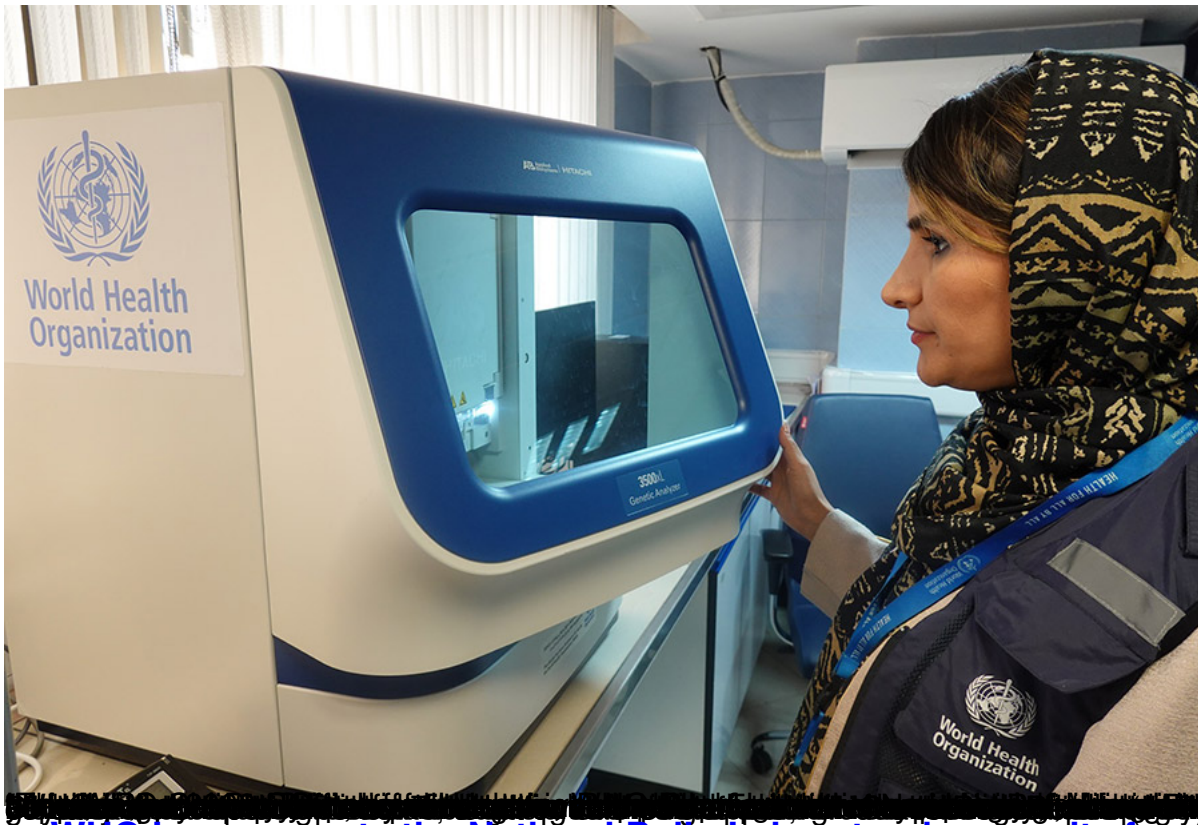




24 October 2023 – To further strengthen the fight against poliomyelitis, WHO has provided the Islamic Republic of Iran’s National Polio Laboratory with a cutting edge sequencing machine. This donation coincides with World Polio Day 2023, reaffirming the commitment of both WHO and the National Polio Laboratory to eradicate polio and ensure a healthier future for all.

The donated machine, renowned for its precision and versatility, will significantly boost the National Polio Laboratory’s genetic sequencing capabilities. This advanced equipment drastically reduces the time required to sequence the virus genome, from days to just a few hours. This addition empowers the laboratory to swiftly conduct high-quality, reliable genetic sequencing of samples, facilitating prompt public health interventions.

Genetic sequencing plays a pivotal role in the battle against polioviruses. It helps confirm their detection, pinpoint their likely origin, track their geographic spread and determine the most appropriate vaccination response. The National Polio Laboratory can also use its enhanced capabilities to support neighbouring countries, particularly those last strongholds of the wild poliovirus, by sequencing their polio samples.



[WHO Iran supports the National Polio Laboratory's capacity for genetic sequencing](#)

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