



BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- **Health Cluster** partners appeals for **58 million USD** in the Consolidated Appeal Process 2011 for humanitarian assistance in Somalia.
- **Two cases** of acute watery diarrhea from the Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** have been confirmed positive using Cholera Smart II rapid diagnostic test.

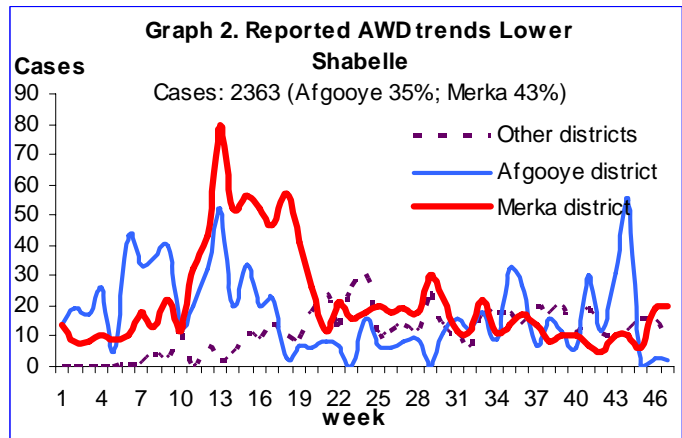
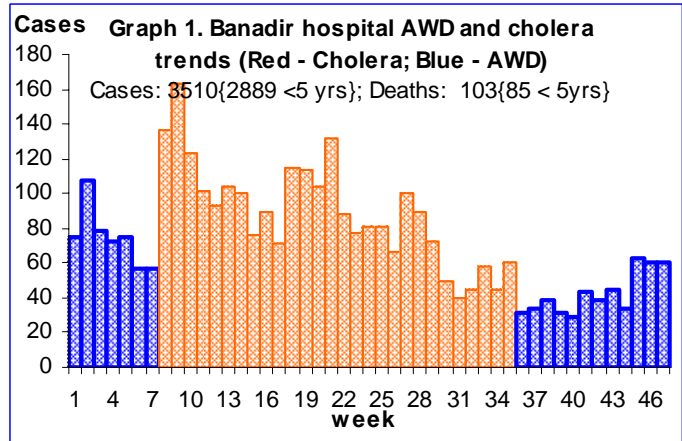
Update on major public health concern:

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

An increase in number of reported acute watery diarrhea (AWD) has been observed in the region of **Banadir**. Two of four stool samples collected from AWD admissions at Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu**, tested positive for *Vibrio cholera* using Cholera Smart II rapid diagnostic test. The cases are from Hamar weyne. WHO has urged partners working in the regions to step up water and sanitation interventions and community awareness activities. The two regions are among the high risk regions in Somalia (see map on page 3)

Since week 1², 3510 AWD/cholera cases (2889 under 5 years) and 103 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** alone (see Graph 1).

In week 47, a total of 31 AWD cases were reported from 33 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle** region including 71% (22) children under 5 years (Graph 2).

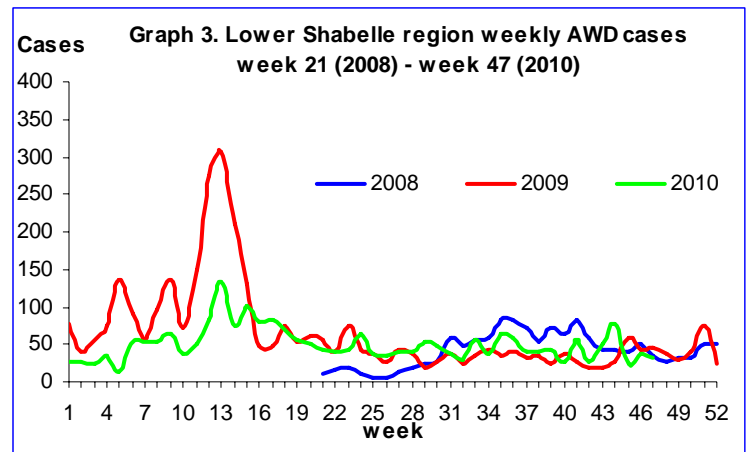


¹Week 47: 22-28 November 2010

²Week 1: 4-10 January 2010

WHO is calling on health partners to continue ongoing AWD prevention and outbreak preparedness activities during the current cholera transmission period (see Graph 3).

WHO remains concerned that the observed suspension, withdrawal and scaling down of aid activities in parts of Somalia will negatively impact on the health situation of the population. Movement restrictions in outbreak prone areas is another challenge.



Conflict and displacement

- From **4 January to 19 November 2010**, **4030 weapon-related casualties**, including **18% (722)** under five years of age and 106 related deaths, including 22% (23) children under 5 years, have been reported from two major hospitals in **Mogadishu**. The deaths on site of injury unknown. Up until week 45, a third hospital reported **2959 weapons-related injuries**.



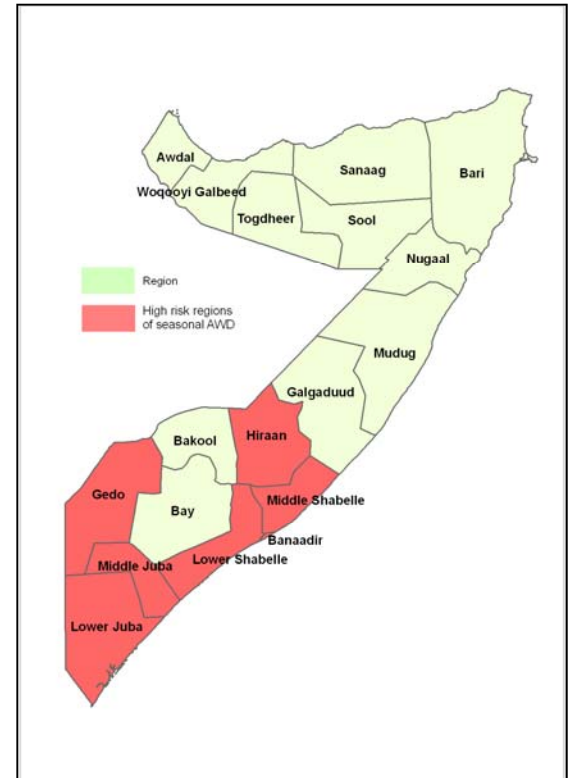
Women and children still account for the many of the casualties as a result of the conflict in Mogadishu.

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 47

- 12 health facilities in **Lower and Middle Juba regions** reported a total of 1130 consultations, including 55% (602) children under 5 years. 374 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI), 59% (221) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 419 consultations, including 38% (161) children under 5 years. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 180 consultations, including 81% (145) children under 5 years, a 23% increase compared to week 46.
- 33 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 5079 consultations including 46% (2344) children under 5 years. Acute respiratory infections (ARI) accounted for 1004 consultations of which 57% (575) were children under 5 years, a significant increase as compared to week 46. Malaria accounted for 107 cases including 51% (55) children under 5 years and no related death. 50% (54) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhea accounted for 31 consultations including 71% (22) children under 5 years. During the same period 64 suspected measles cases were reported from the region.
- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 60 cases of AWD including 93% (56) children under 5 years with three related deaths. WHO and partners continue to monitor AWD trends in the region.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 23 AWD admissions, including 65% (15) children under five years. This compares to week 46.

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 team visited Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu (Banadir region)** and collected 7 stool samples for tests. **Two out of the 4 samples tested positive for Vibrio cholera using Cholera Smart II test.** All seven samples have been transferred to Nairobi for confirmatory diagnosis. Results are still pending. WHO is providing one diarrhoeal disease kit to the hospital to facilitate effective case management.
- Following sporadic suspected measles and whooping cough outbreaks, WHO has collected samples from Qoryoley, Busley and Wagadi in **Lower Shabelle region**, and Elbon in **Gedo region**.
- From 18 November till 2 December 2010, 47 deliveries were registered at the Kulmiye Hospital in **Afgooye**. During the same period, 510 patients visited the hospital facing problems of malnutrition, infertility, vaginal bleeding and chronic pelvic. Seven operations were carried out including on-the-job training in performing cesarean section for two medical doctors.



Two medical doctors received on-the-job training at Kulmiye Hospital in performing cesarean section.

In Focus

Health Cluster appeals for 58 million USD for humanitarian assistance in Somalia.

Nairobi, Kenya - On **1 December 2010**, the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) for Somalia was launched. Aid agencies working in Somalia appealed for USD 530 million to respond to the most urgent humanitarian needs in the country. One of the special guest speakers was Dr Lul Mohamud Mohamed, head of the Pediatric department at Banadir Hospital and acting Dean and Lecturer of the Faculty of Medicine of the Banadir University Hospital in Mogadishu.

In 2011, health cluster partners urgently require 58.6 million USD to fund the 45 health projects that are included in the CAP to provide life-saving health interventions. Of this amount, WHO requires 15.6 million USD for a total of 7 projects. Four projects will focus on extending emergency care, including maternal and reproductive health, outbreak control and response activities, and strengthening the coordination of the health response. An additional three projects are joint initiatives with UNICEF, UNFPA and Habeeb Hospital, respectively for the Child Health Days, emergency obstetric care and the free chain initiative for mental health.

Health cluster partners, under the leadership of WHO, will be working together to scale up the access to health care of the two million people who are currently in humanitarian crisis, including 1.46 million displaced people. This number accounts for nearly 27% of the total population, representing one of the world's worst humanitarian crises.



Dr Lul Mohamud Mohamed, head of the Pediatric department at Banadir Hospital in Mogadishu, one of the key speakers during the launch of 2011 CAP for Somalia.



Dr Marthe Everard, WHO representative for Somalia, and UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr António Guterres at the launch of the 2011 CAP for Somalia

In 2010, health cluster partners provided life-saving health interventions including emergency surgical services and distribution of almost 40 metric tons of medical supplies benefiting nearly 7,000 war-wounded people including 20 percent children in Mogadishu. In 2011, cluster partners will support hospitals through training of Somali health workers in emergency obstetric care and trauma management, providing essential medical supplies, and organizing vaccinations.

Since the introduction of the cluster approach in 2006, WHO as the health cluster lead agency has been coordinating health interventions in Somalia.