



20th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting

21 – 22 September 2023

PHNOM PENH STATEMENT

We, the Leaders of the Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, including Presidents and Secretaries General of: Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society, Cambodian Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross, Lao Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Philippine Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, Thai Red Cross Society, Timor-Leste Red Cross, and Viet Nam Red Cross Society attending the 20th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting, held in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia on 21-22 September 2023;

Express appreciation to the Cambodian Red Cross for hosting the 20th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting and the 2nd Southeast Asia Youth Forum;

Acknowledge the efforts of the Cambodian Red Cross in promoting humanitarian innovation;

Welcome the participation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and note with appreciation the keynote speeches of the IFRC President and ICRC Vice-President;

Underscore the spirit of ownership, partnership, innovation and resilience within our Southeast Asia National Society network and with our International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) partners;

Acknowledge the increasingly complex and inter-connected humanitarian issues and challenges in the region related to health emergencies, disasters, climate change and complex crises, including migration and displacement, and related humanitarian issues, which require innovative solutions, and the active role of National Societies in the promotion of humanitarian innovation for preparedness and effective responses to humanitarian crises;

Recall the outcomes 19th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting and the first Southeast Asia Youth forum in Brunei Darussalam;

Reassert the important role of Southeast Asia National Societies on inter-agency, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, including close collaboration and coordination with inter-governmental organisations such as ASEAN, civil societies and private corporations, while promoting localization;

Welcome the Indonesian Red Cross as Chair of the 21st Annual Southeast Asia Leaders Meeting and the 3rd Southeast Asia Youth Forum in 2024.

We, the Leaders of the Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies agreed to:



Empowerment of Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth

Endorse the outcome statement of the 2nd Southeast Asia Youth Forum Phnom Penh on 17 – 20 September 2023. The statement is an integral part of this outcome statement;

Support youth empowerment and meaningful participation through youth engagement in decision-making processes related to humanitarian work and innovation, provide strategic allocation of resources and the integration of climate action and environmentally friendly practices across youth activities;

Encourage knowledge sharing and professional development especially on humanitarian innovation, public communication specifically on social media content development and climate action within youth network of Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific;

Agree that the Youth Forums should be fostered as a platform to discuss substantive issues that would enhance the role of the youth in driving key issues or agenda for the Movement.

Progress on the Bandar Seri Begawan 19th Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Leaders Meeting 2022

Acknowledge the progress and challenges on the commitments made in the Bandar Seri Begawan Statement particularly in Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Ready, Southeast Asia Pandemic and Epidemic Preparedness, Ways Forward for IFRC - ASEAN MoU, Humanitarian needs in Myanmar and regional migration, Southeast Asia National Societies engagement in IFRC Governance, working towards First Aid vision 2030, Southeast Asia Networks and Progress of Manila Call for Action and Regional Conference;

Continue to work on the 2024 National Society Statute revision targets, to be completed in accordance with the 2018 Guidance for National Society Statutes applicable to each Southeast Asia National Society.

Climate and Environmental Charter

Acknowledge the importance of moving forward on the Climate and Environmental Charter commitments and consider collective commitments and goals to be adopted by the SEA National Societies which could be endorsed at the 21st SEA RCRC Leaders Meeting in Indonesia in 2024;

Urge National Societies signatories of the Climate and Environmental Charter to develop targets and action plans and to share them during the 21st Southeast Asia Leaders Meeting 2024;

Commit to the endeavour to hold carbon-neutral SEA Leaders Meetings;

Support initiatives, for example the Unify For Green, an outcome of the 2nd SEA Youth Forum, and to mandate and empower the Youth of the SEA RCRC to drive related initiatives, including the promotion of and the implementation of initiatives for environmental sustainability and climate resilience.



Collaboration and Cooperation as Movement in Southeast Asia

Strengthen synergy among various components of the Movement working in Southeast Asia, by aligning their respective mandates and resources, and reinforcing collaboration and active engagement during crises when the Seville Agreement 2.0 is activated, as well as in daily collaborative efforts;

Agree to build collective strength of Southeast Asia National Societies to prepare, collaborate and respond better to crisis and disaster, through joint capacity mapping and capacity building with the vision to enhance the ability of the SEA National Societies, both individually and collectively, to respond to disasters and crisis in the region and beyond;

Further strengthen peer-to-peer collaboration, including cross-border mechanism for knowledge sharing and responding to the crises within the SEA National Societies and beyond.

South East Asia engagement in IFRC Governance

Encourage the National Societies to contribute to process of revision of IFRC’s statutory text with the objective of achieving good governance and integrity of the IFRC;

Reiterate the commitment to work together to ensure that SEA National Society has a seat in the IFRC Governing Board;

Take note of the upcoming international statutory meetings including the Extraordinary General Assembly of the IFRC 11th December 2023 to elect the new President and the 34th International Conference 28 – 31 October 2024 preceded by a Council of Delegates and General Assembly of the IFRC that will include the election of IFRC Governing Board Committees;

Continue to include a standing agenda item in the SEA Leaders Meetings to discuss SEA engagement in IFRC Governance with the interim meetings in between to discuss specific agenda items.

IFRC and ASEAN Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening of Community Resilience in Southeast Asia

Acknowledge the progress made in relation to the implementation of the MoU;

Appreciate the remarks of H.E Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of ASEAN to stressing the importance of close collaboration between ASEAN and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in promoting community resilience in Southeast Asia;

Call for more concrete measures and action plans to effectively operationalize the MoU;

Agree to hold an annual regional dialogue with ASEAN Secretariat, AHA Centre and ASEAN member States on the implementation of the MoU, the first one of which is to be held in Indonesia prior to the 21st Southeast Asia Leaders Meeting in 2024;



Institutionalise the joint consultations specified to an annual strategic dialogue which serves as a crucial avenue to outline priorities and collaborative opportunities for the forthcoming year;

Organise joint annual learning or knowledge sharing sessions targeted at practitioners, policy makers, and donors, including an analysis of disaster trends and forecast and disaster preparedness;

Develop initiatives and programmes related to youth and women leadership in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Southeast Asia Migration and Displacement Project in Myanmar

Appreciate the Myanmar Red Cross on the continued effort to provide humanitarian services to support displaced persons in Myanmar;

Recognise the risks facing migrants stranded at sea, advocate for formal and informal cooperation on search and rescue operations, and where possible, provide support at points of disembarkation;

Continue to adopt a holistic and comprehensive approach in humanitarian diplomacy to impact humanitarian outcomes for the people of Myanmar;

Agree to collectively support Myanmar Red Cross in providing consistent humanitarian services to migrants and displaced persons in and from Myanmar, including leveraging the connections across borders.

Resource Centre for Total First Aid and SEA First Aid Network

Recall the formation of Southeast Asia network for First Aid during the 19th SEA Leaders Meeting in Brunei Darussalam, with Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society as the first chair of the Network;

Continue close collaboration on strengthening First Aid capacity in Southeast Asia through peer-to-peer approach;

Encourage the participation and engagement in the first Network meeting on 24 – 26 October 2023 to agree on the network's objectives and mechanisms to be reported in the 21st RCRC Leaders Meeting in Indonesia in 2024.

Centre of Excellence: SEA Pandemic Preparedness

Appreciate the progress reported by Singapore Red Cross on the publication of the Pandemic Preparedness;

Continue peer-to-peer cooperation and collective learning to further build Southeast Asia preparedness on handling the pandemic and epidemic in the region.



Southeast Asia National Society Networks

Acknowledge the reports, progress, lessons learned and 2024 plans of the relevant National Society Networks in the region, including the Southeast Asia Community Safety and Resilience Network (CSR), the Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN), the Southeast Asia Protection, Gender & Inclusion (PGI) Network, Asia Pacific Fundraising Network (APFN), and the Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN);

Reiterate our prioritization on the Southeast Asia Community Safety and Resilience Network (CSR), Fundraising Network, the Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN), while acknowledging the SEA PGI and newly established First Aid Network;

Take note of the significant work of the Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent HIV/AIDS Network (ART) since its establishment in 1994 and appreciate the efforts of the Cambodian Red Cross as its secretariat, consider the recommendations of the final review and agree to conclude the Network;

Request the IFRC Secretariat to provide a mapping of subregional, regional, and global networks to support the review of engagement in the networks in Southeast Asia;

Agree to review the work and function of the subregional networks as well as the alignment of these subregional networks with regional and global networks so as to provide relevant and practical policy recommendations for the Networks to be reported at the 21st SEA RCRC Leaders Meeting in 2024.

Advancing Women’s leadership in Southeast Asia

Appreciate the Singapore Red Cross to be the pioneer in holding the 1st Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Women Conference held on 21 – 22 August 2023 in Singapore;

Support the implementation of the outcome statement of 1st Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference held, including ensuring representation of women leaders in the SEA Leaders Meeting and host a forum for women leaders preceding the SEA Leaders Meetings;

Welcome the Philippine Red Cross in hosting the SEA RCRC Women Leaders Conference in 2025.

Asia Pacific Conference

Acknowledge the progress made by SEA National Societies with regard to the commitments in the Manila Call for Action;

Appreciate the briefing by Viet Nam Red Cross as the host on the preparation of the 11th Asia Pacific Conference that will be held on 21 – 23 November 2023 and the Asia Pacific Red Cross Red Crescent Youth Forum on 20 November 2023.

Agree to work collectively to make Southeast Asia as a platform to impact humanitarian work in the Asia Pacific region and **look forward** to the conclusion of the Hanoi Plan of Action that reflects our common interests and endeavours.



Phnom Penh Statement of 20th SEA Leaders Meeting endorsed by the following signatories from Southeast Asia National Societies

22 September 2023

Samdech Kittipritthbindit Bun Rany HUN SEN
President
Cambodian Red Cross

Mr. Muhammad Suhaimi Ibrahim
Secretary General
Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society

Mr. Abdurrahman Mohammad Fachir
Secretary General
Indonesian Red Cross

Prof. Dr. Phouthone Muongpak
President
Lao Red Cross

Mr. Haji Hakim bin Haji Hamzah
Secretary General
Malaysian Red Crescent Society

Prof. Dr. Myo Nyunt
President
Myanmar Red Cross

Dr. Gwendolyn T. Pang
Secretary General
Philippines Red Cross

Mr. Benjamin Williams
Secretary General and CEO
Singapore Red Cross

Mr. Tej Bunnag
Secretary General
Thai Red Cross Society

Mr. Marcal Freitas Magno
Vice President
Timor-Leste Red Cross

Mdm Huynh Thi Xuan Lam
Vice President
Viet Nam Red Cross Society



20th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting

21 – 22 September 2023

PHNOM PENH YOUTH STATEMENT

WE, the participants of the SEA Youth Forum commit to work collectively with our Senior Leaders from Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, including Presidents and Secretaries General of: Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society, Cambodian Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross, Lao Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Philippine Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, Thai Red Cross Society, Timor-Leste Red Cross, and VietNam Red Cross Society attending the 20th Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, held in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia on the 21st-22nd September 2023; to the following:

Snr. Leaders:

- **Advocate** for strategic allocation of **resources** to support and promote youth development and engagement both at the national and international levels.
- **Engage** National Society youth leaders in **decision-making processes** that directly concern youth, fostering youth active participation.
- **Foster** the establishment and continuity of **Youth-Led Structures** within all SEA National Societies.

Joint action:

- **Emphasize** the importance of the development and/or revision of **Youth Policies** through co-creation with youth members and implementing revision and dissemination mechanisms among youth.
- **Engage** Youth Leaders in **social media** content creation, feedback, or the establishment of new Youth NS social media pages.
- **Prioritize** the integration of **climate action and environmentally friendly practices** across all youth activities.
- **Promote** youth **innovation projects** by integrating innovative humanitarian ideas and providing the necessary resources and support.
- **Strengthen** connection among SEA NS to create a collaborative and supportive environment, fostering networking and collaboration through **SEAYN and APYN**.
- **Recognize** the significance of youth involvement in the development of **YES 2.0** (Youth Engagement Strategy 2.0)

Name and Signature of Drafting Committee:

Hang Hoang Cam
(VietNam Red Cross)



(Signature)

Jay-Ar Gallos
(Philippine Red Cross)



(Signature)

Mirabell Chua Pue Meen
(Malaysian Red Crescent)



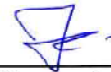
(Signature)

Pum Chhayavan
(Cambodian Red Cross)



(Signature)

Suasin Jorge Vonn Raphael III Horlador
(Singapore Red Cross)



(Signature)

Theethad Thipsoda
(Thai Red Cross Society)



(Signature)

Zaw Zaw Myint
(Myanmar Red Cross Society)



(Signature)



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
Charis Chan
Rebekah Lim

Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society
Hjh Noor Monasalicana @ Suzie binti Hj
Mohd Salleh
Wardatul Zahrah Abdul Razak

Cambodian Red Cross
Men Neary Sopheak
Mom Chanthy
Sam Navy

Indonesian Red Cross
Suryani S. Motik
Puji Astuti

Lao Red Cross
Chirapha Kheokhamphoui
Ketkeo Oupalavong

Malaysian Red Crescent Society
Norazah Binti Abd Mohsin
Noraziah Binti Budin



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Myanmar Red Cross Society
Mya Thu
Lynn Lynn Thet

.....
Philippine Red Cross
Gwendolyn T. Pang
Christie Monina M. Nalupta

.....
Thai Red Cross Society
Phanporn Kongyingyong
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Timor-Leste Red Cross
Vidiana Xareal

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Viet Nam Red Cross Society
Huynh Thi Xuan Lam
Nguyen Thi Le Ha