

Regional News Roundup

KENYA

Cholera kills 29 as water shortage bites

At least 29 people have died of cholera and hundreds more are being treated for cholera-related symptoms such as acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) in the larger Turkana District and in the eastern regions of Garbatulla and Laisamis, according to health officials. The regions are not only facing acute water shortage, due to a prolonged drought, but also have poor latrine coverage. In the past week, a total of 246 AWD cases have been reported and are being treated as cholera and some 42 cases of cholera have been confirmed in the region.

Read more: <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=86514>

SUDAN

Rains and poor roads hamper mystery disease response

Efforts to identify a haemorrhagic disease that had killed four people in Kitkit, Western Bahr al-Ghazal, have been thwarted by bad roads made impassable by heavy rainfall, according to officials. The state's director-general of health had reported the deaths and symptoms to the health ministry in Juba, asking for urgent help. But no vehicle could reach Kitkit which is not accessible for planes either and a doctor sent by the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) had to return.

Read more: <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=86552>

Inter-ethnic violence threatens return of displaced

Significant challenges remain to the return of displaced people in Southern Sudan, particularly this year's inter-ethnic violence, a Senior UN refugee official has warned. Looking at the implementation of the 2005 peace accord, the situation could be characterised as serious, he said at a news conference in Khartoum. So far, 2.5 million displaced persons including 328,000 refugees from outside Sudan's border, out of an estimated 4.5 million driven from their homes have returned. But long-term stability and access to basic services is essential for sustainable return, he said.

Read more:

[http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=32450&Cr=southern+sudan&Cr1 =](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=32450&Cr=southern+sudan&Cr1=)

Pay attention to washed-up rebels

According to a Senior Researcher of the Conflict Prevention Programme, even groups whose threat seems negligible when compared with that of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and other major rebel groups, collectively contribute to continued instability and proliferation of arms. A peace process was recently started with the Allied Democratic Forces/National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU), a has-been rebel group that was only ever a minor player in the Great Lakes miasma. It would be important to analyse the circumstances that led ADF/NALU to seek a peaceful way. Lessons learned from this process may prove valuable for dealing with other smaller movements in the region.

Read more: <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=86518>

UGANDA

IDPs call for basic services

Ugandan authorities have started closing down internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in the north, but residents say they are being sent back to villages without basic services. One returnee said they had not enough health facilities and schools. The country's information minister said although facilities might not be sufficient at the moment, the government is committed to providing all basic facilities and services. So far, six camps have been closed in Gulu District and another 60 in Gulu, Amuru, Pader and Kitgum Districts are likely to close by the beginning of next year. 300,000 IDPs remain in camps.

Read more: <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=86564>

