

UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) External Situation Report

2 February 2015

KEY POINTS

- Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon assures that UN will stay the course on EVD response efforts
- Overview of Needs and Requirements (ONR) funding gap- USD 1 billion
- Response partners support provision of essential services in affected countries

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. On 30 January in Addis Ababa, the 24th session of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union was convened. In her opening remarks, the African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, praised the work of the 835 African health workers who were deployed to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone under the banner of the African Union Support to the Ebola Outbreak in West Africa (ASEOWA); thanked the African private sector for their partnership with the African Union in the fight against Ebola; and underscored that "We must continue to mobilise our people to contribute to the campaign and to keeping health workers on the ground, until the countries are officially Ebola free." Addressing the session, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon assured African leaders of the support of the United Nations in helping the countries affected by Ebola "build back stronger than ever," while the head of the UN development agency tasked with leading the Organization's recovery efforts urged the world to stay the course in aiding hard-hit West Africa.

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 22,124 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 8,829 deaths.
3. On 30 January, CDC visited Gogoima village for the fourth time in search of a quarantined patient who escaped from Camp 3 in Tewor district in Grand Cape Mount (GCM) on 23 January. It is rumoured that the patient along with one parent travelled to Monrovia.
4. A 35-year-old female and her mother from Todee district, Montserrado County, Liberia, tested positive for EVD and were admitted to the Tubmanburg ETU in Bomi County. The County Surveillance Officer (CSO) supported by Action contre la faim (ACF) and Medical Teams International (MTI) are tracing 12 contacts.
5. In the previous week, WFP supplied food commodities to quarantined households and six quarantined communities in Port Loko District, Sierra Leone. In addition, WFP provided one month rations in Kenema Township where 29 new households were recently quarantined and to hotspots in Kono District. With CIDO, WFP completed food distributions for over 5,800 beneficiaries in Rotifunk community in Moyamba.
6. While the Lofa County administration and the CHT in collaboration with partners completed a one-day workshop to finalize its EVD phase II quarterly response plan (Jan – April 2015), Sinoe County discussed its Phase II plan with stakeholders on 31 January. Community resistance along with security challenges were identified as an area of concern in the implementation of Phase I. The District Superintendent from Jedepo suggested that the local authorities ought to be involved from the early stage in the planning. The Superintendent also reported that the remote communities in Jedepo need basic supplies and enhance surveillance measures to monitor movements into Greenville area.
7. Also in Liberia, UNMEER, CARE, UNICEF and the WHO visited 4 towns (Penota, Jorwah, Cow farm and Naama) in Panta District, Bong County for social mobilization activities. All the towns have never had an Ebola case since the outbreak. Hand washing facilities were present in all the four towns and were in use although the towns have run out of chlorine, which UNICEF provide. Concerns were raised by the communities on whether the schools are safe and ready for the proposed opening

date. The team also met the border officials along the Liberia-Guinea border to disseminate information on Ebola.

8. The WHO infection prevention and control (IPC) team is working with partners including the CDC, the MoH&SW, MSF and ASEOWA to improve triage in healthcare facilities in regions of Montserrado County, Liberia that have had recent cases of EVD. In the previous week, WHO provided technical support to the MoH&SW to complete the desk review for health system and development of the investment plan. Support was also provided to develop a log frame and complete preparations for the associated field assessment.

Logistics

9. In addition to the provision of common logistics services, WFP, during the next phase of the response will align its strategy with those of key health partners, supporting their ability to intensify the implementation of contact tracing and surveillance, as part of the district-by-district approach.
10. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

Resource Mobilisation

11. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.22 billion, which is around 54% of the total ask.
12. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 135.8 million in commitments. In total USD 140 million has been pledged.
13. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of their contributions via the e-mail address: fts@un.org.

Outreach and Education

14. UNICEF sponsored social mobilization teams in collaboration with Development Communication Initiatives (DCI) and Professional Artist Group (PAG) conducted door-to-door community awareness on EVD prevention and the distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials in Voinjama, Zorzor and Salayea Districts to 3,087 beneficiaries.

Essential Services

15. On 30 January, a joint UNMEER and ASEOWA team concluded a two-day survey of 12 difficult to reach educational institutions in need of support in Montserrado County, Liberia. The team found that two rooms in a school in Todee District had been used as an isolation center for 32 EVD cases in August 2014 and are yet to be sprayed. The team plans to continue such assessments in the area.
16. In the previous week, UNICEF in Guinea handed over 300 motorcycles and 37 4x4s to the National Ebola Coordination through a donation from the World Bank; made cash transfers to the guardians of 1,180 children and provided school supplies to 2,000 children who have lost one or both parents; and other supplies to four partners providing psychosocial support in 300 communities.
17. In response to ongoing transmission and community resistance in Montserrado County area, Liberia, WHO, CDC, ACF and IRC delivered on 1 February more infection prevention and control (IPC) training to public health physicians deployed by the African Union. Going forward, the physicians will deploy to the highest-priority clinics in the county to monitor triage and provide support for IPC. Twelve social workers have been deployed by the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare (MoH&SW) to communities within the county to facilitate community dialogue and reinforce continued vigilance on EVD efforts. This approach was successfully used in other resistant communities earlier during the response.
18. In parallel to its EVD efforts, WFP has maintained vital food and nutrition assistance to persons living with HIV. WFP completed food distributions for clients with HIV in six districts including Kailahun, Kono, Bo, Pujehun, Bonthe and Kenema. The nutrition support helps to ensure that the special dietary needs required for adherence to anti-retroviral therapy are met.

Upcoming Events

19. NSTR

Attachments and resources

20. Reliefweb: [Maps on the EVD response](#)