HIGHLIGHTS

- Between 9 and 15 February, 243 new arrivals were recorded. Since 1 January 2017, 3,776 Somali new arrivals have been recorded in Melkadida, Ethiopia, 3,692 of whom have been registered as refugees by the Government of Ethiopia and UNHCR and relocated to the Kobe, Hilaewyn, Buramino and Melkadida refugee camps. 74 persons await relocation.
- On average, 84 persons arrived daily between 1 January and 15 February 2017.
- 73% of the total registered new arrivals are children, whilst 89% are women and children.
- The new arrivals, mostly originating from the Bay region (73%), Middle Juba (10%) and Gedo (6%), reported to have fled conflicts, exacerbated by food insecurity in Somalia.
- To date, Ethiopia hosts some 245,000 registered Somali refugees in the areas of Melkadida and Jijiga.
UPDATE ON THE SITUATION

Melkadida

- **Protection:** Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) are identified at the reception centre, and an updated list is shared along with the manifest for relocation, targeted assistance and referrals. Information sessions are held on the reporting of protection issues, services in the reception centre and in the camps. Awareness-raising is being conducted on health and hygiene promotion for women as well as on the reporting of SGBV incidents. To date, 45 UASC have been identified amongst the new arrivals.

- **Food & nutrition:** Nutritional screening was carried out for 73 newly arrived children under the age of five and for 30 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW). The prevalence of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) was significantly lower than the previous week, with respective rates of 5% and 23%. The average GAM rate amongst new arrivals since 1 January 2017 stands at 74.1%. The prevalence of malnutrition amongst PLW stood continuously at 37%, indicating that the malnutrition situation amongst children and pregnant women remains severe.

  Food is provided through a mix of wet and dry feeding. Children aged up to 10 years and pregnant and lactating women receive, twice a day, a fortified porridge (CSB) as wet feeding, as well as High Energy Biscuits. Upon arrival in the camps, all refugees are provided with monthly food rations and CRIs.

- **Health:** MSF-S continued to provide 24/7 emergency healthcare services at the health post. Between 9 and 15 February 2017, 32 outpatient consultations were conducted, half of whom were children under the age of five. Acute respiratory infection accounted for around 41% of the consultations, followed by acute malnutrition and intestinal worms. No reports of watery diarrhea or dehydration were filed amongst those who consulted. An intensive surveillance activity is ongoing in collaboration with the Woreda Health Bureau, ARRA and MSF-S, with no reports of diseases with epidemic potentials such as measles, acute watery diarrhea. In addition, vaccinations were provided to 67 children under the age of five and to 38 women within the reproductive age group. No deaths were reported.

- **WASH:** At least 20 litres per person per day (lit/p/d) are being provided to new arrivals at the Reception Centre. The latrine coverage stands at a ratio of 15 persons per latrine drop hole against the UNHCR minimum standard of 20. Disinfection and regular water quality monitoring is being carried out by trained personnel. WASH services at the camps are available for new arrivals.

- **Gaps:** In spite of the efforts to address the nutritional needs of new arrivals, malnutrition continues to pose a challenge.

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