



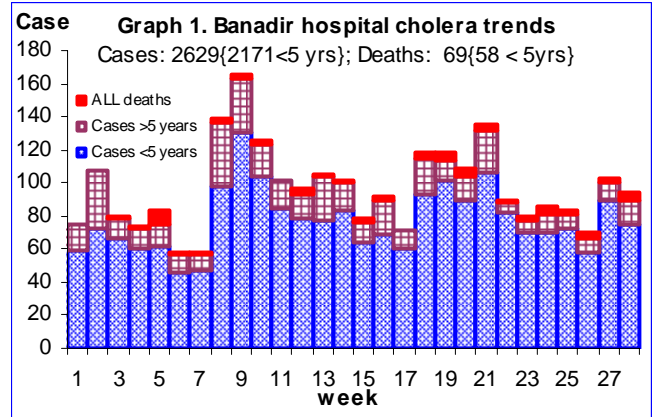
Emergency Humanitarian Action

Weekly Highlights 17-23 July 2010

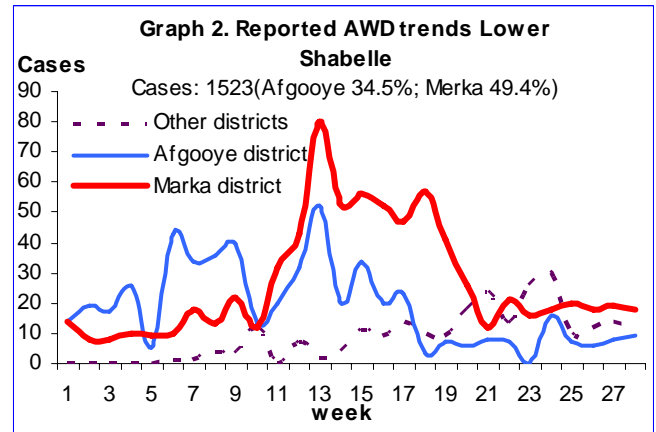
Update on major public health concern:

- Cholera/Acute watery diarrhea**

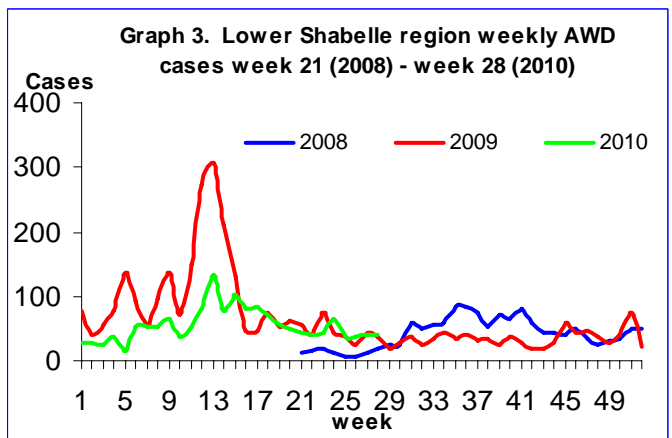
The number of **cholera** cases reported from Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** remains high (see **Graph 1**). In response to this, WHO provided a cholera induction for health workers in Mogadishu and the Afgooye corridor where most of the cases are being reported.



In week 28¹, the number of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) cases reported from **Lower Shabelle region** (where **cholera** was confirmed at Merka cholera treatment centre), remained stable compared to week 27. Merka and Afgooye districts alone accounted for majority of the cases (see **Graph 2**).



WHO continues to call on health partners to respond to the current situation, in light of seasonal outbreaks in the past years (see **Graph 3**).



¹ Week 28: 12 – 18 July 2010

- **Conflict and displacement**

Between **20 March – 11 July**, two of the main hospitals in Mogadishu reported 1602 casualties (weapon and non weapon-related); **25%** (399) children under 5 years and, 48 registered deaths (**see weekly caseload graph below**). The deaths on site of injury are still unknown. The current concern is that of children under 5 years who account for 19% (165) of the **weapon-related injuries**. From **January-June 2010**, a third hospital reported 1673 weapon-related injuries; of these 132 cases under 15 years. **32%** (543) of the injured cases were female casualties.



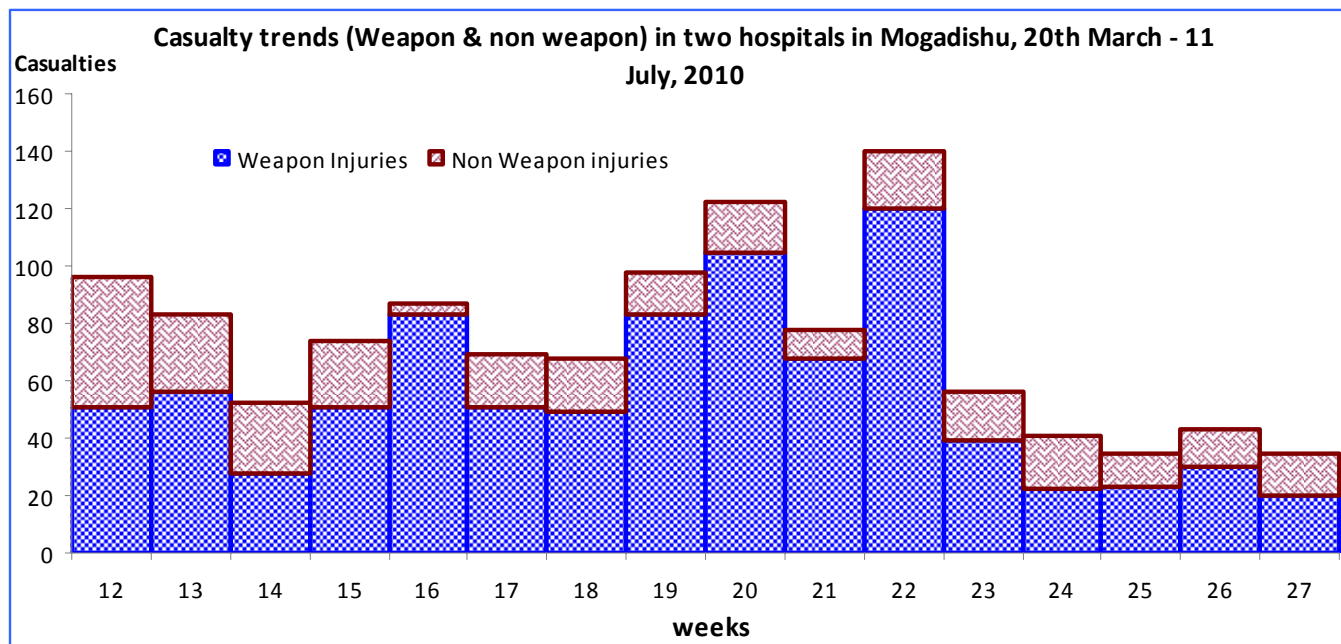
A wounded child is provided assistance near Ged-Jacel in Wardhigley district, Mogadishu

The number of displaced persons continues to rise as a result of the conflict in the Mogadishu, children and women being most affected. Health services are overburdened and unable to effectively cope with the trauma cases as a result. UNHCR² estimates that since 1 July, 11 500 people were displaced from Mogadishu including 6400 who moved out of the city while 5100 moved to relatively calmer districts within the city.



Child wounded in mortar shell in Mogadishu

Photos by AVRO

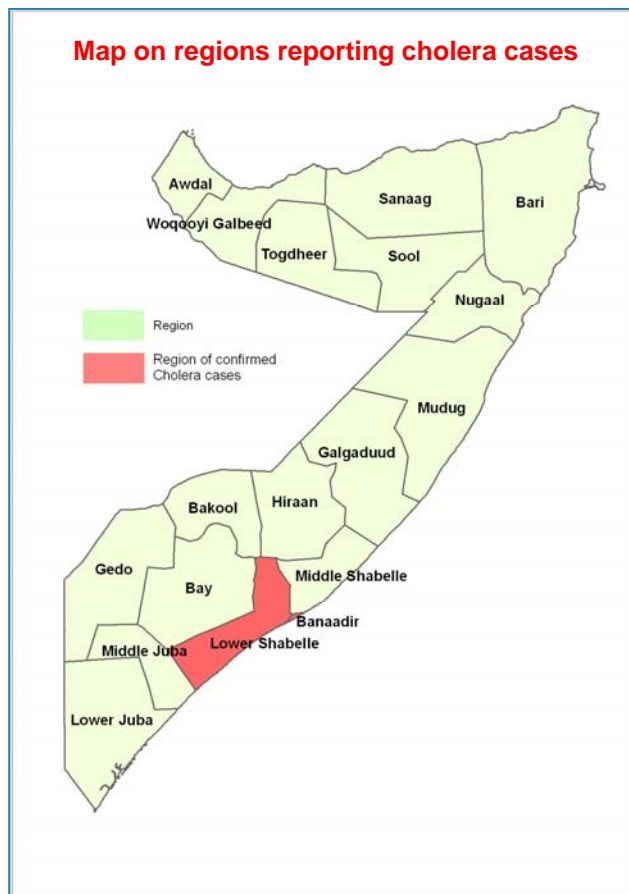


²OCHA Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin #27

Health Events in Somalia

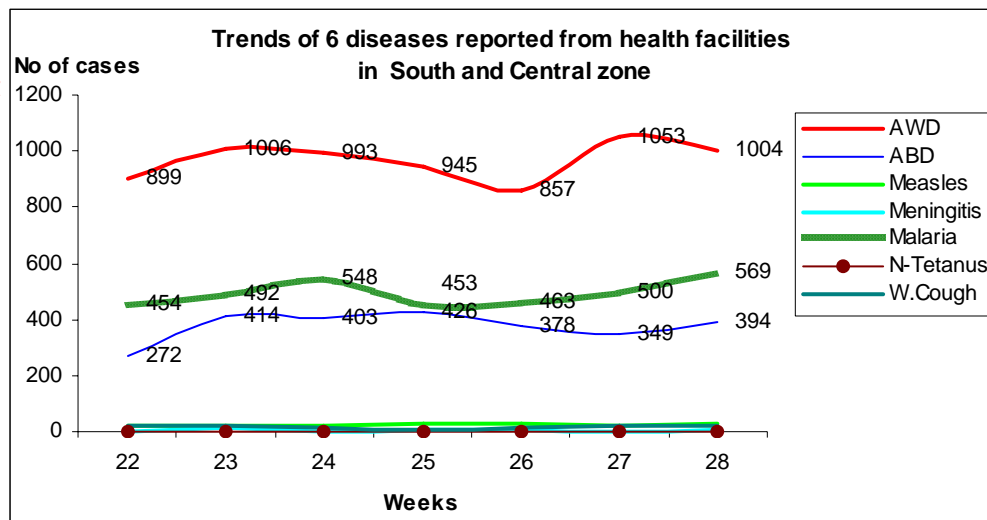
Epidemiological surveillance

- During week 28, 14 health facilities in seven districts in **Lower and Middle Jubba regions** reported a total of 1617 consultations including 50% (817) children under 5 years. Suspected malaria cases accounted for 514 consultations including 31% (158) children under 5 years with no death. Acute watery diarrhoea accounted for 193 consultations including 69% (134) children under 5 years. 631 consultations for influenza-like illness (ILI) including 63% (398) were children under 5 years. Of all the consultations, the districts of Afmadow and Bu'aale accounted for a high number of consultations with 440 and 344 beneficiaries respectively visiting the health facilities.
- In week 28, 34 health facilities in **Lower Shabelle region** reported 5302 consultations including 40% (2138) children under 5 years. Acute respiratory infection (ARI) accounted for 1132 consultations of which 52% (590) were children under 5 years and one related death in a patient above 5 years. Malaria accounted for 101 cases including 35% (35) children under 5 years. Only 43% (44) were confirmed by rapid diagnostic test or microscopy. Acute watery diarrhoea accounted for 39 consultations including 92% (36) children under 5 years. Merka and Afgooye districts reported the highest number of cases. The **Merka Hospital** cholera treatment centre reported 18 admissions including 83% (15) children under 5 years with no related death which compares to week 27 that reported 19 admissions.
- In week 28, Banadir Hospital in **Mogadishu** reported 90 cases of **cholera** including 83% (75) children under 5 years and 4 deaths below 5 years.
- In week 28, Habeeb Hospital cholera treatment centre in Heliwa district, **Mogadishu** reported 42 admissions including 57% (24) children and 2 related deaths with one case above 5 years. This compares to week 27 that reported 48 admissions.
- In week 28, Shaw village in Jalalaqsi district, **Hiraan region** reported 37 AWD cases including 70% (26) children under 5 years and one death under 5 years

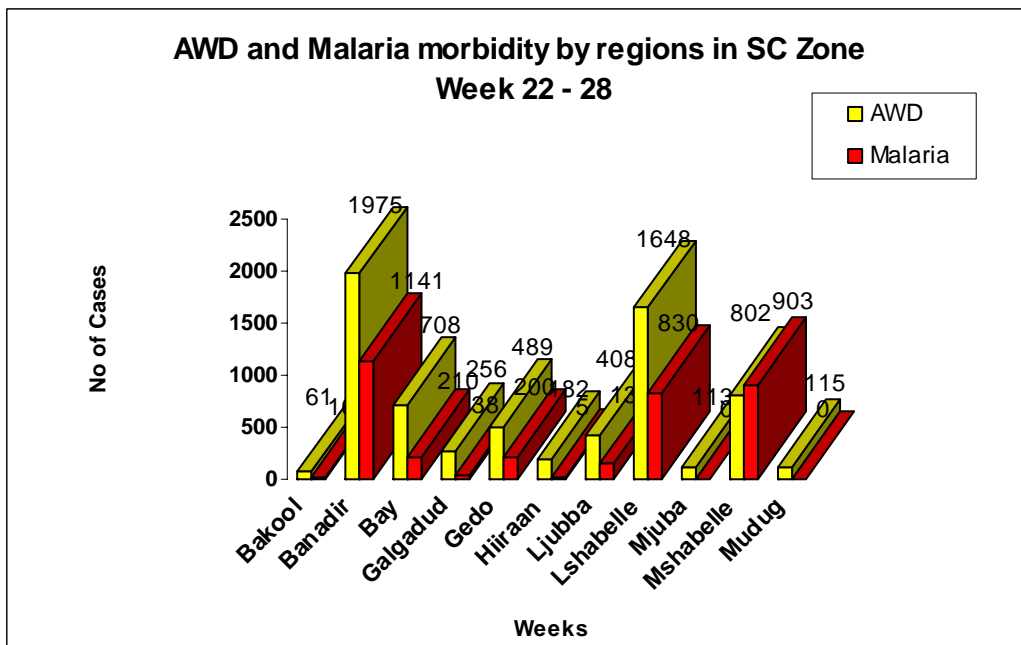


South Central Somalia account for most of the communicable diseases being reported in the country.

From week 22-28, AWD cases (6757); bloody diarrhoea (2636); measles (165); suspected meningitis (35); suspected malaria (3479); neonatal tetanus (5); whooping cough (121).



Banadir and Lower Shabelle regions in South Central Somalia bare the greatest burden of communicable diseases including AWD and malaria cases.



WHO Response

- Assessments**

WHO and partners continue to monitor and carry out preventive and case management interventions in Banadir region as cholera cases remain high.

- Filling Gaps**

WHO is providing AWD case management supplies to Habeeb cholera treatment center following an increase in number of reported cases. Stool samples will be collected for confirmatory diagnosis.

- Capacity building**

From 21-22 July 2010, WHO in collaboration with Banadir University in Mogadishu conducted an induction on cholera case detection and management and, integrated diseases surveillance for 60 health workers from Banadir region and the Afgoye corridor.



Photos: WHO Somalia