

## 1. ASIA



### **Afghanistan: In the aftermath of killing of two local employees:**

#### **Malteser Germany continues programmes in Central and West Afghanistan - Programmes in the Southeast to be closed**

After the murder of two Afghan staff members in the beginning of August in south-eastern Afghanistan, Malteser Germany has for the time being suspended its work in the two provinces of Paktia and Paktika on the Pakistani border. The retreat from these provinces is the consequence of the tragic occurrence in Paktia province where the security situation is seriously deteriorating.

Malteser Germany had been responsible for carrying out all UNHCR's income generation and vocational training projects in south-eastern Afghanistan since early 2003.

Poul Nielson, the EU Commissioner for development and humanitarian aid, as well as numerous other representatives of the international humanitarian community, strongly condemned the attack: "I am shocked to hear about the murder of two aid workers in Afghanistan. As with other members of the humanitarian community in Afghanistan, they were ensuring that much-needed aid reached the many thousands of Afghans living in desperate conditions. The repeated targeting of humanitarian workers and the shrinking humanitarian space in Afghanistan undermines our ability to deliver that crucial help. All my sympathy goes to the families of the deceased, to their friends, and to their colleagues in Malteser Hilfsdienst."

The decision to retreat, however, does not apply to our programmes in other provinces of Afghanistan, which are considered more secure. With regard to the highly vulnerable population, our programmes in Central and West Afghanistan will be continued under increased security measures.

Malteser Germany has been active in Afghanistan since 2002. 20 international and 250 local staff members still continue the Malteser relief programmes in five provinces (Kabul, Parwan, Kapisa, Badghis and Herat) to contribute to the reconstruction of the country.

Further information: Roland Hansen, [roland.hansen@malteser-ald.de](mailto:roland.hansen@malteser-ald.de)



### **Afghanistan: High award for Head of UNHCR Field Office Central Afghanistan**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2004, Niyazi Magerramow, Head of the UNHCR Field Office Central Afghanistan, has been decorated with the Malteser jubilee medal in the Malteser Head Office in Cologne. With this award - handed over by Ingo Radtke - Dr. Constantin von Brandenstein-Zeppelin, the President of Malteser Germany, expressed the organisation's thanks for many years of close cooperation with UNHCR and with Mr. Magerramov in particular, first in the Balkans from 2000 until 2002, and then in Afghanistan since 2002: "Particularly in crisis areas, the cooperation with UNHCR has always proved to be a very fruitful and highly valuable support for our relief measures for the people in need. Thanks to this excellent partnership, we always could and still can provide efficient aid to the people in the Balkans and in Afghanistan."

In his vote of thanks, Magerramow pointed to the great significance of the Malteser engagement for refugees and returnees: "The relief programmes for returnees already have a long tradition. Already in the Balkans, I had the possibility to convince myself of the successful programmes for the refugees and internally displaced persons returning to their home villages. Also now in Central Afghanistan, Malteser support numerous returnees in building up new livelihoods. They help them to develop new business and train women and girls in sewing and weaving. They support the repair of roads and traditional water systems. This excellent work is an important contribution to the reconciliation and co-existence of the returnees and the villagers."

Further information: Ingo Radtke, [ingo.radtke@malteser-ald.de](mailto:ingo.radtke@malteser-ald.de)



## 2. AFRICA



### Sudan 1: Birke Herzbruch is back in Darfur

On the 23<sup>th</sup> of August, Malteser emergency aid coordinator Birke Herzbruch has returned to Darfur in order to continue the relief measures of ECOM (Emergency Corps Order of Malta), the international network for the worldwide emergency and disaster relief of the Order of Malta. In Khartoum a further cooperation agreement with UNICEF was signed. The United Nations Children's Fund provide 80 malaria health kits, six midwifery kits and 24 basic healthcare kits. With this essential drugs it is foreseen to support several health centres in the south of El Fasher. ECOM via Malteser Germany will furthermore rehabilitate and equip the health facilities, build and equip two delivery centres and conduct training and capacity building measures in the sector of antenatal as well as mother and child health care. It is also planned to extend the activities in the surrounding rural areas.

Further information: [Marion.Zeus@malteser-ald.de](mailto:Marion.Zeus@malteser-ald.de)

### Sudan 2: Malteser intensify medical relief for Darfur



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, Malteser have sent two more staff members to North Darfur/Sudan. They will support the technical and medical rehabilitation of health centres and maternity wards in rural areas in the south of El Fasher. All relief programmes are realized in close cooperation with ECOM. "The care for pregnant women must be improved. Up to now, there is not enough qualified staff", explains Malteser midwife Gabriele Krueger from Emmendingen. For at least three months she will work in the Darfur region with Ralf Pahlmann, an industrial engineer from Bramsche. Pahlmann had worked for Malteser in Iran until June. Now in Sudan, he will also be responsible for the rehabilitation of buildings and the provision of medicaments. Furthermore: "The power supply in North Darfur is disastrous. With generators we want to facilitate medical operations in the night." The building of toilets will also be necessary in order to improve the hygienic plight of the people.

Further information: [Marion.Zeus@malteser-ald.de](mailto:Marion.Zeus@malteser-ald.de)

## 3. EUROPE

### Malteser in Hungary celebrate 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Day of Reception"

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1989, the premises of the parish of the Holy family in Budapest-Zugliget had been opened in order to take in the refugees coming from the former Democratic Republic of Germany. Now, 15 years later, Malteser Hungary had invited guests from home and abroad to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this "Day of Reception" in Budapest. A German Malteser Delegation headed by our Vice-president Elisabeth Freifrau von Spies also took part in the ceremonies. In his speech, the Hungarian President – accompanied by his Foreign Minister and the German Ambassador – highly appreciated the extraordinary humanitarian commitment of the Hungarian and German Malteser groups. After the holy mass, a memorial with the title "Reception" was unveiled as a symbol for the occasion of 1989.

Further information: [Michael.Luelsdorff@malteser-ald.de](mailto:Michael.Luelsdorff@malteser-ald.de)

## 4. OTHER



### Malteser on Television:

#### **1. DR Congo/Water for Ariwara:**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, the German television transmitter HR 3 (Hessischer Rundfunk) in its programme "auswaerts" from 22.00 to 22.30 will show a documentation on the project journey of our Malteser delegation in May 2004 to Ariwara/DR Congo. Anne Balzer, the author of this documentation, has accompanied our delegation on its 10-days-trip to Ariwara. Last year, Balzer had also realized a very impressive documentation on the jubilee pilgrimage of Malteser Germany to Rome.

#### Impressum

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Editorial office: Ingo Radtke, Petra Ipp \* Phone + 49 – 2 21 – 98 22 155 \* Fax + 49 – 2 21 – 98 22 179

E-Mail: [petra.ipp@malteser-ald.de](mailto:petra.ipp@malteser-ald.de)

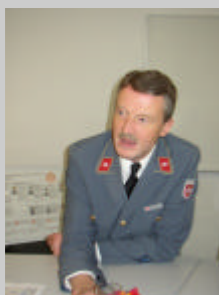
**2. Malteser Ukraine / Udo Juergens Foundation:**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of September on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the German singer-songwriter Udo Juergens, the German television transmitter "DAS ERSTE" (ARD/ORF) will show a special anniversary gala in its evening programme. Since the Udo Juergens Foundation has given some financial support to rehabilitation measures in two children homes in the Ukraine cared for by the Ukrainian Malteser relief service, two children from this home and Pavlo Titko, the director of Malteser Ukraine, will be among the guests in this gala. The birthday greetings of Malteser Germany will be presented by the Vice-President, Elisabeth Freifrau Spies.

Further information: Petra Ipp, [Petra.Ipp@malteser-ald.de](mailto:Petra.Ipp@malteser-ald.de)

**President of Malteser Germany brings "Malteser Emergency Fund" into being**

Dr. Constantin von Brandenstein-Zeppelin, President of Malteser Germany, expresses his thanks for the numerous condolences offered by the national and international humanitarian community on the occasion of the murder of two local staff members in Afghanistan. Now, Dr. Brandenstein-Zeppelin, has brought the "Malteser Emergency Fund" into being. With this fund and the incoming donations he wants to support the families of Emal and Mohammed and give them at least some financial assistance. In the future, also other local staff members and their families who have got into serious difficulties through no fault of their own should receive support out of this special "Malteser Emergency Fund".



**Donation account number: 120 120 120**

**Deutsche Bank, Bank Code: 370 700 24**

**IBAN: DE88 3707 0024 0120 1201 20**

**Keyword: "Malteser Emergency Fund"**

Further information: Ingo Radtke, [ingo.radtke@malteser-ald.de](mailto:ingo.radtke@malteser-ald.de)

**Asia Desk: Change of Responsibilities**

Since the responsibility for the rehabilitation programmes in Iran have changed from the emergency desk to the Asia desk, the responsibilities in the Asia desk are now as follows:  
Annette Wächter-Schneider: Iran and India.

Cordula Wasser: Thailand and Vietnam.

Melanie Körner: Afghanistan

Dorothee Hasebrink who has worked as assistant with responsibility for Afghanistan for two years, has left Malteser Germany due to her fix-term contract. We are very grateful for her extraordinary engagement and our best wishes accompany her.

Melanie Körner takes over the duties as the Afghanistan assistant after having supported our financial team in the Head Office for some months; from December 2002 to October 2003 she was our administrative in Yangon, Myanmar.

Further information: [Roland.Hansen@malteser-ald.de](mailto:Roland.Hansen@malteser-ald.de)

Ingo Radtke

Petra Ipp, Heike Otto

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E-Mail: [petra.ipp@malteser-ald.de](mailto:petra.ipp@malteser-ald.de)