Assessments and Events

To date, no outbreak have been reported. However, there is no reason for complacency and each rumour is investigated as closely as possible. The most frequently reported causes of illness are malaria, dengue, diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections.

Overall, about 2.4 million people are considered affected in the Irrawaddy Delta and around Yangon, of which 1.3 million had been reached by national or international relief as of 3 June. However, it is not clear how many are receiving sustained assistance.

People are leaving temporary shelters and moving back to their homes or to monasteries.

WHO Regional Surveillance Officers report that there are adequate stocks of medicines in the affected areas. For now, the major factors of risk seems to be the lack of clean water and of soap for individual and household hygiene.

Actions

As of 5 June, a 200-strong team coordinated by the ASEAN Task Force has started deploying to the Delta to undertake a multi-sectoral and double-track Post Nargis Joint Assessment, focusing on (i) immediate needs and (ii) the costs of rebuilding. WHO and the Health Cluster are actively participating in the initiative assessing health systems and preventive and curative services.

A team of WHO epidemiologists is helping reactivate the outbreak early warning and response system. A Health Cluster weekly bulletin is in preparation.

WHO is supporting training of trainers, providing educational materials for NGOs in affected areas and briefing the medical volunteers mobilized by the Myanmar Medical Association.

Since the beginning of the emergency, WHO and the Health Cluster have sent more than 650 metric tonnes of supplies and equipment. WHO also shipped more than 20 000 bed nets and 140 000 are in the pipeline.

WHO continues to advocate stronger support for the health sector. As of 1 June, US$ 6.2 million have been mobilized, including US$ 1.88 million under the CERF Rapid Response window for WHO in partnership with NGOs. In addition to its regular budget, WHO has received donations from Australia, Denmark, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Romania and the United Kingdom.
Regional Office for the Western Pacific Emergency Health Action department joined a Ministry of Health field visit to Sichuan to observe earthquake-affected areas and local health facilities in Chengdu and meet with health officials in the Province.

- Preparations are under way for a WHO technical mission on the reconstruction of the health care system on 9-23 June. The mission will be conducted in consultation with the MoH and the National Development and Reform Commission.
- WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and IOM are planning how UN agencies can best support psychosocial assistance for affected populations.
- WHO is discussing a plan for a consolidated immediate relief proposal with the UN Disaster Management Team (UNDMT).
- WHO’s emergency response activities are funded by its regular budget, as well as the CERF, Norway and Monaco.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Assessments and Events

- Over the past weeks, violence against foreign workers has killed a reported 42 people and wounded a further 550. Townships and informal settlements are the most affected and violence is reported in the provinces of Western Cape, KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga, North Western and Free State.
- According to the National Disaster Management Centre, more than 39 000 people are displaced in 109 shelters in the country.
- From a public health perspective, the main challenge is to reach and assist the displaced and to maintain disease surveillance for outbreak early warning.

Actions

- The MoH, in collaboration with some NGOs, is implementing the health response taking into account the findings and recommendations of recent the needs assessment.
- WHO is assisting the MoH and health partners for rapid needs assessment and strategic planning, focusing on resource mobilization, strengthening coordination – including resources mapping, information sharing, joint planning and activity implementation – and capacity building, surveillance and early warning.
- A Health Cluster bulletin is in preparation in collaboration with partners.
- WHO will emphasize increased strengthening for coordination in the coming days as financial resources are available from the Government and more human resources have been deployed.

**ETHIOPIA**

Assessments and Events

- The failure of Belg rains has triggered a crisis exacerbated by last year’s floods and the rising prices of food items and oil.
- Assessments conducted in Oromiya’s Bale and East and West Haraghe zones report an increased deterioration in the nutrition status of the population.
- The number of people in need of food assistance is estimated at 3.4 million but it is expected to increase in the coming months. The worst affected districts are in Oromiya, SNNP and Somali regions. Afar and Amhara are also reporting rising numbers of malnourished children in therapeutic feeding centres.
- On a positive note, following the meningitis vaccination campaigns in high-risk districts, the number of cases has decreased. Most reported cases are now from districts which were not covered by the campaign.

Actions

- The Government and humanitarian partners are strengthening the network of therapeutic feeding centres in the affected districts.
- Health partners’ response to the severe acute malnutrition cases will focus on:
  - Strengthening disease and nutritional surveillance in drought-affected areas;
  - Strengthening health services to cope with the increase of common illnesses and communicable disease through the provision of drugs and medical supplies;
  - Ensuring adequate preparedness measures;
  - Providing supportive supervision.
- WHO received US$ 6 million to respond to the measles and meningitis outbreaks and basic health services the drought-affected areas of Oromiya. Now the Organization seeks additional resources to scale up the capacities of the therapeutic feeding centres, monitor the nutritional situation and train health staff on the management of malnutrition-related complications. UNICEF will supply drugs and supplies while WHO has identified a national nutritionist.

Global Clusters are sharing information and coordinating needs assessments and response plans.

The Humanitarian Coordinator has injected US$ 12.7 millions from the Humanitarian Response Fund for the drought response. Most of the fund will be used for the provision of water and food.

More information is available at www.who.int/hac/crises/eth/en/index.html
WHO activities are supported by Canada, the United Kingdom, the CERF and the local Humanitarian Response Fund.

**SUDAN**

**Assessments and Events**
- The humanitarian community continues to support IDPs and other persons affected by the fighting that shook Abyei on 14 and 15 May. Estimates indicate that 50,000 people were displaced and another 40,000 affected.
- Besides violence and injuries, health risks include diarrhoea and dehydration. Health centres have been reporting and increase in patients.
- Heavy raining is hampering access to some locations.

**Actions**
- WHO provided four emergency health kits to Wau and Agok from the pre-positioned stock for flood response operation. Each kits provides supplies and drugs for 10,000 persons for three months. Diarrhoeal kits covering 500 cases of cholera and 100 cases of bloody diarrhoea are available if needed.
- WHO deployed staff to assist with coordination and needs assessments.
- The MoH and WHO launched the third polio campaign in Twic County on 4-6 June. In Juba and Agok the campaign will be combined with measles vaccination on 9-12 June. UNICEF will provide supplies for the combined measles and polio campaign.
- WHO’s emergency activities are supported by the regular budget, as well as the CERF, the Common Humanitarian Fund, ECHO, Finland, Ireland, Italy and USAID.

**CHAD**

**Assessments and Events**
- The east is still in Security Phase 4 and staff movements remain extremely limited. MSF-Luxembourg has withdrawn from Iriba and Save the Children from Bredjing camp.
- Hygiene and sanitation indicators are alarming in Habile, Dogdore, Kerfi, Gozbagar and Alacha IDP sites. Ten cases of acute jaundice syndrome were notified last week, eight of them in Kerfi site in Goz Beida health district.
- The rainy season is due to begin shortly.

**Actions**
- A contingency plan preparing for a sudden influx of 50,000 people is being put together with OCHA’s support.
- WHO donated essential drugs and supplies to MSF-Holland to support the transition in Bredjing after the withdrawal of Save the Children. To reinforce surveillance, WHO also provided antiserum and reactive supplies to support the early detection of epidemic-prone diseases such as cholera and dysentery.
- WHO continues to reinforce the capacity of local laboratories. A further request for funding has been transmitted to ECHO.
- WHO’s activities in Chad are funded by the regular budget, ECHO, Italy, Finland and the CERF.

**GUINEA**

**Assessments and Events**
- The military put end to the strike begun on 26 May, but the situation remains extremely tense. Overall, hospitals report six deaths and 152 wounded.
- Meanwhile, trade unions have announced a strike on 10 June if requests are not met.
- Cholera continues in the north western Boke prefecture. Since the beginning of the outbreak in April, 79 cases and six deaths have been reported (CFR 7.59%).

**Actions**
- WHO provided two trauma kits to Donka and Ignace Deen hospitals in Conakry and is coordinating a rapid needs evaluation with the MoH and the Donka Hospital. It also convened a national crisis committee meeting to coordinate the response within the framework of the Health Cluster.
- WHO is providing technical and financial support to health authorities for the prevention and management of cholera cases. It also donated 7250 rapid diagnostic tests. Training was organized to refresh health staff in affected areas on the detection, management and diagnosis of cholera.
- WHO’s emergency activities are funded its regular budget and the CERF.
**SRI LANKA**

**Assessments and Events**
- The sharp increase in the price of food commodities is affecting the nutritional status in conflict-affected areas where global acute under-nutrition in children under five are double the national average (26-30% instead of 14%).
- Heavy rains have lashed in the south of the country during the last few days. Floods and landslides have killed five people and displaced about 83,000.
- The situation remains tense in the northern districts of Killinochchi, Vavuniya, Mannar and Mullaitivu. Despite intense fighting in the north the number of IDPs has remained stable at a little more than 184,000. Lack of human resources continues to be a pressing constraint, intensified by the ongoing insecurity.

**Actions**
- The MoH, with support from WHO, has established a Disaster Management Centre. A nation-wide Emergency Preparedness and Response plan for the health sector is also under preparation.
- WHO has released US$ 10,000 to support the MoH’s response to the floods.
- WFP, UNICEF, WHO and FAO are planning a survey in the north-eastern war-affected regions, such as the Wanniyala, to assess malnutrition and to identify appropriate interventions.
- WHO set up a logistics office in Colombo to facilitate the transport of drugs and consumables to facilities in Vavuniya, Mannar, Killinochchi and Mullaitivu.
- WHO continues to address the shortfall in human resources in the north-east by supporting four consultants in the Jaffna Teaching Hospital; two doctors in Kaaradiyanaru, Batticaloa; five pre-interns in Trincomalee as well as physiotherapists and radiographers where needed.
- In May, the CERF granted US$ 375,000 to be programmed among WHO and health sector partners (Medical Teams International, International Relief and Development, and Sewa Lanka) for activities aiming to ensure access to health services for IDPs and host communities in the north and improve the response to mass-casualty disasters in Jaffna and Wanni regions.

**INTER-AGENCY ISSUES**
- **Clusters.**
  - The Camp Management Tool Kit was launched in Oslo on 4 June.
  - An inter-agency workshop entitled *The Cluster Approach: How did you make it work?* will be held in Nairobi on 11-12 June.
  - The next face to face meeting of the WASH Cluster will be held in Oxford on 25-26 June.
- **Gender.** The IASC Gender Sub-Working Group met on 4 June.
- **Natural Hazards.** On 6 June, an inter-agency meeting discussed the second draft of the UN Secretary-General’s report to the General Assembly on Humanitarian Assistance in the field of Disasters Associated with Natural Hazards.
- **CERF** training will take place in Cairo on 10 June, hosted by WHO, and in New York on 16 June.
- **ECHA.** The next meeting of the UN Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs will take place on 12 June.
- **Gender-based Violence.** An inter-agency meeting on *Setting a Research Agenda for Sexual Violence in Conflict* will be held in New York on 16 June.
- **Iraq.** On 17 June, UNICEF will brief on children in Iraq: *Voices of Iraq’s Children.*
- The fifth Emergency Directors Meeting will be held in Geneva on 17 June.
- The IASC Working Group meeting will meet in Geneva on 18-20 June.

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

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