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## OUR HISTORY



France has a long humanitarian tradition all over the world. This commitment has increased throughout the years, particularly due to the commitment of NGOs. Within the new era of globalization, this tradition is progressively changing.

Ever since 1997, I have been supporting the creation of a UN task force (the “Red Helmets”) that would coordinate international efforts to help for victims of humanitarian disasters. I am deeply convinced that the achievement of this project would help save numerous lives around the world.

As the French Secretary of State for victims’ rights, I integrated this proposition into an action plan that was adopted by the Conseil des Ministres (Ministers’ Council) on September 29th, 2004.

On December 31st 2004, due to the disaster caused by tsunami in south-east Asia, the French president Jacques Chirac suggested that the UN create an international humanitarian force. This project was approved by the UN Secretary of State and is currently being reviewed.

Today, The UN plan is being substantially reformed. The goal is to enhance the capacities of humanitarian players working on the ground in order to become more responsive and efficient.

It is to accompany this process of reflection that the Red Helmets Foundation was born in 2006. It also has vocation to facilitate the work of rescue teams, notably by the creation and the provision of innovative technological tools, strengthening the coordination of their actions.

Mister Abdou DIOUF, former president of the Republic of Senegal, General Secretary of the French-speaking world, and the Professor Elie WIESEL, Nobel Peace Prize, sponsors of the foundation, decided to bring us their support.

And it is by a wide and strong mobilization, that the " Red Helmets " will be born.

**Nicole Guedj**

*Former french minister*

*President of the Red Helmets Foundation*

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## THE FOUNDATION

### SUPPORTING HUMANITARIAN ACTION



Nicole Guedj rapidly became aware of the necessity to use high technologies to help victims.

After to have established the Amber Alert, in France, to research missing children, she has decided to mobilize herself in favour of the modernization of the humanitarian aid.

In 2006, after two years of organizing and planning, she set up a state-approved association which, later on, became the Red Helmets Foundation.

**The Red Helmets Foundation is devoted to humanitarian action and committed to:**

**Innovation** : Cutting edge technology is considered to be the keystone to humanitarian action in the 21st century : new means of communication as well as scientific analysis can optimize the actions led by governmental organisations and NGOs on the ground.

**Coordination** : Providing humanitarian actors with means of transportation as well as efficient logistical tools.

The Foundation's ambition is to generate synergies and encourage partnerships between the public sector, private sector and various associations.

To meet this goal, we are lobbying to convince industries that their resources can be used serve humanitarian causes.

# 3

## THE RED HELMETS

### GIVING HUMANITARIAN BROTHERS TO BLUE HELMETS

Every year, all over the world, countries face major humanitarian crises due to natural, industrial, epidemiological and environmental disasters as well as terrorist attacks.

Devoted NGOs can not face the logistical needs and technological challenges on their own. The problems encountered in dealing with recent disasters (tsunami in South-East Asia, Nargis in Burma) underlies how the organisation of international humanitarian aid and the humanitarian governance have become tricky issues.

That's why the Red Helmets Foundation pleads for the creation, at the United Nations, of a responsive task force, acting on an international scale, called « Red Helmets ».

Constituted by a strengthened top management and a supplement task force, the " Red Helmets " could be spread within first crucial hours of a disaster, thanks to their preliminary actions of wakefulness, risks' anticipation, needs' identification, pre-location of the logistic means, and stake on the alert.

On the ground, grouped together under the same humanitarian banner, the « Red Helmets » will gather of firemen, logisticians, emergency physicians, specialists of the civil engineering and of the safety... who will coordinate the governemental and non-governemental organizations, by mutualizing the multiple skills and the available human and material means.

The optimization of the rescue teams' organization will pass by the creation of " Red Helmets " regional centres based on every continent. So, the United Nations could count on decentralized poles, having resources before hand identified and teams led to work collectively.

The right for the humanitarian assistance has to count among the fundamental principles of The United Nations. Only a humanitarian strength of the " Red Helmets " will guarantee the legitimacy of the intervention of the humanitarian actors, on any theater of crisis, thanks to preliminary negotiations with all the member States.



# 4

## EMERGESAT

### SPACE FOR HUMANITARIAN

During major humanitarian crises, the classical communications tools are often destroyed. Yet, satellites are usable at any time to re-establish contact.

The first achievement of the Red Helmets Foundation has been to develop a humanitarian container of communication. Realized in partnership with the CNES (French spatial agency) and Thales Alenia Space, Emergesat is a tool for managing humanitarian crises.

Within first 24 hours of a disaster, this "humanitarian kit" allows to meet the ground actors' needs : communication via satellites ; data exchanges between key decision centres and distant services ; development of a local radio network between several rescue teams ; satellite maps for a better knowledge of the ground ; telemedicine thanks to a dedicated suitcase offering the possibility of benefiting, in emergency, from the assistance of specialized doctors ; water analysis.

### Providing containers

The first humanitarian container acquired by the Red Helmets Foundation is now being used by the French Government. It will soon be integrated into the national humanitarian plan, sent in one of the first planes leaving France.

Another container has been acquired by the Foundation and is being used by several NGOs handling humanitarian crisis.

### IN DARFOUR, SAVING LIVES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

The first experimentation of Emergesat took place, in Abéché, in the East of Chad, in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In camps managed by the UNHCR, Emergesat allowed to facilitate the humanitarian workers' action helping darfuri refugees and Chadian people.



# 5

## THE FOUNDATION'S UPCOMING PROJECT

### FACILITATE THE INTERVENTION OF HUMANITARIAN PLAYERS ON THE GROUND

#### The Chart of Spatial Telecommunications

The Red Helmets Foundation is working on the creation of a “Chart of Spatial Telecommunications” that can be used during any humanitarian crisis. Our objective is to get as many telecommunications operators as possible to sign this document, allowing the use of their network during major crises.

#### Production of drinking water by air condensation

On a humanitarian disaster field, the alimentation in drinking water is a decisive issue. Often, countries affected by major crises, lack of this kind of resources and do not succeed to answer to the populations' needs.

To find some solutions, the Red Helmets Foundation is working on the conception of innovative technological tools, allowing to satisfy this water need.

For the moment, the foundation, in partnership with Air Water company, propose the provision of tools which are producing drinking water by air condensation. So, since we are situated on a territory having a minimal rate of humidity (approximately 20 %), these tools allow to obtain more than 1000 liters of water a day.

Self-sufficient and easily transportable, it can be deployed, in emergency, on every disasters field.

#### Safety

To allow to humanitarian workers to succeed in leading their mission in the best conditions, the Red Helmets Foundation develops innovative technological tools allowing to answer the safety's requirement of these ones.





# THE HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIP

If you believe that it's our duty to do everything we can to prevent thousands of deaths provoked each year by humanitarian crisis...

If you also believe, just like we do, that the best way to meet this goal is to reinforce the power of NGOs acting on the ground....

## JOIN US !

The Red Helmets Foundation is committed to support humanitarian actors, by providing them with necessary tools and logistical means.

Our ambition is to create an international humanitarian force called "Red Helmets" and to promote the use of new technologies to develop innovative tools helping humanitarian actors in their daily work.

Donating to the Red Helmets Foundation is a way to contribute to the development of ambitious humanitarian projects.

It's also a way to :

- Share humanist and universal values linked to international solidarity.
- Promote the social commitment of your company.
- Enhance corporate pride among your employees.

## THE ADVANTAGES

Since august 2003, 60 % of corporate donations are tax free as long as the donation does not represent more than 5 % of the company's revenues. If your donation exceeds 5 % of your total revenues, you will be able to get tax deductions during the five following years.

Your donation will also guarantee you increased visibility: our visual identity and logo can be used in any corporate brochure or business document you might need. In addition, your logo will be featured on our brochure as well as on the Foundation's website, under the partnerships section.

*Accounting : Deloitte & Associés - Auditor : Audit CPA*