



PRESS RELEASE

Chief of UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response calls for calm and for protection of national and international actors involved in fight against Ebola in Guinea

Conakry, 1 June 2015 – Mr. Abdou Dieng, Head of the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) in Guinea, expressed serious concern about the recent incidents that jeopardized the activities and the safety of national and international actors involved in the fight against Ebola. At Kamsar (prefecture of Boké) public buildings were damaged. At Tanéné (prefecture of Dubréka) an ambulance of the Prefectoral Directorate of Public Health was burned. In the prefecture of Fria Ebola response partners were attacked, resulting in the intervention of the police.

"I call upon all the people of Guinea to support and to collaborate with national and international stakeholders in the fight against Ebola. Incidents such as those occurred in the past few days have seriously hampered the aid workers remarkable performance and jeopardized the treatment of people with the Ebola virus disease. "

In cooperation with the National Coordination, UNMEER and other response partners have increased their presence to address the latest epidemiological developments in affected prefectures and sub-prefectures.

"The deployment of the actors involved in the response against Ebola should be accompanied by effective communication to ensure that the population is prepared for these interventions and to avoid stigmatization of reported cases," says Dieng. "Ebola response partners provide help and support to stop the spread of the epidemic."

Mr. Dieng reiterates that resistance against national and international actors hinders their efforts to help the Guinean people in the fight against the epidemic.

These incidents also have a negative impact on the upcoming early Ebola Virus Disease detection and sensitisation campaign in Dubréka, scheduled to start on June 5, 2015.

The Head of the UN Mission in Guinea renews the solidarity of the United Nations with the people and the government of Guinea. He also extends his condolences to the families of the epidemic's victims.
