

# **POLIO ERADICATION**

*and*



**STRENGTHENING ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION**

**IN  
NIGERIA**

## Concept Paper

### State<sup>1</sup> Polio Eradication Emergency Operations Centres (EOC)

#### 1. Concept of Polio Eradication Emergency Operations Centres

A Polio Eradication Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is a Government led process where key Government and polio eradication partner staff work together in the same physical location with the aim of improving information sharing as well as joint programming (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation). The EOC is expected to be a full-time operation, promote a framework for joint problem identification and solving and enhancing more coordinated response to evolving situation.

#### 2. Strengthening Polio Eradication EOCs in High Risk State

It is proposed that Polio Eradication EOCs be established in high-risk states to support BOTH campaign and intra-campaign activities. The EOCs will be led by senior, action-oriented State Government and NPHCDA officials and have deployment of experienced staff members from the GPEI partners (BMGF, CDC, Rotary, UNICEF and WHO). The main objectives of the strengthened EOCs will be to:

- Integrate all elements of the emergency efforts
- Support timely analysis and interpretation of key data including review of WPV epidemiology
- Ensure timely dissemination of information and data to key stakeholders including Presidential and State Task Forces, PEI Working Groups at State level, and other partners including the NTLC.
- Provide common framework for problem solving through facilitating (a) daily meetings of senior staff during campaign pre-

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<sup>1</sup> Targeting high risk states with persistent poliovirus transmission; Bauchi, Borno, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Niger, Sokoto, Yobe, Zamfara

implementation and implementation periods (b) at least weekly meetings of technical groups including State Technical Teams, LGA Technical teams (with special focus on the very high risk LGAs)

- Facilitate faster and more coordinated response to data including surveillance/laboratory data, investigation of confirmed cases, SIA reports...etc
- Monitoring and ensuring timely implementation of tasks and action points from Task Forces and technical group meetings
- Monitor efforts to intensify routine immunization in the highest risk areas and other priority in-between campaign activities.
- Prepare and disseminate regular reports for decision makers and stake-holders

#### **Operations**

- It shall run a full-time operation, including during SIAs.
- All staff of the operations shall be accountable to the Commissioner of Health and function in an emergency mode
- The EOC will provide a weekly brief for the State Task Force Chairman.
  - More frequent updates may be indicated during campaigns
- The EOC will assume the secretariat functions for the monthly meeting of the State Task Force on Immunization. It will also Circulate notice of meetings, draw up agenda, taking minutes and circulate all reports to members
- Ensure contact and engagement with other working groups, state teams, and other stakeholders

- Prepare workplans and schedule of activities for the specific rounds in line with the POA for polio eradication initiatives
- Organize and coordinate effectively available human resources for the monitoring the quality of SIAs to have maximum impact.
- Develop appropriate, specific operational indicators that that state teams can regularly report.
- Plan and coordinate activities across borders in LGAs bordering neighboring countries

#### **4.2. State Level EOC**

##### **Management**

- Management team: Led by senior SMOH official supported by official from NPHCDA and SMOLG. Include representative from partner organizations

##### **Staffing**

- Experienced officers from partners i.e. BMGF, CDC, Rotary, UNICEF, WHO

##### **Infrastructure:**

- Workstations with computers, printers, scanners, internet facilities

#### **5. Reporting Mechanisms**

- Daily briefs to HCH and HCLG
- Daily report to National EOC
- Weekly briefs to Chair, State Task Force on Immunization