



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Date: July 16, 2007



From: WHO Collaborating Center for
Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #174

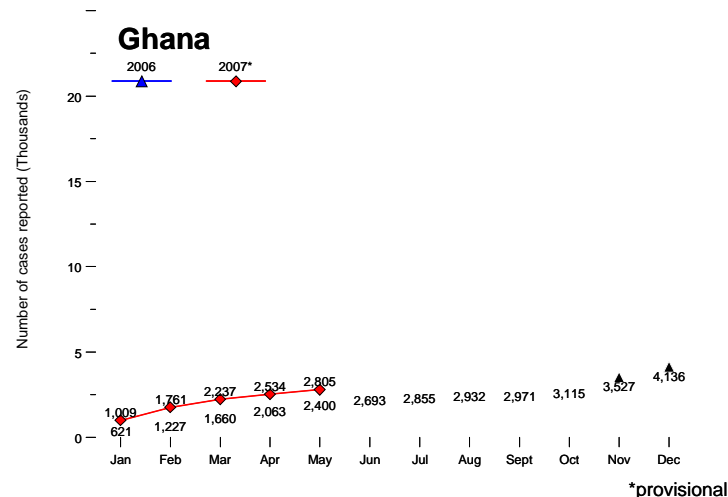
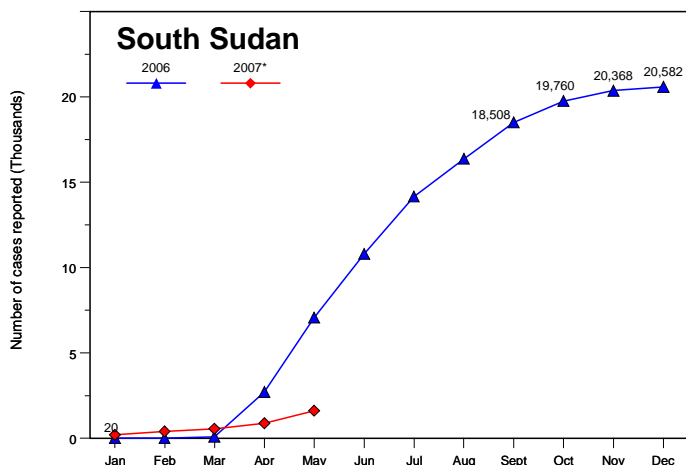
To: Addressees

Countdown to Glory
Consecutive months with zero indigenous cases:
Ethiopia 12
Cote d' Ivoire 9
Burkina Faso 7
Togo 6
Nigeria 3
Niger 1

SUDAN VS GHANA: WHO WILL REACH ZERO CASES FIRST?

Figure 1

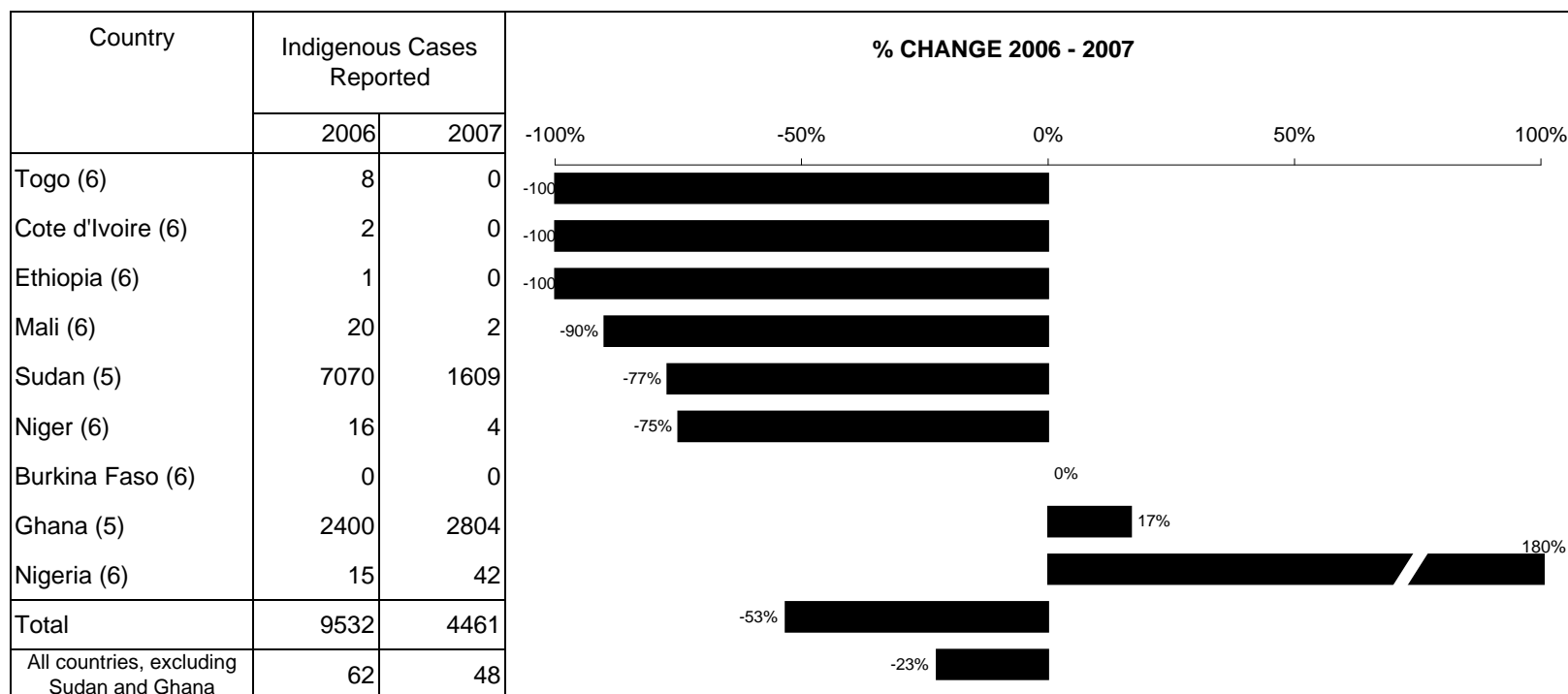
Cumulative Number of Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported During 2006 and 2007*



As of the mid point of calendar year 2007, Ghana has reported substantially more cases (2,805 cases through May) of Dracunculiasis than Sudan (1,611 cases through May) so far this year (Figure 1, Table 1). Although most of Sudan's peak transmission months (April-October) still lie ahead, only the second half (October-December) of Ghana's peak 2007 season is still to come. Another important difference between the two programs in 2007, however, is in their reductions in cases compared to the same period of 2006: -77% In Sudan so far this year vs. +17% in Ghana. If these disparate trends were to hold for the remainder of the year, Sudan will report approximately 100 fewer cases than Ghana for calendar year 2007 (4,733 cases vs. 4,834).

Figure 2

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2006 and 2007*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



Overall % change outside of Sudan = 17%

(6) Indicates months for which reports were received, i.e., Jan. -June

* Provisional

IN BRIEF:

Ethiopia has now reported 12 consecutive cases of Dracunculiasis! CONGRATULATIONS to the team led by the WHO, supported by the CDC, for the successful eradication of this disease. The 12 cases were reported by persons residing in Gambella Region of Ethiopia, an area that has been affected by sporadic insecurity over the past few years. The WHO and CDC are planning to conduct a thorough search of this area over the next few months.

Nigeria. The numbers of consecutive months without reported indigenous cases in each of the Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Program's five zones are shown in Figure 3.

Sudan. Dr. Joshua Ologe of the Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Program has arrived in southern Sudan to begin assisting that program as an advisor.

Figure 3

Zones of Nigeria's GWE Program and Number of Months Elapsed Since the Last Reported Indigenous Case

