

Global commitments on climate change in resolutions of International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

The IFRC's [Strategy 2020](#), published in 2010, says climate change *adaptation* involves scaling-up disaster risk reduction and strengthening traditional methods of coping with disasters. The Red Cross Red Crescent, it adds, also contributes to the *mitigation* of climate change through advocacy and social mobilization for sustainable development that optimizes communities' carbon footprints. This was the culmination of more than a decade of developing commitment reflected in resolutions of International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

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*'The International Federation...will undertake a study to assess the future impact of climatic changes upon the frequency and severity of disasters and the implications for humanitarian response and preparedness.'*¹

-- 27th International Conference, 1999

'States are strongly encouraged to prioritize and provide resources to implement comprehensive disaster risk reduction measures, including measures to address issues relating to climate change and variability. National Societies will increase their cooperation with States and experts in the area of climate change....'

-- 28th International Conference, 2003

*'We are deeply concerned that people everywhere, especially the poorest of the poor, face an increased burden due to the rise in disasters and the scarcity of resources induced by multiple factors such as environmental degradation and climate change, contributing to poverty, migration, health risks and aggravated risk of violence and conflict.'*²

-- 30th International Conference, 2007

Resolution 6: Strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid. The 32nd International Conference *'recognizes that National Societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, have an important role to play in supporting their States to achieve a number of the goals, targets and priorities set out in the context of the Resolutions of the Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and outcomes of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including those related to building community resilience, reducing disaster risks and adapting to climate change.'*

-- 32nd International Conference, 2015

¹ Note: The study was later published in 2003 by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre in The Hague as *Preparedness for climate change*.)

² Note: The 2007 commitments included integrating adaptation to climate change into disaster risk reduction and disaster management generally. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement would also provide input to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and continue its efforts to strengthen preparedness and response, and assist the most vulnerable in, especially, the developing world.