Recognition of the Jamaica Red Cross Society

GENEVA, OCTOBER 1, 1964

Circular No. 459

To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross, Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun Societies

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you of the official recognition on October 1, 1964, of the Jamaica Red Cross Society by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

This Society applied for recognition in a letter dated September 2, 1964. The application was accompanied by the Decree of July 9, 1964 promulgated by the Government of Jamaica recognizing the Society, together with the text of its Statutes.

The study of these documents has shown that the ten conditions for recognition of a new Society by the International Committee have been duly fulfilled. These documents have also been examined in connection with the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies.

The International Committee has pleasure, therefore, in announcing the recognition of this Society, which brings the number of member Societies of the International Red Cross to one hundred and four.

The action of the Red Cross in Jamaica has been undertaken by the British Red Cross Society with devotion and competence until July 1964, the date on which the powers and property of the Jamaica Branch of that Society were transferred to the new National Society. Recognized as an auxiliary to the public authorities, it thus already possesses a solid organization and deploys a multiple and effective activity throughout the country. It numbers several regional sections which deal especially with first-aid and social welfare in the hospitals. The Society, which also possesses an ambulance service and runs a children's home, gave great encouragement to its Junior Red Cross in 1963.

The Government of Jamaica confirmed on July 30, 1964 that the State was Party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, by virtue of their ratification by Great Britain in 1957.

The Society, whose Patron is the Governor-General, is directed by a Central Committee. Its acting President is Mrs. Leighton M. Clark, and the Secretary-General is Mrs. Dudley Hume Stewart. The headquarters of the Society are at Kingston.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has great pleasure in welcoming this new Society into the International Red Cross, accrediting it by this notice to all other National Societies and recommending it to their kind attention. It expresses its best wishes for the Society's future and for the success of its charitable work.

For the International Committee of the Red Cross

Samuel A. GONARD, President