

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

5 June 2015

(The External Situation Report is now circulated on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays)

## **KEY POINTS**

- The Presidents of Guinea and Sierra Leone met today at the border town of Pamelap to enhance Ebola-related cross-border cooperation.
- Continued reports of community resistance against the Ebola response in Guinea.

#### **Key Political and Economic Developments**

1. The Presidents of Guinea and Sierra Leone met today at the border town of Pamelap for an Ebola response cross-border collaboration meeting. UN Special Envoy for Ebola, Dr. David Nabarro, and UNMEER Acting SRSG, Mr. Peter Graaff, were in attendance. The meeting was expected to reiterate that community engagement is critical for Guinea and Sierra Leone to get to zero as well as to reinforce the importance of cross border collaboration designed to align Ebola response strategies and interventions in border communities.

## **Response Efforts and Health**

- 2. In total, 27,173 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 11,149 reported deaths.
- 3. In the context of community resistance in Kamsar (Boké prefecture, Guinea), the Health Minister and the Communication Minister organized a meeting on 1 June with representatives of the civil society (youth, women, religious leaders and traditional authorities) to brief participants on Ebola prevention mechanisms in an attempt to gain community trust and cooperation. Once sensitized, the participants promised to collaborate with the Ebola response in the area and made a declaration on the radio about the need to launch the Ebola response in Kamsar as soon as possible. In Boké, safe and dignified burials were carried out again on 3 June by the International Medical Corps (IMC). WHO teams were expected to return and continue contact tracing activities during the evening of 3 June, 72 hours after they stopped.
- 4. Following the recent confirmed Ebola case in Fria prefecture, Guinea, as of 30 May, 89 contacts had been registered in two localities of Banguinet sub-prefecture. 7 of these contacts had reportedly fled to various locations within the prefecture. On 31 May, a community death was buried in Fria locality without a safe burial since the Red Cross stopped some of their activities in Fria due to insecurity in Boké and Dubréka.
- 5. There have been several reported cases of community resistance in Guinea in the last few days. On 1 June, in the Ratoma commune of Conakry, a team that was going to carry out a safe burial was blocked by a barricade and was unable to collect the corpse. On 3 June, several people started protesting against the Ebola response during a visit by a delegation from the National Coordination to Dubréka.
- 6. Following reports of recently confirmed Ebola cases in Boké close to the border with Guinea-Bissau, WFP is actively supporting partners' preparedness efforts to rapidly detect and respond to a potential outbreak in the country.
- 7. Since the start of the Ebola vaccine trial in Guinea, 3,075 persons, of which 575 were health agents, have been vaccinated. WHO have recruited an additional 200 national workers in Guinea to help support the vaccine trial.

# Logistics

8. For regular logistics operational information please visit http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14.

9. The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is providing radio services in 18 towns across Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to ensure access to secure telecommunications for humanitarian responders.

## **Resource Mobilisation**

- 10. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totalling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.5 billion, which is around 66% of the total ask.
- 11. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total USD 142 million has been pledged.
- 12. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<a href="http://fts.unocha.org">http://fts.unocha.org</a>) of their contributions via the e-mail address: fts@un.org.

#### **Outreach and Education**

13. NSTR.

#### **Essential Services**

- 14. As part of WFP's support to the nationwide school clean-up initiative in Sierra Leone, food rations were distributed to 6,930 participants from 693 schools in the districts of Bombali, Tonkolili and Koinadugu. Distributions are ongoing throughout the country to provide volunteers with a WFP food ration for work done under this initiative.
- 15. WFP is working with communities to support livelihood protection and recovery efforts alongside the continued health response: partnerships with local farmer organizations are used to procure food directly from smallholder farmers. For instance, so far in May, WFP has collected 135mt of rice and 15mt of pigeon peas from farmers supported by its Purchase for Progress (P4P) programme in Sierra Leone.

# **Upcoming Events**

16. NSTR.

#### Attachments and resources

17. Reliefweb: Maps on the EVD response.