

## JOINT STATEMENT PROGRESS REPORT ON RESOLUTION 2

### **Report on Resolution 2 of the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Conference and Resolution 5 of the 2019 Council of Delegates/MHPSS Policy: “Addressing mental health and psychosocial needs of people affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies” (document CD/19)**

**Draft Joint Statement: Realising the RCRC Movement’s commitments on addressing mental health and psychosocial needs through a Movement Leadership and Coordination Governance model**

*I take the floor on behalf of*

*the Australian Red Cross,*

*the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society,*

*the Belgian Red Cross,*

*the Brazilian Red Cross,*

*the British Red Cross,*

*the Canadian Red Cross,*

*the Red Cross Society of China,*

*the Colombian Red Cross,*

*the Croatian Red Cross,*

*the Cyprus Red Cross Society,*

*the Danish Red Cross,*

*the French Red Cross,*

*the Kenyan Red Cross,*

*the Liberian Red Cross,*

*the Swedish Red Cross,*

*the Swiss Red Cross,*

*the Syrian Arab Red Crescent,*

*the IFRC,*

*the ICRC,*

*and my own National Society the South Sudan Red Cross.*

Every day, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement around the world is confronted with the extensive unmet mental health and psychosocial needs of people we serve. Needs that increase dramatically during armed conflicts, disasters and crisis and other emergencies. While

physical wounds may heal, emotional wounds can linger long after. They often remain hidden, but the hurt is raw and ever present.

In the Movement, mental health and psychosocial support continues to be high on the agenda. A resolution and a MHPSS Policy were adopted by consensus at the 2019 International Conference. The Policy sets the standards on Movement response to mental health and psychosocial needs.

In order to advance on those commitments, in 2020 we developed a Roadmap to implement this Resolution and Policy, and to step up access to quality services across the diverse contexts in which we operate. Currently, an interim coordination and a steering committee structure oversee and coordinate the implementation of the MHPSS Policy and Roadmap. There are also 5 working groups, composed of dozens of representatives from different National Societies, IFRC and ICRC, that meet regularly to advance on the ambitious Roadmap priority action areas, because we want to ensure words translate into action.

Hence the reason for informing the 2022 CoD on the latest progress, on the process towards establishing a RCRC Movement MHPSS Hub and the wish to include mental health and psychosocial support as an agenda item for the next CoD.

We acknowledge that the realization of the Movement's mental health and psychosocial support commitments is dependent on a Movement-wide representative and sustainable governance structure, that can pursue these ambitions further. In order to ensure the proper continuation of this process, at the end of 2021, it was decided to set up a joint governance structure to allow the resources needed for the Movement to continue advancing on the ambition to make mental well-being, not a luxury for some, but a right for everyone, including staff and volunteers. This new structure was discussed & endorsed by the Director General of ICRC, the Secretary General of the IFRC and Danish and Swedish RC during a virtual meeting held on the 15th of November 2021 and it comprises a Leadership Group, a Coordination Group, and a RCRC Movement MHPSS Hub. **Today we wish to take the advantage of meeting you all here and invite any interested National Society to join the future Coordination and Leadership Groups.**

The new adopted structure includes and recognizes the current five roadmap working groups as the implementation force and comprises the reactivation of the MHPSS reference group, which is composed of several National Societies that actively supported the development of the MHPSS Movement Policy and Resolution.