

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

12 January 2015

KEY POINTS

- South African President is on a two-day official visit to Conakry, Guinea.
- SRSG Ould Cheikh Ahmed is also visiting Guinea, as part of his familiarisation mission.
- The free-of-charge flight transported 110 metric tons of supplies and equipment on 9 January on behalf of 10 organisations.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. President Jacob Zuma is in Conakry, Guinea on a two-day official visit to strengthen bilateral relations. According to a communique from the South African Government, it is expected that the visit will also deepen socio-economic relations.
2. SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed is continuing his familiarisation visit to Guinea today and tomorrow.

Response Efforts and Health

3. WFP has finalised the rehabilitation of a hospital in Kambia, Sierra Leone, to be managed by Partners in Health (PiH). This hospital will be used as a Holding Centre with 40 beds and on 9 January was officially inaugurated by President Ernest Bai Koroma. WFP has the capacity to provide additional necessary equipment and staff to support the construction of additional wings at the hospital; this Centre could be extended to become an Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) with a capacity to hold up to 100 beds, by erecting an additional 10m x 24m Mobile Storage Unit (MSU).
4. WFP visited the Forward Logistic Base (FLB) in Gbarnga, Bong County, Liberia to discuss ways to strengthen communication networks at the FLB and better serve community members with EVD with adequate food rations. The team also conducted logistic assessment of all health facilities in Bong County in terms of storage capacities and accessibility of road network to these facilities. WFP has commenced the verification of registered EVD survivors, orphans and EVD affected communities to facilitate food aid distribution to the target beneficiaries in Lofa County.
5. Since the beginning of the outbreak, UNICEF has procured USD 21.7 million worth of supplies to aid the EVD response in Liberia. Last week, 282 mobile phones were delivered to 7 Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) in Montserrado County and an additional 9 Rapid Isolation and Treatment of Ebola (RITE) kits are being assembled to be repositioned at counties and forward logistics bases.
6. On 6 January, an integrated team composed of UNMEER, UNPOL and Liberia's Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (BIN) conducted a field trip to Foya city, Lofa County, Liberia. The field trip was aimed to assess and verify the EVD situation in the district, as well as any ongoing mining activity. The team met with the district border commander, town chief and youth leader in Foya, visited the EVD case management centre and Worsonga town, a border crossing point. At the meeting in Foya, the team was informed that the EVD situation was calm as there are no reported cases since last December 2014, but the situation remains unpredictable due to the wide and uncontrolled border crossings in remote areas. The EVD case management centre was formerly an Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) operated by MSF and now run by Samaritan's Purse. The town chief of Worsonga border town informed that prior to the EVD outbreak there were some gold mining activities in Falou town (approx 20 km from Worsonga and 40 km from Foya) but this stopped at the peak of outbreak. The local authorities continue to monitor the mining area to ensure that no mining resumes as the situation remains fragile along the border. Cross border monitoring to ensure border security and improved communications with border communities may help control the spread of the disease on either side.
7. IOM is supporting governments in Ebola case prevention and EVD detection through its activities in border management for cross-border and within the countries in tracking the flow of populations.

Actively involved countries currently include Mali-Guinea-Conakry (trans-border) and Sierra Leone through an expanded screening programme for airport staff and continuity of health security at the airport. In Liberia, accelerated field assessments are underway.

8. In total, 21,086 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 8,289 deaths.

Logistics

9. The Logistics Cluster, via the Air Coordination Cell (ACC), has been providing free-to-user flights from Cologne-Bonn Airport to the three most affected countries. The most recent flight departed on 9 January to Monrovia and Conakry, transporting 110 metric tons of medical supplies, protective gear and operational support equipment on behalf of 10 organisations (CRS, Samaritans Purse, ICRC, MAP International, WHO, UNICEF, UNMEER, WFP, CDC, and Direct Relief International). Two more flights are scheduled to depart on 21 January (to Freetown/Monrovia) and on 25 January (to Conakry/Freetown); all space on these flights is now fully booked.
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 1.5 billion, has been funded for USD 1.16 billion, which is around 77% of the total ask.
12. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 134.9 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. The County Health Team (CHT), supported by WHO, UNMEER and community members, conducted two community sensitization meetings in Boluwen (Jraoh District) and Wopluken (Buah District) in Grand Kru County, Liberia. The objective of the meetings was to raise community awareness on Ebola and sensitize them on infection prevention and control.

Essential Services

15. NSTR

Upcoming Events

16. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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