THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

1. Humanity
2. Impartiality
3. Neutrality
4. Independence
5. Voluntary Service
6. Unity
7. Universality

THE HUMANITARIAN VALUES

- The protection of life, health and human dignity.
- Respect for the human being.
- Non-discrimination on the basis of nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class or political opinions.
- Mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace among people.
- Volunteer Service.

THE MASAMBO FUND

A support fund that aims to improve the quality of life of Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers living with HIV who, because of stigma and discrimination associated with HIV, are more vulnerable in terms of access to health care, adequate nutrition and dignified work.

The Fund is named after Masambo Mundega, an HIV positive staff member of the Zimbabwe Red Cross, who worked for many years with people living with HIV.

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The RCRC+ Network was created on 19 May 2003 during an historic consultative meeting of people living with HIV and National Societies from different regions. The meeting was held at the headquarters of the International Federation in Geneva, Switzerland.

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The vision of RCRC+

All Red Cross and Red Crescent people living with HIV (PLHIV) should be respected and valued and feel safe in their working environment in the different components of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, regardless of how they were infected.

Since its formation the RCRC+ Network has been warmly received by the Federation’s Governing Board.

The Network was created to support all people living with HIV, whether volunteers, National Society staff or staff of the International Federation Secretariat.

The Network aims to strengthen National Societies, encouraging the nomination of an HIV+ focal point as their RCRC+ representative, and promoting their active participation.

RCRC+ mandate

1. We are the champions of the Masambu Fund, promoting broad dissemination of the Fund and access to support for all Red Cross and Red Crescent people living with HIV (PLHIV).

2. We are the voice and expression of MIPA, (meaningful involvement of PLHIV) within the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. We contribute to increasing the implementation of the MIPA principle, effectively promoting the meaningful involvement of people living with or affected by HIV and encouraging cooperation with PLHIV at the regional, country and branch level. We will produce an annual report on the IFRC’s implementation of the MIPA principle and table this to the HIV Governance Group.

3. We belong to a support network that identifies, exchanges ideas, strategies and feelings, shares good practice and promotes the dissemination of constructive information among PLHIV and National Societies.

4. We advocate sustainable, safe working conditions in economic, social and political terms for PLHIV in the different components of the International Federation.

5. We are confident that true respect for the principles and values of the Movement will contribute to intensifying efforts to reduce HIV stigma within and outside the Movement, regardless of the route of transmission. RCRC+ will promote equality between men and women, contribute to dealing with issues relating to people trafficking, sex work and substance abuse, and promote respect for sexual diversity in order to end discrimination, giving everyone the opportunity to participate in the work of the International Federation.

6. We monitor and contribute to the development of the strategies and activities of the Global Alliance on HIV, and offer our skills, expertise and experience to all components of the IFRC and seek to have this involvement formalised into National Society and Federation Secretariat budgets and workplans.

7. On matters within our terms of reference we will act as cultural mediators between the formal RCRC structures and communities in need of assistance.