

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between
The Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of
Independent States

and

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

This Cooperation Agreement (hereinafter the "Agreement") is executed between the **Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States** (hereinafter the "IPA CIS"), represented by the Chairperson of the IPA CIS Council Valentina Ivanovna Matvienko, and the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** (hereinafter the "IFRC" and collectively the "Parties"), represented by the Secretary General of IFRC Bekele Geleta,

PREAMBLE

Whereas IPA CIS is an international organization with headquarters in Saint-Petersburg, acting on the basis of Convention on the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, whose main task is to ensure convergence of legislation of IPA CIS Member Nations and establishment of relevant mechanisms for its implementation;

Whereas IFRC is an international organization headquartered in Geneva on the basis of its status agreement with the Swiss Federal Council;

Whereas IFRC, is composed and governed by its 187 Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies members, and its objective is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by the National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering and thereby contributing to the maintenance and the promotion of peace in the world;

Considering that the CIS was established for the purpose of cooperating in political, economic, environmental and humanitarian spheres in accordance with the generally recognized principles and norms of international law;

Considering that the IFRC was founded to exercise and coordinate international assistance to victims of natural disasters and technological catastrophes, to migrants irrespective of their legal status, as well as to participate in the work on urgent problems of health care and to develop social programs;

Noting that adherence to the norms of international law in the process of perfection of national legislations may be of decisive importance for ensuring stable

social and economic development of the CIS Member Nations, as well as for the process of harmonization of legislations of the Commonwealth;

Noting that the IFRC has been supporting the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (hereinafter the "National Societies") on legislative advocacy in the areas of disaster management, health, migration and volunteerism, including their disaster law program;

Having a wish to facilitate the development of economic and social potentials of the CIS Member Nations, relying on the long experience of the IPA CIS and the IFRC activities;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties have agreed as follows:

SECTIONS

Article 1

The purpose of this Agreement shall be to combine efforts and experience of the Parties to develop cooperation and favorable conditions for the CIS Member Nations and the IFRC to support National Societies to fulfill their mandate in the humanitarian field, including harmonization of legislation of the CIS Member Nations in accordance with the norms of international law.

Article 2

For the purpose of this Agreement the following activities should be carried out:

1. Sharing experiences which the IFRC has accumulated in the sphere of providing humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters and technological catastrophes, migrants irrespective of their legal status; supporting health care issues; implementing social programs with a view to develop awareness among citizens of the CIS Member Nations.
2. Sharing information about the role and responsibility of National Societies in the humanitarian field.
3. Discussing issues within the area of competence of the IFRC at the sessions of the IPA CIS standing commissions and IPA CIS plenary sessions.
4. Working on joint projects in the following spheres: developing model legislative acts for the CIS Member Nations, in particular with regard to state disaster management, the regulation of international disaster relief and volunteer activities; arranging and holding international conferences and seminars; establishing effective

exchange of information; conducting research and trainings; issuing publications; advising CIS Member Nations on areas falling under this Agreement.

5. Sharing and informing the Parties of plans and events within the framework of this Agreement and inviting each Party to participate in them.

6. Fostering and supporting a dialogue between representatives of legislative authorities and National Societies through arranging joint events and projects by the IPA CIS and the IFRC.

Article 3

Cooperation under this Agreement shall be carried out meeting the following conditions:

1. The cooperation shall be founded on voluntary basis and mutual interest.

2. This Agreement does not create any financial obligations for the Parties.

3. The choice of directions and priorities of cooperation and joint projects shall be made on the basis of mutual assent of the Parties.

4. In case of necessity the Parties shall implement joint projects on the basis of additional agreements that must define the conditions of participation in such projects as well as the costs that each Party shall bear.

Article 4

1. This Agreement shall provisionally come into force on the last day of signature below, but final entry into force for the IFRC is subject to the ratification of this Agreement by IFRC's Governing Board.

2. This Agreement may be amended and/or supplemented only by mutual written consent of the Parties.

3. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party by 3 (three) months written notice to the other Party.

4. Nothing in or relating to this Agreement shall constitute or be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the IPA CIS or the IFRC.

5. This Agreement shall be signed both in its Russian and English versions which shall be equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties sign this Agreement on the 17th of May 2012 in St. Petersburg. It is made in four copies, two copies in Russian and two copies in English.

Chairperson of the Council of the
Interparliamentary Assembly of
Member Nations of the Commonwealth
of Independent States



Valentina Ivanovna Matvienko

Secretary General of the International
Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies



Bekele Geleta