

THE ROME CONSENSUS FOR A HUMANITARIAN DRUG POLICY 2007 DECLARATION

The participants of the High Level International Think Tank on Drug Policy, "1922-2007: 85 years fighting discrimination, isolation and stigmatization", Rome, March 22-24, 2007, organized by the Italian Red Cross and The Senlis Council:

- *Reaffirming* the commitment in the Founding Text of the Rome Consensus for a Humanitarian Drug Policy to raise the profile of drug policy to the forefront of social concerns,
- *Remembering* all the decisions of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement concerning problems related to drug use since Bangkok 1922 and especially those adopted by the International Conference in 1969 (decision 30) and in 1986 (decision 29) and the decision 39 of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies General Assembly of 1985,
- *Fully aware* that drugs have caused a man-made catastrophe, affecting more than 200 million people today, and the need for a new humanitarian, realistic, public health and socially-based drug policy with the objective of responding to the challenges posed by widespread drug use and production: especially as it links to poverty, security and human suffering,
- *Welcoming* the creation of a special Health Commission Working Group on Substance Abuse, *noting* that this is a direct result of the 2005 Rome Consensus for a Humanitarian Drug Policy: agree that all National Societies should provide inputs to the Commission's work, which is essential to the future prioritization of substance abuse work and drug policy in its own context as well as within the Federation's HIV/AIDS priority,
- *Realizing* that this is the opportunity to establish a new commitment to a humanitarian drug policy based on reason and compassion that generates action, free from ideology, force, stigmatization and discrimination,
- *Committing* the strength of the Red Cross\Red Crescent Movement provided by its auxiliary role to national governments on humanitarian assistance, to actively encourage the formulation and implementation of a humanitarian drug policy that saves lives and alleviates human suffering,
- *Emphasizing* that public health, comprehensive harm reduction, which includes substitution treatment, and humanitarian approaches are key elements of drug policy, and can provide the optimal way of achieving the goals of alleviating suffering and reaching-out to vulnerable people, and recognizing that involving peers, including drug users and people living with HIV/AIDS, is vital to this process,
- *Integrating* and encouraging young people in their National Societies to play a leading advocacy role in all stages of drug program design, implementation and monitoring,
- *Bringing* NS experiences as a contribution to the Federation's input to the 2008/09 events marking the tenth anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Narcotic Drugs and encouraging all National Societies to engage with their National governments,
- *Asking* the Italian Red Cross and the participant National Societies in Rome to collect and share examples of evidence-based, good practices such as peer-to-peer prevention programmes, to continue the work together with other Federation Commissions in order to generate a global support for this initiative and to present the report of this meeting in the different *fora* of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement with the goal of submitting a proposal to the governing board of the Federation later this year and after that to the General Assembly and the International Conference,

Propose the creation of a Rome Consensus Leaders Group led by the Italian Red Cross supported by The Senlis Council with regional leaders to give the follow up of this Think Tank 2007 in Rome (the group will be integrated by geographical and language representatives of the National Societies). Cooperation and partnerships will also be encouraged with non-government organizations as well as governments and international organizations. All efforts shall be made to make available and to mobilize the resources to follow up on the Consensus.



CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA

THE SENLIS COUNCIL

THE ROME CONSENSUS FOR A HUMANITARIAN DRUG POLICY

LIST OF SIGNATORIES

Rome, 24 March 2007

**MR MOHAMMAD ZAFIR, Deputy Secretary General
Afghan Red Crescent**

**MR IAN COURTENAY, Chairman Youth Commission
Belize Red Cross Society**

**PROF SHYQYRI SUBASHI, President
Albanian Red Cross**

**MR LUIS FERNANDO HERNÁNDEZ, President
Brazilian Red Cross**

**MR OSVALDO FERRERO, President
Argentina Red Cross**

**MR JAIME OSORIO, Vice President
Colombian Red Cross**

**DR OPHELIA KHACHATRIAN, Head of the Health
Department
Armenian Red Cross**

**DR NENAD JAVORNIK, Executive President
Croatian Red Cross**

**MR ELKHAN RAHIMOV, Secretary General
Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan**

**MRS RIINA KABI, Secretary General
Estonia Red Cross**



MRS NANA KEINISHVILI, President
Red Cross Society of Georgia



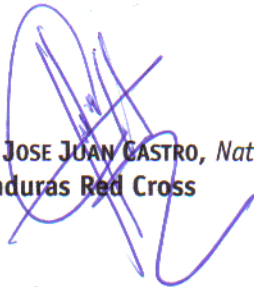
MR ELVIS MATUTE, Member Youth commission
Panamanian Red Cross



MS SAMANTHA DICKSON, Health and Safety Director
Grenada Red Cross



MRS CORAZON ALMA DE LEON, Secretary General
The Philippine National Red Cross



MR JOSE JUAN CASTRO, National Treasurer
Honduras Red Cross



PROF JORGE TORGAL, Vice President
Portugal Red Cross



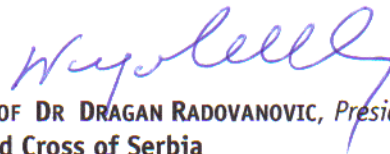
DR MASSIMO BARRA, President
Italian Red Cross



MR ALBERT PLUTNIK, Chief Editor
Russian Red Cross Society



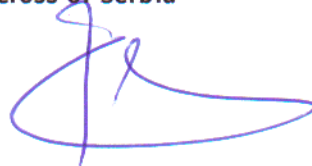
MRS RAVZA SHAYAMETOVA, Secretary General
Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan



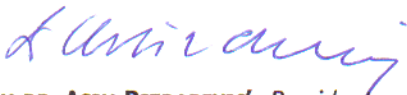
PROF DR DRAGAN RADOVANOVIC, President
Red Cross of Serbia



MR WALID KEBBE, Vice President
Lebanese Red Cross



MR CIRIL KLAJNSCEK, Head Health Department
Slovenian Red Cross



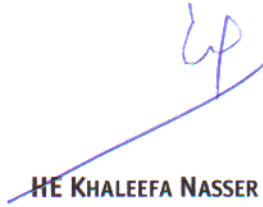
PRIM DR ASIM DIZDAREVIC', President
Montenegro Red Cross



MRS ROSARIO MIRANDA PLATA, Delegate
Spanish Red Cross



DR MOHAMMED BASHEER RAHMOUN, *Health
Committee Coordinator*
Syrian Arab Red Crescent



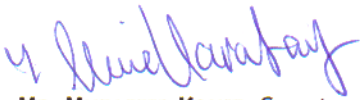
HE KHALEEFA NASSER AL SUWEIDI, *Chair of the Board of
Directors*
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent



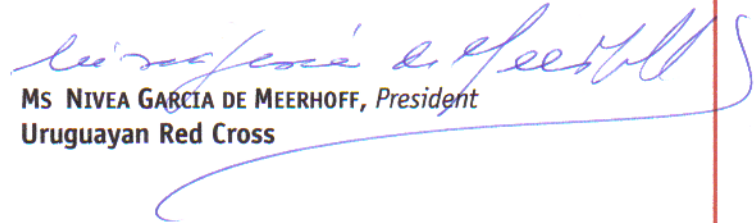
MR NUSRATULLO FAYZULLAEV, *President*
Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan



MR SHABAN MAWANDA, *Youth Commission*
Uganda Red Cross



MR MUZAFFER KOMIT, *Secretary General*
Turkish Red Crescent



MS NIVEA GARCIA DE MEERHOFF, *President*
Uruguayan Red Cross



MRS ZUKHRA ELLIEVA, *President*
Turkmenistan Red Crescent

MR MARIO VILLARDEL, *President*
Venezuelan Red Cross



MR VALERII SERGOVKYI, *Deputy Executive Director*
Ukrainian Red Cross



DR FABIO PATRUNO, *Vice President*
**European Red Cross / Red Crescent Network on
HIV/Aids and TB**