

**Wednesday, June 1, 2011  
6:00 PM, EST**

## **EOC SITUATION REPORT**

### **Cholera Outbreak in Haiti**

#### **Current Situation**

- During the last days the MSPP and PAHO/WHO have observed an increase in the number of alerts of cholera cases, mainly in the Departments of South-East, Grand-Anse, South, Center and West. New cholera cases have been reported in IDP camps.
- 1,779 beds in Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC) and Cholera Treatment Units (CTU) were set up as of May 31, bringing the total number of bed capacity to approximately 2,388. PAHO/WHO is advocating with partners to increase capacity to their maximum, and additional beds are being set up on a continuous basis.
- It should be noted that due lack of resources numerous NGOs have been withdrawing from these areas and interrupting their water-trucking programs. This situation makes more vulnerable the health of the IDP populations.
- National authorities, partners, and PAHO/WHO remain vigilant and monitor the situation closely. Coordinated prevention and response activities are being implemented to mitigate the further spread of the disease.

#### **Health Partners Response**

- The telephone number \*300 for transport of patients has been reopened by the MSPP. A patient transportation system has been reactivated by the French Red Cross and PAHO/WHO jointly.
- PAHO/WHO is supporting the medical response led by the Ministry and partners in CTCs and CTUs by paying some of the salaries for national staff working in the facilities, ensuring clean drinking water, latrines, and proper management of excreta.

The Situation Report is produced by the PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center to inform about recent developments on the cholera outbreak in Haiti. New editions will be issued as the situation requires, in a complementary way to the Haiti Health Cluster Bulletin. To subscribe or unsubscribe to these reports please [visit this page](#). For previous editions of these reports please click [here](#).

**Contact PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center at +1 (202) 974-3399 and [eoc@paho.org](mailto:eoc@paho.org)**

- Four PAHO/WHO teams have been deployed to the urban areas to carry out a rapid assessment of the situation in the CTC/CTUs. Over the past week, PAHO/WHO teams assessed approximately 50% of CTC/CTUs in Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas, prioritizing main facilities. The assessment included location, occupancy, structure, medical supplies, and staffing.
- In coordination with UNICEF, PAHO/WHO is supporting the installation of Oral Rehydration Points (ORP), in particular in Port-au-Prince. These centers provide a first line of defense where people can begin rehydrating immediately, and are then referred to other health facilities. 268 ORP are functional in Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas, where water purifying aquatabs are distributed.
- In order to prevent patients from moving towards the metropolitan area and overwhelming health structures in Port-au-Prince, treatment facilities, mobile medical response teams, and community health promotion have been established and reinforced in the mountainous areas surrounding Port-au-Prince.
- As of May 16<sup>th</sup> 2011, PAHO/WHO run PROMESS warehouse has supplies available for 255,171 cholera treatment: 40,137 severe cases and 215,034 mild cases by 2,391,171 ORS and 401,372 Ringer lactate. 500 cholera beds are in stock and 500 more are in production.
- Epidemiologists from PAHO/WHO and ALIMA will be supporting the Director of the West Department and MSPP in the review and analysis of data on current cholera cases in order to obtain information for trend analysis and operational decision making.
- For more information on the response of the health partners, please check the Health Cluster Bulletin available [here](#).

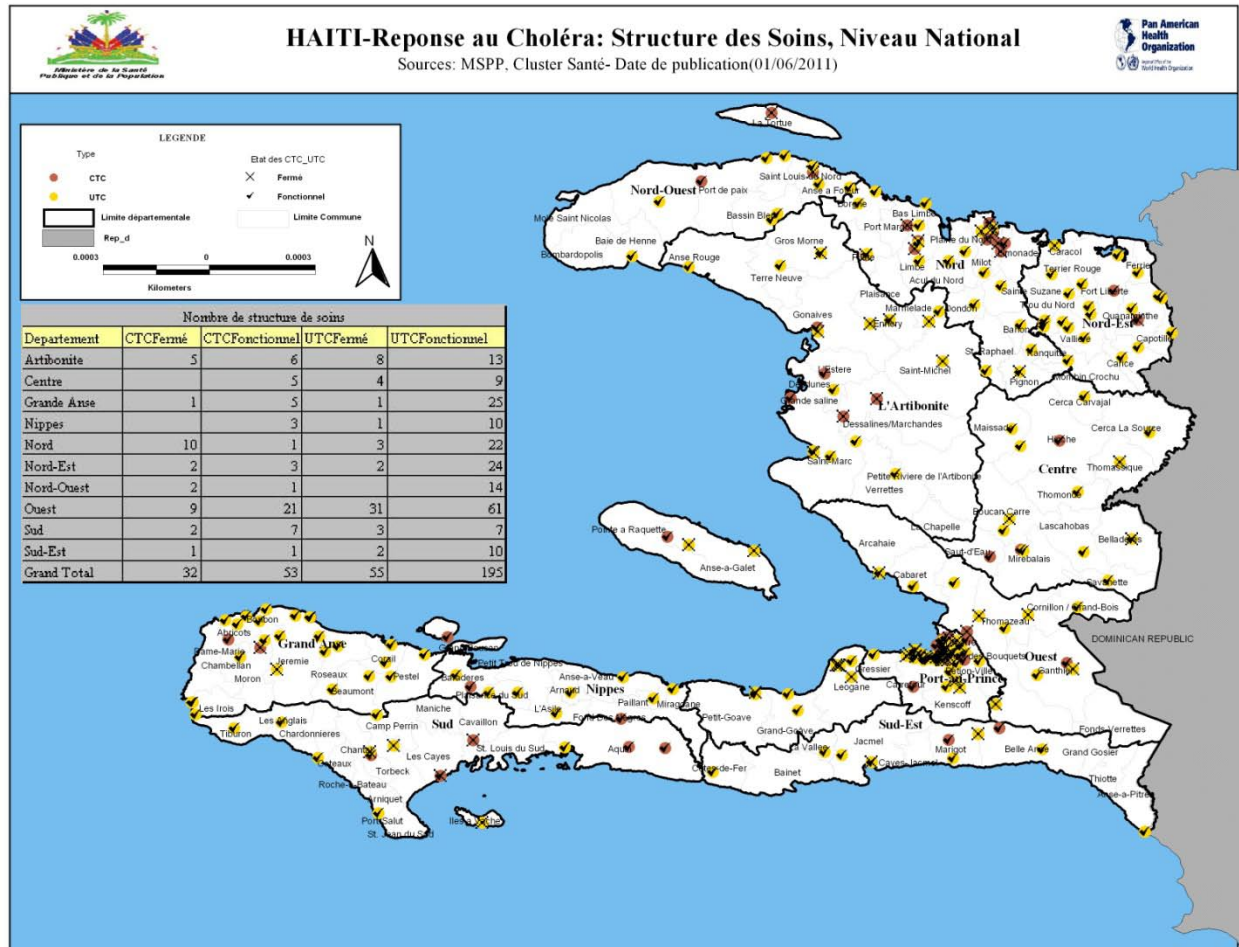
## Needs and Challenges

- The main constraint is finding and keeping trained personnel to work at CTCs/CTUs. PAHO/WHO is in a position to temporarily finance national staff of CTCs/CTUs through MSPP and partners.
- As NGOs have been scaling down cholera operations and transferring these responsibilities to the Ministry in some parts of the country, the Government is having difficulty continuing the capacity of CTCs due to the lack of funds.
- In the West department, the insufficiency of WASH partners can jeopardize the response to cholera. For instance, in the area between Leogane and Carrefour, only Save the Children remains as a WASH actor. They also no longer have the possibility to deploy in mountainous areas to disinfect water sources.
- Transportation of patients is a challenge, especially with severe cases from rural areas that require rapid referral to a medical facility. PAHO/WHO, in collaboration with the French Red Cross, is proposing to establish a network of vehicles for referral and management of dead bodies.

## Cholera Situation Map

- PAHO/WHO produces an Interactive Atlas with epidemiological information. Please follow [this link](#) to launch the map. The map reflects the situation of the epidemiological weeks. To access the daily total number of cases and deaths, please click on *Situation Updates*.

## Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC) and Units (CTU) in Haiti



Updated: June 1, 2011

## More Information

- [Ministère de la santé publique et de la population](#) (MSPP).
- [PAHO/WHO disasters](#), and [PAHO/WHO](#)'s main website.
- For constant updates on the cholera outbreak in Haiti and other international public health information please check the [PAHO/WHO EOC](#) channel in Twitter.