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of ICRC by H. Amore

Text of agreement concluded between International Committee
of the Red Cross and the Hungarian Red Cross

"The Executive Committee of the Hungarian Red Cross, represented by Dr. Georges Killener, Executive Director of the Hungarian Red Cross, and Professor Tibor Nonay, member of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian Red Cross, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, represented by Mr. Roger Gallopin, Executive Director, meeting at Vienna on 16 November 1956, agreed as follows: (1) The International Committee of the Red Cross shall take control of the distribution in Hungary of aid for the people of Hungary provided or to be provided by the national Red Cross Societies, either directly or through the League of Red Cross Societies. (2) The International Committee of the Red Cross shall also take over control of the distribution of gifts for the people of Hungary supplied or to be supplied by Governments or private organizations, either directly or through the Secretary-General of the United Nations acting in agreement with the Hungarian Government. (3) The distribution of these gifts through the neutral agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross will be made according to the basic principles guiding its activities, i.e. strict impartiality and absence of any discrimination except that based on the needs of the persons to be helped. (4) For this purpose the International Committee of the Red Cross will set up, in agreement with the Hungarian Red Cross, various assistance programmes which will be carried out progressively according to the urgency of the needs and the assistance available. As an example it is proposed to give assistance first to the sick and wounded of all descriptions, to young children, pregnant women, old people and invalids. (5) Every facility will be granted to the International Committee of the Red Cross to enable it immediately to establish in Hungary a delegation consisting of the personnel needed to: (a) launch in agreement with Hungarian Red Cross assistance programmes mentioned above, (b) provide for the guarding and administration of stores set up by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the principal distribution centres, (c) arrange for the transport of stocks to or from these stores, (d) assist in the actual distribution of the

goods and report to the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva on these distributions for the information of the donors.

The personnel, principally of Swiss nationality, will be placed under the authority of a chief delegate, stationed at Budapest and acting in close co-operation with the representatives appointed by the Hungarian Red Cross for that purpose. (6) In order that the purely humanitarian action of the International Committee of the Red Cross may be carried out efficiently, the Hungarian Red Cross and Government will ensure that the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Hungary is helped and protected in its work by all civil and military authorities. (7) The general provisions of the present agreement shall be supplemented by a plan of technical operation drawn up jointly by the representatives of the Hungarian Red Cross and the Chief of the International Committee of the Red Cross at Budapest. (8) The sole object of the present agreement is the distribution of assistance to the Hungarian population; it shall not be interpreted as limiting the other humanitarian activities which the International Committee of the Red Cross may be called upon to exercise in Hungary in accordance with the Statutes of the International Red Cross and the provisions of the Geneva Convention."
