

Joint Statement of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement on the response to the earthquakes in Venezuela

The Venezuelan Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) – the three components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – express their deepest sympathy, solidarity and condolences to all the families and communities affected by the two consecutive earthquakes that hit Venezuela on 24 June 2026.

We also pay tribute to the thousands of Red Cross volunteers and staff who are responding in the affected areas, particularly in the Caracas Metropolitan Area and in the state of La Guaira, some of the most severely affected areas. Many have themselves been affected by the disaster, yet continue to serve in solidarity with the communities of which they are a part.

The earthquakes, among the strongest recorded in Venezuela in more than a century, affected the center and North of the country, impacted the coastal state of La Guaira most severely and caused serious damage in the Caracas Metropolitan Area and neighbouring states. Although damage and needs assessments are still ongoing, the government has declared a state of emergency. The destruction of infrastructure has been catastrophic, thousands of people have lost their lives, and the impact on the health, livelihoods and social fabric of hundreds of communities will be felt for years to come.

The Venezuelan Red Cross, the IFRC and the ICRC are responding in a coordinated and complementary manner to this crisis, as in all contexts, in strict adherence to the Fundamental Principles of the Movement: humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

In accordance with the Seville Agreement 2.0, the Venezuelan Red Cross acts as a convener of the Movement's collective response. The IFRC acts as a co-convener, supporting the Venezuelan Red Cross in defining the objectives, priorities and strategic direction of the collective response, aligning the support of the IFRC membership, mobilising international resources and capacities, and coordinating support for the institutional strengthening of the National Society. The ICRC contributes to the collective response in accordance with its mandate, capacities and operational presence in the country, in particular in its role as coordinator of the Family Links Network.

The **Venezuelan Red Cross** national network of hospitals, clinics, ambulances and pre-hospital services remains active, and its teams have set up a field hospital in La Guaira. They also provide emergency medical care, first aid and psychological first aid, water, sanitation and hygiene services, conduct rapid needs assessments and provide Restoring Family Links services. The Venezuelan Red Cross leads and convenes the Movement's response in the country, defines operational priorities and maintains dialogue with affected communities, while coordinating closely with national and local authorities, in accordance with the precepts established in the Venezuelan Red Cross Law.

The **IFRC** supports the Venezuelan Red Cross in coordinating the overall response and mobilising international support from the network of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It also facilitates the deployment of Participating National Societies, international surge capacities and Emergency Response Units (ERUs), coordinates the mobilisation of resources through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and the Emergency Appeal, and supports regional and international logistics through its Regional humanitarian logistics hub in Panama. In addition, it provides technical and operational support in areas such as health, water and sanitation, shelter, livelihoods, information management, community participation and accountability.

The ICRC, in accordance with its mandate and experience, in particular in its role as coordinator of the Family Links Network, provides technical support in the implementation of Restoring Family

Links services to respond to the requests of affected families, relying on the Movement's regional and global networks. In addition, it supports the authorities in ensuring the dignified management of the deceased and provides the Venezuelan Red Cross with technical and material assistance in health, water and sanitation, protection, livelihoods, information management and logistics. It also supports humanitarian access and respect for the emblem.

The Venezuelan Red Cross has served the people of Venezuela since 1895. Together with the IFRC and the ICRC, each component acting in accordance with its own mandate, the Venezuelan Red Cross remains committed to saving lives, alleviating suffering and protecting the dignity of all those affected during this emergency and throughout the long road to recovery. The funds and international assistance mobilised for this emergency and channelled through the IFRC together with the Venezuelan Red Cross are directed exclusively towards addressing the most urgent humanitarian needs and are managed in strict adherence to the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, as well as the highest standards of quality, transparency and accountability.

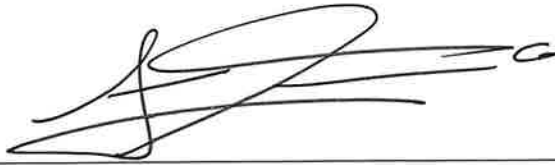
We call on the international community to accompany Venezuelans with the solidarity and sustained support that this moment demands.

Venezuelan Red Cross

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

International Committee of the Red Cross

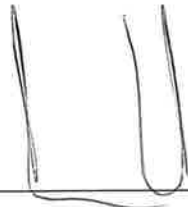
Firmas:



Luis Manuel Farias Villanueva, Presidente

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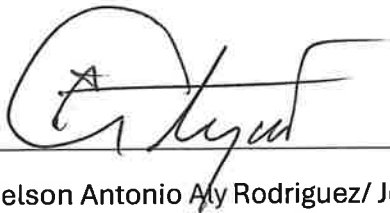
Cruz Roja Venezolana



Valerie Aubert, Jefa de Delegación Venezuela

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Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja



Nelson Antonio Ay Rodríguez/ Jefe de delegación Venezuela

10/7/26

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Federación Internacional de las Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y la Media Luna Roja