



## BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- A large population of Somalis continue to be displaced as a result of the **ongoing conflict** and the current **drought situation** currently facing the country.
- **Forty-three health workers** from Lower Shabelle region received training on acute watery diarrhea (AWD) **case management**

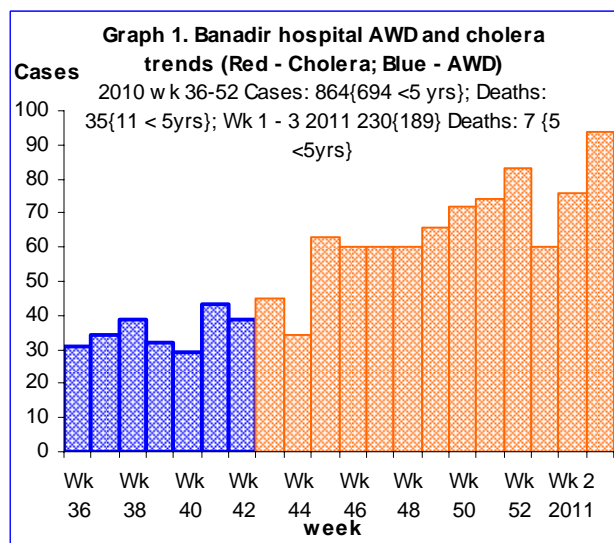
### Update on major public health concern:

- **Cholera/Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)**

Since week 1<sup>1</sup>, 230 AWD/cholera cases (189 under 5 years) with seven related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** alone.

In week 3<sup>2</sup>, a total of 27 AWD cases were reported from 39 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle** region including 67% (18) children under 5 years. Merka district alone accounted for 44% of all reported cases.

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.



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

<sup>3</sup>Week 2: 17-23 January 2011

## Conflict

- From **3 - 23 January 2011**, **323 weapons-related casualties**, including nine children under five years of age with three 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**.



## Displacement

- UNHCR<sup>3</sup> says that approximately 12 000 people have been displaced countrywide due to the drought, but the figure could be much higher than this.

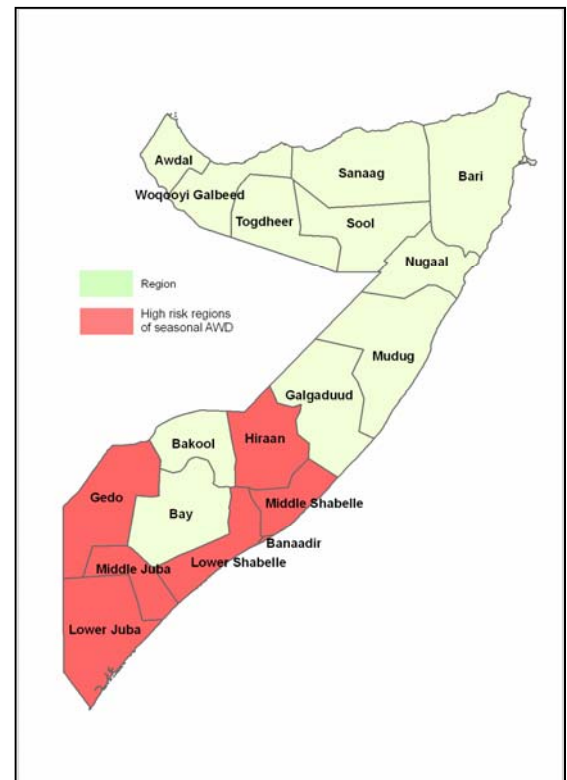
<sup>3</sup>OCHA Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin #2

## Health Events in Somalia

### Epidemiological surveillance during week 3

- 13 health facilities in **Lower and Middle Juba regions** reported a total of 895 consultations, including 74% (659) children under 5 years. 240 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 83% (198) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 305 consultations, including 66% (201) children under 5 years. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 302 consultations, including 81% (244) children under 5 years – this signifies a 16% increase in reported cases. Afmadow and Kismayo districts accounted for 57% of all the consultations – this signifies a 61% increase mainly for AWD.
- 39 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 6138 consultations including 40% (2599) children under 5 years. Women and girls accounted for 53% of the consultations. 653 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 46% (301) children under 5 years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 253 consultations of which 54% (136) were children under 5 years. Malaria accounted for 106 cases including 39% (41) children under 5 years and no related death. 65% (69) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 27 consultations including 67% (18) children under 5 years. Merka and Afgooye districts alone accounted for 44% and 33% of all reported AWD cases respectively. During the same period, 21 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. 25 suspected whooping cough cases were also reported in the same week.
- In the Merka hospital cholera treatment centre in **Lower Shabelle region**, 11 AWD admissions including eight children under 5, were reported with no related deaths. This signifies an increase as compared to week 2.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 94 cases of AWD including 82% (77) children under 5 years, with three deaths under five years. This is a 24% increase compared to week 2 (see graph on page 1) with a further increase in cases expected due to the impact of the drought. WHO and partners continue to monitor AWD trends in the region.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 11 AWD admissions (7 children under five years) and one related death above five years.

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:

- From **20-21 January 2011**, WHO in collaboration with health partner COSV, conducted an AWD case management training for 43 health workers in **Lower Shabelle region**.
- Following rumors of increasing number of AWD cases from Km50 along Agooye Corridor, **Lower Shabelle region**, health partners carried out rumor verification. Only few cases of mild diarrhoea were identified and received treatment. No further cases have been reported.
- The **health cluster** has submitted a position paper to address the **strategic priority** in response to the current drought situation.



WHO undertakes continuous training and capacity building of health workers in Somalia