Human Event Updates

Cholera in Africa

84,140 confirmed case(s)
92,201 suspected case(s)
2,764 human deaths (CFR: 1.6%)
country. Of the 12,374 cases, 54% were children under five years and 47% were severe cases. This outbreak has been uninterrupted in the drought-affected districts since 2022 and in the Banadir region since 2017.

**Zimbabwe:** Since the last update (18 August 2023), the MoH reported 20 new cases (5 confirmed; 15 suspected) and no new deaths of cholera. This is a 5% increase in the number of new cases reported compared to the last week. Cumulatively, 3,893 cases (863 confirmed; 3,030 suspected) and 96 deaths (CFR: 2.5%) have been reported from 41 of 59 districts this year.

**Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:**

The MoH of affected Member States continues to conduct enhanced surveillance, case management, risk communication, WASH interventions and enhanced targeted testing of all samples in the affected districts.
Update to Event:

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 24 August 2023, a total of 12,314,546 COVID-19 cases and 258,500 deaths (CFR: 2.1%) have been reported by the 55 AU MS. This represents 2% of all cases and 4% of all deaths reported globally.

Fifty-three MS have reported COVID-19 cases infected with the Alpha (50 MS), Beta (45), Delta (53), Gamma (5) and Omicron (51) variants of concern (VOC). Additionally, 32 MS have reported the presence of the Omicron BA.2 subvariant, 17 Member States reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.5), 12 MS reported the Omicron sub lineage (BF.7 or BA.5.2.1.7), and 2 Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.16). Another subvariant of Omicron (B.1.1.529) called EG.5 has been detected and reported in Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania. As of 24 August 2023, four Member States (Cape Verde, Egypt, South Africa and Uganda) have reported the presence of this new variant of interest (VOI). Following an initial risk assessment conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO), the public health risk associated with EG.5 is currently rated as low on a global level, similar to the risk of XBB.1.16 and other VOIs.

Fifty-four (98%) MS are currently providing COVID-19 vaccination to the general population. Cumulatively, 1.1 billion doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 570.5 million people have been partially vaccinated, and 453.8 million have been fully vaccinated. Eritrea is the only AU MS yet to start COVID-19 vaccination roll out.

For Epi week 33 (14 - 20 August 2023), 124 new COVID-19 cases were reported, which is a 13% decrease in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (32). The Northern region accounted for 60% of the new COVID-19 cases reported this week, followed by the Central (28%), Western (10%), Southern (2%) and no case reported in Eastern region.

Last week, four new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa. More than two thousand new tests were conducted during the past week. The weekly % test positivity decreased from 7% to 6% compared to the previous week. Since February 2020, over 133 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Response:

The emergency operations center (EOC) of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has been activated for COVID-19 since 27 January 2020. For more information on Africa CDC’s response efforts please refer to Africa CDC’s website, Hotspot dashboard, PGI Dashboard, Vaccination Dashboard and the Africa CDC COVID-19 brief https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/42763-doc-AfricaCDC_COVIDBrief_5May23_EN.pdf
Measles in Africa

18,538 confirmed case(s)
242,155 suspected case(s)
3,508 human deaths (CFR: 1.3%)

Agent/Pathogen: Measles virus
First reported by: Africa CDC
First Occurred: 01-Jan-2023
Country: Africa Combo
Location: 27 MS
Source: Ministry of Health
GeoScope: MODERATE
Human Risk Assessment: MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 260,693 (18,538 confirmed; 242,155 suspected) and 3,508 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) of measles were reported from 27 AU MS: Angola (6,203 cases; 53 deaths), Botswana (13 cases; 0 deaths), Burkina Faso (24; 0), Burundi (319; 0), Cameroon (8,503; 64), Central African Republic (CAR) (2,419; 0), Chad (8,915; 7), Congo (288; 1), DRC (190,598; 3,187), Ethiopia (12,510; 117), Gabon (2,709; 0), Ghana (212; 0), Guinea (981; 2), Kenya (9; 1), Libya (391; 2), Liberia (7,806; 8), Mali (1,548; 0), Mauritania (565; 4), Mozambique (1,342; 0), Niger (1,690; 0), Senegal (1,732; 0), Somalia (7,771; 0), South Africa (765; 0), South Sudan (2,586; 60), Uganda (258; 1) and Zambia (328; 1).

This week, a total of 3,756 new cases and 48 new deaths were reported from eight MS: Burkina Faso, CAR, Chad, Gabon, Mali, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa and South Sudan.

Burkina Faso (new event): On 18 August 2023, the MoH reported 24 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles from six regions of the country: Boucle du Mouhoun (1 confirmed case; no death), Centre (1; 0), Centre Nord (2; 0), Est (16; 0), Plateau Central (3; 0) and Sud Ouest (1; 0). The cases were confirmed by ELISA at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Charles de Gaulle in Ouagadougou.

CAR: Since the last update (14 July 2023), the MoH reported 763 cases (505 confirmed, 258 suspected) and no new deaths of measles. This is a 107% increase in the number of new cases compared to the last report. Cumulatively, 2,419 cases (1,053 confirmed; 1,366 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from all the seven regions in CAR.

Chad: Since the last update (14 July 2023), the MoH reported 110 new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. This is an 86% decrease in the number of new cases compared to the last report. Cumulatively, 8,915 suspected cases and seven deaths (CFR: 0.1%) of measles have been reported from 17 of 23 regions in Chad.

Gabon: Since the last update (14 July 2023), the MoH reported 22 suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. The new cases reported this week are from six health regions: Libreville-Owendo (8 cases), Sud-Est (6), West (3), Centre-East (2), Maritime (1) and Centre (2). Cumulatively, 2,709 cases (1,143 confirmed; 1,566 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from nine of ten regions in Gabon.

Gambia (new event): On 18 August 2023, the MoH reported an outbreak of measles in all the seven regions. A total of 208 confirmed cases and no deaths have been reported from all the seven regions of the country. The cases were confirmed by ELISA at the National Public Health Laboratory in Gambia.

Mali: Since the last update (11 August 2023), the MoH reported two new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 1,548 cases (349 confirmed; 1,199 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from five of the nine regions.

Senegal: Since the last update (11 August 2023), the MoH reported 1,287 new cases (448 confirmed; 839 suspected) and no new deaths of measles. This is a 13% increase in the number of new cases compared to the last report. Cumulatively, 1,732 cases (893 confirmed; 839 suspected) and no deaths have been reported from Senegal. Of all reported cases, 542 cases are...
children under five, only 50% (269) of the cases were vaccinated against measles.

Somalia: Since the last update (11 August 2023), the MoH reported 180 new suspected cases of measles. Cumulatively, 7,771 cases (84 confirmed; 7,687 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from Somalia. The most affected regions include Banadir (2,176), Bay (1,674) and Lower Juba (1,075). Seventy-three percent (73%) of the total cases were children under five years.

South Africa: Since the last update (18 August 2023), the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) reported six new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles from two provinces: East Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. Cumulatively, 765 confirmed cases and no deaths have been reported from all the nine provinces this year. The most affected age groups were 5 - 9 years (43%), 1 - 4 years (24%) and 10 -14 years (20%).

South Sudan: Since the last report (26 May 2023), the MoH reported 585 new suspected cases and 46 new deaths (CFR: 7.8%) of measles from Renk county, among refugees returning from Sudan. Cumulatively, 2,586 cases (175 confirmed; 2,411 suspected) and 60 deaths (CFR: 2.3%) of measles were reported from 58 of the 79 counties across the country.

Note: In 2022, 264,345 cases (34,491 confirmed; 229,854 suspected) and 2,860 deaths (CFR: 8%) of measles were reported from 24 MS in four AU regions: Cameroon (3,502 cases; 21 deaths), Central African Republic (CAR) (1,447; 3), Chad (2,956; 11), Congo (6,873; 132), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (146,359; 1,846), Ethiopia (9,857; 102), Guinea (23,601; 33), Kenya (406; 2), Liberia (16,130; 86), Mali (2,745; 1), Mozambique (45; 0), Namibia (23; 0), Niger (19,524; 32), Nigeria (1,162; 0), Senegal (373; 1), Sierra Leone (814; 0), Somalia (16,624; 0), South Africa (365; 0), South Sudan (3,942; 38), Sudan (1,188; 13), Tanzania (223; 0), Togo (1,272; 0), Zambia (23; 3) and Zimbabwe (6,444; 698).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH of affected Member States continues to conduct enhanced surveillance, case management, risk communication and enhanced targeted testing of all samples in the affected districts.

### Polio (vacc) in Africa

**189 confirmed case(s)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
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<th>Previous Africa CDC Report:</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Human Risk Assessment</th>
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<tr>
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<td>01-Jan-2023</td>
<td>11-Aug-2023</td>
<td>15 MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source</td>
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**Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of 2023, the continent has reported 64 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) from DRC (48 cases), Madagascar (13), Mozambique (3) and 125 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) from 13 MS: Benin (3 cases), Burkina Faso (1), Burundi (3), CAR (10), Chad (10), Côte d’ivoire (2), DRC (65), Kenya (4), Mali (2), Nigeria (21), Niger (1), Somalia (2) and Zambia (1). This week, one new case of cVDPV1, six new cases of cVDPV2 and no new deaths were reported from Chad, DRC and Kenya.

**Chad:** On 11 July 2023, the MoH reported two new confirmed cases and no new deaths of cVDPV2, one each in Ouaddai and Mayo Kebbi Est regions. Cumulatively, 25 confirmed cases and no deaths of cVDPV2 were reported from Chad this year.

**DRC:** Since the last report (30 June 2023), the MoH reported one cVDPV1 case (in Tanganyika), three cVDPV2 cases (2 in Mongala and 1 in Haut Lomami). Cumulatively, 113 cases (48 circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1); 65 cVDPV2 cases) have been reported from DRC in 2023. There were 146 and 368 cases of cVDPV1 and cVDPV2 respectively reported in 2022.

**Kenya:** Since the last update (14 July 2023), the MoH reported one new case of cVDPV2 in Hagadera refugee camp, Fafi sub-county, Garissa county, north eastern Kenya. Cumulatively, four cVDPV2 cases have been reported from Kenya.
Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Chad: The MoH continues to conduct enhanced surveillance and risk communication across the country.

DRC: The MoH recently conducted a large-scale mass polio vaccination campaign targeting children under 5 years in 20 provinces.

Kenya: The Ministry of Health continues to strengthen polio surveillance activities. In addition, on 24 August 2023, the Kenya MoH launched an oral polio vaccine supplementary immunization campaign targeting children below 5 years in Garissa, Kajiado, Kiambu and Nairobi counties.

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**Dengue fever in Africa**

**3,052** confirmed case(s)  
**10,625** suspected case(s)  
**22** human deaths (CFR: 0.2%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
<th>First reported by Africa CDC</th>
<th>First Occurred</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>GeoScope</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Previous Africa CDC Report</th>
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<td>Dengue virus</td>
<td>Africa Combo</td>
<td>01-Jan-2023</td>
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<td>LOW</td>
<td>9 MS</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>18-Aug-2023</td>
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</table>

**Update to Event:**

Since January 2023, a total of 13,677 cases (3,052 confirmed; 10,625 suspected) and 22 deaths (CFR: 0.2%) of dengue fever have been reported in nine African Union Member States (MS): Angola (3 cases; 0 deaths), Chad (29; 0), Côte d'Ivoire (107; 0), Egypt (578; 0), Ethiopia (9,814; 4), Mauritius (242; 0), Sao Tome and Principe (1,223; 11), Senegal (15; 0) and Sudan (1,664; 7). This week, 30 new cases and no new deaths of dengue fever were reported from Chad and Mauritius.

**Chad:** On 14 August 2023, the Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 29 cases (17 confirmed; 12 suspected) and no death from dengue fever outbreak in Abéché health district, province of Ouadai. The cases were confirmed by polymerase chain reaction at the National Laboratory for Biosecurity and Epidemics (LaBiEp) in N'Djamena. Cumulatively, 29 cases (17 confirmed; 12 suspected) and no deaths were reported from one of 23 regions. This is the first outbreak of dengue in Chad and the first case was confirmed on 3 August 2023.

**Mauritius:** Since the last update (18 August 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed imported case and no new deaths of dengue fever from the island of Mauritius. Cumulatively, 242 confirmed cases (236 local; 6 imported) and no deaths have been reported from two islands: Mauritius (178 local; 6 imported cases) and Rodrigues (58 local cases). Currently, there are three active cases of dengue fever in the island of Mauritius.

**Senegal:** Since the last update (24 June 2023), the MoH reported two new confirmed cases and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 44 confirmed cases and no deaths of dengue fever were reported from six health districts of all seventy seven health districts in Senegal: Foundiougne (1 case), Kaffrine (1), Kaolack (1), Popenguine (2), Pikine (1) and Thilogne (38) districts. Females accounted for 64% of all the confirmed cases.

**Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:**

**Chad:** The MoH established a multi-sectoral dengue committee and deployed rapid response teams to the affected region (Ouadai region) to conduct active case search, reinforcement of laboratory capacities in N'Djamena and implementation of vector control measures.

**Mauritius:** The MoH continues to conduct enhanced surveillance, strengthening of laboratory capacity and implementation of vector control measures in the affected area.

**Senegal:** The MoH continues to strengthen surveillance and risk communication activities in all the affected regions.
**Diphtheria in Africa**

2,507 confirmed case(s)  
1 probable case(s)  
5,948 suspected case(s)  
230 human deaths (CFR: 2.7%)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
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<tr>
<td>Human Risk Assessment</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
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**First reported by**:  
Africa CDC  
Previous Africa CDC Report:  
18-Aug-2023  
Location:  
4 MS

**Update to Event:**

Since January 2023, a total of 8,455 cases (2,507 confirmed; 5,948 suspected) and 230 deaths (CFR: 9.2%) of diphtheria have been reported in three African Union Member States (MS): Algeria: (80 cases, 10 deaths), Guinea (90; 22), Niger (272; 8) and Nigeria (8,013; 190). This week, 279 new cases (272 confirmed; 7 suspected) and 11 new deaths of diphtheria were reported from Guinea and Niger.

**Guinea**: Since the last update (8 August 2023), the MoH reported seven new suspected cases and three new deaths of diphtheria. Cumulatively, 90 cases (7 confirmed; 83 suspected) and 22 deaths have been reported from four districts in Kankan region in Guinea: Kankan (8 cases; 1 death), Kouroussa (2; 2), Mandian (6; 6) and Siguiri (74;13).

**Niger (new event)**: On 20 August 2023, the Niger MoH reported an outbreak of diphtheria Matamaye health district in Zinder region. A total of 272 confirmed cases and eight deaths (CFR: 2.9%) were reported from seven integrated health centres of Matamaye health district in Zinder region: Amsouda (25 cases; 1 death), Doukoum Doukoum (2; 0), Eddawa (2; 1), Kantche (233; 5), Kwaya(2; 0), Matamaye (5; 0) and Yaouri (3; 1). This outbreak was confirmed after all 272 samples submitted to the Niamey Medical Research Center tested positive by bacterial culture. The most affected age groups were 1-29 year-old (93.4%). Nationwide low vaccination coverage, especially in the Zinder region has been identified as a risk factor for this outbreak.

**Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:**

**Guinea**: The MoH deployed a rapid response team (RRT) to the affected area to conduct case management, risk communication and vaccination of the affected community.

**Niger**: The MoH deployed RRT to conduct active case search, case management and sensitization of local communities leaders involved in health education.

**Footnotes:**

* Cases in this report include confirmed, probable and suspected cases  
* Case fatality rates are calculated using confirmed cases and deaths only, except for the following:  
- Bacterial meningitis, cholera and measles where CFR is calculated using all cases and deaths  

* The GeoScope level is determined by where the event is currently occurring on the continent. Low: event is limited to sub-national areas within one MS; Moderate: Event is affecting multiple countries within an AU region, or have been imported from/exported to 1-2 countries from another global region; High: Event is affecting several multinational AU regions, or have been imported from/exported to >2 countries from another global region; Very High: Event is considered a pandemic, affecting multiple continents or worldwide. The risk level is determined by evaluating the following criteria: morbidity and mortality of the disease, probability to spread within and to the other MSs, and availability of effective treatments, vaccines, or other control measures. An event risk level can be classified as low, moderate, high and very high depending on how they score on the above criteria.