



The objective of the bulletin is to report new health events occurring outside and inside EpiSouth area that have potential implications on EpiSouth population. It does not aim to provide an exhaustive review of international alerts. Since 2006, The French public health Institute (InVS) is issuing an online epidemic intelligence bulletin (Bulletin hebdomadaire International - BHI). In order to limit duplication and to make this already verified information available to a larger audience, information relating to health events of interest for EpiSouth population are translated and integrated in the relevant e-web sections. Despite all verifications, WP6 team would not be responsible for potential errors. The recipient is responsible for the cautious use of this information. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is liable for the use that may be made of the information contained in this report. Data maps and commentary used in this document do not imply any opinion of EpiSouth countries or its partners on the legal status of the countries and territories shown or concerning their borders.

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- A(H5N1) Human and avian influenza – None
- “INSIDE” Events: None
- “OUTSIDE” Events:
 - Cholera, Haiti, Dominican Republic, United States of America
 - Melamine-dairy products contamination, China.

REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA (NOT occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)

Location:	Event:	Comments
<p style="text-align: center;">Haiti/ Dominican Republic/ USA</p> <p>Reminder, Haïti</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since October 12, 2010, an important cholera outbreak is present in Haiti. • As of November 23, 2010, the Haitian Ministry of Health reported a cumulative number of 60,240 hospital visits, 25,248 hospitalizations, and 1,415 deaths due to cholera at the national level. • Cholera cases have been registered in all ten Haitian departments. <p>Dominican Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On November 17, 2010, health authorities in the neighboring Dominican Republic reported the first imported case of cholera. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The case is a Haitian man returning from Haiti and living in Higüey, a city located in the Eastern part of the country, near the Punta Cana resort of (see Figure1). • On November 19, 2010, Dominican health authorities reported the first 2 autochthonous cases of cholera. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – These cases are relatives, a grandmother and her 3-month-old granddaughter, living in a neighbourhood located in the Eastern part of the capital city, Santo Domingo. • Control Measures have been set by the Health authorities. <p>Unites States of America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On November 17, 2010, Florida health authorities reported the first imported case of cholera in Collier County. The case is a woman who visited relatives in Haiti. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Cholera</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cholera outbreak in Haïti is not under control. • The occurrence of imported cases in the Dominican Republic and in the United States is not unexpected given the close relations between these countries and Haiti. • Moreover, the occurrence of limited transmission around imported cases in the Dominican Republic is not unexpected. • In the future, the occurrence of other imported cases is not excluded, mainly in the neighbouring countries, French American. Departments included. • In the Dominican Republic, the risk of sustained transmission of <i>V. cholerae</i> O1 remains moderate given safer water and sanitation supply and a less strained health system than in Haiti. However, this risk still exists considering the lack of environmental health in some of the areas of the country. • In this context and because of the large number of tourists travelling to the Dominican Republic, the situation is followed up carefully.

- On November 15, 2010, Xiangfan health authorities in Hubei province (see Figure 2.) reported that a large stock of dairy products produced in Xiangtan in the neighbouring Hunan province was contaminated with melamine.
- Since June 2010, production has been banned but some of these products are still circulating in local markets around Xiangtan.
- The level of melamine in these products is 2 times higher than allowed by health regulations in the country.

Figure 2. Localisation of Hubei province, China



- In 2008, nearly 300,000 children (including 6 deaths) exposed to melamine reported suffering from nephrolithiasis and renal insufficiency (see [E-web n°26](#)).
- On July 9, 2010, Chinese authorities reported seizing 64 tons of dairy products and 12 tons of milk powder contaminated with melamine, in Qinghai province in the Western part of the country
- The importation of dairy products from China to major urban areas where the Chinese community is important can not be excluded. The situation will be followed up carefully.

Figure 1. Autochthonous and imported cases reported as of November 24, 2010, Dominican Republic.

