

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS

The Standing Commission met on 5 May at ICRC headquarters in Geneva under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Newman-Morris. The League of Red Cross Societies was represented by Mr. J. Barroso and Mr. S. Ranganathan; the ICRC by Mr. A. Hay and Mr. J. Pictet. Of the five National Society members, elected in their personal capacity, Mrs. Issa El-Khoury was absent because of the situation in Lebanon, and Mrs. N. V. Troyan was represented by Dr. V. A. Baltiyski, Chairman of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR.

The Commission was concerned essentially with the planning of the Twenty-third International Conference of the Red Cross to be held in Bucharest in October. General Mihai Burca, President of the Romanian Red Cross, attended the meeting and reported on the progress of preparations. He assured the Commission that in spite of the difficulties caused by the earthquake last March the Romanian Red Cross was able to do everything required to ensure the smooth running of the conference in good conditions.

Other matters related to the Conference were dealt with, namely: proposals to include on the agenda the subjects of famine, disarmament, and a "family-reuniting year"; the chairmanship of the three Conference Commissions; simplification of the procedure for electing members of the Standing Commission; and publicity for the Conference. The Standing Commission then chose four people to whom the Henry Dunant Medal will be presented at the Conference. To conclude, reports were read out on current ICRC and League activities.