Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
Coordination and Cooperation

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Objectives of the Session

To understand;

1. Current concerns on the Movement issues related to Coordination and Cooperation
2. Historical background in which the Movement has dealt with these issues
3. Way forward

Questions and discussions
Council of Delegates Resolution 4, 2013

Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation
The 2013 Council of Delegates recalling:

Resolution 6 of the 2005 Council of Delegates, which adopted the Update of the Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and called upon all components of the Movement to “work better together” to meet the challenges of increasing vulnerabilities across the world, and thereby reach more people in need
The 2013 Council of Delegates further recalling:

Resolution 6 of the 1997 Council of Delegates, which adopted the “Agreement on the organization of the international activities of the components of the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement” (the Seville Agreement); Resolution 8 of the 2005 Council of Delegates, which adopted the “ Supplementary Measures to Enhance the Implementation of the Seville Agreement”;
The 2013 Council of Delegates recognizing:

Shifting dynamics of the humanitarian landscape
-States asserting greater sovereignty over humanitarian responses
-the continued politicization of humanitarian assistance
-the growing number of actors; shifting patterns of vulnerabilities
-challenges to access
-the increased complexity and intensity of conflicts
-the rising incidence of disasters and crises linked to factors such as climate change, depleting natural resources and continual population growth and movements
The 2013 Council of Delegates mindful of:

Resultant trends within the Movement

-the increased capacity of National Societies and expectations placed on them as national development actors and lead responders in emergencies

-the increasingly complex interaction among all Movement components

-the call for coordination and the challenge of providing truly effective coordination and agreeing to be coordinated

-the call for honesty and accountability in terms of our capabilities and functioning in an increasingly competitive environment
The 2013 Council of Delegates reaffirming:

a local and national response is critical to saving and protecting lives and that “National Societies form the basic units and constitute a vital force of the Movement

the uniqueness of National Societies as independent humanitarian actors recognized as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field;

the operational capacity of the National Societies to assist vulnerable people in their own countries must be strengthened by developing management skills, good programmes, governance structures and the ability of governance to carry out its responsibilities, and comply with the Fundamental Principles.
The 2013 Council of Delegates recognizing:

effective cooperation and coordination among all Movement components, capitalizing on their combined strength, is key to achieving our collective goal to “prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found”
The 2013 Council of Delegates resolves as follows:

Resolution

Council of Delegates requests the Federation and the ICRC to continue their joint work on strengthening Movement coordination by involving all components in efforts to address the current challenges and opportunities, with a focus on the following areas:

a. Strengthening leadership and coordination roles through mechanisms for agreeing and shouldering leadership responsibilities in international response operations as well as longer-term work, including a focus on strengthening the leadership capacities of National Societies in their own countries.

b. Scaling up the Movement’s operational preparedness, response and recovery work through better coordinated and aligned operational plans, tools and mechanisms, including frameworks on safety and access.
The 2013 Council of Delegates resolves as follows:

Resolution

Council of Delegates requests the Federation and the ICRC to continue their joint work on strengthening Movement coordination by involving all components in efforts to address the current challenges and opportunities, with a focus on the following areas:

c. Promoting coherent and well-coordinated internal and external communications, as well as adopting consistent approaches with external actors.

d. Exploring new Movement-wide resource-mobilization approaches for large-scale international response operations.
Seville Agreement – Agreement on the organization of the international activities of the components of the Movement, 1997

~in a spirit of mutual trust
~It is an agreement on cooperation and not merely on a division of labour
~having distinct but closely related and complementary roles and competencies

*Lead Role*
- specific competencies to each component which therefore plays a lead role in these matters.
-the concept of lead role implies the existence of other partners with rights and responsibilities in these matters.

*Lead Agency*
-one organization is entrusted with the function of lead agency. That organization carries out the general direction and coordination of the international operational activities.
Supplementary Measures to enhance the Implementation of the Seville Agreement (CD Resolution 8, 2005)

1 Roles and responsibilities – Host National Society and the Lead Agency
1.1 The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement must have an efficient and effective coordination system for international activities to manage the resources required to deliver services to affected people and populations and to coordinate with the wider humanitarian assistance systems. To achieve this, the Seville Agreement defines the Lead Agency concept as ‘an organizational tool for managing international operational activities’. It is allocated to one Movement component at a time (SA 4.3).

1.2 The Host National Society maintains at all times its role and mandate according to the Statutes of the Movement. The Seville Agreement focuses only on the organization of the international activities of the other components of the Movement. In this context, a National Society in its own country will continue to act according to its mandate in all situations. In respect of the Movement’s international operational activities, it may also assume the role of Lead Agency in some situations and when not, it always is the “primary partner” of the Lead Agency.
Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance 2013 recognize:

the importance of strengthening organizational, coordination and delivery capacities of National Societies, to respond to the increasing number and complexity of disasters and the growing number of vulnerable people. They call for greater collective learning, adaptation, innovation and leadership to ensure that the Movement achieves greater humanitarian impact.
Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance 2013 encompass;

preparedness for response, disaster relief and early recovery activities. They complement commitments to disaster risk reduction and seek to encourage National Societies to link relief, recovery and development. They establish a coordinated and agreed approach to quality and accountability, and recognize partnerships with public authorities, humanitarian actors and other organizations external to the Movement.
Coordination with external actors

Joint work with NGOs
- Code of conduct 1994
- Humanitarian charter and minimum standards for humanitarian response 1998

With UN
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance. It is a unique forum involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners

- Cluster Coordination Mechanism
Way Forward:

Reference Group

Four Stream Working Group

2015 Council of Delegates

2015 International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
Questions and Discussions
Reference documents

Council of Delegates Resolution 4, 2013 – Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation

Seville Agreement – Agreement on the organization of the international activities of the components of the Movement
http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/misc/57jp4y.htm

Supplementary Measures to enhance the Implementation of the Seville Agreement (CD Resolution 8, 2005)

Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance