

JOINT COMMISSION OF THE EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

CIRCULAR No. 82

Geneva, 11 April 1991

To all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Seventieth distribution of income

The Joint Commission entrusted with the distribution of the income of the Empress Shôken Fund met in Geneva on 19 March 1991. The Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Japan in Geneva, His Excellency Mr. Hidetoshi Ukawa, attended the meeting and represented the Japanese Red Cross Society.

The Commission approved the statement of accounts on the situation of the Fund as at 31 December 1990 and noted that the balance available amounted to 424,560 Swiss francs.

In examining the 36 projects presented by 29 National Societies, the Joint Commission took into account the criteria revised and completed in 1990 on the basis of experience gained over the last few years. These criteria are designed to:

- 1) restrict the number of allocations so that the amounts allocated for each are sufficient to enable the approved projects to be successfully implemented;
- 2) give priority to developing Societies and, among them, to those that have least benefited from the Fund or, according to objective criteria, are in greatest need, thereby maintaining a reasonable degree of regional balance.

It is thus possible

- a) to finance, up to a maximum of half of the funds available, projects to develop the human resources of the candidate Societies (scholar-

ships, training courses benefiting volunteers and paid staff members of both sexes equally);

- b) to finance, up to a maximum of half of the funds available, purchases of material and equipment clearly corresponding to the objectives of the Fund (Art. 3 of the Regulations), apart from means of transport;
- c) to restrict allocations earmarked for the purchase of means of transport (vehicles, ambulances, etc.), including spare parts, to half the funds available;
- d) also to take into consideration one or more projects for a regional programme previously approved by the beneficiary Societies, the League and/or the ICRC. A maximum of 100,000 Swiss francs can be allocated each year, and this for up to five years. Every further allocation is subject to the submission of satisfactory progress reports by the beneficiary Societies;
- e) to exclude requests from Societies that have not provided satisfactory reports on the use of a previous allocation from the Fund.

The Joint Commission decided to make the following grants:

Swiss francs

1) Costa Rica

1 radio station for the Red Cross Branch in Guadalupe,
Province of San José 6,000

2) Dominican Republic

1 electricity generator to cope with emergency situations at
the National Blood Bank 28,000

3) Fiji

Preparation and printing of a basic first-aid handbook in the
Fijian language 7,000

4) Haiti

A 30-seater minibus for disaster preparedness, first aid and
Youth Red Cross programmes 50,000

5) Mali

1 Toyota Land Cruiser ambulance for first-aid activities and
vaccination programmes 35,000

6) Morocco

Purchase of first-aid training equipment, such as mannequins (dolls), slides, mattresses, etc. 35,000

7) Saint Kitts & Nevis

1 minibus for 10 persons and wheel chairs, to expand Red Cross service to disabled 38,000

8) Seychelles

First-aid equipment such as 1 rubber dinghy, 1 station wagon. Training dummies and life jackets to develop the Red Cross water safety programme 46,000

9) South Africa

a) Construction of a Red Cross Community Centre in Botshabelo, Orange Free State Region; 34,000

b) Partial financing of community development courses in the Natal Region 20,000

10) Tunisia

1 mobile blood-collection unit on a Renault Master body, fully equipped 65,000

11) Venezuela

Partial financing of a two-year health programme, including the purchase of dental care equipment, educational material, etc. 60,000

The above allocations total 424,000 Swiss francs; the unused balance of 560 Swiss francs will be added to the income available for the 71st Distribution (1992).

Depending on market conditions, the Joint Commission will decide whether purchase arrangements will be made by the League's Logistics Service or directly by the beneficiary Society.

If a purchase on the local market has been envisaged or decided, the National Society shall submit to the Joint Commission an original offer or *pro forma* invoice, drawn up in English, French or Spanish and indicating a reliable date of delivery. If applicable and in accordance with internationally accepted business rules the Joint Commission will transfer 50% of the indicated price to enable the National Society to place the order. The balance will be transferred only upon receipt of the seller's or manufacturer's delivery

form and of the final invoice on which the initial down payment is duly entered.

Pursuant to the Fund's Regulations, each beneficiary Society must submit to the Joint Commission a report on results achieved in using the equipment purchased with the grant. The Joint Commission requests that these descriptive reports be sent not later than twelve months after receiving the allocation, accompanied, if possible, by photographs illustrating the activities carried out thanks to the allocation. The report should show whether the allocation has enabled the Society to implement the programme, and whether the programme has in fact met the needs of the population, so that the Joint Commission is in a position to form an opinion on results achieved.

The Joint Commission reminds beneficiary Societies of Article 6 of the Regulations which prohibits the assigning of the grant for purposes other than those specified without the prior consent of the Joint Commission.

Allocations remaining unclaimed or unused after twelve months will be withdrawn and added to the amount available for the next distribution.

71st Distribution — 1992

The 1991 income will be distributed in 1992. To help National Societies to file their applications in conformity with the Regulations, the Joint Commission will mail model application forms to all National Societies in August. It will also provide National Societies with criteria and guidelines regarding projects that could be financed — wholly or partly — by the Empress Shôken Fund.

Requests for allocations must be submitted to the Secretariat of the Joint Commission before 31 December 1991.

For the Joint Commission

*International Committee
of the Red Cross*

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M. Martin
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*League of Red Cross and
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