



ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2017 - BELGIUM ABROAD

A. Presentation

Order of Malta Belgium International Aid ASBL (abbreviated "MBI"), is a Belgian non-profit association affiliated to the Belgian Association of the Members of the Order of Malta. MBI only exercises its activities outside Belgium, while the Belgian Association exercises its activities only in Belgium.

MBI initiates, supports and performs projects mainly in the health sector in developing countries, and particularly in Central Africa and Palestine. It also participates to humanitarian emergency actions of the Order of Malta, including those of Malteser International.

Since 2010, MBI's donors benefit from a tax deduction, pursuant to an approval granted by the Belgian Government. In 2015, this approval was renewed for six years expiring in 2021.

In 2017, MBI benefitted, in addition to gifts from members and supporters, from financial support from the Belgian Government and Futur 21.

B. Activities

1. Emergency Aid for victims of Mexico earthquake

Thanks to calls for gifts from donors, MBI could send funds to Malteser International in favour of the victims of the earthquake in Mexico.

2. Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem (Palestine)

Since 2006, MBI has been involved with the neonatology unit of the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem in Palestine. MBI financed, mainly with a grant from the Belgium Government, the construction and equipment of this unit. MBI initiated in 2013 a project to upgrade the neonatology unit and to equip in paediatric material the outreach (mobile) clinic of the Holy Family Hospital. All materials and equipment were delivered and MBI started in the course of 2014 to pay the salary of the medical doctor in charge of the outreach clinic. The project is being subsidized by the Belgian Government and will be completed in April 2018.

During the course of 2017, MBI could arrange to acquire additional material for the neonatology unit thanks to a dedicated gift.

3. Democratic Republic of Congo

In Kinshasa, MBI benefits from the continued support of Count Geoffroy de Liedekerke, the Ambassador of the Order of Malta in the Democratic Republic of Congo. MBI continues its support to the Centre Hospitalier Roi Baudouin Ier, a regional general reference hospital in one of the poorest suburbs of Kinshasa. MBI has a representative on the management committee of this hospital and monitors its management closely. MBI obtained the head of



the hospital to be replaced and assured the new manager of its support. MBI purchased and received during the course of 2017 various medical and pharmaceutical supplies, including adult diapers, totalling approximately five tonnes, to be forwarded to Kinshasa in early 2018 for distribution to various hospitals in Kinshasa, including the Centre Hospitalier Roi Baudouin Ier.

In June 2017, MBI fielded a mission to Monvu hospital on Idjwi Island in South Kivu. Idjwi hosts some 250,000 inhabitants but is served by only six medical doctors working in three hospitals, and by a network of 18 health units distributed over the whole island. MBI initiated in 2004 a project to renovate and reequip two of the hospitals and a series of the health units. The June 2017 mission, composed of three medical doctors led by Dr. Jacques Keutgen (a director of MBI), spent ten days at Monvu to train the medical and technical staff. A biomedical engineer participated as well to effect repairs and install new equipment. Part of the new equipment was funded by a subsidy from the Belgian Government. The other part was obtained through donations.

4. France

MBI participated in the share capital increase of Domalians, a French social company owning social housing that accommodates handicapped persons, refugees and other less privileged persons. MBI maintains, at the request of our French colleagues, a small stake in that company along with our French and Swiss colleagues and other entities.

Brussels, 18 January 2018

Hubert André-Dumont
President, Order of Malta Belgium International Aid
and Coadjutor, Belgian Association of the Order of Malta