



BULLETIN HIGHLIGHTS

- Following the increase in the number of **AWD cases** in **Wanlaweyne**, 14 stool samples were collected and referred to Nairobi for confirmatory diagnosis. Results are pending.
- Following increase in reported cases of suspected **measles** in **Mogadishu**, 15 throat swabs were collected and sent to Nairobi for initial confirmatory diagnosis. Results are pending.

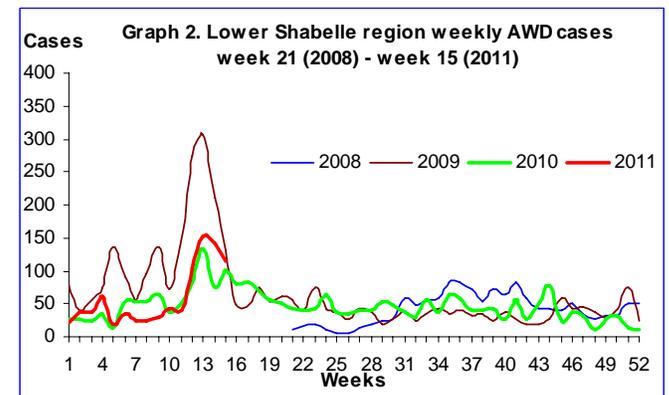
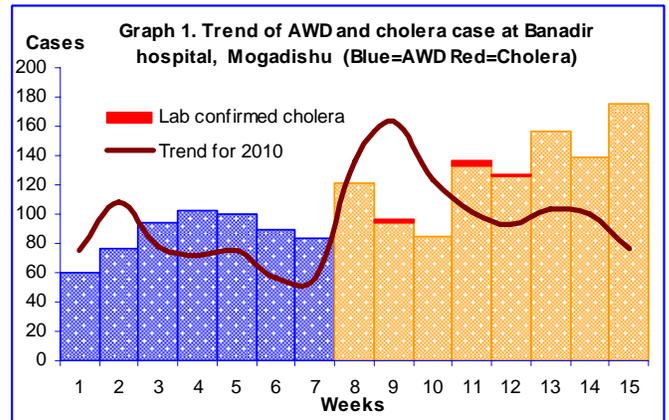
Update on major public health concerns:

- **Trends of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera**

Since week 1¹, 1635 AWD/cholera cases including 1309 (80%) cases under the age of 5 and 47 related deaths have been reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** (see graph 1).

WHO and partners are closely monitoring trends of communicable diseases, especially AWD in light of the current drought that has a serious impact on people’s health (see graph 2). The cholera transmission season is ongoing and the drought situation is worsening with more water sources drying up and subsequent reduction in water quality and quantity. Confirmed cholera outbreak is ongoing in Mogadishu, Banadir region. Samples collected from Lower Shabelle and Mudug as part of the outbreak rumour verification activities tested negative for cholera.

As a result of the ongoing drought, migrant populations in search of water and pasture or other viable economic activities to sustain themselves are passing through highly endemic geographical areas (see map on page 3 with high risk regions) for diseases such as AWD and measles. Informal settlements and population movement have been observed in urban areas, including Mogadishu, Merka and Awdheghe. The number of AWD cases tends to decline in week 15².



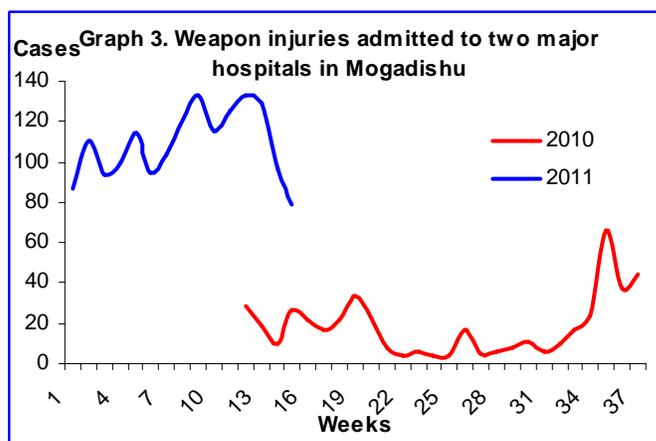
¹Week 1: 3-9 January 2011

²Week 15: 11-17 April 2011

Conflict and displacement

From 1 to 17 April 2011, of the 229 weapon-related injuries reported by two major hospitals in Mogadishu, 7 cases were children under the age of five. Three died from their injuries.

From 1 January to 17 April 2011, 1567 weapon-related injuries, including 59 children under the age of five with 18 related deaths have been reported from these hospitals (see graph 3). The exact number of deaths on site are unknown.



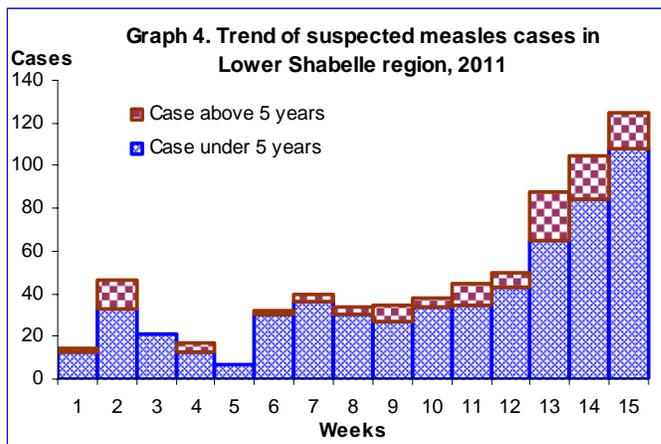
UNHCR³ reports approximately 36,400 displacements have occurred countrywide since 23 February. Of these, 24,300 were due to insecurity and 9,500 were due to the drought. The majority of the displaced, 18,900 were from Mogadishu with 8,900 leaving the city and 10,000 moving to relatively safer areas of the city.

Health Events in Somalia

Epidemiological surveillance during week 15

- In **Lower and Middle Juba regions**, 13 health facilities reported 1237 consultations including 698 (56%) children under five years. Women and girls accounted for 740 (60%) of all consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 353 consultations of which 214 (60%) were children under the age of 5 years. Suspected malaria accounted for 468 cases including 234 (50%) children below the age of 5 years with no related deaths. AWD accounted for 372 consultations including 236 (63%) children less than 5 years with no death. Jilib and Kismayo accounted for 49% of all the consultations.

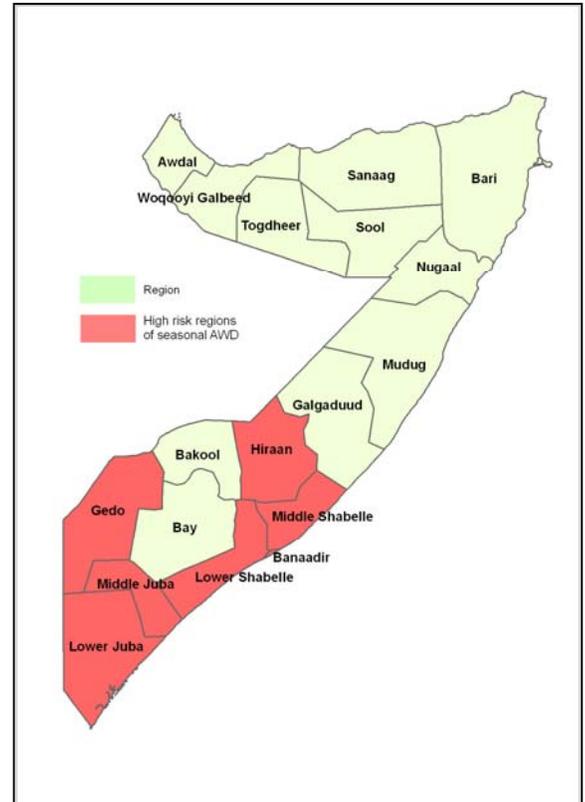
- In **Lower Shabelle region**, 51 health facilities reported 7482 consultations including 3336 (46%) children under five years with no deaths. Women and girls accounted for 4145 (55%) of the consultations. Influenza like illness (ILI) accounted for 1122 consultations including 654 (58%) children under five years. Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) accounted for 280 consultations of which 172 (61%) were children under five years. Malaria accounted for 137 cases including 63 (46%) children under five years. Seventy-four (54%) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. AWD accounted for 115 consultations including 52 (45%) children under five years with four related deaths. This compares to week 14 (Graph 2). Merka district accounted for 43% of all reported AWD cases. Also reported were 125 cases of suspected measles and 45 cases of suspected whooping cough. Reported suspected measles cases continue to increase in parts of Southern Somalia (See Graph 4).



³Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin -OCHA #15

Map of high risk regions of seasonal AWD

- Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 175 cases of AWD including 131 (75%) children under five years with four deaths including three under five years. This signifies a 26% increase in reported cases compared to week 14. WHO and partners continue to monitor trends and conduct preventive activities. With the technical guidance of WHO, an intra-cluster cholera taskforce has been established in Mogadishu, conducting regular coordination meetings to plan response activities.
- The Habeeb hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 26 AWD admissions of which 14 are under five years, with no related death under five years. Of all cases 17 (65%) were women and girls.
- The SOS Hospital in Huruwaa district, **Mogadishu** reported 43 AWD cases of which 24 (56%) are under five years, with two associated deaths. Women and girls accounted for 44% of all AWD cases. This was relatively stable as compared to week 14.
- In **Lower Juba region**, no additional AWD cases have been reported from Doble town in Afmadow district. Partners on the ground are monitoring the situation closely and are conducting case finding. WHO has adequate supplies to launch response activities in the area.



WHO's response

WHO and partners continue to monitor health events and to respond to the ongoing situation in South Central Somalia, through the following activities:

- Following the increase in the number of AWD cases in **Wanlaweyne**, 14 stool samples were collected and referred to Nairobi for confirmatory diagnosis. The results are still pending.
- Following increase in reported cases of suspected measles in **Mogadishu**, 15 throat swabs were collected and sent to Nairobi for initial confirmatory diagnosis. The results are still pending.