



**Update on the Avian Influenza Situation
(as of 8 March 2010)**

Issue No. 243



The information summarized below is gathered from official and non official sources, which are quoted in the text. This bulletin is prepared by the UN in Cambodia in cooperation with the Royal Government of Cambodia and development partners.

I. Latest information on Avian Influenza in Cambodia

1. Country situation: Human Health

As of 8 March 2010, there were 158 calls to the Ministry of Health hotline numbers. As to topic, 119 calls were about human H1N1 influenza, 22 were about human H5N1 influenza and 17 were about animal-related events.

The callers came from all provinces. Most callers were from Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham, Battambang and Kandal provinces and the less callers were from Preah Vihear, Pailin and Mundulkiri. They asked about signs and symptoms of influenza, whom to contact in case of suspected cases, who are at high risk for developing severe illness, availability of medicines to treat influenza, when the pandemic influenza vaccine will be available locally, and priority groups for vaccination. Calls about animal-related concerns were referred to the animal health hotline.

Two cases on human were found this week. The total A/H1N1 case in Cambodia to date is now 562 cases with 6 deaths (3 female and 3 male). Laboratory-confirmed H1N1 cases came from 14 provinces:

Anyone with flu like symptoms should stay at home, avoid crowded places and contact the Ministry of Health's Influenza Hotline: 012 489 981 or 089 669 567. Patients with influenza-like symptoms who have difficulty breathing should report to their nearest health centre for further advice.

The WHO has agreed to provide Cambodia with approximately 1.5 million doses of vaccine, pending production capacity by manufacturers and fulfilment of certain requirements from government. The vaccine will be shipped to Cambodia in 2 phases; the first shipment will be of 300,000 doses and will be

delivered between December 2009 and February 2010. The second shipment will be up to 1.2 million and will be delivered around June 2010.

The main objective of the pandemic Influenza A H1N1 2009 vaccination campaign in Cambodia is to save lives and protect those most at risk of serious infection from this new virus.

To ensure equitable access to the vaccine, the following priority groups have been identified for vaccination taking into account WHO recommendations and national requirements of the Royal Government of Cambodia:

1. Health Care workers at Government, Private and NGO run HCs/Hospitals and departments
2. Pregnant women
3. Children between age of 6 months and under 2 years
4. Village Health Supported Group (VHSG) and those who involved in the immunization campaign
5. Security and government staff essential to maintain law and government
6. Those over age of 2 years old with chronic lung disease

A comprehensive vaccine deployment plan for target groups is currently being prepared by government and outlines the action that should be taken to assure the safe delivery of vaccine and ancillary items to protect its vulnerable populations during the Influenza A H1N1 2009 pandemic. It will outline important key steps such as vaccination strategies, management and organization, communication and information, human resources and security, public information, pandemic vaccine deployment operations (Supply Chain Processes), collection of medical waste, post immunization evaluation and adverse effect surveillance.

2. Country situation: Animal Health

As of 9 March, 2010, the animal health hotline at the National Veterinary Research Institute received four calls from Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom and Takeo Province. All calls reported about sick and dead chickens and the team of provincial and district veterinarians went to the villages in above provinces, after investigation they concluded that avian influenza was not the cause of the illness and death chickens.

II. Key events:

1. March 10 – National Dissemination Workshop on Community-Based Avian Influenza Prevention and Response: Lessons and Recommendations (Organized by CARE Cambodia with support from AusAID and US CDC) in Phnom Penh.

III. International issues

Click these links for the latest updates of the global situation on Avian Influenza:

www.influenza.undg.org

<http://www.un-influenza.org>

http://www.hewsworld.org/avian_flu/

<http://ochaonline.un.org/roap>

<http://ochaonline.un.org/roap/WhatWeDo/PandemicPreparedness/tabid/4304/Default.aspx>

<http://www.influenza.undg.org>

<http://www.un-pic.org/web>

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http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/index.html

<http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html>

<http://www.hpai-research.net>

<http://www.gains.org>

www.aitoolkit.org

www.who.int

www.un.org.kh www.cdcmoh.gov.kh

