Standard ICRC working procedures for visiting persons deprived of liberty

- The ICRC inspects all places used to detain persons deprived of liberty. Inside those places, the ICRC thoroughly inspects each location, including living quarters, punishment and isolation cells.

- Delegates have access to every internee present during the course of their planned visit, regardless of his status, and are authorized to speak freely and privately with the internees of their choice and to register them.

- The ICRC receives regular notification by the authorities of the arrest or capture, place of detention or internment, transfer, release, escape or death of all persons deprived of liberty and covered by its mandate.

- The ICRC repeats its visits at any time it judges useful.

- The ICRC conducts private interviews with individual internees of its choice, as often and for as long as it judges useful.

- The ICRC establishes and preserves links between persons deprived of liberty and their relatives. It does this by means of Red Cross messages, which are subject to censorship.

- The ICRC distributed aid to the internees, subject to approval by the authorities, in order to improve the material and psychological conditions of detention/internment.

- Before and after each visit, the ICRC has initial and final discussions with the authorities in charge of the place of internment/detention.

- By means of oral and written reports, the ICRC regularly informs the relevant authorities of its findings. Its observations and recommendations are aimed at supporting the authorities in the taking of measures, if required, to improve the conditions of detention and treatment of those deprived of liberty.

- The ICRC's findings, and the content of the correspondence, reports and meetings between the ICRC and the authorities, remain strictly confidential; neither the ICRC nor the authorities may disclose them in full or in part.