

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY ETHIOPIA ON  
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES: WHO'S WORK IN EMERGENCIES  
AGENDA ITEMS 15.3:**

Thank you Chair,

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia aligns itself on the statement delivered by Kenya on behalf of the 47 Member States of the WHO Africa Region and would like to give intervention on agenda item 15.3.

The COVID pandemic coupled with the conflict in northern Ethiopia created significant burden on the Ethiopian health system.

To ensure the provision of life saving and essential health services in the conflict affected areas and address the ensuing displacements, the government has coordinated its efforts in collaboration with various stakeholders. These included activation of the incident management system, deployment of mobile health and nutrition teams, improving surveillance and early warning systems, distribution of medicines and supplies, and more. However, the report has failed to recognize these efforts.

The government of Ethiopia has also been working on facilitation of supplies through partners to areas inaccessible to government.

WHO's technical, financial and logistics support to strengthen the COVID 19 response and other health emergencies in the country including its role as health cluster coordinator was critical.

It is also WHO's responsibility to advocate for display data for countries with complex humanitarian emergencies as mandated on resolution stated on WHA 65.20. However, the Surveillance System for Attacks on health care (SSA) dashboard for Ethiopia still remains with no reports. In addition, we fail to understand how the DG report focused only on Tigray and overlooked the massive destruction of health infrastructures in adjacent Amhara and Afar regions and only referred it as a recent spillover of conflict to these areas.

In light of the above, we would like to urge WHO to update the SSA to alert the global community about the severity and magnitude of the current public

health emergency in the different parts of the country to mobilize necessary support.

In conclusion, Ethiopia requests for WHO to closely work with the government in the whole response and to use official data in order to avoid confusion and misinformation.

I thank you