

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Date: April 10, 2006



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

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #161

To: Addressees

Daily Case Detection; Aggressive Containment!

ELEVENTH MEETING OF PROGRAM MANAGERS CONVENES IN NIAMEY

The Eleventh Meeting of Program Managers of Guinea Worm Eradication Programs convened in Niamey, Niger on March 29-31, 2006. This meeting of representatives of the nine remaining endemic countries occurred nearly twenty years after the delegates from 20 endemic countries met at the First African Regional Conference on Dracunculiasis Eradication in the same building, the *Palais des Congres*, in July 1986. The Niger minister of health, <u>Dr. Ary Ibrahim</u>, opened the meeting by noting the priority that the Government of Niger places on eradicating Guinea Worm disease. This meeting focused on the need to stop transmission quickly in the remaining endemic countries in may 2004, the participants recommended that

- Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Togo and Nigeria should interrupt transmission of dracunculiasis by the end of 2006;
- Ethiopia, Niger and Mali should stop transmission in 2006 or 2007;
- Ghana should stop transmission in 2007 or 2008; and
- **Sudan** should stop transmission by the end of 2009.

The numbers of endemic cases reported in these nine countries annually in recent years are summarized in Figure 3 & 4, and the statistical data reported at this meeting are summarized in Table 3. Among the important highlights of this meeting was the progress reported in investigation of rumors and establishment of "rumor registers", establishment of national committees to oversee pre-certification activities, and establishment of cash rewards for reporting of cases (Table 1). An example of a rumor investigation ledger used in Nigeria is shown in Table 6.

Niger's <u>President Tandja Mamadou</u> received a delegation that included his minister of health and representatives from Niger's Guinea Worm Eradication Program, WHO, UNICEF, Health and Development International, and The Carter Center, on the final day of the meeting. The president allocated additional funds for broadcasting health education messages on radio and television, and the meeting with the president was followed immediately by a radio and television interview of <u>Dr.</u> <u>Donald Hopkins</u> of The Carter Center, who served as spokesman for the group. Whereas the first African conference on dracunculiasis eradication at Niamey twenty years ago was marked by a severe drought that reduced the Niger River to little more than a two meter wide stream at Niamey, participants this year observed a solar eclipse that occurred on the first day of the meeting.

Strong Leadership!

Status by Country During 2005 of Numbers of Rumors Investigated and Cases of Dracunculiasis Confirmed, Establishment of a National Pre-Certification Committee, a Cash Reward for Reporting and of a Rumor Registry

		porting und or u	National		
Country	# rumors investigated	# GW cases confirmed	Pre-certification Committee	Cash Reward	Rumor Registry
Sudan	4	0			
Ghana	??	??			
Mali	97	5	??	+	+
Niger	164	28	??	+	+
Nigeria	27	1	2005	+	+
Тодо	10	0	2003	-	+
Burkina Faso	28	0	??	-	+
Cote d'Ivoire	7	0	Year?		+
Ethiopia	76	31		+	+
TOTAL	413	65			

WHO PREPARES TO CERTIFY MORE COUNTRIES



<u>Dr. Dirk Engels</u> of WHO chaired the 52nd Meeting of the International Coordinating Group for Dracunculiasis Eradication that met immediately after closure of the Program Managers Meeting on March 31st. Participants included representatives of The Carter Center, UNICEF, WHO, Health and Development International, and Vestergaard Frandsen, as well as delegates from Niger and

Ethiopian Guinea Worm Eradication Programs. Drs. Engels and <u>Ahmed Tayeh</u> of WHO announced that WHO conducted a pre-certification visit to Mauritania in March 2006, which included visits to 40 villages and eleven health centers in three formerly endemic regions. A similar visit to Benin is scheduled to take place on May 8 – 20, 2006, following a visit to Uganda in November 2005. Official International Certification Teams are also scheduled to visit Chad, Central African Republic (CAR), Cameroon, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Conakry over the next several months. Current plans are for the International Commission for the Certification of Dracunculiasis Eradication to consider the certification of Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Guinea-Conakry, Liberia and Sierra Leone at its sixth meeting in Geneva on March 5-7, 2007, with Benin, Kenya and Mauritania to be considered in early 2008.

Programs are advised that WHO funding for dracunculiasis activities, including potential funding for surveillance in formerly and non-endemic areas and for pre-certification activities, has been decentralized, so that requests for any such funding from WHO should be directed by ministries of health to the WHO office in country and not to the WHO's Geneva headquarters. GWEPs are advised to discuss such proposals with the intersectorial committees in their country. Preparations for an exhibit on the status of the global Dracunculiasis Eradication Program at this years's World Health Assembly in late May were also discussed at the interagency meeting.

Investigate Rumors Immediately!

SEVEN OF NINE ENDEMIC COUNTRIES REPORT ZERO CASES OF DRACUNCULIASIS DURING MARCH 2006!!

This is the first time since the beginning of the global campaign that the majority of endemic countries i.e., Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo simultaneously report zero cases of dracunculiasis for the same month (Table 5). Congratulations to all!!

GHANA: CASES UP 12% IN 2006

	TIME REMAINING TO ERADICATE DRACUNCULIASIS FROM GHANA														
2005	2006		2007												
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
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Ghana has reported a provisional total of 1,598 cases of dracunculiasis in January-March 2006, which is an increase of 12% compared to the 1,429 cases reported during the same period of 2005. Of the 3,981 cases reported in Ghana in 2005, 51% were reported from only four districts, 69% were reported from the top seven districts, and 95% were from only 15 of Ghana's 110 districts. This comes at a time when all three of Ghana's immediate neighbors (Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo) are on track to possibly stop transmission of dracunculiasis this year, and will become increasingly concerned about the relatively large numbers of cases still occurring in Ghana and putting them at risk of imported cases.

Ghana's program has finally begun to record the status of interventions monthly, data that we shall convey in the Guinea Worm Wrap-Up regularly from now on (Table 2). So far, the latter data unfortunately do not yet reflect improvements in case containment rates or in safe water supply to endemic villages. On the contrary, reported rates of case containment have declined from 2004 (66%) to 2005 (60%) to 2006 (61%), and so has the reported percentage of endemic villages with at least one or more sources of safe drinking water (46%, 39%, 35%). This may be a reporting artifact, but if so, the reporting deficiency must be corrected quickly, so that the program knows the true status of these key indicators each month, and can act to improve them where necessary. The Government of Ghana has allocated the equivalent of \$500,000 to its Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Services for the Guinea Worm Eradication Program in 2006, and it is hoped that these funds will be brought to bear in Ghana's GW program effectively. Only eleven months remain to the Golden Jubilee target date of March 6, 2007 for interrupting transmission of Guinea worm disease in Ghana!

	2005	Jan '06	Feb '06
No. cases	3981	608	584
% Cases contained	60%	54%	50%
No. Endemic villages	422	422	475
% EVs reporting	100%	74%	89%
% EVs with 100% h/h filter coverage	89%	37%	79%
% EVs with health education activities	100%	59%	89%
% EVs with 1+ safe water	39%	37%	34%
% EVs treated with ABATE	56%	14%	21%

Table 2

ABATE Effectively!

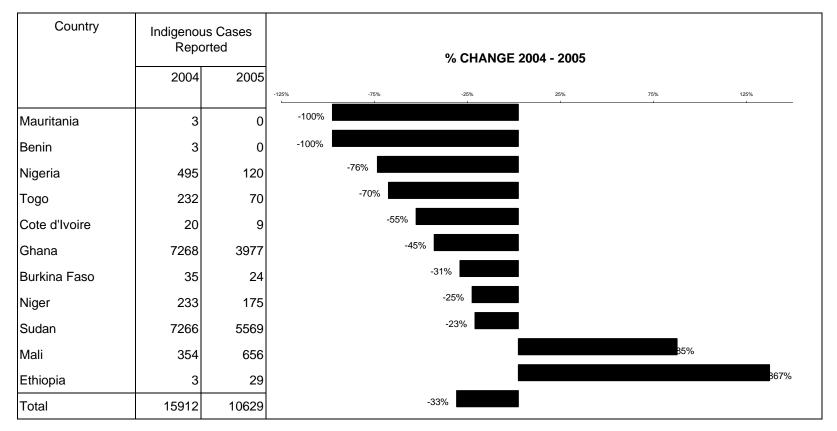
Number of Cases Contained and Number Reported by Month during 2005 (Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2004)

COUNTRIES REPORTING CASES											%			
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL*	CONT.
GHANA	³⁶³ / ₅₅₃	345 _/ 483	281 / 395	261 _/ 397	³³⁷ /458	274 _/ 383	105 / 162	37 _/ 60	³⁰ / ₅₆	⁸³ / 224	146 _/ 355	143 _/ 455	2405 _/ 3981	60
SUDAN	0 / 66	2 / 102	4 / 169	21 / 146	12 / 1606	47 / 1442	³⁶ / ₅₄₂	45 / 499	27 / 324	4 / 410	0 / 262	0 / 1	198 / 5569	4
NIGERIA	25 / 36	13 / 17	9 / 13	11 / 29	7 / 9	4 / 6	4 / 5	1 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0	2 / 2	² / ₂	78 _/ 120	65
MALI	3 / 4	1/1	1 / 1	1 / 1	22 / 25	25 / 25	43 / 86	98 / 132	163 _/ 203	94 _/ 116	47 / 52	10 / 13	508 _/ 659	77
NIGER	² / ₂	4 / 4	1 / 3	1 / 2	1 / 3	³ / ₃	5 / ₇	22 / 23	19 / 19	41 / 43	50 / 59	14 / 15	163 / 183	89
TOGO	11 / 11	1 / 4	² / ₂	³ / ₃	16 / 19	7 / 8	5 / ₆	1 / 4	0 / 1	1 / 2	4 4	7	58 _/ 73	79
BURKINA FASO	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 1	0 / ₀	³ / ₃	0 / 5	13 / 15	0 / 0	1 / 1	3 / 4	0 / 1	21 / 30	70
COTE D'IVOIRE	0 / 0	° / ₀	1 / 1	0 / ₀	0 / ₀	0 / 3	1 4	1 / 1	0 / 0	1 / 1	0 _/	0 / 0	4 / 10	40
BENIN	0 / 0	° / 0	1 / 1	° / o	0 _/	0 _/	0 / ₀	0 / 0	° / 0	0 _/ 0	0 / 0	°, 0	1 / 1	100
ETHIOPIA	² / ₂	° / ₀	0 / ₀	3 / 3	7 / 7	16 / 20	² / ₂	² / ₃	0 / 0	° / ₀	0 / 0	°, 0	³² / ₃₇	86
MAURITANIA	0 / 0	° / 0	0 _/	° / 0	0 _/ 0	0 _/	0 / ₀	0 / 0	° / 0	0 _/ 0	0 / 0	°, 0	0 / 0	0
UGANDA	°/ ₀	° / 0	0 / ₀	° / o	° / o	4 _/		² / ₂	² / ₂	° / 0	0 / 0	°, 0	⁹ / ₉	100
KENYA	°, 0	° / 0	0 _/	° / ₀	0 / ₀	² / 2	0 / ₀	0 _/ 0	0 / 0	0 _/ 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	² / ₂	100
TOTAL*	406	366	300	302 / 582	402 / 2127	385 / 1899	202 / 820	222 / 740	241 / 605	225	252	176 / 496	3479 / 10674	33
% CONTAINED	60	60	51	52	19	20	25	30	40	28	34	35	33	

Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported and contained that month.

Figure 1

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During 2004 and 2005, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



Overall % change outside Sudan =-41%

Dracunculiasis Eradication Campaign: Status of Interventions during 2005

Country	Number of reported cases	Number of reported cases	% of all cases reported that	No. of villages/localities where	% Change in cases where interventions				Villages/L	ocalities			
Country	(indigenous) in 2005		were contained during 2005	interventions were applied in 2004 and 2005	were applied in 2004-2005	No. reporting one or more cases	only imported cases	No. reporting indigenous cases	% reporting monthly^	% with filters in all households^	% using Abate^	% with one or more sources of safe water^	% provided health education^
Sudan	5,569	0	4%	1,085	-23%	1,087	0	1,085	51%	30%	2%	27%	78%
Ghana	3,977	4	60%	1,010	-56%	734	312	422	100%	89%	56%	39%	100%
Mali	656	3	77%	121	15%	140	49	91	100%	100%	69%	39%	100%
Niger	175	8	89%	45	-6%	59	29	30	100%	100%	87%	37%	100%
Nigeria	120	0	65%	106	-85%	40	7	33	100%	100%	41%	61%	100%
Тодо	70	3	79%	98	-79%	26	15	11	100%	100%	100%	58%	100%
Ethiopia	29	8	86%	8	867%	16	6	10	100%	100%	100%	33%	100%
Burkina Faso	24	6	70%	34	-70%	12	8	4	100%	80%	90%	80%	100%
Cote d'Ivoire	9	1	40%	8	-95%	5	3	2	100%	100%	100%	77%	100%
Total	10,629	33	33%	2,515	-38%	2,119	429	1,688	79%	65%	36%	36%	91%

* Uganda and Kenya (both non-endemic countries) reported 9 and 2 cases of dracunculiais, respectively imported from Sudan, and similarly, Benin reported 1 case imported from Ghana

^ The base of the percentage is the number of villages/localities where the program applied interventions during 2004-2005

Number of Cases Contained and Number Reported by Month during 2006* (Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2005)

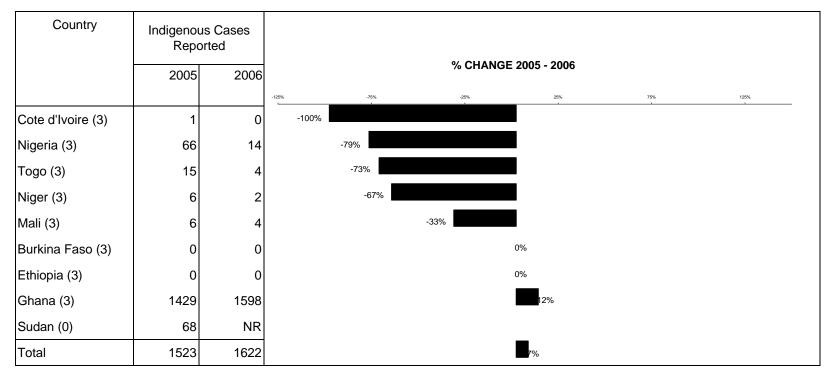
COUNTRIES REPORTING CASES		NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED												
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL*	CONT.
SUDAN	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0	
GHANA	³⁹⁶ / ₆₀₈	372 / 584	206 / 406	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	974 / 1598	61
MALI	³ / ₃	1/1	0 / 1	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	4 / 5	80
NIGER	² / ₂	0 / 0	° / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	2 / 2	100
NIGERIA	0 / ₀	10 14	°/ ₀	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	10 / 14	71
TOGO	1 / 1	² / ₃	° / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	3 / 4	75
BURKINA FASO	° / 0	0 / 0	°/0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0	
COTE D'IVOIRE	° / ₀	0 / 0	° / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0	
ETHIOPIA	1 / 1	° / 0	° / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1	100
TOTAL*	403 / 615	385	206 / 407	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	994 / 1624	61
% CONTAINED	66	64	51										61	

* provisional

Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported and contained that month.

Figure 2

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2005 and 2006*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



(3)Indicates months for which reports were received, i.e., Jan. - Mar. 2006 * Provisional

Nigeria Guinea Worm Eradication Program Investigation of Rumors of Cases of Guinea Worm Disease

			Country: NIGERIA			Month/Year: MA	ARCH 2006						
						Date		Outcomes					
		Plac	e of origin of Rumor		Rumor report	Rumor	Rumor	Case of GWD	If GWD, was	lf not	If not GWD, indicate		
						investigation	investigation	confirmed:	transmission	contained,	conditions ailing		
S/N	Zone	State	LGA	Village	received	begun	ended	(yes/no)	contained	why?	patient which led to		
1	NC	Benue	Obi	Obijago	6-Mar-06	6-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	boil		
2	NC	Benue	Obi	Igwe II	6-Mar-06	6-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Swelling		
3	NC	Benue	Oju	Eka	6-Mar-06	7-Mar-06	18-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Infected ulcer		
4	NC	Benue	Oju	Ameka	6-Mar-06	8-Mar-06	18-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Single boil		
5	NC	Benue	Oju	Okonche	12-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Scare		
6	NC	Benue	Oju	Oye Ibele	12-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	13-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	boil		
7	NC	Benue	Obi	Igwe II	16-Mar-06	16-Mar-06	20-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Ulcer		
8	NE	Borno	Bama	Bama Town	4-Mar-06	4-Mar-06	4-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Internal pains		
9	NE	Borno	Kaga	Ngamdu	10-Mar-06	10-Mar-06	16-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Calsified worm		
10	NE	Borno	Abadam	M/Faturi	20-Mar-06	20-Mar-06	22-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Falsehood		
11	SE	Ebonyi	Ebonyi	Okwerike Ishieke	15-Mar-06	15-Mar-06	15-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	wonud		
12	SW	OYO	IBARAPA NORTH	GAATEMIDIRE	6-Mar-06	6-Mar-06	6-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	wonud		
13	SW	OYO	IBARAPA NORTH	A.U.D	10-Mar-06	10-Mar-06	10-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	wonud		
14	SW	OYO	IBARAPA NORTH	OMINIGBO	15-Mar-06	15-Mar-06	15-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	wonud		
15	SW	OYO	IBARAPA NORTH	OKE-OLAII	16-Mar-06	16-Mar-06	16-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Swelling		
16	SW	OYO	IDDO LGA	AKUFO	30-Mar-06	30-Mar-06	30-Mar-06	No	N/A	N/A	Swelling		

MASSIVE PUBLIC "APPLAUSE" FOR BENIN AND UGANDA

During one of the mailings to supporters of The Carter Center late last year, the director of that activity highlighted Benin and Uganda as two countries that recently broke transmission of Guinea worm disease. She also mentioned that the heads of state of those two countries might like to receive some congratulations and encouragement to remain vigilant until the disease is eradicated everywhere. The response was overwhelming: at last count in January 2006, The Carter Center had received 10,450 letters for the president of Benin, and 10,300 letters for the President of Uganda! The boxes of letters, which weigh 42 pounds (about 20 kilos) each, will be mailed to the respective presidents this month.

Forcasting!

IN BRIEF:

<u>Burkina Faso</u> had 8 uncontained cases in 6 villages in 2005. Zero cases reported during January, Februay and March 2006.

<u>Cote d'Ivoire.</u> The minister of health visited the endemic village of Arrah during the national Guinea Worm Day celebration in March 2006. He was accompanied by the resident representatives of UNICEF and WHO. Zero cases reported during the last 7 consecutive months!

<u>Nigeria</u> has reported no uncontained cases between August 2005 and January 2006. The four officially uncontained cases that occurred in one village in February 2006 were in fact surrounded by several interventions, including ABATE ® larviciding. Nigerian health authorities, however, are not prepared to maintain adequate surveillance for dracunculiasis in the vast areas of the country that are now free of the disease, although the reward for reporting of a case is widely publicized. Nigeria reported zero cases of GWD during March 2006, the fourth time since August 2005 that zero cases have been reported nationwide.

Sudan reported a total of four imported cases in the northern states during 2005.

The governments of <u>Cote d'Ivoire</u>, <u>Ethiopia</u>, <u>Mali</u> and <u>Niger</u> have allocated the equivalents of \$188,000; \$3,496; \$16,000; and \$53,000 respectively, for their national Guinea Worm Eradication Programs, according to data presented at the Program Managers meeting in Niamey.

Diversified IEC!

STATUS OF GATES / UNICEF WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS

Mali. 11 of 14 wells completed, covering 138 of the 649 cases reported in Mali in 2005. Drilling teams are in the field for the remaining wells.

Niger. 7 of 12 wells completed, covering 31 of 183 cases reported in Niger in 2005.

Togo. 14 of 14 new wells successfully drilled, but not yet fitted with hand pumps. Scheduled to be fitted with hand pumps by mid-April 2006. When completed, these wells will cover 28 of the 70 cases reported in Togo in 2005.

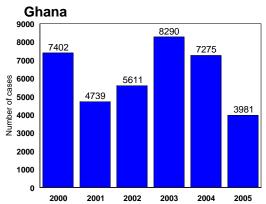
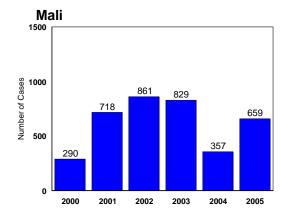
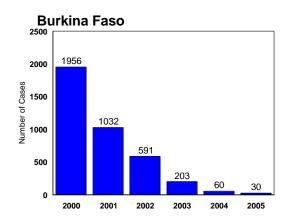
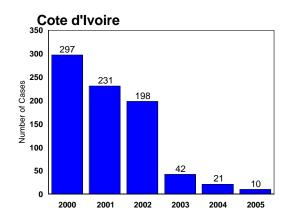
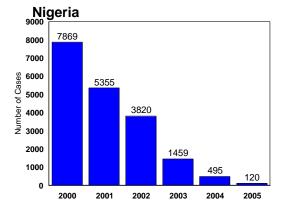


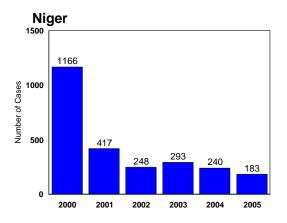
Figure 3 Number of Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported: 2000 - 2005

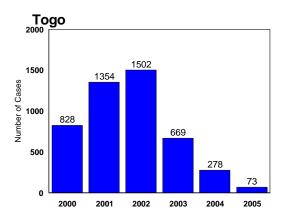












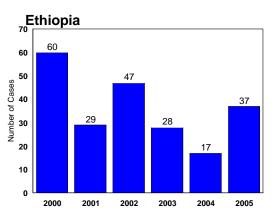
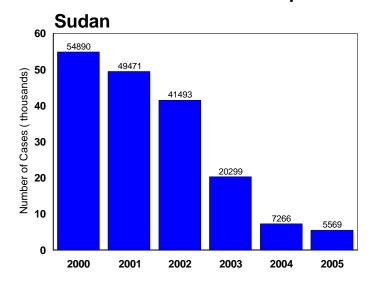


Figure 4



Number of Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported: 2000 - 2005

2006 FRANCOPHONE PROGRAM REVIEW

This year's Program Review for the remaining endemic francophone countries will be held at The Carter Center on November 14 -15, 2006.

Inclusion of information in the Guinea Worm Wrap-Up does not constitute "publication" of that information. In memory of BOB KAISER

For information about the GW Wrap-Up, contact Dr. Sharon Roy, WHO Collaborating Center for Research, Training, and Eradication of Dracunculiasis, NCID, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, F-22, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724, U.S.A. FAX: 770-488-7761. The GW Wrap-Up web location is <u>http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/guineaworm/default.htm</u>.

