

U.N. IN ACTION

Week of 14 November 2005 Programme No. 983 Length: 3'23"

WHO ASSISTS IN POLIO CAMPAIGN IN YEMEN

VIDEO

<u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION

PARALYZED BOY EXAMINED BY DOCTOR	Khalid Muhammad Hadi was a normal 5-year old boy running around with his friends. Then all of a sudden he couldn't walk, says his father. (9)
FATHER ON-CAMERA	<u>KHALID'S FATHER</u> : (In Arabic) "The child was playing normally with other children, but something happened to him that now he can't stand up." (8)
PARALYZED CHILDREN	NARRATION Khalid is one of more than 330 Yemeni children who are now paralyzed because of the recent Polio outbreak in Yemen early this year. (9)
SCENES FROM YEMEN	Yemen was free of Polio. The last case reported in the country was in 2000. The outbreak caught local and international health experts off guard says Dr. Hashim Elzein, Representative of the World health Organization, WHO, in Yemen. (16)

DR. ELZEIN ON-CAMERA	DR. ELZEIN: "Really, it was shocking for us to know that polio was back after five years and then we started immediately sending our teams to the field." (12)
GRAPHICS SHOWING THE ROUTE OF THE DISEASE	NARRATION The Polio virus, which invades the nervous system and causes paralysis mainly in young children, originated in western Africa. It travelled from Nigeria through Sudan and Saudi Arabia, to Yemen. (13)
CHILDREN WITH POLIO	By mid May 2005, 18 cases of polio were reported in the country following the completion of a routine national immunization programme conducted in April. By early July more than 330 cases were confirmed. (17)
PRESS CONFERENCE	The Yemeni Ministry of health, WHO and UNICEF decided that there was an urgent need for a massive immunization campaign to reach all children. (9)
DOOR TO DOOR CAMPAIGN	For 3 days, in July 2005, thousands of immunization teams went door to door throughout the country immunizing all children they could find. Immunization centres were also set up in heavily populated neighbourhoods. Parents, such as Muhsen Al-Najjar, were pleased with the effort. (21)

AL-NAJJAR ON-CAMERA	<u>MUHSEN AL-NAJJAR</u> : (In Arabic) "Now I feel relaxed because I did what I had to do for my children." (4)
PRESS CONFERENCE/TEAM MEMBER KNOCKING ON DOOR	NARRATION But local press and some residents were sceptical about the vaccine. They believed that the first immunization round in April was the cause of the polio cases. (11)
DR. HASHIM ON-CAMERA	DR. HASHIM: "We found some resistance in some areas that they don't want the immunization." (4.5)
MORE IMMUNIZATION/LOUD SPEAKER	NARRATION The July drive was the second of two major vaccination campaigns and targeted some three million people, including almost a million children under the age of five. (11)
KHALID AND OTHER CHILDREN RECEIVING PHYSICAL THERAPY	For Khalid and other unfortunate children who are already struck by the disease, vaccination came late. Their families pray and hope that one day they will be able to walk again. (13)
LOGO	This report was prepared by United Nations Television. (3)