

Registered by Government:

**In the Ministry of Justice
of Azerbaijan Republic
“29” March 2003**

Approved by :

**At the General Assembly
of the Red Crescent Society of
Azerbaijan. “12” March 2003**

**Head of Division of
Government Registration of
Juridical persons**

F.Mammadov

President of the Society

N.Aslanov

**The Statute
of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society
(new-version)**

BACKGROUND

We – the members of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, representatives of different professions, age, nation, religious beliefs, political opinions, be guided by importance of disseminating humanity and charity principles among population, in accordance with existing documents adopted in International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereinafter referred as the Movement) such as the 4 (four) Geneva Conventions of 1949 and other international acts, decree N 926 dated 25 November 1994 issued by the National Parliament of Azerbaijan Republic on “Improving activity of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society”, Law of Azerbaijan Republic issued on 8 May 2001 on “the use of Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblems and their protection” and other legislative acts, decided to mobilize our efforts and intentions to provide free of charge medical - social, humanitarian and other assistance to vulnerable group of the population in the Republic, people affected by war, natural and technological disasters, regardless of basic human rights, human dignity and value, religious beliefs and nationality, sustaining people’s equal rights, beliefs to humanity and to implement Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, its aim and duties on the territory of Azerbaijan Republic.

CHAPTER I

ARTICLE 1

NATIONAL LEGAL STATUS AND INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER

Founded on March 10 1920 the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society was established in spirit of Geneva Conventions of 1949 to which Azerbaijan Republic is also a state party. The Society is registered by Government registration N360, in the Ministry of Justice in November 1, 1996.

In accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and according to decree N 926 dated of 25 November 1994 issued by the National Parliament of Azerbaijan Republic on “Improving activity of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society ”, being a part of the Movement the Society is the only public, voluntary, non-political, humanitarian organization acting in this field in the country territory. The Society is auxiliary to its Government in the humanitarian field.

The Society carries out its mission in accordance with its Statute through its local structures throughout the whole territory of the Republic. AzRC in accordance with Fundamental Principles of the Movement reserves its autonomy in its relations with state bodies.

The Society establishes relationship with authorities according to mutual respect, cooperation in the frame of Fundamental Principles and basing on laws.

The Society has a juridical person status. Its Headquarters is placed in Baku city, Azerbaijan avenue 19.

In accordance with the Constitution of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society cooperates with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other international humanitarian organizations.

The ICRC officially recognized the Society on November 1, 1995.

The Society was admitted as a full member into the International Federation on November 25, 1995.

In its humanitarian activity Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society relies on support and assistance of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the ICRC the activity of which is defined on the territory of Azerbaijan Republic with an agreement signed with the Government of Azerbaijan Republic.

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in conformity with legislation of Azerbaijan Republic cooperates with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of foreign countries.

ARTICLE 2

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF SOCIETY'S ACTIVITY

Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is guided by principles of International Humanitarian Law and 7 Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement:

HUMANITY

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born on a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

IMPARTIALITY

It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

NEUTRALITY

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

INDEPENDENCE

The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

UNITY

There can be only one Red Cross and Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

UNIVERSALITY

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other is worldwide.

ARTICLE 3 STRUCTURE

Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society' s structure:

1. The General Assembly.
2. The Governing Board and the Presidium.
3. Supreme Leadership.
4. Secretariat (leadership, coordination, supreme execution, control, strategic issues, execution of decisions of General Assembly, Governing Board and the Presidium, control over the use of the emblem)
5. Primary organizations, that could be established on unit territory based on decision of the Governing Board of the Red Crescent Society and combining regional centers, urban and district committees.
6. Regional centers, urban, district committees ensuring implementation of the activities of Red Crescent Society in whole territory of Azerbaijan Republic.
7. Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic Committee and its urban and district committees that ensure implementation of the activities of the Red Crescent Society in whole territory of Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.

ARTICLE 4 RED CRESCENT EMBLEM

The use of the Red Crescent Emblem by the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is regulated by the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on "The use and protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblems" and " The rules for the use of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblem by the National Societies "adopted by Council of Delegates in 1991.

Red Crescent emblem is an image of Red Crescent placed in the middle of the white ground.

The rules for use of the emblem are determined by the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on "The use and protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblems", the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 (hereinafter referred as the Geneva Conventions) and

“The rules for the use of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblem by the National Societies” adopted by Council of Delegates in 1991.

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is the only organization entitled to use Red Crescent Emblem as its Emblem and “Red Crescent” word-combination in its title on the territory of Azerbaijan Republic.

In case of emergency situations, natural disasters and other cases the Society uses its flags and emblem on vehicles.

The Emblem and flags of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society can be used as follows:

- On the buildings used by the AzRC, on transport means belonging to the Society, on premises where medical equipment are stored.
- To hang up (or to display) emblem when conducting events with the purpose of making population aware about the activity of the Red Crescent Society, the International Humanitarian Law and the International Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement.
- The image of the emblem can be placed on publishing (printing) materials produced by the AzRC.
- The image of the emblem can be placed on products produced by the AzRC or its order, including medals, badges, stamps and etc.
- Humanitarian relief items dispatched by the AzRC can be marked with the Society's emblem.

The Society's members, the Society's Secretariat staff and with the Society's consent other persons participating in the Society's events may wear the emblem of the AzRC.

Red Crescent on a white ground surrounded with inscription “Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society” in both Azeri and English languages and placed inside red circle is used as a logo of the Az.RCS.

Control over the use of the Red Crescent Emblem on the territory of Azerbaijan Republic is a responsibility of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and of relevant executive authority structures of Azerbaijan Republic within their competences.

CHAPTER II

ARTICLE 5

THE MAIN GOAL AND OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY

- In conformity with the Geneva Conventions the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in time of military conflicts and in time of peace acts according to the interests of military and civilian war victims.
- Providing within the frames of its possibilities emergency assistance to people affected by different natural disasters.
- Delivering to the affected people the international humanitarian aids incoming to the Republic addressed to our Society through the Red Cross and Red Crescent, also by other international agencies.
- Carrying on disaster preparedness activities with the purpose to eliminate rapidly the consequences of disasters. For this purpose the Society creates and improves a material-technical base of its regional and local structures.
- Implementing First Aid program, trains nurses and health instructors for voluntary work in time of natural disasters and conflicts.
- Organizing on the international level tracing of citizens who were in captivity and missed, organizes reunification of separated family members.
- Implementing programs towards alleviating the sufferings of refugees, IDPs, asylum seekers and forced migrants settled in the territory of Azerbaijan Republic, programs providing legal advice, psychosocial rehabilitation and increasing professional skills and etc.
- Implementing public health programs and programs towards prevention of diseases and epidemics.
- Disseminating among population, in particular among children and youth ideas and principles of the Movement and the International Humanitarian Law (hereinafter IHL) with the purpose to encourage the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding among all people and nations.
- Collecting different kind of humanitarian aids from juridical and physical persons, foreign citizens and persons without citizenship in the Republic, from the international organizations in favour of beneficiaries in Azerbaijan Republic and participating in distribution of these humanitarian aids.
- Implementing the activity arising out the Geneva Conventions on assisting the wounded, sick and other persons affected by armed conflicts.
- Cooperating with health institutions, epidemiological services, State Commission on Emergencies of Azerbaijan Republic, medical services of Republican Armed Forces.

- Cooperating with government structures on the issues related with location, transportation of humanitarian relief subjects and providing medical and other services to them.
- Cooperating with government structures and competent services of social welfare system on the issues related with providing assistance to vulnerable groups of population in the Republic.
- Receiving, registrating, keeping and presenting information on victims of military conflicts and natural disasters.
- Establishing first aid teams in times of armed conflicts and natural disasters, carrying on tracing of deceased and wounded persons, searching for their places of burial. Supporting the government structures in these issues.
- Providing the population and particularly the young people with First Aid (sanitary) trainings.
- Supporting government and local authorities structures regarding the issues of acceptance, accommodation, transportation of the population and refugees evacuated and providing medical-social assistance to them.
- The Society establishes as its part non-government tracing service and carry on tracing of missing persons, assists to restore contacts between family members separated as a result of armed conflicts or disasters, assists family reunification, searches for places of burial of defenders of motherland outside Azerbaijan Republic.
- Supports health institutions of Azerbaijan Republic in implementing national and local (regional) programs on development of blood and blood components donation and involving citizens into these programs.

To achieve the aims and objectives arising from its Statute the Society is entitled in accordance with the principles of the Movement:

- To represent and protect its own and its members' legal rights and interests in state, government, local authorities and court structures.
- To use the Red Crescent Emblem in accordance with the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on “ The use and protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblems”, the Geneva Conventions, “The rules for the use of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Emblem by the National Societies” adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1991.
- To disseminate information on the Movement, IHL and the Society's activities; to advocate the Society's ideas and objectives; to receive support from the government and local authorities structures and to sign bilateral cooperation agreements with them to fulfill aims and objectives specified in the present Statute of the Society.
- To participate in arranging and holding of mass events of humanitarian and charitable nature.
- To solve independently the issues related with receiving and providing humanitarian aid and donations.

- To inform mass media; to produce publications and printing materials, to produce films and short films, to hold exhibitions, charity events, marathons and other mass events and etc.
- According to international commitments of Azerbaijan Republic & the legislation in force the Society establishes organizations, funds as well as enterprises and other structures with the purpose to gain finances from their activities to fulfill objectives given in the Society's Statute.
- To establish hospitals, drugstores, sanitary–hygienic services, children and elderly home, canteens for vulnerable people.
- To carry out activity related with tracing of prisoners of war and citizens missed in times of armed conflicts and disasters and to search for their places of burial. Tracing work as a part of the Movement is a solely right of the Society.

CHAPTER III

ARTICLE 6 MEMBERS

Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is open to all persons without discrimination as to race, gender, nationality, social origin, religious believes or political opinions.

As the Society's mission is to reduce human suffering wherever it could be found and with no discrimination, it carries out this work through its members.

The Society can identify the needs of the community through its members and can provide assistance impartially.

Members can be juridical and physical persons

Registration of the members:

Admission into the membership of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society takes place at the relevant primary organization or local committee existing at the person's place of residence or place of work. In case of the members change their places of residence or work they should be registered at the relevant primary organization or local committees existing at their new places of residence or work.

The Society consists of active, real, honorary, collective members.

All members of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society have equal rights. They have rights to elect all bodies of the Society and be elected.

ARTICLE 7 ACTIVE MEMBERS

Active members are those, who agreed to serve to Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and who are registrated at urban, district or regional committees and pay membership fees.

ARTICLE 8 REAL MEMBERS

Real members are those members who pay yearly membership fees in the amount fixed by the General Assembly of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

ARTICLE 9 HONORARY MEMBERS

Honorary members are those to whom Governing Board present honorary membership card as a sign of their personal contributions before the Society. Honorary members do not pay membership fees.

ARTICLE 10 PATRON

Patron is a public figure who constantly assists the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and provides special and exceptional services to the Society and who is appointed by Governing Board or Presidium.

ARTICLE 11 DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF THE MEMBERS

Members have following duties:

- Be adherence to the fundamental principles of the Movement and promote them
- To assist to Society's activity
- To recognize the Statute and to follow it
- To pay annual membership fees
- To take an active part in the events organized by the Society

Members have following rights:

- To be elected and to elect governing bodies
- To participate at the meetings of the Society's General Assembly, Governing Board, Presidium and to vote, in case of election to participate in activity of society's high level bodies or to vote
- To give suggestions to any leadership of the Society and to raise up issues before the leadership.

Any person when admitting into the membership of the Society should take **“The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society Oath”** saying that :

“When admitting into the membership of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society I, (name, middle name, surname) swear to adhere to the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and the Society's humanitarian mission, to assist closely to the Society's activity within the limits of my possibility. If I breake my oath then I will leave voluntarily the Society's membership”.

When admitting into the membership a person's application together with the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society Oath should be accepted and registered by the primary organization or district and urban committees.

Lost of membership status

Any member of the Society can stop any time its activity and announce about it in a written form.

Real membership is 12 months restricted to the calendar year. After the end of 12 calendar months annual membership fee must be renewed. The real members paying annual membership fee should be informed about the renewal of the annual membership fee one month before completion of annual membership fee payment.

District and urban committees, primary organizations may exclude members from the membership for serious reasons and members should be immediately informed on it. Any excluded member, being aware about this flat desicion, has a right to appeal with a complaint at first to the Presidium and then to the Arbitration Commission. The Arbitration Commission considers this complaint and takes a decision during one month period.

Presidium or Governing Board apply relevant rules adopted by the Governing Board not to allow injustice towards the members, to provide justice and fair examination of appeals within the framework of law.

Members who act in contradiction to the Fundamental Principles, being involved into actions damaging to the name, image or activity of the Society are excluded from membership.

Active, real and collective members in case of non-payment of membership fees are losing membership rights automatically.

CHAPTER IV

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 12 COMPOSITION

General Assembly is a Supreme Governing Body of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

The General Assembly consists from the following structure:

- a) members of the Governing Board;
- b) delegates of primary organizations elected by district and urban committees and other members.

Number of delegates elected by district and urban committees and regional centers is defined by Presidium maximum 5 persons respective to number of active members of a local committee and regional center. Thus, 5 persons are defined for a committee with the biggest number of members, 1 person is defined for a committee with the smallest number of members and between 1-5 persons are defined for the committees with average number of members.

The Presidium of the Az.RCS defines the rules for election of delegates from district and urban committees and Regional Centers to the General Assembly.

The district and urban committees may recall their delegates to the General Assembly if they lost their membership status, if they do not advocate the interests of their district and urban committees, if they do not fulfil properly their duties, if they do not participate regularly at the meetings of the General Assembly (Governing Board), if they resign voluntarily from their powers as a delegate because of their health states as well as with their applications.

In this case a new delegate to the General Assembly may be elected at the next or extraordinary conferences of district and urban committees.

This rule is also applied in case of death of the General Assembly delegate.

ARTICLE 13 POWERS

The General Assembly is the highest body of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society;

It gives right content to the mission and policy directions which manage the Society;

The General Assembly elects members of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society's Governing Board;

The General Assembly is listening and approving President's address for reporting period;

The General Assembly elects the President of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society;

The General Assembly elects 2 vice-presidents;

The General Assembly elects the Finance Commission, Arbitration Commission and their chairpersons, also it takes decision on agenda;

The General Assembly defines the amount of membership fees for the next period;

The General Assembly according to the current period, provides the improvement of AzRC Statute, approves necessary amendments and changes and adopts new Statute if needed.

The General Assembly defines the formation and principles of using of the property of the Society.

The General Assembly makes decisions on establishing of the Society's executive bodies and cancellation of their authorities beforehand.

The General Assembly agrees that Society may participate in other organizations.

The General Assembly makes decisions on reorganization and cancellation of the Society.

The General Assembly defines internal rules, investigates the relevance of the laws to the basic provisions of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement and makes appropriate suggestions;

The General Assembly takes a decision on holding elections ahead of schedule when necessary.

The General Assembly establishes “**Red Crescent**” medal, “**Red Crescent**” special award, relevant honorary titles, badges and etc. Presidium of the Az.RC defines regulations for a medal, award and etc.

Taking into account the outstanding role of the real, active and honorary members of Az.RC as well as the Society's honorary Patron in the public life of the Republic and their special services in the development of the Society, the General Assembly takes measures for awarding of those persons, for submitting their nominations to different elective bodies. The General Assembly makes proposals regarding these issues.

ARTICLE 14

REGULATIONS FOR CONVOCAATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND EMERGENCY SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society meets not less than the period defined by the legislation, date and place defined by last General Assembly or Governing Board that acts within the competence given by the General Assembly.

The Emergency General Assembly of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society meets by initiative of the President, with agree of Presidium or with appeal of 2/3 members of the Governing Board.

ARTICLE 15

RULES OF CONDUCTING SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The President of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society presides at the General Assembly, in exceptional cases a person appointed by a decision of Presidium presides at the General Assembly. All decisions are taken when 2/3 of General Assembly delegates make a quorum and with a simple majority of votes of delegates with casting votes voted in open or close voting.

The delegates themselves defines how to vote.

The Az.RC member who served at least 4 years as a National Society member, who worked actively in the Society's different structures and provided special services, who has respect among the members, who has high education (it is desirable), who differs from others with his/her knowledge, experience can be elected to the post of President or Vice – Presidents.

The President and Vice –Presidents can not be elected to these posts over two terms. They have the right to be re-elected to this post after certain interval.

Each delegate has one vote.

Those invited have no right to vote.

CHAPTER V

GORVERNING BOARD

ARTICLE 16

COMPOSITION

Governing Board is the body that guides the activity of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in period between the General Assembly.

Governing Board consists of 59 members elected by the General Assembly, i.e :

- a) President and vice-presidents
- b) Members of the Presidium
- c) 10 persons elected from Government, local autonomous bodies and different NGOs that expressed special interest to AzRC
- d) 7 persons elected for their assistance and attention to AzRC
- e) some active representatives from Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society's primary organizations, local committees and Regional Centers.

Validity period of the mandates of the Governing Board's members is 4 years.

Governing Board members can not be elected over two terms. They have the right to be re-elected to this post after certain interval.

ARTICLE 17 POWERS

The Governing Board holds a conference no less than twice in a year.

- 1) According to the present Statute, Governing Board has all necessary powers to realize aims and intentions of Society in the frame of decisions and general directives adopted by the General Assembly;
- 2) At its Conference, the Governing Board approves or cancel decisions adopted by the Presidium;
- 3) Approves plans and budgets, activity and finance reports of the Society;
- 4) Provides long term activity and takes relevant decisions on paramount activities;
- 5) Assesses the maintenance of wide perspective towards efficiency of the Society and implementation of activity of the Society and Executive Secretary's work;
- 6) Provides establishing and dissolution of regional centers, district and urban committees;
- 7) Controls the members activities and participation in leading bodies and commissions;
- 8) Sets all necessary rules for implementation of the present Statute, approves or makes amendments;
- 9) Establishes committees or commissions desired or considered necessary for implementation of these objectives;
- 10) Determines plan of action of the Society.

The Governing Board elects the composition of the Presidium of the Az.RC and it makes changes in the composition of the Presidium in case of move of the Presidium member to other Republic when Presidium member change its place of residence, in case of Presidium member's death, severe illness, in case of Presidium member is not able to implement its mission, Presidium member's personal request, in case of Presidium member makes severe violations.

Emergency conferences of the Governing Board can be held by President's initiative, by decision of Presidium or by appeal of 2/3 members of the Governing Board.

RULES OF CONDUCTING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

The President of AzRC is in the chair of conference of Governing Board, in exceptional cases in the chair is the person appointed by decision of Presidium. The Governing Board takes its resolutions with quorum of 2/3 vote members of by majority vote of members having decisive votes.

Each member of the Governing Board has one vote.

CHAPTER VI

PRESIDIUM OF AZERBAIJAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

ARTICLE 18 PRESIDIUM AND ITS COMPOSITION

Presidium is the body governing between the conferences of the Governing Board. The 9 members of the Presidium are approved by the Governing Board.

The Presidium consists of President, Secretary in charge and Governing Board other members elected by General Assembly for 4 years.

The Presidium members can not be elected over two terms. They have the right to be re-elected to this post after certain interval.

Presidium always controls the activity of vice-presidents, Executive Secretary and Deputies, the chairman and deputy chairman of Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic Committee and covered by it chairmen and deputy chairmen of urban and district committees, also chairmen and deputy chairmen of all district and urban committees, discusses their activity and when it is necessary inflict to them

Penalties (notice, severe notice, reprimand, severe reprimand, discharge from office in case of unrealisation their duties and entrust their functions to the other relevant members of the Society). In this case Presidium's decision has to be immediately implemented. The member of AzRC who does not agree with Presidium's decision can apply with compliant to the Arbitration Commission. During 1 month period the Arbitration Commission considers an appeal of compliant and takes a decision.

Being elected the members of the Presidium signs an oath questionnaire including a member's background (name, middle name, surname, date of birth, when he/she became a member of the Red Crescent Society – date, month, year, education and etc) :

“When starting to work as a member of the Presidium of the AzRC I (name, middle name, surname) swear to adhere to the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, the Society's humanitarian mission, the Society's Statute, the decisions and directives of the General Assembly and Governing Board. I swear to contribute closely to the activity of the Society with my practical work, knowledge and experience within the limits of my possibility. If I break my oath then I retire voluntarily from my post”.

The Presidium of Az.RC defines the form of a questionnaire.

ARTICLE 19 POWERS

Presidium has all authorities given by Statute, General Assembly and the Governing Board of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. Presidium is discussing all main activity spheres mentioned in the Statute of Azerbaijan Red Crescent and takes the relevant decisions.

ARTICLE 20 SESSION

The Presidium hold its session at least once in three months.

The President is in the chair of the session, if the President is absent then one of the members of the Presidium or Secretary in charge chairs the session.

The Presidium takes its decision on the basis of simple majority of the votes when 2/3 of Presidium's members make a quorum.

The member of the Presidium has only one vote.

ARTICLE 21 PRESIDENT

The President has general control on management of the activities of Azerbaijan Red Crescent and implementation of the decisions taken by General Assembly, Governing Board, Presidium and commissions.

President has an authority to take any urgent necessary steps in time between the meetings of General Assembly, Governing Board, Presidium and commissions or when these bodies in exceptional cases have no possibility to hold the meetings, but with the condition that President would present report about the steps taken in first coming meeting of these bodies.

The functions of President:

- a) to call and chair the sessions of General Assembly, Governing Board and Presidium
- b) To present to these bodies an overview about the situation of the National Society
- c) To coordinate the work of National Society's bodies
- d) To represent the National Society on national and international level
- e) To implement any other functions given by General Assembly, Governing Board and Presidium
- f) To listen regularly report of Executive Secretary and to take on this occasion relevant actions
- g) To define the strategic direction of the Society
- h) To regulate relations with government bodies as well as international organizations

The President can share part of its functions mentioned in this article with one of the Vice-Presidents.

During the absence of President one of the Vice-Presidents replaces him by the order of President and in exceptional cases the Executive Secretary replaces the President.

When the President's post is vacant, Presidium or Governing Board at its next usual session should appoint the vice-president who would carry out President's responsibilities and the General Assembly should elect new President. Until the General Assembly would appoint the new President, the Vice-President who is appointed by the Presidium or Governing Board will be the acting President.

President is elected for 4 years and the President can be elected to this post for two terms. He/she has the right to be re-elected to this post after certain interval.

ARTICLE 22 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Executive Secretary is appointed by Presidium of Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society on the basis of presentation by the President. He is responsible for implementation the general policy and directives worked out by the Governing Board.

The Executive Secretary has no vote during the General Assembly, Governing Board, Presidium and other governing bodies, he has an authority to be only advisor.

Executive Secretary has the following functions:

- a) to implement the decisions taken by General Assembly, the Governing Board and Presidium and to carry out mandates given by other governing bodies of the National Society
- b) to manage the Secretariat and be responsible for the implementation of the work entrusted to Secretariat.
- c) To draw up the budgets and financial reports
- d) To organize the necessary services within the Secretariat according to the decision of General Assembly, Governing Board and Presidium, to provide the Secretariat with the responsible staff and to halt their activities when necessary.
- e) After the Presidium approves the candidates proposed by Executive Secretary, the President appoints Deputies Executive Secretary.
- f) Leading the activities mentioned in a decisions of General Assembly, Governing Board and Presidium
- g) To implement any other functions given by Presidium, Governing Board or the President within the framework of the Statute.
- h) To present reports to General Assembly, the Governing Board and Presidium regarding the work of National Society

While implementing its functions Executive Secretary should on regular basis give the full information to the President and Vice –Presidents.

Executive Secretary sets the structure of the Secretariat and present the general diagram of the Secretariat structure to be approved by the Presidium.

CHAPTER VII

PRIMARY ORGANIZATIONS AND DISTRICT AND URBAN COMMITTEES, REGIONAL CENTERS OF AZERBAIJAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

ARTICLE 23 PRIMARY ORGANIZATIONS

Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society establishes its primary organizations, defines the borders within which they function and gives them competences which it deems necessary for carrying out their activities. The primary organizations are unified in district and urban committees, regional centers of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. The primary organizations can be founded by initiative at least 3 members of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

Presidium of the Az.RC takes a decision on calling reporting-election meetings at primary organizations.

The Presidium of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society defines the regulations for establishment of the primary organizations.

For implementing the activity of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society all over the Republic, Presidium establishes primary organizations in other devisions, enterprises, organizations and etc. The Presidium gives to these organizations powers which it deems necessary for their functioning.

Each primary organization is functioning within the framework of democratic centralization.

Each primary organization of Azerbaijan Red Crescent has an authority to hold its meetings at least once in the year in order to discuss current activities and also analyze financial- administrative activity.

The reporting-electing meetings in primary organizations should be held once in two year.

Bureau of primary organization composed of 3 persons is functioning and takes decisions between the meetings of primary organizations.

The head of primary organization chairs the meetings and bureau of primary organization.

The activity of the primary organizations are supervised by urban and district committes in which they are involved.

ARTICLE 24 DISTRICT AND URBAN COMMITTEES

The Presidium of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society defines the regulations for establishment of district and urban committees of the Az.RC

By the decision of the Presidium there should be established district committees in the districts and urban committees in the cities that would enable the Society to carry out its activity and humanitarian work in all territory of the Republic, to involve the population into its activity.

The Presidium defines the borders of a territory entrusted to district and urban committees within the framework of administrative division and gives them competences which it deems necessary for their functioning.

Each district and urban committee functions within the framework of democratic centralization and present report to its Presidium and the Regional Center in which it is involved.

By the decision of the Presidium of the AzRC district and urban committees may conclude cooperation agreements with different organizations regarding implementation of certain projects that do not contradict to the independence of the Society and the Society's basic intentions. District and urban committees may implement independently certain projects and programs. In this case they will be responsible for it. The leadership of the Az.RC and the Secretariat do not take any obligation concerning these issues.

The Regional Centers monitor the activity of district and urban committees.

ARTICLE 25 DISTRICT AND URBAN COMMITTEES CONFERENCES OF THE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

Each district and urban committee of Azerbaijan Red Crescent should hold its reporting – election conferences at least once in 2 years in order to discuss current activities and also analyze financial- administrative activity.

Number of representatives elected by the primary organizations to the conference is defining by Presidium of relevant district and urban committee which is maximum 5 persons in accordance with number of active members of a primary organization. Thus, by number of members of the biggest primary organization are 5 persons, for the smallest one is 1 person, for a primary organization with average level define 1-5 persons.

In the case when regulations linked to every district and urban committee conferences is not planned, the Presidium of the Az.RC may appoint a composition of district and urban committees as they can be represented according to the number of active members of the primary organizations.

Delegates at the district and urban committees conference may be recalled by the primary organizations from which they are elected if they lost their membership status, if they do not advocate the interests of their primary organizations, if they do not fulfil

properly their duties, if they do not participate regularly at the conferences of district and urban committees of the Az.RC, the meetings of the Governing Board, if they resign voluntarily from their powers as a delegate because of their health states as well as with their applications.

In this case a new delegate to the district and urban conferences may be elected at the next or extraordinary general meetings of the primary organizations.

This rule is also applied in case of death of a district and urban conference delegate.

The Presidium of the Az.RC takes a decision on convocation of the conferences of district and urban committees and controls over the execution of this decision.

Between the conferences of district and urban committees the Presidium composed of 5 persons is functioning in those committees and takes the necessary decisions.

The chairpersons of the committees (if a chairperson is absent then deputy chairperson) chairs the conferences of district and urban committees and the meetings of the Presidium.

The conferences of district and urban committees elects Governing Board composed of 15 persons and the Presidium composed of 5 persons.

ARTICLE 26

THE OFFICIALS OF DISTRICT AND URBAN COMMITTEES OF AZERBAIJAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

The reporting –election conferences of district and urban committees of the Az.RC that takes place once in 2 years elects the chairperson of the committee, deputy chairperson, chairman of the finance commission, the members of the Governing Board and the Presidium.

The officials elected at the conferences of district and urban committees of Az.RC start their term of office only after the results of the conference are approved by the Presidium of the Az.RC and the President gives a relevant order on it. Until approval of the conference results a person appointed by the Presidium of the Az.RC or former chairman is acting temporarily as a governing official of the mentioned committees.

District and urban committees of the Az.RC have a right to call back the persons elected at the reported – election conference and if the persons called back deem that they have been treated unfairly, then they can appeal to Presidium of Azerbaijan Red Crescent and at the end to the Arbitration Commission.

ARTICLE 27
ABOUT CONVOCAATION OF EMERGENCY CONFERENCES AT DISTRICT
AND URBAN COMMITTEES OF THE Az.RCS

Emergency conference of a district and urban committee of Az.RCS can be convoked on the base of appeal of committee chairperson or 1/3 of members of a committee As exceptional case, with decision of Presidium of Az.RCS, emergency conferences can be held at the committees.

ARTICLE 28
REGIONAL CENTERS OF THE Az.RCS

The Regional Centers including district and urban committees are functioning with the decree of the Presidium of the Az.RC to carry out the activities of the AzRC on the territory of the Republic. The Presidium of the Az.RC defines the borders of the territory entrusted to the Regional Centers within the framework of an administration division. The Presidium gives them competencies that it deems necessary for their functioning on an entrusted territory.

The Regional Centers produces regularly reports to the Secretariat on their activity and activity of district and urban committees covered by the Regional Centers.

The Regional centers are governed by a coordinator appointed by the President.

The Regional Centers of the Az.RC coordinates and monitors the activity of district and urban committees covered by the regional centers. They provide all -round practical support and assistance to district and urban committees in implementing the Secretariat's tasks.

With the consent of the Presidium of the AzRC the regional centers can make agreements with any structures and organizations regarding implementation of certain projects In this case they will be responsible for it. The leadership of the Az.RC and the Secretariat do not take any obligation concerning these issues. The persons who think that they have been treated unfairly by the Regional Centers they can appeal with a complaint to Presidium of Azerbaijan Red Crescent and after that to the Arbitration Commision.

ARTICLE 29
NAKHICHEVAN AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC COMMITTEE OF THE Az.RC
AND ITS PRIMARY ORGANIZATIONS, DISTRICT AND URBAN
COMMITTEES.

The procedure of work of primary organizations, district and urban committees, also the Committee of Nakhchevan Autonomous Republic of the Society on the territory of Nakhchevan Autonomous Republic is regulated by Statute of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

The Presidium of the Az.RC defines the procedure for holding reporting – election conferences of the Az.RCS's Nakhchevan Autonomous Republic Committee and its primary organizations, district and urban committees, procedure for establishment of primary organizations and district and urban committees.

The procedure of work of Az.RCS's Nakhchevan Autonomous Republic Committee and its primary organizations, district and urban committees, the procedure for holding their meetings and conferences as well as emergency meetings and conferences, procedure for election of leadership and officials of these structures is regulated by Articles 23, 24,25,26,27,28, of the Statute of the Az.RCS.

CHAPTER VIII

FINANCIAL SITUATION

ARTICLE 30 FUNDS

With the purpose to achieve its goals and objectives, the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society may get and manage any property that it deems necessary, own, privatize, sell, give or take for rent, hand over to others for temporary use.

- The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and its district and urban committees may accept from any sources not prohibited by the legislation unrestricted amount of donations.
- For any of its activity the Society and its district and urban committees may establish and manage any financial resources, insurance funds and other funds exempted from taxes imposed in favor of state budget.
- In order to create its humanitarian aid resources, to strengthen its material-technical basis, the Society within the framework of its Statute, in accordance with fundamental principles and regulations for use of emblems may establish any kind of farming, production, service spheres, networks of health and drugstore, and etc. stipulated by the Republican Legislation.
- The Society has no any obligations as to structures it has formed, as to structures formed by the regional centers, district and urban committees and as to agreements concluded.
- Formed structures work only to increase financial resources of the Society and they are responsible for it.

- The Society has a right to inheritance and to accept movable and fixed assets as well as funds, assets, gifts from juridical and physical persons, foreign states and international organizations. In accordance with Azerbaijan legislation they are exempted from any taxes and duties and they are used in accordance with the Statute of the Society.
- In accordance with Azerbaijan Legislation and Society's Statute only the Society and its district and urban committees with the task of the Society has the right to use all movable and fixed assets as well as assets that are in the Society's private property.

ARTICLE 31 GOVERNING AND SUPERVISION

All funds and properties that the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, its district and urban committees and Regional Centers, as well as Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic Committee possesses are under the supervision of the Governing Board and are its property.

ARTICLE 32 FINANCE COMMISSION

Finance Commission is an advisory commission to the Presidium and the Governing Board.

Finance Commission consists of a chairperson and 2 members elected by the General Assembly for the period of 4 years. These members can not be represented in other bodies, including other commissions and Presidium.

Finance Commission:

- a) Gives advises to the Society regarding all financial issues;
- b) Expresses an opinion about a finance report and budget draw up by Executive Secretary and gives comments on them;
- c) Expresses an opinion about the use of available funds and funds investments and gives advises to the General Assembly, Governing Board about any financial units that deemed as relevant;
- d) Reviews regularly the formula imposing the membership fees on the members;
- e) Supports the Governing Board and Presidium to apply and implement the General Assembly's decisions on the Financial Management of the Society;
- f) Reports regularly about its activity to the General Assembly, Governing Board and the Presidium;

Procedural activity and meetings of Finance Commission are implemented in the frames of guidelines approved by the General Assembly.

Fiscal year starts on the 1st of January of each calendar year and ends on the 31st of December.

ARTICLE 33 BUDGET AND SUPERVISION

Executive Secretary together with Finance commission prepares the annual budget. Annual budget is submitted to the Governing Board or Presidium and Finance commission to be considered.

In cooperation with the Chairman of Finance Commission President supervises the implementation of the budget adopted.

External Audit Service can be used when necessary.

CHAPTER IX PROCEDURE FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

ARTICLE 34 ARBITRATION COMMISSION

The Arbitration Commission is a standing commission with an authority to take a final decision and it reports only to the General Assembly.

The Arbitration Commission consists of a chairperson and 2 members elected by the General Assembly for the period of 4 years. These members can not be represented in other bodies, including other commissions and Presidium.

The Arbitration Commission will consider all disputes related with violation of the Statute terms by both leadership and different employees of the Society in all structures of the Az.RC, settlement of all finance and procedural issues and others. Each member of the Az.RC who deems that he/she has been treated unfairly and not agree with a decision taken by primary organization, district and urban committees, the Regional Centers and finally by the Presidium of the Az.RC concerning this issue can appeal with complaint to the Arbitration Commission.

The Arbitration Commission considers this appeal and takes a decision during 1 month period. It is possible to apply to the court after the decision made by Arbitration Commission.

CHAPTER X

ARTICLE 35

COOPERATION WITH COMPONENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

In accordance with the Statute of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society cooperates with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international humanitarian organizations.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross carries out their activity on the territory of Azerbaijan Republic on the base of agreement signed with the Government of Azerbaijan Republic. They provide practical support and assistance to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in its humanitarian activity.

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in conformity with legislation of Azerbaijan Republic cooperates with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of foreign countries.

In accordance with the Constitution of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society takes commitments by using the rights arising from its membership to the Federation.

CHAPTER XI

PROCEDURE

ARTICLE 36 PROVISIONS

The Governing Board gives its proposals to the General Assembly regarding the necessary amendments and changes to any of provisions of the present Statute.

ARTICLE 37 CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE

Any changes or amendments to this Statute can be made only after discussions of this issue in the Governing Board and after decision that will be made by major part of 2/3 of selective and participative members of a General Assembly. Projects regarding the changes or amendments should be presented to the joint Commission of the

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and International Committee of the Red Cross based on articles 5-2 of the Statute of International Federation, VI Resolution adopted at XXII International Conference (Tehran 1973) and XX Resolution adopted at XXIV International Conference (Manila1981).

ARTICLE 38 ABOLISHMENT

Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society can be abolished only on the base of a law or if there is a quorum of 2/3 of participants representing the General Assembly and if 2/3 of major representing participants vote and make decision.

ARTICLE 39 THE STATUTE'S COMING INTO FORCE

The Statute of the Az.RC comes into force after being adopted by the General Assembly of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and after being registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Azerbaijan Republic.