



## **The *Opération Sourire* Charter**

Thanks to *Opération Sourire*, patients are operated on and looked after by volunteer medical/surgical teams in countries in which Médecins du Monde is present.

Article 1 The objective of *Opération Sourire* is to restore the smile to persons – especially children – suffering from congenital or acquired deformities.

Article 2 *Opération Sourire* is staffed by a network of peer-invited surgeons. They work on short-term reparative surgery programmes with a medical team. These missions are carried out in partnership with the host hospitals.

Article 3 The conditions treated by this surgery are essentially malformative, infectious (noma etc.), acute burns and sequela.

Article 4 Priority is given to vulnerable members of the population, and to those most excluded from access to healthcare, who cannot receive the care they need from their national health systems.

Article 5 Patients receive treatment from *Opération Sourire* teams in medical facilities approved by the minister of health of the host country. Mdm ensures that the patients to be treated are not charged for their care.

Article 6 The care given to the beneficiaries of *Opération Sourire* is administered within the constraints of the healthcare structures of the host country, but in accordance with WHO guidelines.

Article 7 As part of *Opération Sourire*, Médecins du Monde supplies medical equipment and consumables to countries whose own medical infrastructure lacks such materials. The objective is to empower local personnel by developing specialist hospital structures that are adapted to the realities of the countries in which we operate.

Article 8 *Opération Sourire* contributes to the paired-training of medical staff by offering them instruction in operating techniques, anaesthesia and post-surgery care.

The objective is to train national medical personnel to treat a range of surgical pathologies affecting the population in their own countries.