

**ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΚΑΡΔΙΑΣ**

Αριθ. Απόφασης Εγκρίσεως 4229/2004  
Αριθ. Πρωτοκόλλου Ε.Κ.Ε. της Υ.Α.Α.Ε. 131



**HEART DOCTORS**

Court decision N° 4229/2004  
E.C.C. Serial N° 131

# REPORT OF MISSIONS DURING 2006



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# IRAQ

**22<sup>ND</sup>** MISSION: 05.01.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation of medicines from Athens to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad.

A load of 329 big boxes of medicines was carried by air from Athens to Amman, the capital of Jordan. Then the medicines were taken by car to Iraq and delivered to the director of the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad. The mission was carried out by a team of members of “Heart Doctors”.



# MALAWI

2<sup>ND</sup> MISSION: 12.01. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Free medical examination and treatment of villagers living in remote and isolated areas around Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi. Distribution of foodstuffs and visiting health centers.

A four member team of “Heart Doctors” flew from Athens to Lilongwe, carrying with them the necessary medicines. The team offered medical assistance to about 10,000 persons in 7 villages (the villages had been selected by the Authorities of Malawi). Health Centers at various places were visited by members of the mission. In the area of Nyanja many children were orphans - their parents had died of HIV/AIDS. In that area the team distributed two tons of maize to 158 families (due to last year’s drought, there was lack of food in many areas of the country).

The Minister of Health received the team and thanked for the assistance offered to the people visited in the remote areas of the country.



# SUDAN

**10<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 01.02. 2006**

**PURPOSE:** Purchase of foodstuffs from local markets in Sudan, transportation of the quantity bought to the refugee camps in Darfur and distribution to the families staying there.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” flew to Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, and purchased 12.5 tons of wheat flour and 10 tons of powdered milk. The foodstuffs in question were transported to the 6<sup>th</sup> refugee camp near the city of Nyala ( Southern Darfur ) and distributed to the families living there.



# KENYA

2<sup>ND</sup> MISSION: 08.02. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Free provision of foodstuffs to hungry families.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” visited Kenya and purchased 100 tons of maize from the local market; that quantity was then distributed to 10,000 inhabitants living in 3 villages in the area of Mwingi suffering from malnutrition. Last year’s lack of rain caused a serious decline of agricultural production which led to extensive food shortages and hunger in many areas of Kenya.



# MALAWI

3<sup>D</sup> MISSION: 12.02. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Delivery of medicines to 2 hospitals and free provision of foodstuffs to inhabitants of Malawi.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” flew to Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi, and bought 40 tons of maize from the local market. This quantity was then distributed to about 4,000 inhabitants living in Nathenje, a district of Lilongwe. The team donated medicines against malaria to 2 hospitals, one in Nathenje and one in Kapudula.



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

1 MISSION: 21.02. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Free medical examination and treatment of Africans living in remote and isolated places in the Big Forest of the country, area of Nola village, southwestern region.

A five member team of “Heart Doctors” visited Central African Republic, carrying with them medicines from Athens. Assisted by the Greek businessman Mr. Angelos Banos and his company ( SCAF ), the team visited 7 villages where about 15,000 poor people were medically examined and given the appropriate medication. A part of the population examined belongs to the tribe of pygmies.



# BURUNDI

1<sup>ST</sup> MISSION: 16.03. 2006



**PURPOSE:** Free medical care and provision of food to families that suffered from malnutrition due to last year's drought.

The team visited the districts of Muyinga, Kirundo and Kayanza, examined medically about 5,500 people and gave them the required medication. In the city of Kirundo the team offered food to hungry families. The team of "Heart Doctors" decided to submit to the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs a proposal for a food relief program for Burundi.

An Official of the Government of Burundi received the team and thanked for the assistance offered.



# IRAQ

**23<sup>D</sup>** MISSION: 13.04.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation from Athens and delivery of medicines and hospital material to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad.

A load of 425 boxes containing medicines, orthopaedic surgical equipment ( external fixation sets ) and hospital material (bandages, cotton etc. ) was transported from Athens to Baghdad via Amman. The load weighed about 2 tons and was delivered to the hospital Al-Kindy. The medicines were accompanied by a team of members of “Heart Doctors”.



# SUDAN

11<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 25.04.2006

**PURPOSE:** Purchase and distribution of foodstuffs to refugee families living in Southern Darfur.

“Heart Doctors” visited Sudan and bought from the local markets 15 tons of wheat flour and 8 tons of powdered milk; they distributed the foodstuffs in question to refugee families that have gathered and live in the open air near Nyala, a city of Southern Darfur.



# INDONESIA

**1<sup>ST</sup>** MISSION: 31.05. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation of medicines from Athens to the island of Java as aid of “Heart Doctors” to the victims of the disastrous earthquake ( 6.7 R ) that occurred recently in Java.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” flew from Athens to Jakarta accompanying a load of 213 boxes containing medicines. The load was then transported by air to Yogyakarta and then by car to Bantul where it was distributed to improvised dispensaries functioning under tents in various sites of the city. Drinking water and blankets were purchased at Bantul and given to the needy people.



# IRAQ

24<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 06.07.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation and delivery of medicines to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad.

A team of “Heart Doctors” traveled by air from Athens to Amman and from there to Baghdad by car accompanying 906 big boxes containing medicines. The director of the hospital received the donation with great pleasure and thanked warmly Greece and “Heart Doctors”.



# SUDAN

**12<sup>TH</sup>** MISSION: 08.07.2006

**PURPOSE:** Providing refugees living in Northern Darfur with food.

A team of “Heart Doctors” visited Sudan and bought from local markets 20 tons of maize flour and 25 tons of powdered milk; the purchased foodstuffs were then distributed to the refugees living in camps near El Fasher, a city of Northern Darfur.



# LEBANON

**1<sup>ST</sup> MISSION:** 20.07.2006

**PURPOSE:** Urgent transportation and delivery of medicines to Southern Lebanon for the wounded civilians in the areas bombed by the Israeli Air Force.

Members of “Heart Doctors” traveled by air from Athens to Damascus and from there to Southern Lebanon by car accompanying 650 big boxes containing medicines; the medicines were delivered to the cities of Jazzin and Doum. “Heart Doctors” are again first to help the wounded in the places being bombed.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of July, 2 tons of medicines were offered by “Heart Doctors” as their contribution to an emergency mission to Lebanon organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the medicines and other materials were transported to Beirut through Larnaca by a C130 aircraft.



# LEBANON

**2<sup>ND</sup>** MISSION: *28.07.2006*

**PURPOSE:** Urgent transportation of medicines from Athens to Lebanon via Damascus and provision of food to the refugees who live in improvised camps in many cities, villages and places to the south of Beirut.

A load of 1650 kilos of medicines was transported by “Heart Doctors” from Athens to Damascus by air and from there by car to Lebanon. Medicines were distributed to hospitals, medical centers and improvised dispensaries in many cities and villages in the area of Lebanon to the south of Beirut. Water, milk, sugar, flour and rice were purchased and distributed to Lebanese families living in camps. Lebanese people speak with enthusiasm for Greece and kiss the Greek flag.

“Heart Doctors” helped in removing from the ruins 37 dead children after the building in which they had taken refuge was bombed by the Israelis in the city of Kanah.



# LEBANON

3<sup>o</sup> MISSION: 04.08. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Urgent transportation of medicines from Athens to Lebanon via Damascus and provision of needy refugee families staying in camps with food, drinking water and kitchen utensils.

A load of 1500 kilos of medicines was transported from Athens to Damascus by air and from there by car to the city of Tyrus in Southern Lebanon. The medicines were distributed to the hospital of Tyrus and many medical centers and improvised dispensaries in many cities and villages located between Tyrus and Beirut. Various foodstuffs, drinking bottled water and kitchen utensils, purchased in Damascus, were distributed to the homeless families according to their needs.





# LEBANON

4<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 18.08. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Urgent transportation of medicines from Athens to Lebanon via Damascus and provision of the needy Lebanese families with food, drinking water etc.

135 boxes containing medicines were transported by air from Athens to Damascus accompanied by a team of “Heart Doctors”. At Damascus antitetanic serum, foodstuffs, drinking water and other supplies were purchased. The medicines and the rest of the provisions were taken by car from Damascus to Balbek, a city in the Beka valley of Lebanon. Hospitals, medical centers and improvised dispensaries received the medicines in Balbek, Sidon, Tyrus and many small cities and villages. Foodstuffs etc. were distributed to needy families in the same places.



# LEBANON

5<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 31.08. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation of medicines from Athens to Southern Lebanon via Damascus and provision of food and other basic supplies to the needy Lebanese families staying in camps.

A load of 1200 kilos of medicines was transported by air from Athens to Damascus accompanied by a team of “Heart Doctors”. Foodstuffs and other supplies were purchased at Damascus ( rice, milk, wheat flour, tinned food, spaghetti, salt, soap, disinfectants, detergents, etc. ). The medicines and the rest of the provisions were then taken by car from Damascus to various cities and small villages in Southern Lebanon. Hospitals, medical centers and improvised dispensaries received the medicines. Foodstuffs etc. were distributed to needy families.



# IRAQ

25<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 14.09.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation and delivery of medicines from Athens to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad and various medical centers in Iraq.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” traveled by air from Athens to Damascus and from there by car to Baghdad accompanying 128 boxes containing medicines. Part of the quantity in question was delivered to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad; the rest was donated to various medical centers in Iraq.



# TURKEY

1<sup>ST</sup> MISSION: 09.10.2006

**(islands of Northern Aegean: Imbros and Tenedos )**

PURPOSE: Transportation and distribution of medicines to the needy poor Greek Orthodox families living in the islands; purchase and distribution of various food items to the same people.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” visited the islands of Imbros and Tenedos in Northern Aegean, on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2006. They carried with them 20 boxes of medicines and distributed them to the inhabitants, Christians and Moslems. Various food items were also bought at the local markets of Tenedos and were distributed to the Christian Orthodox families of the island.



# IRAQ

**26<sup>TH</sup>** MISSION: 28.10.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation and delivery of medicines and hospital materials from Athens to the hospital Al-Kindy in Baghdad.

A team of members of “Heart Doctors” traveled on Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2006, from Athens to Amman by air and from there to Baghdad by car accompanying 930 kilos of medicines. The load was delivered on Sunday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of October. External fixation sets were also delivered. Mrs. Helen Sotiriou, vice president of “Heart Doctors”, was kidnapped in this mission; after 5 days of detention she managed to escape.



# NIGERIA

9<sup>TH</sup> MISSION: 28.11. 2006

**PURPOSE:** Medical care to rural population living in remote small villages ( BEJI, ZUMBA, SHATTA, SHE, GUNI, ADUNU, DANDAUDU ).

A five member team of “Heart Doctors” visited Nigeria ( Niger State ) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November, 2006. The team was invited by Mr. Umar Tango Kuta, an Official of the local government; they stayed in Mina, the capital of the State and from there they visited 7 poor villages to the north of the city ( 16.104 people were medically examined and given the proper medication ). Diseases observed were malaria, helminthiasis, diarrhea, schistosomiasis, infections of the respiratory and urinary tract, anemia and ka-hexia. The team decided to construct a dispensary at the village SHE.



# IRAQ

**27<sup>TH</sup>** MISSION: 07.12.2006

**PURPOSE:** Transportation and delivery of medicines and hospital material to the Al-Kindy hospital in Baghdad.

A team of Members of “Heart Doctors” traveled by air from Athens to Damascus accompanying a load of 920 boxes of medicines destined for Baghdad. Two cars were used to carry the load from Damascus to Baghdad. The medicines were delivered to the Director of the Al-Kindy hospital.



# MOLDAVIA

1<sup>ST</sup> MISSION: 13.12 2006

PURPOSE: Transportation and installation of dentist's surgery equipment in Raciula Convent (monastery), Kalaraci area of Moldavia.

A team of members of "Heart Doctors" and two special technicians traveled from Athens by air to Moldavia on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2006 in order to work at the Raciula Convent and install there the dentist's surgery equipment that "Heart Doctors" had bought in Greece and sent earlier from Athens to the Convent as humanitarian assistance. The dentist's surgery will serve 200 nuns and the families living in that area. A letter of thanks signed by Mother Superior was handed over to "Heart Doctors". The installation of the dentist's surgery in question was a project of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs that "Heart Doctors" were invited to undertake.



## . *Raciula Monastery*

Raciula monastery was built in 1792 by two priests, brothers Andrei and Ion Rosca. Later, in 1845 was built the *Nativity of Our Lady Summer Church*. In 1882 instead of old church was built the *St. Nicholas Winter Church*. On the monastery's territory was founded a school where nuns together with girls from the village were learning to read, to write and the Christian laws. Most of the icons from *Raciula Monastery* are of local origin and the technics of their creation reflects the Moldovan school. In 2000 the entire complex was restored and sanctified by the *Bishop Anatolie*.



# THE TEAM OF MISSIONS

The following members of “Heart Doctors” participated in the missions of 2006:

**Dr. Xenofon Yataganas**, honorary Professor of Medicine

**Dr. John Sotiriou**, general practitioner

**Mrs. Helen Sotiriou**, registered nurse

**Mrs. Mary Ipsilanti**, medical assistant

**Mr. Pantelis Ipsilantis**, administrator

**Eugenia Lyra**, medical assistant

**Dr. Spyridon Iliopoulos**, orthopedic doctor

**Theodora Mitsopetrou**, medical assistant

## **SUMMARY OF 2006 ACTIVITIES**

In the year 2006 “Heart Doctors” accomplished 24 missions in 11 countries as follows:

<b>Country</b>	<b>Number and kind of missions</b>
<b>Burundi</b>	one, Medical care
<b>Central African Republic</b>	one, Medical care
<b>Indonesia ( Java )</b>	one, Medicines, water, blankets
<b>Iraq</b>	six, Medicines, external fixation
<b>Kenya</b>	one, Provision of food
<b>Lebanon</b>	six, Medicines, food, water, etc.
<b>Malawi</b>	two, Medical care,
<b>Moldavia</b>	one, Dentist’s equipment
<b>Nigeria</b>	one, Medical care
<b>Soudan</b>	Three, Provision of food
<b>Turkey</b> ( Imbros, Tenedos )	one, Medical care, food

## **DISEASES**

Thousands of sick Africans were medically examined and found to suffer mainly from malaria, helminthiasis, anemia, arthritis, diarrhea, shistosomiasis, skin diseases, infections of the respiratory and urinary-reproductive systems, kahexia, HIV/AIDS.

## **MEDICINES, FOODSTUFFS ETC**

Medicines and hospital materials that have been used in the missions were purchased by “Heart Doctors” or offered to them in kind by friends, local government Organizations, temples, schools, pupils, students and private firms including pharmacies. External fixation sets were offered by various hospitals ( KAT, Evagelismos, Nikaia, Mesologi and Rhodes). Foodstuffs, bottled water, blankets, various necessaries etc. were purchased by “Heart Doctors”. Certain friends offered money to be expended for the acquisition of medicines or foodstuffs.

The Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs covered the cost of purchasing, transporting and installing the dentist’s surgery equipment in Raciula Convent ( Moldavia ).

# THANKS

“Heart Doctors” thank wholeheartedly all their friends, pupils, students and their teachers, businessmen and their employees, priests, pensioners and many others who trusted their donations and offerings to us. We wish to assure them that all their donations have been used very carefully and exclusively for the urgent needs of people struck by earthquake, war, sickness, hunger, physical disaster etc. We help people irrespective of colour, religion etc.

We are thankful to the Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, to all the bishops and priests of the Orthodox Church in Africa, to ambassadors and consuls of Greece for their kind assistance. We also thank the top administrators of the hospitals in Greece who responded positively to our request for external fixation sets.

We are grateful to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ambassador of Greece in Baghdad, the ambassador of Iraq in Athens and all the others who did their best to free the kidnapped vice President of “Heart Doctors” in Baghdad in October.