12TH ANNUAL SOUTH-EAST ASIA RED CROSS RED CRESCENT LEADERSHIP MEETING
INTRODUCTION

The 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting was hosted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from 24 to 27 February 2015, under the generous hospitality of the Cambodian Red Cross and its President, Bun Rany Hun Sen and the Secretary General, Pum Chanthinie.

The leadership meeting is an important opportunity for presidents, secretaries, general and senior management in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to evaluate challenges, successes and future direction, as a way of further strengthening the world's largest humanitarian network.

The following report aims to serve as a reference document for future leadership meetings and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners.

On behalf of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and its members, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Cambodian Red Cross and everyone involved in making this event possible.

Your ongoing support and collaboration is critical to strengthening the resilience of communities throughout the region and facing today's humanitarian challenges.

Kind regards,

Anne E. Leclerc
Head, IFRC South-East Asia regional delegation
Elhadj As Sy
Secretary General, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

• Samdech Kittiprittbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen, President, Cambodian Red Cross
• H.E. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers
• Mr Alain Aeschlimann, Head of Operations for East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific, ICRC
• Leaders, secretaries general and representatives from National Societies in the South-East Asia region
• Distinguished colleagues of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement
• Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Lok Okhna, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this meeting of National Society leaders in South-East Asia. Thank you Samdech Kittiprittbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen for hosting this meeting and inviting me to address this important platform.

This 2015 will be a crucial year for the shaping of humanitarian policy and humanitarian action. Governments will decide on a new global climate agreement – the Sustainable Development Goals.

Commitments will be made that will shape the humanitarian agenda for the next decade.

Our Red Cross and Red Crescent network has an important role in this process. As you convene in South-East Asia, I am pleased to know that the fundamental principles are a guiding theme of your meeting.

The humanitarian space is shrinking. To ensure the safety of our staff and volunteers and to ensure safe access to humanitarian services for beneficiaries across our network and across all contexts, all actors must respect the fundamental principles. Adherence to – and respect from others for – our neutrality and impartiality is key.

In South-East Asia, a region of growth, diversity, opportunity and challenge, National Societies have a critical role in serving vulnerable communities most affected by the changing dynamics.
Your actions, your leanings and your leadership strengthen our global network. It informs our shared humanitarian agenda so that we can respond to disaster better and so that we can improve community resilience.

As you increase your relevance domestically and as we work collectively as one Federation, we will be more responsive together to the needs of the communities we serve.

I have been asked to share my vision of the Federation.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent will always be on the side of communities. We will be a strong global network, with the right structures in place and the right resources. We will be bold. We will push the envelope to serve better. We will do nothing for National Societies without National Societies. All National Societies will be partners – as contributors and beneficiaries.

This is my vision for the Federation.

To achieve this vision, we will take necessary steps. We are embarking on a constitutional review. We are evaluating the impacts of decentralization. We are working closer with ICRC and National Societies to improve Movement cooperation. Many of you here are providing leadership in these areas. I thank you. I count on your continued support.

We are in preparations for our Red Cross and Red Crescent International Conference in Geneva in December. Nearly 200 governments will join us in dialogue to agree on resolutions for joint humanitarian action.

Our fundamental principles, disaster risk reduction, violence prevention, safer access – I encourage you to engage with your governments on these themes in the lead up to the December conference so that when the time comes to make commitments together, they will be the right commitments that address humanitarian needs in your domestic markets and on a global scale.

Over the next two days, maximizing partnerships will be a major topic of discussion. As South-East Asia continues to grow, so too will opportunities for innovative partnerships within the Movement and with external organizations.

How can partnerships in this region and globally build on National Society strengths? How can we maximize peer-to-peer learning and support for more effective partnerships? How can we leverage better regional mechanisms?

Your discussions will inform not only the regional approach in South-East Asia but also our Federation’s global strategy for shaping innovative partnerships that we can take to scale, from strength to strength, market to market, region to region.

Growth is important, but it must be sustainable. Your reflections at this meeting on a National Society’s auxiliary role, its definition and interpretation by governments and, by extension, achievable domestic humanitarian action will be invaluable. A clear definition of National Society auxiliary status, rooted in the fundamental principles, can only ensure that we deliver more effective and more sustainable humanitarian service.

As we engage with governments, we must also engage further with local actors – civil society, NGOs, academia, the private sector. What is the National Society role in this new matrix of humanitarian action?

I believe we have a role to play as a convenor. We can build platforms for discussion, for joint advocacy, for far-reaching partnerships. We are grounded in communities. We have unique access to governments. We can be a powerful mobilizer if we understand well what needs to be mobilized, where and when.

We are currently in the process of articulating at the Federation: What is the future? What are the trends that we see? What do these trends mean for young people, our ageing populations and vulnerable communities? What are our network strengths in times of non-emergency, and what does this mean in our rapidly evolving world? What does it mean for our secretariat to ensure we respond to your needs, our National Society members, in this rapid evolution?
The insights that you discuss during this meeting will be critical for helping us formulate answers to these questions, to build a Red Cross and Red Crescent network that is more agile, efficient and accountable and to be the partner of choice when the world must scale up to match the response with the magnitude of the crisis of the hour.

Sustainable partnerships and sustainable resource mobilization must be a priority for all of us so that we can adequately serve the growing populations of vulnerable people. In South-East Asia, where vulnerable populations are increasing due to migration, population movements, intercultural and interreligious dynamics, innovative partnerships – be it in the form of resources, knowledge or facilitation – can help us understand and address sensitive issues.

It is our responsibility to re-invest the resources entrusted to us into the communities where we live and serve so that we can strengthen the volunteer base, mobilize young people, foster sustainable leadership at local levels and build more resilient communities. The road ahead will not be easy, with no end in sight to crises and conflicts.

As we continue to stand by the most vulnerable, let us intensify our cooperation and solidarity mechanisms. National Societies, I encourage you to assert your leadership and principled humanitarian action. In this important year of humanitarian diplomacy and action, this is your time for impact.

Use your knowledge, your influence and your engagement with governments to represent the voices of the vulnerable and to ensure that humanitarian commitments – and the resources that will follow – accurately reflect their needs. May your dialogue in the coming days be meaningful.

I look forward to learning the outcomes of your meeting for the benefit of our humanitarian service in South-East Asia and our collective Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian action worldwide.

Thank you!
H.E. Sok An
Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers
25 February 2015

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to share some inputs:

1. The Cambodian Red Cross should strengthen and expand Red Cross youth and volunteers, building their capacity and skills to be prepared as a front line to effectively participate in humanitarian activities; in particular, provide assistance to communities affected by disaster, promote health and care in communities for vulnerable people, including people living with HIV or AIDS, the elderly, orphans, people with disabilities and widows.

2. Humanitarian work should continue working to reach youth in schools and universities with awareness on humanitarian work and dignity, the value of society and the environment. Red Cross youth should be motivated in promoting road safety to reduce traffic accidents.

3. The Cambodian Red Cross should continue to promote youth and volunteers to be more active in peer education to prevent the production, distribution and use of drugs, rape, trafficking of women and children and all forms of violence, all of which cause problems and affect our human dignity. Local authorities at all levels should strengthen the practice of police safety in communes and villages towards eliminating the production, distribution and use of drugs, gambling, gangster and vices that drive domestic violence and immorality in society.

4. The Cambodian Red Cross and the National Committee for Disaster Management should further strengthen collaboration with relevant ministries, institutions and development partners to address the needs of the population in time of natural disaster or any unexpected calamity.

5. The Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology should monitor and provide accurate weather information on climate so that the Cambodian Red Cross and the National Committee for Disaster Management as well as other relevant ministries and institutions can prepare and respond promptly and effectively.

6. As a National Society, the Cambodian Red Cross should maintain its independence, although it needs necessary coordination with authorities at all levels to ensure that its humanitarian activities cover all communities affected by disaster.
Today, I am honoured and delighted to participate in the 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, which is held in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia.

On behalf of the Cambodian Red Cross, which is the host country, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all delegates from South-East Asia National Societies and cooperation partners as well as national and international distinguished guests for your participation in this significant meeting.

Your presence is important for the exchange of discussion, particularly to review progress on humanitarian cooperation and further strengthen our joint commitment for closer coordination and to overcome challenges at the national level and among countries in our South-East Asia region.

I also would like to express appreciation to the Secretariat of the IFRC, the Office of IFRC and the ICRC in the South-East Asia region for their support to this important meeting. On behalf of the Cambodian Red Cross, I would like to express my admiration and considerable appreciation to the former chairman of the Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, who has brought fruitful results and benefits to the promotion of humanitarian work in our region.

I would like to thank His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister Sok An, the representative of the Cambodian Royal Government, for his support to this Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, which will further enhance the efficiency of National Societies and strengthen the
capacity of existing mechanisms while other countries in the region are moving further into integration in all sectors, as adopted by the 20th ASEAN Summit held in the Kingdom of Cambodia in 2012.

I believe that this annual meeting will contribute to the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent in South-East Asia and thus enable more interconnected, effective, transparent and stronger relationships within the region. As an auxiliary to the Royal Government in the humanitarian sector, the Cambodian Red Cross is committed to more proactively fulfilling its humanitarian mission at the national and international levels.

Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Lok Okhna, ladies and gentlemen,

The Cambodian Red Cross, as well as other National Societies in our South-East Asia region, is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which has been providing humanitarian services to victims and vulnerable communities in respective countries and may further assist other National Societies within the region and beyond. The Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting will help us to identify issues so that we can timely and effectively address them. We also will be committed to carry on our noble humanitarian mission in response to the actual needs while we abide by the seven fundamental principles of the Movement, which are our guiding directions for the implementation of activities that serve our humanitarian goals.

For instance, our region has been affected by the impacts of climate change and global warming such as tsunamis, Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar, Typhoon Haiyan, Typhoon Hagupit in Philippines and the Kingdom of Cambodia was also affected by severe flood in 2011 by Typhoon Ketsana. Furthermore, inadequate rainfall has caused flood, drought and the spread of disease, which have affected the daily life of people. These types of disasters are the main challenges for our South-East-Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent to jointly consider and find appropriate and timely solutions for rescuing the lives of the most vulnerable and protecting their dignity as human beings.

Our experiences with response to crises and challenges clearly indicate the importance of and need for further joint cooperation and support within the zone and global spheres of our work. These two days of the 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting will once again give us opportunities to share information, lessons learned and experiences and to seek solutions for current issues, especially towards continuing the strengthening and increasing of more proactive cooperation in our South-East Asia region.

Moreover, we may be able to establish a joint statement for cooperation and mechanisms or even a possible MOU among National Societies in South-East-Asia on specific sectors for the spirit of enhancing our work’s efficiency, based on the results from this meeting, in providing humanitarian services to the most vulnerable and victims as well as to improve the living standards and dignity of people.

In fact, we have achieved many results from previous meetings, such as overcoming issues related to the joint implementation policy of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement among the 11 National Societies, coordinated strategic directions of the Red Cross Red Crescent, enabled work flows and forums of the National Societies, all of which enable us to be more accountable, and increase the closeness and excellence of our joint work.

I also would like to encourage and request our meeting to forecast any challenges that might possibly occur after ASEAN integration as “One Community, One Destiny” in 2015. This anticipation may help our work in diplomacy within the humanitarian sector and seeking support based on cooperation with relevant stakeholders, especially the ASEAN Secretary-General. In this aspect, I also would like to applaud the recent initiative on dialogue between the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and the Secretariat of ASEAN regarding humanitarian matters in the zone, which aimed to make this annual meeting of Red Cross Red Crescent leadership achieve better results as we all expect.
Through this and in order to achieve more fruitful results from this 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, I would like to draw attention of all participants on some particular issues, as follows:

1. We should pay close attention and follow up on effective mechanisms that contribute to our work on restoring family links, due to a possible displacement of the population in 2015 as people continue to seek jobs elsewhere in the region. They may become the most vulnerable group and lose contact with their family. We must respond promptly and effectively to help these people.

2. We must focus attention on the Red Cross youth and volunteers. In this regard, we cannot just create and give opportunity to them to be the voluntary agents in humanitarian activities, but we must ensure sustainable progress and availability of young volunteers to continue taking up the role in communities, responding to any disaster. In addition, humanitarian action is unlimited; however, it requires numbers of people to get involved because there will be other duties in the future that must be fulfilled and paid more attention. Moreover, disaster responses and global challenges can be resolved by neither individual person nor institution nor a country; it requires the united power of humanity.

3. Disaster response has become the most crucial current issue in the region as well as the world. In relation to this and as an auxiliary to public authorities in the humanitarian field, we should consider it as our greatest priority and together help push the ASEAN Disaster Management Center to become the most effective mechanism as well as the most important component in our move to achieve the 2011–2020 strategy of the 11 National Societies, which aims to enable communities that have faced disaster risks to become more resilient.

4. The National Societies of the South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent should jointly consider cooperation in mobilizing resources with the private sector, organizations and national and international donors for better financial support for humanitarian activities in our region.

I strongly believe that all of you, Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Lok Okhna, ladies, gentlemen and all participants, will surely support these suggestions in order to promote our humanitarian mission even more extensively, deepening and smoothing the implementation in all sectors to achieve further results in our mission of humanitarian work.

On behalf of the Cambodian Red Cross, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you, Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Lok Okhna, ladies, gentlemen and national and international donors, for your consideration in supporting humanitarian activities of the Cambodian Red Cross. I also believe that you will continue to support all mechanisms of the South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies.

I would like to wish all delegates a pleasant stay and good health. I also wish you a smooth meeting, with fruitful results for the common benefit of our humanitarian work.

Finally, I would like to wish all of you, Excellencies, Lok Chumteav, Lok Okhna, ladies, gentlemen and all national and international distinguished guests, the four gems of Buddhist blessing: longevity, nobility, health and strength.

On behalf of all honourable guests, I officially open the 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting.

Thank you!
The 12th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Annual Leadership meeting was held under the overarching theme of the Fundamental Principles. The following is a summary of the main plenary sessions. The official minutes from the meeting is available upon request.

Discussion following the opening ceremony: Based on the remarks from the guests and the key note address, the following key points were raised by leaders:

• **Auxiliary role vs independence**: The ongoing challenge of finding the right balance in contributing as auxiliary to the public authorities in humanitarian field, while adhering to the principle of independence and addressing humanitarian challenges, while ensuring access to all vulnerable groups as well. “Auxiliary” means being partner of choice for the Government and distinguishing from NGOs. The auxiliary role should be envisaged in a different way: we should not be seen as competitors, but as a different actor or a trusted partner with specific niches and competence to added value.

• **Fundamental Principles** are highly relevant and need further investment from youth, to obtain an impact and make a difference.

• **Transparency and innovative approaches** need to be promoted further. The International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement need to work together more effectively. These issues to be addressed further through the high level forum on transparency and accountability planned for 2016 in Kuala Lumpur.

• **11th Leadership meeting in Singapore**: The minutes of the 11th Leadership meeting were presented by Mr. Benjamin William, previous Leadership Chair. They were approved by all the Leaders.

• **Lessons Learned from the National Societies**: Three National Societies (Cambodia, Philippines and Timor-Leste) presented the lessons learned regarding their auxiliary role, opportunities and challenges, partnerships with private sector, working with Government, and more. National Societies do not have any specific issues related with auxiliary role and the principle of independence, but there is a clear recognition that it is necessary to take cautionary steps to maintain image and perception by external audiences. Relationship management and advocacy were highlighted as key priorities. Potential solutions include a peer-to-peer approach - using specific expertise and experiences of the members to support each other.

Other lessons learn include an agreement on the need to work closely with the Government, aligning with the auxiliary role, especially in the response to major disasters. The importance of working closely with the Government in development efforts was equally emphasised.

**Follow up from 11th SEA RCRC Leadership meeting in Singapore**: Leadership discussed recommendations from the previous meeting and outlined a summary of the achievements. It was noted that most of the recommendations were appropriately addressed by the National Societies, IFRC and ICRC. Some of the outstanding issues such as IMPACT Course for National Societies in Southeast Asia, and Mini HELP, are planned to be organised in 2015.
Population Movement Issues (migration, human trafficking, smuggling etc): Discussions were linked to the auxiliary role and the upcoming statutory meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in December. Subjects around the protection of migrant’s rights were presented, followed by an open and interactive discussion. The issue was considered with serious attention.

Practical conclusions were drawn and it was agreed to undertake the following action points: a) A meeting on migration will be hosted in the region in the coming months, followed by "continued and sustained meetings," and in preparation of the next Doha conference; b) call centres to be established in respective countries.

ICRC also highlighted the aspects relevant to the ICRC mandate, while addressing the migration issues which go beyond the legal concerns only of the migrants. Protection and assistance, and support for National Societies were highlighted in particular.

Humanitarian dimension and protection aspects of trafficking in person and outcomes of the Roundtable discussions in Singapore in 2014 were also shared. These were taken with serious interests by the Leaders.

A summary of the RCRC Doha Dialogue on Migration was also presented. The event in Doha was highly successful and the participation was exemplary. This demonstrated the growing interest and concerns of the stakeholders and in particular the National Societies on this important topic. Follow up actions are continuing.

Inter-religious and inter-cultural dynamics in Southeast Asia: role of National Societies: The outcomes of the Regional Think Tank on Inter-religious and Inter-cultural Dialogue in Myanmar in January 2015, and the ICRC Global affairs Programme, were shared by the IFRC and ICRC respectively. Key characteristics of the related dynamics, and key measures to be taken were discussed. The ICRC’s shared its position on this subject and some of the priority actions were presented.

The importance of National Societies to engage in a dialogue-sharing platform was discussed, but leadership emphasized that it should be undertaken with clear objectives. It was advised that such events should have strategic approach to become further engaged.

Working in conflict and situations of violence is difficult and thus access, security, acceptance, protection, etc., should be ensured prior to getting engaged. Therefore, it was advised to integrate cultural/religious dimensions into the training programmes for staff and volunteers.

National Societies also suggested that the ICRC and IFRC work more closely together, and take steps to address the related issues more effectively. There is a need to provide branch volunteers with knowledge and skills on safer access. The code of conduct was highlighted in particularly, as well as their application on the specific operation environments.

Global Humanitarian Developments: Updates on World Humanitarian summit, Post MDG Goals Discussions (Sustainable Development Goals) and Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR, March 2015 Sendai) were provide by the Head of Operations, IFRC Asia Pacific zone office and Head of Delegation for the IFRC South-East Asia regional delegation. National Societies active engagement in these global processes were discussed. National Societies are already a part of related discussions at the country/regional level and schedule to participate, position themselves and contribute as well. Continued engagement of the Movement, and in particular that of the National Societies, was also highlighted.

Briefing by ICRC: Head of Operations ICRC made a presentation about their work in Southeast Asia with the National Societies. Among the areas that the ICRC is engaged with National Societies (as per their expertise and priority), one particularly area highlighted is the integration of National Society staff into international operations. National Societies were requested to provide suggestions on the collaboration regarding human resources and other areas of work where relevant. ICRC was requested
to share the information about relevant courses/training organised by the ICRC. It was also suggested by the National Societies to avoid possible duplication of information.

**2015 Planning:** National Societies provided input to the IFRC and ICRC on priorities for 2015-2016 planning cycles (2015 Southeast Asia plans and budget, the role of the Community Safety and Resilience Forum, and Technical Working Groups in support of the IFRC planning cycle). This was presented by the IFRC head of delegation for South-East Asia, who explained the process adopted to prepare the plan and budget, and the main areas of intervention. These plans were aligned with the Leadership’s priorities commitments, input from National Society technical managers, the technical working groups, as well as recommendations from the Community Safety and Resilience Forum. National Societies undertook this with serious interest and expressed their support to the plan and expressed their commitment to assist in the implementation of the plan. ICRC 2015 Planning/Events were presented by the Cooperation Coordinator. It was also well received.

**Statutory and Movement meetings:** The statutory meetings for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement will take place in December 2015 in Geneva. The session was led jointly by the IFRC and ICRC. Leadership suggested having a joint pledge and statements, and the need to work with the Governments before the conference. In this regard, leadership agreed and committed to undertaking the necessary preparation to undertake.

**Concluding remarks:** Mme Pum Chantinie as the Chair of the 12th SEA Leadership meeting provided closing remarks and presented the conclusions. The main conclusions are outlined in the Phnom Penh Leadership Outcomes. Minutes of the meeting are also expected to be endorsed during the next Southeast Asia Leadership meeting.

**Looking ahead:** The Chairmanship was handed over to the Indonesian Red Cross – Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI), who will be hosting the 13th Southeast Asia Leadership meeting either in Bali or Jakarta. The incoming Chair welcomed an outline of a few agenda items. The dates proposed for the meeting are the last week of March 2016.

**Closing:** The meeting was closed by the Chair of the 12th SEA Leadership meeting by Mme Chantinie thanking all and followed by group photo and exchange of souvenirs.
CLOSING REMARKS

Pum Chantinie
Chair of the Meeting, Secretary General, Cambodian Red Cross

25 February 2015

• Ms Anne E. Leclerc, Head of South-East Asia Regional Delegation, IFRC
• Mr Alain Aeschlimann, Head of Operations for East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific, ICRC
• Leaders, secretaries general and representatives from National Societies in the South-East Asia region
• Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, let’s applaud a great job within this two-day meeting! We are now approaching the end of our meeting and have put together many efforts. The outcomes from this 12th Annual South East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting seem very productive.

I would like to thank the IFRC Secretary General, Elhadj As Sy, for his kind and encouraging speech at the opening of this week’s Leadership Meeting. It is uplifting to hear these words and recall that we are part of an international family with supportive leadership.

I would like to note the courtesy visit with Samdech Kittiprittbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen, President of the Cambodian Red Cross. We heard the welcome remarks of Elhadj As Sy, Secretary General of IFRC, which was presented by Martin Faller. We heard the speech of H.E. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers. And we heard the opening speech of Samdech Kittiprittbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen, President of the Cambodian Red Cross (the host National Society). We discussed the keynote address of IFRC Secretary General, with its focus on Operating in the Fast-Changing Humanitarian Environment in South-East Asia – Remaining True to Our Fundamental Principles.

We approved the minutes of 11th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting in Singapore and the TOR of the Community Safety and Resilience Forum and we endorsed the outcomes of the first CSR Forum. We heard presentations on and provided feedback to lessons learned of Cambodian, Philippines and Timor-Leste Red Cross Societies, which included references to the auxiliary role; relationships with the private and public sectors; organizational development; Typhoon Haiyan and other major relief, rehabilitation and recovery operations; challenges and opportunities; priorities; Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination and partnership; institutional building; resource mobilization; and working with government.

We discussed population movement issues, such as migration, human trafficking and smuggling, with a focus on global, regional and country updates, the Asia-Pacific migration network within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, the Protection of Migrants’ Rights European Union/DEVCO Programme, the ICRC Roundtable on Human Trafficking and the follow-up on the Red Cross Red Crescent Doha Dialogue.
We heard a presentation and feedback on intercultural dynamics in South-East Asia and the specific role of Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies from the South-East Asia Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue Think Tank that was conducted in Myanmar in January 2015. We heard that the ICRC Global Affairs Programme is focused on contacting religious leaders of Muslim communities.

We were updated on global humanitarian developments, including the World Humanitarian Summit, the post-Millennium Development Goals discussions (Sustainable Development Goals) and the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – UNISDR Conference in Sendai, Japan. We discussed the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement perspective and possible inputs into those processes.

We heard a briefing from ICRC on working in South-East Asia with National Societies.

We discussed Red Cross Red Crescent Movement issues, including 2015 planning; National Societies input to IFRC and ICRC priorities for the 2015–2016 planning cycle; 2015 plans and budgets; the role of the CSR Forum; technical working groups in supporting the IFRC planning cycle; and ICRC 2015 planning and events.

We were updated on the Statutory and Movement Meeting in Geneva December 2015, possible joint pledges for the international conference, possible coordinated statements to be delivered by the South-East Asia representative and the follow-up to Asia-Pacific Conference in Beijing in October 2014.

These are the tremendous tasks we completed together here in Phnom Penh. Given the achievements and challenges of each National Society in the humanitarian affairs in their respective country as well as what they have contributed to the region and at the global level, the Phnom Penh Leadership Outcomes, which we have agreed this week, are significant.

The momentum, the solidarity, the commitment we did together award us the next new milestone that we, as the Red Cross Red Crescent movement implementer can contribute to ASEAN community “One Community One Destiny” with crystal direction of our seven fundamental principles. At its heart, the outcomes reaffirm our pledge to each and every one. It propels us to keep these at the forefront of our decision-making and our day-to-day work. It underpins our work, working hand-in-hand with the public authorities to make communities safer and more resilient through the development of strong legislative frameworks around disaster risk reduction and disaster response, through respect for – and integration of – gender equality and diversity, through the nurturing of a culture of non-violence and peace and through what we call in the Red Cross Red Crescent “humanitarian diplomacy” – persuading decision-makers and opinion leaders to act, at all times, in the interests of vulnerable people and with full respect for fundamental humanitarian principles.

It is with great honour that I now hand over the chairmanship to Ritola Tasmaya, newly appointed Secretary General of the Indonesian Red Cross. Dr Ritola has been a member of the Indonesian Red Cross board for the past five years, and he brings great knowledge and experience to both the Indonesian Red Cross and the Steering Committee.

Like the Cambodian Red Cross, the Indonesian Red Cross also has much to share with the region. And I personally look forward to visiting Indonesia next year. In fact, when we come together again in your country, Dr Ritola, it will be as part of the newly launched ASEAN Community! May the spirit of cooperation of the ASEAN Community be realized in the peer-to-peer relationships among our National Societies.

I will not take much of your time but allow me to convey again the warmest regards from our President, Samdech Kittiprittbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen, with all the best wishes for your last day in Phnom Penh, Cambodia – the Kingdom of Wonder!
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 12th 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 32nd International Conference – Power of Humanity: The fundamental principles in action, reiterating our ownership and building on the Beijing Call for Innovation adopted at the 9th 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 31st International Conference, we will continue to engage our governments and reiterate our commitment and pledge to the upcoming 32nd 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.
INSTRUMENT OF HANOVER

THE CHAIRMANSHIP

OF

13TH ANNUAL SOUTH-EAST ASIA
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT LEADERSHIP MEETING 2016

FROM

PUM Chantinie, Mme
Secretary General,
Cambodian Red Cross

TO

Ritola TASMAYA, Dr
Secretary General,
Indonesian Red Cross

Done in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 26th February 2015

International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ICRC
Dr Tha Hla Shwee  
President,  
Myanmar Red Cross Society

Dear Colleague,

As we are gathered here in Phnom Penh for the 12th SEA RCRC Leadership Meeting, we wish to say that we miss your lively presence and wise interventions, and yet we fully understand the circumstances under which you had to stay back in Myanmar.

We are all deeply saddened by the news that volunteers of the Myanmar Red Cross, working under the ambit of our protected emblem, have been attacked and wounded even as they sought to extend humanitarian assistance to displaced families from the intense fighting in the Shan State. We, the National Societies of Southeast Asia, the IFRC and the ICRC, stand in solidarity with you and the staff and volunteers of Myanmar Red Cross as you continue this noble task of extending humanitarian support to these most vulnerable peoples, under very trying physical and emotional environment. We also wish to extend our concerns and best wishes to the wounded volunteers, and their families, and wish them a speedy recovery.

We also wish to reiterate our desire to see all parties involved in the fighting to respect the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent and guarantee the safe access of the humanitarian aid workers and enable them to bring relief to the vulnerable and suffering.

We are confident that with your experience and deft leadership, you will guide Myanmar Red Cross through this time of complex crisis and persevere in its humanitarian mission.

Juliani Latip  
Brunei Red Crescent

Pum Chantanie  
Cambodián Red Cross

Ritola Tasmaya  
Indonesian Red Cross

Thongphachanh Sonenasinh  
Lao Red Cross

Richard Gordon  
Philippine Red Cross

Tee Tua Ba  
Singapore Red Cross

Tej Bunnag  
Thai Red Cross

Doan Van Thai  
Vietnam Red Cross

Januario Ximenes  
Timor Leste Red Cross
ARRIVAL DAY / TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2015

19:00  Welcome dinner, hosted by Cambodian Red Cross
Venue: Cambodiana Hotel

DAY 1 / WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2015

9:00 – 9:30  Samdech Kittipritthbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen courtesy meeting with the leaders from South-East Asia, IFRC and ICRC

9:30 – 10:30  Opening ceremony
- Welcome remarks: Elhadj As Sy, IFRC Secretary General
- Key note address by guest of honour: H.E. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Council of Ministers
- Opening remarks: Samdech Kittipritthbindit Bun Rany Hun Sen, President of Cambodian Red Cross

10:30 – 11:00  Coffee and tea break

11:00 – 12:00  Keynote address
Operating in the Fast-Changing Humanitarian Environment in South-East Asia – Remaining True to Our Fundamental Principles
- Martin Faller, Head of Operations, IFRC Asia-Pacific Zone on behalf of the IFRC Secretary General Elhadj As Sy
National Society discussion on the keynote address

12:00 – 13:30  Lunch
13:30 – 14:00  Follow-up from the 11th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting
• Confirmation of the minutes of the 11th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, Singapore – Benjamin William, Previous South-East Asia Leadership Chair
• Endorsement of terms of reference for the Community Safety and Resilience Forum – Benjamin William
• Update on the outcome of the first Community Safety and Resilience Forum – Dr. Amnat Barlee, Chair, CSR Forum
  
  Explanatory note: Following the keynote address, the proposal is to have a series of three sessions to discuss issues related to operating in the new humanitarian space and staying true to our humanitarian principles. To kick off these discussions, we will have presentations by various South-East Asia National Societies. This will give National Societies an opportunity to share their experiences as well as provide us with real situations and challenges faced by South-East Asians.

14:00 – 15:00  Lessons learned – Cambodian Red Cross (20 min. presentation)
- H.E. You Lana, Second Deputy Secretary General, Cambodian Red Cross
  • Auxiliary role
  • Relationship with private and public sectors
  • Organizational development

  General discussion

15:00 – 15:30  Coffee and tea break

15:30 – 16:30  Lessons learned – Philippine Red Cross (20 min. presentation)
- Gwendolyn Pang, Secretary General, Philippine Red Cross
  • Typhoon Haiyan and other major relief, rehabilitation and recovery operations
  • Auxiliary role
  • Challenges and opportunities
  • Priorities, Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination and partnership

  General discussion

16:30 – 17:30  Lessons learned – Timor-Leste Red Cross (10 min. presentation)
- Janvario Ximenes, Secretary General, Timor-Leste Red Cross
  • Institutional building
  • Resource mobilization
  • Working with government

  General discussion

19:00  Dinner hosted by IFRC
Venue: Malis Restaurant, Phnom Penh
DAY 2 / THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2015

9:00 – 9:30 Update on any other follow-up from the 11th Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting
- Follow-up to the Singapore meeting recommendations and action points – Benjamin William

Explanatory note: In addition to lessons learned, there is a proposal to have two sessions related to issues of general interest and concern to the Movement that could impact on our work in the new humanitarian environment. The topic on population movement includes such issues as migration, displaced people and human trafficking. Many South-East Asians are confronting this issue. The topic on intercultural dynamics revolves around the humanitarian challenges arising from ethnic and religious tensions and extremism. The varied ethnic and religious mix of the communities in South-East Asia mean that intercultural dynamics is a significant factor to consider in all our humanitarian actions and services. One session will be led by ICRC and the other by IFRC.

9:30 – 10:45 Population movement issues (migration, human trafficking, smuggling)
(15 min. presentation) – Moderator: Christopher Lamb
- Global, regional and country updates – Asia-Pacific Migration Network, IFRC, ICRC and National Societies
  - Anne E. Leclerc, IFRC Head of Regional Delegation, South-East Asia
- Protection of migrants’ rights – European Union/DEVCO programme – Anne E. Leclerc and Ritola Tasmaya, Secretary General, Indonesian Red Cross
- ICRC roundtable on human trafficking – Beat Schweizer, Head of Regional Delegation, Thailand
- Follow-up to the Red Cross Red Crescent Doha Dialogue – Anne E. Leclerc, IFRC Head of Regional Delegation, South-East Asia and Gwendolyn Pang, Secretary General, Philippine Red Cross

General discussion

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee and tea break

11:00 – 12:15 Interreligious and intercultural dynamics in South-East Asia – Role of National Societies
(15 min. presentation) – Introduction of session by Alain Aeschlimann – Moderator: Christopher Lamb
- Presentation of the outcome of the South-East Asia Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue Think Tank, Myanmar in January 2015 – Tha Hla Shwe, President, Myanmar Red Cross and Anne E. Leclerc
- ICRC Global Affairs Programme – Approaching faith-based groups: ICRC approach to promote humanitarian principles
  - Alain Aeschlimann

General discussion

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch
13:30 – 14:15 **Updates on global humanitarian developments** – Moderator Martin Faller
- World Humanitarian Summit – Benjamin William
- Post-Millennium Development Goals discussion (Sustainable Development Goals) – Martin Faller
- Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – UNISDR Conference in Sendai, Japan – Anne E. Leclerc

**Discussion on Red Cross Red Crescent Movement** perspective on the above
Possible inputs into the processes

14:15 – 15:00 **Briefing by ICRC:** Working in South-East Asia with National Societies: Update and discussion on selected – Alain Aeschlimann

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee and tea break**

15:30 – 16:45 **Movement issues: IFRC, ICRC and National Societies**

**2015 Planning:** National Society input to the IFRC and ICRC priorities for 2015–2016 planning cycle
- Anne E. Leclerc and Sandra Moretti
- Short update on
  - 2015 South-East Asia plans and budget and role of the CSR Forum – Technical working groups in supporting the IFRC planning cycle
  - ICRC 2015 planning and events

**Statutory and Movement meetings** – Umesh Dhakal and Sandra Moretti
- Statutory meetings in Geneva, December 2015
  - Possible joint pledges for the International Conference
  - Possible coordinated statements to be delivered by South-East Asia representative
- Follow-up to Asia-Pacific Conference in Beijing, October 2014

16:45 – 17:30 **Conclusion: Cambodian Red Cross**
- Presentation of draft minutes of the meeting and outcomes, including action points – Pum Chantinie, Cambodian Red Cross Chair
  - To agree on commitments and actions arising from discussions (joint drafting by IFRC, ICRC and Cambodian Red Cross)

**Looking ahead**
- Date and venue for next meeting – Cambodian Red Cross
- Handover of the Chair of the South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting – Pum Chantinie, Secretary General, Cambodian Red Cross and Ritola Tasmaya, Secretary General, Indonesian Red Cross
- Phnom Penh leadership commitment – Ritola Tasmaya

**Closing session**
DAY 3 / FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2015

19:00  Dinner hosted by ICRC
Venue: Tonle Bassac II Restaurant, Phnom Penh

08:00 – 11:30  Phnom Penh City tour – Cambodian Red Cross
- Visit Cambodian Red Cross headquarters
- Visit Royal Palace
- Visit National Museum and Phnom Penh city tour
- Buffet lunch at Cambodiana Hotel

14:00
- Free schedule
- Departure of guests

There will be a separate spouses’ programme on the 25 - 26 February 2015

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<td>35 Ms. Tuangrat Keeratibut</td>
<td>Mr Sawanit’s spouse (Thai Red Cross)</td>
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The momentum, the solidarity, the commitment we achieved here together awards us the next new milestone that we, as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement implementer can contribute to the ASEAN community “One Community One Destiny” with crystal direction of our seven fundamental principles. At its heart, the outcomes reaffirm our pledge to each and every one. It propels us to keep these at the forefront of our decision-making and our day-to-day work. It underpins our work, working hand-in-hand with the public authorities, making communities safer and more resilient.

Pum Chantinie, Secretary General of the Cambodian Red Cross, and Chair of the Southeast Asia Leadership Meeting 2015

For more information, please contact:

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