

MSF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 and 8 June 1990

International meeting of MSF sections:

- Decision to have a rotating presidency between sections for MSF Europe Council.
- MSF Belgium designated to chair MSF Europe until end of the year.

2 July 1990

MSF European Council meeting:

Endorsement of MSF Belgium's declaration of intent to set up MSF Europe

15 November 1990

MSF International Council Meeting:

Agreement on terms of reference of international presidency:

- Appointed for a six-month period
- Right and duty to take initiative, and may delegate responsibilities
- MSF International spokesperson
- Must maintain inter-section cohesion (visit sections)
- Must take on the necessary management resources to allow a certain amount of free rein; also
- Coordinating and motivational role, which requires a high degree of availability.

February 1991 - January 1992

Rony Brauman, President of MSF France, to be President of MSF International Council.

January 1992 - August 1992

Reginald Moreels, President of MSF Belgium, to be President of MSF International Council.

26 June 1992

MSF International Council meeting:

Decision is taken to strengthen role of President of the International Council and of International Secretary General regarding implementation of decisions taken in Melun.

August 1992 - February 1994

Rony Brauman, President of MSF France, to be President of MSF International Council.

February 1994 - February 1995

Jacques De Milliano, General Director of MSF Holland, to be President of MSF International Council.

February 1995 - June 1996

Doris Schopper, President of MSF Switzerland, to be President of MSF International Council.

June 1996

MSF International Council meeting:

President of International Council and International Secretary General tasked with organising working groups and making proposals on:

- MSF structure
- MSF movement rules

- International Council role.

June 1996 - September 1997

Philippe Biberson, President of MSF France, to be President of MSF International Council.

September 1996

Letter from International President and International Secretary General to International Council proposing the underpinning of the international nature of MSF by restructuring the International Council.

31 January 1997

MSF International Council meeting: International reform:

- International Council enlarged to 19 entities with equal voting rights and creation of a Restricted Committee composed of presidents of six to eight sections plus the International Council President
- Setting up position of International Council President Council:
 - to be elected for a two-year term by a 2/3 majority of International Council
 - to be a paid full-time position
 - to represent the movement and foster international development of MSF
 - to have the right and duty to initiate policy within the leadership framework of the International Council and the restricted International Council.

September 1997 - June 1998

As no candidate ready to commit to presidency for two years, Doris Schopper, President of MSF Switzerland temporarily elected as President of MSF International Council and tasked with identifying candidates for the presidency.

Required qualifications:

- Be a doctor of medicine
- Four years' field experience with MSF
- English and French speaker
- Available for at least three days a week.

January 1998

MSF International Council meeting:

Agreement on the definition of International Council President's role and nomination procedure.

June 1998

MSF International Council meeting:

James Orbinski elected as International Council President. Odysseas Boudouris from MSF Greece and Morten Rostrup from MSF Norway elected as Vice-Presidents.

10 December 1999

James Orbinski, President of MSF International Council, gives acceptance speech at Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo.

TO BE CONTINUED ...