



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

Europe Zone Office, Budapest

To: Mr Francesco Rocca
President of the Italian Red Cross
Via Toscana 12
00187 Rome
Italy

Budapest, 15 May 2013

Dear Francesco,

Re: Solferino 2013

I would like to thank you for inviting me to this year's Solferino celebrations representing the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies.

Solferino 2013 is an important international meeting for all Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies and the Movement as a whole. As has now become tradition, Solferino celebrations represent an opportunity to bring together volunteers from all over the world to commemorate the birth of the idea that is at the foundations of our Movement, but also to have a constructive experience exchange, and reaffirm our common humanitarian commitments.

I support your decision to dedicate Solferino 2013 to the theme of the Syrian crisis, which I believe will have the full approval and support of the Movement. Even through the huge challenges and losses that they have faced on a daily basis – with 18 volunteers killed while performing humanitarian services and several more injured - the volunteers and staff of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent have shown exceptional dedication and courage.

The inclusion into the programme of training courses for volunteers of the Italian Red Cross as well as of other sister Societies, which can help create awareness and build capacities on matters of interest, such as disaster preparedness, confirms that Solferino is evermore an international forum in which all international partners can work together to fulfil their humanitarian commitments.

On behalf of the Europe Zone Office of the International Federation I'm thus pleased to confirm my attendance as representative of the IFRC Europe Zone and I look forward to participating in the events.

I wish you and your colleagues the very best success in the preparations.

Yours sincerely,

Anitta Underlin
Director
IFRC Europe Zone Office

