



FANTASTIC POLIO NEWS

With no Wild Polio Virus detected in Nigeria since 2016, the country has been removed from the list of WPV-endemic countries.

The move follows last month's deliberations of the independent ARCC meeting, which reviewed and accepted the complete documentation for Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Nigeria and South Sudan, supporting wild poliovirus-free status of these countries. With Nigeria officially free of WPVs, the African Region remains on track to be certified free of WPVs, which should occur in late August,

No Wild Polio Virus has been detected anywhere in the African Region since 2016. This tremendous achievement stands in stark contrast to 1996, when Nelson Mandela, together with Rotary and other partners, launched the Kick Polio Out of Africa campaign, at a time when wild poliovirus paralysed more than 75,000 children every single year, all over the continent.

WPV Update

Only two countries are still reporting cases of polio – Pakistan and Afghanistan

As at 4 August 2020 the polio numbers for **2020** are:

- **97 WPV1 cases** (63 in Pakistan and 34 in Afghanistan)

In **2019** as at 6 August there were:

- **60 WPV1 cases** reported (48 in Pakistan and 12 in Afghanistan)

So, the situation has worsened but not to a worrying degree – YET!

EPN Fund update

It is disappointing to report that the funds received on 2019/2020 from clubs in D1220 were down on those received in the previous Rotary year. Rotary International needs to raise \$50 million every year to maximise the 2 for 1 donation for Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Please can I urge all clubs in D1220 to do their bit towards this goal. We are 99.9% there but the last .1% will be the hardest and we must complete our promise to rid the world of polio once and for all

'If polio is not defeated everywhere it is not defeated anywhere'