

Date: December 16, 2003



From: WHO Collaborating Center for Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #138

To: Addressees

Does Your Program Have Specific Measurable Objectives For 2004?

NIGERIA: SHUTTING DOWN THE WORM

Nigeria has reported only 63 cases for the entire country for November 2003. This is a reduction of -85%compared to the 427 cases reported in November 2002. Nigeria has now reported 1,350 cases in January-November 2003 or -59% fewer than in the same period of 2002, and November is its fourth straight month of reductions of -80% or more, including the first two months of the peak transmission season. Eighty-four percent (53) of the November cases were contained, including 30 cases contained in case containment centers. Only five of Nigeria's 36 states (Benue: 41 cases, Oyo: 10, Ebonyi: 8, Ogun: 3, Niger: 1) reported cases in November, and 53% of all cases so far in 2003 were reported from only four of the 774 Local Government Areas (Ishielu/Ebonyi,



Obi/Benue, Ado/Benue, Ibarapa North/Oyo). Borno State held a Worm Week in all of its remaining endemic villages in October. <u>General (Dr) Yakubu Gowon</u> made advocacy visits to Benue and Kogi States in November.

MALI: MISSED OPPORTUNITY IN 2003?

As indicated in Table 1 and Figure 2, Mali continues to experience minimal reductions in cases (-5%) through October this year, compared to the same period of 2002. Almost all of these cases are in the eastern districts of Gao (323), Ansongo (251), and Gourma Rharous (81), although Douentza (24) and Mopti (21) Districts have reported more cases so far this year than in 2002. Despite several measures that have been taken to strengthen Mali's program this year, Mali's low case containment rates reflect continued deficiencies in supervision and planning, logistical inefficiencies, and passive leadership. Next year will tell whether this year's improvements outweigh the remaining weaknesses. It already appears likely that for the first time, Togo might report fewer cases than Mali this year, and if current trends continue, Nigeria may surpass Mali in 2004 (see Figure 1). *Attention, Mali*!

Table 1

Number of cases contained and number reported by month during 2003* (Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2002)

COUNTRIES														
REPORTING CASES	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL*	% CONT.
SUDAN	²⁶⁰ / 1175	122 / 702	270 _{/ 872}	255 _/ 1183	260 _/ 2289	²³⁸ / ₂₅₄₈	²⁸⁰ / ₂₅₅₆	276 _/ 2601	289 _/ 1422	/	/	/	²²⁵⁰ / ₁₅₃₄₈	15
GHANA	⁴⁸⁷ / ₈₈₉	772 / 1338	557 _/ 946	⁶²¹ / ₉₃₇	524 774	³⁷⁴ / ₅₅₂	²⁸⁸ / ₄₇₂	123 _/ 200	68 _/ 154	¹³⁴ / ₂₇₆	/	/	³⁹⁴⁸ / ₆₅₃₈	60
NIGERIA	³⁸⁹ / ₅₆₈	179 _{/ 243}	103 _/ 125	⁵³ / ₆₀	³⁰ / ₅₂	49 _{/ 58}	46 _{/ 68}	³⁶ / ₅₀	²² / ₃₁	²⁸ / ₃₂	⁵³ / ₆₃	/	⁹⁸⁸ / 1350	73
TOGO	110 _/ 149	²⁸ / ₄₄	²¹ / 29	³⁸ / 44	73 _/ 87	⁵³ / ₇₂	⁵³ / ₆₃	¹⁴ / ₂₂	¹⁸ / ₂₇	²⁴ / ₃₀	²⁵ / ₃₄	/	457 _/ 601	76
MALI	³ / ₃	4 _/ 4	⁵ / ₅	² / ₃	² / ₃	7 / 8	42 _{/ 85}	⁹⁰ /158	126 _/ 249	109 / 205	²⁴ / ₅₄	/	⁴¹⁴ / ₇₇₇	53
BURKINA FASO	⁶ / ₆	¹ / 2	⁰ / ₂	³ / ₄	15 _/ 17	²⁶ / ₆₂	²³ / ₃₆	15 _{/ 22}	¹¹ / ₂₀	⁹ / ₁₆	⁴ / ₁₂	/	¹¹³ / ₁₉₉	57
NIGER	⁰ / ₀	1 / 1	⁰ / ₀	² / ₂	⁰ / ₀	6 _/ 6	27 _/ 37	³⁰ / ₄₇	³³ / ₇₁	¹¹ / ₇₃	²² / ₃₈	/	132 _/ 275	48
COTE D'IVOIRE	7 / 21	⁵ / ₈	¹ / ₂	1 / 4	³ / ₃	¹ / 2	0 / ₀	° / ₀	° / ₀	° / ₀	° / ₀	/	¹⁸ / ₄₀	45
BENIN	21 21	1 / 1		⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀		° / ₀	° / ₀	² / ₂	1 / 1	/	²⁸ / ₂₈	100
ETHIOPIA	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	³ / ₃	7 _/ 7	7 / 7				4 _/ 4	° / ₀	° / ₀	/	²⁸ / ₂₈	100
MAURITANIA	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	1 / 1	² / ₃	1 / 1	³ / ₄	² / ₃	° / ₀	/	⁹ / ₁₂	75
UGANDA	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	⁰ / ₀	³ / ₃	⁹ / ₁₁	4 _/ ₆	¹ / 2	⁰ / ₂	° / ₀		/	/	¹⁹ / ₂₆	73
KENYA	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	1	/	/	/	² / ₂	100
TOTAL*	1283 _{/ 2832}	1113 / 2343	961 / 1985	⁹⁸⁵ / ₂₂₄₇	925 _/ 3245	764 / 3320	765 / 3325	⁵⁸⁶ / ₃₁₀₄	574 _/ 1982	321 / 639	129 _/ 202	0 / 0	⁸⁴⁰⁶ / ₂₅₂₂₄	33
% CONTAINED	45	48	48	44	29	23	23	19	29	50	64		33	

* PROVISIONAL

Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported and contained that month.

For other imported cases see table of imported cases by month and by country.

Figure 2

Number of Villages/Localities Reporting Cases of Dracunculiasis in 2002, Percentage of Endemic Villages Reporting in 2003*, Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2002 and 2003*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported

	Villa	iges	Indigenous Cases Reported									
Country	Reporting 1+ cases in 2002	% Reporting 2003			% CHANGE 2002 - 2003							
,			2002	2003	-100% -80% -60% -4	40%	-20%	0%	20%	40%	60%	80%
Benin (11)	31	100%	135	24	-82%							
Cote d'Ivoire (11)	25	100%	191	40	-79%							
Mauritaina (11)	18	100%	42	12	-71%							
Burkina Faso (11)	133	98%	564	180	-68%							
Nigeria (11)	557	100%	3284	1350	-59%							
Togo (11)	228	100%	1321	567	-57%							
Sudan (9)	4233	65%	34996	15348	-56%							
Ethiopia (11)	12	100%	24	13	-46%							
Mali (11)	183	88%	832	773			-7%					
Niger (11)	77	100%	224	265					8%)		
Ghana (10)	739	100%	4161	6536							57%	
Uganda (10)	19	100%	8	13							63	8%
Total	6255	74%	45782	25121	-45%							
Total- Sudan	6027	99%	10786	9773			-9%					

(10) Indicates month for which reports were received, e.g., Jan. - Oct. 2003

* Provisional

IN BRIEF:

<u>Ghana</u> UNICEF has provided \$38,000 and 77 bicycles for the program, in addition to printing 42,000 laminated photographs of an emerging Guinea worm for use in doing surveillance for dracunculiasis during the National Immunization Days on December 5-7. Tamale District held another Worm Week in November. The Ghanaian researcher, Dr. Langbong Bimi, returned to CDC in November to continue his work in Guinea worm disease and other parasitic diseases.

<u>Togo</u> Case containment rates in the five most endemic districts in northern Togo have reportedly improved to 76% in January-November this year, compared to 62% in the same period of 2002. Ghana and Togo will conduct joint health education and community mobilization activity in the border village of Tindjassi, Togo on January 8, 2004. Ghana's GWEP will bring a theater group to perform a skit about Guinea worm disease, and Togo's GWEP will organize a football match.

<u>Burkina Faso</u> The Program held a "Fair" in Tambao in Gorom Gorom District in early November, comprised of several educational games intended to educate children about Guinea worm prevention. This was in response to the observation that children in the area were drinking pond water without filtering it. Follow returne.ildre7Dcs2c 0 Follob769 Tw v BT /TT6- tsD2hbt6clob769 Tw ve