



Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

Declaration of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society for positive transformation '2020 Transformative Actions and Changing Minds for Saving lives and Resilient Communities in Bangladesh

We the Delegates of 68 Units representing the country-wide network of life members, youth members, and volunteers of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), united in Dhaka, reaffirm the vision and mission to saving lives, reduce sufferings and risk of disasters, and mobilizing the power of humanity to serve the nation and people in Bangladesh. In doing so we will obey the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

In recent time, we have observed exceptional economic growth and development in Bangladesh while we are still facing the humanitarian challenges due to the disaster, climate change, external conflict & violence, migration, displacement is causing humanitarian suffering for many Bangladeshi people.

To cope with the growth and development of Bangladesh, we expect BDRCS's new Strategic Plan 2021-2025 will include positive transformation and positive changes needed to become a strong Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

We are confident that the BDRCS Units, National Headquarters (NHQ), Governance, Management, Volunteers, Life Members, and Staff mindful of the required positive transformation, positive changes and confirm necessary support to achieve it.

In addition to our ongoing best practices at the unit and NHQ level, we are committed to increasing our key humanitarian services unit to enhance the credibility of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society as an auxiliary to the government.

We commit to increasing Life membership minimum 0.5% of each unit (city/district) population by end of 2025. We affirm to define our unit core cost in every year and will ensure the core cost is covered by the unit itself from the local sources. We will try to make our district units self-dependent.

Thus, we commit to identify at least two sustainable income sources at the unit and will take effective initiatives to raise funds locally. In this connection, we will take initiative to include a certain percentage of the budget for the BDRCS unit within the annual development budget of the local government ministry. To strengthen the unit fundraising activities, we are committed to set an annual target to raise funds from different sources including individual giving, private sector donation.

Furthermore, we will increase collaboration with Zila Parishad, City corporation, and other Government departments to strengthen our role as an auxiliary and deliver various humanitarian services such as disaster & crisis response, strengthening community resilience, promoting humanitarian values, providing health and blood services, etc. in respective units.

Following the digitalization in Bangladesh, we commit to increasing the capacity and use of digital technology and platforms to ensure our service delivery and implementation are effective, efficient, and transparent.

We also recommend BDRCS Managing Board and senior management take appropriate actions to strengthen the financial sustainability of our organization as well as to improve accountability and transparency at all levels to intact our reputation as a leading humanitarian organization in Bangladesh. At the unit level, we are committed to implementing these initiatives.

We urge the Managing Board to take special measures to ensure meaningful and effective partnership with all the relevant government ministries and the department to strengthen BDRCS service delivery. Furthermore, BDRCS leadership should set up dedicated social businesses with an appropriate structure to earn more revenue and support humanitarian services in Bangladesh. As part of this initiative, we will set a target-based plan at the unit level.

We determine to strengthen accountability and transparency at each unit and deliver a credible annual audit before every AGM. We agree to publish the annual report before every AGM at the unit. We affirm to prepare an annual plan every year in line with the BDRCS Strategic Plan.

We recognize the importance of the young generation to be our future leaders and expand our volunteer base to other age groups to develop a culture of volunteerism and strengthening volunteering services in Bangladesh.

Recognizing the services of Life members, youths, and volunteers, we would keep the provision of youth, volunteer, and membership awards in every AGM at our units; a similar mechanism at NHQ level during AGM is proposed. Apart from these, we are requesting to initiate the best unit award based on some pre-defined criteria.

We declare that the NHQ with a directive from the Managing Board will take necessary action to deliver our commitments made through this declaration. We further request the leadership to include an Agenda from 2021 to present a report in every AGM till 2025 to share an update and progresses made following our declaration in BDRCS AGM 2020. In line with this declaration unit, we will include activities in our annual unit plan and will include an agenda to discuss progress on this declaration at our unit AGM from 2021.