The cholera outbreak which was confirmed in Nsanje on 11th February 2015 appears to be reaching the tail end with no new cholera cases being reported during the week of 15-21 June.

Cumulatively, a total of 693 cases with 11 deaths have been registered in 8 districts representing a case fatality rate of 1.6%.

Blantyre district has not registered any new case for one week; Chikwawa has not registered any new case for a period of two weeks; and in Nsanje no new case has been reported for 6 weeks.

Nsanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre, accounting for 96% of all reported cases, are the districts that have been worst affected in this cholera outbreak having registered a total of 664 cases.

UNICEF through partners such as Concern Universal, Population Services International, Goal Malawi, Catholic Relief Services, Face to Face, Malawi Red Cross, and EXP Momentum have been supporting Interpersonal Communication/social mobilization in flood and cholera affected districts reaching a cumulative number of 391,478 people.

UNICEF wishes to express its deepest gratitude to the implementing and donor partners for the contributions that have so far enabled the cholera response.

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**25 June 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>CFR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nsanje</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chikwawa</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilongwe</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedza</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ntcheu</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blantyre</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phalombe</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mwanza</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>693</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### HIGHLIGHTS

- The cholera outbreak which was confirmed in Nsanje on 11th February 2015 appears to be reaching the tail end with no new cholera cases being reported during the week of 15-21 June.
- Cumulatively, a total of 693 cases with 11 deaths have been registered in 8 districts representing a case fatality rate of 1.6%.
- Blantyre district has not registered any new case for one week; Chikwawa has not registered any new case for a period of two weeks; and in Nsanje no new case has been reported for 6 weeks.
- Nsanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre, accounting for 96% of all reported cases, are the districts that have been worst affected in this cholera outbreak having registered a total of 664 cases.
- UNICEF through partners such as Concern Universal, Population Services International, Goal Malawi, Catholic Relief Services, Face to Face, Malawi Red Cross, and EXP Momentum have been supporting Interpersonal Communication/social mobilization in flood and cholera affected districts reaching a cumulative number of 391,478 people.
- UNICEF wishes to express its deepest gratitude to the implementing and donor partners for the contributions that have so far enabled the cholera response.

### UNICEF's Cholera Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results</th>
<th>Change since last report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of people reached with hygiene and sanitation messages such as hand washing with soap</td>
<td>400,000 people</td>
<td>391,478</td>
<td>▲4,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people reached with provision of safe water services including water treatment approaches</td>
<td>200,000 people</td>
<td>106,851</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Cholera Treatment Centres reached with WASH supplies</td>
<td>40 CTCs</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of health facilities with potential cholera risk with no stock outs of supplies (Lingers lactate with giving set, ORS) for case management</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Situation Overview

- The cholera outbreak which was confirmed in Nsanje on 11th February 2015 appears to be reaching a tail end. No new cholera cases have been reported since the week starting 15 June 2015. Cumulatively, a total of 693 cases with 11 deaths have been registered representing a case fatality rate of 1.6%.

- Blantyre district has not registered any new case for one week while Chikwawa has not registered any new case a period of two weeks and in Nsanje no new case has been reported for 6 weeks.

- Nsanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre accounting for 96% of all reported cases, are the districts that have been worst affected in this cholera outbreak having registered a total of 664 cases.

- Eight districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Ntcheu, Mwanza, Phalombe, Blantyre, Dedza and Lilongwe have been so far been affected in this cholera outbreak.

- Eleven deaths related to cholera have been reported to date: 3 deaths in Nsanje (Case Fatality Rate =1.3%), 4 deaths in Chikwawa (Case Fatality Rate =1.1%) and 4 deaths in Blantyre (Case Fatality Rate =6.2%).

Fig 1: Number of reported new cases by week in Nsanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre districts, Malawi 10 February – 21 June 2015
Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF Malawi’s emergency preparedness and response builds on existing activities and partnerships (Government, UN agencies and NGOs) developed through the country programme of co-operation; as well as on community mobilization and participation. Through this developed network of partnerships, the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the World Health Organisation (WHO) will ensure that cholera cases are effectively managed to prevent avoidable deaths. Both preventive and case management is being conducted through collaborative efforts.

UNICEF Malawi monitors emergency situations and potential threats in an attempt to ensure early warning and response. Additional programmes are developed as needed to support humanitarian action, post-incident rehabilitation and recovery efforts within the limits of UNICEF’s lead/cluster responsibilities.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

Overall, a National Disaster Risk Management Technical Committee (NDRM TC) established under the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy serves as an advocate of disaster risk management; provides advice and technical support; and is the coordinating mechanism for mainstreaming disaster risk management into sustainable development policies, planning and programmes. Technical Sub-Committees (TSCs) including the Health and Nutrition TSC are established under the NDRM for proper coordination and guidance in the planning and implementation of disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programmes. Decentralized Disaster Risk Management Committees (DRMC’s) are responsible for coordinating the implementation at City, Municipal, District, Area and Village levels. The DRMCs function in accordance with terms of reference stipulated in the Operational Guidelines for DRM.

A National Epidemic Task Force under the Ministry of Health coordinates all response activities on all levels for cholera prevention and control, through which service delivery, surveillance, monitoring, information collection, analysis and dissemination are coordinated.

UNICEF co-chairs the WASH, Education, Nutrition and Protection Clusters and is a very active member of the Health cluster.

PROGRAMME RESPONSE

UNICEF with the Ministry of Health and partners including MSF, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), GOAL Malawi, Malawi Red Cross, Concern Universal and Population Services International (PSI) have been supporting the cholera response efforts both at national and sub national levels.

The following are some of the activities that have been conducted in an attempt to prevent and control the outbreak:

- **Case management:** This has involved the establishment of Cholera Treatment Units in affected communities; strengthening cholera camp management to maximize patient care and reduce the risk of nosocomial infection; training of health workers in cholera case management; and distribution and monitoring usage of supplies.
- **Prevention:** Including community sensitisation through health education, provision of potable water and Oral Cholera Vaccination in Nsanje district.
**Surveillance:** Daily/weekly reporting, including zero reporting.

**WASH and Communications for Development (C4D)**

- UNICEF through partners such as Concern Universal (CU), Population Services International (PSI), Goal Malawi, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Face to Face, Malawi Red Cross, and EXP Momentum have been supporting Interpersonal Communication (IPC)/social mobilization in flood and cholera affected districts. Cumulatively the number of people reached is 391,478. This number has been reached through support from the following partners:
  - EXP Momentum has cumulatively reached 17,760 people with messages on cholera prevention. This was achieved through road shows and stop overs in Blantyre.
  - Face to Face has cumulatively reached 4,229 people in Phalombe with messages on cholera prevention. These activities were done in close collaboration with the District Environmental Health Office.
  - PSI has cumulatively reached 178,632 people in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe and Blantyre with messages on cholera prevention.
  - Cumulatively, GOAL Malawi has reached 90,851 people with messages on cholera prevention through focus group discussions, drama and quizzes in villages in Chikwawa and Nsanje.
  - CRS has reached a cumulative number of 7,125 people with hygiene and promotion messages on cholera in Phalombe.
  - Cumulatively, CU has reached 3,580 people with hygiene and promotion messages on cholera in Phalombe.
  - Malawi Red Cross has cumulatively reached 89,301 households with messages on cholera prevention and management through 397 trained community volunteers and 30 HSAs from catchment areas of 12 health facilities in Blantyre, Chikwawa and Nsanje.

- A total of 170 against a set target of 120 family latrines were constructed with support from CADECOM in five townships of Blantyre City namely Bwangwe, Chirimba, Chilobwe, Mpingwe, and Zingwangwa. UNICEF supplied 25 shovels, 25 hammers and 600 pieces of timber to these communities to help in the construction of family latrines.

- UNICEF supplied 14 water tanks to Blantyre DHO, out of which five were installed at three health centres namely Ndirande, Limbe and Zingwangwa. The rest (nine tanks) were installed in communities which have great challenges in accessing water from the Blantyre Water Board. Water for People and CADECOM have supported the installation of the tanks in both communities and health centres. The tanks installed in communities are being managed by Water Users Associations.

- In addition, UNICEF donated 115 boxes of water guard to Blantyre District Health Office (DHO) for community distribution.

- UNICEF also continues to support WASH cluster coordination at national and district levels.

**Health**

- Zomba district is carrying out training of health workers on cholera management from 23rd June to 3rd July 2015. 438 health workers from facilities around Lake Chirwa are being targeted. This brings the number of cholera prone districts that have conducted cholera case management trainings in the year 2015 to 6 districts. Of the 6 districts in which cholera case management trainings have been undertaken 5 have registered cases. Zomba which is being currently targeted for the training
is one of the three districts that are prone to dry season cholera (Zomba, Phalombe and Machinga) which usually occurs in the months of May to November.

- UNICEF continues to provide fuel to the affected districts when in need to enable them to carry out supportive supervision. In addition, UNICEF field staff are carrying out supervisory visits to the affected districts and liaising with other partners and the District Health Office to resolve identified bottlenecks.

**Education**

- Daily health and hygiene promotion messages on prevention, control and management of cholera in schools and communities continue to be provided by 168 volunteer teachers deployed in 150 schools in 9 out of 15 disaster affected districts reaching over 196,000 learners and their communities. This intervention has resulted in no cholera cases being reported in the 150 targeted schools.

**Funding**

UNICEF wishes to express its deepest gratitude to all donors for the resources that have so far enabled the cholera response. Based on a cholera response plan which covers 11 cholera prone districts (Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mwanza, Phalombe, Zomba, Mulanje, Chiradzulo, Thyolo, Mangochi, and Lilongwe), UNICEF estimated a funding requirement of approximately USD 1.6 million to support the cholera prevention and response efforts. This scale up was based on the increased needs as the outbreak spread from Nsanje, in which cholera was first registered to other districts. To date, approximately USD 100,000 USD has been contributed specifically for the cholera response.

**Next SitRep:** This will be the last cholera Sitrep unless new cases resurface.

Who to contact for further information:

- **Mahimbo Mdoe**
  Representative, Malawi
  Telephone: 265 999 964 130
  Facsimile: 265 1 771 162
  Email: mmdoe@unicef.org

- **Roisin De Burca**
  Deputy Representative, Malawi
  Telephone: 265 992 961 100
  Facsimile: 265 1 771 162
  Email: rdeburca@unicef.org

- **Angela Travis**
  Communications Officer, Malawi
  Tel: +265 1 771 632
  Fax: +: 265 1 773 162
  Email: atravis@unicef.org