### PERU

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<tr>
<th>Assessments and events:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• A week after the earthquake, aftershocks continue, but with less intensity. Up to 30 000 people are thought to be homeless while 503 are reported dead and 1042 wounded, of which 650 were transported to Lima for care.</td>
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<td>• Pisco region was the most severely affected: two hospitals collapsed and more than 25 health centres were damaged. Overall, four hospitals are reported destroyed and 16 affected.</td>
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<td>• Emergency response is improving with the health emergency operations centre coordinating activities, resources and needs. A Situation Room was established to centralize information management and analysis.</td>
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<td>• The MoH has deployed health brigades in Cañete, Ica and Chincha. A rise in the number of confirmed cases of acute respiratory infections and diarrhoea is attributed to heightened surveillance rather than to post-earthquake causes. Medical teams are also supporting local hospitals in Ica Department.</td>
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<td>• Priorities for the health sector include epidemiological surveillance, water distribution and waste collection, environmental health, restoration of health services and provision of psychological support</td>
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<tr>
<td>• WHO/PAHO dispatched 12 disaster management and other experts to Peru. They are supporting national authorities and coordinating with the UNDAC team and other international cooperation agencies on the ground. Activities include:</td>
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<td>➢ Analysing the vaccination coverage;</td>
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<td>➢ Planning the response with the emergencies and Disasters Programme (PED);</td>
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<td>➢ Supporting the deployment of mental care services;</td>
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<td>➢ Mobilizing people specialized in producing succinct health reports;</td>
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<td>➢ Assisting the Government in producing objective assessment of needs;</td>
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<td>➢ Assisting in providing communication (satellite and cell phones) in the field.</td>
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<td>• WHO/PAHO is assisting the National Civil Defense in operating a Logistic Support Systems (SUMA/LSS) to ensure rapid inventory, classification and distribution of urgent humanitarian supplies,</td>
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<tr>
<td>• WHO/PAHO also supports authorities in defining a mass communication work strategy, in promoting health in shelters, and in collaborating with the media and other institutional actors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Support for WHO’s emergency operations is provided by Monaco and the UNICEF.</td>
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### HURRICANE DEAN

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<td>• In Jamaica, Hurricane Dean killed a reported four people and injured another 241; 1700 people are still living in shelters. A number of health centres suffered considerable damage and others are now only partially functioning because of lack of water, electricity and other necessities.</td>
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<td>• In Haiti, two deaths have been reported and dozens of injuries.</td>
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<td>• In Dominica, significant damage to the Princess Margret Hospital forced the all patients to evacuate. Two deaths and 30 injuries are reported. Damage to the health sector is estimated to reach $3 million.</td>
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<td>• Hurricane Dean also affected St. Lucia, the Dominican Republic, Belize and the Martinique, forcing people in shelters and cutting off power supplies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• In Jamaica, PAHO/WHO set up an operations centre. Two PAHO/WHO epidemiologists are working on information collection and the establishment of an emergency surveillance system. PAHO/WHO is assessing damage to the Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital and evaluating the possibility of emergency repairs. PAHO/WHO, in collaboration with the MoH, will purchase additional vector control insecticide and equipment.</td>
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WHO is working with partners to address the health aspects of crises in more than 40 countries. Check the Health Action in Crises Web site for more details: [http://www.who.int/hac/](http://www.who.int/hac/)

### Haiti
- In Haiti, the MoH and PAHO/WHO are conducting damage and needs assessments in the most affected areas.

### Belize
- In Belize, the PAHO/WHO country office is tracking the movement of Hurricane Dean. The National Emergency Management Office has declared a phase II. PAHO/WHO will coordinate the arrival of the OCHA team.

### St Lucia
- In St Lucia, health and disaster experts are conducting a joint rapid needs assessment. None of the MoH 34 rural clinics report damages.

### FLOODS IN BANGLADESH, NEPAL AND INDIA

#### Assessments and events:
- In Bangladesh, 6.2 million people remain affected by the floods. Ongoing heavy rains, together with the increased vulnerability of affected populations, could further worsen the situation in parts of the country.
- In Nepal, the Nepal Red Cross Society confirmed more than 19,300 displaced families and close to 440,000 people affected as of 17 August.
- In India, about 23 million people in 78 districts of seven states are affected by the floods. While a number of health centres remain submerged in flood water, no shortage of drugs has been reported.

#### Actions:
- WHO is working with the governments of the affected countries, strengthening disease surveillance and health relief systems. Across the three countries the Polio networks have been mobilized to respond to the crisis.
- In Bangladesh, WHO is replenishing the pre-positioned stocks of life-saving medicines including oral rehydration salt packets, antibiotics and IV fluids. About 1000 acute diarrhoea cases are reported daily, of which 60% are severely dehydrated. From 30 July to 16 August, 61,403 cases have been reported in flood-affected districts, with only fifteen deaths.
- In Nepal, WHO is assisting health authorities for assessments and disease surveillance, and coordinating activities with health partners. WHO and the national health authorities sent an epidemiologist and malaria and dengue experts to Banke and Bardia Regions to enhance vector-control surveillance.
- In India, WHO is supporting the Indian Directorate of Emergency Medical Response in disease surveillance.
- Norway pledged to support WHO’s emergency response in flood-affected countries through the donation of kits. Support for WHO’s emergency operations in Nepal is provided by the Republic of Korea. WHO is also using its regular country budget to respond to emergency needs.

### OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

#### Assessments and events:
- The recent blackout disrupted laboratory, x-ray and preventive services including immunization. In hospitals, intensive care units, operating rooms and oxygen extractors, as well as air conditioning and water pumps were affected.
- Local health unions in Gaza organized a strike from 19 to 23 August. All the sectors except nurses were concerned. Emergency cases were excluded.

#### Actions:
- Two shipments of medical supplies including medications for patients with kidney diseases and other chronic illnesses were delivered in Gaza by the MoH with WHO’s support. Local pharmaceutical authorities and WHO will tackle the issue of pharmaceutical disposal, especially of expired drugs.
- A workshop on procurement and supply management (good storage practices, inventory systems and quantification) was conducted for 40 pharmacists from the northern districts.
- Supply and installation of IT equipment for the smooth running of the pharmaceutical system is taking place. Software and other technical trainings will be organized.
- WHO and the MoH held the monthly central health coordination meeting in Ramallah. The meeting discussed the health sector priorities and problems for the preparation of the 2008 Consolidated Appeal Process.
- In 2007, WHO’s emergency activities are funded by ECHO, Norway and Italy.
SOMALIA

Assessments and events:
- While the national reconciliation conference is ongoing in Mogadishu, security is worsening in the capital. In Middle Shabelle’s Jilib District, tension is high, while in Buurgaabo (Badade District), 350km from Kismayo, fighting over the past two weeks has reportedly killed 15. Since the beginning of the year, 3992 cases of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) were reported in Somaliland including 46 related deaths.

Actions:
- A ten-day measles catch-up campaign in Wanlaweyn District vaccinated almost 69 000 children. An EPI acceleration campaign in Bay Region started on 20 August, vaccinating children against six diseases; 80% of the vaccinators are Somalia Red Crescent Society volunteers.
- WHO conducted refresher training on reproductive health care in Baidoa; it was attended by 30 nurses, midwives and traditional birth attendants working for World Vision, the Somali Red Crescent, the Emirati Red Crescent, the Bay regional hospital and local NGOs in Baidoa, Mogadishu, Dinsor and Bardera.
- WHO’s emergency activities are supported by the CERF, Canada, Italy, Norway, Sweden, the United States and Finland.

SUDAN

Assessments and events:
- Southern Sudan remains calm with no major incidents reported; all ten states are under UN security phase 3 except for Akobo and Walgak, in Jonglei, which are in phase 4 due to local tensions.
- In Gedaref, an acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) outbreak is ongoing; 750 cases and 50 deaths have been reported since mid-April. Recently two adjacent localities have started notified a few cases but confirmation is required.
- Another 69 AWD cases were registered in Kapoeta, Eastern Equatoria, bringing the cumulative number since 1 January to 9738 cases and 397 deaths.
- The meningitis outbreak is almost over; only Juba registered two cases during the past week, bringing the total for 2007 to 11973 cases and 672 deaths. Three deaths and nine cases of rabies were reported in Western Bahr el Ghazal.

Actions:
- WHO is coordinating with the GoSS/MoH a response to the reported withdrawal of several NGOs from health facilities due to insufficient humanitarian funding. Three states are concerned so far. WHO is conducting a survey to assess the needs in the affected health facilities.
- WHO continues work to improve disease outbreak surveillance and verification and to strengthen response capacities. Medicines and supplies are being donated to health facilities, primary health care units and centres.
- The GoSS/MoH, WHO and FAO are collaborating to control the reported outbreak of rabies in Western Barh El Ghazal.
- WHO and OCHA are coordinating the procurement of life-saving supplies such as tetanus and anti-rabies vaccines as well as snake anti-venom, to assist state-level response to the floods. WHO also donated AWD supplies to flood-affected Jonglei State.
- Since 1 January, almost 55 000 people have returned to their homes in Southern Sudan. WHO and the GoSS/MoH are coordinating with partners to ensure health assistance is provided to both returnees and host communities.
- In 2007, contributions for WHO’s emergency activities were received from ECHO, Ireland, Italy, Finland, the CERF and the Common Humanitarian Fund.

More information is available at:
www.emro.who.int/sudan/

⇒ The next meeting of the UNDG Darfur Working Group on Recovery and Development will take place on 28 August.
INTER-AGENCY ISSUES

- **Chad.** An external evaluation of the Cluster Approach took place from 13 to 23 August.
- **Clusters.**
  - A meeting of global cluster leads will take place in Geneva on 28 August.
  - The IASC Cluster Task Team will meet in Geneva on 29 August.
  - Emergency Shelter Cluster workshops will be held in Skovde, Sweden, on 11-20 September, and in Stuttgart, Germany, on 13-22 October. A training workshop will take place in Bangkok on 15-19 October.
  - A face to face meeting of the Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Cluster will take place in Geneva on 25-26 September.
  - The Global Health Cluster and the three Clusters (Health, Nutrition and Wash) will meet in Nairobi on 13-15 November.
- On 22 August the IASC Weekly meeting in Geneva updated on Corruption Risks in Humanitarian Assistance and on the situation in Ethiopia.
- A meeting to prepare for the IASC Working Group Retreat took place in Geneva on 23 August. The Retreat will be held in Geneva on 18-19 September.
- **Gender and Humanitarian Action.** The next Sub-Working Group meeting will take place on 5 September. A face to face meeting will be held in Geneva on 18-19 October.
- **Civil-Military Coordination.** The 74th UN Civil-Military Coordination Training Course will be held on 9-14 September in Accra, Ghana.
- The Humanitarian Information Centre Stakeholders’ Consultation will take place in Geneva on 10-11 September.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies.** The next meeting of the IASC Taskforce will take place in Geneva on 10-13 September. On 14 September, WHO will host the launch of the newly issued IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings.
- The next meeting of the IASC CAP SWG will take place on 20 September.
- **Contingency Planning.** The inter-agency drafting group on the revision of the IASC Contingency Planning Guidelines will meet in Geneva on 24-25 September. The IASC Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning will meet in Geneva on 26-27 September.
- An inter-agency meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction will take place in Geneva on 25 September.

**Please send any comments and corrections to crises@who.int**

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