**‘MSF testimonial’ – 29 September 2020**

MSF is a humanitarian organisation committed to providing medical assistance to victims of wars, disasters and epidemics, and to those who have no access to medical care. MSF’s over-riding concern is its patients. Whether it is an outbreak of Ebola, a conflict in Central Africa or the war in Syria, MSF is there to help people.

*On 29 September 2020, emergency doctor Sebastian Spencer will talk about his experiences.*

Emergency doctor Sebastian Spencer leads the medical department of the Brussels operational centre of Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF), an international medical organisation with more than 400 projects in 70 countries.

Dr Spencer has done assignments with MSF as an emergency doctor in countries including Central African Republic, Chad, Uganda, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti. “My motivation is to provide help where it is most needed, to the most vulnerable people,” he says.

As well as his work for MSF, Dr Spencer is visiting faculty at the University of Louvain within the Network on Humanitarian Action (NOHA). Previously he was head of the emergency department and chief medical officer of a 500-bed hospital in Brussels, where he designed a new emergency department and developed pre-hospital services.

Dr Spencer holds a Masters in Tropical Medicine and International Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and an MBA in General Administration from the Vlerick Business School in Ghent. He is a qualified instructor in advanced life support and advanced trauma life support. He has been a participant of the International Emergency Department Leadership Institute (IEDLI) since 2009 and a faculty member since 2013, where he lectures on strategic planning, project management and motivation.

**Dr Spencer will talk about his experiences on assignment with MSF and his motivation to do humanitarian work. “I wanted to discover the world and do humanitarian work to become aware of the world in which I live," he says. “My missions have made me who I am.”**

This talk will offer you an insight into the reality of the work done by MSF’s teams around the world.

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