



MEDICAL EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

83001

ME SOMALIA PROJECT - ACTIVITY REPORT

September 1992

11 thru 23 September:

This period spent meeting with the many people involved in the Northeast region of Somalia. These people included Mr Garvelink and the Nairobi based DART team, Ms. Jan Westcott AID-Somalia, Mr Mohamed Abshir SSDF-Nairobi Representative, Mr Trevor Walker EEC Representative for Somalia, Mr Ricardo Conti ICRC Water and Sanitation Horn of Africa Region and Mr Frank Conlin and Mr Sig Hanson of LWR.

Both the EEC and USAID encouraged MEDIC to come up with a short term proposal for rural water rehabilitation for the n/east region. Based upon these meetings a five month proposal was made thru LWR to the DART office in Nairobi. The funding for the project was agreed to be shared by both USAID and EEC. This proposal was handed over to LWR, USAID and EEC on Friday 18 September. A more detailed budget was asked for and submitted on Tuesday 22 September.

24 September:

Depart for Djibouti with Ms. Westcott (USAID) and Mr Walker (EEC) and Mr Abshir (SSDF). Fly in a UN plane via Mogadishu and Hargesa arrive Djibouti late afternoon. Attend an NGO meeting in the evening at the EEC Delegate Office. Interesting discussion on the security situations mostly in the north west. NGO's attending included SCF-UK, Action Aid, Rimfire, Care and ICRC.

25 September: Meet SSDF representatives in Djibouti.

26 September:

Spend the day looking at possible sources of equipment suppliers in Djibouti. Very little is available here in terms of hardware and equipment.

27 September:

Depart with Ms. Westcott, Mr Walker and Mr M. Abshir in the "UNI" Caravan to Garowe arrive at 10:30 am (2hr flight). Meet with Col. Abdu Lai Yousuf (senior member of the SSDF) and his delegation. Drive to Bortinle 120 Km south of Garowe where an NGO-Medicines du Monde (MDM) have recently opened a

Page Two:  
MEDIC Activity Report (September 1992)

clinic/hospital. During this visit I spent most of my time looking at two boreholes in the village both of which have been abandoned. One could be put back working. Return to Garowe that night and stay in local hotel. The vehicles for our trip had been provided by the local Conoco (oil company) office. This was very helpful and was organized on short notice by Ms. Jan Westcott.

28 September:

Early departure with all of us to Gardo (200 Km north of Garowe), again vehicles provided by Conaco. Arrive there by 10:00 am. While Ms. Westcott and Mr Walker visit the MDM hospital myself and Mr Abshir look at the boreholes that are in the town. Four boreholes were visited two of which were functioning. List as much details of equipment and spares required as possible. Return to Garowe visit all the boreholes along the main road which included Dangoroyo (1 well functioning), Bilei (2 wells, 1 functioning) and Sinachief (2 wells both functioning but only just). Spend the evening organizing a vehicle, interpreter and security guards for a trip to Mudug Province.

29 September:

Depart for Galkiyo (220 km south of Garowe) at 7:00 am. Stop at Bortinle to liaise with local authorities for security guards and a former water worker from the area to accompany us. Arrive Galkiyo 12:00 visit with the SSDF Commander there (this is close to the line between SSDF and USC). Look at three boreholes around the town all of which are not functioning. At present all the town supply is either from shallow hand-dug wells or tankered in from a well 20 Km south of Galkiyo. Return to Bortinle visiting all the boreholes along the main road as follows: Halabokat (not functioning), Marghama (old well needs re-drilling), Buriyakab (3 wells one functioning). The water worker "Mr Arab" was very knowledgeable about details of the boreholes, a pleasure to have his company for the next few days. It was also apparent that he had been doing a good job at shifting and cannibalizing what limited equipment he had in the Mudug Province.

30 September:

Depart Bortinle at 5:30 pm. During the course of the day we visited Balebusile (3 wells one functioning),

Page Three

Medic - Activity Report (September/October 1992)

30 September (cont'd)

Semade (1 well not functioning) and Jerriban (2 wells, 1 functioning). We arrived at Jerriban at last light and were given good accommodation and food. This evening I heard on the BBC the sad news of my good friend Maung who was killed in S. Sudan. It should be noted that most of the drive today was done with an accompanying vehicle to check the road ahead of us as part of the journey was close to the SSDF/USC line.

October 1992

1 October:

Depart at 5:00 am for Garowe. Visit Awrulus which has one abandoned well that possibly could be repaired. Arrive Garowe 3:30 pm. Meet with ICRC Garowe Delegate Mr Paul Gianini who kindly arranges a seat for me on their flight to Nairobi tomorrow. Meet with Mr Mohamed Abshir to discuss my trip.

2 October : Return to Nairobi via Belet Huen and Mogadishu.

3 October:

Meet with Mr Norman Barth, Executive Director LWR and Mr Sig Hanson of LWR Nairobi office.

4 October thru 1 November:

These days spent preparing the ground work for the project. Negotiate for the Landcruiser purchases and the design and fabrication of the pump hoists and pipe racks. Because of the delay of funding from EEC it was difficult for LWR to release funding to MEDIC until 19 October and then the transfer got "lost" until 2 November. Mr Alan Pike who will manage the project in Somalia arrived in Nairobi on the 19th October. Mr Alan Pike will stay for one month before returning to California and then return to Somalia when equipment is actually in place.

Page Four  
MEDIC Activity Report (November 1992)

2 November:

Depart Nairobi with Alan Pike to Djibouti, arrive at mid-day. spend the rest of the day using the phone and fax at our shared office in Djibouti (our phone in Nairobi had not been working for 10 days).

3 November:

Spend the day opening a bank account as Djibouti will be the closest staging ping (and source of cash) for the project. Visit the Care office to discuss their project plans for the northeast. Make arrangements with the UNI aircraft to get to Bossaso tomorrow. Meet briefly with Mr Sharma of UNICEF Hargesa to discuss cooperation in the water field.

4 November:

Depart to Bossaso via Hargesa and Erigavo. Arrive 11:00 am. Meet with the UNOSOM representative who departs on the aircraft we arrived on. Meet with Mr Abdul Qadir and Mr Yousuf who are the SSDF liason officers attached to UNOSOM, and with Ambassador Holif who is the Coordinator of the relief and Rehabilitation Commission of the SSDF. During the course of the afternoon and evening we arrange for a trip thru Bari Province including vehicle, security etc. We also visited the port at Bossaso which was very active and seemed quite secure. We stay at the UNOSOM compound.

5 November:

Depart 6:00 am to Skushuban in the company of several security guards, driver and helper and Mr Mohamud Aynab Mohamed the Chairman of the Somali Relief Society. Mr Aynab is familiar with all the areas we visited and a very capable and helpful person to accompany us. During the course of the day we visited Kop Dahaad (1 well not functioning), Dhawali (1 well functioning), Meeladeen (1 well needs a pump), Timirsha (1 well needs a pump). We arrived in Skushuban at 7:30 pm and were graciously given accommodation and food by the town elders.

4

6 November:

Skushuban is along a tug which has fantastic springs. The organization EDGS (a somali NGO) is just finishing a solar powered installation to pump water up to the town including storage tanks.

Depart for Hiriero at 9:00 am. Arrive 10:00 am and meet with the village elders. There are not boreholes here, however, Aqua Terra had surveyed and identified several possible locations for drilling (all water is from bulkheads or tanker truck during the dry season. Depart for Reko 11:30 and arrive 2:00 pm one well which was drilled in 1958 to 400 meters with a pump depth of 360 mts. - not functioning. Return to the main road and Gardo by 7:00 pm.

7 November:

Meet with the MDM early and discuss their system for house/compound rental (prices etc.). Then meet with a Mr Osman who claims to be appointed by the SSDF to re-establish the Water Agency. We suggested he apply to the UNOSOM office for funding to re-create a bureaucracy. Depart for Garowe and arrive 11:30. Check into hotel and enjoy a shower. Meet with the ICRC to discuss possibility of getting a flight to Djibouti (the UNI aircraft is in Nairobi for repairs). Possible to fly tomorrow. Meet in the afternoon with some representatives of Kaalo a local NGO, several elders and "security" officer. At this meeting we gave a description of our project objectives. We in turn were welcomed to the area and asked when we would begin work. This was the second time this trip where I detected a feeling of frustration on the part of the local people at seeing too many organizations looking but not doing.

9 November:

Book on the UNICEF flight to Nairobi for today. Meet with a team from Vet Aid who are going to the northeast to assist in livestock rehabilitation. One member David Ball is a hydrogeologist looking at the water situation. We share as much information with them as we can and look forward to working together in the future. In the afternoon there is only room for one of us to return to Nairobi so I wait in Djibouti for the Wednesday flight.

5

10 November:

Finalized opening of bank account. Get transit visa extended. Meet with the MDM administrator who is returning to Paris. Have along discussion with Said Abshir the SDF representative in Djibouti.

11 November:

Long day spent at the airport waiting for the flight arrive Nairobi 7:00 pm.

12 November:

Pick up Mr Bud Kellums our consultant pump specialist who arrives from Arizona. Discuss with LWR-Nairobi-no news concerning the EEC funding. Trevor Walker is in Mogadishu. Confirm with Toyota Kenya that they have received our transfer for the vehicles.

13 November:

Check on progress of the pump rig fabrication at McCloy Engineering. Spend a large portion of the day trying to clear some testing equipment which Bud Kellums had sent as unaccompanied baggage. Discuss with Mohamed Abshir (SDF Nairobi) our recent trip to northeast.

14 November:

Meet with Sig Hanson and Bud Kellums, discuss how the delay in EEC funding is now preventing us from preparing our material and equipment. Also discuss possibility of Bud doing a short trip to Baldoa to assist CRS in their water needs.

15 November:

To Nakuru to meet with Tom Belknap and bring him to Nairobi for his flight tomorrow back to USA.

16 November:

Meet with Sig Hanson to arrange a meeting for Wednesday with USAID and EEC. Kellums manages to clear his equipment from the airport.

Page Seven  
MEDIC Activity Report (November 1992)

17 November:

Most of the day spent report writing for Somalia and Sudan.

18 November:

Meet with USAID, LWR and EEC in the morning. Per Trevor Walker's information the EEC has made an allocation for their emergency program in Somalia of F million ECU. Our project is among those that will share this funding. It is hoped that a fax confirmation of intent can be received from the EEC Brussels this week. Also discuss possibility of sharing air transport with the ICRC C-130 to Garowe.

Meet with UNICEF Somalia to share information on our activities. Meet with CRS to draw up terms of reference for Mr Keillums to do a short assessment in the Baidoa area.

Concluding Remarks:

- 1) We expect to get delivery of the Landcruisers by Monday 23 November. These vehicles will then need a minimum of 3 weeks modifications and fabrication here in Nairobi before they will be ready.
- 2) The lack of firm commitment on the part of the EEC has made it impossible for us to purchase any materials and supplies other than the two vehicles.
- 3) MEDIC needs to sign a letter of understanding with the SSDF covering our working arrangements in northeast Somalia before the end of this year.

-----  
Bruce Pike

