



Tunis Declaration
on the cooperation and partnership in the fields of
humanitarian actions
between the Islamic Committee of the International
Crescent (ICIC)
and the Red Crescent and the Red Cross national Societies
in the OIC member States

In the name of Allah the Compassionate, the Merciful

Guided by the words of Allah: { **help one another in what is good and pious , not in what is wicked and sinful. Have fear of Allah, for he is stern in retribution** } [Surah Al-Maeda Verse 2]., And the embodiment of the words of the Prophet peace be upon him: (**and Allah help human being where he helps his brother**).

The 3rd Consultation Meeting of the ICIC and National Societies of the Red Crescent and the Cross in the OIC member States (cooperation and partnership in the fields of humanitarian action) was held on 22 - 23 jumjadi II 1434H, corresponding to 2 -3 May 2013 AD in Gammarth La Marsa area, Tunis – Tunisia , with reference to Article (5) of the ICIC establishment Agreement , which states that (**the Committee shall endeavour to establish a close relation and fruitful cooperation with organizations operating in the field of humanitarian services , in particular with the organizations of Red Crescent and Red Cross**), at the invitation of the ICIC in collaboration with the Tunisian Red Crescent Society.

The meeting was opened in presence of HE the minister of Public Health of Tunisia ,the representative of the ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia , ICIC President and members and Ambassadors and Charge d'Affaires of the OIC member States Embassies accredited in Tunisia ,with the participation of presidents , secretaries general and representatives of the National societies of RC/RC in OIC member States , totally(67) participants from 32 national societies, and Representatives, of the Arab Organization for Red Crescent and Red Cross , the Islamic Solidarity Fund , International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Crescent and Red Cross as observers.

The works of this meeting focused on the theme of cooperation and partnership in fields of humanitarian action , through the following five axis's:

- **Axis I:** cooperation and partnership in the field of international humanitarian law between the Islamic Form of international humanitarian law(subsidiary organ of the ICIC) and RC/RC national societies , national committees of international humanitarian law and humanitarian organizations, and related centers.
- **Axis II:** cooperation and partnership in the awareness programs and indicative of the dangers of illegal immigration between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and national and international organizations related to these topics.
- **Axis III:** cooperation and partnership in the field of relief between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and national and international organizations working in the fields of humanitarian action
- **Axis IV:** cooperation and partnership in development between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and national and international organizations working in the fields of humanitarian action .
- **Axis V:** cooperation and partnership for capacity building in the field of awareness in the guidelines for safety of pilgrims in their own countries before they come to the Holy Land to perform the Hajj, by the ICIC , the Saudi Red Crescent Authority , RC/RC National Societies and the relevant authorities in the OIC member States.

The meeting was informed about the latest development on the situation of the Red Crescent Society of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus ,by an oral presentation of Dr. Mohammed Al-Hadeed General President of Jordan Red Crescent Society and head of working group in charge of this issue at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies , as well as a view on the progress of this issue by Mr. Bulent Siraka , board member of Red Crescent Society in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

The meeting was informed by some NS of RC/RC in the OIC member States on their request for supporting their candidacy at the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, which will be held in Sydney, Australia on November 2013.

The participants adopted, after a fruitful discussion of these axis's, the following version (Tunis Declaration on cooperation and partnership in the fields of humanitarian actions between the ICIC and RC / RC National Societies in the OIC member States) :-

Recalling the importance of cooperation and partnership in the fields of humanitarian actions between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and national ,international organizations working in the fields of humanitarian actions in the OIC States.

Stressing respect for the principles , rules and regulations applied when working in the fields of humanitarian assistances to the needy persons and those affected everywhere.

Calling the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies in OIC member States to work for the promotion of cooperation and partnership between them, and between them and national and international organizations working in the fields of humanitarian actions , the participants reached the following general recommendations:-

1 - **To emphasize** the importance of cooperation and partnership in the field of common interest of international humanitarian law and relevant provisions of Islam, between the Islamic Forum of international humanitarian law and national societies and national committees of international humanitarian law and humanitarian organizations, scientific and social institutions to define this law and work to be respected in all cases of application, through the establishment of training courses ,competitions , issuance and distribution of publications on this law.

2 – **To work** for cooperation and partnership in the awareness programs on the dangers of illegal immigration between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and national , international organizations and national authorities concerned, in order to increase interest in this humanitarian issue and contribute to the alleviation programs of its negative effects, through working in the first stage with the following African National Societies of : Libya, Sierra Leone, Benin, Mali, Niger, Chad, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, Burkina Faso.

3 – **To emphasize** the promotion of cooperation and partnership in the field of relief, between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies, and humanitarian organizations working in this field in order to reach the victims and alleviate human suffering which they are exposed to in many areas, and work to take an active role in the field of coordination among them, and human capacity building in order to prepare for disasters and armed conflicts.

4 - **To emphasize** the promotion of cooperation and partnership in the fields of development, between the ICIC and RC/RC National Societies and humanitarian organizations, in order to qualify and rehabilitation of national societies capacities especially in under - developed countries to counter the effects of natural disasters and conflicts experienced in many areas, and work to implement capacity development programs in this regard.

5 – **To work** for cooperation and partnership to build capacity in a awareness in the guidelines for safety of pilgrims in their own countries before they come to the Holy Land to perform the Hajj, by the ICIC , the Saudi Red Crescent authority , National Societies and the relevant authorities in the OIC States, and **to emphasize** the importance of the safety guidance program of pilgrims, as a model of cooperation and partnership between these parties, **and urged** the RC /RC National Societies that have not yet named the national coordinator and trainer to do so as soon as possible, and **to call** for its implementation.

6 - **To emphasize** the importance of an active role for RC/RC National Societies in OIC member States to promote cooperation and partnership with the RC/RC movement, to support the candidacies of RC/RC National Societies of the OIC member States submitted for the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, which will be held in Sydney - Australia on November 2013.

7 - **To emphasize** the request of Red Crescent Society of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus (NCTRC's) application for recognition and admission of membership in the Red Crescent Red Cross Movement submitted to "the Joint ICRC\International Federation Commission for National Societies Statutes , in parallel with the abovementioned, they support the initiative of the mission chaired by the Jordanian Red Crescent President and the Standing Commission Member DR. Mohammed AL-Hadid to the IFRC Board for granting the NCTRC "a special observer status'. For realizing the said process, they are calling on the ICIC, the Arab Red Crescent Red Cross Organization and national societies of the OIC member states to advocate for the application of the NCTRC before the ICRC, the IFRC.

8 –**To form** a working group to follow up the implementation of this Declaration, from the ICIC President , the Chairman of the current session of 3rd consultative meeting , Secretary-General of the Tunisian Red Crescent, and the Chairman of the previous session , 2nd consultative meeting , the Director General of the Turkish Red Crescent.

9 –**Expressing thanks and appreciation** to the Government of the Republic of Tunisia and the Tunisian Red Crescent Society, for hosting this meeting and for the warm reception and facilities that had a deep impact on its success.

Tunis on 23 Jumada II 1434 H corresponding to May 3, 2013