EL NIÑO FORECAST AND HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES

- Drier-than-normal conditions are expected to continue to affect the vast majority of the central and eastern parts of the country. A further deterioration of the already very high food insecurity levels is expected, with 7.5 million people in need of relief assistance.
- The southern part of the country is expected to experience above-average cumulative rainfall until January 2016.

CURRENT AND PROJECTED HEALTH CONDITIONS

- Existing conditions may lead to a famine, with related acute malnutrition that could increase to dramatic levels in the first half of 2016.
- Heavy rainfall may create conditions conducive to flooding, and related water-borne animal and human diseases, with a special concern for cholera, as the country has already faced several outbreaks during the first half of 2015.
- Across South Sudan, measles has been the fourth most common cause of morbidity in 2015 to date; most confirmed cases were from Central Equatoria (35%) and Unity (35%) states, while the rest were spread across the Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, Western Bahr El Ghazal and Western Equatoria states. Augmented malnutrition may cause increased incidence of measles, especially within already existing humanitarian situations (e.g. internally displaced persons camps).

HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE ACTIONS

- WHO has deployed technical surge capacities to the South Sudan Country Office to support immediate response assistance.
- WHO has deployed new Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) in a Box kits to establish and manage disease and nutrition surveillance, alert and response activities.

*INFORM (Index for Risk Management) is a global risk assessment index for humanitarian crises and disasters: http://www.inform-index.org/