

MOTIVATION LETTER – DR RONY ZACHARIAH

My journey with MSF and humanitarian action started in 1991 in Lebanon and Palestine which gave me my first taste of what I could do and change in a largely unfair world. That journey from there, took me through many countries of conflict, showed me the best and worst of people and most importantly, that each of us can make a difference by giving a helping hand, speaking out for the vulnerable and using medical and humanitarian advocacy for change.

Some of my best years and memories come from the almost 30 years I worked with this organization. The various life changing experiences ranged from the apartheid in Palestine, to the famine in Somalia, to the politically motivated conflicts in Afghanistan, to the Rwandese genocide to the HIV/AIDS struggle for improved access to anti-retroviral drugs in Africa. It is said that the circumstances where one lives inequity and injustice is what shapes or breaks a character – I believe MSF shaped me in many ways.

I believe with my past experience both on the field and at head-quarters and knowledge of the functioning of the MSF movement, I can contribute to shaping our outlook and perspectives in an increasingly complex global environment of humanitarian action. My added knowledge on operational research science will be useful to MSF where this is of added value to improving the care we offer and for credible advocacy.

I want to see MSF as an organization that has the highest sense of social value by having 'no neutrality of conscience' when it comes to supporting the vulnerable, fighting for injustice and bridging inequities. An MSF where silence and complicity will not be part of us. An MSF which can be a true and genuine voice of individuals and communities that is supported by evidence and powerful advocacy to make change.