

SIERRA LEONE

WEEKLY UPDATE ON MEASLES SIAs PREPARATION date: 26th September 2006.

Dates for campaign: The date for the campaign remains unchanged, 20 to 26 November 2006

Geographical area of implementation: Nationwide

Targeted age group (and size): 9-59month, 748,212

Integration: LLINs: Target 0-59month, = 880,249,
Vitamin A: Target 6-59month = 792,224
Mebendazole: Target 12-59 = 704,199

PLANNING & BUDGET:

National Micro Planning:

Revised microplan has been communicated with districts. The number of teams and other logistics breakdown were generally accepted by the DMO.

Social Mobilization: Weekly social mobilization sub-committee meeting was held on the 28th September 2006 and to be attended by highest political level. Red Cross volunteers in all districts and member of the later day saint's church members in three districts will supplement the social mobilization activity by conducting house to house announcement. Jingles and Radio dramas prepared for the Campaign are now put on air. Preparation is underway to translate them to other local languages.

Training & Supervision: Two training manuals, for supervisors and vaccination teams, have been included and final copies sent to UNICEF for printing. Pre-campaign district preparedness assessment checklist is developed to be used in supervisory visits.

Vaccines and Logistics: All the nets and Indelible markers provided by the Canadian Red Cross are in country. Official handover of the nets to the ministry of Health and Sanitation took place today on the 3rd October, 2006. Distribution of the nets to the Districts is planned starting from 9th October, 2006. National Cold Rooms are ready to accommodate the incoming vaccine.

Waste Management plan

Burning pits will be dug one per chiefdom or zones (W/Area) latest two weeks to the campaign. There are incinerators in some districts.

Measles surveillance strengthening: Measles surveillance is ongoing.

Coordination and partnerships:

The ICC meeting was held on 28th September, 2006. The meeting was chaired by Honorary Madam minister of Health and Sanitation. A formal request for government support to cover the budget gap is made. The Minister has planned to discuss the issue on a meeting with Council of Ministers. The next ICC meeting is scheduled for 26th October, 2006. A stock Holders meeting was held on 29th September, 2006. The forum was used for sensitization and identifying continuous support.

Technical Support: Is currently being provided by the country team of WHO, UNICEF, CRC, and SLRC.

Operational Funds: To date there is still a budget gap of \$131,680. This gap is for part funding for social mobilisation, operational cost and monitoring and surveillance.

Way Forward

1. Continue with resource Mobilization
2. Continue the social Mobilization and High level Advocacy
3. Ascertaining preparedness of Districts
4. Follow-up on arrival and distribution of logistics including vaccines supplies