

# The Republic of South Sudan



## Ministry of Health *Office of the Undersecretary*

Date: December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### PRESS STATEMENT JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

#### **SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF HEALTH STATEMENT ON AN IMPORTED CASE OF CHOLERA IN RENK, UPPER NILE STATE**

The Ministry of Health with support from WHO and partners has strengthened preparedness activities including surveillance for early detection and response to any alert in Renk County as a component of the Health Response to the Sudan Crisis. As the WHO reported an active outbreak of cholera in Sudan with over 4000 cases and over 130 deaths recorded since 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023, MOH and partners stepped up cholera surveillance in Renk and other counties bordering Sudan.

Based on this, the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in Juba received twelve (12) stool samples of suspected cholera from Renk on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2023. The samples were immediately tested and one out of the twelve samples showed growth on culture media for vibrio cholerae. Further serological testing on pure isolates revealed *Vibrio cholerae*, serogroup O1, and serotype Ogawa. All culture-negative samples are currently subjected to further PCR testing. The positive sample is from a 38-year-old male returnee from Sudan at the transit center in Renk who has been managed at the health facility in the transit camp and recovered.

Thus, the Ministry of Health advises the general public not to panic as its Emergency Preparedness and Response Team, WHO, and partners have put in place measures to conduct further epidemiological investigation including risk assessment and strengthening surveillance to ensure better preparedness and operational readiness to respond to the threat of Cholera and other epidemic diseases.

The Ministry of Health will closely monitor the situation and provide further situation updates accordingly.

**For more information, contact:**

1. Dr. John Rumunu,  
Director General Preventive Health Services,  
Ministry of Health,  
Republic of South Sudan  
Emails: [ori.moiga@gmail.com](mailto:ori.moiga@gmail.com); [jrumunu@yahoo.com](mailto:jrumunu@yahoo.com)  
Cell Phone: +211 924767490/ +211915941253

2. Dr. Joseph Lasu,  
Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response,  
Ministry of Health  
Republic of South Sudan  
Email : [josh2013.lasu@gmail.com](mailto:josh2013.lasu@gmail.com)  
Cell Phone : +211 921 395 440

Yours sincerely,

*For* 

**Dr. Ader Macar Aciek**  
**Undersecretary,**  
**Ministry of Health,**  
**Republic of South Sudan**

