

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Brussels, 3 February 1995

Follow up Royaumont

During the 18 months of 'active interval' the foundations of our organisation's identity (guiding principles, basic values) should be reviewed and discussed. The importance of the circulation of people between the sections and the circulation of information seems vital for the internationalisation process. The meeting of the boards of MSF Holland and France in Paris has been considered as a very positive signal. A first important issue that will be discussed is "l'aspect associatif" within our movement.

Associative dimension

Decision: a working group consisting of the members of the IC plus 2 additional board members per section, will meet on April 1 to discuss and define standards of the associative dimension of the organisation. Those standards could serve as a basis for the development of the associative structure of the organisation.

International Office

The role of the International Office is considered to be the same one as 4 years ago when it was created. Its objectives are:

- to foster internal cohesion, to participate actively in the construction of the international MSF movement
- to prepare and organise IC activities
- to facilitate the exchange of information and circulation of people among sections, between sections and delegate offices, among the delegate offices and between the boards of the sections
- to register the trademark MSF and to protect the name by having signed contract of users licence between the International Office and all delegate offices
- production of common documents, international communication material
- to take care of the follow up of international projects defined by the International Council
- to foster relations with the institutional players (EG, UN, ..).

It has been confirmed that the International Office is NOT the spokesman of MSF (International). The development of the International Office has to be seen in this light and Alain will come with a new proposal before the next IC meeting (sic!).

The evaluation of the functioning of Alain Destexhe has to be seen against this background.

International Presidency

MSF Switzerland will be the next president of MSF International. The period of the presidency has been increased from 6 months to 1 year. The president will be paid by MSF International for one day a week to foster availability.

The international president will have the following tasks:

- external representation
- internal representation
- principal interlocutor to the International Office
- moderator in case of a conflict
- responsible for the organisation of meetings between the sections

MELUN bis

It has been decided to organise a broad international meeting (à la Melun) to discuss internationalisation. About 20 people of each section will be invited. This meeting will take place on October 6 and 7 in Chantilly.

Populations in Danger

Another book next year ? More international ? Who will take the lead ?

MSF : 25th anniversary

There was a general agreement to try to make this an international MSF event. Antoine Crouan will be the focal point in Paris and will be responsible for calling a working group with representatives from each section.

Food aid

The international project on IC level is finished. Every section is going to deal with food aid in a limited way internally, case by case; no common international food aid structure.

General Assemblies

Dates of the General Assemblies of the sections are:

Luxemburg	29 April
France	13/14 May
Switzerland	13 May
Belgium	20/21 May
Holland	21 May
Spain	16/17 June