assembly and of the Directorate. The comments and suggestions made during these meetings provided valuable input for the ICRC's planning and policy-making process. The following topics were discussed:

- ▶ general trends in international relations in 2009 and their implications for armed conflicts and other situations of violence in which the ICRC was operating, with a particular focus on the political and humanitarian repercussions of the new US administration in different regions of the world (specifically the risks of armed conflict and other situations

of violence, compliance with and implementation of IHL, and opportunities and challenges for ICRC operations)

- ▶ the political and social impact of Islamism in recent years, and the resulting challenges for humanitarian actors: to what extent international Islamist organizations have influenced the political and social agendas of local groups in their respective countries and regions over the past three decades, particularly post-9/11; the resulting implications and challenges for humanitarian actors in areas whose political awareness is increasingly rooted in Islam – both in the heartland of the Islamic world and on its peripheries
- ▶ the identity and diversity of humanitarian action: the appropriateness and limitations of and challenges to the “Western” model of humanitarian action in various parts of the world, in view of the growing tendency in some countries to prefer a “home-grown” humanitarian response; the resulting implications for the ICRC
- ▶ the relevance of IHL vis-à-vis “terrorism”: possibilities and limitations of IHL in preventing “terrorism”, with examples from various countries and regions of the world
- ▶ the emergence of armed violence below the threshold of IHL: for example, urban violence, organized crime, community violence, piracy, political violence; the causes and humanitarian consequences of such types of armed violence; the ICRC's possible response
- ▶ nuclear, chemical and biological weapons: the risks and reality of the threat; reactions of the international community in the event of use; implications for humanitarian agencies; the role of the ICRC

1. For more information about each adviser, please refer to the ICRC website:
[http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/
international-advisers-for-icrc-180408?opendocument](http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/international-advisers-for-icrc-180408?opendocument)



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.

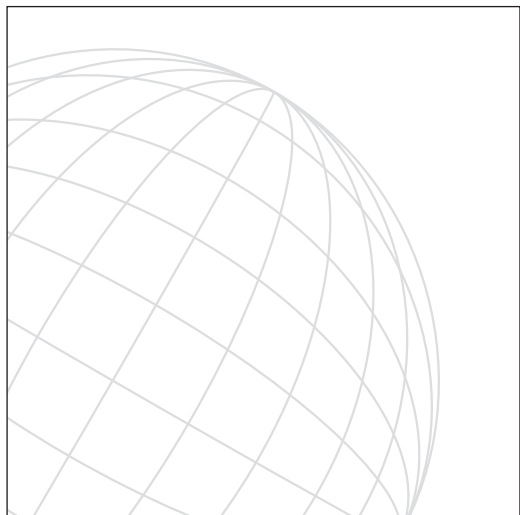
National Societies in their own country and the ICRC both have the mandate to assist the victims of armed conflicts. National Societies are the main operational partners of the ICRC, particularly in the fields of medical and relief assistance and restoring family links.

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 including risk reduction and victim assistance
- ▶ 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 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 Additional Protocols. 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:

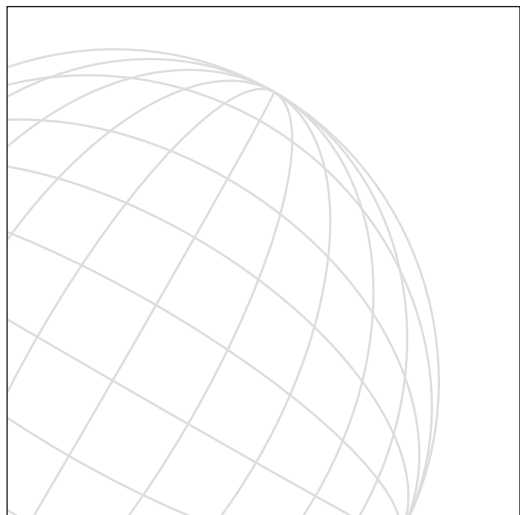
- ▶ the four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I confer on the ICRC a specific mandate to act in the event of international armed conflict. In particular, the ICRC has the right to visit prisoners of war and civilian internees. The Conventions also give the ICRC a broad right of initiative

- ▶ 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 2009, Afghanistan acceded to the 1977 Additional Protocols, bringing the number of States party to Additional Protocols I and II to 169 and 165 respectively. In addition, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Italy, Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Poland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ratified or acceded to Additional Protocol III.

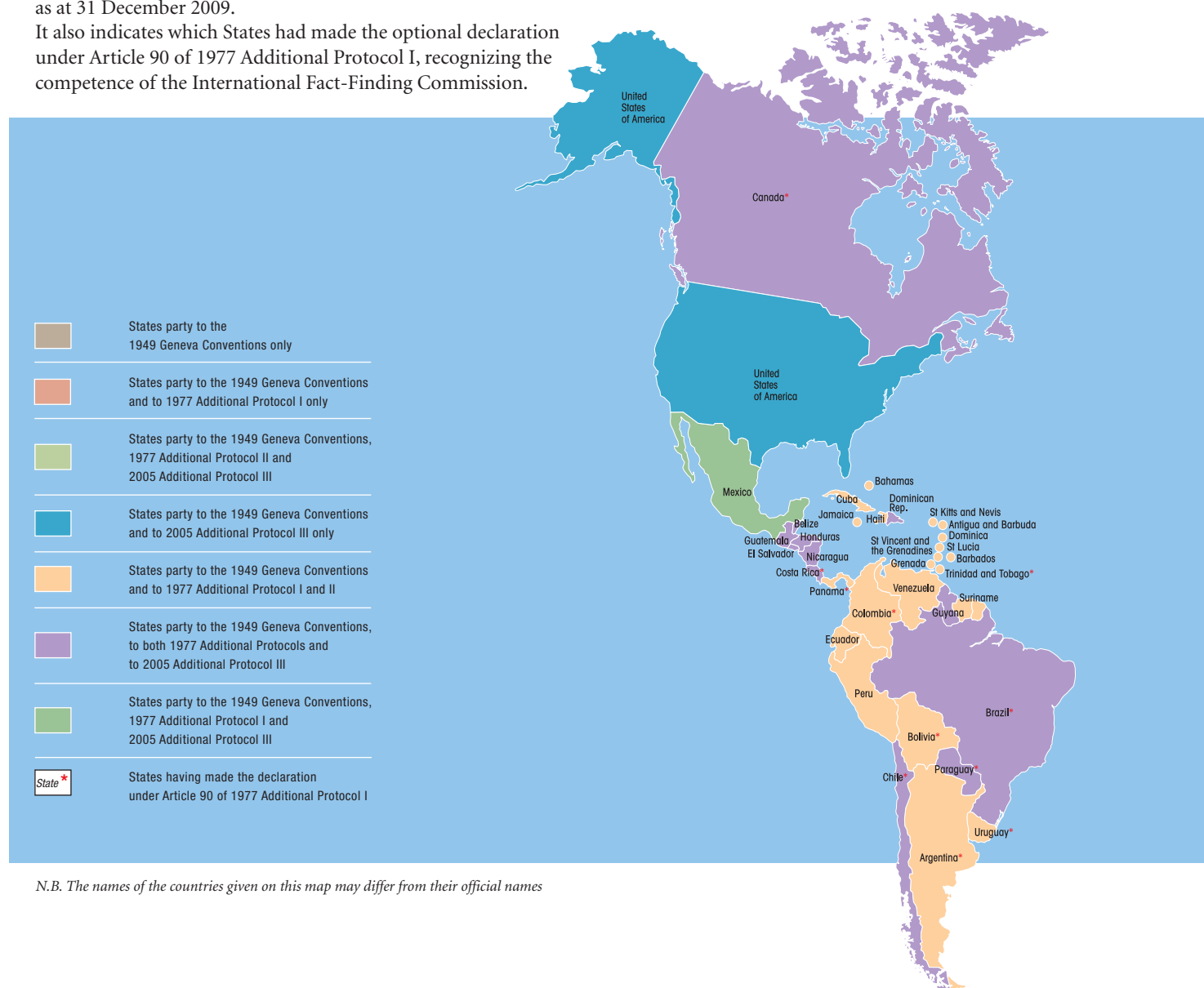
By 2009, 71 States were party to Article 90 of Additional Protocol I which provides for the establishment of an International Fact-Finding Commission to enquire into allegations of serious violations of humanitarian law.



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 2009.

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

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions: **194**

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
and to 1977 Additional Protocol I: **169**

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
and to 1977 Additional Protocol II: **165**

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
and to both 1977 Additional Protocols: **164**

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
and to 2005 Additional Protocol III: **51**

States party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions,
to both 1977 Additional Protocols
and to 2005 Additional Protocol III: **46**

States having made the declaration
under Article 90 of 1977 Additional Protocol I: **71**

- 1 Netherlands*
- 2 Luxembourg*
- 3 Switzerland*
- 4 Liechtenstein*
- 5 Slovenia*
- 6 Croatia*
- 7 Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- 8 Serbia*
- 9 Montenegro*
- 10 FYR Macedonia*



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 1949 Geneva 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 31.12.2008

All of the world's 194 States are party to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949.

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol I: 1

► Afghanistan 10.11.2009

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol II: 1

► Afghanistan 10.11.2009

Ratifications, accessions or successions to Additional Protocol III: 15

► Australia 15.07.2009
 ► Austria 03.06.2009
 ► Brazil 28.08.2009
 ► Chile 06.07.2009
 ► Dominican Republic 01.04.2009
 ► Finland 14.01.2009
 ► France 17.07.2009
 ► Germany 17.06.2009
 ► Greece 26.10.2009
 ► Guyana 21.09.2009
 ► Italy 29.01.2009
 ► Kazakhstan 24.06.2009
 ► Nicaragua 02.04.2009
 ► Poland 26.10.2009
 ► United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 23.10.2009

TOTALS

Number of States Parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949: 194

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol I: 169

Number of States having made the declaration under Article 90: 71

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol II: 165

Number of States Parties to Additional Protocol III: 51

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	10.11.2009	A		10.11.2009	A		
Albania	27.05.1957	R X	16.07.1993	A		16.07.1993	A	06.02.2008	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	15.07.2009	R
Austria	27.08.1953	R	13.08.1982	R X	13.08.1982	13.08.1982	R X	03.06.2009	R
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 X	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, Plurinational State of	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	28.08.2009	R
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	06.07.2009	R
China	28.12.1956	R X	14.09.1983	A X		14.09.1983	A X		
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	07.05.2002	S	07.05.2002	A	07.05.2002	07.05.2002	A		
Costa Rica	15.10.1969	A	15.12.1983	A	09.12.1999	15.12.1983	A	30.06.2008	R
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		23.06.1999	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	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	01.04.2009	R
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	20.02.2009	18.01.1993	A	28.02.2008	R
Ethiopia	02.10.1969	R	08.04.1994	A		08.04.1994	A		
Fiji	09.08.1971	S	30.07.2008	A		30.07.2008	A	30.07.2008	A
Finland	22.02.1955	R	07.08.1980	R X	07.08.1980	07.08.1980	R	14.01.2009	R
France	28.06.1951	R	11.04.2001	A X		24.02.1984	A X	17.07.2009	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
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	17.06.2009	R
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	26.10.2009	R
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	14.03.2008	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	21.09.2009	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	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	29.01.2009	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	24.06.2009	A
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	14.10.2008	R
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 X		22.03.1982	A		
Mexico	29.10.1952	R	10.03.1983	A				07.07.2008	R
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	19.08.2008	R X
Monaco	05.07.1950	R	07.01.2000	A	26.10.2007	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 X	21.07.1994	17.06.1994	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
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 X	13.12.2006	R X
New Zealand	02.05.1959	R	08.02.1988	R X	08.02.1988	08.02.1988	R X		
Nicaragua	17.12.1953	R	19.07.1999	R		19.07.1999	R	02.04.2009	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	13.10.2008	R
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	23.10.1991	R	02.10.1992	23.10.1991	R	26.10.2009	R
Portugal	14.03.1961	R X	27.05.1992	R X	01.07.1994	27.05.1992	R X		
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						07.07.2008	R
Slovakia	02.04.1993	S	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	10.03.2008	R
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	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							X
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	21.05.2008	A
Ukraine	03.08.1954	R	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	23.10.2009	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, Bolivarian Republic of	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 armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance.

The ICRC 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 Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.



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