

PRETORIA (REGIONAL)

COVERING: Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland

The ICRC has worked in South Africa since the early 1960s, opening a regional delegation in Pretoria in 1978. It visits detainees, monitoring their conditions; helps refugees and asylum seekers to restore contact with family members; and supports research on violence reduction among South African youth. It promotes ratification of IHL treaties and their national implementation and encourages the incorporation of IHL into military training and university curricula. The ICRC supports the region's National Societies in building their capacities.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	826
Assistance	-
Prevention	1,353
Cooperation with National Societies	558
General	-
Total	2,736
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>167</i>

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	5
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	24



ICRC/APPEALS_2014

 ICRC regional delegation

MAIN TARGETS FOR 2014

- ▶ asylum seekers, refugees and migrants held in South Africa's main immigration detention centre restore/maintain contact with relatives through National Society/ICRC family-links services
- ▶ authorities in the region take steps towards signature and/or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty
- ▶ government representatives learn about IHL and humanitarian action, including the goals of the Health Care in Danger project, at workshops on IHL and safe health care delivery held in South Africa
- ▶ the region's National Societies develop a coordinated and coherent response to the family-links needs of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees



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CONTEXT

South Africa maintains political and economic influence within the region and in Africa more generally. It regularly engages in diplomatic initiatives and provides troops for peacekeeping operations abroad, such as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan. The country is part of the BRICS group of emerging economies comprising Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa. It also hosts African Union (AU) institutions such as the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), a large diplomatic community,

regional representations of the UN and other humanitarian agencies, think-tanks and major media agencies.

Governments in the region continue to grapple with socio-economic issues, including demand for reform, unemployment, income inequality, migration and, particularly in South Africa, urban violence. In Swaziland, demonstrations and civil unrest against government policies and inadequate services occur regularly, characterized by a strong police and military presence and pre-emptory arrests. Botswana and Lesotho remain politically stable.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2014, the Pretoria delegation will focus on promoting understanding of humanitarian principles and the Movement regionwide and on enhancing its operational and institutional dialogue, with the aim of increasing support, from South Africa in particular, for the ICRC's mandate and activities. It will provide the region's National Societies with help in boosting their capacities to provide family-links services and respond to emergencies during situations of violence, such as by administering first aid.

Given the continued influx of migrants to South Africa, the region's National Societies – particularly the South African Red Cross Society and the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society – will receive ongoing support in strengthening their family-links services. Tracing, RCM and telephone services will be made available to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees to restore/maintain contact with relatives. Cross-border coordination among the region's National Societies will remain essential to ensure a coherent Movement response adapted to needs.

The ICRC will continue to visit detainees in Lesotho and Swaziland according to standard ICRC procedures. It will also carry out visits to asylum seekers, refugees and migrants held in South Africa's main immigration detention centre. It will report its findings, including recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions, to the authorities. In Swaziland, it will seek expanded access to people detained in prisons and police stations, while raising the authorities' awareness of ICRC visits to and activities for detainees.

To foster dialogue on humanitarian issues, including those covered by the Health Care in Danger project, and to enlist support for neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, the ICRC will work to maintain ties with political and military authorities, regional intergovernmental organizations, diplomatic representations and humanitarian organizations. In Swaziland, it will establish dialogue

with the authorities, weapon bearers and other influential actors and impress upon them their responsibilities during demonstrations, protests and law enforcement operations.

The ICRC will also promote long-term respect for and implementation of IHL in the countries covered. It will assist the armed and police forces of Botswana and Swaziland in boosting IHL instruction in their training establishments. It will conduct predeployment briefings for peacekeepers on the humanitarian situation and Movement action in their destination countries and help the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) enhance its IHL training curricula both for forces taking part in peacekeeping operations and for those deployed at home, including border contingents apprehending illegal migrants. The ICRC will provide legal expertise to governments and their national IHL committees to facilitate the ratification/domestic implementation of IHL treaties. It will also support IHL teaching and research in universities throughout the region by organizing events for students and lecturers and donating reference materials.

To enhance understanding of humanitarian issues among the general public, the ICRC/relevant National Society will foster relations with the media and other civil society organizations and produce a variety of adapted communication tools. In South Africa, the ICRC will continue to support an NGO in running a football-based project to reduce violence among young people at the community level and a research project assessing the impact of such activities on youth behaviour and their possible replication in other violence-prone communities.

The ICRC will contribute to coordination among Movement partners and maintain relations with UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest in order to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication of efforts.