Situation update

- No new human cases reported this week. Outbreak response activities continue around the concurrent outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) type 2 and type 3.
- The total number of cases remains 12: five cVDPV2 cases, six cVDPV3 cases, and one case with cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 co-infection.
- The programme is aiming to reach more than 1.5 million children under five with mOPV2 this week in nine regions of South and Central Somalia in response to the ongoing detection of cVDPV2.
- Two new cVDPV2 positive samples were reported from environmental surveillance this week: one from Waberi district and one from the Egyptian Hospital in Hodan district. The most recent positive sample was collected on 4 October 2018 (cVDPV2).
- The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is meeting in Nairobi this week to review the Horn of Africa outbreak response following Outbreak Response Assessment desk review conducted last week.
Immunization Response

- Health and humanitarian access remains reduced across the central southern areas of the country. Due to ongoing insecurity and conflict, Lower and Middle Juba regions are particularly inaccessible.

- WHO and UNICEF continue to work with the Ministry of Health and local partners to improve outbreak responsiveness and timely data sharing at the District, Regional and National levels. Efforts are concentrated on strategies for strengthening immunization activities to reach populations in and around inaccessible areas and high risk groups such as IDPs and nomads.

- In addition to nationwide and small scale vaccination activities in response to the concurrent outbreaks, vaccination is taking place at transit points. A total of 1,999,842 children under 10 years have been vaccinated up to week 44, 2018. Among them 19,018 (1%) were vaccinated for the first time.

**cVDPV2**

- An additional mOPV round, in response to the ongoing detection of cVDPV2, will commence this week in nine regions of South and Central zones of Somalia.

**cVDPV3**

- Administrative data from the third nationwide bOPV round indicates that 2,699,476 children under five were vaccinated during the round, representing 94% of the target for children in accessible areas.

- Post-campaign independent monitoring showed that the highest proportion of missed children were in urban areas.

Communication for Development

- All Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for the mOPV2 round starting this week have been distributed to the field. Mass media is being used to inform communities of the campaign and importance of vaccination, including radio and television dramas with messages for nomadic populations.

Surveillance

- Two new environmental cVDPV2 cases were reported this week from Kawma and the Egyptian Hospital Environmental sites. The samples were collected on 20 September 2018 and 4 October 2018. This brings the total number of positive environmental isolates for both cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 to 31.

- A total of 312 AFP cases have been reported in Somalia in 2018. Three districts from Banadir Region of Central Zone have not reported any AFP in 2018, namely, Abdul Aziz, Hamar Jabjaband Hamarweyne.

- A survey of Village Polio Volunteers (VPVs) is underway to assess the current distribution of VPVs and explore a potential expansion of their role from VPV to Village Health Worker. This could see their scope of work broadening to include immunization support such as identifying unvaccinated children, monitoring routine immunization, administering OPV during house to house visits and treating malaria and dehydration.

- Despite accessibility challenges, the majority of indicators are above global standards for an outbreak setting. Banadir region (2.4) is not meeting the non-polio AFP (NPAFP) rate, however all other regions are reaching both key indicators for AFP surveillance (3* or more NPAFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years of age, and 80 percent or above AFP cases with adequate specimens). Teams remained focused on exploring methods to improve security and access.

*NPAFP target in an outbreak setting is 3 per 100,000 children below 15 years of age
**EPI Curve and AFP classification (up to 21 November 2018)**

**Environmental surveillance by classification, 2017-2018 (up to 21 November 2018)**

**Vaccination Status (OPV) of Non-polio AFP cases aged 6-59 months by region, 2016-2018 (up to 21 November 2018)**
Relevant Links

- Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) website, updated weekly.
- Vaccine-derived polioviruses video
- Responding to an outbreak of VDPV video
- What is vaccine-derived polio?
- GPEI factsheet—VDPV

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