

**THE STANDING COMMISSION
OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT**

SC XVI – 5th meeting

**25-26 March 2013
Divonne, France**

DECISIONS

Decision 1 (Agenda):

The draft agenda, as circulated was adopted.

Decision 2 (Minutes):

The draft Minutes of Meeting XVI-4 of the Standing Commission, 12-13 November 2012 were adopted as circulated.

Decision 3 (Review of decision sheet):

The Action Sheet from the previous meeting was reviewed and considered implemented

Decision 4 (Finance):

The accounts of the Standing Commission as presented by the Secretariat were approved.

The Budget for the Standing Commission as presented by the Secretariat was adopted.

Decision 5 (Henry Dunant Medal 50th anniversary):

Dr Massimo Barra informed the Commission of the work he had undertaken and his conclusions and recommendations with regard to the Henry Dunant Medal and with regard to the anniversary of this award in 2015.

The Commission appreciated his analysis and recommendations and agreed to

pursue the following ideas:

- Plaque at Museum listing laureates
- Raise visibility of Medal
- Better ceremony
- Loosen criteria to permit awards to people still in positions
- Posthumous awards only in exceptional cases
- Invest in identifying deserving candidates among volunteers and field staff
- Consider a special Henry Dunant Medal linked to the Anniversary and allow that to be awarded to outsiders

Decision 6 (Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity):

The Standing Commission reviewed proposals generated by its Secretariat for the modernization of the regulations for the Red Cross Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity and, with some exceptions, accepted these for submission to the Council of Delegates in 2013.

The Standing Commission also agreed try and stimulate National Societies to make nominations, to run a small campaign to make it better known, and to replace the current “Work of Art” that comes with the Prize with a modest alternative.

Decision 7 (Henry Dunant Medal and Peace Prize 2013):

No formal nominations having been received and only one National Society indicating a formal nomination will be forthcoming the Standing Commission discussed options for stimulating National Societies to be more active and creative.

The Standing Commission decided to relax the criteria for awarding the medal somewhat to make it easier to reward exceptional achievements by individuals still in office in National Societies.

Decision 8 (Standing Commission election procedures):

The Standing Commission reviewed a number of options presented by the Secretariat and decided to leave the current set of rules and regulations in place, but to re-introduce a ballot that clearly indicates the candidates’ region of origin and gender, and actively encourage a more diverse Commission in terms of geography and gender.

Decision 9 (Working Group on Movement Fora):

The Working Group had a successful meeting in London. Main conclusions, approved by the Commission, included

- Joint opening of the statutory meetings in Sydney: Council begins on day one; is adjourned and the General Assembly of the International Federation is held immediately after. When this is finished, the Council resumes.

- Consider using the term “Congress of the Movement” to refer to the Council and General Assembly meetings
- The importance attached to the increased the use of electronic means to broaden participation.
- That the format for documents and discussions in the Council might usefully be developed further
- The Council might usefully be rebranded
- Moving towards a rolling agenda for the Council
- Try to make the meetings paperless including by the introduction of formal remote participation
- More and earlier consultations before International Conferences including through Regional Conferences

The Standing Commission requested the Working Group to produce a definitive report and recommendations for consideration by the Commission at its meeting in September 2013.

Decision 10 (Future of the MoU monitoring mechanism):

The Standing Commission reviewed the report prepared by the Independent Monitor, dated February 28 2013 and, with reference to its decision of November 12 2012, decided to

- express its deep disappointment that MDA in Israel has not progressed in the implementation of the remaining parts of the Memorandum of Understanding since the Council of Delegates and the International Conference in November 2011 and it resolved
- to support the continuation of the monitoring process
- to urge Minister Pär Stenbäck to pursue the monitoring with the aim to validate the results before September 2013, in order to be able to update his February report at the Council of Delegates in November 2013
- to ask the ICRC and the Federation to reconfirm Minister Stenbäck’s mandate for that period
- to ask components of the Movement to engage with MDA and strongly emphasize that full and final implementation is a prerequisite for ending the process already started in 2005
- to remind MDA about the serious consequences of non-implementation and the damage for its reputation, its credibility and its relations with the other components of the Movement
- to present a draft resolution to the Council of Delegates 2013 about the state of the Memorandum of Understanding, and to outline the next steps

The Commission further decided to inform the Permanent Missions in Geneva of its decision above, and to share same with National Societies.

Decision 12 (Monitoring of follow-up to statutory meetings):

The Standing Commission received an update from ICRC and the International Federation concerning their preparations for a mid-term review of the outcome of the 2011 Council of Delegates and the International Conference in 2013.

The monitoring process will be formally launched in May, and the Federation and ICRC are aiming for a meeting with Permanent Missions in Geneva in October, to coincide with the founding IC of 1863 (tbc). There will also be a session/workshop dedicated to the MTR and the agenda-setting for the 32nd IC at this year's CoD.

The two institutions undertook to update the Commission further at its meeting scheduled for September 2013.

Decision 13 (Strategy for the Movement):

The Standing Commission reviewed a prototype strategy to replace the one adopted in 2001 and updated in 2005.

The Standing Commission agreed with the general direction, the format, the focus on “working together” and “working with others” and the idea of a regular updating of the document at each Council of Delegates.

With some comments made on specific aspects of the prototype presented the Standing Commission requested that National Societies be consulted on the draft new document prior to the meeting scheduled for September 2013.

Decision 14 (Agenda for Council of Delegates 2013)

At its November meeting, which focused on this subject, the Standing Commission decided on a number of issues relating to the forthcoming Council of Delegates and requested these be taken into account in the document that subsequently was to be circulated to National Societies for comment.

On 26 March the Commission decided to

- Create a single opening ceremony for the Council of Delegates and the General Assembly of the International Federation and adjourn the Council for the duration of the General Assembly.
- Organise debates in the Council of Delegates under two broad themes,
- The Changing Face of Humanitarian Action in the 21st Century
- The Fundamental Principles in Action
- Task the Joint Organising Committee to analyse the proposals for issues to discuss which are now on the table and allocate these between the two themes, if necessary combining ideas so as to make possible debates within the physical and organisational structure established for the plenary and working groups.
- Task the Joint Organising Committee to produce, as soon as possible, a new

draft agenda for approval by the Commission, remotely, and subsequent circulation to National Societies with the Letter of Convocation scheduled to be despatched in May.

Decision 15 (Next meetings):

The Standing Commission at previous meetings already decided to meet

- In Geneva 16-17 September 2013 to review the Council of Delegates official documents before dispatch
- In Sydney, on 15 or 16 November 2013 – depending on when the Governing Board of the International Federation meets.