

# **PRIME MINISTER'S POLIO MONITORING & COORDINATION CELL**



## **PROGRESS REPORT AUGUST-DECEMBER 2012**

---

**Prime Minister's Secretariat, Islamabad**

# **Progress Report**

**August – December 2012**

**Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring  
& Coordination Cell**

Patron  
Dr. Altaf Hussain Bosan

Editors  
Mazhar Nisar  
Wajiha Kanwal

# *A moment from history*



*Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto administering Polio Drops to a child as Shahnaz Wazir Ali looks on.*

## CONTENTS

06	Current Polio Epidemiology in Pakistan
07	Polio Eradication – A Global Perspective
08	Fourth National Task Force Meeting on Polio Eradication Initiative
09	Polio Summit in New York
10	Leadership of the President to Polio Eradication Initiative
12	Independent Monitoring Board Meeting, London, UK, October 29-30, 2012
13	Polio Reservoir Consultation Meeting Bhurban, Murree, November 12-14, 2012
14	Engagement with Parliamentarians
16	Core Committee of the Young Parliamentarians Forum on Polio Eradication Initiative
17	Polio Photo Exhibition
18	World Polio Day - October 24, 2012
22	Engagement with Religious Leaders
23	Engagement with Media
28	Federal Control Room for Polio



28	Interactions with Partners
29	Support of MQM
30	PC-1 for Polio Eradication Initiative
30	Introduction of Direct Disbursement Mechanism
30	Oral Polio Vaccine Management
31	Review Meetings Conducted by Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell
34	Major Breakthroughs
35	National Public Health Conference
35	COMNet
36	High Risk Groups
36	Upcoming Polio Activities
37	Inaugurations of Polio Campaigns
38	Montage from Provinces

# Current Polio Epidemiology in Pakistan

As of the 10th December, a total of fifty six wild poliovirus (WPV) cases (53 type-1, 2 type-3 and 1 mixed type-1 & type-3) have been reported from twenty eight districts/tribal agencies in 2012. Moreover WPV-1 has also been isolated from 76 out of 182 environmental samples (of the available results) collected from large urban populations in four major provinces indicating the continued widespread circulation of wild poliovirus.

Eleven polio cases in 2012 had date of onset of paralysis in January, three in February, one each in March & April, six in May, two in June, five in July, nine in August, eight each in September & October, and two in November.

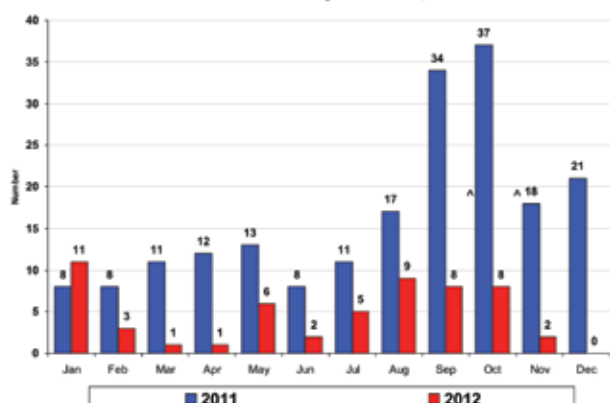
The genetic data of the polio cases in 2012 so far indicates that one genetic cluster of WPV-1 (R4) is present in all the 4 major provinces and most dominant both in AFP and environmental samples. Maximum biodiversity of the WPV-1 is in FATA and KP. The last WPV-3 polio case in the country was from Khyber agency with date of onset of paralysis on 18th April; while last environmental sample with WPV-3 was collected on 12th October 2010 from Gadap Town Karachi.

## Key characteristics of polio cases in 2012 so far:

- 39 (69%) polio cases are younger than two years. Median age of confirmed polio cases is 18 months.
- Based on recall of parents: a) median number of OPV doses received by the polio cases is 3 in the areas with no access issues and zero (0) for areas with major access issues in FATA; b) 18 (32%) did not receive any OPV dose (through routine vaccination and / or campaigns); c) 8 (14%) cases received 1-3 OPV doses; d) 8 (14%) cases received 4-6 OPV doses; e) 22 (39%) received seven or more OPV doses; and f) 43 (77%) did not receive any routine OPV dose. 9 cases missed OPV doses due to refusal of the family.

There are three polio reservoirs with most firmly established poliovirus circulation: Gaddap in Karachi (particularly Union Council 4); Khyber Agency in FATA; and Pishin, in Balochistan. In addition KP is facing an active outbreak (among the total 34 polio cases reported from the country during the last 6 months, 88% have been reported

Confirmed Polio Cases By Month, 2011-2012\*

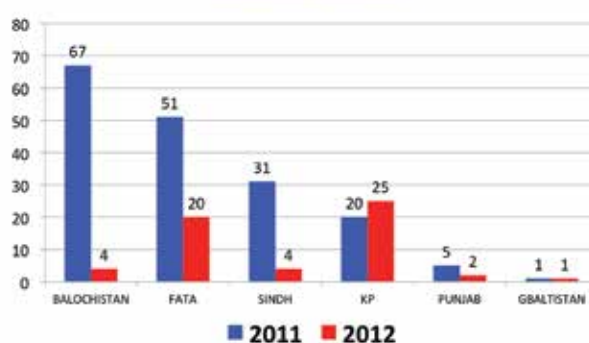


\* Data source AFP 05/12/2012

\* Culture Pending cases 6 October & 113 November

Comparison of polio cases by province/region 2011 & 2012\*

(Up to week 48 ending 01\* December, 2012)

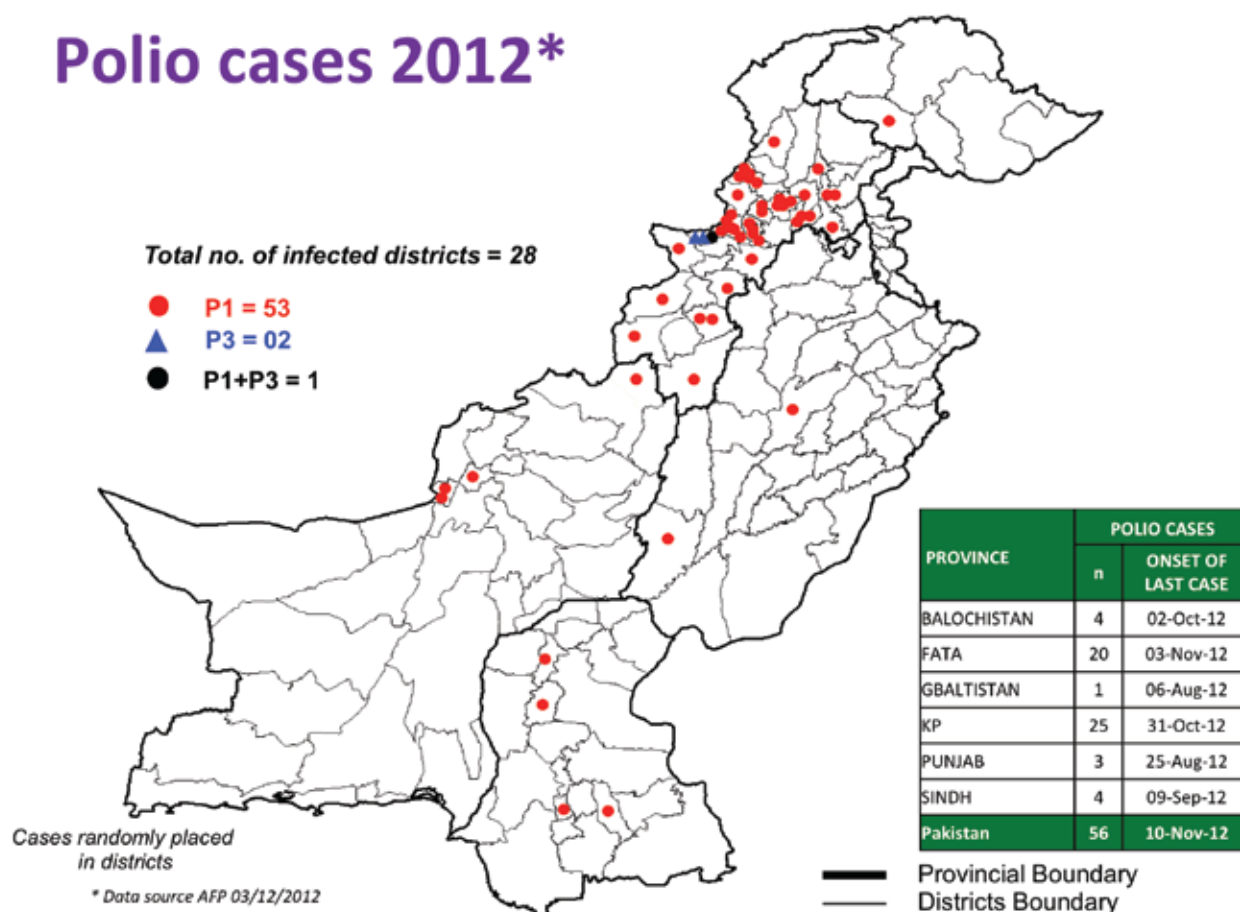


\* Data source AFP 06/12/2012

from KP and FATA). Most of these cases are as a result of new “introductions”  
Despite some progress the situation remains fragile due to security situation in Gaddap town, performance issues in Pishin district and ban on vaccination in North and South Waziristan Agencies of FATA. Also there is an outbreak of Sabin-like Polio Virus in Kila Abdullah district of Balochistan.

Considering the first 6 months of 2013 as critical for polio eradication, the reservoir specific plans have been developed to formulate challenge specific interventions for interrupting WPV circulation. The National Emergency Action Plan is also being revised to cater the needs during 2013.

## Polio cases 2012\*



## Polio Eradication - A Global Update

### Wild Poliovirus (WPV) Cases

Total cases	Year-to-date 2012	Year-to-date 2011	Total in 2011*
Globally	205	560	650
- in endemic countries	200	272	341
- in non-endemic countries	5	288	309

## Fourth National Task Force Meeting on Polio Eradication Initiative



Fourth meeting of the National Task Force on Polio Eradication was held on 7th August, 2012 under the chairmanship of the Honorable Prime Minister and attended by the members of the National Task Force while Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, Polio Ambassador and Dr. Ala Alwan, Regional Director, World Health Organization attended the meeting on special invitation.

### **The following decisions were made by the National Task Force.**

- i. Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to ensure that polio campaign is conducted unhindered in FATA. This includes gaining access in Bara and Tirah and reversal of ban in North & South Waziristan. Religious leaders to be involved in this regard.
- ii. Chief Secretaries may direct all district administrations to ensure District Khateeb are

formally involved in polio campaigns and efforts to be made to translate high level commitment to strict accountability at the sub-districts level for performance in SIAs.

iii. Interior Ministry to ensure security arrangements for polio teams in problematic areas of the country especially in Gadap Karachi for restoring the confidence of polio vaccination staff.

iv. The provincial and FATA administration may identify pockets of under-immunized and take all steps to immediately build immunity through high quality SIAs and innovative approaches like SIADS and strengthening transit points.

v. Communications strategy must be revised to assist the operations of SIAs and enhance community acceptance/demand.



## Polio Summit in New York

Polio summit was held on the sidelines of the sixty-seventh (67th) United Nations General Assembly at New York on September 27, 2012. The meeting was presided by UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki Moon and attended by the Presidents of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Mr. Bill Gates and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. Pakistan's Polio Ambassador Aseefa Bhutto Zardari also graced the occasion. Both President of Pakistan and Aseefa Bhutto Zardari affirmed the strongest commitment to rooting out polio from Pakistan. They resolved to spare no effort in making Pakistan and the world free of the scourge of Polio. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister and Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali was also present on the occasion.



## Leadership of President of Pakistan to Polio Eradication Initiative



DR. AZRA FAZAL PECHUHO, CHAIRPERSON PRESIDENT'S POLIO OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, ADDRESSING THE GATHERING DURING LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF NATIONWIDE POLIO CAMPAIGN AT AIWAN-E-SADR ON 15 OCTOBER 2012.

### i. Briefing on Polio Situation in Sindh to the President of Pakistan

The President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari presided a specially convened meeting in Karachi on 30th October 2012 to review the current situation of Polio eradication in Sindh province. Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, Federal Minister for Inter-provincial coordination, Mr. M. Salman Faruqi, Secretary General to the President, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, provincial ministers, Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of Sindh and representatives of international partners (WHO, UNICEF, Rotary) attended the meeting. Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali briefed the President over the current situation in Sindh and the performance during the SIAs; especially in view of the implementation of the Augmented National Emergency Action Plan (A-NEAP). She emphasized that despite only 4 polio cases in the province this year; there has been persistent isolation of WPV in the environmental samples collected from Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Gaddap and Baldia town Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur; indicating the risk of having a polio case any time. She emphasized the need for providing security to the vaccination teams in Karachi (especially Gaddap town), tightening the accountability for performance in interior Sindh especially

the riverine (Kacaha) areas and better vaccine management. She also highlighted the importance of utilizing the upcoming low viral transmission season by conducting highest quality SIAs.

The President while reiterating the Government's commitment advised the concerned authorities to follow innovative strategies in reaching out to those high risk populations and places that were still serving as reservoir of the virus and have so far remained under-served due to various reasons. He said there was no reason why polio virus transmission cannot be interrupted in the province if effective implementation of innovative approaches with optimum utilization of resources and proper vigilance is ensured. He directed the provincial government, Commissioners and DCs to especially focus on addressing epidemiological challenges that included the presence of wild polio virus in the sewerage water and the immunity gap and performance failures in some areas.

He also thanked the international community for assisting Pakistan in polio eradication and reiterated Government's commitment to provide security to the vaccination teams and staff of the partner organizations that are helping the people and the Government in eliminating polio virus from the country.







## ii. Briefing on Polio Situation in FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

The President of Pakistan convened a special meeting at Aiwan-e-Sadr Islamabad on 10th August 2012 to review the current situation of polio eradication in FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Governor KP, Health Minister KP, Federal Minister SAFRON, CS KP, ACS FATA and other concerned officials from KP and FATA attended meeting. The President directed all the state functionaries to support polio eradication staff in reaching the inaccessible areas of FATA.

The President was briefed in detail on the challenges to polio eradication in FATA and KP. The most intense transmission of poliovirus has continued in FATA during the last three years. Poliovirus from FATA has spread to other parts of Pakistan resulting in polio outbreaks. Bara Tehsil of Khyber Agency has been the main source of poliovirus. Children in parts of Bara Tehsil have not been vaccinated with polio vaccine since 2009 because of inaccessibility related to military operations. Secondly, ban has been imposed on polio vaccination in North and South Waziristan. This ban has put more than 200,000 children in these agencies at immediate and increasing risk of polio – polio outbreaks in North and South Waziristan can spread to other parts of the country.

Poliovirus transmission in Pakistan cannot be stopped in 2013, unless vaccination teams are provided access to children in Bara, Khyber Agency, and in North and South Waziristan.

### Requests for Consideration by the Honorable President made by the team;

1. Reconstitute the Civil-Military Coordination Committee (CMCC) to be more effective.
  - a. The role of Army is crucial in enabling access to children for vaccination in Bara Tehsil.
  - b. The current level of civil-military cooperation in FATA is inadequate.
  - c. The Army may be asked to give polio

eradication a higher level of priority and attention than the current level.

2. Oversee and facilitate the political process, which leads to withdrawal of the ban on polio vaccination by in North and South Waziristan.
  - a. The FATA administration is pursuing negotiations with elements opposing the polio campaign through intermediaries and has initiated the political and local Jirga processes to help reverse the ban.
  - b. Strong support and assistance of local administration and armed forces will be essential if the political process does not succeed by the end of August, 2012.
3. Establish and oversee a coalition of key political and religious leaders who have following and influence in FATA. Maulana Samiul Haq can provide much stronger support than the symbolic inaugurations of polio campaigns. The President directed the Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to approach and involve Maulana Sami-ul-Haq in resolving key issues in FATA.
4. President was requested to personally review bimonthly the progress of the polio eradication program in FATA.
5. President desired to call PYO workers who facilitated access to Polio team in FATA, to the Presidency and express gratitude to them

## iii. Call on the President of Pakistan by Regional Director Mr. Ala Alwan

Call on the President of Pakistan by Dr. Ala Alwan, RD WHO EMRO was held on 7th August 2012 at President House. Minister IPC, SAPM and key officials attended and discussed the current challenges and issues and possible future collaboration in Polio Eradication Initiative.



## Independent Monitoring Board Meeting, London, UK, October 29-30, 2012

Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chairperson, President's Oversight Committee on Polio and Dr. Altaf Hussain Bosan represented Pakistan at the international forum of Independent Monitoring Board to present the progress of Polio Eradication Initiative in Pakistan.

Following is the gist of observations of the International Monitoring Board;

History may look back upon 2012 as the beginning of the end for the polio virus:

- The number of endemic countries has finally been reduced, to three.
- The number of cases so far is 175.

It is very likely that there will be fewer than 325 cases of polio this year. This is half the number of 2011, and less than 0.1% of the 350,000 cases of 1988. This might no longer be the 'last 1%' of polio, but the last 0.1%.

So far this year, polio has been concentrated in just 94 districts of the four affected countries. These represent just 0.2% of the world's land surface area. In 1988, there were 39 genetic families of wild polio virus, of three different types. In 2012, the vast majority of these are extinct. There are now just four families, of two different types.

As 2012 draws to a close, there is a great deal for the Program to be optimistic about. This could indeed be polio's last stand.

Cries of 'nearly there' have been heard before, though. History cruelly shows that hard-won progress is easily lost.

In 2001, the number of polio cases reached an all-time low. In the years that followed, progress went awry and the virus spread once more.

As 2013 begins, the Program has a golden opportunity but it would be a terrible mistake to imagine that victory is yet assured. For victory to be realized, the still variable performance of the Program at the district level and below must hit excellent performance not just sometimes but every time, everywhere.

### **The following recommendations were made by the IMB;**

- WHO Member States should require that any child or adult travelling out of Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan be certified as vaccinated against polio, to reduce the substantial risk of the virus spreading to polio-free countries.
- It was recommended that the International Health Regulations Expert Review Committee urgently issue a standing recommendation by May 2013 that will introduce pre-travel vaccination or vaccination checks in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan until national transmission is stopped. No country should allow a citizen from any endemic polio state to cross their border without a valid vaccination certificate.
- It was recommended that within the next fortnight, program leaders in Afghanistan, Nigeria, Pakistan and Chad discuss their country's plan and best practice elsewhere to write, with their partners, a list of no more than five priority goals that they will achieve by the end of April 2013, circulate these goals to all program staff, and maintain the focus and pace necessary to achieve them.
- It was recommended that an analysis be urgently commissioned to examine the relationship between the frequency and quality of vaccination campaigns, to guide programmatic decisions about the optimum interval between campaigns.
- It was recommended that every endemic country district-level task force (or equivalent) should be constituted to include a parent, representing parents of the district.
- It was recommended that every endemic



- country district-level task force (or equivalent) should be constituted to include a parent, representing parents of the district.
- It was recommended that every opportunity be taken to 'pair' other health and neighbourhood benefits with the polio vaccine.
- The IMB requests a report on vaccine supply at each of its future meetings.
- It was recommended that the Programme accelerate planning to set out how the learning from polio eradication can be captured rigorously and comprehensively as part of the strategic legacy plan - overseen and funded with minimal distraction to current work.
- It was recommended that an intensive 'Polio Watch' be established in the countries at highest risk of a polio outbreak. We further recommend that the responsible WHO Regional Offices should issue within the next month an action plan for strengthening vaccination coverage and surveillance in these areas.
- Each country program, together with its partners, must construct a short and clear list of its priority goals over the next six months. Other actions must continue as well, but these priorities need focus.
- It was recommended that there should be coordination between Pakistani and Afghan vaccination teams on either side of the border so that no child goes missing in between.
- It was recommended to double the pay of frontline workers in hard areas of Pakistan in January
- It was recommended to bring all Partners to the table to tackle difficult issues regarding Polio Eradication Programme in Balochistan, Pakistan.

## Polio Reservoir Consultation Meeting Bhurban, Murree, November 12-14, 2012

Polio Reservoir Consultation Meeting was held from November 12 to November 14, 2012 in Bhurban Murree. The Consultation was designed to address continuing obstacles to eradication and to further refine and target eradication plans to the reservoirs: areas with persistent and on-going transmission populated by the highest-risk groups.

The Consultation brought together Government functionaries, international partners, medical and media professionals and frontline workers from the priority reservoir and outbreak areas. The reservoir areas included FATA, Karachi and particularly Union Council 4 Gaddap, the Quetta Block (Killa Abdullah, Pishin and Quetta), and critically important in 2013, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which is facing a major outbreak and of all provinces has recorded the most cases this year.

Joint operational plans and communication strategies were drawn up and are being reviewed by provincial teams. After approval and endorsement by National Task Force on Polio Eradication, these plans will be incorporated in National Emergency Action Plan 2013.



## Engagement with Parliamentarians

### i. Visit of Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali to Polio Affected Child



Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali SAPM visited HR UC 11 Liaquat abad Town Karachi accompanied with DC Central Dr. Saif-u-Rehman, Dr. Ahmed Ali Sailkh CM Polio cell, Dr Tarique Masood Area Coordinator WHO, Dr Shoukat Ali Health Officer UNICEF, Ahsan-ul-Haque Mahar Provincial Communication officer CM Polio cell and Dr. Aziz baloch THO Liaquat abad town. She met with the parents of suspected Polio affected child Salman, the family of child was refusal on religious ground and child had not received Polio drops. She expressed her views that Polio is crippling disease and there is no treatment of this disease only prevention that is Two drops of Polio vaccine, during meeting she briefed the family regarding the importance of Polio vaccine on medical and Islamic point of view parents convinced and allowed team to administered Polio drops the family also promised to support Polio team in covering refusal. The parents' message was recorded in favour of Polio drops. In last she appreciated the efforts of DC central and the Town Health team.

### ii. Monitoring Field Visits

Parliamentarians from cross party line use to visit their constituencies and areas during Polio campaigns to monitor the conduct of campaigns. Senator Osman Saifullah Khan from Pakistan People's Party and Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch from Pakistan Muslim League-N paid a joint visit to Rural Health



Centre Barakahu Islamabad to review polio round during September SNIDs.

Senator Rubina Khalid regularly visits refusing families and parents of polio inflicted children to convince the families and express solidarity with the families.



### iii. Briefing for the FATA Parliamentarians on Polio

An exclusive briefing for Parliamentarians of FATA was held on September 6, 2012 on the current critical situation of polio in FATA. Committing their support, Parliamentarians agreed that recent issues and failure in polio campaign in FATA cannot be seen in isolation. Polio crisis upsurges as an



aftermath of insurgency, militancy and adverse law and order situation.

Parliamentarians who participated the meeting including Eng. Shaukat ullah, Federal Minister, SAFRON, Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, MNA, Mr. Noor ul Haq Qadri, MNA, Mr. Sajid Hussain Turi, MNA, Mr. Jawad Hussain, MNA, Mr. Kamran Khan, MNA, Mr. Hilal ur Rehman, MNA and Senator Hidayat ullah. While ex Parliamentarians including Senator Hafiz Rasheed Ahmed also participated. Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali while speaking at the meeting optimistically said that despite all challenges polio teams successfully made their way to Tira valley of Khyber agency that was inaccessible since 2009.

Renowned analyst and senior journalist Mr. Saleem Safi also emphasized on the need for security measures to successful implementation of social causes like polio campaigns.

Representative of UNICEF presented an overview of communication strategy being implemented in FATA while WHO gave the operational detail. Director Health Services Dr. Fawad Khan spoke on the role of FATA Secretariat. Discussing the repercussions of polio disease participants noted with great concern that if we could not eliminate polio virus then a time may come when Pakistanis will have to face the difficulties in offering Umrah and Hajj as travel restrictions are at the corner if Pakistan fails to stop the polio virus transmission at this crucial time.

#### **iv. Meeting of Polio Affected Children with the Parliamentarians**

A group of children paralyzed by polio hailing from Peshawar and FATA along with their parents met the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister and chair President's Polio Committee, Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho in Prime Minister's Secretariat. Senator Robina Khalid from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was also present on the occasion. They apprised them of their problems and challenges being faced by the children, parents shared details of their disability and described efforts being made by the family for their rehabilitation.

Speaking on the occasion, Shahnaz Wazir Ali said that in partnership with the World Health Organization and the Gates Foundation, a major project was currently working to both physically and socially rehabilitates these children under the project, each polio affected child is being provided surgical treatment, necessary aid and support to continue studying in mainstream schools.

She said that of the 31 children affected by polio so far, 26 have so far been rehabilitated. Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho said where the project is making a praise



worthy effort to reach out every affected child, we must as a nation make every effort to save our children from lifelong disability being suffered by polio afflicted children. On this occasion, the parents of polio affected children pledged to inform other parents in their community and areas to protect their children through polio vaccination. She said the best available facilities are being provided to these children and both the world health organization and Gates Foundation are providing all out support in this regard. She said every child who falls prey to polio is tracked and provided necessary rehabilitation facilities.

#### **v. Meeting of MPAs of Sindh Assembly with Pakistan's Polio Ambassador Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari**

A group of female MPAs under the chairpersonship of Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Provincial Assembly of Sindh called on to Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari briefing her the progress of augmented NEAP in their areas. Members pledged to make Sindh a Polio Free Province and undertake all possible steps to make it possible.

#### **vi. Visit of Parliamentarians to Federal Polio Control Room**

Parliamentarians visited Federal Polio Control Room during Nationwide Polio round in October. Representatives from the Federal Control Room briefed them on the functioning of the control room and





procedure how they get the real time data from fields.

Parliamentarians who visited the control room included Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Senator Mohsin Leghari, Senator Rubina Khalid and Mr. Noor Alam Khan.

### **vii. Follow up meeting of Members of Provincial Assembly of Sindh**

A meeting was held on November 07, 2012 at Sindh Assembly Karachi chaired by Ms. Syeda Shahla Raza Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly. Key MPAs and Partners, WHO, UNICEF and Rotary attended the meeting, in a bid to enlighten them on the current polio status and the challenges faced by Sindh. Dr. Ahmed Ali Shaikh CM Polio Cell presented and focused on the high risk districts and statistics of



polio cases in Sindh, the vulnerable areas and the obstacles we are faced with in recent times. Dr. Shoukat UNICEF spoke on advocacy and creating public awareness in the community. Ms. Shehla Raza briefed about the formats developed for MPAs for implementation at field level. She said all the MPAs have to constitute a POLIO Committee in their constituencies, the first meeting will be conducted by MPAs with religious leaders, Doctors, Schools and notables and other meeting will be conducted by committee and we will also be in field for support. She thanked the participants and for their time and dedication. All MPAs assured to support in this battle against polio and pledged their involvement with POLIO teams in their constituencies, when and as needed.

### **Following action points were discussed.**

- CM's Polio Cell will inform all the MPAs for Campaign Dates.
- All MPAs will fill the formats at field level and submit to the office of Deputy Speaker.
- All MPAs will constitute the Polio Committee in their Constituencies.
- All MPAs will Monitor the campaign
- All MPAs will increase coordination with stakeholders at district level.
- An orientation session on POLIO will be organized at Division level.

## Core Committee of the Young Parliamentarians Forum on Polio Eradication Initiative

Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan announced a core committee of Young Parliamentarians Forum on Polio Eradication Initiative, under his Chairmanship in October ahead of Nationwide Polio Round.

Looking at the critical situation of Polio in the country, members of Young Parliamentarians Forum took an initiative to monitor polio campaigns in the country, to mobilize constituents, community elders and notables of the area to raise awareness of the polio programme and to address the issues of polio teams and monitor the process of accountability and transparency in whole process of polio eradication initiative.

Members of the Core Committee of the YPF will act as provincial coordinators of YPF and advocate legislators, community leaders, masses on the importance of polio awareness. To raise the awareness of polio campaigns and above than 95% cover-

age in polio rounds, members will work to ensure inclusion of locals and females in polio teams. They will nominate their representatives to monitor the conduct of the campaign and address the issues. Members will visit refusal families and convince them for polio drops and dispel the negative perception about polio vaccine and polio campaigns. In doing so they will inform them that the entire Muslim Ummah including Saudi Arabia has successfully run polio campaigns and wiped out the disease.

Constitution of the Core Group is based on cross party ownership and representatives of all provinces and FATA are part of the core committee. From Punjab, Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch, Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan, Ms. Sumera Yasir and Mir Dost Muhammad Mazari and Ms. Natasha Daultana became members of the core committee. From Sindh, Dr. Shazia Marri,





Dr. Nafisa Shah, Dr. Ghulam Hyder Samejo and Mr. Sufyan Yusuf are members while Dr. Zille Huma and Ms. Asiya Nasir joined the group from Balochistan. Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi and Mr. Kamran Khan

represent FATA. From Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mr. Noor Alam Khan, Malak Azmat Khan and Khurshid Begum constituted the group.

#### Resolution passed by National Assembly on Polio Eradication Initiative

##### Resolutions RESOLUTION ON POLIO ERADICATION CAMPAIGN

**The House recommends that the Federal Government should approach all the Provincial Governments including ICT, Gilgit Baltistan and FATA Administration to ensure effective monitoring and unbiased accountability of the Polio Eradication Campaign through a comprehensive mechanism so as to fully control the menace of Polio disease from the country.**

Sd/

**Noor Alam Khan**  
Member, National Assembly  
Resolution Date: October 11, 2012

## Polio Photo Exhibition

A Photo Exhibition was organized by UNICEF and PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell in collaboration with Rotary on September 11, 2012 in Karachi. Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari was the Chief

Guest at the Exhibition which was also participated by partner agencies, top hierarchy of the provincial government, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali and Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho.



## World Polio Day - October 24, 2012



World Polio Day was observed throughout Pakistan on October 24, 2012, to express the resolve of the Government and everyday Pakistanis to continue efforts to achieve the status of a Polio-free country and to protect young children from this crippling illness.

### i. Launch of Polio True Stories at National Level

The "Spirit of Survival" the first of a series of documentaries on the rehabilitation of Polio affected children was launched at a special ceremony for the media with Federal Information Minister, Qamar Zaman Kaira, as the chief guest.

The event was attended by Special Assistant to the Prime Minister and PM Focal Person on Polio Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, National Coordinator PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell Dr. Altaf Bosan and Chief of Polio UNICEF Dennis King and a large number of journalists. The first documentary launched at the event is based on the story of Polio survivor Hamza and his father Akbar Khan.

Hamza became paralyzed by the Polio virus as the vaccination teams could not reach his home in the Swat valley. The five-minute documentary shows the marked change in the life of Hamza as a result of the WHO-led rehabilitation program.

The Producer announced that five such short documentaries would be produced with WHO support on the rehabilitation of the Polio affected children.

### ii. World Polio Day Concert in Punjab

The event was organized in Lahore to acknowledge



the efforts of frontline Polio workers, government and partners in the Polio eradication initiative in Pakistan. Popular singer Hadiqa Kiyani and Noori enthralled the audiences with their songs and a crowd of more than 1,500 danced to celebrate World Polio Day. Ms. Kiyani, a UNDP Goodwill Ambassador, and Noori are extremely popular among Pakistani youth and throughout the performance they voiced support for Polio eradication and thanked the frontline workers for their efforts.

The show officially opened with a song from a UNICEF Union Council Communication Officer (UCO) from Lahore Abdul Rehman and throughout the event the arena roared with chants of "Do qatray har bacha har bar" (Two drops every child every time). Lahore District Coordination Officer Noorul Amin Mengal was the chief guest on the occasion and it was widely covered in city and national TV, newspapers and magazines.



### iii. World Polio Day in Balochistan

A 30-minute Youth Show was organized in the Pashto language on PTV Bolan which was attended by Dr. Aurangzaib Kamal (Immunization Officer, UNICEF Quetta) and Dr. Aftab Kakar (President, Pakistan Medical Association Quetta) as guests. Around 30 to 35 UCOs and Social Mobilizers were also among the audience.

The experts spoke on the situation of Polio in Pakistan, with special reference to Balochistan, the misconceptions associated with Polio vaccine and efficacy and benefits of repeated rounds of The experts spoke on the situation of Polio in Pakistan, with special reference to Balochistan, the misconceptions associated with Polio vaccine and efficacy and benefits of repeated rounds of polio campaign and additional doses.

A 20-minute Children's program was aired on Radio Pakistan in Urdu to raise public awareness on Polio and with special reference to World Polio Day. The guest speakers included a social mobilizer and a school teacher who responded to various questions on Polio, the reasons for repeated campaigns and efficacy of the vaccine. The program was attended by 20 children who also participated in the question and answer session.

A 20-minute discussion program with medical experts in was aired by Radio Pakistan in the Pashto language. Dr. Aurangzaib Kamal (Immunization Officer, UNICEF Quetta) participated in the program and spoke about the Polio situation in Balochistan.

Chaman Polio Walk - was held in Chaman (District Killa-Abdullah) with more than 60 students and teachers from three schools, community members and influencers.

It concluded with a polio awareness session for the students of a private school. Killa-Abdullah is considered one of the highest risk areas in the world,

Polio awareness session for women was organized by the COMNet team in Chaman. Nearly 15-20,000 children cross the border to and from Pakistan every month.

The session focused on the role of mothers in a child's health and polio eradication. Twenty-five women participated in the session. launched at the event is based on the story of Polio survivor Hamza and his father Akbar Khan.

Hamza became paralyzed by the Polio virus as the vaccination teams could not reach his home in the



### iv. World Polio Day in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

An Orientation Workshop for Journalists was organized by the provincial health department, UNICEF and Peshawar Press Club. The event was well attended by journalists from KPK and FATA. Senator Rubina Khalid was the chief guest on the occasion while Senior Minister of the KPK Assembly Rahimdad Khan and several senior government officials were also in attendance. The speakers urged the media to play a responsible role in communicating correct information regarding Polio and to help strengthen Government efforts to root out the crippling disease.

The Chief Guest urged the journalists to pledge that they would play a constructive role in polio eradication. Deputy Director EPI Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dr Janbaz Afridi announced the launch of a website





([www.epikp.gov.pk](http://www.epikp.gov.pk)) that would provide updated information on polio besides addressing the queries of the journalists.

The President of the Khyber Union of Journalists assured complete support to the polio eradication initiative on behalf of the journalist community. The President Peshawar Press Club asked his media colleagues to own the program and give maximum coverage to polio that was declared an emergency by the Government.

#### v. World Polio Day in FATA

**World Polio Day Seminar for the FATA students at the University of Peshawar (Convocation Hall)** – highlighted the important role of academia and students in Polio eradication and to motivate students from FATA to support the PEI program in their respective areas.



The event was organized by the FATA Secretariat and the FATA Youth Forum in collaboration with UNICEF. Honourable Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Barrister Masood Kausar was the Chief Guest. He stressed the need to make efforts to eradicate Polio adding that Islam also teaches us to save lives.



The proceedings included a video of a polio true story, a poem by a polio affected poet from Khyber Agency, speeches on polio eradication from an Islamic perspective and the role of students in PEI. The event, which was also attended by Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar, Additional Chief Secretary FATA, senior government and international organization representatives and around 800 students, concluded with a performance on Rubab (a traditional Pashtu musical instrument) by a Polio affected student.

**Khyber Agency - Awareness Walk** at Tehsil Jamrud Khyber Agency was organized by ComNet staff with the support of the Political Administration. Aside from the Assistant Political Agent, Political Tehsildar, the Agency Health Management Team and a large number of community elders, polio-affected children also participated in the event.



**Lower & Central Kurrum Agency - Walk and Cricket Match** at Lower & Central Kurrum, organized by COMNet staff at Sadda Bazar Colony Road, Kurrum Agency, was attended by more than 200 people, including students, teachers, community elders, government officials and religious leaders.



A friendly cricket match at Government High School Sadda was held to mark World Polio Day.

**Upper Kurram Agency** - Walk and Awareness Session at Parachinar Pubic School was attended by the Additional Political Agent, community elders and more than 200 students.

while Senior Minister of the KPK Assembly Rahimdad Khan and several senior government officials were also in attendance. The speakers urged the media to play a responsible role in communicating correct information regarding Polio and to help strengthen Government efforts to root out the crippling disease.

The Chief Guest urged the journalists to pledge that they would play a constructive role in polio eradication. Deputy Director EPI Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dr Janbaz Afridi announced the launch of a website ([www.epikp.gov.pk](http://www.epikp.gov.pk)) that would provide updated information on polio besides addressing the queries of the journalists.

The President of the Khyber Union of Journalists assured complete support to the polio eradication initiative on behalf of the journalist community. The President Peshawar Press Club asked his media colleagues to own the program and give maximum coverage to polio that was declared an emergency by the Government.

## South Waziristan Agency

COMNet staff organized a seminar / awareness session for students on Polio eradication at the Zam Public School in the Political Agent's Compound and was attended by the Agency Surgeon, local health officials, COMNet staff, school staff and a large number of students.

**Orakzai Agency** - Walk held at Agency Headquarters Orakzai to mark World Polio Day, led by Honourable Political Agent of Orakzai, and attended by various government department staff, political administration, tribal leaders, members' of non-profit organizations, COMNet staff and religious leaders.

**Other events** included an Anti-Polio Walk in Mohmand Agency which was attended by school students, teachers and community elders in Sultankhel area.

**Polio awareness activities** held at Government Middle School Muhamber, Sultankhel, and at various schools at Frontier Region Peshawar and Frontier Region Bannu.



## vi. World Polio Day in Sindh

Several activities were held across the province of Sindh to mark the World Polio Day. COMNet staff organized awareness events at schools and colleges in collaboration with the provincial education department. The education department had also issued a directive to all the districts across Sindh to organize activities in connection to World Polio Day.

In Baldia Town a motorcycle rally was organized as part of the World Polio Day celebrations while the "End Polio Now" photo exhibition continues in Hyderabad in collaboration with Rotary International.



## Engagement with Religious Leaders

### i. Meeting with Vice President of International Islamic University Islamabad



Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali along with Dr. Hussein al. Gezairy, Special Advisor to the Director General WHO called on to the Vice President of International Islamic University to discuss the more proactive and positive role of religious leaders in Polio Eradication Initiative.

### ii. Meeting with Imams of Mosques

A meeting of Imams of various mosques of Islamabad and Vice President of Islamic International University with Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali and Advisor to DG WHO was held in Jama-e- Banoria on September 17, 2012. Participants discussed the inclusion of polio and child health in teachings to Imams.

### iii. Collaboration with International Islamic University Islamabad

The meeting with Dawah Academy Director General Office was held as a follow up meeting after the visit of Special Advisor to the Director General WHO Dr. Hussein A. Gezairy to Pakistan from 15-19 September to support the Polio Eradication Initiative.

## Following key decisions were made in the meeting

- There was a consensus among the participants to work mutually on all the possible ways to create awareness among the Aimah/Imams and the community by using all the possible sources of Dawah Academy.
- Both parties (Dawah Academy & PM Cell +UNICEF +WHO) will work on their conceptual/proposals; how to use training programmes (at which level, central, divisional....) number of lectures/sessions, duration and who will conduct, where and when. How to use F.M radio and publication department for this purpose.
- The medium of instruction during presentation will be Urdu (UNICEF & WHO) will develop material/presentation. Printing material will be in Urdu and at F.M radio apart from Urdu other local

languages (Pushto/Punjabi) can be used as and when required.

- All the logistic support will be provided for the organizing of these sessions (UNICEF will prepare a proposal for this), duration of this project will be one year at the start (extendable if required).



## Engagement with Media

### i. Roundtable Discussion with Media

A roundtable discussion was organized on Polio with media representatives jointly by Jinnah Institute and Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell on 9th August 2012. Media representatives and polio stakeholders participated in the Roundtable discussion.

Media persons noted with great concern that over 200,000 children in North and South Waziristan are at risk of contracting polio due to the ban announced by the militants operating in the region but no information has been made public about what is being done to rectify this situation. Government officials clarified that they are working with local leaders and scholars to find a solution.

Technical experts from local and international organizations stressed that the polio vaccine was safe and had no impact on fertility. Experts leading the fight against Polio in Pakistan dismissed concerns that vaccination teams were being used to collect DNA samples contrary to popular perceptions. They stressed the fact that the polio vaccination teams administer drops orally and there is no element of extracting any DNA material in the vaccination process. Representatives from the Prime Minister's Polio Cell clarified that the process of procuring the vaccine and administering it were



fully transparent. Funds for acquiring the vaccine are transferred directly by international organizations to UNICEF which directly buys vaccine stock from WHO certified and approved vendors.

### ii. Interaction with International Media

An interaction with international media correspondents was organized jointly by Jinnah Institute and PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell. Representatives of foreign media were briefed about the Polio Eradication Initiative in Pakistan.





## Mass Communication

The PEI mass media program managed by UNICEF is the most visible part of polio eradication efforts in Pakistan and has generated real momentum behind social mobilization and demand creation at community level across the country.

This critical program is essential since nearly 2 out of 3 people in High Risk Districts cite Mass Media channels as a source of information about Polio and the last Polio campaign. The campaigns run in tandem with immunization rounds and address communication challenges by routinely reaching over 120 million people all over Pakistan.

## Deployment Details

In the last quarter, 2 mass media campaigns were launched which saw over 35 top rated TV stations, 50 radio stations and 30 key regional newspapers being engaged to carry polio eradication messaging. A cumulative total of over 80,000 PSAs across all mediums were aired to improve disease and campaign dates awareness.

The campaign scope was national with a strong emphasis on High Risk Districts and blanket messaging in 'Virus Reservoirs' i.e. Karachi, Quetta Block and FATA. The Outdoor deployment primarily targeted High Risk UCs inside High Risk Districts and approximately 50% of the Outdoor resources were dedicated to the reservoirs owing to their critical position in virus movements.

There were 10,000 large format banners, over 300 billboards, 1 million campaign awareness cards, 10 location brandings, 30 inter-city bus brandings, 2000 streamers and 30,000 sq. ft. of wall paintings. All this deployment was guided by COMNet Staff and C4D Strategies, agreed upon by PEI partners, defined the prioritization.

## Reach

Over 125 million people were reached nationally with this campaign and 80% of them saw Polio messages at least 3 times or more. On the geographic front, the coverage and reach of the total campaign was 95% of total Pakistan owing to strategic use of regional, satellite and terrestrial media outlets.

## Impact

As per KAP Study from August 2012, 1 out of 2 people in High Risk Districts found out about the last Polio Campaign through mass media – a 30% spike since the last KAP in January.

Pakistan has a vibrant print and electronic media which is highly competitive when it comes to inves-

tigative reporting and being the first one to provide news reports to their subscribers. There also exists a huge dependence and reliance of the public on the media for news and updates and whatever media reports, it is taken on face value as true.

During the current quarter the media carried more than 2,613 stories on Polio. Of these nearly 242 reports were broadcast in the electronic media while 2,371 were reported in the print media. The English-language press published more stories on Polio as compared to the Urdu language press.

The media tone has by-far been positive in support polio eradication initiative and vaccination campaigns. A boom in media reports and focus on the polio program came with the launch of the mass media campaign with cricket star Shahid Afridi as polio advocate.

The cVDPV outbreak in Balochistan continues to present a challenge to the programme. The reports published so far have treated as "sabin-like" virus.

International media, including National Public Radio (NPR) and Washington Post also published reports on Polio.

## Next

- Factsheets on VDPV, COMNet, High-Risk Groups, Parliamentarians, Government's Initiative on Polio and an overall FAQ are in their final stages and will form the base for external relations work.
- The content review of the End-Polio website has been shared with WHO for feedback.
- Health Journalism Awards originally planned for end-November have been rescheduled for January on the recommended by the PM Cell.
- All Parties Conference is planned for December 19, 2012, to ensure that all major political parties in Pakistan publically commit to polio eradication.
- The media team is proposing that polio be put on the agenda of the upcoming South Asia Media Summit taking place in Islamabad on January 15 & 16, 2013. Lobbying efforts with the organizers are underway.
- A media mapping exercise is currently underway highlighting the most influential journalists and outlets in the key reservoir areas. This should be complete by first mid-December.
- Polio Orientation for Tribal Union of Journalists is expected to be held before the December SNIDs.
- The process of engaging editors of religious magazines initiated to address negative reporting initiated.



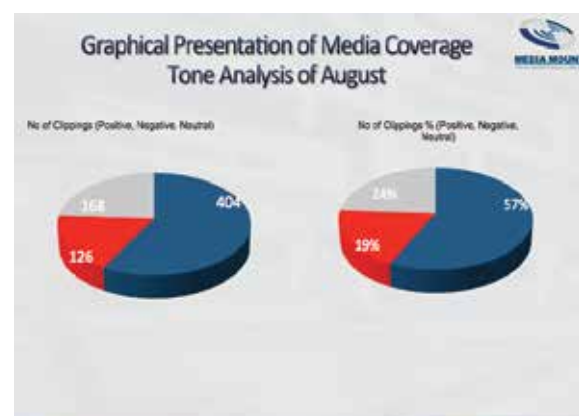
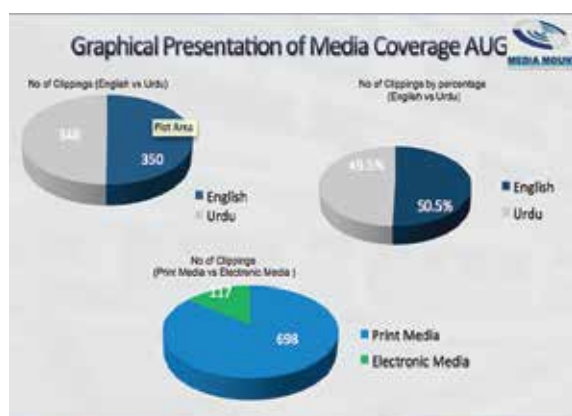
## Polio in Media

Media trends recorded from August till November has indicated that reporting of polio stories remained on the agenda of most media houses. The past four months have been extremely busy with news stories being reported on a daily basis from all across the country. It was observed that coverage on polio was a blend of both analytical and critical articles in the press.

The month of August started with the visit of Polio Ambassador to Pakistan Miss Aseefa Bhutto Zardari that seemed to captivate the media in a positive manner. Her engagements, activities and interviews during her visit were published in leading Newspapers and exclusive interviews were aired on prime time television channels. Her efforts to promote polio on an international by addressing an audience at the sidelines of UN General Assembly session at the Global Citizen Festival at Central Park in New York attracted the national and international media.

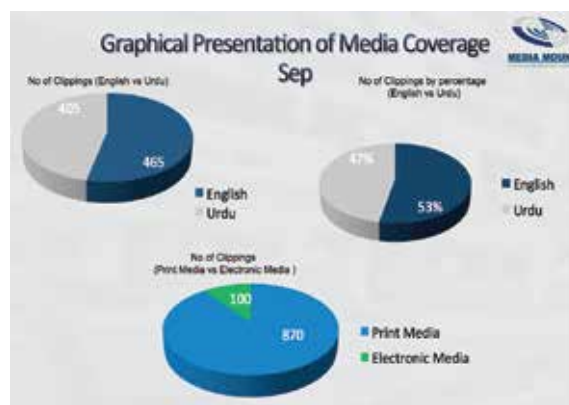
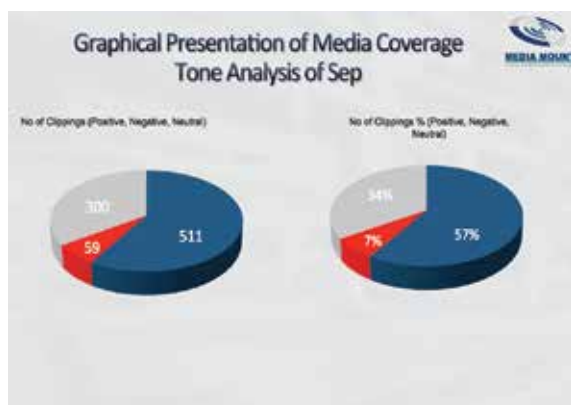
Besides developments that made headlines, other routine stories about campaign launches and activities on provincial level kept the press busy through-

out these months. Important developments such as launch of Akbar Khan's story of his polio affected child and its media launch gained much attention. It was recorded that a number of negative stories were reported on program failure, setback and operational failure that followed by lack of trust in the program. The media was also very prompt at reporting new polio cases and refusal family cases during this time span. However Positive news stories managed to gain momentum in these months. It was observed that more stories were reported in these months that were focused on government's initiative and the progress of the program as a whole. Other political statements such as President Zardari and Prime Minister's commitment towards polio eradication were also splashed all over the media whenever a statement was made. Troubled areas of KP, Baluchistan kept feeding the newspapers with updates throughout these months. However, the proactive approach of DCO's, EDOs, Teachers, administrative bodies and the special polio campaigns in the high risk areas were highly praised in the media.

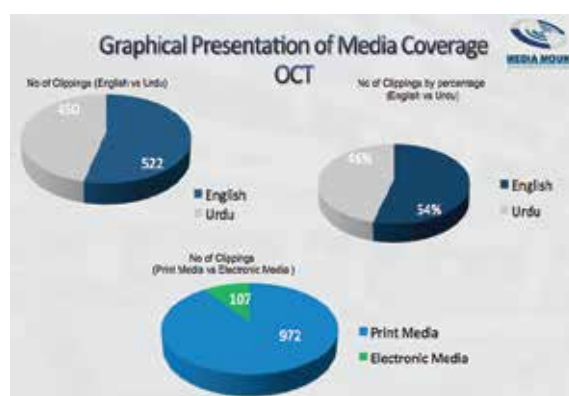
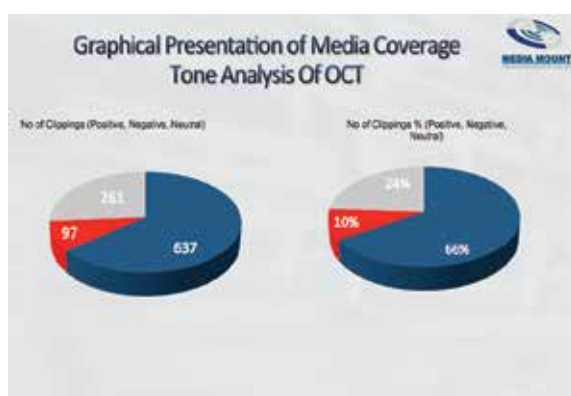


A Total of **698** print media and **117** Electronic Media clippings were recorded this month. Out of which **350** English newspaper clippings and **348** Urdu press clippings were collected.

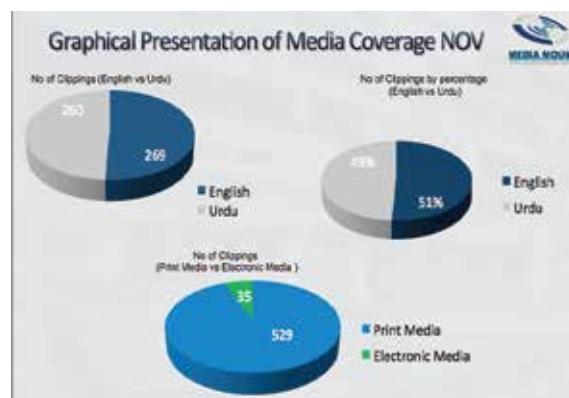
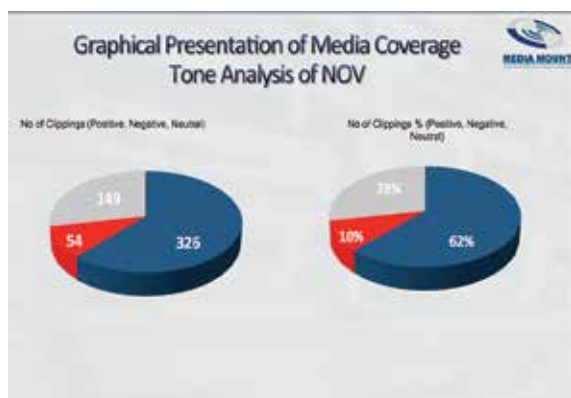
This month has been relatively better as most stories reported were positive manner. A total of **57%** stories were reported with a positive angle, **24%** were analytical and neutral whereas **19%** were reported in a negative way.



A Total of **870** print media and **100** Electronic Media clippings were recorded this month. Out of which **405** English newspaper clippings and **465** Urdu press clippings were collected. This month has been relatively better as most stories reported were positive manner. A total of **57%** stories were reported with a positive angle, **34%** were analytical and neutral whereas **07%** were reported in a negative way.



A Total of **972** print media and **107** Electronic Media clippings were recorded this month. Out of which **522** English newspaper clippings and **450** Urdu press clippings were collected. This month has been relatively better as most stories reported were positive manner. A total of **66%** stories were reported with a positive angle, **24%** were analytical and neutral whereas **10%** were reported in a negative way.



A Total of **529** print media and **34** Electronic Media clippings were recorded this month. Out of which **263** English newspaper clippings and **266** Urdu press clippings were collected. This month has been relatively better as most stories reported were positive manner. A total of **62%** stories were reported with a positive angle, **28%** were analytical and neutral whereas **10%** were reported in a negative way.



Daily Times  
Wednesday, August 8, 2012

## Taliban will not be allowed to disrupt polio campaign, says Aseefa

Staff Report

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan's Goodwill Ambassador for Eradication of Polio Aseefa Bhutto Zardari stated that Taliban would not be allowed to disrupt the anti-polio campaign. Aseefa said this on Tuesday, during a meeting of the National Polio Task Force held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf. She said, "We will not allow this to happen. We will have a polio-free Pakistan."

Aseefa said that her mother, Benazir Bhutto, had started the campaign to eradicate polio from Pakistan. She said that the campaign against the eradication of polio was not limited to any political party but was a common cause of the civil society and all the political parties in the country. Aseefa said that she would personally visit the reluctant families and try to convince them for vaccination.

Aseefa also held a meeting with Raja Pervez Ashraf in the Prime Minister's House. Raja said that eradication of polio from Pakistan was one of the missions of Benazir Bhutto, which she carried out with singular passion and worked throughout her life for achieving this objective. The present government, he said, would leave no stone unturned in realising her dream. The prime minister praised Aseefa for her personal commitment and efforts for achieving the dream of her mother for a polio-free Pakistan.

Aseefa informed the prime minister that she was in constant contact with all the stakeholders including the tribal leadership in FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Aseefa also thanked the prime minister for the cooperation and assistance being extended by the government in administering polio drops to the children. She specially appreciated the role of KP governor, who was persuading the tribal leadership to participate in the polio campaign. Aseefa said that awareness about polio was increasing which would help in the efforts to eradicate the disease. She also apprised the prime minister about the cooperation extended by religious scholars and clerics for creating a favourable environment for the polio campaign.

### WORLD POLIO DAY

## Why me? Polio survivor's question remains unanswered

Shahin Maqsood  
Islamabad

The News International, Evening News, 10, 2012

### LOW TRANSMISSION SEASON

## Plans unveiled to tackle polio in critical reservoirs



The News International, Evening News, 10, 2012

### WORLD POLIO DAY

## Why me? Polio survivor's question remains unanswered

Shahin Maqsood  
Islamabad

The News International, Evening News, 10, 2012

Within employees in the spirit of service, Pakistan entered World Polio Day after becoming the first country in the world to launch the day of a series of demonstrations, including ongoing efforts to the physical and emotional rehabilitation and social inclusion of polio survivors.

Minister of Information and Public Relations, Federal Government, Shahin Maqsood, who is the first person to be infected with the disease, said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

The day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

## President reiterates call for polio eradication

Our Correspondent

**ISLAMABAD:** President Asif Ali Zardari reiterated his call for the eradication of polio from the country, including religious leaders, media, non-governmental organisations and civil society, to eradicate polio from the country.

During a meeting at the President's residence, he reviewed the current situation with regard to polio in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA. The president emphasised the involvement of Ulama and tribal leaders for the eradication of polio from the country.

Salimullah Khan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister and PM's Special Person on Polio eradication, informed the president about the efforts being undertaken by the government to eradicate polio from the country.

Additional Special Secretary for Eastern Province, who

the latest situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and various areas of FATA. The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012. 18 cases were reported in FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 5 each in FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 18 in Punjab where 60-65 per cent was reported.

It was informed that in the last year, the number of cases reported in FATA were 25, KP 11, Sindh 14, Balochistan 20 and Punjab 100. It was also reported that the number of cases reported in FATA were 25, KP 11, Sindh 14, Balochistan 20 and Punjab 100.

Additional Special Secretary for Eastern Province, who

Continued on Page 3

During the meeting, the president said that the eradication of polio is a common cause of the civil society and all the political parties in the country. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

Including the members, said that the eradication of polio is a common cause of the civil society and all the political parties in the country. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.

He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors. He said that the day of the polio survivors is a day of the polio survivors.



## Federal Polio Control Room

A Federal Operations Room was established in WHO office Islamabad to monitor the campaign conducted throughout the country. A representative of Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell participated in the operation room throughout the campaign.

Daily evening meeting was held in the control room at 5pm where real time data received from the field was discussed and feedback was provided to the provinces and districts for urgent action.



## Meeting with Partners

### i. Meeting with Dr. Hussein Al Gezairy

Special advisor on Polio in WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Dr. Hussein Al Gezairy met Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to Prime Minister to discuss the various prospects of polio eradication initiative in Pakistan. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali expressed his



gratitude for the support of support of WHO to Pakistan. Dr. Al Gezairy was briefed that Pakistan is achieving the targets of Augmented National Emergency Action Plan to eradicate polio at a satisfactory level but the main challenge is to maintain the pace of effects that are currently effective to control polio virus transmission.

### ii. Meeting of Dr. Hussein Al Gezairy with CM Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Special advisor on Polio in WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Dr. Hussein al. Gezairy met Mir Ameer Haider Khan Hoti to discuss issues in the course of Polio Eradication Initiative in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The meeting was held in the Chief Minister's House in the context of the recent outbreak of polio in the Province. Meeting was also attended by Mr. Ghulam Dastgir, Chief Secretary, Dr. Naveed Sadozai, WHO HQs Geneva, Mr. Muhammad Ishfaq Khan, Secretary Health, Dr. Ilyas Durry, Senior Coordinator WHO Islamabad, Dr. Sharif Ahmed Khan, DGHS, Dr. Obaid



UI Islam, PEI Team Leader WHO and Dr. Mufti Zubair, WHO Islamabad

### i. Meeting with Mission of Islamic Development Bank

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) mission paid visit to Islamabad from 24-28 Sept and held meetings as per scheduled with IPC, EAD and partner agencies such as

- Meeting in IPC on 24th Sept and the proposal for future collaboration was discussed in details including executing agency of the project and its implementation procedure.
- Another joint meeting with partners was

held on 25th Sept in IPC under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary IPC where project proposal was discussed and agreed to hold meeting with provinces on 27th Sept.

## Support of MQM

### i. Meeting with MQM London Secretariat, UK

A delegation headed by Dr. Azra Pechuho held meeting with Coordination Committee of MQM at International Secretariat Edgware London. Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator PM's Polio Monitoring Cell, Dr. Durr of WHO and Dr. Hamid Jafri were in delegation. A detailed discussion on support of MQM for polio eradication was made. MQM Coordination Committee handed over supporting letter of MQM Head Mr. Altaf Hussain and gave assurance for full support especially in Karachi and Hyderabad. Mr. Altaf Hussein in a letter to the delegation handed over during the meeting expressed his all out support to making Karachi and the entire country free of Polio.

### ii. Meeting with MQM Raabta Committee at MQM Headquarters in Karachi

A meeting to follow up on the decisions taken in the meeting at MQM Secretariat in London was held at MQM Headquarters in Karachi. Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho led the Polio team which included Dr. Altaf Bosan, Dr. Elias Durr, Dennis King, Health Minister Sindh and his team.

Following points were discussed and agreed on solutions:

1. Khidmat-i-Khalq Committee may be asked to contribute to the cause by Establishing Polio Awareness Camps and Display Polio Banners on all Khidmat-i-Khalq Vehicles and make announcements on speaker mounted vehicles.
2. A senior official of MQM may be nominated to support Polio Eradication Activities in districts and towns of Karachi. In this connection they would liaise with the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) 7 days prior to each campaign round and provide support as required including facilitating the polio teams and social mobilizers in accessing difficult areas, tracking missed children and convincing refusing families.

- c) In light of provincial agreement on the proposal, a joint debriefing was held in Ministry of IPC on 28th Sept 2012 before the final meeting with Economic Affairs Division (EAD).



The DC will share the data of any chronic refusal families in his jurisdiction and seek support as required.

3. Polio Eradication Liaison Person based in MQM Headquarters to be nominated and contact details shared with all stakeholders.
4. Statement by MQM Leader Altaf Hussein appealing to parents to ensure every child is vaccinated for a Polio-free Karachi issued on the eve of every polio campaign.
5. Polio Campaign to be launched by MQM Raabta Committee Deputy Convener or nominee in a Press Conference a day prior to each round by giving Polio Drops to children.
6. Business community may be asked to display Polio Messages for 3 days of the campaign on their bill boards, streamers and shops.
7. The Provincial Health Minister (belonging to MQM) may issue directive to all DHOs and THOs for quality performance of work for campaign activities and implement direct disbursement mechanism adopted by WHO for release of funds to workers through banking system
8. Coordination committee to work together further may be established

## PC-1 for Polio Eradication

On 16th November 2012 the Central Development Working Party with Dy. Chairman Planning Commission in the chair met and approved the PC-1 for Polio Eradication amounting to US\$ 302, 509, 749 for a period of three years 2013 to 2015. Subsequently, Chairman of the Economic Co-ordination Committee of the Cabinet (ECNEC) accorded approval to the project in anticipation of its formal approval by the ECNEC.

The amount includes 227 Million US Dollars support provided by Islamic Development Bank. 36, 809,088 US Dollars have been provided by the Government whereas the remaining has been contributed by the World Bank and JICA.

PC-1 for National Emergency Action Plan for Polio Eradication has been finalized jointly by IPC and PM's Polio Monitoring Cell after deliberations of senior officials with the Federal and Provincial Governments in light of the decision of the National Task Force on Polio Eradication.

## Introduction of Direct Disbursement Mechanism

After the decision of National Task Force meeting, Government of Pakistan in collaboration with WHO has introduced direct disbursement mechanism to pay directly to polio workers for more transparency and better results. Direct Disbursement Mechanism (DDM) has been piloted in some districts of the country and as per plan, the same mechanism will be applicable all over the country from January 2013 onward.



## Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) Management

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) is considered to be the largest public-private partnership on public health ever with more than \$8 billion investment. Although the cost of oral polio vaccine is less than \$0.15 per dose but large volumes procured for campaigns make OPV cost a major part of funding & budget of the polio eradication programme.

In Pakistan, while vaccine delivery at central level is usually well accounted for, the peripheral distribution has seen with weak implementation and poorly monitored. Apparently vaccine monitoring at district level suggest that there are large wastage rates and poor systems of retrieving unused vaccine after each immunization round.

Taking note of the excessive use and wastage of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) during Polio Eradication Campaigns, Government of Pakistan invited a Mission from UNICEF to look into ways and means of ensuring the most judicious use of this expensive commodity.

The Mission visited all the Provinces, completed its task in September 2012 and presented finding in the Mission Report, concluding that there is wastage both at "user and system" level which could

be improved taking appropriate measures.

The report comprises a set of recommendations and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to be followed during the campaigns to conserve OPV.

The report suggested developing Vaccine Management Committees (VMCs) at National and Provincial levels which will ensure vaccine management, its storage, transport, utilization and reporting. The National Vaccine Management Committee (NVMC) has been established under the leadership of MOIPC with representation from partners including EPI, WHO and UNICEF.

It is proposed that that the Provincial VMC should be constituted under the leadership a senior health official preferably Director General Health, with Programme Manager EPI as Secretary and representation from WHO & UNICEF Field Offices.

### Progress

- NVMC constituted and meeting regularly as per schedule.
- SOPs developed by the Mission have been reviewed and revised by core group of technical NVMC and ready for implementation.



## Review Meetings by Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell

### Meetings Chaired by Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari

#### i. Review Meeting with ICT and CDA

A review meeting of the ICT and CDA, Islamabad was held on August 13, 2012 in Prime Minister's Secretariat. The meeting was jointly chaired by Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, Pakistan Ambassador's on Polio Eradication and Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio and attended by the senior officials of Ministry of IPC, PM's Polio Monitoring Cell, CDA, ICT and partner agencies.

#### Key Decisions

1. Chairman CDA to coordinate with Imam of Shah Faisal Masjid to include polio messages in his Friday sermon.
2. Officials of CDA and ICT to contact Private Educational Institution Regulatory Authority (PEIRA) to convince private schools for entry of polio teams.
3. Health immunization cards be made and checked by schools to ensure all children been immunized against the disease.
4. Steps to be taken to make it mandatory for all schools to allow entry to polio teams during polio campaigns.
5. Special arrangements to ensure security for polio team be made by the district administration.
6. All mosques to be asked to make polio announcements starting at least two weeks ahead of polio rounds.
7. Medical Colleges in Islamabad be approached for inclusion of medical college students in the polio program.
8. Compulsory inclusion of female in every polio team and support of a local representative of every area be ensured.
9. UNICEF to provide communication support staff to CDA and ICT by 1st October.

#### ii. Meeting of Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari with representatives of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Meeting of Mr. Michael Galway was held with Ms. Aseefa Bhutto, Pakistan Ambassador for PEI on 8th August at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad. Madam Shahnaz and Dr. Bosan also joined them.



#### iii. Meeting of Ms. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari with Social Mobilizers

Polio Ambassador held meeting with a group of District Health Communication Supporting Officers (DHCSO), Social Mobilizers, AICs, Vaccinators, LHS and team members working in UC-4 Gadap and Baldia Town. The group was led by prominent polio affected social mobilizer Mr. Abrar Ahmed. The purpose of meeting with the lower level supervisors to encourage and support their role and highlight the importance of strong communication for the PEI



#### iv. Meeting with Secretary Economic Affairs Division

Ms. Shahnaz and Dr. Altaf Bosan met with Secretary Economic Affairs Division and his team and explained them for financial assistance required from Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) on August 02, 2012.

#### v. Meetings of National Steering Committee

##### September 19, 2012

Meeting National Steering Committee meeting headed by Madam Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to Prime Minister for Social Sector and Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication held on

19th September 2012 at Prime Minister's Secretariat Islamabad with the purpose to review the current ongoing activities of polio eradication initiative. The meeting was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC), PM's Polio Monitoring Cell, Federal EPI, WHO, UNICEF, Rotary, JICA and USAID. On special invitation, Technical Focal Persons of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Deputy EPI Manager Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, EDO Health and DHO Rawalpindi also attended the meeting.

### **November 6, 2012**

The National Steering Committee (NSC) on EPI & PEI met at Serena Hotel, Islamabad at 0900 hours on 06 November 2012 on the sidelines of a Meeting on Developing a Communications Strategy for Polio Eradication sponsored by UNICEF.

The NSC expressed serious concern over the global shortage of OPV especially in the backdrop of plans of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to conduct Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) every month to check the current upsurge of Polio Cases. The meeting was informed that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has asked for nine million doses of OPV to conduct the SIAs. Unfortunately, this quantity of OPV was not available at the Federal Store. The OPV supply situation has worsened further owing to the inability of UNICEF Supply Division, Copenhagen to procure OPV and supply it to Pakistan up to 17th November 2012 as planned.

### **November 27, 2012**

The National Steering Committee (NSC) on EPI & PEI, convened by the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring & Coordination Cell, met in the Prime Minister's Secretariat at 1200 noon on 27th November 2012.

The Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Social Sector & Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, chaired the meeting which was attended by senior officials from the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring & Coordination Cell, Expanded Programme on Immunization, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). A list of the participants is enclosed herewith.

PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell also released a report of Vaccine Management Analysis in a National Steering Committee and sent to all provinces for their comments. It was agreed to direct provinces to send vaccine utilization report efficiently.

### **vi. Review Meeting in Balochistan**

Review meeting with district management of 22 districts of Balochistan was held on 4th August at Jamali Auditorium, Balochistan Secretariat, Quetta. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali chaired the meeting and Dr. Bosan facilitated her. Performance of all districts was reviewed on the basis of indicators set for preparatory, process and outcome phases.

### **vii. Emergency Meetings on the situation of FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

#### **August 9, 2012**

Urgent meeting was called on 9th August 2012 at PM's Polio Monitoring Cell to make arrangements to meet the need of currently infected areas in KP and FATA for mop up activities to control the current spread of virus. Dr. Bosan chaired and WHO, UNICEF and JICA colleagues attended.

#### **September 14, 2012**

Review meeting with FATA administration held on 14th September at FATA Secretariat, Peshawar. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali chaired the meeting and Dr. Bosan facilitated her. Security issues and preparation for next round were discussed.

#### **November 8, 2012**

An emergency meeting was convened by the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Co-ordination Cell on 8th November 2012 in the WHO Country office, Islamabad. Purpose of the meeting was to review the concerning situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA due to an upsurge in the number of polio cases and to decide upon the SIAs in these areas in November and its extent in view of the currently available OPV stocks. Dr. Altaf Hussain Bosan presented the agreed vaccine distribution plan in the meeting for mOPV-1, bOPV and tOPV.

The National Coordinator, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell chaired the meeting which was attended by senior officials from Expanded Programme on Immunization, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and senior officials from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, FATA and Balochistan.

It was decided with consensus that short interval additional doses (SIADs) will be held from 18th to 20th November in areas of KP except 3 or 4 districts mentioned above due to Ashura Moharram whereas the second round of SIADs in all districts will be held from 29th November to 1st December including above 4 districts.

A detailed discussion was also held on the migrant

and mobile population and Obaid Ul Islam (WHO Team Leader KP FATA) said that strategy for migrant and mobile populations needs to be refined.

### **December 5, 2012**

An emergency meeting was held in Peshawar to review the recent outbreak of polio cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and see the preparedness of upcoming polio rounds. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali while National Coordinator, PM Polio Cell and representatives of partner agencies also participated.



### **viii. Review Meetings in Sindh**

#### **August 11, 2012**

Review meetings with district management of all districts of Sindh were held on 10th and 11th August at Committee Room, Sindh Secretariat, Karachi. Dr. Azra chaired and Dr. Bosan facilitated her.

#### **August 24, 2012**

Shahnaz Wazir Ali and National Coordinator PM's Polio Monitoring Cell held meetings with Chief Secretary Sindh, Home Secretary and all DCs of Karachi and Secretary Health along with Provincial EPI team, during 23rd and 24th August 2012 in Karachi. The main purpose of these meetings was to provide security cover to polio workers during campaign days. Some decisions in light of these meetings are being conveyed to Chief Secretary Sindh for action including constitution of a special security coordination committee empowered to review all aspects of the security situation 7 days ahead of the polio round and take decisions whether to go ahead with or delay the campaign.

#### **October 12, 2012**

Provincial Polio Review Meeting was held on 12th October 2012 at Karachi Sindh on preparation of



NIDs campaign scheduled from 15-17 Oct all over the country including Sindh province. Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho chaired the meeting; Dr. Bosan facilitated her while all DCs attended the meeting.

A meeting with security coordination committee of Karachi was held to see the arrangements for SIADs in high risk union councils including UC-4 Gadap and UC-8 Gulberg and NIDs to be held from 15th Oct 2012 in the country.

### **October 19, 2012**

Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho chaired the meeting and attended by Dr. Bosan, Secretary Health Sindh, Mr. Aziz Memon Rotary, all 5 Deputy Commissioners of Karachi, representatives of Home Department, police, WHO and UNICEF.

### **November 30, 2012**

Representatives of PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell chaired communication workshop for high risk districts of Sindh organized by UNICEF.

### **December 10, 2012**

A review meeting was organized in Karachi chaired by Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho to monitor the progress of the Polio programme. The meeting was attended by Dr. Altaf Bosan and all polio partners.



### **ix. Meeting with Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Provincial Assembly of Sindh**

Representative of PM Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell visited Karachi on September 24, 2012 to conduct a meeting with Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly Syeda Shehla Raza to finalise the details of a follow up meeting after the interaction of Sindh Assembly MPAs with Aseefa Bhutto Zardari. It was agreed to call a meeting of all female MPAs ahead of NIDs to assign them specific roles to be performed during the campaign.

### **x. Review meeting in Punjab**

#### **August 17, 2012.**

Review Meeting with district management of Punjab province was held in Lahore on August 17, 2012 to discuss the progress of PEI in Punjab. SAPM Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali and Chief Secretary Punjab jointly chaired the meeting. Five districts were



given warning by the Chief Secretary to improve the quality of campaigns and meet all indicators required to meet as per emergency plan.

## December 7, 2012

Review meeting with district management of Punjab was held in Lahore under the chairpersonship of Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali while Dr. Altaf Bosan and representatives of UNICEF and WHO also participated.



### xi. Consultative Meeting with Senator Osman Saifullah

A meeting with Senator Osman Saifullah and representatives of PM Polio Cell took place on September 5, 2012 to seek his support in inclusion of telecom sector in the upcoming SNIDs. Collaboration with Mobilink and Ufone were established after this important meeting. Bulk awareness SMS were sent out to Mobilink and Ufone users of target districts during the campaign.



## Major Breakthroughs

### 1. Onset of vaccination activities in Tirrah Valley

Major breakthroughs included the vaccination of children of Tirrah valley for the first time after 3 years due to cooperation of Ansar ul Islam, a militant group active in Khyber agency. The vaccination had been suspended since 2009 due to hostility between militants and army. After advocacy efforts the militant group convinced played a key role in persuading community members to get their children vaccinated.

### 2. Conversion of chronic refusal

The 23rd polio case was reported in Quetta when on June 22, 2012 two-year-old Mehrama's life changed forever when she was diagnosed with polio. Mehrama's house had been reached by polio teams seeking to find out why, despite six visits from vaccinators, the head of the household was refusing to have their children vaccinated. Mehrama's household was considered a chronic refusal, in this case based on religious grounds determined by her Uncle and Grandfather. Set-up to provide reliable information to chronic refusal cases, UNICEF-supported ComNet staff showed Mehrama's Uncle and entire family a pro-vaccine video and several fatwas advocating for the polio vaccine from international and nationally-respected Islamic clerics and scholars were also shared and presented to the family. Despite strong belief systems, they understood better that polio was not against Islam and decided they did not want to risk the other children getting polio.

Without access to TV or radio, this information helped convince the family. So much so that the uncle inaugurated the July campaign in his Union Council by vaccinating his own one-year-old son. Eighteen other chronic refusal children were also vaccinated in the area, convinced by the Uncle's appeal to protect their children from the disability that Mehrama will now have to live with.

This change is happening all across the 33 highest risk districts in Pakistan as on average, with COMNet intervention, 50% of refusals are convinced to have their children vaccinated.

## National Public Health Conference - December 3-4, 2012

3rd National Public Health Conference was held in Health Services Academy on December 3-4, 2012. In the sidelines of National Health Conference, an exhibition of Public Health partners was also organised where Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell in collaboration with UNICEF displayed a Polio Pavilion for the participants of the National Conference. The Polio Pavilion displayed various initiatives that Polio Partners have undertaken during these times to fight polio.



## COMNet

Communication Network for Polio Eradication or COMNet is the frontline communications staff working to raise public awareness on Polio, create demand for vaccination through behavioural change communication and provide technical and coordination support at the district and union council level in 33 high-risk districts across Pakistan. Staff Training – Over 1000 communication staff is working at district, union council and area level across Pakistan, 850 of which are social mobilizers responsible for community level engagement. They have been oriented /trained in Communication for Development (C4D) and Interpersonal Communication (IPC) skills. The training of staff in Punjab, Balochistan and ICT/CDA has been completed.

Social Mobilization Toolkit – as many as 1,200 kits with IEC materials have been developed and distributed to all COMNet staff across Pakistan. These kits are designed to help COMNet to carry out interactive community engagement and information sessions.

Staff hiring – District Health Communication Support Officer (DHCSO), four Union Council Communication Support Officers (UCOs) and 12 Social Mobilizers (SMs) for Islamabad ICT/CDA have been hired.

### Results

- Refusal conversions – according to PRIME data has increased as 69 per cent of refusals in high-risk districts with COMNet staff were reported as converted during October's NIDs, up from 58 per cent in September and the highest level recorded for 2012. FATA refusal conversions reached 73% according to PRIME data.

- House visits - over 31,000 refusal households were visited to convince the refusing parents for vaccination of the children.
- Awareness sessions with influencers – nearly 35,000 sessions were held across the country during the period
- Monitoring and Evaluation – pilot of software developed by the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) for UNICEF staff to track and monitor COMNet activities.

### Next

- COMNet review taking place in mid- December.
- Additional 4,000 social mobilization toolkits to be ready by January, 2013.
- School Campaign – targeting 5,000 schools and over 100,000 students for engagement in awareness activities to start in December.
- COMNET staff hiring for Diamir, Gilgit Baltistan, in process.
- Target for total COMNet staff deployment by year's end is 1,200.
- Training for SMs in Sindh, KPK and FATA in December.
- C4D / IPC, PRIME III in Balochistan, PRIME I and II in FATA and KP to be launched in December.
- All COMNET staff equipped with SM toolkits except in North and South Waziristan where the continuing ban is limiting activities.
- Discussions underway with PITB and Samsung for provision of Android phones to the 9 DHCSOs in the pilot phase in Punjab.

## High-Risk Groups

High Risk Groups (HRG) is defined as communities most at-risk of paralysis due to Polio virus infection. The classification is carried out by experts on the basis of medical and social data. As many as 42 districts and some 381 Union Councils have been designated as High Risk areas across Pakistan. The HRG strategy has been revised to ensure more focus on mapping, tracking and reaching all the HR population. It identifies three main targets – priority population (primarily Pashtuns), transit population and migrant population. There is also an increased focus on service delivery, communications and confidence building measures. It emphasizes on reaching Pashtun populations living in KP /FATA or travelling outside of the region.

### Priority population

- Engagement with editors' of religious magazines, having sway within religious communities in HR areas, continued and proposals to best utilize the opportunity being reviewed by UNICEF.
- Over 3,000 awareness sessions held with religious leaders across the country.
- Awareness session held with the Karkhano Market Trader Association, a critical and very influential group in FATA.

### Transit & Migrant Population

- All intended Hajis provided OPV at booth set up by COMNet staff at seven Haji Camps.
- Permanent Polio vaccination posts set up at all busy railway stations in collaboration with Pakistan Railways.
- OPV provided to more than 32,000 children during campaigns through immunization posts set up at the 57 toll-plazas across Pakistan with the support of National Highway and Motorway Police (NHMP). Posts branded by UNICEF for Polio awareness and visibility. NHMP tasked with distribution of CDs of Polio True Story in Urdu and Pashtu and flyers with key polio messages with highway commuters.
- Awareness sessions organized for wheel-cart owners in Torkham and security officials at Chaman border posts as on an average nearly 2,000 children cross these posts every day.

### Results

- Revised HRG Strategy implemented

- Meeting with editors of religious magazines conducted, proposal of coordination being reviewed
- A quarterly video or tele-conference between Afghan and Pakistan teams agreed
- A tele-conference between the two country teams following identification of Polio case(s) and for campaign data and microplan sharing
- Afghan TAG agreement to map religious leaders along the Pak-Afghan border
- Shared branding and synchronised communication messages along the border region for January 2013 campaign
- Polio awareness and vaccination booths set up at seven Haji Camps across Pakistan
- Permanent Polio vaccination posts set up at all busy railway stations
- Polio branding of 57 highway toll plazas and vaccination of 32,000 children during October NID
- More than 3,000 Polio awareness sessions with religious leaders across the country

### Next

Priority population – quarterly Pak-Afghan video / teleconference recommended during Afghan TAG for improved coordination and teleconferences at provincial/district levels following confirmation of new cases, as well as the sharing of campaign data and microplans. Priority, Transit and Migrant Population - improved social mobilization, communication and mapping of religious leaders along the border areas, shared branding and synchronized messaging of communication material for the January campaigns. Priority Population – outreach to Wafaqul Madaris-e-Deenia, representing five federations of seminars and more than 20,000 affiliated seminaries, for polio eradication. Priority, Transit and Migrant population – engagement with the Timber Association in FATA, largely made up of members of the Mehsud tribe.

## Upcoming Polio Activities

Many activities are planned in the month of December 2012 mainly including Technical Advisory Group meeting, Visit of Regional Directors of WHO and UNICEF to Pakistan, National Task Force Meeting on Polio Eradication, All Parties Conference on Polio Eradication, review meetings in provinces and series of advocacy meetings with Parliamentarians on Polio Eradication Initiative.



## Inaugurations of Polio Campaigns





# Montage from the Provinces











**Prime Minister's  
Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell**

Prime Minister's Secretariat, Islamabad

Ph: 051 9216365 Pmpoliocell@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/PrimeMinistersMonitoringCoordinationCellForPolio>

<https://twitter.com/PMsPolioE>