



1st Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference

21 - 22 August 2023

Outcome Statement

We, the Representatives of the Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, of Singapore Red Cross Society, Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society, Cambodian Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross, Lao Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Thai Red Cross Society, Timor-Leste Red Cross, Viet Nam Red Cross Society, and Philippine Red Cross, attending the 1st Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference, held in Singapore on the 21st to 22nd August 2023;

Expressing appreciation to the Singapore Red Cross Society for hosting the Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference; the first time for the society to do so noting that this is the first conference of its kind;

Welcoming the attendance of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and noting with appreciation the welcome speech of the Deputy Regional Director, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office;

Reinforcing the spirit of mutual cooperation and solidarity within our Southeast Asia National Society Network and with our International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (“The Movement”) partners; to further leadership progression for women in our Southeast Asia National Societies.

Recognising the increasingly complex humanitarian challenges that our sub-region is facing today that require us mobilising all of humanity - including women into leadership and decision-making positions.

Acknowledging the challenges, both structural and societal faced by women within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and the need for policy and structural changes to enhance opportunities to grow women leadership within the Movement;



Emphasising the importance of diversity and inclusion in humanitarian services and the important role that Southeast Asia National Societies can play in strengthening regional women's collaboration and whole-of-society coordination to further the mission of RCRC.

Recalling the IFRC's target for the secretariat to have gender parity at all staffing levels by 2028 and the Manila Call for Action, as well as other gender parity targets at both the Movement and governmental levels;

Welcoming the next Southeast Asia National Society stepping forward to host the 2nd Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference in 2025.

We, the representatives of the Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies will:

Enabling Empowerment and Nurturing Women Leaders

SEA RCRC Women Peer-to-Peer Exchange Programmes

Agree to the establishment of a Peer-to-Peer Women Exchange Programme that will bring together potential women leaders from different SEA RCRC societies with consideration of the various societies' different operation procedures.

Encourage cross-border learning in the SEA RCRC societies in terms of skill building, sharing best practices and innovative ideas among the different societies, including empowering women

Promote and call for formal structures and systems to advance women into leadership roles and provide pathways for women within all levels to grow and take leadership roles within the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement

Agree to Initiate a management development program, including a mentorship component, to bring together potential women leaders from the SEA RCRC National Societies, particularly for women aged 25-40 years within the RCRC Movement

Online Platform for the Women Humanitarians Community

Initiate an online platform for women in Southeast Asia (SEA) RCRC to encourage peer support networks and facilitate an enabling environment for knowledge sharing.



Areas of Collaboration

Develop more effective resource mobilisation and learn from different National Societies within the region such as Singapore Red Cross's Women in Red Campaign.

Agree to collaborate on a project to promote women in the SEA National Societies as champions of digitalisation, particularly as a capacity building project taking into consideration the specific IT needs in each National Society;

Consider other areas of capacity-building in future in areas such as Mental Health, Migration and displacement, etc,

Reporting and Follow up

Work together with the secretariat for technical support to National societies for any initiatives that support empowering women within the SEA RCRC Movement

Initiate a network of Focal points within the Southeast Asia (SEA) RCRC to ensure knowledge and information sharing of each others' strengths and best practices for empowering women into leadership roles

Seek to have at least one woman delegate representing the National Society at the annual SEA RCRC Leaders' Meeting, and a Women Leaders Network meeting held back to back with the SEA RCRC Leaders Meeting.

Agree to hold a women's conference every two years hosted by SEA National Societies on a voluntary rotational basis

Propose an online follow-up to the initiatives suggested in 2 months' time.

Funding

Explore funding opportunities within the RCRC Movement, both at the National Society level as well as the IFRC, to support women empowerment initiatives.

Explore and develop funding sources, such as Foundations, Corporates, and government grants that support women's empowerment, to fund these aforementioned projects across South East Asia.



Statement endorsed by the following signatories from Southeast Asia National Societies, as at 22 August 2023:

Singapore Red Cross Society
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Rebekah Lim

Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society
Hjh Noor Monasalieana @ Suzie binti Hj
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