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.