TESTIMONY:  
  
Asia Salih Mohammed  
Mother  
  
00:07:09:12 - 00:07:12:11  
My full name is Asia Salih Mohammed,   
  
00:07:12:11 - 00:07:15:10  
and my daughter’s name is Medina Tahir Mohammed.   
  
00:07:15:20 - 00:07:17:17  
My daughter is one year old.  
  
00:07:18:06 - 00:07:20:07  
I came to this hospital to seek treatment for my sick daughter.  
  
00:07:21:05 - 00:07:23:06  
We were displaced from our place of origin to Dubti IDP  
  
00:07:23:06 - 00:07:25:12  
due to the conflict between the Tigray and Afar forces.   
  
00:07:26:18 - 00:07:29:17  
We have encountered a lot of challenges due to this conflict.  
  
00:07:29:17 - 00:07:32:16  
Many people got sick and other died.   
  
00:07:33:22 - 00:07:37:11  
We left our home to save our lives and travelled on foot   
  
00:07:38:08 - 00:07:41:07  
for one month to reach areas in which public transportation is available.   
  
00:07:42:01 - 00:07:45:10  
After we got transportation, things started to improve.  
  
00:07:47:02 - 00:07:50:01  
The  IDP site in where we are staying is extremely harsh and uninhabitable.   
  
00:07:50:01 - 00:07:51:03  
There is no sufficient food to eat,   
  
00:07:51:03 - 00:07:52:13  
there is no drinking water,   
  
00:07:52:22 - 00:07:56:17  
the houses in which we are staying in have no roof   
  
00:07:57:04 - 00:08:00:06  
so we have no shade and we’re exposed to the sun.  
  
00:08:01:02 - 00:08:06:00  
There are a lot of problems,   
  
00:08:06:14 - 00:08:13:21  
the displaced people can’t find a place to stay,   
  
00:08:14:21 - 00:08:17:20  
and no water to drink.  
  
  
INTERVIEW:  
  
Dr. Abubeker Mahammud  
Medical Director, Dupti Hospital, Ethiopian Ministry of Health  
  
  
00:08:21:17 - 00:08:22:03  
Because of  
  
00:08:22:03 - 00:08:26:05  
the conflict,  
the other hospitals are not working.  
  
00:08:26:05 - 00:08:29:17  
Other health centres are not working.  
  
00:08:30:13 - 00:08:32:17  
Health centres, those who are functional  
  
00:08:32:17 - 00:08:35:14  
in the warzone, all are not functional.  
  
00:08:36:05 - 00:08:39:09  
So, all children  
  
00:08:39:10 - 00:08:42:11  
coming from those  
  
00:08:42:11 - 00:08:46:00  
conflict areas – its  
not only because of the war, it’s  
  
00:08:46:00 - 00:08:49:23  
because of lack of nutrition,  
because of lack of electricity,  
  
00:08:50:22 - 00:08:53:01  
because of lack of medical supplies  
  
00:08:53:20 - 00:08:57:22  
– so the secondary effect is  
the health facilities are not working.  
  
00:08:58:05 - 00:09:03:23  
Pre-conflict, we had an admission rate  
of five per week, there were no deaths.  
  
00:09:03:23 - 00:09:07:21  
Then, it becomes 30 admissions,  
it becomes 34,  
  
00:09:07:21 - 00:09:10:22  
it becomes 37 and then it becomes forty.  
  
00:09:11:16 - 00:09:16:12  
From those 34 patients, we have four lost.  
  
00:09:16:12 - 00:09:18:11  
Four deaths.  
  
00:09:18:11 - 00:09:21:19  
All died  
within twelve hours of their hospital stay.  
  
00:09:23:15 - 00:09:25:05  
So the mortality is increasing  
  
00:09:27:00 - 00:09:28:19  
from day to day.  
  
00:09:28:21 - 00:09:34:00  
They came late,  
even on the verge of death.  
  
00:09:34:09 - 00:09:37:19  
They come to the hospital  
when they are more critical.  
  
00:09:39:07 - 00:09:41:11  
When they are in need of oxygen,  
  
00:09:42:04 - 00:09:44:13  
when they are in need of blood.  
  
00:09:44:13 - 00:09:48:02  
When they are in need of potent  
antibiotics.  
  
00:09:49:00 - 00:09:51:14  
So, they arrive  
  
00:09:52:03 - 00:09:55:22  
almost on the verge of death,  
so because of that  
  
00:09:56:23 - 00:10:00:10  
the mortality and the  
  
00:10:00:10 - 00:10:01:21  
morbidity is still high.  
  
  
INTERVIEW:  
  
Raphael Veicht  
Emergency Coordinator  
  
  
00:10:05:10 - 00:10:09:12  
Large parts of the population in Afar  
live in a state of absolute distress.  
  
00:10:10:05 - 00:10:14:07  
So there's a real urgent need to scale up  
the level of humanitarian assistance  
  
00:10:14:17 - 00:10:18:17  
reaching these people,  
especially the internally displaced  
  
00:10:18:17 - 00:10:22:21  
people, urgently on a very large scale  
and across the board.  
  
00:10:22:21 - 00:10:27:09  
There's an urgent need to increase the  
level of access to safe drinking water.  
  
00:10:28:01 - 00:10:31:09  
There's an urgent need to increase  
the level of access to food.  
  
00:10:32:09 - 00:10:35:10  
And there's also an urgent  
need to increase the level of access  
  
00:10:35:10 - 00:10:36:15  
to health care.  
  
00:10:36:15 - 00:10:38:17  
Primary and secondary health care.  
  
00:10:39:10 - 00:10:43:23  
And this can only happen if people  
within the humanitarian community at large  
  
00:10:44:09 - 00:10:46:23  
start  
to recognize the level of of emergency,  
  
00:10:47:17 - 00:10:50:11  
which is happening in Afar  
right at the moment.  
  
00:10:50:16 - 00:10:55:11  
And if people pull together and scale up  
the lifesaving activities in Afar.  
  
00:10:56:07 - 00:11:00:17  
And it's urgently needed because, again,  
we have a massive amount of people.  
  
00:11:01:07 - 00:11:04:11  
We're talking about 600,000 people  
internally displaced people alone,  
  
00:11:04:19 - 00:11:09:16  
who are on the brink of starvation and who  
struggle on a daily basis to survive.  
  
00:11:09:21 - 00:11:13:16  
This upscale of humanitarian assistance  
to Afar  
  
00:11:14:11 - 00:11:17:11  
needs to happen  
now, should have happened yesterday.  
  
00:11:18:03 - 00:11:20:18  
It needs to needs to happen  
on a sufficient scale.  
  
00:11:21:10 - 00:11:24:21  
Otherwise the humanitarian situation  
in Afar  
  
00:11:24:21 - 00:11:28:22  
will continue to worsen and worsen  
and worsen within the coming months.  
  
00:11:29:08 - 00:11:34:06  
And we see people dying of  
a lack of access to food, lack of access  
  
00:11:34:06 - 00:11:38:07  
to water and lack of access  
to health care on a quite alarming scale.

Special instructions This footage/pictures portray people in highly difficult conditions. When posting and using this material please ensure that the pictures are rightly contextualised.