

Overview of Emergencies in the Region

Situation Overview

The Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) confronts ongoing humanitarian crises. These crises are characterized by devastating armed conflicts and recurring public health emergencies. These persistent challenges have significantly weakened communities and strained already fragile health systems. In addition to these issues, the region has increasingly felt the impacts of climate change, manifesting in sudden and intense events such as flash floods in Afghanistan and extreme heat waves in many of the countries. These climaterelated emergencies further compound existing challenges, thus exacerbating health disparities and increasing vulnerabilities within the population.

The armed conflicts have created a complex panorama of interconnected crises in the EMR, as they do not only directly harm communities through violence and displacement, but they also disrupt the delivery of essential services, while also harming the environment. In situations, as those seen in Gaza and Sudan, humanitarian aid and healthcare workers are facing life- threatening hardships. This bulletin highlights the critical emergencies seen in the region while shedding light on the alarming violations against humanitarian aid and healthcare workers seen in such emergency situations.

85,900 wounded

humanitarian aid

workers have been

killed including 188

UNRWA personnel

250

The Impact of War on Gaza in Numbers

Till May 25, 2024

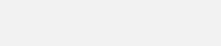
37.396+deaths according to OCHA last update June 30, 2024



strikes on aid workers' convoys and premises have been carried out by the Israeli army between October 7, 2023, and May 14, 2024



Medical healthcare workers killed



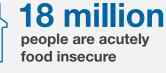
The Impact of Armed Conflict in Sudan

Till June 25, 2024



11 million people displaced (largest internally displaced population in the world)













of hospitals in conflictaffected regions are not functional



violations against medical staff were recorded all over the country, which led to the death of 38 healthcare workers





millions lack needed aid due to conflict-related delays and barriers

70% of hospitals bed

Aid workers have

also been unable

to leave Gaza.

border crossing

closure on May 7th

Since Rafah

capacity lost



attacks on healthcare facilities had been verified in the conflict-affected areas (According to the WHO, update till October 31, 2023)

Protection of Healthcare and Humanitarian Workers in Emergencies Implications and Reflections

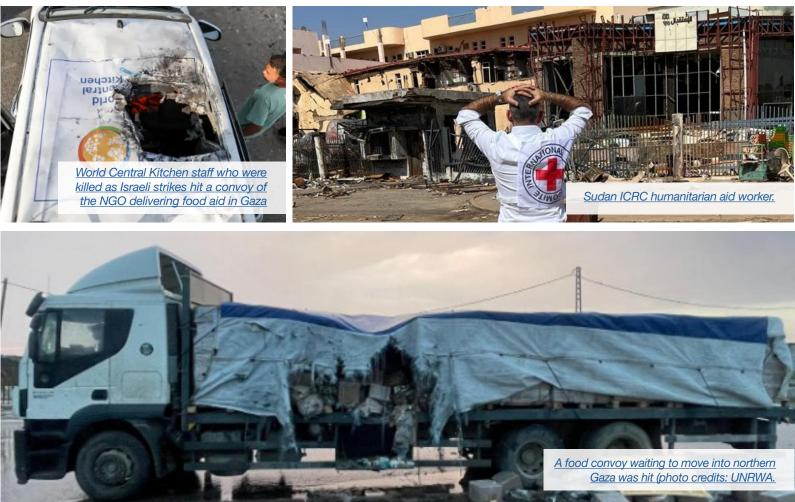
In light of the manmade and natural emergencies experienced in leave Gaza. Furthermore, the Israeli military has also conducted the region, continuous attacks and violations against humanitarian more than 435 attacks on healthcare facilities in Gaza and killed at aid workers and healthcare providers have been recorded in areas least 484 healthcare workers. of conflict in the region.

"Mothers and babies must be protected at all times and In Sudan, hospitals have been subjected to attacks, rendering allowed safe access to healthcare. Healthcare workers must be them out of service and leaving patients vulnerable and in need of able to work in safety" WHO's Director-General Tedros Adhanom urgent health care. Furthermore, the continuous killing, kidnapping, and assaulting of healthcare providers has led to a shortage of Similar attacks on humanitarian workers and limitations to their staff available to support the functioning facilities. Moreover, support have been reported in many other countries. Some of these attacks are motivated by the workers' perceived affiliations medical personnel who are able to support are hindered due to and spread fear and displacement in the community. They are safety concerns and shortages of medical supplies. also used to control critical resources such as drugs, medical equipment, or aid.

Intense combat has led to further devastating events. On June 21, the Saudi Hospital in Al Fasher city of Sudan, which is the only hospital offering maternal and child care in the area, came under attack. A pharmacist was killed as a result, reinforcing the urgent calls to stop the violence and to protect healthcare workers.

"From bullets or bombs, starvation or disease, each soul lost to this senseless war takes Sudan another inexorable Nkweta-Salami

International Humanitarian Law is a set of rules that serve to limit step away from what we all want; Peace," The United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan, Clementine the effects of armed conflicts. It is part of international law, and it legally binds countries to its general principles. Among these principles is the protection of civilians and medical personnels, From another angle, Gaza has been described by the UN as the which is crucial to safeguard medical staff and aid workers "World's Deadliest Place for Aid Workers." More than 250 specially during armed conflicts. Continuous violations not only humanitarian workers from various national and International endanger the lives of the humanitarian workers, but also limit the NGOs have been killed even after being granted safe passage by critical assistance they can provide to the vulnerable civilians. It is the Israeli army. Following the closure of the Rafah crossing on crucial to uphold all parties to such binding law in order to sustain May 7, many international humanitarian aid workers are unable to humanitarian efforts globally.





References

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Therefore, mitigating such violations is essential to protect health workers' lives and to enable them to carry out their crucial role. Enhanced security measures should be taken through clear communication and collaboration, reporting and monitoring such violations, and advocating for and enforcing international laws.

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