PRINCIPLES AND RULES FOR RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Principles & Rules for Humanitarian Assistance

- Adopted by the 2013 General Assembly
- Govern National Societies and the IFRC in international humanitarian assistance
- Look at three aspects: Preparedness; Requests and response; Principled and coordinated action

10 Principles, among them...

- …….We commit that all international assistance provided by a National Society or the IFRC is with the consent of the National Society of the disaster-affected country (# 4)
- We ensure that our assistance is appropriate, efficient, effective and accountable…. (# 9)
Principles & Rules for Humanitarian Assistance

1. National Societies receiving international humanitarian assistance
   A) Preparedness
   B) Request for assistance
   C) Coordinated and Principled Response

2. National Societies providing international humanitarian assistance
   A) Preparedness
   B) Responding to requests
   C) Coordinated and Principled Response

3. The International Federation
   A) Preparedness
   B) Responding to requests
   C) Coordinated and principled response

4. Relief to Recovery

5. Quality and Accountability
   Standards
   Beneficiary engagement
   Planning, monitoring and evaluation
   Staff and volunteer management
   Resource management
   Risk management and audit

6. Relations with Public Authorities
   Public Authorities and Civil Protection
   Civil Military Coordination

7. Relations with External Actors
   Humanitarian agencies and other organisations
   Private Sector
   Media and Communications

   Annex A   Annex B
**Preparedness:**
- Preparedness measures may include conducting and concluding pre-disaster meetings and agreements (# 1.2d and 2.1c)

**Request/provision for assistance:**
- If a National Society receives goods that it has neither solicited, nor agreed to receive, or which are of unsuitable quality, it is free to dispose them at its discretion. All costs incurred by the National Society in receiving or disposing any of unsolicited goods shall be borne by the sending National Society (# 1.21 and # 2.4)

**Final provisions:**
- ..... Principles and Rules are binding on the National Societies and the IFRC. Any violations or other reputational and operational risks shall be reported to the appropriate Governance mechanism (# 8.2)
Asia Pacific National Societies DRM Strategy
Towards Community Resilience: 2016 – 2020

Vision
To inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by NS, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Mission
Provide relevant and timely humanitarian assistance that builds resilience amongst disaster affected people. Encourage resilience building to create better, faster and stronger communities in preventing, responding and recovering from disasters and crisis.

Goal
Deliver relevant, timely and quality DRR programming to significantly reduce disaster risk as well as the humanitarian impact of disasters and crisis while building resilience within the most at risk communities of the AP region.

3. Effective Response

Key actions
1. Roles and responsibilities of the Movement’s response mechanisms and surge tools, are clearly defined.
2. Coordination and collaboration mechanisms are clearly defined and widely understood among RC and non-RCRC stakeholders.
3. International mobilization capacities and strategies for DRR actions are well-established
4. Reporting and feedback mechanisms incorporate internationally agreed criteria and standards.
IFRC structure to support National Societies
IFRC support to National Societies in response

**People**

**Equipment**

**Funding**

**Methods**

**Information management**

**Emergency Response Framework (ERF)**
IFRC support to National Societies in response

IFRC support structures:
- Community
- District
- Province
- Country
- Regional/International

- RC volunteers
- RC District Branches
- RC Provincial Branches
- RC National Headquarters

- IFRC CO, CCST or Country Team

- IFRC Regional Office
- IFRC Geneva Office
Global Tools Review

- **Clarification of surge decision-making processes**: Triggers, rationale, criteria..
- **Competency framework**: Tiered at technical, managerial and leadership levels..
- **Tool development**: Including standardizing funding and deployment mechanisms...
- **Coordination**: Dedicated resources for both Movement and external coordination at all tiers..
- **Needs assessments**: Applying latest ENA methodologies and training in ENA...
- **Preparedness and training**: Core training curriculum, performance management system, post-training mentoring..
- **Support services**: Deploy adequate support services, including finance and IM..
- **Transition planning**: Bridging gap between surge deployment and ‘normal’ recruitment, extended deployment of surge..
- **Cross-cutting issues**: Gender & diversity, community engagement and accountability (CEA), displacement & migration, environment (green response)..

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**GRT Strengths**
- High quality resources
- Scale & scope
- Availability/predictability
- Technical capacity
- Volunteer response
- All Movement response
- Sudden onset role
- Positive impact

**GRT Weaknesses**
- Lack of GRT strategy and vision
- Under resourcing field operations leadership
- Surge roles not integrated
- Absence of SOPs
- Integration of affected NS
- Siloing of competencies
- Deploying in non-sudden onset disasters
- Cross-cutting issues absent

**Global trends**
- Urbanisation
- Fragile economies
- Climate change
- Slow onset crises
- Chronic crises
- Linking to resilience
- Innovative responses
- Competitive/flexible funding
- Strengthened local actors
- Greater accountability

**Recommendations**
1. Decision-making processes
2. Competency framework
3. Tool development
4. Protection capacity
5. Coordination
6. Needs assessments
7. Preparedness and training
8. Support services
9. Transition / protracted operations
10. Cross-cutting issues

**GRT required functionality**
- Assess immediate unmet needs
- Quick & "right" capacity
- Effective & efficient response
- Internal/external coordination
- Accountable to affected population
- Visible & reputable profile

**GRT gaps**
- Decision-making
- Leadership & coordination
- Preparedness and recovery
- Needs assessment & evaluation
- Administration/finance/reporting
- Shelter expertise capacity
- Cross-cutting issues
- Technical and service delivery
- Support services
- GRT flexibility & modularity
- Inclusion of NS
- Deployed staff local knowledge

**Build on strengths**

**Counter weaknesses**

**Respond to trends**

**Secure functionality**

**Fill gaps**
**Enhancing regional response capacity**

**One Asia Pacific RDRT system:**
- SOPs
- Roster consolidation and management
- Induction and training (last held in South Korea in 2016)
- Module development and specializations
- Equipping
- Post-deployment support
- Professional development path (starting with BDRT and NDRT)
- *Strategic direction: RDRT deployment with every DREF request*

**Regional Response Units:**
- Consultation to be held with National Societies (on feasibility)

**Complementary surge capacity:**
- Strengthening non-nominal surge capacity
- Peer-to-peer support
- Linkages with ERU National Societies (for joint deployments)
Yellow

Responds to a localized emergency covering a small area or number of beneficiaries. This is normally managed at a country level (by an NS, with support of CO/CCST), with any necessary technical or management support provided by the RO (e.g. RDRT mobilization). The RO may seek support from Geneva (e.g. DREF).
Orange

Responds to an emergency **affecting a wider area** (or areas) and a **higher number of beneficiaries** (including **potential spread**), and may also receive a level of **international attention** or experience a level of **complexity**. Technical and management support is provided by the RO, but Geneva is engaged at the start-up to provide DREF, technical quality assurance on Emergency Appeals and technical support or global surge capacity as required and ensure global coherence and compliance with standards.
Responds to an emergency of scale, affecting a wide area and high number of beneficiaries, with level of complexity or risk that makes it an organization-wide priority for the IFRC secretariat at all levels. Technical and management support is coordinated by the RO, but provided by both RO and Geneva, and regular task force meetings are held to ensure effective management and information flow. Regional and global surge capacity is activated per default (upon the request of the NS). Geneva takes on a stronger role in terms of global coherence and compliance with standards and there may be the need to establish support functions at the Geneva level, as well as the regional level.
Disaster and crisis response levels

- Global
- Regional
- National
- Local
- Beneficiary
A seamless response

**LOCAL/ NATIONAL**
- Local branch network
- Trained staff and volunteers (BDRT & NDRT)
- First aid, search and rescue
- Pre-positioned stocks
- Early warning system

**REGIONAL**
- NS networks (such as SEA CSR)
- Trained staff and volunteers (RDRT)
- Disaster and crisis unit (DCU)
- Regional logistics unit (RLU)
- Technical departments

**GLOBAL**
- HEOPs
- FACT
- ERU
- DMIS
- DREF
- Emergency appeals
- Technical departments
- Movement coordination

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

NECEPHOR MGHENDI
OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
DISASTER AND CRISIS UNIT (DCU)
IFRC ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE (APRO)
EMAIL: NECEPHOR.MGHENDI@IFRC.ORG