

DECLASSIFIED

From:
To: Michael Mosselmans;
Date: 28/02/03 5:52pm
Subject: Re: Fwd: Civil Military Relations in Complex Emergencies - DFID Position

Michael

(now moved on to LAD)

I cannot see any International Development Act problems here. Section 3 of the Act, on "Humanitarian Assistance", says: "The SoFS may provide any person or body with assistance for the purpose of alleviating the effects of a natural or man-made disaster or other emergency on the population of one or more countries outside the UK".

... which pretty much allows you to do what you like, so long as it is for the purpose of alleviating the effects of a disaster or emergency on the population of a country outside UK.

This is understood as applying pretty much to the immediate effects of an emergency, and not to long term rehabilitation or development: ie it is not development assistance, which comes under Section 1 (and 2 for OTs). Once you move into development assistance you must be motivated by poverty reduction. But you can still use soldiers to provide assistance if that is the best way of reducing poverty.

PED x

>>> Michael Mosselmans 28/02/03 16:52:37 >>>

The Secretary of State has asked that we check that there are no legal implications or difficulties in respect of our proposed position on engagement with the military set out in the attached submission from

Please could you forward it to new email address - I am imagining you have contact details for - and ask her if she is in a position to comment on whether there are any International Humanitarian Law implications of what we are proposing.

Tell that we can factor any time that she chooses to spend on this into her first claim under the new contract that we are discussing/finalising for her.

I would be grateful if you are able to point this in the direction of whoever in PED may be responsible for the Overseas Development Act, with a request that they consider whether what is proposed in the submission below holds out any issues with regards to acceptability within the new Act.

Michael Mosselmans
CHAD
x

CC: Sue Wardell

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