



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

Week of 31 July 2006

Programme: 1020

Length: 3'55"

A THIN SCREEN SAVES LIVES – MALARIA PREVENTION IN ETHIOPIA

VIDEO

PEOPLE SINGING AND
DANCING
LAKES AND PONDS
SICK PEOPLE

NURSE MELKAMU PACKS
MEDICAL SUPPLIES
DRIVES ON MOTORCYCLE

KOROTO ON-CAMERA

MELKAMU WITH PATIENT

AUDIO

NARRATION

When the rainy season ends in Ethiopia, people pray to see another one. Malaria, the number one killer disease in Africa, is about to strike again. Lakes and ponds are a perfect breeding ground for the Anopheles mosquito which transmits malaria. During the last epidemic, more than 100.000 people have died in Ethiopia. (21")

Melkamu Koroto is the only nurse to care for 10,000 people in a vast rural area. His caseload is growing every day. (8")

KOROTO: (In English)

"In every house there are one or two patients suffering from malaria." (5")

NARRATION

Melkamu has no laboratory, not even a fever thermometer. All he can offer are cheap Fansidar tablets, but often they don't help. Resistance to anti-malaria drugs is a growing

problem in Africa. Taking the pills with dirty water from the mosquito pond is not very healthy either. (19”)

PATIENTS CARRIED ON
STRETCHER TO HOSPITAL
PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

Patients with severe cases are carried to the next government clinic, where lack of funds and decay are omnipresent. Patients get free medicine for one day, the next day they have to pay. Lack of money can be a death sentence. (14”)

DOCTOR TENDING TO SICK
GIRL

This 14-year-old girl is already coughing and spitting blood. (4”)

DR. GELETA ON-CAMERA

DR. ABERA GELETA: (In English)

“She has a big spleen, this size, look!” (5”)

DR. GELETA POINTS TO
GIRL’S SPLEEN

NARRATION

A challenging case for Dr. Abera Geleta, Medical Director of Soddo Hospital. (5”)

CONTINUATION OF
SOUNDBITE

DR. GELETA: (In English)

“Ekmosis - bleeding under the skin. For her immediate problems she needs a blood transfusion. But we don’t have the facilities for that, we don’t have collecting bags. So what we do is transfuse from man to man, live transfusion.” (15”)

UN TRAINS NURSES,
SCREENING CAMPAIGN

NARRATION

Now the UN has launched the biggest malaria rollout program ever. It is one of the UN’s Millennium Development Goals to halt and reverse the disease by 2015.

RORY NEFT IN HIS OFFICE	<p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>Rory Neft is UNICEF’s malaria expert in Ethiopia. (15”)</p>
NEFT ON-CAMERA	<p><u>NEFT:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“We need to identify the epidemics early on, when they occur and where they occur, so we can respond to them quickly. And we need to have the tools, the supplies for example, we have to have trained people in place.” (13”)</p>
NURSE HAND OUT COARTEM TABLETS	<p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>Coartem is a new wonder drug. It quickly wipes the parasite from the body, but it is expensive and demand by far exceeds production. Handing out magic pills can only be part of a strategy – UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the Global Fund to fight Malaria want to PREVENT epidemics through better protection. (20”)</p>
EXTERMINATORS SPRAYING DDT	<p>Until now, mosquito exterminators used DDT, the most lethal insecticide in the world. Even the inside of the hut gets a heavy dose of poison. (11.5”)</p>
DISTRIBUTION OF MOSQUITO NETS	<p>Now the UN is promoting healthier sleep under a mosquito net. Seventeen million nets are needed, six times more than available right now. No wonder the local people line up for their share. (13.5”)</p>

BOYS UNDER MOSQUITO
NETS, FOCUS CHANGE,
SINGING LULLABY

When evening comes in the swamps of Ethiopia, the air is buzzing from mosquitoes. A thin screen helps to save lives. Another song and another prayer. At least in this hut the killer mosquitoes will have no chance for another feast tonight. (17.5")

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by the United Nations. (4")