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ICRC EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT: COMPLIANCE WITH ICAO STANDARDS TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF A HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

Pierre Gentile

International Committee of the Red Cross

Head of the Central Tracing Agency and Protection Division

Montreal, 23-10-2018





ICRC Emergency Travel Document

- Issued to asylum seekers, refugees, migrants in particularly vulnerable situations, displaced people or stateless people, all of whom do not possess a passport or other recognized travel document and find themselves unable to return to their country of origin or residence, or to proceed to a country offering temporary or permanent refuge or asylum
- Issued as a last resort, when authorities are not in a position to provide a document and holder has the necessary visas and meets travel requirements



ICRC Emergency Travel Document

- To facilitate the repatriation of former detainees and other individuals or their return to their country of habitual residence
- To facilitate family reunification, in particular for children and other vulnerable individuals, who have been separated by armed conflicts and other violence
- Valid only for a one-way journey and issued free of charge exclusively by ICRC delegates



Legal Basis

LEGAL BASIS

The legal basis for the ICRC emergency travel document is the ICRC's recognized universal right of humanitarian initiative, as set out in:

- Articles 9/9/9/10 common to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949
- Article 81(1) of Additional Protocol I of 8 June 1977
- Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions
- Article 5(3) of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, adopted by the States party to the Geneva Conventions.

When, as frequently happens, the emergency travel document is used to reunite families, the legal basis is also set out in:

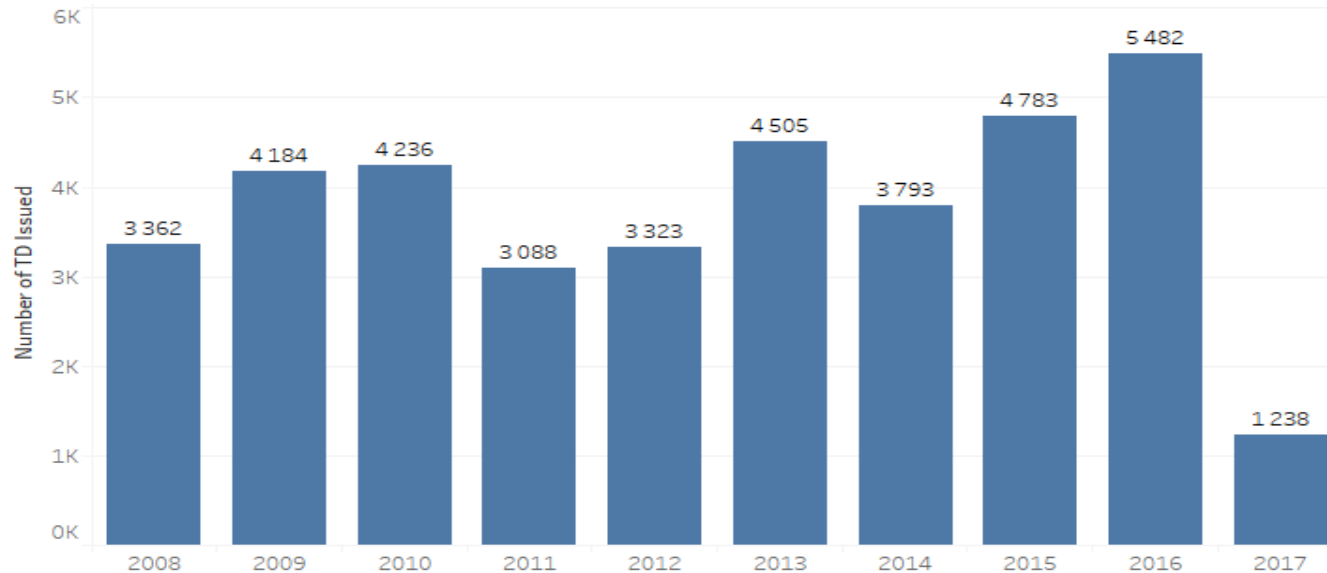
- Article 26 of the Fourth Geneva Convention
- Article 74 of Additional Protocol I.

These articles stipulate that the parties to a conflict and the high contracting parties to the Geneva Conventions must facilitate the reunification of families dispersed as a result of armed conflicts, and encourage the work of humanitarian organizations engaged in this task.



37'994 ICRC Emergency Travel Document issued from 2008 to 2017

Number of TD issued in last 10 years





Compliance with ICAO standards

- ICRC worked closely with ICAO New Technologies Working Group, who established the ICAO Guidance on Emergency Travel Documents
- Explicit mention of ICRC Emergency Travel Documents in ICAO Guidance on Emergency Travel Documents
- Review and upgrade of ICRC Emergency Travel Documents



ICRC strengths

- Presence in more than 80 countries affected by conflicts, violence and emergency situations
- Field proximity with affected population
- Rigorous process of enrolment, issuance and data management (unique centralized database)
- Close collaboration with Embassies, Consulates, UNHCR and IOM



ICRC challenges

- Low volume of documents issued
- Inconsistent infrastructure in challenging environments
- Keep capacity to issue documents in each ICRC country office (80)
- Keep capacity to issue documents rapidly in emergency situations





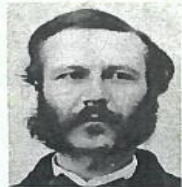
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EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT

N° 500001



EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT

TITRE DE VOYAGE D'URGENCE / DOCUMENTO DE VIAJE DE EMERGENCIA

FOR A SINGLE JOURNEY ONLY

VALABLE POUR UN SEUL VOYAGE / PARA UN SOLO VIAJE ÚNICAMENTE

SURNAME / Nom de famille / Apellidos: Dunant
GIVEN NAME(S) / Prénoms / Nombres: Henry
DATE OF BIRTH / Date de naissance / Fecha de nacimiento: 08.05.1949
PLACE OF BIRTH / Lieu de naissance / Lugar de nacimiento: Switzerland, Geneva
SEX / Sexe: Male
NATIONALITY / Nationalité / Nacionalidad: Switzerland
VALIDITY OF THE PRESENT DOCUMENT / Validité du document / Validez del documento: 14.11.2018 **DATE** / Date / Fecha
PLACE OF ISSUE / Lieu d'émission / Lugar de emisión: Italy, Solferino
DATE OF ISSUE / Date de délivrance / Fecha de emisión: 14.08.2018



ICRC

EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT

N° 500001

VISA SPECIMEN 1

ISSUED FOR A SINGLE JOURNEY TO
Emis por un solo viaje a
Emisión por un solo viaje a

Switzerland

COUNTRY
Pays / País

VIA

France

COUNTRY
Pays / País

MODE OF TRANSPORT / Moyen de transport / Modo de transporte
By Air

ARRIVING AT / Arrivée à / Llegando a
Geneva

PORT OF ENTRY
Point d'entrée / Puerto de llegada

ON / Le / El
17.08.2018

DATE / Date / Fecha

EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT

N° 500001

SIGNATURE OF BEARER
Signature du titulaire / Firma del interesado

Henry Dunant

FINGER PRINTS
Empresas digitales / Huellas digitales



EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENT

N° 500001

PAULINE CHAPONNIÈRE-CHAIX

NAME OF ICRC REPRESENTATIVE
Nom du représentant du CICR
Nombre del representante del CICR

Pauline Chaponnière-Chaix

SIGNATURE OF ICRC REPRESENTATIVE
Signature du représentant du CICR
Firma del representante del CICR

ICRC STAMP
Cachet du CICR
Estampilla del CICR

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS GENEVA
COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE GENEVE
COMITÉ INTERNACIONAL DE LA CRUZ ROJA GINEBRA





The new version will be issued starting on 1 January 2019. I am asking government authorities for their continued support and acceptance of the ICRC emergency travel document so that, in the future, vulnerable people without passports or papers will still be able to reach a safe harbour.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter Maurer'.

Peter Maurer
President



Contact Details:

CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY OF THE ICRC

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