



**Saturday, October 23, 2010
6:00 PM, EDT**

EOC SITUATION REPORT #2 Cholera Outbreak in Haiti

Summary

- As of today, the MSPP (*Ministère de la santé publique et de la population*) has reported 2,564 cases and 194 deaths at the national level.
- MSPP's national reference laboratory today confirmed cases in Ouest Department, including Port-au-Prince. In addition to Central Department and Artibonite Department which had confirmed cholera cases since Friday.
- Suspected cases have also been detected in Nord Department and Sud Department and results of confirmatory tests are pending.
- While no cases of cholera have been reported in Dominican Republic, the outbreak has prompted the Government to mobilize a contingency plan in the border area, while the border remains open.

PAHO/WHO Response

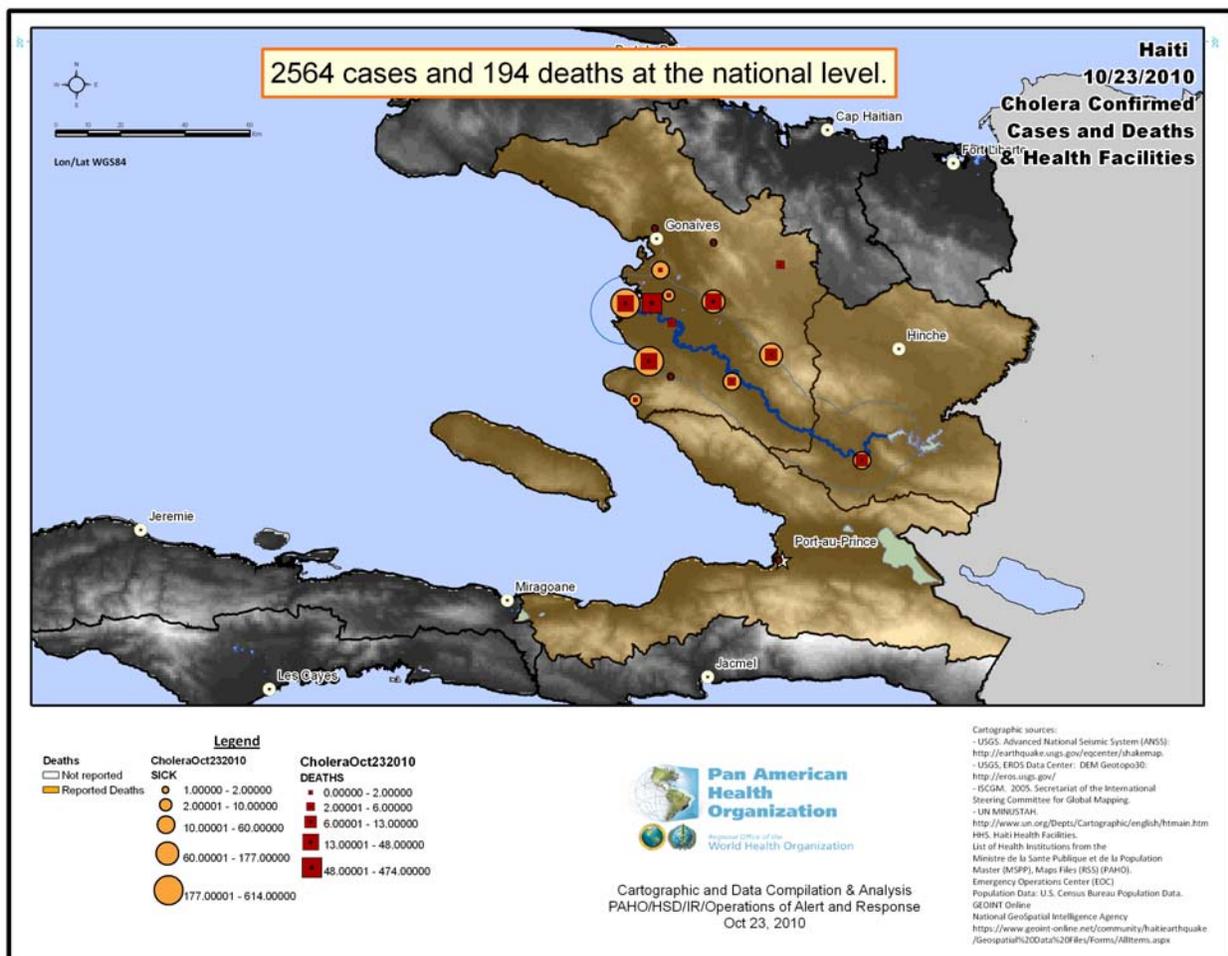
- PAHO continues the mobilization of experts in various fields including epidemiologists, risk communication, case management, laboratory, water and sanitation, logistics, and LSS/SUMA experts to both Haiti and Dominican Republic to provide technical support to MSPP and to strengthen the PAHO offices.
- PAHO currently has medicines and supplies to cover initial treatment needs in stock at the PROMESS warehouse near the Port-au-Prince airport. Additional supplies have been estimated based on new information and are in the process of being procured.
- The PAHO/WHO website has been populated with multilingual guidelines to provide general guideline during a cholera outbreak. The following documents readily available in PAHO's website: Acute diarrhoeal diseases in complex emergencies: critical steps; First steps for managing an outbreak of acute diarrhea; Cholera fact sheet; Cholera outbreak: assessing the outbreak response and improving preparedness; and, Cholera: prevention and control. Other relevant documents are listed in the Resources section below.
- PAHO remains in close collaboration with health cluster partners, including the Cuban medical mission, MSF, MINUSTAH, OCHA, USAID, USCDC, UNICEF and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to respond to the outbreak. PAHO is also coordinating closely with health officials in the U.S. and Canada, including with HHS, the

State Department, the CDC, NIH, and the FDA, and in Canada, with Health Canada, PHAC, and CIDA.

Cholera Key Facts

- Cholera is an acute diarrheal infection caused by exposition, ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae* 0:1.
- Provision of safe water and sanitation is critical in reducing the impact of cholera and other waterborne diseases.
- Up to 80% of cases can be successfully treated with oral rehydration salts.
- There are an estimated 3–5 million cholera cases and 100 000–120 000 deaths due to cholera every year around the world.

Situation Map



Updated maps will be posted on www.paho.org.

Resources

- [Haiti OneResponse](#).
- [PAHO Responds to Cholera Outbreak in Haiti](#) (press release).
- [World Health Organization's dedicated section to cholera](#) (technical guidelines).
- [Pan American Health Organization's](#) main website.
- [World Health Organization's](#) main website.
- For constant updates on the cholera outbreak in Haiti, you can also check the [PAHO](#) and [WHO](#) channels in Twitter.

The PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center Situation Report will issue situation reports as the situation requires.

Contact the PAHO EOC at +1 202 974 3399 or eoc@paho.org
[Click here](#) to view previous situation reports from the PAHO Emergency Operations Center.