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Agordat, 14 June 2010 - A conference held in Agordat town on ensuring mother's safety stressed the need for enhanced awareness and participation of the society so that mother morality rate during giving birth may be greatly reduced in Gash-Barka region.

In the conference in which sub-zonal administrators, heads of ministries' branch offices and health professionals from 14 sub-zones took part, it was disclosed that undertaking more campaign and lecture has a vital role to play in encouraging mothers to make pre-and post-delivery medical checkup. To this end, fostering close coordination among administrative bodies and health institutions is imperative, it added.

A report presented at the conference indicated that there are 72 health institutions in the region, and that waiting rooms for pregnant mothers have been constructed in 6 health stations so as to encourage pregnant mothers in remote areas give birth in health centers. Despite this, however, there exists weakness in properly utilizing such facilities.

Speaking at the conference, the Administrator of Gash-Barka, Mr. Mussa Rab'a, stated that the Government is doing its level best to ensure public health. Highlighting the achievements registered in controlling malaria and other diseases, he underlined that concerted action would be taken to dramatically reduce mother's mortality rate.

The participants adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations towards attaining the set goal.