

FRENCH FUND MAURICE DE MADRE – info

(FFMM)

ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAST WISHES OF COUNT MAURICE DE MADRE USING THE PROPERTY HE BEQUEATHED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS ON HIS DEATH IN 1970 FOR:



STAFF MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS
WHO HAVE SUFFERED INJURY IN THE COURSE OF
THEIR WORK WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

STAFF MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS
SUFFERING FROM AN ILLNESS RELATED TO
THEIR WORK WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

FAMILIES OF STAFF MEMBERS AND
VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN
THE COURSE OF THEIR WORK WITHIN THE
MOVEMENT

EDITORIAL

After eight years as Chairman of the Board of the French Fund Maurice de Madre (FFMM), I have reached the retirement age for a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross. I am therefore handing the reins over to Christiane Augsburg, also a member of the Committee, in accordance with the FFMM statutes.

Over the past eight years, the FFMM has granted a total of 1.3 million Swiss francs to some 260 men, women and children of the Movement, volunteers and staff in 64 countries. All of them have personally suffered for their ideals, whether directly or indirectly. Wounded, sick, orphans, widows or widowers, they or their families have paid a high personal price in order to help others in the name of the Red Cross or Red Crescent. What could be more natural than sharing the burden of these sacrifices and offering them a modicum of compensation and comfort through a fund such as this one?

My only regret as I take my leave is that we have not always been able to give as much as we would have liked to help these unsung humanitarian heroes, since our resources are so limited. I hope that in the future, the ICRC, the Federation and National Societies will somehow find the means to ensure that the FFMM is no longer found lacking when faced with the needs of those who have made so many sacrifices for others.

It only remains for me to thank the other members of the Board, Marie-Christine de Navacelle, representing the Comte de Madre's family, Bineta Diop, Tricia Baglione, Antoine Chavan, and in particular our Secretary, Jacqueline Hugentobler, also a member of the Board, whose exceptional dedication and hard work ensure that the Fund operates with great efficacy and professionalism.

I encourage National Society representatives who will be attending the Council of Delegates in Nairobi to contact me for more information on what our Fund can do for their volunteers and staff members.

Jacques Moreillon
Chairman of the Board of the FFMM
Member of the ICRC

TAILORED ASSISTANCE

Aminata* worked on a community reconciliation project in the social affairs department of an African National Society.

On 1 October 2004, while travelling on her motorcycle to one of the municipalities covered by the project, she was hit by a police van and, shortly afterwards, she died.

Aminata was a widow and had five daughters aged 4, 16, 19, 21 and 22, all still in education. The two eldest girls had begun higher education, the third was at secondary school, the fourth was about to start secondary school, and the youngest was in the first year of primary school.

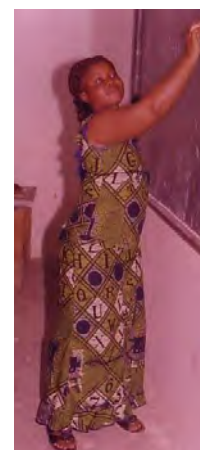
To give the five girls, now orphans, a good start in life, the FFMM decided to pay for their schooling until the two eldest girls had finished studying and could support the others.

With the delegation, the family and the Fund secretariat all working together, the help offered by the FFMM achieved its goal. The three elder sisters have now finished their studies and are working in teaching, catering and management, while the two youngest sisters have been able to continue their education.

* not her real name



FOUR OF THE FIVE GIRLS (2009)



THE ELDEST IN THE
CLASSROOM (2009)

NEWSLETTER No 9 - 2009

THE FUND

Since its creation in 1974, the FFMM has helped hundreds of volunteers, first-aiders and staff members working for the different components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, when they or their relatives have found themselves in straitened circumstances as a result of their commitment to the Movement's ideals. Under Article 2.3 (see box 1), the Board could even accept "special" cases from time to time: in other words, when the link between Red Cross work and the accident, attack, illness or death was remote or even non-existent.

In light of the financial crisis and the ever-increasing numbers of requests submitted, however, at its annual meeting on 22 May the Board had to change the allocation rules slightly for the year ahead. It decided to apply the regulations more strictly, and to put Article 2.3 temporarily on hold.

The Board will endeavour to respond appropriately to needs with the financial resources at its disposal. It can grant general financial assistance (31% in 2008), financial assistance incorporating medical treatment (7%) or children's education in the event of death (9%), financial assistance solely to pay for medical expenses (11%) or children's education (23%) or financial assistance for setting up a small project (9%) (see box 2).

Further information may be obtained from the secretariat of the Fund by postal mail, e-mail or telephone.

Those attending the Council of Delegates (Nairobi 23 - 25.11.2009) are invited to contact Jacques Moreillon, Chairman of the Fund and member of the ICRC, for more information.

FRENCH FUND MAURICE DE MADRE	
Contact: FFMM Secretariat at the ICRC 19, Avenue de la Paix 1202 Geneva - Switzerland Secretary: Ms J. Hugentobler TEL (0041) 22 730 26 96 FAX (0041) 22 730 20 57 e-mail jhugentobler.gva@icrc.org With the support of the following ICRC staff members: - Ms J. Lugin and Ms P. Breitenstein, responsible for keeping the FFMM accounts; - the delegates responsible for cooperation with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the field, and their field officers; - the delegation administrators	Board Members: Mr J. Moreillon, Chairman, ICRC member Ms M.-C. de Navacelle, representative of the family of the Comte de Madre Ms J. Hugentobler, Secretary, ICRC Ms T. Baglione, Federation representative Ms B. Diop Former member, adviser: Mr A. Chavan

BOX 1)

Extract REGULATIONS FOR THE FRENCH FUND MAURICE DE MADRE

(Adopted by the ICRC Assembly on 9 September 1974 and amended on 9 April 1981 and 13 December 1995)

ARTICLE 1

.....

ARTICLE 2

1. In accordance with the deceased's last wishes, the income of the Fund and, depending on the circumstances, the capital shall be used to provide assistance for persons of the permanent or temporary staff of the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, such as first-aid workers, delegates or nurses who, in the course of their work or during war operations or natural disasters, have suffered injury and have thereby found themselves in straitened circumstances or in reduced health.

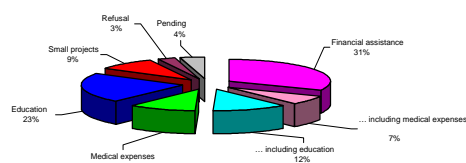
2. If persons specified under paragraph 1. ...

3. The Board may, exceptionally, provide assistance for the training and professional reintegration of:

- staff members seriously reduced in health; and may come to the aid of:
- close relatives of staff members;
- members of families of deceased staff members, even if their death was due to illness, accident or other causes not directly linked to their work within the Movement.

...

BOX 2)



FROM 1975 TO 2008, THE FFMM HANDLED:

Ä 402 requests

Ä 634 individual cases

Ä 1848 beneficiaries

Ä grants totalling CHF 3,319,065