OTTAWA TREATY

Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration
16 June 2005, Geneva

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Emergency medical care ...

... please think outside the box

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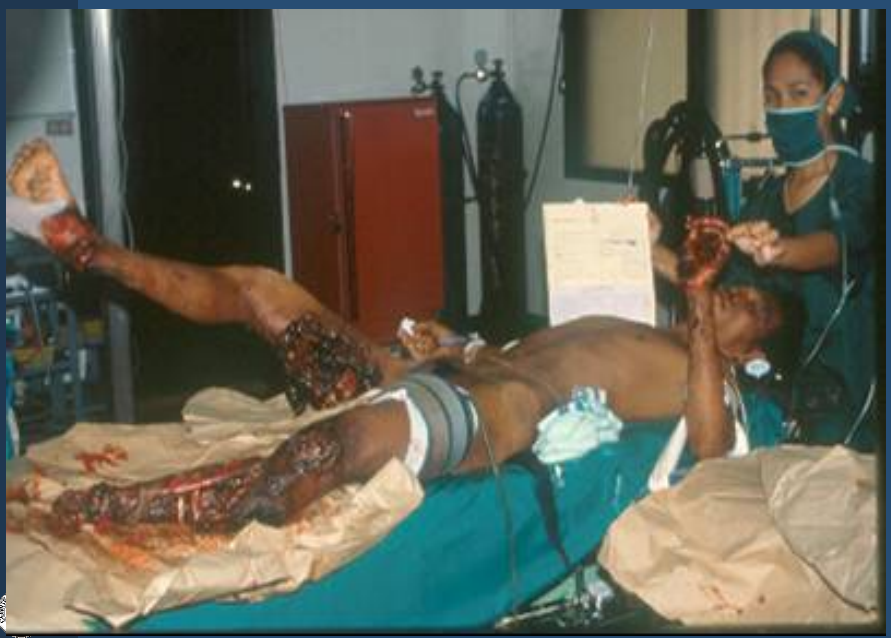

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Emergency medical care

- BOOM - mine injury ... alive ... so far
- first aid ... then
- medical evacuation to ...
- health facility for definitive management ...
- surgery and recovery ...
- then physical and societal rehabilitation

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Emergency medical care, blocks and difficulties

- security
- health policy
- health services
- logistics
- health infrastructure
- political will and money

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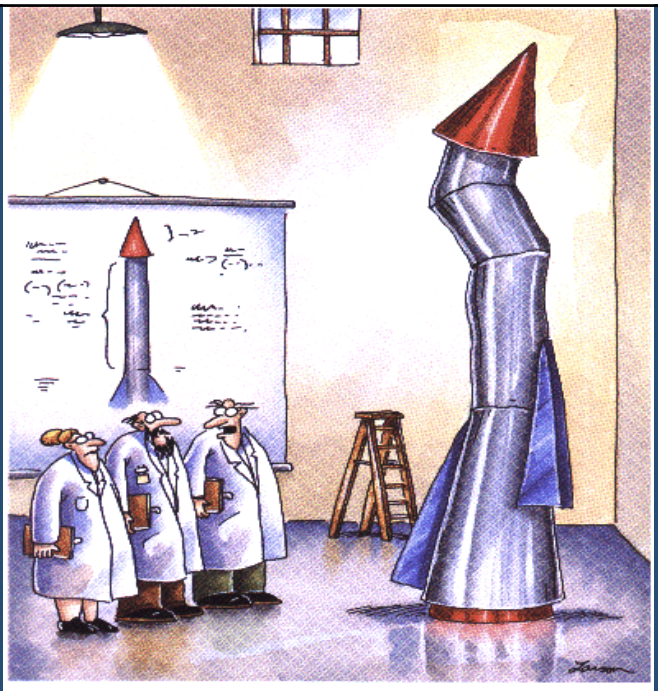

"It's time we face reality, my friends. ... We're not exactly rocket scientists."

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Actors

- state actors
  - states party
  - states not party
  - donor
  - recipient
- non state actors
  - armed groups
  - IOs
  - INGOs
  - NGOs
  - etc

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Security

- mine infestation in populated areas - population at risk and need more service capacity and access
- non state actors (ie not party to the convention) who oppose the state may be in open conflict
- safe access for medical teams if still fighting? still laying mines? explosive remnants of war (ERW)?

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Health policy

- who set the priorities and why?
- what and where are the services?
- how and why are staff trained?
- is there an effective health information system (HIS)?
- public vs private

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Health services

- first aid (FA) / medical evacuation (medevac)
- definitive treatment (surgery)
- physical rehabilitation
- (societal rehabilitation)

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FA / medevac

- are the ambulances any better than taxis?
- are the staff trained in emergency care and treatment?
- are there regular supplies?
- is access secure?
- is equipment maintained and updated (running costs, repairs, etc)?

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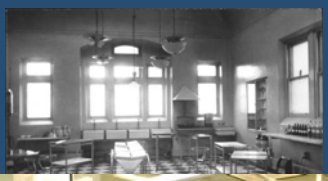
Definitive treatment

- trained staff
- definitive surgery
- supply of utilities, consumables and capital equipment
- workplace safety
- biosafety
- post operative patient care and management
- physiotherapy

an EFFECTIVE hospital



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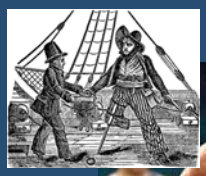
Physical rehabilitation

- are there programmes?
- are staff trained?
- is appropriate technology used?
- do services include repair and replacement of prostheses?
- is there a culture of rehabilitation and reintegration?



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... and after physical rehabilitation ...

- is there a culture of integration back into the community?
- do certain taboos operate?
- is there a role for some form of affirmative action?

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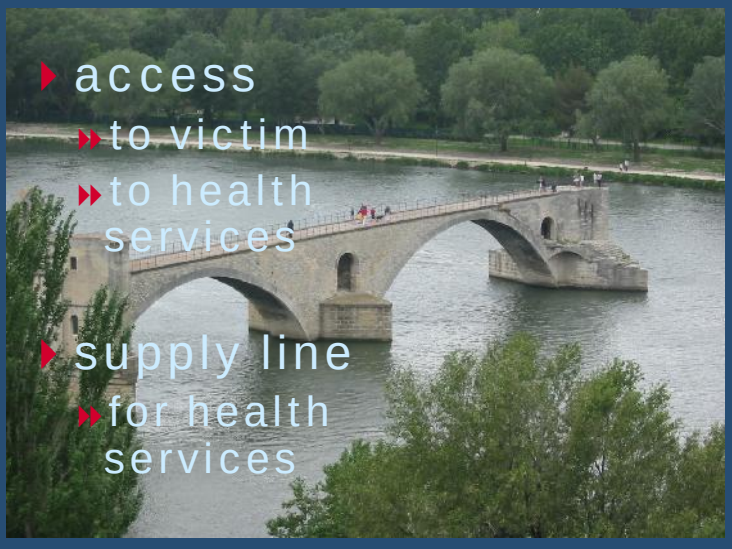
Logistics



- access
  - to victim
  - to health services
- supply line
  - for health services

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Health infrastructure

- back to health policy
- includes domestic health investment
- extends to donor funding

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Political will and money

Commitments have been made ...

there are now obligations to meet and to keep on meeting

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Apart from obvious direct response programmes, what can provide added value?

- broad community development
- appropriate technology and response (TV's ER style vs the KISS principle)
- but ... fashionable funding trends vs chronic problems (eg malaria, mines)

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Broad community development

- no health services?
  - think health volunteer network
- no employment for reintegration?
  - think micro credit
- victims have families
  - think schools
- paddies with 3 rice crops reduced to 1?
  - think really hard ...

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Health facilities

- hospitals and health centres are easy but ...
  - which?
  - where?
  - why?
  - supply?
  - staff training and security?
  - maintenance?
- be comprehensive and sustainable

Access and logistics

- roads and bridges
  - access to victims
  - medevac access to definitive management
  - access to markets and therefore contributes to broader community development

Key question 1

- For donors, is the decision guided by the needs of the victims or is it guided by donor policy and therefore conditional?
  - eg: funding linked to specific health service models

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Key question 2

- Is it appropriate?
  - eg: "mobile CT scan"?
  - eg: recycling solid rubber tyres from old military vehicles rather than importing components

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Emergency medical care?

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Emergency medical care, blocks and difficulties

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- political will and money

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the victims need you ...

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the victims need you AND your continuing political will ...

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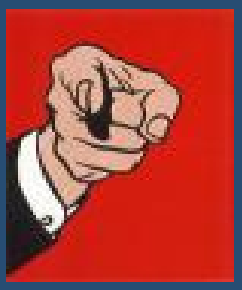
the victims need you AND your continuing political will AND your continuing financial support …



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Thank you

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