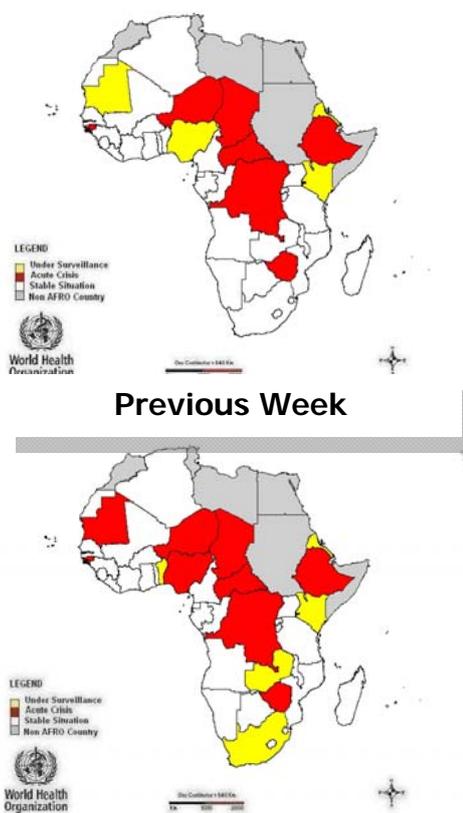


Emergency Situation in AFRO Countries
For week 06 10 2008 to 12 10 2008



General Context

Several crises are on-going in our region this week. Political crises leading to insecurity, displacement of populations in some countries, diseases outbreaks or natural disasters in some others. WHO continue to provide technical support in many countries in crisis.

Countries Situations

Acute Crises

- **CAR:** Security situation relatively calm. Increase of security measures and support to security countrywide through UN system structures should improve the overall security situation and facilitate return to their homes of IDPs. At least 7 people were killed and more than 20 badly burned on 26 September 2008 in Gbahon, when a petrol tanker exploded as villagers tried to salvage fuel from it. WHO and UNICEF supported the Community Hospital for the management of the wounded.
- **Chad:** The security situation of the east is still unpredictable and marked by the resurgence of criminality and burglary in houses. Many robberies and car hijackings have been reported. The Hepatitis E outbreak in the IDPs camp of Dogdore and Bredjing is still ongoing with 49 new cases without death reported in week 39. A total of 1,755 cases with 22 deaths has been reported from week 1 to week 38 in the Eastern Chad. WHO and key partners are strengthening surveillance activities and the case management.
- **DRC:** The security situation in the eastern DRC is becoming chaotic. The fighting between the national army and rebels of the CNDP (National Congress for the Defense of the People) has led to the displacement of about 100,000 people. It is also reported that at least 17,000 civilians have been displaced after attacks by the Ugandan rebel Lord Resistance Army (LRA) militia in Ituri (North East). Several attacks by suspected militia from the rebel Front de Résistance Patriotique en Ituri (FRPI) have also been reported. Many outbreaks are reported (Cholera and measles in North Kivu, Cholera and meningitis in Orientale, Meningitis in Kasai Occidental and Katanga etc.). WHO and other UN partners and NGOs are supporting the management of these outbreaks.
- **Ethiopia:** Improved rainfalls have resulted in better water and pasture availability in most parts of the country. But heavy rains continue to damage crops in some areas like in Gambella region, were floods affected about 91,764 people, 35,861 displaced and 5 deaths in 10 out of 11 districts. Increasing food insecurity and malnutrition in some areas continue to challenge humanitarian response activities. WHO is leading the health sector response.
- **Guinea-Bissau:** The cholera outbreak is still out of control. Last report from the country indicates that as of the 21st of September 2008, 7,166 cases and 133 deaths have been reported. WHO and numerous national and international partners are supporting the Ministry of Health to contain the outbreak.
- **Niger:** On week 39, the cholera outbreak in the districts of Keita and Birni N'Konni and in the district of Maradi are still active. 62 new cases with 1 death have been reported versus 128 cases and 4 deaths on week 38. A total of 814 cases and 62 deaths have been reported since the beginning of the outbreak. WHO is supporting the health authorities to control the cholera outbreak with cholera kits and essential drugs.
- **Zimbabwe:** The power-sharing deal, hit obstacles soon after it was signed, when both parties (ZANU-PF and the MDC) failed to reach agreement on the composition of a new cabinet. In the meantime the humanitarian crisis is worsening. It is estimated that more than five million people, out of a population of 12 million, would require food assistance in the first quarter of 2009.

Weekly Report Monitoring

Country	Weekly Reports		
	Expected	Submitted	Completeness %
1. Algeria	28	10	35.7
2. Angola	28	23	82.14
3. Burundi	28	19	67.8
4. CAR	28	23	82.14
5. Chad	28	28	100
6. Congo	28	5	17.8
7. Cote d'Ivoire	28	14	50
8. DRC	28	18	64.3
9. Eritrea	28	18	64.3
10. Ethiopia	28	25	89.2
11. Guinea	28	11	39.2
12. Kenya	28	14	50
13. Liberia	28	15	53.6
14. Madagascar	28	10	35.7
15. Mozambique	28	6	21.5
16. Niger	28	27	96.5
17. Uganda	28	23	82.14
18. Zimbabwe	28	11	39.2

Countries Under Surveillance

- **Eritrea:** A combination of poor rains, decreased food production and the knock-on effects of increased global prices would adversely affect vulnerable groups in Eritrea this year. The suspension of diesel supply to UN agencies by the Government remains in place since 14 April 2008 and continue to negatively affect field monitoring and supervisory activities.
- **Kenya:** The political, social and security situation is calm. The decision to close camps for Kenyans displaced by post-election violence has left thousands in Rift Valley Province stranded at transit camps. Cholera outbreak in Bungoma and Mount Elgon districts, last data reported a total of 92 cases and 4 deaths. The MOH are still present on the ground and WHO is supporting through an emergency response plan.
- **Mauritania:** Tension on political situation. Security forces dispersed a demonstration organized on the 5th of October 2008 in Nouakchott by the opposition for the restoration of the law of rights. An African Union ultimatum for the country to return to constitutional order is set to expire on the 6th of October 2008.
- **Nigeria:** Slight decrease of violence in the Delta Region this week. Militants of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) behind a recent "oil war" in Nigeria's Delta region on Sunday freed 19 local hostages. They also declared a ceasefire on September 21 following a week of attacks on oil industry targets.



WHO contribution to the Ministry of Health for the petrol tanker explosion, Gbahon/CAR