**WRITTEN TESTIMONIES LINKED TO PHOTO PORTRAITS**

**Baba Makintu**

Community elder from Damaturu town (Yobe state, northern Nigeria), 92 years old.

When I was younger, at around 25 years of age, I got meningitis. It affected my vision. For a while I couldn’t see anymore. It also deformed one of my legs. It is now very weak. This disease has hit many of my family members in Damaturu. I have seen people die because of it, creating havoc in many families. This is why I think it is so important to get vaccinated. We encourage everyone to carry out such interventions.

**Solomon Jakob**

Health officer, 25 years old.

If you take this meningitis (vaccination) you keep your whole body healthy and you can do all types of activities. Taking this meningitis (vaccine) is good for everybody. Take me as an example, I have eight children, I have vaccinated them all. Even my neighbours, my colleagues, my friends, I informed them all to come and vaccinate everyone. I gave them a lot of information about it. This meningitis (vaccine) is good for everybody from the age of one to 29. We have a lot of young people in this country, they are the leaders of tomorrow, if they don’t take this meningitis (vaccine), there will be many diseases in the country. But if many people take this meningitis (vaccine) preventively, like in the place where I am staying in Damaturu many have taken it. 95% of the population have taken it, because they know it protects us from many diseases.

**Mustafa Ibrahim**

Student from Damaturu (northern Nigeria), 15 years old.

There are ten of us in my family and we earn our living by selling goods in the market. I have come here with some of my brothers and sisters. Our father has encouraged us to get vaccinated against meningitis as this disease can create lots of problems. We don’t have to be afraid if we get protected.

**Hamza Hassan**

MSF health promotion supervisor in Damaturu meningitis vaccination campaign, 38 years old.

We started our health promotion at least three days before the implementation with a great number of community mobilisers going from house to house, meeting community leaders, religious leaders, women groups, youth groups, union workers, to inform them about this deadly disease so that people become aware that meningitis can kill, it can cause disabilities. This disease is a very deadly disease, so the people want this vaccination as a way to prevent meningitis.