

CARACAS (REGIONAL)

COVERING: Suriname, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean Community: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago

The Caracas regional delegation was established in 1971. It reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies in the fields of IHL promotion, restoring family links, emergency response and assistance to victims of violence. It visits security detainees in the region and monitors the humanitarian situation along the Venezuelan border with Colombia. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation and into the operational procedures and training of the region's armed forces, as well as the inclusion of human rights standards in police manuals and training.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	355
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,267
Cooperation with National Societies	528
General	-
Total	2,150
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>131</i>

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	3
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	9



ICRC / APPEALS 2014

 ICRC regional delegation

MAIN TARGETS FOR 2014

- ▶ armed and police forces throughout the region implement measures to ensure compliance with internationally recognized standards on the use of force in law enforcement
- ▶ the region's National Societies take steps to develop their emergency preparedness capacities, enabling them to respond safely and effectively to humanitarian needs arising from situations of violence
- ▶ in Venezuela, people detained on security-related grounds and in connection with the conflict in Colombia benefit from renewed ICRC visits and recommendations to the authorities regarding their treatment and living conditions
- ▶ vulnerable residents of Venezuelan states bordering Colombia strengthen their resilience with the help of first-aid training and basic health education, provided by the Venezuelan Red Cross with ICRC support
- ▶ some 100 violence-affected children in Jamaica adopt self-protection mechanisms, including safe behaviour, through a programme taught by the Jamaica Red Cross in cooperation with the Education Ministry

CONTEXT

Following election-related protests in Venezuela, the new administration under President Nicolás Maduro is implementing a series of reforms. Building on policies initiated by the late president Hugo Chávez, measures include reinforcing the capacities of certain segments of the armed and security forces and increasing their involvement in law enforcement operations. Meanwhile, the spillover of the Colombian conflict continues to affect residents of Venezuela's border communities.

A number of countries of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) still face serious challenges related to high levels of organized violence and migration flows. In certain urban neighbourhoods of Belize City (Belize), Kingston (Jamaica) and Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago), the police have stepped up their response, often aided by the defence forces, a trend which has also been observed in other States in the region.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2014, the ICRC will continue to monitor situations of violence across the region and work with the National Societies to alleviate some of their consequences. With the Venezuelan Red Cross, it will endeavour to address identified humanitarian needs in areas near the Colombia-Venezuela border, primarily by helping members of affected communities boost their first-aid skills. Elsewhere in the country, it will support National Society branches and local authorities in adequately preparing for emergencies. In Jamaica, it will support the organization of alternative learning activities for violence-affected urban youth, raising their awareness of the consequences of violence on their communities and promoting humanitarian values.

As a complement, the ICRC will develop its dialogue and cooperation with authorities, armed and police forces, and regional organizations to promote observance of internationally recognized standards governing the use of force in law enforcement. By raising the awareness of government and civil society stakeholders of humanitarian concerns,

including the need for safe access to and delivery of health care, it will foster support for the National Societies' response to humanitarian needs arising from violence and facilitate acceptance of the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

In parallel, the ICRC will continue working to advance the integration of IHL and other relevant norms into military and police doctrine, training and operations, as well as the ratification/implementation of IHL treaties. In Venezuela, it will seek to regain access to people held on security-related grounds and those detained in connection with the spillover of the Colombian conflict, in order to monitor their treatment and living conditions.

In coordination with the International Federation, the ICRC will help the region's National Societies strengthen their management and emergency response capacities in situations of violence, integrate the Safer Access approach and develop their family-links services, including for migrants.