
From: Janice St-Denis [mailto:jst-denis@msf.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2007 11:49 AM
To: Barrette, Norm
Cc: Loos, Denise
Subject: Official response letter from MSF

Dear Health and EMS Committee,

On behalf of Médecins Sans Frontières/ Doctors Without Borders (MSF) I would like to thank you for thinking of our organization for this generous donation. Unfortunately, MSF is unable to accept the donation of the decommissioned ambulance at this time. We would like to be able to accept the generous gift but certain problems could arise which would not allow us to benefit from this gift long-term.

Basically, there are currently a few different policies that would stand in our way of accepting your donation. In the field, MSF currently uses one standard vehicle as a means of transportation for our teams and occasionally our patients. For these vehicles, we have a standard system in place which enables us to support the vehicle if anything should go wrong (in terms of replacement parts, etc). Because of this standard, servicing and supporting a different type of vehicle would be difficult and perhaps very problematic (time consuming for our logisticians in the field).

Also, ambulances that are used in Canada are made to be driven on paved roads and often MSF's field projects are very often in locations that have extreme road conditions, so we would be weary of the safety of using this vehicle in non-optimal conditions.

Thirdly, the cost of shipping the ambulance to our field projects would likely be a fairly costly undertaking that our programmes department will not have budgeted for this year. MSF ships our land cruisers and other supplies together from Europe or locations much closer to the countries where we intend to use them, which helps us save on shipping and freight charges.

Thank you once again and we hope that you find another worthy international humanitarian agency that will be able to accept your generosity.

Best regards,
Janice

Janice L. St-Denis

Donor Relations Coordinator/Coordonnatrice des services aux donateurs
Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF)
402-720 Spadina Avenue
Toronto, ON M5S 2T9
1.800.982.7903 x3467
Tel: 416.642.3467
Fax: 416.963.8707
www.msf.ca