

1 April 2021 – On 5 February 2021, minutes after she gave birth to her eighth child at the Hanaano General Hospital in Dusamareb, 37-year-old Zahra's* heart sank. Her doctor explained her baby had birth asphyxia, which meant she was having difficulties in breathing. She had an oxygen rate of less than 40%, compared to the required levels of 90% and above.

“I cried and was worried when I saw my child very ill,” said Zahra. “I believed she would die.”

Immediately, the baby was admitted to the maternity ward, where doctors rushed to offer her medical oxygen using one of the 3 solar-powered oxygen machines that had just been installed at the Hanaano General Hospital.







Minister of Health, Prof. Dr. Abdirahman Ali Ismail (left), WHO Representative in Somalia, Dr. Abdulkadir Mohamed (middle), and WHO Regional Director, Dr. Matshidiso Rose Maseko (right) during the handover ceremony.

