



## Translators without Borders

### Code of Conduct for Translators

- 1. Professional Conduct** Translators shall act at all times in accordance with the principles of conduct and decorum listed below.
- 2. Accuracy** Translators shall always thoroughly and faithfully render the source language message, omitting or adding nothing, giving consideration to linguistic variations in both source and target languages, conserving the tone and spirit of the source language message.
- 3. Cultural Sensitivity** Translators shall be culturally competent, sensitive, and respectful of the individual(s) they serve.
- 4. Confidentiality** Translators shall not divulge any information obtained through their assignments, including but not limited to information gained through access to documents or other written material, with any third party outside of the translation team with whom they are working on a specific project.
- 5. Disclosure** Translators shall not publicly discuss, report, or offer an opinion concerning matters in which they are or have been engaged, even when that information is not privileged by law to be confidential.
- 6. Competence** Translators only undertake work they are competent to perform in a timely manner in the languages and subject areas for which they are qualified.
- 7. Nondiscrimination** Translators shall always be neutral, impartial, and unbiased. They shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, national origin, age, socioeconomic or educational status, or religious or political beliefs.
- 8. Conflict of Interest** Translators shall disclose any real or perceived conflict of interest, which would affect their objectivity in the delivery of service.
- 9. Reporting Obstacles to Complete Task** Translators should report immediately any condition that could prevent the timely and proper delivery of the translation.

## **Code of Conduct: Humanitarian Principles in practice**

The Code of Conduct for The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief, was developed and agreed upon by eight of the world's largest disaster response agencies in the summer of 1994.

The Code of Conduct, like most professional codes, is a voluntary one. It lays down ten points of principle, which all humanitarian actors should adhere to in their disaster response work.

The code is self-policing. TWB is a signatory and adheres to the Code of Conduct.

- The humanitarian imperative comes first.
- Aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone.
- Aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint.
- We shall endeavor not to act as instruments of government foreign policy.
- We shall respect culture and custom.
- We shall attempt to build disaster response on local capacities.
- Ways shall be found to involve program beneficiaries in the management of relief aid.
- Relief aid must strive to reduce future vulnerabilities to disaster as well as meeting basic needs.
- We hold ourselves accountable to both those we seek to assist and those from whom we accept resources.
- In our information, publicity and advertising activities, we shall recognize disaster victims as dignified human beings, not hopeless objects.

For complete Code of Conduct see:

<http://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/publications/icrc-002-1067.pdf>