

# WHO HEALTH EMERGENCIES COMMUNICATIONS DIGEST

16 June - 1 July 2026



World Health  
Organization

Eastern Mediterranean Region

## News updates

### Dr Hanan Balkhy's opening remarks at the regional emergencies press briefing

1 July – “Of the US\$1.12 billion WHO requires globally for emergency operations in 2026, more than half is needed in the Eastern Mediterranean Region alone. But more than 40% of the funding required for this Region is still missing.”

[Read more](#)

[Watch press briefing](#)



### GBV support helps Syrian women and girls rebuild confidence and move forward

1 July – Women and girls affected by Syria's crisis are rebuilding their lives through WHO-supported GBV services, receiving psychosocial support, safe referrals, and renewed confidence and hope.

[Read more](#)



### WHO prepositions medical supplies in Pakistan for 380,000 people ahead of monsoon season

25 June – WHO has prepositioned medical supplies for over 380,000 people ahead of the July–September monsoon, with nine trucks deployed to support flood and disease outbreak response.

[Read more](#)



## WHO reaffirms commitment to tackling substance use in Afghanistan

25 June – Substance use remains a major health challenge in Afghanistan. WHO supports drug treatment centres, mobile outreach teams and opioid treatment services.

[Read more](#)



## WHO and partners expand lifesaving health services in remote Afghan village

16 June – A pregnant woman safely delivered her baby after receiving emergency care at the WHO-supported Pengani Sub Health Centre, which serves more than 8,000 people in remote Badakhshan Province.

[Read more](#)



## Social media

✂ @HananBalkhy: [Conflict is fueling cholera in West Kordofan, Sudan.](#)

✂ @HananBalkhy: [Earthquakes don't have to become health disasters.](#)

✂ @WHOAfghanistan: [Every mother deserves access to lifesaving care](#)

👤 @WHOAfghanistan: [Mohammad overcame substance dependence](#)

✂ @WHOPakistan: [WHO helps Sindh strengthen outbreak detection and response](#)

👤 @WHOPakistan: [New nutrition stabilization centre treats children with SAM](#)

✂ @WHOSudan: [8.5 metric tons of medical supplies dispatched to South Kordofan](#)

✂ @WHOSudan: [Sudan declares cholera in West Kordofan](#)

- ✂ @WHOSudan: [Health services for 3 million people over 3 years](#)
- ✂ @WHOSudan: [Oral cholera vaccination campaign in White Nile State.](#)
- ✂ @WHOSyria: [100,000+ dialysis sessions delivered in June, 65,000 more to come.](#)
- ✂ @WHOSyria: [WHO has delivered 35 dialysis machines to health facilities](#)
- ✂ @WHOYemen: [Urgent funding needed to reach millions in Yemen.](#)
- ✂ @WHOYemen: [2026 Field Epidemiology Training Programme launched .](#)

## Upcoming events

**Webinar:** Applying Large Language Models (LLMs) to Surveillance Production Work with Enrique Rodríguez (ECDC), 15 July, 11:00–12:00 (Cairo time).

Join



**Seminar:** “Could Mpox become the new Smallpox” with Dr. Peter Coyle (Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar), 15 July, 1:00 to 2:00 (Qatar time).

Join



## Media interviews

### [BBC Arabic News](#)

22 June – “The WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean is currently facing a funding gap that is impacting the achievement of regional health priorities. Strengthening resilience is crucial in a region that hosts nearly half of the world's refugees,” Dr Hanan Balkhy, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean.

## Related resources

- [WHO Lebanon Emergency Situation Report No.28](#)
- [WHO Afghanistan Health Emergency Situation Report No. 64](#)
- [WHO EMR Cholera Preparedness and Response Strategy 2025–2028](#)

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