



## Emergency Humanitarian Action

Weekly Highlights 11-17 June 2011

### BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- In the ongoing violence in **Mogadishu**, a 53% decrease in the number of reported casualties has been observed. This compares to previous week (more information on page 2). **Since the beginning of June, 682 weapons-related injuries** were reported by three major hospitals in Mogadishu.
- Results of four serum samples collected from patients from Berbera port town in W. Galbeed region, **tested positive for Dengue fever**.
- WHO has pre-positioned a diarrheal disease (DD) kit that can treat 100 acute watery diarrhoea severe cases, and one Inter-agency health kit (IAHK) to benefit 10 000 people for three months in Garowe to facilitate response. This is after two of five samples collected from patients in Bursalax village, Mudug region **tested positive for *Vibrio cholera***.

### Update on major public health concerns:

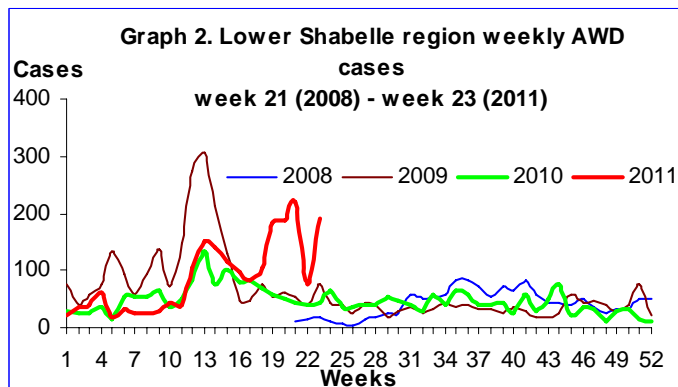
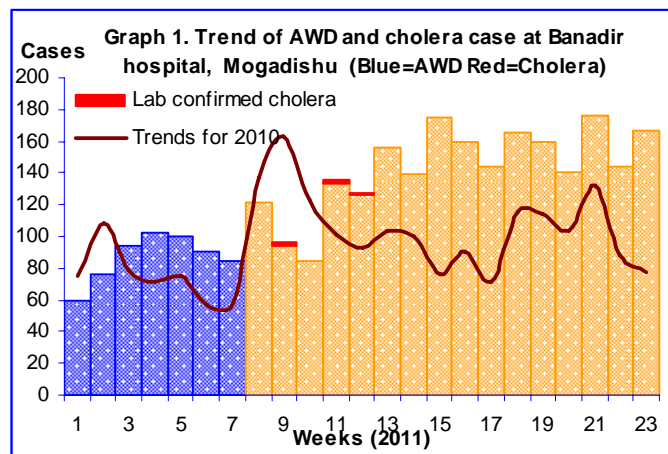
#### • Trends of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera

The cholera transmission season is ongoing. Rains have been observed in some parts of the country, alerting for risks of communicable disease outbreaks, including AWD. WHO observes that there is a likelihood of a risk in transmission of waterborne diseases as communities tend to utilize water from contaminated sources.

Since week 1<sup>1</sup>, 2890 AWD/cholera cases including 2236 (77%) cases under the age of five with 103 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** (see graph 1). Children under the age of two bear the greatest burden of AWD accounting for 58% of all reported cases. Based on data collected, women and girls account for 46% of all AWD reported cases at the hospital.

The number of AWD cases reported in **Lower Shabelle region** tends to increase significantly in week 23<sup>2</sup> (see graph 2).

WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases, especially AWD in light of the end of the dry season.



<sup>1</sup>Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

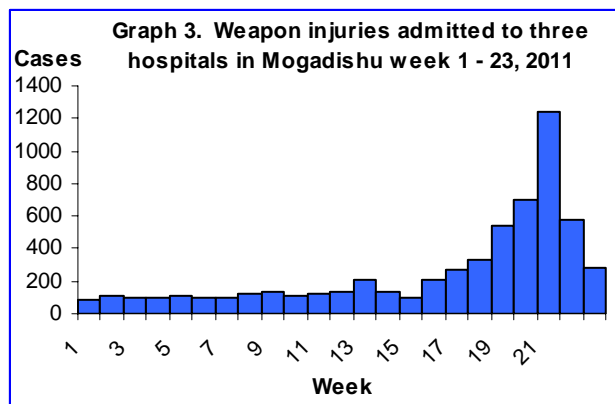
<sup>2</sup>Week 22: 6-12 June 2011

## Conflict and displacement

From **1-12 June 2011**, **682 casualties** from weapon-related wounds were treated in the three hospitals in Mogadishu. Six related deaths were reported.

From **3 January-31 May 2011**, **5259 weapon-related injuries**, including 1453 children under the age of five, with 52 related deaths, four of whom are under the age of five have been reported from these hospitals. The exact number of deaths on site are unknown (see graph 3).

UNHCR<sup>3</sup> estimates that 14 400 displacements occurred in and around Mogadishu since 1 May due to the ongoing conflict. Some 6200 people have moved out of Mogadishu while another 8200 are displaced within the city.



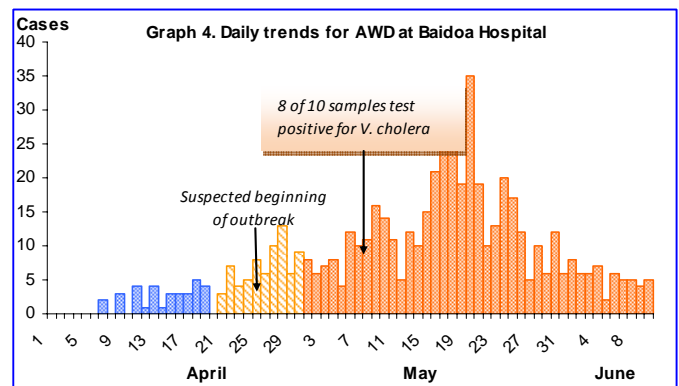
## Health Events in Somalia

### Epidemiological surveillance during week 23

- In **Lower and Middle Juba regions**, 16 health facilities reported 1703 consultations including 745 (44%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 998 (59%) of all consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 265 consultations of which 184 (69%) were children under the age of five. Malaria accounted for 1123 cases including 354 (32%) children below the age of five. AWD accounted for 273 cases including 197 (72%) children less than five years. Jilib and Afmadow accounting for 51% of all the consultations.
- In **Lower Shabelle region**, 51 health facilities reported a total of 7115 consultations of whom 3521 (49%) are children younger than five with 17 deaths (10 under the age of five). Women and girls accounted for 3581 (54%) of the consultations. About 919 consultations were reported for influenza-like illness (ILI), 499 (54%) children under five years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 198 consultations of which 121 (61%) were children under five years. Malaria accounted for 102 cases including 35 (34%) children under five years. Around 97 (95%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 190 consultations including 115 (60%) children under five years. This signifies a 150% increase in AWD cases compared to week 22. During the same period, 71 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. Around 50 suspected whooping cough cases were reported. The lack of access to conduct vaccination activities in the region continues to impact negatively on the health of children.

<sup>3</sup> Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin # 23

- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 167 cases of AWD including 128 (70%) children under 5 years, with seven related deaths (six under the age of five). Of these cases 44% are women and girls. This is a 16% increase in reported cases as compared to week 22. WHO and partners continue to monitor the trends and undertaking AWD preventive activities.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 22 AWD admissions of which 11 are under the age of five. Of these cases, 13 (59%) were women and girls.
- The SOS Hospital in Huruwaa district, **Mogadishu**, reported 61 AWD cases including 29 (48%) children under the age of five with three related deaths (two under the age of five). This is a 35% decrease in reported cases compared to week 22. Of these cases 52% are women and girls.
- Baidoa Hospital in **Bay region** reported 138 AWD cases including 78 (56%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 48% of reported cases. The number of admissions at the cholera treatment unit tends to become stable in the past weeks (see graph 4).
- The Haradere District Hospital, **Mudug region** supported by CISP reported 45 AWD cases including 24 (53%) children under the age five. This is a 29% increase compared to week 22. Of five samples collected from new cases at the hospital four **tested positive** for *Vibrio cholera* serotype 'inaba'.



## WHO's response

WHO and partners continue to monitor health events and to respond to the ongoing situation in South Central Somalia, through the following activities:

- WHO is supporting mobile clinics run by COSV in Wanlaweyne and Awdheghe districts in **Lower Shabelle region**. Following reports of an increase in AWD cases, WHO is sending a team to investigate and collect samples for laboratory confirmation.
- WHO continues to support response teams visiting a number of villages in Baidoa district, **Bay region**, including Biyoguur, Guunzi, Korar and Gofgaduud that have reported AWD cases. WHO has funded SAMA, a local NGO to conduct social mobilization and undertake other preventive activities like household water chlorination, in the affected district and surrounding areas. During these activities, 300 000 aqua tabs for water disinfection and 3000 (1 liter) sachets of oral-rehydration salts were distributed to households in targeted areas in Baidoa district. WHO is urging partners in Bay and Bakool regions to step up surveillance and WASH as a preventive measure for water-borne diseases. WHO has also sent a response team to Gofgaduud village and the surrounding areas to respond to reports of an increase in AWD cases. Samples will be collected and referred for laboratory confirmation.



A patient being treated for AWD in Baidoa

- WHO mobile team continue activities in Huddur district, **Bakool region** in response to reports of an unclassified disease. The results for six serum samples collected from patients tested negative for dengue fever, chikungunya and other arboviruses. Results for virus cell culture are still pending. New blood samples will be collected from Huddur and Tiyealow districts and referred to Nairobi for laboratory confirmation.
- WHO is supporting Bu'aale field hospital in **Middle Jubba region**, with medical kits, medicines and equipment. During the reported week, WHO doctor attended to about 50 patients who visited at the out-patient department (OPD) and emergency room (ER). Of these, four patients underwent benign tumor removal, bleeding control and bullet wounds surgery.



A patient is examined at Bu'aale Hospital OPD

- Results of four serum samples collected from patients at Berbera port town in **W. Galbeed region** during the week, **tested positive for Dengue fever**. Remaining samples results and complete results for virus cell culture are still pending.
- In Bursalax village and Goldogob districts, **Mudug region**, WHO and the ministry of health sent an investigation team in response to a reported increase in AWD cases. Two of five samples collected from patients in Bursalax **tested positive for Vibrio cholera** using Cholera Smart II rapid diagnostic test. The samples were later referred to Nairobi for laboratory confirmation. In addition, WHO has pre-positioned one complete diarrheal disease (DD) kit that can treat 100 severe cases, and one Inter-agency health kit (IAHK) to benefit 10 000 people for three months in Garowe, to facilitate timely response.