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

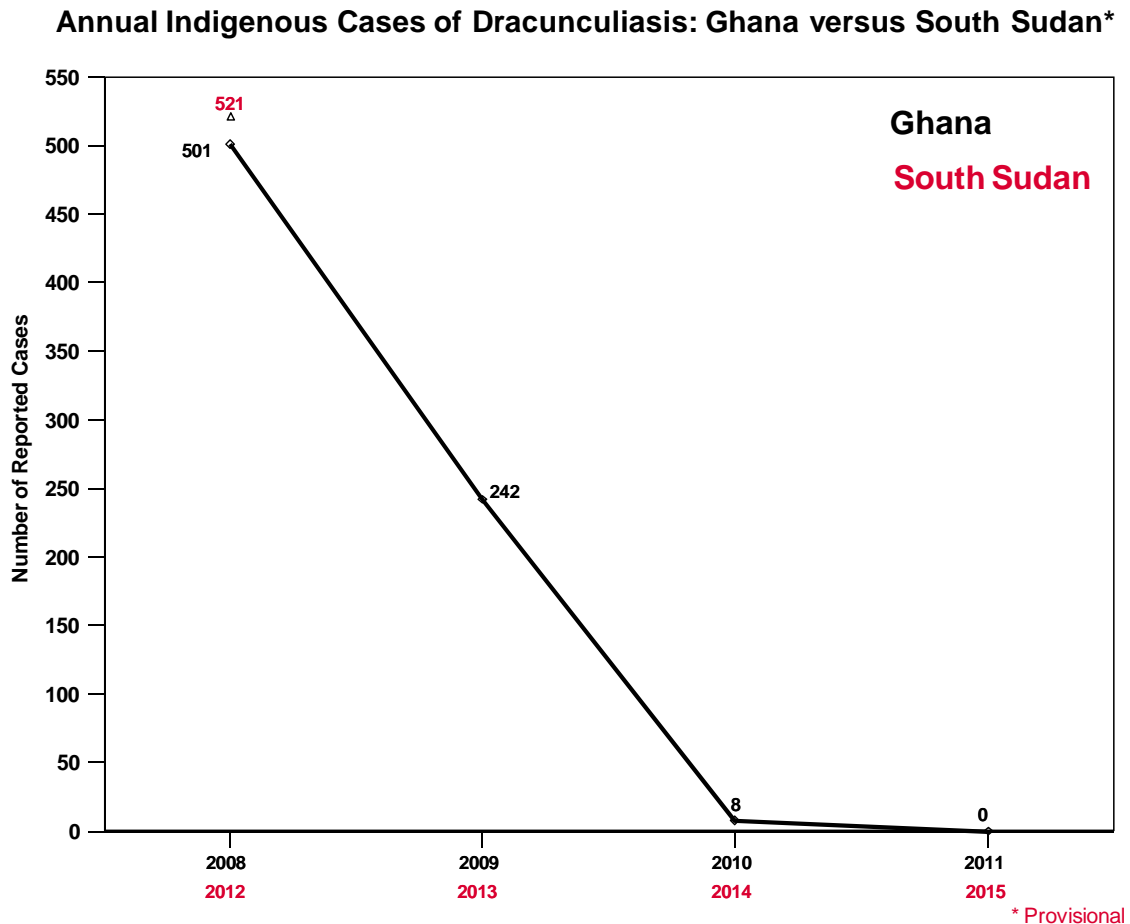
Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #217

To: Addressees

**NO GUINEA WORM DISEASE REPORTED WORLDWIDE (PROVISIONALLY) IN
JANUARY!!**

As of February 11, no case of Guinea worm disease has been reported worldwide for the first time since the eradication campaign began collecting surveillance data in 1981. Notably, this includes the first ever zero case month for South Sudan. This is not the end of Guinea worm disease-there will be cases later in 2013-but we can see the end from here. If the South Sudan Guinea Worm Eradication Program can match the performance of Ghana’s Guinea Worm Eradication Program in Ghana’s final three years (501 annual cases in 2008 to last case in May 2010, 18 months later: see Figure 1), and if Chad, Ethiopia and Mali follow suit, this war will be over.

Figure 1



PROGRESS TOWARDS ERADICATION

During 2012 the 4 currently endemic countries reported 542 cases of GWD, 346 (64%) contained, (including 3 cases exported from Ansongo District, Cercer Region of Mali into Tillaberi District of Niger

Figure 2

Reported Cases of Dracunculiasis by Country in 2011 and 2012*



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

Contributors to this issue were: the national Guinea worm Eradication Programs, Drs. Donald R. Hopkins and Ernesto Ruiz-Tiben, and Mr. Craig Withers of The Carter Center, Dr. Gautam Biswas of WHO, and Drs. Sharon Roy and Mark Eberhard of CDC.

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