

# The Horn Tribune

Vol III/ Issue 1475

Sunday 20 November 2022

27 Rabi' II, 1444 AH

An Independent Weekly Newspaper of Dawan Media Group, Tel: 0634414181/0634424590/0634615145

## The President presided over KULMIYE executive committee meeting



**-They scoffed at opposition non-acknowledging of the government  
-They termed the opposition declaration as illegal, null and void**

By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic who is also the Chairman of the ruling KULMIYE party H.E. Muse Bihi Abdi chaired a meeting of the executive committee of the KULMIYE party that resolved to step up the party's activities in endearing itself even more to the members of

the public.

The meeting was held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at the party's headquarters in the capital Hargeisa.

The meeting termed the recent declaration by the opposition fraternity of not recognizing the government of the day as one that

held no legal basis, was illegal, null and void.

The President was accompanied by the VP H.E. Abdirahman Abdullahi Ismail (Saili'i) to the meeting of the members of the executive committee.

They focused on the importance of

Continue on page 2

### The Nine Political Organizations Reiterate Political Parties Elections will Precede Presidential Election



In a joint press conference held over the week at Asod Hotel in Hargeisa, the nine political organizations that were recently certified by Somaliland Commission for Registration of Political Parties reiterated that political organizations elections will

Continue on page 2

### Negotiations Doors Open for Opposition, Says Minister Saeed Sulub



Guled. A. Mahir

The Minister of Livestock, Animal husbandry and Fishery Hon. Saeed Sulub Mohammed has urged the opposition fraternity to come back to the negotiation table. He stated

Continue on page 2

### Foreign Ministry's press release to International Community



The government of the Republic of Somaliland reinstated to the International Community that its peace and Stability is home grown and inviolable. Ultimately the

Continue on page 2

### Concerted efforts by the military, area administration and elders address pastureland controversies at Balli'ad in Buuhoodle

**They destroyed illegal fences and banned illegal excavations of water reservoirs**

By M. A. Egge

Concerted efforts by the military personnel of the National Army, the area administration, elders and eminent personalities have over the week



Continue on page 3

### Eastern regions' traditional leaders accuse the opposition parties of rejecting forthcoming elections

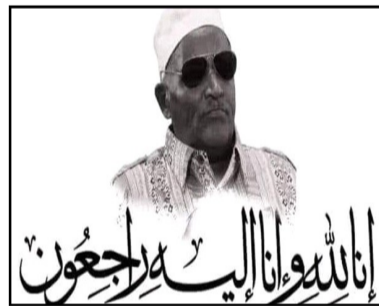


By M.A. Egge

Traditional leaders, intellectuals and eminent personalities of Sool, Sanaag and Buhoodle regions spoke strongly on the future of the nation and against the stance taken

Continue on page 2

### State mourns the late Garaad Suleiman Garaad Mohamoud



The Speakers of both the Senate and the House of Representatives and both the Ministers of Interior and Information led the country in mourning the late Garaad Suleiman Garaad Mohamoud upon his

Continue on page 3

### Minister Kore reiterates the need for upholding patriotism and safeguarding peaceful stability and unity

By M.A. Egge

The Minister of Information, Culture and Awareness Hon. Suleiman Yusuf Ali (Koore), has again reiterated the prioritization of safeguarding peaceful stability and upholding patriotism by maintaining unity and solidarity.

Continue on page 3



### The Finance Minister and his team appear before parliament on 2023 annual budget estimates briefs



M. A. Egge.

Officials of the ministry of finance led by the Minister

Continue on page 3

### The Hargeisa Mayor bestows house on senior citizen Mohamed Hashi Qawdan, in city's gesture of thanks



By M.A. Egge

The Mayor of Hargeisa city, Cllr. Abdulkarim Ahmed Mooge

Continue on page 3

#### Inside:

Central Bank Governor briefs Parliamentary National Assets Monitoring Committee



On pages 3

# The President presided over KULMIYE executive committee meeting

speeding up the activities of the party to endear it to the populace.

They were extensively briefed by the head of the committee which recently made a countrywide tour to all the regions of the country, of bolstering the party's activities, the second deputy of KULMIYE Mr. Ahmed Abdi-deere.

Foremost, the former Minister of Finance, Mr. Abdicasis Mohamed Samale, who is a member of the executive committee of the KULMIYE party, spoke of the tour explaining the intense meetings that they held with the leaders and communities they visited.

He noted that the populace is dedicated to the government and the KULMIYE party in general.

The meeting scoffed at the recent declarations of the opposition leaders of not acknowledging the government's legitimacy meeting, terming their resolve as blatantly illegal, null and void.

At the end of the meeting, the general secretary of the KULMIYE party, Mr.



Faisal Abdirahman Madar, read the resolutions of the meeting of the executive committee saying, "The party called the statement of the opposition party as completely illegal".

The secretary, while explaining the points of the meeting, added, "The party praised the President, who is

also the chairman of KULMIYE, for protecting and preserving the constitution of the country and the rules of law, and suggested to the president to show patience as he has already depicted but we, however, advise that his patience should not be one that undermines the laws of the country".

## The Nine Political Organizations Reiterate Political Parties Elections will Precede Presidential Election



be held before the upcoming presidential elections.

They reaffirmed their priority and sent a message to the Kulmiye led government and the two opposition parties UCID and Wadani. The terse statement released by the nine political organizations stated that after the election of the political parties the current three national parties will pave way for the new parties to contest in the upcoming elections.

Addressing the press the spokesperson stated, "Somaliland constitution allows citizens to elect the leaders and be elected in elective posts, however it forbids for the political arena to be dominated by a clique of politicians."

The political organizations vehemently opposed the formation of political parties that are allied to a tribal outfit.

Political Organizations spokesman said that tribal political parties will cause disunity amongst the population and dent the sense of national unity in the country.

They confirmed that for a political party to operate in the country it should have the confidence and support of voters.

The parties joint presser urged the government to make sure peace and harmony have been maintained since Somaliland is located in a region where strife and animosity are prevalent. They stated in case of disagreements other peaceful avenues should be sought for an amicable resolution.

The spokesperson released several points from the meeting:

1. The peace and security of the country should be protected. Any complaints and differences should be solved through the electoral laws

and should be within the country constitution. The ruling of the supreme court should be respected and implemented.

2. According to article 9 of Somaliland constitution act 5 of law number 14/2011. The first elections to be held in the country is political organizations elections whereby the three national political parties will be elected to participate in the presidential election. The three national parties will represent the electorate for a ten years period.

3. Somaliland National Electoral Commission is the only entity allowed to hold the elections. Political Organizations will wholeheartedly work together with the elections body.

4. Any political differences should be solved through consensus.

5. The only way to ascend to power is through multi-party election setting.

## Foreign Ministry's press release to International Community

Constitutional rights of our citizens are paramount.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the current government is a democratically elected one through free and fair elections.

As per the last cabinet meeting the government is adhering to all elections timelines set by national electoral Commission.

The government is urging the opposition parties to follow the law, the constitution, the electoral process and to desist from any action that could incite political unrest or violence. This would jeopardize Somaliland's longterm efforts to democratize and construct



Institutions.

Finally, the government of the Republic of Somaliland is urging all of its law-binding citizens to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in order to preserve the nation's priceless peace and security.

## Eastern regions' traditional leaders accuse the opposition parties of rejecting forthcoming elections



political parties participate in presidential elections in their backyard.

The traditional leaders who held a press conference on Wednesday in Lasaanood, the capital of Sool region, also urged the prioritizing of peaceful stability and avoidance of unwarranted words yhat would render the people asunder. They supported the President H.E. Musa Bihi Abdi's sentiments that Somaliland belonged to all communities and that equal chances are availed to all to ascend to the top post in the country.

Amongst the traditional leaders who

spoke at the press conference were Aqil Salad Husen Bide, Aqil Abdi Hassan Nur and Chief Aqil Kayse Mohamud Indhotaag.

This was an unprecedented resolution from the eastern region leaders to speak on the political parties issues.

They repeatedly stressed the need of upholding the rule of law and adherence of the national constitution.

Decide today if the unions are rejected and we, the three parties, reject it, there can be something between us and the elections of the unions will be held and we will also accept the

## Negotiations Doors Open for Opposition, Says Minister Saeed Sulub

that violence and chest thumping will not help them reach their goals. The minister who was speaking during a press conference he held at his office decried the trend of politicking was taking in recent times.

"The country has experienced new things like tribal meetings, political confrontations and creation of tribal militias in recent times", he said. He accused the opposition of denting the country's reputation as a peace heaven.

The minister wondered why the legal extension of the President's tenure is soliciting a lot of hues and cries whereas his three predecessors former presidents Egal, Rayaale and Silanyo had theirs extended and depicted good leadership leaving their legacies behind.

He noted that the government had accepted that the elections to be held according to the technical

timeline set by the Somaliland National Electoral Commission which is 9 months from the lapse of the president's mandate.

Minister Saeed Sulub stated that President Bihi had decided to forgo most of the term in the extension of the two years.

He pointed out that the opposition had earlier on accepted the president term extension but later backtracked.

"Anyone denying the presidential term extension is against the peace and security of Somaliland and should be regarded as public enemy number one. He/ she has opposed the law and constitution", he observed

He however said that the negotiations doors are open for the opposition and that the opposition should not deny the government's existence and legitimacy.

## Concerted efforts by the military, area administration and elders address pastureland controversies at Balli'ad in Buuhoodle

jointly cleared illegally erected fences that impeded free grazing of animals on the pasturelands at Balli'ad of Widwid district in Buuhoodle region.

The operations managed to quell serious controversies that has perpetually threatening security in the area. In the amicable scenario, a lot of disgruntlement was laid to rest.

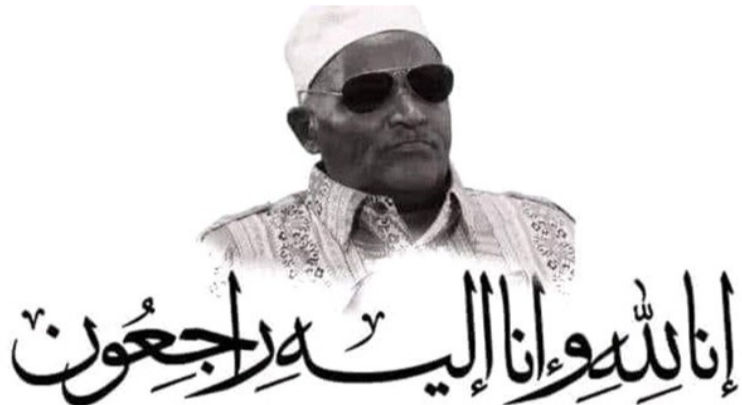
Following a meeting of stakeholders in the area, over a dozen illegally excavated water reservoirs and fences impeding free-range grazing were destroyed and associated bottlenecks addressed. At the same time they ordered the immediate desisting from returning to the same, hence stop forthwith logging of trees to burn charcoal.



The joint operations carried out by the 135th battalion of the National Army, the elders, the intellectuals, the community members and the administration of Widwid district.

Following the prohibitions, residents were warned that no water wells would be excavated without prior permission from the stakeholders.

## State mourns the late Garaad Suleiman Garaad Mohamoud



demise in Garoowe on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. They sent their heartfelt condolences to the next of kin, family members,

relatives, colleague and friends of the deceased and Somalilanders at large. Respectively, the Honourables

Suleiman Mohamud Adan, Abdirisag Khalif Ahmed, Mohamed Kahin Ahmed and Hon. Suleiman Yusuf Ali Koore, who spoke on their own behalf and that of their portfolios, prayed to God to rest the soul of the late Garaad Suleiman to rest in eternal peace in Janatul Fardousa.

They also wished for the family members, relatives, friends, colleagues and the nation at large to have a stronger faith in the trying moment.

Ameen.  
INNA LILLAH WA INNA ILLAYHI RAJI'UUN

## Minister Kore reiterates the need for upholding patriotism and safeguarding peaceful stability and unity

The minister urged the nation by expressing the sentiments at a graduation ceremony for students in Hargeisa on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

He underscored the importance of defending a nation by all means possible for the viability of nationhood.

"A nation is not always defended by weaponry but can be defended through the power of knowledge, the pens or other probable avenues



available", said Hon. Suleiman. He emphasized the importance of security and governance for the

people as a nation and urged concerted efforts that the people of Somaliland must constantly make to defend their country.

"When you defend your country through maintaining security and peaceful stability or participating in clean-ups, it is a patriotic contribution to nationhood", he said. The minister advised the students to conduct themselves responsibly and reflect the respectability that comes with education.

## The Hargeisa Mayor bestows house on senior citizen Mohamed Hashi Qawdan, in city's gesture of thanks

makes good his pledge and officially handed over a house built by the council to senior citizen Mohamed Hashi Qawdan on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 2022.

The city council had promised to build the recipient a house in appreciation to and in honour of his steadfast effort spanning half a century of working the streets of Hargeisa keeping it clean and repairing potholes.

The mayor of Hargeisa noted his happiness to see that his promise has been fulfilled and that elder

Mohamed Hashi Qawdan is now sheltered in his own house. He observed, "For 48 years, the citizen Mohamed Hashi Qawdan has been paving the streets of the city, laying stones, removing debris, and filling potholes constantly and tirelessly, not missing a single day", pointing out that he had been toiling for the city most of his life.

Noting that it was an impeccable responsibility and fete to be achieved, the Mayor expressed his satisfaction of bestowing the house to the recipient while saying that the

gesture by the city reflects upon the benevolence acknowledgment of the efforts portrayed by the recipient over the years.

He said that using public tax for the gesture bestowed upon elder Mohamed Hashi Qawdan in rewarding his unparalleled fete is worthwhile and the pride of the city. As he received the keys to the house from the Mayor the recipient thanked the Mayor profusely for the wonderful gesture bestowed upon him and wished the council well.

## The Finance Minister and his team appear before parliament on 2023 annual budget estimates briefs

Hon. Dr. Saad Ali Shire flanked by his Deputy Hon. Amb Rhoda Jama Ilmi led their team of financial chiefs to hold brief before the House of representatives on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 as regards the 2023 annual budget estimates.

They comprised of the ministerial DG Mr. Mohamed Abdi Gurhan, the Accountant General Mr. Ahmed Daud Gedi and the departmental heads who were readily prepared to give briefings and highlight issues that procedurally arise from legislative grilling.

The 2023 annual budget submitted to the House of Representatives on October 31, 2022 and still before the House amounts to 3,581,440,706,340, (Three trillion, five hundred and eighty one billion, four hundred and forty million, seven hundred and sixty thousand and three hundred and forty shillings). This year's total budget is 4% more than the previous year, while the

central government's budget is 5% more than the previous year.

The 2023 Annual Budget Estimates comprise of:-

- General government budget
- Central Government Budget
- Local government budgets
- Independent Institutions (Parastatals)
- Foreign

The 2023 annual budget increased or exceeded that of 2022 by 4%, while that of the federal government budget increased by 5% compared to previous budgets.

The 2023 budget forecast will focus on the following items:

1. Security
2. Elections
3. Agricultural production
4. Water
5. Fish
6. Environmental protection
7. Recognition issues
8. Vocational Schools and
9. National Employment Program



## Central Bank Governor briefs Parliamentary National Assets Monitoring Committee



By M.A. Egge

The sub-committee for the protection and monitoring of the national assets of Somaliland's House of Representatives held a meeting with the officials of the Central Bank of Somaliland on Wednesday.

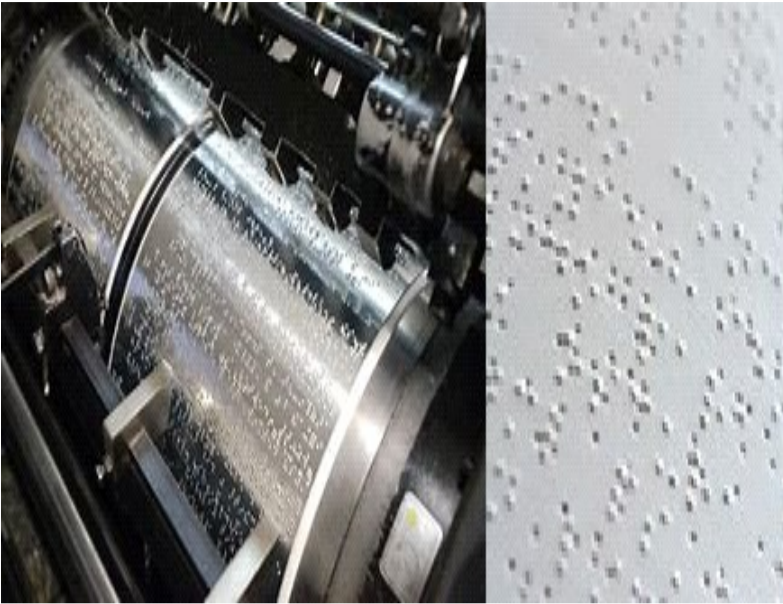
At the end of the meeting, the chairman of the sub-committee for the protection and monitoring of the national assets of the Somaliland House of Representatives, Hon. Mustafa Ahmed Khayreeye, said that the officials of the Central Bank of Somaliland asked about the financial statements of the past year in 2021. He said that the bank's briefs dwelt on audits and thanked them for the information they gave to the committee. Hon. Mustafa also indicated that the issues discussed

by the officials of the central bank of Somaliland will be forwarded to the representative council of Somaliland.

He said. "We met with the heads of the central bank of Somaliland, the governor himself, the director general and other officers following summons by the committee for the protection and monitoring of the national wealth and the meeting was quite successful".

The Governor of the Central Bank of Somaliland Ali Abdillahi Dahir acknowledged the meeting having held noting that they furnished the committee with all required information hence mentioned those who accompanied him. He thanked the committee for calling upon them and having good working relations.

# A sigh of relief for the visually impaired as first Braille printing press is acquired



A historical fete for the Ministry of Education and Science, the books and subsequent prints will be published by the National Curriculum department.

The minister said that the constant questions asked by the deserving students with this special need was when would the printing machine be available to capacitate their education.

He said. "Every school that has special needs related to sight issues, whether it's Borama, Burao, Hargeisa or wherever we went, the stark question was when the Braille machine would be available".

"We are grateful to UNICEF for focusing on priority areas such as these, hence to be able to print the curriculum for students in Braille", he added.

Pointing out that people who are visually impaired have the rights to basic needs, he urged the entire community of Somaliland to see to it that the special needs required and assistance to them is availed whenever and wherever possible.

By M.A. Egge

The printing machine for visually impaired people otherwise known as a Braille press has been acquired for the first time in the country.

This is a respite that comes with a great sigh of relief since, for the first time again, the visually impaired students will be able to have school books tailored to aid in facilitating their reading and writing through the

availability of applicable Braille tools. A happy and elated Education Minister Hon. Ahmed Mohamed Diriye alias Toorno noted that the direly needed machine is a milestone that will greatly address the sector of the visually impaired needs quite amply as he officially handed the Braille press to the national curriculum department.

# Former high-ranking Somali lieutenant colonel accused of human rights violations arrested in Springfield



SPRINGFIELD, Va. — A former high-ranking Somali army officer accused of multiple human rights violations against Somali civilians during the 1980s was arrested in Springfield, Virginia, Homeland Security Investigations announced Friday.

Special agents arrested Yusuf Abdi Ali, aka "Tukeh," Thursday, in Springfield for those human rights abuses.

He's accused of extrajudicial killing; torture; cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; and arbitrary detention, Homeland Security said.

Homeland Security said that Ali, 69, served as a lieutenant colonel in the Somali National Army and

Commander of the Fifth Brigade in Northwest Somalia from approximately May 1987 to July 1988 under the dictatorship of Siad Barre.

During that time, the Somali army committed numerous serious human rights violations against civilians, according to Homeland Security.

"While Yusuf Abdi Ali's apprehension cannot undo the pain that he allegedly inflicted upon the victims of his purported human rights abuses, it is my sincere hope that by seeing him answer for his apparent role in these heinous crimes, they will be given some form of peace," said Derek W. Gordon, Acting Special Agent in charge of HSI

Washington, D.C. "HSI Washington, D.C. is dedicated to protecting the law-abiding residents of the Washington, D.C. Metro area, while continuing to search out those who intend to benefit from the abuse of others."

A jury in the Eastern District of Virginia found Ali liable in a [civil suit in 2019](#) for the torture of a Somali herder and awarded the plaintiff damages.

Ali previously drove for [Uber and Lyft](#) in Virginia, according to reporting by CNN.

Police identified the victims as 40-year-old Elise Wars and her 4-year-old daughter Khori Ashton. The two were staying at the hotel since at least June.

# Mo Farah says gruelling track ordeals nothing compared to child trafficking nightmare



In a TV documentary earlier this year the Olympic runner disclosed he was smuggled into Britain from Somalia and treated like a servant by the people with whom he first lived

Mo Farah has survived gruelling track ordeals... but he says nothing was as hard as reliving his nightmare at the hands of child traffickers.

In a TV documentary earlier this year the Olympic runner disclosed he was smuggled into Britain from Somalia and treated like a servant by the people with whom he first lived.

Recalling making the BBC film, the 5,000 and 10,000-metres champ said: "It was very nerve-wracking. "If it wasn't for my kids and my family I would never have gone through that. It was tough.

"But I wanted to be honest and share that with them. For myself, I just wanted answers."

Sir Mo, 39, who won double Golds in London and Rio, said he was overawed by the public response to the film and inundated with messages of support from people who had been through similar experiences.

"I didn't know there were so many people in that same situation," he said. "It was just my story, my journey."

He also told of his relief on learning that the Home Office would not consider taking any action over his

illegal entry at the age of nine. "I didn't know what to expect," he said. "Because going back to when I was a kid, we did go back to social services.

"We did do quite a lot of stuff and it didn't get dealt with. Or it just got lost. You just learn to deal with it." Speaking at the GQ Men of the Year event, in association with Boss, he said it was "incredible" to be honoured for the documentary. He added: "Anything is possible with hard work."

Sir Mo – born Hussein Abdi Kahin – has twin daughters Aisha and Amani. Wife Tania gave birth weeks after his 2012 Olympic triumph. The couple's seven-year-old son Hussein was given his father's birth name.

Mo describes Rhiana, 16, – his wife's child from a previous relationship – as his daughter.

His early life was revealed in July in the film *The Real Mo Farah*. It told how he was flown to the UK by a woman he didn't know and made to look after another family's children. At first he was not allowed to go to school but when he was 11 or 12 he began attending Feltham Community College in West London where his athletic talent was first spotted.

He confided in his PE teacher who contacted social services and helped him be fostered by another Somali family.

# UN envoy warns against return of war in Ethiopia



UNHCR Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa Mohammed Abdi Affey has warned the Ethiopian parties against a return to fighting between the government and the Tigray People's

Liberation Front (TPLF), saying any such move could cause a humanitarian catastrophe.

Affey announced there were 103 *Continued on page 5*

# Global Cities Fund For Migrants And Refugees Announces 6 New African City Grantees Delivering Solutions For People Affected By Climate Crisis

● New city grantees announced today include Casablanca (Morocco), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), eThekweni (South Africa), Hargeisa (Somaliland), Nairobi (Kenya), and Nyamagabe (Rwanda)

● The announcement was made at the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

● With a new funding commitment of \$1.2 million, the IKEA Foundation expands the effort launched by the Mayors Migration Council and C40 Cities in partnership with Robert Bosch Stiftung

Today, on the sidelines of the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees (GCF) announced a new commitment from the IKEA Foundation of \$1.2 million to provide direct financial and technical support to six African cities addressing the needs of migrants and displaced people affected by the climate crisis.

The World Bank estimates that the climate breakdown could push 86 million Africans to migrate within their own countries by 2050, all within one of the world's fastest urbanising regions. Despite greenhouse gas emissions across the continent representing less than 4 percent of the world's total, African cities are working to address the current and future impacts of climate hazards — whether that's investing in urban adaptation to reduce displacement, safely relocating residents who have no other choice but to move or increasing access to urban infrastructure, services and green jobs for climate migrants.

The GCF was launched in 2021 by the Mayors Migration Council with investments from the Open Society Foundations, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the Robert Bosch Stiftung, in partnership with C40 Cities, the UN Human Settlements Programme, the UN Migration Agency, the UN Refugee Agency, and United Cities and Local Governments, which provide technical support to city grantees. With the contribution of the IKEA Foundation, the GCF will expand direct support to the following cities:

● **Casablanca, Morocco**, will establish its first Souk of African Solidarity, providing a space for migrants and asylum seekers impacted by the climate crisis to start green businesses in the heart of the city.

**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**, will connect migrants and refugees to entrepreneurship and employment opportunities across the city's waste management system.

● **eThekweni (Durban), South Africa**, will employ migrants and displaced people in the city's recycling program and establish an online CARE portal to link service



providers with people who need to access critical services both before and after climate disasters.

● **Hargeisa, Somaliland**, will work hand-in-hand with internally displaced families living in flood-prone areas to relocate them to safer areas of the city and provide them with land ownership.

● **Nairobi, Kenya**, will provide migrant, refugee, and receiving communities with green jobs and partner with them to make the city's waterways and public spaces greener and safer for everyone.

● **Nyamagabe District, Rwanda**, will convert waste from a local refugee camp into renewable energy for the area at large, reducing deforestation, creating green jobs, and building social cohesion in the process.

Today's city grantees join Accra (Ghana), Arua (Uganda), Beira (Mozambique), Johannesburg (South Africa), and Monrovia (Liberia) in a growing pipeline of 21 city-led projects that will improve the lives of thousands of people around the world, bringing the initiative closer to its goal of funding 22 cities by the end of 2022.

The GCF is expanding at a critical juncture in the global response to the climate crisis. During COP27, mayors worldwide are advocating for national governments to increase climate adaptation finance to 50% of total climate finance, following the lead of UN Secretary General António Guterres, and to make sure that these resources are directed to cities especially in low- and middle-income countries.

**Vittoria Zanuso, Executive Director of the Mayors Migration Council** said: "While world leaders are at COP27 speaking about climate migration, mayors are building evidence of what to actually do about it. We call on more donors to join the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees to keep making a tangible difference in the lives of people affected by the climate crisis, while keeping the world on track to meet global commitments."

**Nairobi Governor Arthur Johnson Sakaja** said: "As one of the economic capitals of Africa, the climate crisis has brought new challenges to the residents of Nairobi, especially our most vulnerable residents, including migrant and displaced communities. But our government is stepping up, backed by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees, to improve the livelihoods of our residents through inclusive access to business development and civic activism opportunities that will create green jobs, clean our waterways and give all the opportunity to enjoy Nairobi's economic growth."

**Cllr. Mxolisi Kaunda, Mayor of eThekweni (Durban)**, said: "Recent floods in eThekweni have highlighted the need to provide for our migrant and refugee residents who remain undocumented and out of our reach. It is an issue that drives homelessness and erodes these communities' connection to basic services like health care and emergency response. Financial resources from the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees will be critical to launching our CARE self-registration platform, which will give identification to eThekweni's most vulnerable, help our city better understand the needs of our displaced populations, and ensure essential public services are readily accessible by all, especially in the aftermath of future climate shocks."

**Per Heggenes, CEO of the IKEA Foundation** said: "The IKEA Foundation recognises the importance of funding cities directly so that they can address the mounting hazards faced by urban migrants and refugees as a result of climate change. We are excited to contribute to the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees to ensure cities most impacted by climate disasters can build resilience, opportunity and social cohesion for all."

**Ottillie Bälz, Senior Vice President, Robert Bosch Stiftung** said: "The Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees has

proven that when the international community invests in cities, people are put at the center of climate adaptation initiatives to ensure a just and inclusive green transition. We welcome the IKEA Foundation to our growing movement."

**Mark Watts, Executive Director, C40 Cities** said: "Thanks to the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees, African cities are now leading the way in delivering

inclusive climate action for and in partnership with migrants and refugees. At C40, we are proud to be part of this initiative, which will help cities welcome and support people displaced by climate impacts and we will keep working with our Mayors Migration Council's partners to make sure that more climate finance is made directly accessible to cities, especially in the Global South."

## UN envoy warns against return of war in Ethiopia

million displaced persons and refugees, including 25 million in Africa, stressing the urgent need for \$40 million in aid to help the displaced and Somali refugees.

During an interview with Asharq Al-Awsat, the UN official stressed the need to end the war, warning that it would create the worst humanitarian disaster in the region. Affey hoped international partners would follow the lead of Saudi Arabia in the generous partnership to save the tragic humanitarian situation, describing the Kingdom as the "best partner in humanitarian aid globally." He called on the international community to play an influential role in ending the war in Ukraine and the countries of the Horn of Africa.

**Saudi Arabia is at the forefront of humanitarian work:**

Affey, who is visiting Riyadh, discussed supporting and assisting displaced persons and refugees with officials of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, Assistant State Minister for African Affairs Sami al-Saleh, the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, and the President of the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah.

The world currently has 103 million displaced persons and refugees, 25 million in Africa, said the UN official. He pointed out that Sudan hosts more than one million refugees from South Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad, Somalia, Central Africa, and Eritrea. He extended his gratitude to Saudi Arabia for its influential partnership and substantial efforts, noting the support of Saudi institutions that provide a suitable environment for the refugees.

**Somali and Ukrainian tragedy:** Affey noted that he discussed with Saudi officials the possible solutions to the current situation in the Horn of Africa as the biggest tragic humanitarian challenge facing the region, especially in Somalia.

The situation in Somalia creates pressure on the international organization, with more than 200,000 refugees and displaced persons fleeing to neighboring countries during the past three years.

He asserted that the situation calls for concerted international efforts and humanitarian initiatives, such

as Saudi Arabia's, to alleviate human suffering in the region and Somalia. Affey said the "tragic situation" that resulted from the Russian-Ukrainian war increased the international agency's urgent need for more financial support.

He called on international partners to provide support to face global humanitarian challenges during the next few months and relieve the enormous pressure that the international organization is suffering from due to the tragic humanitarian conditions and the ongoing refugee wave in many parts of the world, including the Horn of Africa.

**The consequences of the ongoing conflict in the Horn of Africa:**

The UN official stressed that one of the challenges currently facing the international agency included the raging conflict in the Horn of Africa. He noted that 65,000 refugees arrived from Ethiopia in Sudan, and more than two million displaced persons and refugees fled South Sudan to neighboring countries, announcing that UNHCR is working on several projects and agreements with the governments of Sudan and South Sudan.

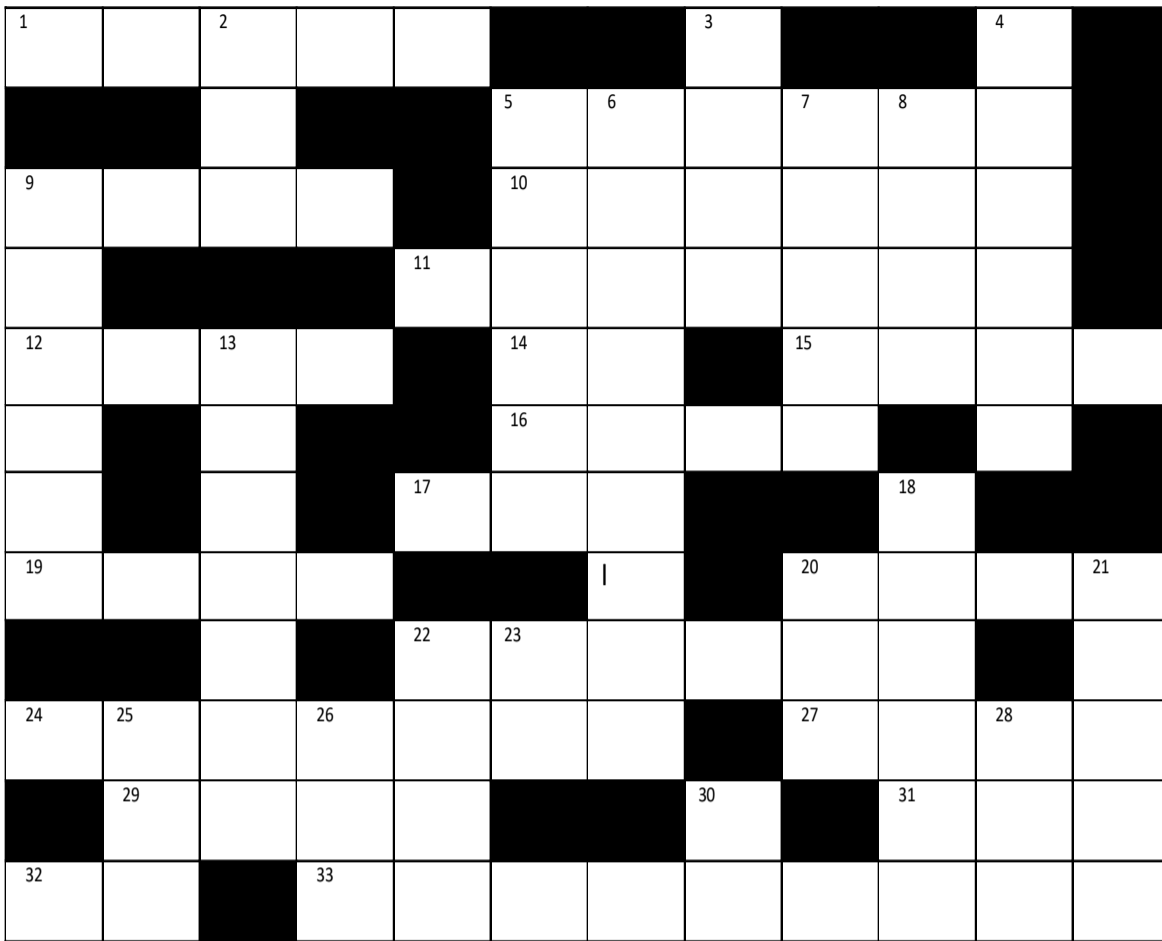
The UN official stressed the need to implement the relevant clause in the Juba Peace Agreement, signed by the Sudanese parties.

The agency is currently working with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Sudanese government to find long-term solutions, including sustainable development projects that alleviate the tragic humanitarian conditions of the refugees inside and outside Sudan and South Sudan.

The African Union plays a significant role in sponsoring the Juba Peace Agreement, said Affey, adding that the UNHCR is delighted to achieve positive results to correct the humanitarian situation in the region. He lauded the efforts of the Ethiopian parties to stop the war and prioritize dialogue to confront the humanitarian conditions of refugees and displaced persons in Ethiopia and neighboring countries. Somalia needs \$40 billion to deal with the tragic situation amid a lack of support and aid provided to the government

# THT Buzzle

By: Abdillahi Said



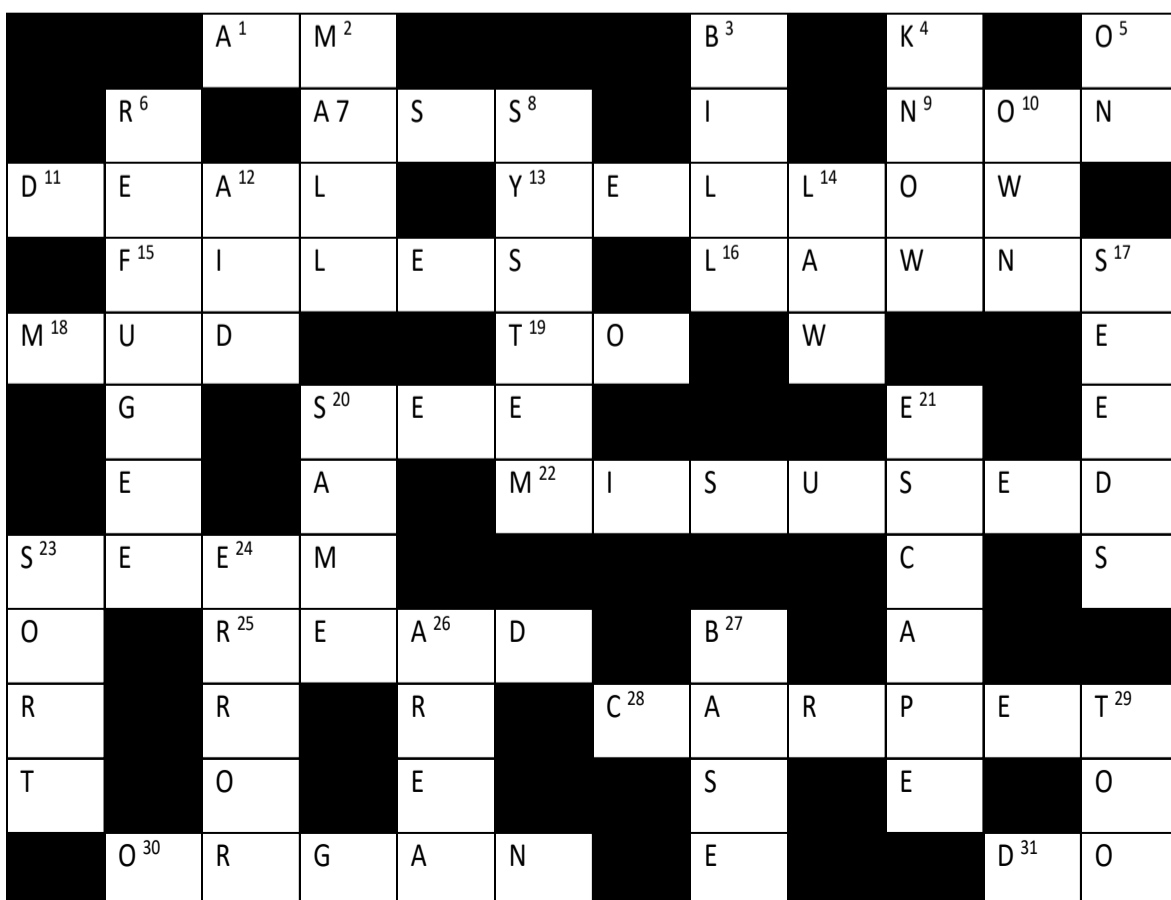
**Across**

- 1. Entrance
- 5. French Republic
- 9. interested in
- 10. load again
- 11. hates something you don't like
- 12. unconsciousness
- 14. make
- 15. plant seeds
- 16. grey
- 17. soaked/damp
- 19. improves/relief
- 20. bumps/slushes
- 22. frames/ home slides
- 24. continuing
- 27. due west
- 29. assist
- 31. look at
- 32. get to
- 33. committed

**DOWN**

- 2. training of trainers
- 3. baseball game
- 4. deliver
- 5. refrigerator
- 6. sort again
- 7. loud
- 8. snack/ bakery
- 9. if happen/not happen
- 13. post/ email
- 18. at a low level
- 20. domestic animal
- 21. notable
- 22. remove
- 23. into
- 25. short forms of National Health Officer
- 26. old-fashioned
- 28. look at
- 30. power model/opposite of dc

## Previous Answer



## Dengue and severe dengue



**Key facts**

- **Dengue is a viral infection transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes. The primary vectors that transmit the disease are Aedes aegypti mosquitoes and, to a lesser extent, Ae. albopictus.**
- **The virus responsible for causing dengue, is called dengue virus (DENV). There are four DENV serotypes and it is possible to be infected four times.**
- **Severe dengue is a leading cause of serious illness and death in some Asian and Latin American countries. It requires management by medical professionals.**
- **There is no specific treatment for dengue/severe dengue. Early detection of disease progression associated with severe dengue, and access to proper medical care lowers fatality rates of severe dengue to below 1%.**
- **Dengue is found in tropical and sub-tropical climates worldwide, mostly in urban and semi-urban areas.**
- **The global incidence of dengue has grown dramatically with about half of the world's population now at risk. Although an estimated 100-400 million infections occur each year, over 80% are generally mild and asymptomatic.**

by climate parameters as well as social and environmental factors. Dengue causes a wide spectrum of disease. This can range from subclinical disease (people may not know they are even infected) to severe flu-like symptoms in those infected. Although less common, some people develop severe dengue, which can be any number of complications associated with severe bleeding, organ impairment and/or plasma leakage. Severe dengue has a higher risk of death when not managed appropriately. Severe dengue was first recognized in the 1950s during dengue epidemics in the Philippines and Thailand. Today, severe dengue affects most Asian and Latin American countries and has become a leading cause of hospitalization and death among children and adults in these regions. Dengue is caused by a virus of the Flaviviridae family and there are four distinct, but closely related, serotypes of the virus that cause dengue (DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4). Recovery from infection is believed to provide lifelong immunity against that serotype. However, cross-immunity to the other serotypes after recovery is only partial, and temporary. Subsequent infections (secondary infection) by other serotypes increase the risk of developing severe dengue.

- **Dengue prevention and control depends on effective vector control measures. Sustained community involvement can improve vector control efforts substantially.**
- **While many DENV infections produce only mild illness, DENV can cause an acute flu-like illness. Occasionally this develops into a potentially lethal complication, called severe dengue.**

**Overview**

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral disease that has rapidly spread to all regions of WHO in recent years. Dengue virus is transmitted by female mosquitoes mainly of the species *Aedes aegypti* and, to a lesser extent, *Ae. albopictus*. These mosquitoes are also vectors of chikungunya, yellow fever and Zika viruses. Dengue is widespread throughout the tropics, with local variations in risk influenced

Dengue has distinct epidemiological patterns, associated with the four serotypes of the virus. These can co-circulate within a region, and indeed many countries are hyper-endemic for all four serotypes. Dengue has an alarming impact on both human health and the global and national economies. DENV is frequently transported from one place to another by infected travellers; when susceptible vectors are present in these new areas, there is the potential for local transmission to be established.

**Global burden**

The incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. A vast majority of cases are asymptomatic or mild and self-managed, and hence the actual numbers of dengue cases are under-reported. Many cases are also misdiagnosed as other febrile illnesses

*Continued on page 7*

# Dengue and severe dengue

One modelling estimate indicates 390 million dengue virus infections per year (95% credible interval 284–528 million), of which 96 million (67–136 million) manifest clinically (with any severity of disease). Another study on the prevalence of dengue estimates that 3.9 billion people are at risk of infection with dengue viruses. Despite a risk of infection existing in 129 countries, 70% of the actual burden is in Asia. The number of dengue cases reported to WHO increased over 8 fold over the last two decades, from 505,430 cases in 2000, to over 2.4 million in 2010, and 5.2 million in 2019. Reported deaths between the year 2000 and 2015 increased from 960 to 4032, affecting mostly younger age group. The total number of cases seemingly decreased during years 2020 and 2021, as well as for reported deaths. However, the data is not yet complete and COVID-19 pandemic might have also hampered case reporting in several countries.

The overall alarming increase in case numbers over the last two decades is partly explained by a change in national practices to record and report dengue to the Ministries of Health, and to the WHO. But it also represents government recognition of the burden, and therefore the pertinence to report dengue disease burden.

**Distribution and outbreaks**

Before 1970, only 9 countries had experienced severe dengue epidemics. The disease is now endemic in more than 100 countries in the WHO regions of Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia and the Western Pacific. The Americas, South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions are the most seriously affected, with Asia representing ~70% of the global burden of disease.

Not only is the number of cases increasing as the disease spreads to new areas including Europe, but explosive outbreaks are occurring. The threat of a possible outbreak of dengue now exists in Europe; local transmission was reported for the first time in France and Croatia in 2010 and imported cases were detected in 3 other European countries. In 2012, an outbreak of dengue on the Madeira islands of Portugal resulted in over 2000 cases and imported cases were detected in mainland Portugal and 10 other countries in Europe. Autochthonous cases are now observed on an annual basis in few European countries.

The largest number of dengue cases ever reported globally was in 2019. All regions were affected, and dengue transmission was recorded in Afghanistan for the first time.

The American region alone reported 3.1 million cases, with more than 25,000 classified as severe. Despite this alarming number of cases, deaths associated with dengue were fewer

than in the previous year.

High number of cases were reported in Bangladesh (101,000), Malaysia (131,000) Philippines (420,000), Vietnam (320,000) in Asia.

In 2020, dengue affected several countries, with reports of increases in the numbers of cases in Bangladesh, Brazil, Cook Islands, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mayotte (Fr), Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Yemen. Dengue continues to affect Brazil, India, Vietnam, the Philippines, Cook Islands, Colombia, Fiji, Kenya, Paraguay, Peru and, Reunion islands, in 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic is placing immense pressure on health care and management systems worldwide. WHO has emphasized the importance of sustaining efforts to prevent, detect and treat vector-borne diseases during this pandemic such as dengue and other arboviral diseases, as case numbers increase in several countries and place urban populations at highest risk for both diseases. The combined impact of the COVID-19 and dengue epidemics could have devastating consequences on the populations at risk.

## Transmission

Transmission through mosquito bite

The virus is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female mosquitoes, primarily the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Other species within the *Aedes* genus can also act as vectors, but their contribution is secondary to *Aedes aegypti*.

After feeding on an DENV-infected person, the virus replicates in the mosquito midgut, before it disseminates to secondary tissues, including the salivary glands. The time it takes from ingesting the virus to actual transmission to a new host is termed the extrinsic incubation period (EIP). The EIP takes about 8-12 days when the ambient temperature is between 25-28°C. Variations in the extrinsic incubation period are not only influenced by ambient temperature; a number of factors such as the magnitude of daily temperature fluctuations, virus genotype and initial viral concentration can also alter the time it takes for a mosquito to transmit virus. Once infectious, the mosquito is capable of transmitting virus for the rest of its life.

**Human-to-mosquito transmission**  
Mosquitoes can become infected from people who are viremic with DENV. This can be someone who has a symptomatic dengue infection, someone who is yet to have a symptomatic infection (they are pre-symptomatic), but also people who show no signs of illness as well (they are asymptomatic).  
**Human-to-mosquito transmission**  
can occur up to 2 days before someone shows symptoms of the illness up to 2 days after the fever has resolved.

Risk of mosquito infection is positively associated with high viremia and high fever in the patient; conversely, high levels of DENV-specific antibodies are associated with a decreased risk of mosquito infection (Nguyen et al. 2013 PNAS). Most people are viremic for about 4-5 days, but viremia can last as long as 12 days.

**Maternal transmission**

The primary mode of transmission of DENV between humans involves mosquito vectors. There is evidence however, of the possibility of maternal transmission (from a pregnant mother to her baby). While vertical transmission rates appear low, with the risk of vertical transmission seemingly linked to the timing of the dengue infection during the pregnancy. When a mother does have a DENV infection when she is pregnant, babies may suffer from pre-term birth, low birthweight, and fetal distress.

**Other transmission modes**

Rare cases of transmission via blood products, organ donation and transfusions have been recorded. Similarly, transovarial transmission of the virus within mosquitoes have also been recorded.

**Disease characteristics (signs and symptoms)**

While majority of dengue cases are asymptomatic or show mild symptoms, it can manifest as a severe, flu-like illness that affects infants, young children and adults, but seldom causes death. Symptoms usually last for 2-7 days, after an incubation period of 4-10 days after the bite from an infected mosquito. The World Health Organization classifies dengue into 2 major categories: dengue (with / without warning signs) and severe dengue. The sub-classification of dengue with or without warning signs is designed to help health practitioners triage patients for hospital admission, ensuring close observation, and to minimize the risk of developing the more severe dengue.

Dengue should be suspected when a high fever (40°C/104°F) is accompanied by 2 of the following symptoms during the febrile phase (2-7 days):

- severe headache
- pain behind the eyes
- muscle and joint pains
- nausea
- vomiting
- swollen glands
- rash.

**Severe dengue**

A patient enters what is called the critical phase normally about 3-7 days after illness onset. During the 24-48 hours of critical phase, a small portion of patients may manifest sudden deterioration of symptoms. It is at this time, when the fever is dropping (below 38°C/100°F) in the patient, that warning signs associated with severe dengue can manifest. Severe dengue is a potentially fatal complication, due to plasma

leaking, fluid accumulation, respiratory distress, severe bleeding, or organ impairment.

Warning signs that doctors should look for include:

- severe abdominal pain
- persistent vomiting
- rapid breathing
- bleeding gums or nose
- fatigue
- restlessness
- liver enlargement
- blood in vomit or stool.

If patients manifest these symptoms during the critical phase, close observation for the next 24-48 hours is essential so that proper medical care can be provided, to avoid complications and risk of death. Close monitoring should also continue during the convalescent phase.

**Diagnostics**

Several methods can be used for diagnosis of DENV infection. Depending on the time of patient presentation, the application of different diagnostic methods may be more or less appropriate. Patient samples collected during the first week of illness should be tested by both methods mentioned below:

**Virus isolation methods**

The virus may be isolated from the blood during the first few days of infection. Various reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) methods are available and are considered the gold standard. However, they require specialised equipment and training for staff to perform these tests.

The virus may also be detected by testing for a virus-produced protein, called NS1. There are commercially-produced rapid diagnostic tests available for this, and it takes only ~20 mins to determine the result, and the test does not require specialized laboratory techniques or equipment.

**Serological methods**

Serological methods, such as enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA), may confirm the presence of a recent or past infection, with the detection of anti-dengue antibodies. IgM antibodies are detectable ~1 week after infection and remain detectable for about 3 months. The presence of IgM is indicative of a recent DENV infection. IgG antibody levels take longer to develop and remains in the body for years. The presence of IgG is indicative of a past infection.

**Treatment**

There is no specific treatment for dengue fever. Patients should rest, stay hydrated and seek medical advice. Depending on the clinical manifestations and other circumstances, patients may be sent home, be referred for in-hospital management, or require emergency treatment and urgent referral.

Supportive care such as fever reducers and pain killers can be taken to control the symptoms of muscle aches and pains, and fever.

● The best options to treat these symptoms are acetaminophen or

paracetamol.

● NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs), such as ibuprofen and aspirin should be avoided. These anti-inflammatory drugs act by thinning the blood, and in a disease with risk of hemorrhage, blood thinners may exacerbate the prognosis. For severe dengue, medical care by physicians and nurses experienced with the effects and progression of the disease can save lives – decreasing mortality rates to less than 1% in majority of the countries.

**Vaccination against dengue**

The first dengue vaccine, Dengvaxia® (CYD-TDV) developed by Sanofi Pasteur was licensed in December 2015 and has now been approved by regulatory authorities in ~20 countries. In November 2017, the results of an additional analysis to retrospectively determine serostatus at the time of vaccination were released. The analysis showed that the subset of trial participants who were inferred to be seronegative at time of first vaccination had a higher risk of more severe dengue and hospitalizations from dengue compared to unvaccinated participants. As such, use of the CYD-TDV vaccine is targeted for persons living in endemic areas, 9-45 years of age, who have had at least 1 episode of dengue virus infection in the past. Several additional dengue vaccine candidates are under evaluation.

**WHO position on the CYD-TDV vaccine**

As described in the WHO position paper on the Dengvaxia vaccine (September 2018) the live attenuated dengue vaccine CYD-TDV has been shown in clinical trials to be efficacious and safe in persons who have had a previous dengue virus infection (seropositive individuals). For countries considering vaccination as part of their dengue control programme, pre-vaccination screening is the recommended strategy. With this strategy, only persons with evidence of a past dengue infection would be vaccinated (based on an antibody test, or on a documented laboratory confirmed dengue infection in the past). Decisions about implementing a pre-vaccination screening strategy will require careful assessment at the country level, including consideration of the sensitivity and specificity of available tests and of local priorities, dengue epidemiology, country-specific dengue hospitalization rates, and affordability of both CYD-TDV and screening tests.

Vaccination should be considered as part of an integrated dengue prevention and control strategy. There is an ongoing need to adhere to other disease preventive measures such as well-executed and sustained vector control. Individuals, whether vaccinated or not, should seek prompt medical care if dengue-like symptoms occur.