



## Swiss Re goes into partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

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**Zurich, 7 October 2005 – Swiss Re is a founding member of the ICRC Corporate Support Group initiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). This new group will support the ICRC's global humanitarian endeavours.**

Leading executives from seven Swiss-based companies and Jakob Kellenberger, President of the ICRC, met in Geneva today to announce an innovative and long-term partnership known as the ICRC Corporate Support Group. The group consists of a select number of companies who wish to support the ICRC's humanitarian work.

Swiss Re, by going into partnership with the ICRC, is showing its commitment to social responsibility, which forms part of the company's Corporate Philosophy. Peter Forstmoser, Chairman of the Board of Swiss Re, said: "The ICRC has been leading the way in helping the victims of catastrophes and conflict for over 140 years. Respect for humanitarian values is indispensable to our society's sustainable development. And Swiss Re, as a leading global reinsurer, has made a commitment to sustainable development and thus wishes to support the ICRC."

Swiss Re will pledge a substantial sum to the ICRC over the next six years. These funds will assist the ICRC in continuing its work and finance further education and training for ICRC staff. Furthermore, this partnership will facilitate the sharing of information related to risk management, human resources, logistics, IT and communication between the ICRC and the partner companies.

This commitment represents the first institutional and long-term cooperation agreement between the ICRC and the private sector. Global corporations, whose ethics and business principles are compatible with the ICRC ethos, are eligible for the ICRC Corporate Support Group. Corporations having official ICRC Corporate Partner status enjoy privileged access to ICRC campaigns and events.

In addition to Swiss Re, the following companies are founding members of the ICRC Support Group. ABB, Lombard Odier Darier

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Hentsch & Cie, Roche, Vontobel Group, Fondation Hans Wilsdorf and Zurich Financial Services.

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### **Notes to editors**

#### **Swiss Re**

Swiss Re is one of the world's leading reinsurers and the world's largest life and health reinsurer. The company operates through more than 70 offices in over 30 countries. Swiss Re has been in the reinsurance business since its foundation in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1863. Swiss Re offers a wide range of products for managing capital and risk. Traditional reinsurance products, including a broad range of property and casualty as well as life and health covers and related services, are complemented by insurance-based corporate finance solutions and supplementary services for comprehensive risk management. Swiss Re is rated "AA" by Standard & Poor's, "Aa2" by Moody's and "A+" by AM Best.