



THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
HEADQUARTERS

Date: May 12th 2016

Office of the Spokesperson

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan would like to inform all the RSS Embassies and Missions abroad that there is no Yellow Fever in South Sudan up to date. Therefore, in response to the current outbreak of Yellow Fever in Angola, Uganda, Kenya, Central African Republic, and Democratic Republic of Congo, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of South Sudan has instituted an action plan to enhance Yellow Fever surveillance as a measure to mitigate the risk of importations.

The action plan is hereby attached.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation would also like to inform all the RSS Embassies and Missions abroad that the council of Ministers was briefed yesterday the 11th May 2016 by the Minister of Health Hon. Dr. Riek Gai Kok on the outbreak of Yellow Fever in the neighboring Countries mentioned above and on the preventive measures taken to avoid importations. To avoid importation of Yellow Fever from the neighboring countries, the Ministry of Health has advised to vaccinate all citizens traveling at entering points.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Amb. Thomas Kenneth Elisapana
Acting Spokesperson



Republic of South Sudan



Ministry of Health

Action plan for enhancing Yellow Fever Surveillance

Introduction

In line with the International Health Regulations of 2005 (IHR (2005)) and in response to the current outbreaks of yellow fever in Angola, Uganda, Kenya, and Democratic Republic of Congo, the Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan has instituted the following action plan to enhance yellow fever surveillance as a measure to mitigate the risk of importation.

Objectives

1. Engage stakeholders at national and sub-national level to coordinate activities for enhancing national capacities for yellow fever preparedness and response
2. Enhance yellow fever surveillance in the communities, at health facilities and designated ports of entry.
3. Support social mobilization and risk communication to mitigate the risk of yellow fever transmission.
4. Implement preventive yellow fever vaccination for high risk populations including international travelers

Implementation framework

Effective yellow fever prevention and control requires a multisectoral response involving relevant sectors of government and other partners. In this regard therefore, all YF preparedness and response activities will be coordinated by the National Epidemic Preparedness and Response committee in close collaboration with the health cluster partners and the state Ministries of Health. A working committee that includes officials from the Ministry of Health, immigration and port authorities will be formed to ensure that screening at designated PoE is well coordinated. The other activities for strengthening YF surveillance will be implemented within the context of integrated disease surveillance and response. These will include distribution of case definitions, training of health workers and rapid response teams, and verifying all suspect cases of acute jaundice syndrome and viral hemorrhagic fever.

Proposed activities

Thematic area	Activities	Outputs	Responsible persons/agency	Timeline in weeks					
				1	2	3	4	5	
Coordination	Map stakeholders and organize a briefing meetings on YF surveillance protocols	Support for YF response	MoH EPR/IHR	x					
	Form a committee to coordinate YF mitigation measures with relevant stakeholders	YF coordination committee formed	IHR; EPR; Immigration and Port authorities; WHO		X				
	Conduct orientation sessions for stakeholders (Public Health Officers; Immigration; PoE authorities)	Orientation sessions conducted	MoH/WHO		X				
Risk Communication	Issue press release to alert the public about the YF outbreaks in the region	Enhanced awareness	MoH	X	X				
	Provide regular updates to stakeholders on the current YF outbreaks in the region	Enhanced awareness	MoH	x	x	x	x	x	
	Develop messages on YF prevention and control	YF messages developed	MoH/WHO/UNICEF	x	x				
	Print banners; flyers for PoE and the public	IEC materials printed	MoH/WHO/UNICEF			X			
	Behavioral change communication for YF prevention and control [messages, talk shows, Public service announcements]	Enhanced awareness on personal protection measures	MoH/WHO/UNICEF		x	x	x	x	

Thematic area	Activities	Outputs	Responsible persons/agency	Timeline in weeks				
Surveillance	Designate ports of entry for YF screening (JIA, Wau, Nimule)	List of designated PoE	MoH, immigration	x	x			
	Designate screening areas at selected ports of entry	Screening areas at designated PoE	MoH, immigration, PoE authorities		x			
	Print and preposition VHF case investigation and reporting form	Adequate surveillance tools	MoH/WHO			x		
	Deploy Public Health Officers to designated PoEs	PHOs deployed to screen	MoH/WHO		x	x		
	Conduct screening for all international travelers	Entry and exit screening instituted	MoH		x	x	x	x
	Develop screening standard operating procedures	SoPs in place	MoH/WHO	x				
	Implement enhanced surveillance for YF community and facility level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification of all AIS and VHF alerts • Incorporate YF into routine IDSR trainings • Train laboratory technicians on SoPs for sample collection, packaging and transportation • Support monitoring and follow up of high-risk travelers 	Enhanced surveillance for YF within the IDSR framework	MoH/WHO	x	x	x	x	
Case management	Designate a ward in JTH, Wau and Nimule hospitals for treating suspect yellow fever cases	Supportive care provided to cases	MoH		x	x	x	x
Vaccination	Set up yellow fever vaccination centers (JIA and JTH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train PHO & nurses to run 	Improved access to YF vaccination for international travelers	MoH/WHO		x	x	x	x

Thematic area	Activities	Outputs	Responsible persons/agency	Timeline in weeks				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the centers • Avail YF vaccines • Obtain International Certificates of vaccination • Provide administrative and logistical support • YF vaccination for international travelers 							
Prevention	Identify high-risk populations that should be prioritized for routine immunization or preventive vaccination campaigns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on final results of the 2014 YF risk assessment • Organize a consensus meeting to review the YF assessment results and develop an action plan for YF prevention and control in RSS 	High risk populations identified and immunized	MoH/WHO	x	x	x	x	x
	Integrated Vector control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute vector control interventions with in the context of 	Vector control interventions instituted	MoH/WHO		x	x	x	x

Thematic area	Activities	Outputs	Responsible persons/agency	Timeline in weeks				
	integrated vector management							