

**AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF MEMBER
NATIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES
AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS**

The Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC),

attaching great importance to promotion of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977 and other international humanitarian law treaties and to their implementation;

conscious of the fact that respect for international humanitarian law depends to a great extent on adoption of national implementation measures both in regard to the promotion of this law and in the sphere of adopting laws and subordinate legislation;

recalling the adoption by the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States of a number of recommendations and model legislative acts pertaining, in particular, to the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto;

welcoming the results achieved by many Member Nations, in particular, in the field of repression of war crimes and adoption of legislation on the protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblem;

wishing to strengthen cooperation in the field of promotion and implementation of international humanitarian law in the Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

have agreed as follows:

1. The ICRC and the IPA CIS shall cooperate in promoting the ratification of international treaties in the sphere of international humanitarian law by the Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, national implementation of this law and dissemination of humanitarian rules.
2. To this end the ICRC shall assist the IPA CIS by way of transferring the necessary information to it and by providing the appropriate technical support for drafting recommendations and model legislative acts on the implementation of international humanitarian law treaties.

3. The ICRC shall inform the IPA CIS of regional meetings organised by it for Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States and invite representatives of the IPA CIS to participate in them.
4. The IPA CIS shall inform the ICRC of events dedicated to issues related to international humanitarian law and organised by it for Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and invite representatives of the ICRC to participate in them.
5. Questions connected with the events jointly organised by the ICRC and the IPA CIS shall be addressed on a case by case basis.
6. The ICRC and the IPA CIS shall inform each other of their activities and exchange their periodical publications and other relevant information materials.
7. The cooperation provided for in the present Agreement shall be carried out through the Secretariate of the Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States and through the Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Moscow.
8. The present Agreement shall come into force from the moment it is signed. It can be terminated at any time by way of a notification made in writing by one of the Parties. The termination shall come into force three months after the notification is made.

Done in Saint Petersburg on 16 April 2004 in two copies, each of which is made in the Russian and English languages.

On behalf of the Interparliamentary
Assembly of Member Nations of the
Commonwealth of Independent States



Mr. Sergey M. Mironov

On behalf of the International
Committee
of the Red Cross



Mr. Jacques Forster