

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dengue prevention and control is being intensified in the affected divisions, with focus on urban and peri-urban areas in 22 priority townships as well as selected rural areas in the Ayeyarwady.**
- **All teams for the Post-Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA) are in the field and have started collecting information. They will move to the most badly affected areas on 14 June**
- **Three Ministry of Health and WHO teams are in the field to track tuberculosis patients, provide curative services as well as to assess the health situation, in Labutta and Bogale.**

## HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND SITUATION UPDATE

- All teams for the Post-Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA) are in the field and have started collecting information. They will move to the most badly affected areas on 14 June
- The six teams involved in the Damage and Loss Assessment as part of PONJA went to the field on Wednesday and will return on Sunday.
- A 23-member Japanese medical team was in Labutta for ten days and reported on their experience:
  - They treated patients with injuries, acute respiratory infection (ARI), Malaria, Measles, Dengue Fever and Mental Disorders.
  - They referred all TB cases and emergency cases to Labutta Township hospital for treatment.
  - They received continuous guidance from a liaison medical officer for adapting local norms and guidelines for treatment.
- Government medical teams have treated more than 1600 patients in Pyapon, Labutta and Bogale townships in the past two days according to state media reports.

## **HEALTH CLUSTER RESPONSE**

### **1. Disease Surveillance**

- EWAR and Surveillance system established in the aftermath of cyclone Nargis will be integrated in the national health care system.
- Two disease rumors have been reported so far this week and are being verified.

### **2. Health Action**

#### **WHO**

- The WHO Regional Director for the South-East Asia Region, Dr Samlee Plianbangchang, has arrived in Myanmar. He will survey the affected areas as well as meet His Excellency the Myanmar Minister of Health, the UN Resident Coordinator, and others, to discuss cyclone-related issues.
- A situation analysis was made of the dengue situation in cyclone affected areas of Ayeyarwady and Yangon Divisions.
- WHO has established a Plan of Action for dengue prevention and control in cyclone affected areas. Objectives of the plan are to (a) reduce the risk and/or intensity of dengue transmission during the current transmission season; (b) suppress or contain local outbreaks; (c) minimize Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) case fatality rates; (d) strengthen national capacity for the prevention and control of DF/DHF. The estimated budget is US\$695 000.
- WHO has established a technical working group to support implementation of the Plan of Action on dengue. Organizations with extensive community networks such as The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Myanmar Red Cross Society and the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation could play a key role.
- MOH, WHO and UNICEF discussed the dengue Plan of Action and agreed that:
  - Implementation will begin next week using WHO and UNICEF resources
  - A total of 22 townships, 11 in Yangon division and 11 in Ayeyarwady division, will be the priority townships for action.

- All townships in Yangon and Ayeyawaddy Divisions will be covered for surveillance, case management and environmental management and 22 townships for larviciding.
- Rural areas in Ayeyarwady division will be included since more than half the cases this year are from such areas.
- IEC materials focusing on the implementation on larviciding will be developed
- The MOH unit for vector-borne disease control (VBDC) will conduct training on fogging, spraying and larvae control in Patheingyi on 19 - 20 June.
- VBDC and WHO drafted the guide for larviciding and calibrated the tool (teaspoon) for application of larvicide.
- WHO has drafted and presented a Framework for malaria prevention.
- WHO has provided psychotropic drugs in the WHO Essential Drugs list to all in need in the affected areas.

#### **UNICEF**

- In partnership with Myanmar Health Assistant Association and Myanmar Nurses and Midwife Association, UNICEF deployed 32 health assistants in Laputta, Bogale and Pyapon, and have additional 39 health assistants, 16 nurses and 24 midwives waiting for deployment to strengthen and revitalize primary health care, both curative and preventive.

#### **IFRC/Myanmar Red Cross**

- Myanmar Red Cross Society has provided 1500 plastic toilet pans as part of its sanitation initiatives.

### **3. Supplies and Funds**

- WHO has secured supplies and equipment for prevention and control of malaria and dengue worth around US\$1.4 million, including US\$30,000 from Danish Embassy in Thailand.

#### **HEALTH COORDINATION**

1. UNICEF informed the cluster that they are coordinating the health cluster at township level in several townships, these meetings have been taking place 1-2 times a week.

2. The technical working groups provided the following reports:
- **Early Recovery:**
    - The working group lead is currently in the field
  - **HIV/AIDS**
    - UNFPA and UNAIDS co-chaired a meeting last week on integrating sexual and reproductive health issues into the Nargis response
  - **Tuberculosis**
    - Three MOH/WHO teams are currently in the field in Bogale and Labutta
    - The teams will be following up on TB services, tracking TB patients, providing curative services as well as assessing the health situation.
  - **Psychosocial Support**
    - The working plan has been finalized
    - Translation to Myanmar language is expected to be completed by next week
    - The key agenda item is to promote education in the treatment of the patients
    - There are presently many training manuals which are being checked to ensure that they are socially appropriate.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- WHO and partners will assist MoH in restoring EPI services and TB services.
- WHO and health cluster partners will support development of comprehensive mental health services in Myanmar based on general duty medical officer training and nurses training that are taking place as part of the Nargis relief operations.