

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

22 January 2015

### KEY POINTS

- World Bank report forecast higher economic losses for affected countries
- SE Nabarro provides an updated ONR in global efforts to stop Ebola
- Border surveillance initiatives intensify

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. In a World Bank Report prepared for the 2015 World Economic Forum in Davos, the Bank acknowledged progress made in slowing the EVD transmission rate, but cautioned that recent efforts have likely reduced the impact of Ebola on the African economy perhaps from USD 30 billion to USD 6 billion. The report noted that most of these losses are forecasted to hit the affected countries.
2. In Davos, Switzerland, Special Envoy David Nabarro provided an updated Overview of Needs and Requirements in the global efforts to stop Ebola. The financial needs for the first six months of 2015 amount to 1.5 billion USD. Almost 500 million USD is already available and the appeal is now for the gap of 1 billion USD.

### Response Efforts and Health

3. Between 14 and 16 January, UNFPA provided 100 dignity kits (a kit contains a mattress, a set of hygiene supplies and a set of IPC supplies) to 100 female Ebola survivors and widows in Bomi County, Liberia. Similarly, 150 dignity kits were provided to survivors and widows in Grand Cape Mount County. Prior to this, UNFPA had provided expanded kits to 1,000 survivors of Ebola and SGBV in 21 districts in 10 counties. The expanded kits also include food items (500 bags of rice (25 kg), 6,000 energy drinks and non-food items (beddings and clothes)).
4. At the health sector monthly meeting in Bong County, Liberia, UNMEER updated partners on its proposed interventions and implementation mechanism on EVD with special focus on preventing transmission of EVD along 14 border areas in the county. Some of the measures include training of community watch teams across the borders, provision of communication networks, establishment of survivors' network / exploring avenues to create job opportunities for up to 50 survivors and enhanced support to health facilities along the border.
5. Also in Liberia, UNMEER, WHO, CDC, the County Health Team and International Medical Corps (IMC) discussed key steps in the implementation of the Phase II of the EVD response in Bong County. Identified steps include: 1) the need to set up waste management procedures within communities and all health facilities in Bong County; 2) the need to establish community watch teams composed of general Community Health Volunteers (gCHVs), community stakeholders and contact tracers to enhance community buy-in and support; and 3) the need to strategize on the implementation of the proposed launch of Phase II which is expected to begin in late January and will focus on active case finding/surveillance and the strengthening of social mobilization/psychosocial activities.
6. WHO reports that case incidence continues to fall in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, with a halving time of 1.4 weeks in Guinea, 2.0 weeks Liberia, and 2.7 weeks in Sierra Leone. A combined total of 145 confirmed cases were reported from the 3 countries in the week to 18 January: 20 in Guinea, 8 in Liberia, and 117 in Sierra Leone.
7. In Sierra Leone, 19,673 Ebola Response Workers (ERWs) were paid through mobile money between 7 and 19 January. Of these, 96% have cashed out their pay.

8. In total, 21,689 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 8,626 deaths.

### **Logistics**

9. The Logistics Cluster, through the Air Coordination Cell (ACC), is providing free-to-user inter-agency flights, from the Europe Staging Area at Cologne Bonn Airport in order to facilitate the delivery of essential cargo to the affected countries. On 21 January, a flight arrived in Freetown transporting relief items on behalf of MSF-H, IFRC, PIH/Wellbody Alliance, MSF-B, WHO, MedAir, NOSLINA/MOH SL, World Vision, Save the Children, IMC, MSF-S, and UNMEER.
10. WFP continues to support the Government of Liberia via a dispatch plan of approximately 1,300m3 of Ebola relief supplies per month to 83 health facilities (regular hospitals and health centres) throughout the country. All dispatches for the first “wave” of dispatches have now been completed for the top 10 priority facilities (69 facilities). In February, all dispatches for health facilities will be pre-positioned in the five WFP Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs). Mobile Storage Units (MSU) will be erected to store and supplies for the nine counties where there are no FLB. The first of these MSUs will be erected starting next week.
11. In Sierra Leone, WFP is supporting 102 EVD health facilities including treatment centres, holding centres, and Community Care Centres (CCC). So far, WFP has already distributed assorted food commodities to meet the needs of more than 7,400 patients in these facilities, representing a bed capacity of over 1,100.
12. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

13. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 1.5 billion, has been funded for USD 1.18 billion, which is around 79% of the total ask.
14. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 135.8 million in commitments. In total USD 140 million has been pledged.
15. 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**

16. In Guinea, UNICEF implemented several awareness raising initiatives on Ebola transmission, including sessions targeting: 368 people (including 135 women) in Kissidougou,; 89 awareness sessions to religious leaders reaching 29 individuals in the rural communities of Baro, Cisséla, Kiniero Komola, Koumana and the urban district and 146 educational talks reaching 774 people (257 children, 330 youths and 187 women) in the rural towns of Kiniébakoura, Kintinian, Naboun, Niandankoro, Franwalia, Bankon, Siguirini, Niagassola and the Urban Commune.
17. The County Health Superintendent of Grand Cape Mount County in Liberia is leading an Ebola Task Force in a tour across the districts beginning from Golakonneh on 22 January and ending with Commonwealth on 26 January. The task force which is composed of district health officials aims to engage with communities and leaders in order to strengthen community participation. The tour will cover 5 districts.

### **Essential Services**

18. Following the reopening of schools in Guinea, attendance remain low in the first week. UNICEF and partners continue to monitor schools to ensure measures put in place for the safe return to school are being adhered to around the country. UNICEF and Enfance du Globe provided psychosocial support to 150 children affected by Ebola in Belya.

### **Upcoming Events**

19. In Liberia, UNMEER and WHO continued to support local authorities prepare for a cross-border meeting planned to take place in Lofa County on 24 January. The aim of the meeting is to improve border surveillance strategies and strengthen cross-border notification. Participants will include county authorities and health officials, paramount chiefs of Foya and Quardu-Gboni districts bordering Guinea and Sierra Leone, and other international partners.

### **Attachments and resources**

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