

Mission Impossible: Humanitarian Action Against the Odds

Friday October 26 and Saturday October 27, 2007
Kaiserin-Friedrich-Haus, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin, Germany

Draft Programme (Version: Aug. 2, 2007) – Congress Language: English and German
Simultaneous translation between English and German provided in the Hörsaal
All speakers confirmed except where noted

Friday, October 26, 2007

Introduction Seminar to the 9th Humanitarian Congress

09:00 - 10:30	Hörsaal (second floor) Introduction Seminar for Beginners in Humanitarian Issues • Lecture on topic 1 (to be determined) • Lecture on topic 2 (to be determined)	
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Break</i>	Galerie (ground floor) Humanitarian Forum 1 st Session

9th Humanitarian Congress

11:00 - 11:10	Hörsaal (second floor) Welcome Address
11:10 - 12:00	Key Note Speech Many argue that the humanitarian mission has become almost impossible. Is that really the case and, if so, why? There has been a massive increase in the numbers of humanitarian actors, some with the relatively simple ambition to save lives and alleviate suffering and others with more ambitious aims, see humanitarian action as a first step towards longer term solutions. Throughout the 1990s military actions of states and the United Nations have been justified in the name of humanitarian action. Most lately there have been efforts to develop more 'coherent' coordination systems for delivering humanitarian aid. Following all these developments, are things getting better or worse? Through the lens of reaching victims of crisis in the most difficult and insecure places on earth, should we be optimistic or pessimistic about the future of humanitarian intervention? • Claude Bruderlein , Director of the Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, Department of Population and International Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Cambridge (to be confirmed)

<p>12:00 - 13:30</p>	<p>Yes, the Mission is Possible!</p> <p>For some humanitarian action has failed or been inadequate in the past and they believe that through better coordination, a sense of common mission and through common accountability mechanisms the timeliness, quality and appropriateness of the work can be enhanced. This will ultimately mean a less political or media driven response to crises and until now neglected areas will get the attention they need. Access can be negotiated by high level persons (for example the UN) and pressure brought to bear, ensuring access to the previously inaccessible. It is also argued that Humanitarian action should aim guided by its contribution to peace and development and must aim to be more than just short term relief. Solid grounds for optimism, another false dawn or the beginning of the end of principled humanitarian action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norah Niland, Head of the Policy Development Section, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Geneva • Mark Raymaekers, Humanitarian Aid Office of the European Commission (ECHO), Brussels (to be confirmed) • Beat Schweizer, Deputy Director-General, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Geneva <p>Moderation: Antje Radünz, Independent Journalist, Berlin</p>	
<p>13:30 - 14:30</p>	<p><i>Lunch Break</i></p>	<p>Galerie (ground floor)</p> <p>Humanitarian Forum</p> <p>2nd Session</p>
<p>14:30 - 16:00</p>	<p>Hörsaal (second floor)</p> <p>Access: Different Approaches and Compromises in Providing Assistance in Difficult Environments</p> <p>Difficult access is not just restricted to war zones. This session will present and debate strategies in three different contexts, the dilemmas faced and the compromises made in order to reach people in crisis zones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Security: Iraq</i> Mazen Salloum, Secretary General, Iraqi Red Crescent, Baghdad • <i>Political constrains: Myanmar</i> Frank Smithuis, Head of Mission for Myanmar, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Rangoon (to be confirmed) • <i>Accessibility: Pakistan Earthquake</i> Reinhard Würkner, Head Asia Department, Caritas, Freiburg <p>Moderation: Sybille Seitz, Journalist, Berlin-Brandenburg</p>	<p>Seminarraum (third floor)</p> <p>A Crisis on the Increase: With Growing Resistance, Does Tuberculosis Remain a Treatable Disease? (in German - no translation)</p> <p>The countries of the previous Soviet Union and China see high and increasing prevalence of multi drug-resistant (MDR) tuberculosis (TB). The extent of this crisis still remains to be assessed. In South Africa, people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) have been killed by extensively drug-resistant (XDR) TB in a very short time. The relatively old fashioned diagnostic and therapeutic tools currently in use need to be renewed. Is there any hope that these needs will be addressed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Epidemiology and current challenges</i> Robert Loddenkemper, General Secretary of the German Central Committee for the Fight Against Tuberculosis (DZK), Berlin • <i>Progresses in the research on a vaccine against tuberculosis</i>

	Broadcast (RBB), Berlin	<p>Steve Reece, Department of Immunology, Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, Berlin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Progresses in the research on treatment against tuberculosis</i> <p>Timo Ulrichs, Head of the TB Section, Koch Metchnikow Forum (KMI), Berlin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Combining lobby and field work: MSF Germany in Uzbekistan</i> <p>Kai Braker, Medical Consultant, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Berlin</p> <p>Moderation: Robert Loddenkemper, DZK, Berlin</p>
16:00 - 17:00	<i>Break</i>	<p>Galerie (ground floor)</p> <p>Humanitarian Forum</p> <p>3rd Session</p>
17:00 - 18:30	<p>Hörsaal (second floor)</p> <p>Coping Mechanisms Within the Communities: What Happens When the Aid Agencies Leave or Are Not Coming?</p> <p>When foreign support is absent, what are the different approaches of local actors to provide support to their people based on local resources? How can international aid agencies better identify and reinforce, rather than undermining, these local structures as opposed to undermining them during short term or emergency interventions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muctarr Jalloh, President, Sierra Leone Red Cross, Freetown • Salam Ismael, General Secretary, Doctors for Iraq Organization, Baghdad • Abraham Taryor, Senior Medical Supervisor, Médecins du Monde (MDM), Monrovia <p>Moderation: Sybille Seitz, Journalist, Berlin-Brandenburg Broadcast (RBB), Berlin</p>	
18:30 - 21:30	<i>Buffet</i>	<p>Galerie (ground floor)</p> <p>Humanitarian Forum</p> <p>4th Session</p>

Saturday, October 27, 2007

10:00 - 11:00	Hörsaal (second floor) Key Note Speech Humanitarian missions in highly insecure or constrained contexts such as Somalia, Darfur and Chechnya often force agencies to limit the presence of staff on the ground or to work through local partners. What are the compromises in terms of ensuring quality, relevance and impact in such settings? Are the most urgent needs the ones addressed and if so, how does one prioritise interventions knowing that all needs cannot be met? What are the limitations of assistance that can be given and how well are these limitations communicated to beneficiaries? • N.N.	
11:00 - 11:30	<i>Break</i>	Galerie (ground floor) Humanitarian Forum 5 th Session
11:30 - 13:00	Hörsaal (second floor) Is it possible to provide relevant medical assistance when you're only there for a short period of time? When planning and implementing a short term relief programme, what do you prioritise, what do you compromise in terms of the scope of the services provided and the strategies to assure the necessary level of quality and security? • Nutritional assistance N.N. , Manson Unit, Médecins Sans Frontières, London (to be confirmed) • Medical assistance Axelle Ronssé , Médecins du Monde (MDM), Paris (to be confirmed) • Water, sanitation and shelter Christof Johnen , Head of Disaster Relief Unit, German Red Cross (DRK), Berlin Moderation: Antje Radünz , Independent Journalist, Berlin	Seminarraum (third floor) Addressing the medical consequences of violence on Women's Health in Humanitarian Crises (in English - no translation) In the context of short term relief, what are the specificities and challenges for the provision of health care to women? • Monika Hauser , Executive Director, Medica Mondiale, Cologne • Sexual violence Clair Mills , Medical Director, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Amsterdam • Pregnancy and delivery care in Darfur: Bridging the gap between Western and traditional medicine Gabriele Krüger , Médecins du Monde (MDM), Munich (to be confirmed) Moderation: Gabriele Kaczmarczyk , Dean of the Master Course "Health and Society: International Gender Studies Berlin", Charité University Hospital Berlin
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	Galerie (ground floor) Humanitarian Forum 6 th Session

<p>14:00 - 15:30</p>	<p>How to access the capacity of women in the context of short term relief?</p> <p>What are the most effective strategies for productively involving women in short term interventions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amna Badri, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Ahfad University for Women (AUW), Omdurman (to be confirmed) • Asha Mohammed, Head of the Zone International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) for East Africa Region, Nairobi • N.N., Islamic Relief Worldwide (IR) (to be confirmed) <p>Moderation: Sybille Seitz, Journalist, Berlin-Brandenburg Broadcast (RBB), Berlin</p>	<p>Chronic Diseases and Elderly People in Humanitarian Crises</p> <p>In crisis situations, how do you address the specific health care needs of the elderly population? How do you organise services for chronic diseases in camps as well as in remote areas where access is an issue? How do you insure the continuity of treatment for chronic diseases when only limited access is possible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Gray, Head of World Wide Emergencies, HelpAge International, London (to be confirmed) • Lyn Crabb, Manager for Mass Care, Domestic Response Team, American Red Cross, Washington (to be confirmed) • N.N. <p>Moderation: N.N.</p>
<p>15:30 - 16:30</p>	<p><i>Break</i></p>	<p>Galerie (ground floor)</p> <p>Humanitarian Forum</p> <p>7th Session</p>
<p>16:30 - 18:00</p>	<p>Hörsaal (second floor)</p> <p>Humanitarian Response to the Darfur and Eastern Chad Crisis</p> <p>Darfur is one of the deadliest crises of recent times. 200,000 dead and millions dependent on humanitarian aid. The violence has continued unabated and all measures to resolve the conflict have failed. What should humanitarian actors be doing about Darfur? In how far should they be focussing on addressing immediate needs and in how much should they be taking positions on the solutions? Should humanitarian agencies be acting 'as one' or do are diverse approaches more effective? What is in the best interests of the beneficiaries? This final session will debate these points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabrice Weissman, Head of Mission in Darfur, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) • Jérôme Larché, Head of Mission for Sudan, Médecins du Monde (MDM) • Daniel Duvillard, Head of Operations for East Africa, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Geneva • Graham MacKay, Deputy Humanitarian Director, OXFAM UK, Oxford <p>Moderation: Antje Radünz, Independent Journalist, Berlin</p>	
<p>18:00</p>	<p>Wrap Up</p>	

19:30

Café Krull in der Kulturbrauerei, Schönhauser Allee 36, U2/M10 Eberswalder Straße

Finissage of the photography exhibition "Focus on Forgotten Crises"

Photography exhibition of the winners of the 10th Luis Valtueña International Humanitarian Photo Award which was set up in 1997 by Médecins du Monde Spain

Free of charge - All participants interested are welcome