

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

25 February 2015

### KEY POINTS

- Response partners continue to support safe re-opening of Liberian borders
- WFP continues to leverage operational expertise to support response efforts
- UNHAS transported over 8000 passengers since August 2014

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. The Liberia Border Coordination Group had an emergency meeting on 24 February to discuss support measures following the reopening of borders announced by the President on 21 February. It was agreed that a toolkit for border screening and monitoring and for referral/community surveillance will be finalized this week and teams dispatched to the five border counties to train and coach border and health officials as well as partners. Assessments conducted over the weekend in Bo Waterside (Grand Cape Mount, border with Sierra Leone) and Ganta (Nimba, border with Guinea) indicated that there is need to complete the available equipment and supplies as well to have a proper referral system in place. Despite the opening on the Liberian side, borders remain officially closed on the Sierra Leonean and Guinean sides.

### Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 23,539 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 9,541 deaths.
3. The Ebola National Coordination Centre provided the prefecture of N'Zérékoré, Guinea with two motorbike ambulances to be used in the health centres of Yalenzou and Gouécké.
4. A new suspected case was reported yesterday in Yembering, Mali prefecture, Guinea. The individual had developed high temperature upon return from Liberia and has been transferred to the CTE in Conakry. In Libé, in the Mali area, a community death was reported today. A post-mortem test will be conducted.
5. To support the recent flare up of new EVD cases in the Aberdeen area of Freetown, Sierra Leone, WFP is providing food assistance to newly quarantined homes so that households do not have to break their quarantine in search of food. Since 10 February, WFP has provided 600 quarantined households with one month's food assistance.
6. In Sierra Leone, WFP and partners undertook an assessment mission to four isolated islands in the Kafu Bullom Chiefdom of Port Loko District where high EVD transmission continues. The assessment was held to determine the transport requirements of delivering food to these islands in preparation for GFD to commence. In the week to 22 February, WFP provided food assistance to nearly 35,000 beneficiaries in hotspot and quarantined communities and households, patients in treatment and holding centres and discharged survivors.

### Logistics

7. WFP has supported the transportation of 341 WASH kits, as part of the 'back to school' project in Liberia, via air and road transport, on behalf of UNICEF and the Government of Liberia. Over 120m<sup>3</sup> of these kits were dispatched by air, and 375m<sup>3</sup> dispatched by road.
8. Since August 2014, the WFP-managed Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) fleet has transported over 8,000 passengers and almost 80mt of light cargo. UNHAS, UNMEER and UNMIL continue to coordinate on their passenger and light cargo air transport capacity in order to optimise the use of resources and ensure greater operational efficiency. A joint regional flight schedule is published regularly and

maintained with necessary flexibility at: [www.logcluster.org/document/regional-flight-schedule-unhas-unmil-unmeer](http://www.logcluster.org/document/regional-flight-schedule-unhas-unmil-unmeer).

9. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.
10. UNMEER Geo-Information Management Services (UNMEER GIMS) v1.0, web mapping application can be freely accessed at <http://www.unmeer-im-liberia.website>.

### Resource Mobilisation

11. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.3 billion, which is around 57% of the total ask.
12. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 136.8 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](mailto:fts@un.org).

### Outreach and Education

14. ASEOWA and WHO provided training on surveillance and contact tracing to Community Agents (AC) and CVVs in the sub-prefecture of Palé, in Guinea.

### Essential Services

15. On 20 and 21 February, WHO conducted a training of trainers (ToT) for the Ministry of Health (MoH) county level Environmental Health Technicians (EHT) on WASH and Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) issues in health care facilities. The training was conducted in collaboration with the division of Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety. The objectives of the training were to refresh national policies and Standard Operation Procedures; strengthen technical capacity of national staff and ensure that all Health Care Facilities meet the minimum standard of WASH/OH&S.
16. On 24 February, UNMEER and response partners facilitated a cross-border meeting, between representatives of Guinea and Sierra Leone in Sukudu, Kono District, Sierra Leone. The main objective of meeting was to enhance collaboration and vigilance on EVD cross border challenges.
17. UNMEER visited Kitoma public school in Sanniquellie Mah district, Nimba County, Liberia. The school reopened on 23 February and 48 students attended school on 24 February. The staff informed that most of the students are unaware of the school opening. The teachers received IPC training and hygiene kits but the sprays were missing from the kits. The Department of Education noted that sprays were missing in all the donated kits. The school had 153 students and 3 teachers before the outbreak.
18. UNMEER monitored the Kondadou border in Lofa County (one of the main border points between Liberia and Guinea) and met with the Bureau of immigration and naturalization (BIN) officers. The county health teams (CHT) and Global Communities have deployed one gCHV at the border to enhance surveillance. UNMEER met with traditional leaders, teachers and youth leaders in Bongloidou community in Lofa to discuss community participation in safe re-opening of the borders and schools.
19. On 23 February, UNMEER, ASEOWA and WHO visited Bo waterside in Grand Cape Mount County to assess the facilities and activities related to border opening and met with the Port Health Officer, the Commander for the BIN and the Head of field office of IOM. The Commander shared that they do not have a vehicle which restricts mobility to check all the crossing points. IOM plans to construct an isolation room as well as bring in personnel from the Sinje ETU to support the staff in charge of screening people.

### Upcoming Events

20. The cross border meeting planned for 27 and 28 February, in Jendema, Sierra Leone. The second meeting (at the level of District Commissioner) will take place on 2 March in Bo waterside, in Liberia.

### Attachments and resources

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