

1 ZOOBOTIC AND VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

b The yellow fever outbreak in Angola and Democratic Republic of Congo

During the yellow fever (YF) outbreak in Angola, December 2015, 4065 suspected cases were reported, of which 884 were laboratory confirmed and 121/884 were fatal (CFR 13.7%). No cases have been reported since July 2016. The outbreak has been brought under control through mass vaccination and mosquito control measures. Over a period of seven months 15,962,052 people (65% of Angola's population) have been vaccinated.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) concurrently experienced a YF outbreak commencing in March 2016. The DRC outbreak has been contained by a vaccination campaign in which almost 8 million people were vaccinated in Kinshasa alone. The last case in DRC was registered on 12 July

2016. The outbreak involved more than 1000 suspected cases. A cumulative total of 75 confirmed cases with 16 deaths has been reported, of which 60 were imported from Angola.

Recent outbreaks of YF in Africa have reiterated the importance of routine vaccination in endemic countries, and amongst travellers to and from endemic areas. Challenges in routine vaccination lead to the build up of susceptible persons, and put the population at risk of outbreaks.

Source: Centre for Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases, NICD-NHLS; (januszp@nicd.ac.za)