

## PHNOM PENH LEADERSHIP OUTCOMES

We, the Leaders from the nine National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in South-East Asia, present in Phnom Penh, Cambodia for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual South-East Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, from 25 to 27 February 2015, **guided** by the seven fundamental principles and humanitarian values, the needs and aspirations of the people in South-East Asia, resolutions from previous Red Cross Red Crescent statutory meetings, outcomes from previous South-East Asia Leadership Meetings, priorities of the upcoming Red Cross Red Crescent statutory meetings and its theme for the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference – **Power of Humanity: The fundamental principles in action, reiterating** our ownership and building on the Beijing Call for Innovation adopted at the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Conference in October 2014, **commit** to undertake the following actions in 2015 to translate our discussions from the meeting into a reality:

- **Principles in action:** We reaffirm the contemporary relevance and importance of the fundamental principles and commit to internalizing the principles within our National Societies, especially in the context of our operations. We commend the importance of these principles for the protection and safety of our Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers and the unity of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement worldwide.
- **Disaster law:** Support the development of disaster law at the national and regional levels in partnership with governments, regional organizations and humanitarian partners. Such strong legal frameworks benefit the wider humanitarian community and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable and disaster-affected populations. Noting the progress made within the region and following the joint pledge made in the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference,

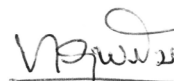
we will continue to engage our governments and reiterate our commitment and pledge to the upcoming 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference in December 2015.

- **Auxiliary role:** Cognisant of our auxiliary role, without compromising our independence, we commit to embark on humanitarian diplomacy to strengthen our relationships with the public and national authorities, and influence national strategies, legislation and mechanisms to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are recognized and addressed in all circumstances.
- **Promotion of a culture of non-violence and peace:** We will promote understanding and dialogue between relevant stakeholders on matters related to culture, religion and faith, also addressing marginalized groups and the protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights, to ensure that we contribute to building a culture that is respectful of diversity and is non-violent and peaceful. We acknowledge our responsibility as humanitarian diplomats to ensure that we convene experts and stakeholders, both within and outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, to promote dialogue and understanding, aligning to our principle of impartiality.
- **Humanitarian diplomacy:** Reduce the impact of natural disasters on vulnerable communities by engaging even stronger advocacy and diplomacy, at both the national and regional levels. Together, we will actively highlight the concerns of the most vulnerable and bring the voices of the community directly to decision-makers and opinion leaders.

- **Changing Humanitarian Environment:** Cognisant of the rapidly changing environment, with an increasing number of actors and complexities, we will continue to emphasize our accountability, transparency and good governance, strengthen collaboration with the private and public sector and other humanitarian actors, and encourage innovation in our processes, services and products, in order to maintain a cutting edge in our humanitarian mission.
- **Youth and Volunteer Management:** We acknowledge that the Youth and Volunteer are the heart and driving force of the Movement. We will assess the mechanisms to ensure the utmost safety and security of our staff and volunteers. We will promote the Safety First measures for the protection of staff and volunteers including the development of guidelines and relevant tools based on each country context. We will focus on revising relevant Youth policies to strengthen youth engagement, including promoting strategies and tools in line with the Youth Engagement Strategy (Y.E.S).
- **Gender & Diversity:** Ensure that our initiatives are inclusive of all groups especially women, girls, boys and men, aligning with our Principle of Impartiality, and that these groups are represented and their needs are considered in all areas of our work in humanitarian assistance and development. We will promote gender equality and respect for diversity as part of the global aim to build safer and more resilient communities.

- **Peer to peer support:** Acknowledging the diverse needs, resources and capacities in the National Societies in the region, we agree to promote peer to peer learning and sharing, strengthen cooperation for the development efforts of the National Societies and strengthening response mechanisms to disasters and emergencies. We shall therefore mobilize the potential of the National Societies in the best interest of the vulnerable people.

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