



RESPONDING TO THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY IN NORTHERN ETHIOPIA

23 November 2020, Addis Abeba, Ethiopia

Armed conflict in any region gives rise to human displacement both within and outside borders. Multiple reports, including data from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, confirm that more than 30,000 Ethiopian refugees have now fled into Sudan. The extent and gravity of displacement within the Tigray and surrounding regions is yet to be wholly elaborated.

At the outset, Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), born out of the Rwanda Genocide, wishes to reiterate its deep sensitivity to any and all violations of human rights, and calls for restraint to avoid abuses and killings of innocent civilians.

This unfolding humanitarian crisis calls for an immediate and all-round humanitarian response. AHA seeks and is set to do its part to the best of its capacity, in collaboration with Government and local authorities and with the cooperation and support of the International Humanitarian Community. AHA is undertaking preparedness measures to remain on standby for an integrated humanitarian response; one that has identified the needs and the efficient paths necessary to alleviate human suffering.

AHA's former Country Representative to Sudan has just been assigned at the Head Office to coordinate and manage needs assessment and preparedness exercises, in order to deliver the appropriate assistance to internally displaced persons. The Head Office will liaise with national offices and international partners and will assemble a team for quick deployment. Meanwhile, our offices in Khartoum and in the Afar region are monitoring developments from close proximity. An implementation proposal will be shared with all concerned stakeholders following the needs assessment.

AHA fully recognizes that humanitarian access and security are imperative to reach and assist people in need, and calls on all parties to uphold their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

Media Contact:

AHA – Head Office

info@africahumanitarian.org

Tel: +251 (0)11 660-4800 / 660-3700

www.africahumanitarian.org

Twitter: @ahaction