

Fifteenth Conference of the Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The Fifteenth Conference of the Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies took place in Sana'a, in the Yemen Arab Republic, from 31 March to 2 April, under the chairmanship of Mr. Abdul Ghani Ashi, Secretary-General of the Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The ICRC was represented by its President, Mr. Alexandre Hay, accompanied by Mr. Jean Hoeffiger, delegate-general for the Middle East and Mr. C. Bauverd, regional delegate for the Arabian Peninsula. Also taking part in the Conference was Dr. Ahmed Abu Goura, president of the Jordan Red Crescent Society and chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, who played a very active role throughout the meetings.

The Conference adopted a number of resolutions, some of which concern the ICRC and its activities and which are summarized below:

- The Conference thanks the ICRC for its efforts within the sphere of its humanitarian tasks; it requests the ICRC to expand its activities in Arab countries and to increase its aid to the Palestinian people;
- The Conference requests the ICRC to assist the Afghan refugees in Pakistan;
- The Conference invites the Arab National Societies to approach their respective governments in order to encourage them to accede to the 1977 Protocols;
- The Conference requests the National Societies and governments to increase their material support to the ICRC.