

### Highlights

- AWD/Cholera cases continue to be reported sporadically from Banadir region. There was an increase in number of reported cases during this month.
- An outbreak of measles was reported in a localized geographic area of Jowhar district. Cases have been laboratory-confirmed. This localized outbreak has been contained.
- A total of 486 022 consultations were reported across the health facilities reporting surveillance data to the EWARN system. Acute respiratory tract infections and acute diarrhoeal diseases were the leading causes of morbidity.
- WHO delivered 55 cartons of emergency medical supplies to Puntland that were expected to treat 1200 patients in need over three months period.



*WHO staff in Puntland handing over emergency medical supplies to the Minister of Health of Puntland State*

### Key figures

#### HEALTH SECTOR

**105** Health Cluster Partners

**3 million** People in need of health services

**2.4 million** Target population for healthcare

#### HEALTH FACILITIES

**1,421** Number of health facilities

**452** EWARN reporting sites

#### FUNDING (in US\$)

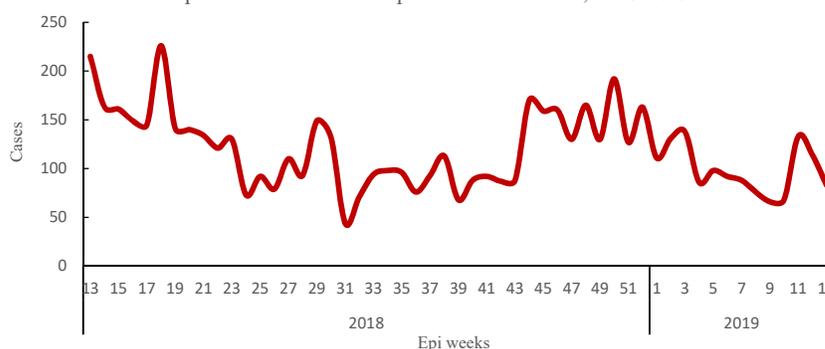
**8.3 million** Required for WHO's health emergency programme in 2019

### Overall Situation

- Dry and hot weather conditions have been reported in all Somalia states by the Famine Early Warning system (FEWSNET). According to Somali Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM), severe drought can be expected if this weather conditions continue. In the event of a drought, an estimated 1.2 million people is expected to be displaced.
- The current weather conditions have led to severe water shortages in Somaliland and Puntland states and this can lead to an increase in acute diarrhoeal disease cases and even cholera among the populations in the affected areas. Drought may also lead to severe food shortages which may lead to increased number of children below 5 years suffering from severe acute malnutrition.
- There has been an overall reduction in the number of new measles cases reported from all Somalia states following the measles vaccination campaign that was done in 2018 (fig 2). However, a measles outbreak localized in a small geographic area was confirmed in March 2019 in Magaye village of Jowhar district of Middle Shabelle. An outbreak alert for measles was investigated by district Rapid Response Team (RRT) and measles was confirmed at the National Public Health Laboratory in Mogadishu. Since the outbreak unfolded, a total of 55 cases including 9 deaths (CFR: 16.3%) have been reported. All measles associated deaths occurred in children under 5 years. Majority (73%) of cases were children under 5 years and roughly 65% of the reported cases had no history of measles vaccination. Currently no cases of measles were reported. New cases are expected to be reported from different states due to high number of children with severe acute malnutrition and low vaccine coverage.
- An increase in the number of cholera cases was reported from Banadir region- from 90 cases during the month of February to 154 cases in March 2019. Of the 154 cases reported, 68 (45%) were children below 5 years of age. No death from cholera was reported during this period.

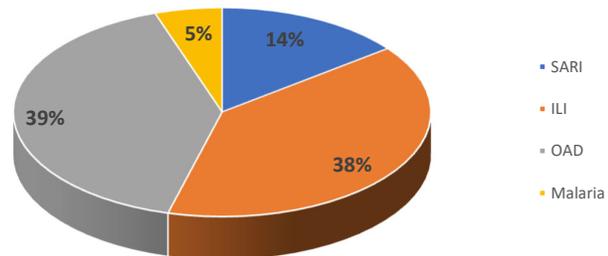
### Epidemiological/Surveillance Update

Suspected measles cases reported from Somalia, 2018-2019



- A total of 405 (89%) out of 452 health facilities across the country submitted its weekly surveillance data to the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) during the month of March 2019. The reporting completeness varied across the country with an average of 90% from all EWARN surveillance sites. Delayed reporting due to poor communication network is still the biggest challenge faced by the health facilities.
- A total of 486,022 consultations were reported from all health facilities reporting surveillance data to EWARN between week no 9 and 13. Acute Respiratory tract infections (SARI and ILI) with 33 656 cases and other acute diarrhea (OAD) with 25 375 cases were the leading causes of morbidity.
- A total of 2 632 alerts of epidemic prone diseases were reported through the EWARN system across the 405 health facilities during the month of March 2019. Of these, only 3.3% (87/2632) of the outbreak alerts were investigated and verified as true. Limited funding for deployment of district Rapid Response Teams to investigate all reported alerts continue to pose a challenge.

Proportion\* of the leading causes of morbidities as reported by the EWARN surveillance sites, week 9 to week 13, 2019,



\*Proportion has been calculated based on number of consultations reported for 14 epidemic-prone diseases

## Health Cluster Coordination

- Health cluster coordination meetings were regularly done at national and sub-national levels. At sub national level, the coordination meetings were organized by state-based WHO Public Health Officers in close collaboration with the State Ministry of Health and the NGO focal points for Health Cluster.
- Health partners shared their programme updates, information and challenges related to programme implementation as well as response to health emergencies.
- Health cluster participation and coordination has improved at the state level contributing to better monitoring of effectiveness of public health interventions and programmes in Somalia.

## Emergency Medical Supplies

- WHO Country Office of Somalia supported the Ministry of Health of Puntland to respond to conflicts in Galkio by donating 55 cartons of emergency supplies estimated to benefit 1 200 people over three months. The supplies provided were for trauma care and management of pulmonary, cardiovascular and diabetic conditions.

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