



Emergency Humanitarian Action

Weekly Highlights 25 June-1 July 2011

BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

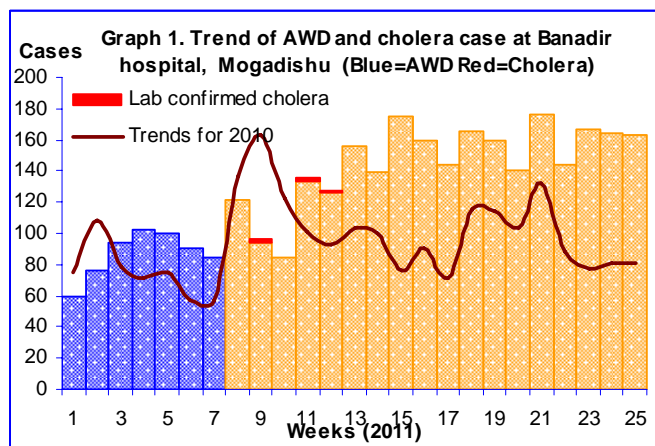
- According to FSNAU, the number of people in crisis in Somalia has increased by 19%- from 2.4 million reported in January to 2.85 million. This signifies the increasing public health risks given the limited access to health services especially in south central Somalia which accounts for 61% of the vulnerable population. The current situation is likely to deteriorate further and WHO is calling on health partners to monitor population health in the targeted areas.
- From **1-26 June 2011, 1191 casualties from weapon-related wounds** were treated in the three hospitals in Mogadishu. Eight related deaths were reported. The number of weapon related casualties reported from these hospitals has stabilized compared to the period before week 22 (more info on page 2).
- Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with WHO have initiated control activities in Somaliland following the confirmation of dengue fever in parts of the Northwest zone.
- WHO in collaboration with MoH and Banadir University conducted a two-days training on AWD case detection, management and infection control, for around 175 health workers from Banadir region and the Aggooye corridor.

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 possible contaminated sources. AWD/cholera case management and prevention activities like chlorination of water sources is ongoing.

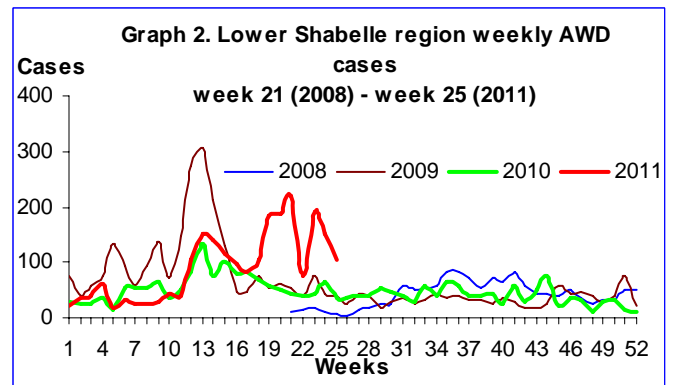
Since week 1¹, 3217 AWD/cholera cases including 2495 (78%) cases under the age of five with 117 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** (see graph 1). Children under the age of two bear the greatest burden of AWD accounting for 58% of all reported cases. Based on data collected, women and girls account for 46% of all AWD reported cases at the hospital.



¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

The number of AWD cases reported in **Lower Shabelle region** tends to decrease in week 25² (see graph 2). This compares to previous week. Active disease surveillance and case management and prevention activities is ongoing.

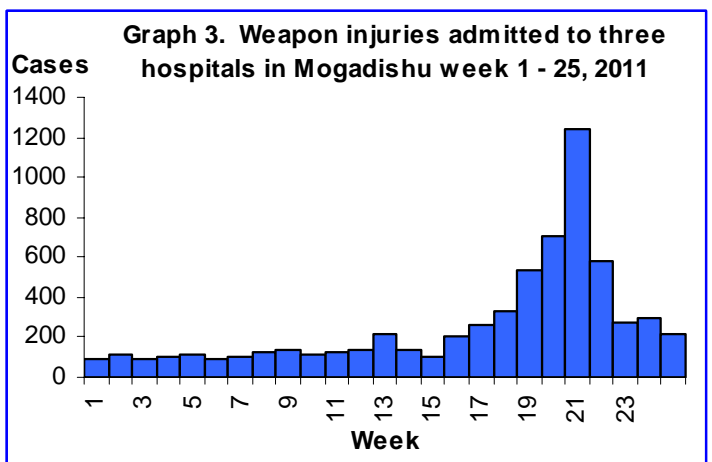
WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases, especially AWD in light of the end of the dry season.



Conflict and displacement

From **1-26 June 2011**, **1191 casualties** from weapon-related wounds were treated in the three hospitals in Mogadishu. Eight related deaths were reported. The number of weapon related casualties reported from these hospitals has stabilized compared to the period before week 22.

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 below).



UNHCR³ estimates that 32 600 displacements have occurred within Somalia since 1 May due to conflict and drought. Around 16 100 people were displaced from Mogadishu, with 7500 leaving the city while 8600 are displaced within the city. Some 11 850 were displaced due to the ongoing drought situation, representing 36 per cent of the total displacement throughout the country.

Health Events in Somalia

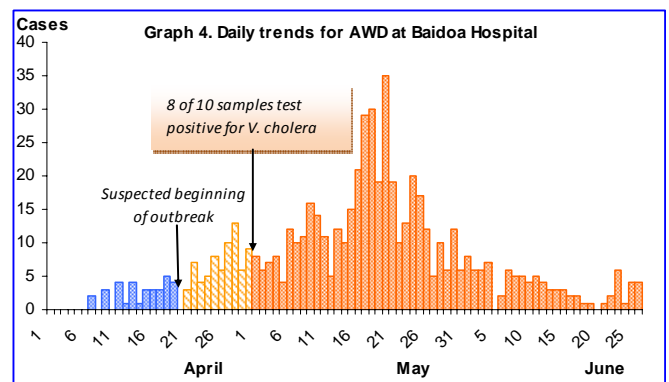
Epidemiological surveillance during week 25

- In **Lower and Middle Juba regions**, 16 health facilities reported 2247 consultations including 964 (43%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 1398 (62%) of all consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 344 consultations of which 255 (74%) were children under the age of five. Malaria accounted for 1514 cases including 480 (32%) children below the age of five. Only 6% of cases were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 323 cases including 220 (68%) children under the age of five. Jilib and Kismayo districts accounted for 48% of all the consultations.

²Week 25: 20-26 June 2011

³Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin # 25

- In **Lower Shabelle region**, 51 health facilities reported a total of 5683 consultations of whom 2482 (44%) are children younger than five. Women and girls accounted for 3082 (54%) of the consultations. About 642 consultations were reported for influenza-like illness (ILI), 320 (50%) children under five years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 185 consultations of which 116 (63%) were children under five years. Malaria accounted for 117 cases including 47 (40%) children under five years. Around 115 (98%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 103 consultations including 75 (73%) children under five years. During the same period, 77 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. Around 40 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.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 163 cases of AWD including 139 (85%) children under five years, with seven related deaths (six under the age of five). Of these cases 45% are women and girls. WHO and partners continue to monitor the trends and undertaking AWD preventive activities.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 13 AWD admissions of which six are under the age of five. Of these cases, 8 (44%) were women and girls.
- The SOS Hospital in Huruwaa district, **Mogadishu**, reported 68 AWD cases including 67 (99%) children under the age of five with two related deaths under the age of five. Of these cases 43% are women and girls. This compares to week 24.
- Baidoa Hospital in **Bay region** reported 61 AWD cases including 35 (57%) children under the age of five. Women and girls accounted for 59% of reported cases. The number of admissions at the cholera treatment unit tends to become stable, with 18 admissions including 11 children under the age of five examined at the facility during the reporting week. Of these 61% were women and girls (see graph 4). WHO is urging partners in Bay and Bakool regions to step up WASH and surveillance activities for waterborne diseases.



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:

- Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with WHO have initiated control activities in Somaliland following the confirmation of dengue fever in parts of the Northwest zone.
- WHO mobile team continues activities in Tiye glow and Hudur districts, **Bakool region**. The mobile team is providing basic health services for the underserved population in the affected areas. Results of blood samples collected from patients, following reports in previous weeks of an unclassified disease are still pending.

- Between **25-30 June**, WHO in collaboration with MoH and Banadir University conducted a training on AWD case detection, management and infection control, for around 175 health workers, including 130 qualified staff and 45 auxiliary staff, from **Banadir region** and the Afgooye Corridor. The participating health workers represented 28 health partners. The training included integrated diseases surveillance system (IDSR) standard case definitions and review of reporting tools components to strengthen IDSR performance at health-facility level.
- From **26-30 June**, WHO in collaboration with MoH conducted a five-days training on Effective Management of Essential Medicines and its Rational Use at Hospital level for around 20 health workers from **Lower Shabelle** and **Banadir** regions.



A training session for health workers in Banadir and Afgooye corridor