



## BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- As part of the **drought response preparedness**, WHO is pre positioning a **diarrhoeal disease kit** with supplementary medicines and **three health post kits** to Wajid in Bakool region.

### Update on major public health concern:

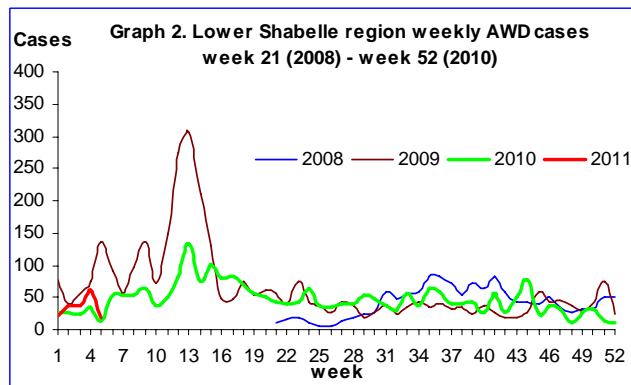
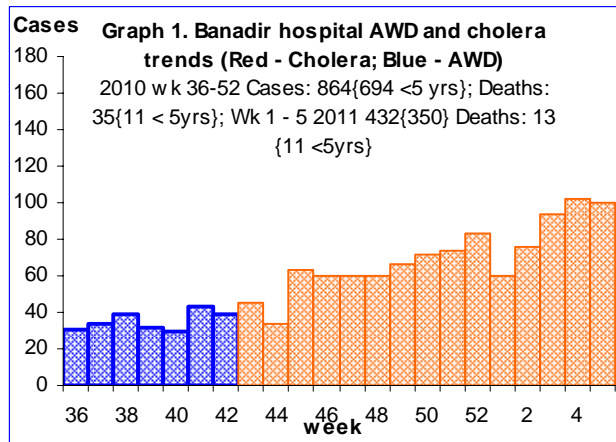
- Cholera/Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)**

Since week 1<sup>1</sup>, 432 AWD/cholera cases (350 under 5 years) with 13 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** alone (see Graph 1).

In week 5<sup>2</sup>, a total of 19 AWD cases were reported from 49 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle** region including 89% (17) children under 5 years. This is a significant decrease as compared to week 4 after verification of the high number of cases reported in week 4 from Sablaale district that later revealed the cases were not AWD (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 increasing the risk of outbreaks. 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.



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

<sup>2</sup>Week 5: 31 January-6 February 2011

## Conflict and displacement

- From **3 January - 6 February 2011**, **537 weapons-related casualties**, including 19 children under five years of age 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**.



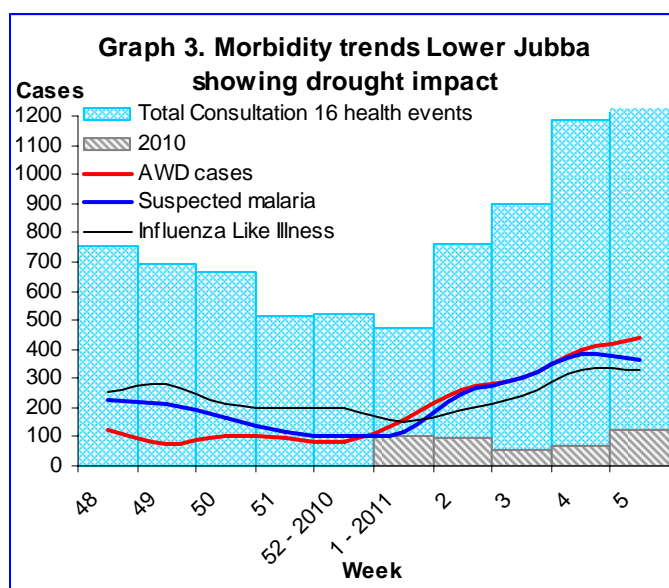
Somalis displaced due to the current drought continues

- In the past two months, at least 20 000 have been displaced<sup>3</sup> due to the severe water shortages in the country.

## Health Events in Somalia

### Epidemiological surveillance during week 5

- 13 health facilities in **Lower and Middle Juba regions** reported a total of 1230 consultations, including 72% (889) children under 5 years. 331 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 79% (262) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 363 consultations, including 67% (242) children under 5 years. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 438 consultations, including 78% (341) children under 5 years. Jilib and Kismayo districts accounted for 55% of all the consultations. An increase was observed in the number of consultations.

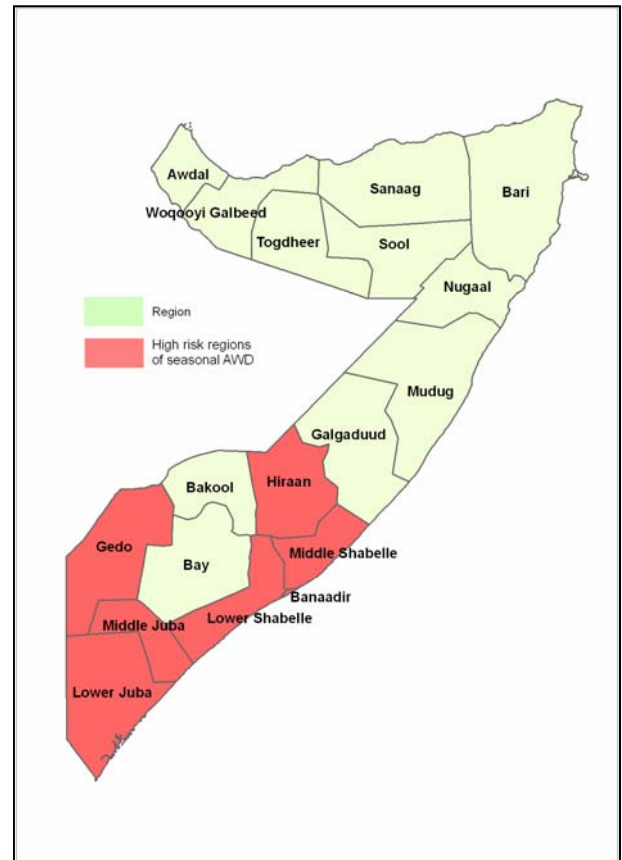


<sup>3</sup>OCHA Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin issue #5

- 49 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 6034 consultations including 42% (2530) children under 5 years and two related deaths. Women and girls accounted for 57% of the consultations. 685 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 52% (357) children under 5 years. Severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) accounted for 243 consultations of which 61% (148) were children under 5 years. Malaria accounted for 124 cases including 31% (38) children under 5 years and no related death. 57% (71) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 19 consultations including 89% (17) children under 5 years. Merka and Qoryoley districts alone accounted for 47% and 32% of all reported AWD cases respectively. During the same period, 7 suspected measles cases were reported from the region. 15 suspected whooping cough cases were also reported in the same week.

- In the Merka hospital cholera treatment centre in **Lower Shabelle region**, six AWD admissions including five children under 5 were reported with no related deaths.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 100 cases of AWD including 84% (84) children under 5 years, with three deaths - two under five years. This compares to week 4. 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 nine AWD admissions (7 children under five years) with no related deaths. An increase in number of cases reported has been observed.
- WHO is monitoring the situation in Biyoley village in Tiye glow district, **Bakool region**, following of four cases reported of patients (two related deaths) suffering from severe diarrhea and dehydration.

**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:

- Following an observed increase of AWD cases reported in week 4 from Sablaale district in **Lower Shabelle region**, WHO undertook case investigations and found no cases of AWD.
- In response to reported deaths from acute respiratory tract infections from Waambati village in Dinsor district, **Bay region**, WHO is undertaking investigation and response.
- WHO is pre positioning a diarrhoeal disease kit with supplementary medicines, and three health post kits to Wajid in **Bakool region**, to respond to the current drought facing Somalia.