



Ethiopia

Nairobi, 22 November 2020

SITUATION

In the evening of Tuesday, 3 November 2020, reports indicate that Tigray regional special force attacked the northern command base of the Ethiopia Federal army. As a result, Federal military was deployed to restore law and order. A conflict erupted and is ongoing and even escalating to affect Eritrea. According to unconfirmed reports from OCHA the conflict has already resulted in massive internal displacements among residents, IDPs, and refugees living in Western and Northern Tigray. According to UNHCR, more than 30,000 refugees from Tigray have already crossed the border to Sudan and their numbers are continuously increasing. The ACT Ethiopia Forum stand in solidarity with all affected, and calls for a peaceful resolution, and the immediate stop of the fighting. It further calls for the establishment of a humanitarian corridor to allow relief operations and the protection of all civilians and humanitarian aid workers.

NEEDS

The conflict has put the region in a state of crisis. The conflict affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sufficient food
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe shelter and basic non-food items
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	basic health services and facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	livelihood activities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	protection services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	adequate nutrition

The conflict situation is especially dire for already vulnerable groups, such as IDP's, Eritrean refugees, and others with special needs. Specifically affected are woman and girls who are either internally displaced, or fleeing into Sudan in search of safety, and who require protection from harassment and rape on top of all other needs. There exists an urgent need to provide immediate assistance in food, water, safety, NFIs, and shelter for those fleeing from the fighting areas.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	National Disaster Risk Management Commission and Ethiopia National Defence Force
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UNHCR, UNOCHA, IOM, WFP and others are supporting the affected.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	NCA, PADD through implementing partners are monitoring and plan to support the affected.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	Ethiopian Red Cross Society, IRC are responding.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military presence	Click here to enter text .Ethiopian National Defence Force
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Relief Society of Tigray, and other NGO's
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Faith based groups	Ethiopian Orthodox Church, EOC-Development and Inter Church Aid Commission, Catholic Church, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, EECMY-Development and Social Service Commission, and others, Muslims are working to support the humanitarian crisis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	Some are hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affected communities	People living in the conflict areas (residents, IDPs, Eritrean refugees are affected by the conflict)

The conflict emergency response is currently being coordinated by UNHCR, UNOCHA, regional and zonal government line offices. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT Ethiopia Forum (AEF) will participate in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (communication in the area is currently limited due to internet and telecommunication shut down) and seek to establish an open line of communication with crisis affected communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation, feedback, and need, adhering to CHS standards and other ACT humanitarian policies.

ACT Alliance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Ethiopia Forum was established as a country forum in Ethiopia in 2010, with members working in humanitarian response and development, interventions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Ethiopia Forum works in areas affected by the conflict, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Ethiopia Forum is currently monitoring the situation remotely and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Ethiopia Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT Ethiopia Forum will identify gaps when it is possible and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT Ethiopia Forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide to ensure that the conflict affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to Food, NFI, WASH and livelihood recovery.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Ethiopia Forum will be ready to respond, providing that a humanitarian corridor is established to safely reach the affected persons in the coming weeks.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Furthermore, ACT Ethiopia Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the conflict are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Alwynn Javier (alwynn.javier@actalliance.org)

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