



INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION MEETING



POLIO TRANSITION

Abdullahi Abdihakim Ismail
Director of Public Health

Garowe, Puntland, Somalia





Brief Background



- ❑ Polio eradication activities were initiated in Somalia in 1997. Somalia is one of the countries whose polio program depends almost exclusively on the GPEI.
- ❑ GPEI resources are progressively declining and will cease completely once global eradication is achieved.
- ❑ To ensure a smooth transition away from GPEI funding, Somalia needs to sustain its national polio and immunization programs through other resources.
- ❑ Routed primarily through WHO and UNICEF. GPEI provided more than \$49.5 million to Somalia (17.9m for 2017, 16m for 2018 and 15.6m for 2019).
- ❑ Polio structure is used in all emergencies including COVID-19.



Transition Progress



- Somalia has eradicated Wild Polio Virus(WPV) (August 2014) but is affected by cVDPV2.
- Discussions on transitional planning started in 2018.
- Last meeting held in Nairobi in May 2018, attended by FGS/FMS MOH, three major health priorities were identified for polio asset transition, these were:
 - ✓ Disease surveillance,
 - ✓ Basic health service delivery including immunization in particular, and
 - ✓ Response to public health emergencies, including nutrition.
- MOHs agreed next steps
 - ✓ Development of a plan for the transition of polio assets and infrastructure
 - ✓ A communication plan for stakeholders
 - ✓ A resource mobilization strategy

Polio transition Progress- cont.....

- ❑ The polio assets in Somalia are mainly human resources, knowledge, planning and information management tools and surveillance systems, not laboratory capacity or transport fleet.
- ❑ Due to declining funds, we understand there will be a reduction in workforce and the need to recruit new team, reflecting on the transition priorities. From more than 400 to 142 PHOs at district and regional levels.
- ❑ The polio transition plan and resources will end by 2023 - we have less than 3 years to rollout the transition plan before the GPEI resources dry up.

Where are we now

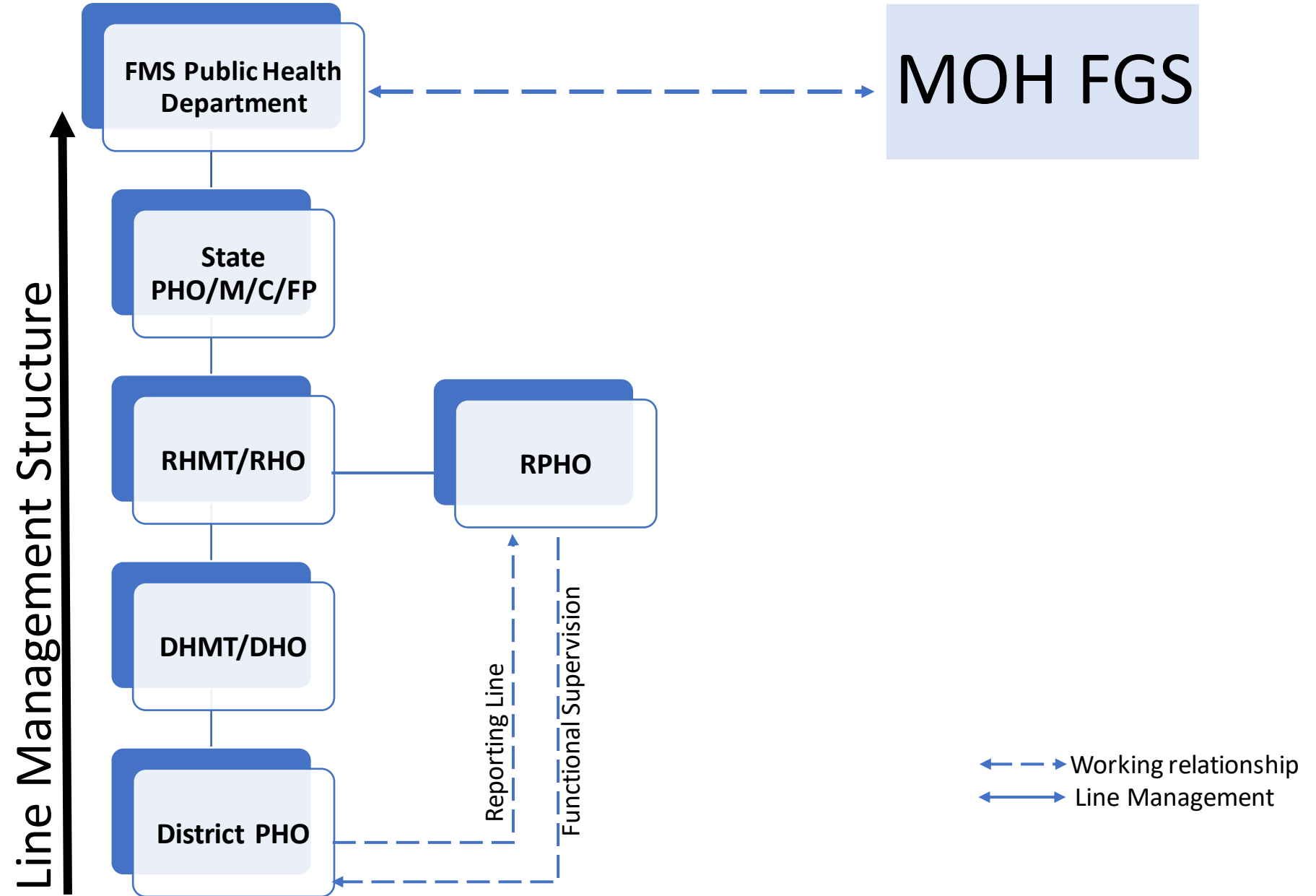


Country Transition Planning Dashboard (30th June 2018)

Country	Communication initiated	Coordination body established	Mapping of assets	Mapping of priorities	Transition strategy agreed	Transition plan drafted and costed <small>(detailed costing are still being finalized in some countries)</small>	Transition plan finalized and funding agreed
Afghanistan							
Angola	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Bangladesh	Complete	N/A	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Cameroon	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Chad	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
DRCongo	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Ethiopia	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
India - WHO	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Indonesia	Complete	N/A	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Myanmar	Complete	N/A	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Nepal	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Nigeria	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process	In process
Pakistan							
Somalia	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process	Not yet started
South Sudan	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In process
Sudan	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Not yet started

Proposed Structure

CURRENT STRUCTURE:
Entirely owned and managed by WHO



Summary Highlights



2014

Last case of WPV. Polio Transition talk started.

2016:

Somalia selected as priority country

2018:

Polio transition workshop held.

Priority areas identified.

Next steps agreed.

2021-2022:

- Polio Transition Task force
- Polio HR integrated as PHOs at District & Regional levels.
- Polio Transition Plan developed
- Funding secured

Challenges facing the polio transition

- ❑ Somalia is facing unique challenges which requires flexibility
- ❑ Due to the prevailing economic situation, the government is unable to meet the cost of these public health officer in the short term.
- ❑ Sustainable solution is needed before the GPEI resources end by 2023
- ❑ The lack of integration of EPI and the polio eradication program structures in WHO country office. UNICEF is already integrated.
- ❑ The change of guard of the WHO polio program.
- ❑ Continued circulation of cVDPV2. There are 14 cVDPV2 cases reported in 2020. crossed to neighboring Kenya late last year.

Immediate next steps/The Way forward:

- ❑ Establish Polio transition task force (made up of FMS/FGS MOH) to coordinate with WHO.
- ❑ Prepare for the transitioning of PHOs into FMS MOH structures. This will be completed in 2021. TORs finalized.
- ❑ MoHs and WHO CO to finalize the transition plan in the next 1-2 months.
- ❑ WHO to assist MOHs in resource mobilization from potential donors until MoH finds sustainable finances (domestic and external) in the next 2 years.
- ❑ Political commitment to keep Somalia polio free

END

ANY Q?