



BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- WHO investigates rumors of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) reported from villages of **Korombod, Koban and Yaa-Qoore** in **Qansadheere district**, Bay region. On 10 February 2011, six AWD cases (five children under the age of 5 and one death) were reported from those villages.
- In week 6, a **10% reduction** in reported AWD cases was observed in Banadir Hospital, **Mogadishu**.

Update on major public health concern:

• Cholera/Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)

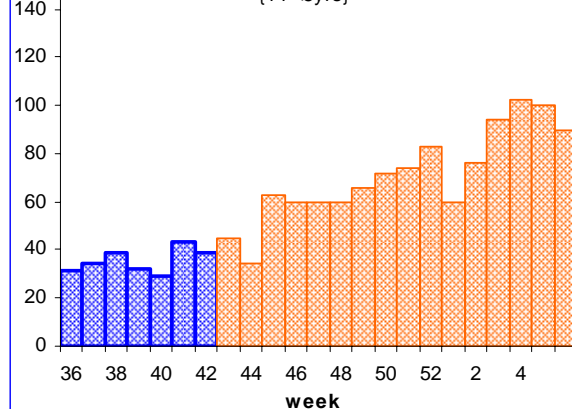
Since week 1¹, 522 AWD/cholera cases (422 cases under the age of 5) with 16 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** alone (see Graph 1).

In week 6², a total of 34 AWD cases, all cases younger than five years, were reported from 49 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle** region. Merka and Afgooye accounted for most of these cases (see Graph 2).

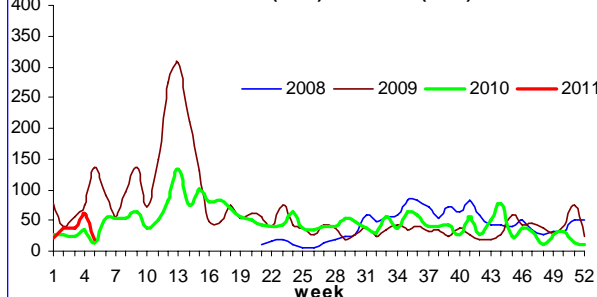
WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases especially AWD in light of the current drought that is having a serious impact on people's health. The migrant populations in search of water and pasture or other viable economic activities to sustain themselves, as a result of the ongoing drought, are passing through highly endemic geographical areas (see map page 3 on high risk regions) for diseases such as AWD and measles.

Informal settlements and a population increase has been observed in urban areas including Mogadishu and Merka among others. In Lower Shabelle, Middle and Lower Jubba the number of AWD consultations increased by over 60% although outbreaks have not been reported.

Graph 1. Banadir hospital AWD and cholera trends (Red - Cholera; Blue - AWD)
2010 wk 36-52 Cases: 864(694 <5 yrs); Deaths: 35(11 < 5yrs); Wk 1 - 6 2011 522(422) Deaths: 16 {14 <5yrs}



Graph 2. Lower Shabelle region weekly AWD cases week 21 (2008) - week 52 (2010)



¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

²Week 6: 7-13 February 2011

Conflict and displacement

- From **3 January - 13 February 2011**, **632 weapons-related casualties**, including 20 children under the age of five with five related deaths have been reported from **two major hospitals** in **Mogadishu**. The exact number of deaths on site are unknown.
- In week 1, a **third hospital** in Mogadishu reported **39 weapons-related injuries**.



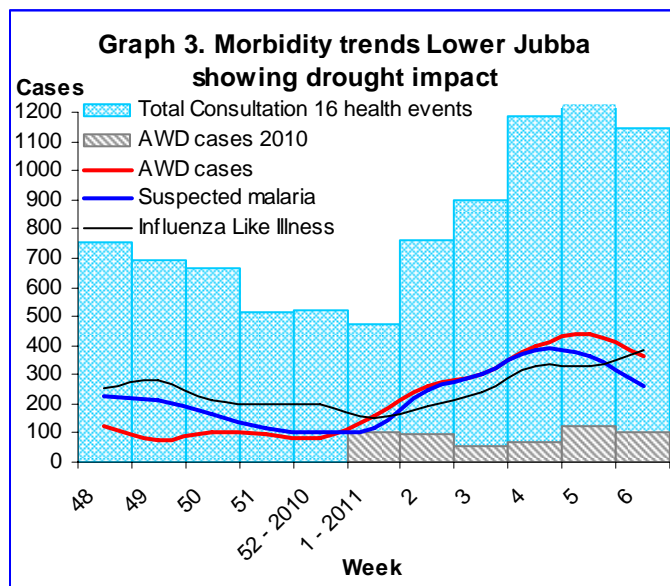
The displaced population are faced by severe food and water shortage including essential health services

- Since 1 December, UNHCR³ estimates that 66 900 were displaced within the country, including 41 280 of them due to drought. Some 14 100 people have been displaced from Mogadishu and 8 500 of them have left the city, while 5 600 have moved to areas within Mogadishu.

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 6

- 13 health facilities in **Lower and Middle Juba regions** reported a total of 1183 consultations, including 62% (737) children under the age of 5 years; and 383 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 58% (224) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 269 consultations, including 60% (161) children under 5 years. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 372 consultations, including 78% (291) children under 5 years. Jilib and Afmadow districts accounted for 55% of all the consultations. A decrease was observed in the number of consultations.

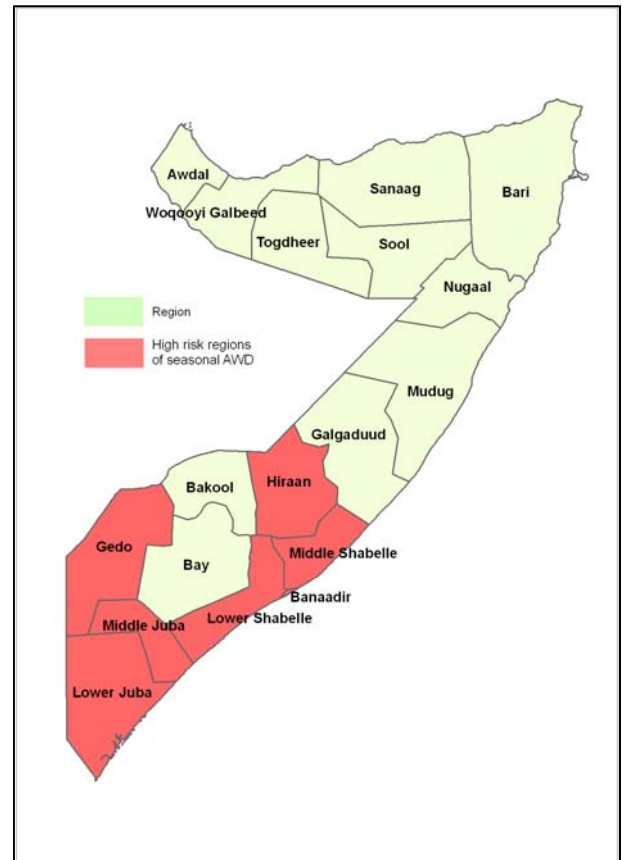


³OCHA Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin issue #6

- 49 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 6789 consultations, including 44% (2965) children under 5 years and two related deaths. Women and girls accounted for 56% of the consultations. Another 685 consultations were reported for influenza-like illness (ILI), 56% (478) children under 5 years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 438 consultations of which 64% (283) were children under 5 years. Malaria accounted for 237 cases including 33% (79) children under 5 years and no related death. 56% (133) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 34 consultations, all were children under 5 years. Merka and Afgooye districts alone accounted for 25% and 47% respectively of all reported AWD cases. During the same period, 32 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. 15 suspected whooping cough cases were also reported in the same week.

- The Merka hospital cholera treatment centre in **Lower Shabelle region**, reported 11 AWD admissions (a 50% increase) including nine children under 5 with no related deaths.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 90 cases of AWD including 80% (72) children under 5 years, with three deaths under five years. This is a 10% reduction in cases as compared to week 5. As a result of the impact of the drought and migration of the population, WHO and partners continue to monitor the AWD trends in the region (see graph on page 1).
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 10 AWD admissions (7 children under five years) with one related deaths. An increase in number of cases reported has been observed.

Map of high risk regions of seasonal AWD



WHO's response

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

- WHO is investigating rumors of AWD reported from the villages of Korombod, Koban and Yaa-Qoore in Qansadheere district, **Bay region**. On 10 February 2011, six AWD cases (five children under 5 years) including one death were reported from those villages.
- In response to reported deaths from acute respiratory tract infections from Waambati village in Dinsor district, **Bay region** in the previous week, WHO has sent a rumor investigation team to collect samples from suspected cases for lab confirmatory diagnosis in Nairobi.
- An inter-agency rapid assessment planning meeting took place on 17 February 2011 in Mogadishu. WHO led the health cluster in assessing the health situation in light of the current drought and conflict.