



BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

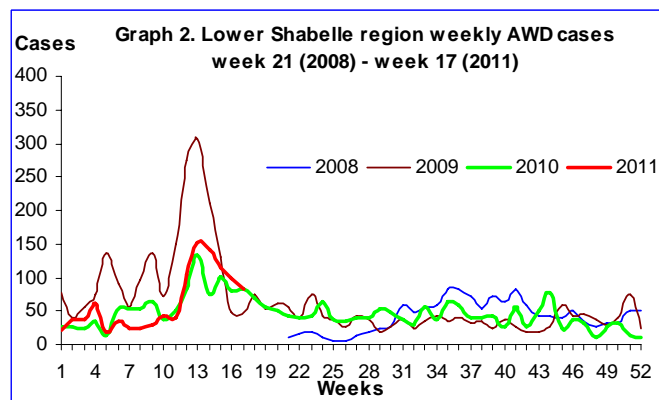
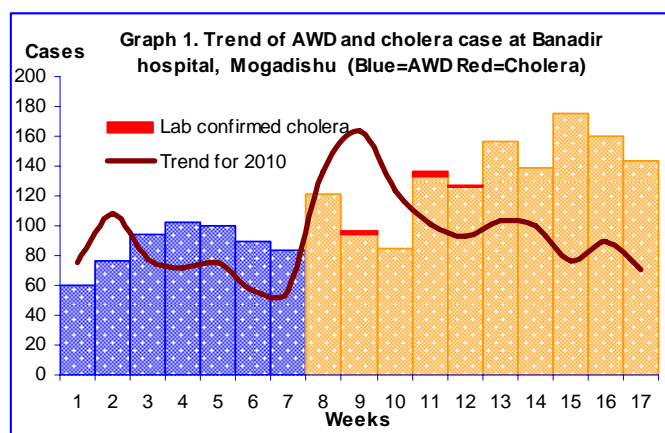
- Following the reporting of an unknown disease last week affecting children in **Xingood village, Hobyo district** (Mudug region), **ten samples** are collected and sent by WHO to Nairobi for further laboratory analysis. Results are still pending.
- WHO is sending one diarrhoea disease kit to treat 100 severe adult patients and one inter-agency health kit for 10 000 people for three months, to complement **outbreak response activities in Garoowe district** in North East Somalia.
- WHO sent two qualified health workers joined by WHO field staff to respond to rumors of an increased reporting of **AWD cases** in Biyo guur settlement and Suubey village in **Bay and Bakool regions** respectively. The team carried medical supplies to treat about 50 children under five years of age with severe dehydration.

Update on major public health concerns:

• Trends of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera

The confirmed cholera outbreak is ongoing in Mogadishu, **Banadir region**. Since week 1¹, 1939 AWD/cholera cases including 1538 (79%) cases under the age of five with 61 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** (see graph 1).

WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases, especially AWD in light of the current drought that has a serious impact on people's health (see graph 2). The cholera transmission season is ongoing and the drought situation is worsening resulting in water sources drying up and subsequent reduction in water quality and quantity. As a result of the ongoing drought, migrant populations in search of water and pasture or other viable economic activities to sustain themselves are passing through highly endemic geographical areas (see map on page 3 with high risk regions) for diseases such as AWD and measles. Informal settlements and population movement have been observed in urban areas, including Mogadishu, Merka and Awdhegle. The number of AWD cases tends to decline in week 17².



¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

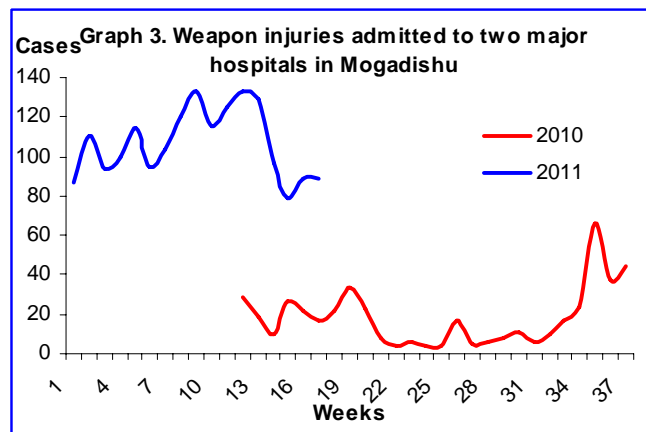
²Week 17: 25 April -1May 2011

Conflict and displacement

In the month of April 2011, of the **407 weapon related injuries** reported by two major hospitals in Mogadishu, 14 cases were children under the age of five. Three died from their injuries.

From **3 January - 30 April 2011, 1845 weapons-related injuries** including 65 children under the age of five with 18 related deaths have been reported from these hospitals (see graph 3). The exact number of deaths on site are unknown.

UNHCR³ estimates that since 23 February, at least 22 600 people have been displaced from Mogadishu, 10 900 have fled the city and another 11 700 moved to calmer districts of Mogadishu. Countrywide a total of 43 700 displacements have occurred.



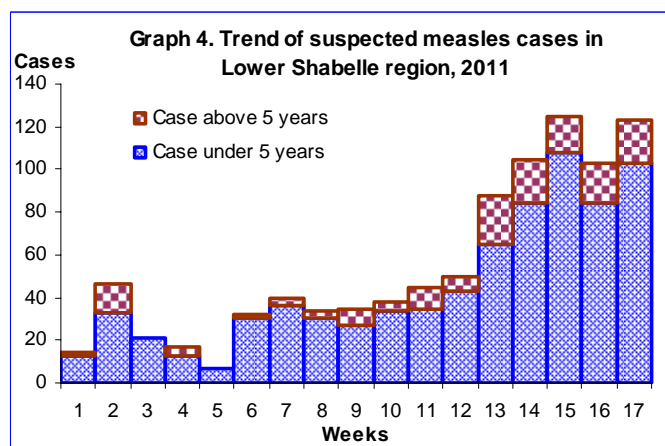
Monthly figures of weapon related casualties admitted to two major hospitals in Mogadishu only (2011)

January	457
February	425
March	556
April	407

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 17

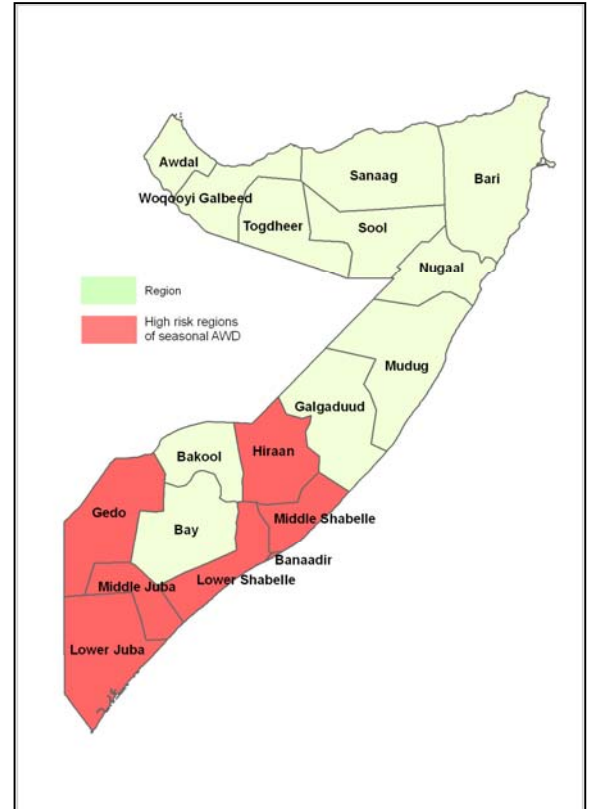
- In **Lower and Middle Juba regions**, 13 health facilities reported 929 consultations including 559 (60%) children under 5 years. Women and girls accounted for 607 (65%) of all consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 247 consultations of which 164 (66%) were children under the age of five years. Malaria accounted for 348 cases including 181 (52%) children below the age of five years with no related deaths. Only 2% were confirmed by either microscopy or rapid diagnostic test. AWD accounted for 297 consultations including 207 (70%) children less than five years with no death. Hagar and Kismayo accounted for 41% of all the consultations.
- In **Lower Shabelle region**, 51 health facilities reported a total of 7289 consultations, of whom 3319 (45%) are children under five years with three deaths of which two were under five years. Women and girls accounted for 3820 (52%) of the consultations. About 1229 consultations were reported for influenza-like illness (ILI), 652 (53%) children under five years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 251 consultations of which 153 (61%) were children under five years. Malaria accounted for 134 cases including 61 (45%) children under five years. Seventy-four (55%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 84 consultations including 38 (45%) children under five years with two related deaths. This is a slight decrease compared to the previous week. Merka district accounted for 57% of all reported AWD cases. During the same period, 123 suspected measles cases were reported from the region, an increase compared to week 16 (see graph 4). Around 52 suspected whooping cough cases were reported. Permission to conduct accelerated vaccination activities in the region was denied. The **Merka hospital cholera treatment centre (CTC)**, reported 27 AWD admissions including nine children under five with no related deaths. Of these cases 56% were women and girls.



³Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin -OCHA #17

Map of high risk regions of seasonal AWD

- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 144 cases of AWD including 110 (76%) children under 5 years, with nine related deaths of which eight were under five years (see graph on page 1). Of these cases 47% were women and girls.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 25 AWD admissions of which nine are under five years. Of these cases 10 (40%) were women and girls. A 79% increase was observed in the number of admissions were registered at the CTC.
- The SOS Hospital in Huruwaa district, **Mogadishu**, reported 47 AWD cases including 42 (89%) children under five years. Women and girls accounted for 60% of the cases.
- Rumors of an increase in AWD have been reported from Biyo guur settlement in Baidoa district, **Bay region**. Ten AWD cases including two related deaths were reported. Similar rumors were reported from Suubey village in Wajid, **Bakool region**. So far three AWD cases are reported including one related death.



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 sent a team of two qualified health workers joined by WHO field staff with initial response supplies to respond to rumors of an increase in AWD in the areas of Biyo guur settlement and Suubey village in **Bay** and **Bakool regions** respectively. The supplies include ringer lacted intravenous infusion solutions, oral rehydration salts, erythromycin syrup and doxycillin capsules. About 50 children under five years of age with severe dehydration can be treated with those medicines. The response team will provide treatment for the cases and conduct active surveillance for unreported case in the villages and their surroundings.
- Ten samples collected in previous week from cases suffering from an unknown disease affecting children in Xingood village, Hobyo district in **Mudug region** have been sent by WHO to Nairobi for further laboratory analysis. Results are still awaited for.
- WHO is sending one diarrhoea disease kit to treat 100 severe adult patients and one inter-agency health kit for 10 000 people for three months, to complement outbreak response activities in **Garowe district** in North East Somalia.

