

JAKARTA (REGIONAL)

COVERING: Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The objectives and plans of action are valid for two years, while the budget presented applies to one year only.

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and in Timor-Leste following its independence in 2002. It supports the National Societies in boosting their emergency response capacities. The ICRC promotes the importance of improving penitentiary standards, while seeking to visit detainees and monitor conditions. It works with the armed forces (and the police in Indonesia) to encourage the inclusion of IHL and other applicable norms in their training. It maintains dialogue with ASEAN and other regional bodies and conducts activities with universities to further IHL instruction. In Timor-Leste, it encourages efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons.

BUDGET IN KCHF

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Protection | 785 |
| Assistance | 278 |
| Prevention | 2,498 |
| Cooperation with National Societies | 705 |
| General | 59 |
| Total | 4,325 |
| <i>Of which: Overheads</i> | 264 |

PERSONNEL

| | |
|---|----|
| Mobile staff | 8 |
| Resident staff (daily workers not included) | 44 |



KRC/APPEALS_2015



ICRC regional delegation



ICRC mission

MAIN TARGETS FOR 2015–16

- ▶ the families of persons unaccounted for and confirmed dead in relation to past conflict and situation in East Timor recover their relatives' remains, thanks to forensic tools and training provided to the authorities/parties concerned
- ▶ families divided by the Indonesia and Timor-Leste border, and migrants/asylum seekers, restore contact with their relatives through National Society/ICRC action plans drafted after assessments of their family-links needs
- ▶ as a result of workshops organized jointly with the armed forces/police, military and police personnel learn more about humanitarian/human rights norms related to their duties
- ▶ the Indonesian IHL committee and Timor-Leste authorities share experiences at a meeting aimed at promoting IHL implementation and helping the Timor-Leste authorities take steps to establish a national IHL committee

CONTEXT

A new government is in place in Indonesia, following elections held in 2014. Social, economic, ethnic and religious tensions persist, causing sporadic outbreaks of violence in parts of the country, such as Aceh and Papua. Natural disasters are a perennial concern. Thousands of migrants and asylum seekers continue to arrive or transit through Indonesia, exacerbated by stricter immigration policies in Australia and developing situations in neighbouring countries like Myanmar.

Timor-Leste remains stable, although some tensions have occurred as a result of the government's ban on certain political groups.

Thousands of families continue to seek information on relatives unaccounted for, but the Indonesia/Timor-Leste Joint Ministerial Commission for Bilateral Cooperation has taken no steps to adopt mechanisms to address the issue, and the passing of related legislation in the Timor-Leste parliament is stalled. Timor-Leste's Veterans' Commission holds data on persons unaccounted for; together with the families of those confirmed dead, the Commission has driven up the number of exhumations of human remains. The Timorese government is providing assistance to the families in burying their relatives or putting up memorials.

The Jakarta-based Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) continues to promote cooperation on regional concerns, such as mine action and disaster management. Territorial disputes in the South China Sea continue to test relations between States.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The ICRC delegation in Jakarta will keep up its efforts to enhance understanding of the ICRC's work and secure broader support for humanitarian action from the governments and key stakeholders in both countries covered and within ASEAN. To this end, it will engage in dialogue and develop relationships with government officials, members of the armed forces and police, religious leaders and academics. It will conduct briefings, workshops and other events, some organized jointly with the National Societies. Interaction with ASEAN will centre on themes of common interest: disaster management, migration and peacekeeping. In Indonesia, the ICRC will continue to consult with the authorities on the basis and scope of its work in the country; it will seek, in both countries, the authorities' full support for the resumption of its visits to detainees.

The ICRC will also offer the authorities, the armed forces/police and others concerned help to boost their capacities to promote respect for IHL and humanitarian principles. This will entail providing: technical advice to the armed forces/police for incorporating humanitarian considerations and internationally recognized standards in their operational decision-making and doctrine; sponsorship for officers to attend workshops/advanced courses abroad, including on the application of IHL to armed conflict at sea; and guidance/advice/expertise during workshops and training sessions organized jointly for instructors and personnel. The ICRC will assist the Indonesian IHL committee and the Timor-Leste authorities in advancing ratification/implementation of IHL treaties, and facilitate the sharing of experiences between them, to encourage the establishment of a Timor-Leste national IHL committee. The ICRC will help media representatives and NGOs working in violence-prone areas learn more about humanitarian principles. Educational authorities and university/school faculties will be given training and reference materials for teaching IHL and humanitarian principles to students, including in Islamic schools in Indonesia and secondary schools in Timor-Leste.

The delegation's other priority will be the issue of persons who went unaccounted for during past events in East Timor. Given the work being done by the Veterans' Commission, the ICRC will move away from collecting information on cases; it will concentrate on supporting the Commission and the families concerned in ensuring – by providing training and tools – the proper recovery of the remains of missing persons confirmed dead. The ICRC will maintain contact with the authorities in Indonesia and Timor-Leste, and be ready to provide expertise/advice for developing mechanisms for addressing the issue.

The National Societies and the ICRC will continue to offer tracing, RCM and phone services to family members separated by violence, natural disasters, detention or migration, as well as support for families to visit relatives detained/interned abroad. The ICRC will work with the National Societies to assess the family-links needs of people separated by the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste, and of migrants and asylum seekers in both countries, and to draw up a strategy and an action plan for addressing these needs.

The Indonesian Red Cross Society and the Timor-Leste Red Cross will receive training and technical, material and financial support for strengthening their capacities in emergency preparedness and for promoting humanitarian norms and principles. ICRC activities will be coordinated with those of Movement partners and other humanitarian actors.

HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AND ICRC OBJECTIVES

CIVILIANS

Thousands of families in Timor-Leste are still seeking information on the fate of relatives who went unaccounted for in relation to the 1975–99 situation and conflict in East Timor and are waiting for official recognition of their plight. Local forensic skills and resources, legal frameworks and coordination in the conduct of exhumations all require further strengthening.

Families separated at the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste have expressed various family-links needs: some have been able to maintain regular telephone contact with their relatives, though they have not seen or met them for nearly 15 years; others have had little or no access to means of communication.

Thousands of migrants and asylum seekers continue to enter or pass through Indonesia, and hundreds of irregular Indonesian migrant workers are detained or sent back from abroad. Some need help to communicate with their families.

Objective

Relatives separated by past conflict or sporadic outbreaks of violence, natural disasters, detention or migration exchange news and are reunited where possible. Families are informed of the fate of relatives unaccounted for in connection with past events in East Timor; if these relatives are dead and the families so wish, they take possession of the remains. The families' specific needs are met.

Plan of action and indicators

Protection

Restoring family links

- ▶ while helping to ensure the proper conduct of exhumations (see *Forensics* below), maintain contact with and be ready to provide advice to the authorities in Indonesia and Timor-Leste for developing legal frameworks and mechanisms to address the issue of missing persons
- ▶ provide funding, material support and training/expertise for both the Indonesian and Timorese National Societies to help them develop and implement family-links activities, coordinating with other actors in the wider region if necessary; encourage the National Societies to incorporate family-links services in disaster management planning

With the National Societies:

- ▶ help family members separated by conflict/violence, natural disasters, detention or migration to re-establish and maintain contact by providing Movement family-links services, including RCMs and support for families to visit relatives detained/interned abroad; through tracing services, help families – particularly those involved in incidents at sea, Indonesian families of soldiers buried in Timor-Leste or families of Timorese persons relocated to Indonesia as children during past events – learn the whereabouts of relatives unaccounted for; promote the availability of these services through information campaigns
- ▶ conduct assessments to get a better grasp of the family-links needs of families separated at the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste and of migrants and asylum seekers in both countries, with a view to devel-

oping – in coordination with the National Societies – action plans for addressing these needs

- ▶ in Indonesia, promote awareness among would-be migrant workers and their families of the risks of separation; encourage families and others concerned to take precautionary measures

Assistance

Forensics

- ▶ to help ensure proper identification of human remains, including of people linked to past events in East Timor, and to prevent persons from going unaccounted for in the future: conduct information and training sessions for local actors – for example, the Veterans' Commission in Timor-Leste and the police forces and National Society volunteers in both countries – and equip them with the tools necessary to help strengthen their forensic capacities; enhance coordination among them and with their regional counterparts; provide technical advice for adopting best practices and developing related plans/policies

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Although Indonesian prison authorities have taken steps to address overcrowding, it is reportedly still a problem in detention facilities, contributing to poor hygiene and unsanitary conditions and the spread of disease, and compromising the health of inmates.

Timor-Leste's two prisons, recently rehabilitated under a UNDP programme, are also said to be overcrowded. The Timor-Leste police have taken full responsibility for arrests and law enforcement after the departure of the UN mission from the country in 2012.

Objective

All detainees benefit from treatment and living conditions that meet internationally recognized standards, including respect for their judicial guarantees.

Plan of action and indicators

Protection

- ▶ pursue advocacy efforts and dialogue with the authorities concerned to: cultivate relationships; encourage cooperation/coordination on detention-related matters; and obtain their full support, notably that of the Directorate-General of Corrections in Indonesia and the Ministry of Justice in Timor-Leste, for the resumption of ICRC visits to detainees in their respective countries, conducted according to the ICRC's standard procedures
- ▶ after securing the authorities' approval, visit detainees to monitor their treatment, living conditions and access to health care; share findings confidentially with the authorities and, where necessary, make recommendations for improvements
- ▶ in Timor-Leste, through training, help the police ensure their personnel's compliance with internationally recognized standards governing arrest and detention (see also *Actors of influence*)

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

The Indonesian national IHL committee helps facilitate the incorporation of IHL in domestic legislation; a number of IHL-related bills have been tabled in parliament, notably a Red Cross law and a new penal code with provisions on

war crimes. The Timor-Leste authorities have ratified most IHL-related treaties, but have not yet implemented them domestically. ASEAN and related bodies remain key fora for discussing humanitarian issues and promoting ratification/implementation of IHL instruments.

The Indonesian armed forces, through their IHL working group and Legal Development Agency, are building the capacities of military training establishments to deliver IHL instruction. Indonesian troops take part in UN peacekeeping missions abroad.

Opinion-makers, including leaders of Islamic organizations, and journalists help promote humanitarian principles and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action to decision-makers and the wider public.

In Indonesia, a working group composed of administrators and teachers is monitoring and evaluating the teaching of IHL in Islamic schools. In Timor-Leste, the Education Ministry has ordered inclusion of the subject in the national secondary school syllabus.

Objective

The region's authorities and armed forces/police understand and respect IHL and other internationally recognized standards, and incorporate these in their decision-making processes. ASEAN members and bodies are responsive to IHL-related/humanitarian issues. Opinion-makers, religious leaders, academics and the media help foster public awareness of humanitarian issues and principles and IHL, thus securing greater respect for human dignity. All actors understand the ICRC's mandate and support its work.

Plan of action and indicators

Prevention

- ▶ promote understanding of IHL, humanitarian principles and the ICRC's mandate, and secure support for humanitarian action by nurturing relationships and enhancing dialogue with authorities and key actors in the region, through:
 - briefings and workshops, including those carried out with the National Societies, for government representatives (including diplomats taking courses at government training centres), the armed forces/police, religious leaders and academics, covering issues related to the Health Care in Danger project, the link between IHL and Islam, and other subjects
 - consultations on the conduct/resumption of ICRC activities, notably in Indonesia (see *People deprived of their freedom*)
 - joint activities and/or discussions with ASEAN on topics of common interest, notably disaster management (including forensics and family links), peace-keeping, migration and weapons-related issues
 - meetings/training sessions with journalists and online media professionals, support for their attendance at conferences abroad, and provision of reference materials to encourage regular and accurate reporting of humanitarian issues and ICRC activities
 - pre-departure workshops on humanitarian principles for media representatives and faith-based NGOs working in conflict/violence-prone areas
 - provision of technical advice, training and/or materials enabling educational authorities, university/school faculties (particularly in law, international relations, journalism and Islamic studies) and/or the

National Societies to promote/enhance the teaching of IHL and humanitarian principles; particularly, support for universities to conduct courses/lectures, national/regional competitions/events and IHL research, and for the teaching of humanitarian principles in Youth Red Cross clubs and Islamic schools in Indonesia and within the secondary school curriculum in Timor-Leste

- updated print/audiovisual communication materials, including in local languages
- ▶ help the Indonesian and Timor-Leste armed forces/police ensure that their personnel respect IHL and applicable internationally recognized standards while performing their duties, by:
 - offering technical advice for incorporating humanitarian principles and internationally recognized standards in their operational decision-making and doctrine
 - organizing briefings/training jointly, including for: Indonesian army/police instructors and commanders; Indonesian police personnel being deployed to violence-prone areas; Timorese police forces, with a particular emphasis on standards related to arrest and detention; and troops taking part in UN peacekeeping missions; enabling senior officers to attend workshops/advanced courses abroad, including on the application of IHL to armed conflict at sea
 - helping the Indonesian armed forces' Permanent Working Group on IHL, particularly through joint training activities, to bolster IHL curricula at military training institutions
- ▶ to encourage ratification/implementation by the Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities of IHL instruments, particularly those concerning weapons and the protection of cultural property, and the adoption of draft legislation already tabled in parliament:
 - provide officials, including members of the Indonesian IHL committee, with advice and reference materials, particularly on the Red Cross law and on the prevention of war crimes; at a joint meeting, facilitate sharing of experiences between the committee and Timorese authorities, with a view to also helping the latter take steps towards establishing a national IHL committee
 - organize seminars and joint events, including in relation to the "Strengthening IHL" process, and sponsor officials' attendance at events abroad

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Indonesian Red Cross and the Timor-Leste Red Cross are key partners for the ICRC in their respective countries.

Objective

The National Societies have a strong legal basis for independent action. They are able to provide relief and health assistance in situations of violence and other emergencies. They carry out their core activities effectively. The activities of all components of the Movement are coordinated.

Plan of action and indicators

Cooperation

- ▶ provide the National Societies with expertise/training and financial/material support, enabling them to:

- respond effectively to emergencies, in particular by drafting/enhancing contingency plans and incorporating family-links services and the Safer Access Framework in their response; in Indonesia, strengthen their disaster/medical action teams and further their understanding of issues related to the Health Care in Danger project
- promote awareness of IHL, humanitarian principles and their activities
- develop their organizational structure, programmes and cooperation with Movement partners
- ▶ assist the Indonesian Red Cross to make ophthalmic surgery/assistance available for patients from isolated areas in Papua
- ▶ maintain regular contact with other Movement components to coordinate planning/activities