



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

19 January 2015

### KEY POINTS

- Mali declared Ebola-free. Government calls for continued vigilance.
- An Ebola Treatment Centre in Beyla, Guinea was inaugurated.
- Security challenges in Guinea are preventing safe and dignified burials.

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. On 18 January, the Government of Mali, WHO and UNMEER declared Mali Ebola-free, after 42 days without any new EVD cases. They insisted on the need to remain vigilant as long as the outbreak is not contained in the three most affected countries.

### Response Efforts and Health

2. The Minister of Health of Guinea accompanied by the Ambassador of France inaugurated a new ETC in Beyla in the Forest Region. The ETU is set to have a capacity of 50 beds although it will commence with 25 beds. The centre will be managed by WAHA and be serviced by a mobile lab from K-Plan.
3. The National Response Coordinator in Guinea called a meeting of partners on 16 January to review construction plans for ETCs, Labs, etc. Conclusions are still awaited but the expectation is to see a shift of emphasis from emergency response facilities to strengthening of standard health facilities.
4. The Red Cross indicated that security challenges in several areas in Guinea have prevented safe and dignified burials. The National Response Coordinator will work with both the gendarmerie and the Red Cross to look at the feasibility of escorts for safe burial teams.
5. IOM Guinea distributed the first batch of generators and office and protective supplies to 14 of the 15 targeted Provincial Emergency Operations Centres (PEOCs) and completed a rapid assessment of PEOC needs and decentralized coordination ability.
6. UNMEER visited the new ETU under construction in Murraysville, Sinoe County, Liberia. The access road to the ETU has been improved. While logistical needs of the ETU are being met, minor electrical, fencing issues are still being taken care before the ETU is fully operational.
7. WFP has so far received 65 tons of food items and distributed about 55 tons to various food distribution points in Bong County, Liberia. WFP also received about 271 boxes of assorted medical supplies containing PPE, protection kits, rubber boots, infusion sets and other items.
8. IOM conducted an Emergency Simulation Exercise at the Lungi International Airport in Freetown on 12 January. Five Ebola survivors were employed as actors and a WHO clinical trainer was on hand to debrief the health professionals on their efforts. A number of multi-dimensional and fast moving health emergency scenarios to test and improve the Entry and Exit Health Screening process and general health security throughout the airport were simulated.
9. In preparation for the potential reopening of the Liberia and Sierra Leone border, IOM Regional Office Dakar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mano River Union. IOM is urgently initiating a comprehensive border assessment in coordination with CDC.
10. In total, 21,373 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 8,468 deaths.

### Logistics

11. The WFP-led Emergency Telecoms (ET) Cluster is providing internet connectivity in 43 locations across the three Ebola-affected countries, ensuring reliable internet access for 741 humanitarian

personnel. Last week in Guinea, the ET Cluster installed internet in the Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) in Beyla to facilitate the critical efforts of health workers. It also installed radio equipment in the city of Kissidougou to enable humanitarian staff to communicate with one another and a radio base station for UNHAS/UNMEER in Conakry, in order to provide reliable communications between air and ground staff.

12. WFP is facilitating a THW donation of 16 generators of varying capacity to the humanitarian community in Sierra Leone. One generator has already been allocated to WHO. Partner organisations operating in Sierra Leone have been encouraged to provide their requirements to the Logistics Cluster; more details will be shared at the Logistics Cluster Coordination Meeting in Freetown on 20 January.
13. WFP is supporting the Rapid Intervention and Treatment of Ebola (RITE) response initiative in Liberia for the movement of blood samples via air transport. In this regard, the planned RITE test flight, as part of a mock exercise scheduled to take place last week, has been postponed due to poor visibility caused by dust clouds. The mock exercise will focus on a fictitious outbreak in Voinjama, Lofa County, whereby CDC would request a RITE mission to do a ground assessment and collect mock lab specimens (blood samples) from Voinjama and deliver them to the Gbarnga lab in Bong County.
14. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

15. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 1.5 billion, has been funded for USD 1.17 billion, which is around 78% of the total ask.
16. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 135.8 million in commitments. In total USD 140 million has been pledged.
17. 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](mailto:fts@un.org).

### **Outreach and Education**

18. The social mobilization team from Samaritan Purse's conducted sensitization on hygienic practices and the use of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) materials to 385 targeted households in Lawurazon and Layeazon communities in Voinjama district, Liberia.

### **Essential Services**

19. Schools and universities in Guinea are scheduled to reopen today.

### **Upcoming Events**

20. NSTR

### **Attachments and resources**

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