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INTERNATIONAL ADVISERS

Since 1984, the ICRC has held two meetings a year with a dozen leading international figures selected for a four-year period to advise it on operational matters, on the application of international humanitarian law and on the ICRC's place within the international community.

In 1997, the fourth group of ICRC international advisers met in March and September. Its discussions centred on the impact of the tragic killings in Novye Atagi, Chechnya (southern Russia), the future of the ICRC, children in armed conflicts, the effects of sanctions in humanitarian terms, preparations for the 27th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (to be held in 1999), the Movement's international activities and the consequences for the ICRC of the reorganization of humanitarian coordination within the United Nations.

Advisers for the period 1996-1999:

Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Angola (Mali).

Ambassador Vitaly Ivanovich Churkin, Ambassador to Brussels, former Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs (Russian Federation).

Dr Günther Gillessen, Professor of Journalism at the University of Mainz, former editor in charge of international affairs with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (Germany).

Ambassador Yoshio Hatano, President, Foreign Press Center, Tokyo, former Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva and then in New York (Japan).

Judge Rosalyn Higgins, Judge at the International Court of Justice in The Hague (United Kingdom).

Mrs Graça Simbine Machel, former Minister of Education, former expert appointed by the UN Secretary-General to study the impact of armed conflict on children (Mozambique).

Major-General (ret.) John A. MacInnis, former Commander of the Canadian contingent of the UN forces in the former Yugoslavia (Canada).

Mr Jorge Madrazo, Chief Public Prosecutor (Mexico).

Mr Pedro Nikken, President of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, San José, Costa Rica (Venezuela).

Ambassador Herbert S. Okun, Member, International Narcotics Control Board, Visiting Lecturer, Yale Law School (United States of America).

Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun, Joint UN/OAU Special Representative for the Great Lakes region of Africa, Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO (Algeria).

Mr Bradman Weerakoon, former Presidential Adviser on International Relations (Sri Lanka).

