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- All the 47 Member States of World Health Organization African Region are affected by bacterial meningitis
- Member States most at risk are in the African meningitis belt (All the 26 Member States of the African meningitis belt are at high or medium risk)
- Among the 13 meningitis high risk Member States, 12 are in the African meningitis belt and the other one is Angola

## BACKGROUND

- Meningococcal disease remains a major public health problem in Africa.
- Equity is one of the guiding principles for the implementation of the Regional Framework to defeat meningitis in Africa by 2030.
- Interventions and support should be adapted to the level of risk.
- The objective of the study is to conduct a meningitis landscape analysis for all 47 countries of the WHO African Region (WHO AFRO).

## METHODS

- To ensure an effective and systematic implementation of the regional Framework to defeat meningitis in Africa by 2030, WHO AFRO conducted a meningitis high-level landscape analysis for all countries of the African region.
- The criteria utilized to conduct the landscape analysis were the meningitis epidemiological situation, the health service assessment, and the climatic and environmental risk factors, using data from 2017 to 2019.
- Scores were assigned to each variable within a criterion to give a maximum of 100. The findings of the analysis were used to classify countries in three categories. Countries that obtained a score between 70 and 100 were classified as high priority, those with a score between 40 and 69 were medium priority, and countries that achieved a score below 40 are low priority.

## RESULTS

- Of the 47 countries in the WHO African Region:
  - 13 (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, and South Sudan) were classified at high risk,
  - 27 (Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Ivory Coast, Congo, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia) at medium risk, and
  - 9 (Algeria, Botswana, Eswatini, Gambia, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) at low risk of meningitis (figure 1).
- Countries at high and medium risk of meningitis, totaling 38, are prioritized for the development and implementation of national plans to defeat meningitis by 2030. Countries at low risk will also be supported based on their needs by virtue of equity

## RESULTS CONTINUED

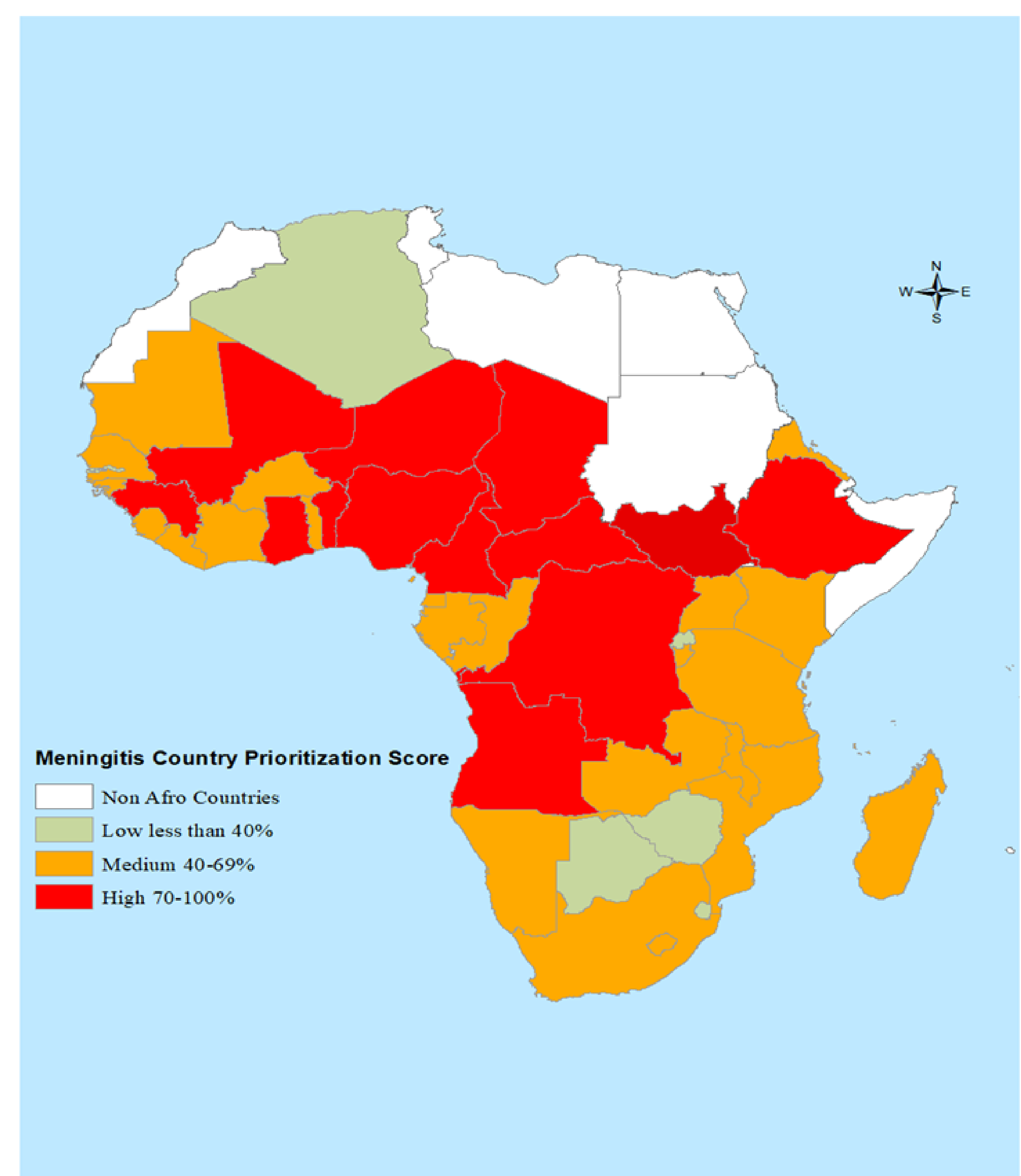


Figure 1: Meningitis landscape risk analysis

## CONCLUSIONS

- Results of the meningitis landscape risk analysis contributed to develop the regional implementation Framework to defeat meningitis by 2030.
- Member States of the WHO AFRO should develop their national plans which might take in consideration results from this study.

## ADDITIONAL KEY INFORMATION

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