



From: Colonel Martin CM Bricknell DM MMedSci FFPH FIHM
Advanced Command and Staff Course
Joint Service Command and Staff College
Shrivenham
Swindon SN6 8TS
Email: MBricknell.jscsc@defenceacademy.mod.uk

Dear Colleague

HOW SHOULD INTERNATIONAL MILITARY MEDICAL FORCES SUPPORT SECURITY SECTOR REFORM?

I am currently a student on the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Joint Services Command and Staff College. I have to undertake a Defence Research Project (DRP) as part of this course. I am seeking your assistance with my project to answer the following research question: *How should international military medical forces support security sector reform?*

As you will know, the UK Defence Medical Services (DMS) are currently supporting UK military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. Experiences from both of these theatres have led to the development of military doctrine for 'Stabilisation Operations'. In addition to our primary task of providing medical support to our own military forces, this doctrine has led to a debate on the role of international military medical services in supporting the reconstruction and development of the indigenous civilian health sector and also supporting the development of health services for the indigenous security services. The DMS has a reasonably mature narrative for our engagement with indigenous civilian health sectors through practical experiences in Kurdistan, Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo as well as Iraq and Afghanistan. There is much less consensus on, and shared experience of, supporting the development of health services for indigenous security services.

The DMS has been involved in supporting the development of health services for indigenous security services in a number of countries including Oman, Brunei, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Afghanistan. My project aims to capture some of this collective experience and to identify common themes in order to inform our doctrine and guidance for this role in the future. I hope to achieve this through a questionnaire and follow-up interview with people who have been involved in this role in one of the countries I have listed.

I wonder if you might be willing to assist me. If so, please could you send me an email, with your contact details and a short summary of your experiences, to the account shown at the top. I will then get in touch with you to discuss my project further. Please feel free to forward this to anyone whom you think might be able to assist my project.

Thank you for help,

Martin Bricknell