



SRSG statement on confirmed case of Ebola in UNMIL

Monrovia, 08 October 2014

Special Representative of the Secretary-General Karin Landgren made the following statement today:

An UNMIL international staff member has tested positive for the Ebola Virus Disease [EVD], after presenting themselves as symptomatic to UNMIL Medical on 5 October. The staff member, who works for UNMIL Medical, is receiving treatment.

This is the second case of Ebola within the mission. An earlier probable case resulted in the death of a staff member on 25 September. Our thoughts are with the staff member's family, friends and colleagues.

UNMIL has taken all necessary measures to prevent any possible further transmission within or outside the mission. In line with WHO protocols, the UNMIL Medical team has conducted immediate and robust contact tracing to ensure all people that came into contact with both staff members while they were symptomatic are assessed and quarantined. All UNMIL staff considered at-risk have been isolated, and ambulances and other locations decontaminated.

The mission is extending the robust review of its own actions initiated in the wake of the first, probable, case of EVD. UNMIL will continue to strengthen the mitigation measures that had until late September helped to prevent any of our personnel in Liberia from contracting Ebola, despite the fact that thousands of UNMIL military, police, and civilians live and operate in affected areas.

With Liberia facing its gravest threat since the civil war ended in 2003, UNMIL's commitment to the country is steadfast. The mission will continue to do all that it can within its range of capabilities to help roll back the tragedy that is Ebola.

ENDS
