

International Ebola Recovery Conference

New York, 10 July 2015

Summary Report

1. The Secretary General hosted an international Conference on Ebola recovery on 10 July 2015 in partnership with the Governments of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and with the support of the African Development Bank, the African Union, the European Union and the World Bank. The purpose of this conference was to focus international attention on the need for targeted investments for the three countries to support recovery priorities over a 24-month timeframe and to mobilize funding to meet these needs. The concept note of the Conference is attached in Annex 1, and the programme of the conference is attached in Annex 2.
2. The Conference was preceded by a day of technical consultations on 9 July (see the agenda in Annex 3) during which the Ministers of Finance from the three countries and the Secretary-General of the Mano River Union presented their respective recovery plans. These presentations were followed by thematic panel discussions, in which a wide range of actors from governments, the private sector, and civil society participated. Brief conclusions of these sessions are attached in Annex 4.
3. The Secretary-General opened the Conference by highlighting the devastating impacts of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, which extend well beyond the numbers of cases and the tragic loss of lives. The outbreak has slowed economic growth; eroded progress on peace and development, poverty reduction, health and social services; and set back efforts to strengthen social cohesion in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The Secretary-General spoke about the need to remain focused on ending the outbreak as a matter of urgency, as well as to lay the foundation for a sustainable return to the path of development on which all three countries were before the Ebola crisis. He called for all international partners to come together and contribute resources toward recovery. The Secretary-General acknowledged that, while this Conference on its own cannot meet all recovery needs, it will serve as an important catalyst for international support and coordination of post-Ebola recovery.
4. The President of the Republic of Liberia, H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, presented the national and regional recovery plans on behalf of the countries and the Mano River Union (MRU). The President of the Republic of Guinea, H.E. Alpha Condé, and the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma, then complemented her presentation. The Presidents stressed the need for targeted investments in essential services, sustainable livelihoods, private sector development and stronger governance. The Presidents identified the ultimate aim of their plans as the restoration of sustainable and inclusive growth in all three countries to create jobs and improve the lives of their citizens.

5. The Chair of the African Union, H. E. President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe; the Acting President of the General Assembly, H.E. Ambassador Maria Cristina Perceval; the President of the World Bank, Dr. Jim Yong Kim; the Acting Vice President for Country and Regional Programmes and Policies, African Development Bank, Mr. Janvier Litse; the European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Mr. Christos Stylianides; and the Vice President for Cooperation and Capacity Development, the Islamic Development Bank, Mr. Sayed Aqa, all made interventions in support of the presented recovery plans. These interventions were followed by brief statements by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Ebola, Dr. David Nabarro, and the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, H.E. Ambassador Olaf Skoog. Many other interventions from the wide range of stakeholders present then followed.
6. An estimated total of \$ 5.2 billion in pledges were recorded at the conference. This amount comprises an estimated \$ 3.4 billion announced on 10 July and \$ 1.8 billion in previously committed resources. A detailed breakdown of this amount will be made available upon formal confirmation by donors of their pledges. The process of confirming this information is ongoing.
7. UNDP, in close co-operation with the affected countries and the Mano River Union, will continue to work with Member States, the European Union, the development banks, foundations, and the private sector to encourage the conversion of pledges to commitments and the disbursement of funds so that Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone can move decisively along the road to recovery. UNDP stands ready to support the Governments and the Mano River Union sub-region in the launch of their respective recovery strategies.

Annexes:

1. Concept note for the International Ebola Recovery Conference
2. Conference programme
3. Agenda for the technical consultations on 9 July
4. Summaries of technical consultations
5. Lists of participants