



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

9 March 2015

KEY POINTS

- WHO announces start of Phase III clinical trials in Guinea
- National authorities in Guinea and Sierra Leone report new EVD cases
- Response partners continue to support safe restoration of education in Liberia and Sierra Leone

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 24,014 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 9,840 deaths.
3. In its meeting on 7 March, the NERC in Guinea reported 2 confirmed EVD cases in Kindia and a community death in Kito Island that received a safe and dignified burial following a post mortem test. While the NERC in Sierra Leone reported 12 new confirmed cases on 8 March. The Western Area Urban (9 cases) and Bombali (3) accounted for all the new reported cases.
4. WHO announced the start of Phase III clinical trials in Guinea. Trials began on 8 March and the target population for the first round of vaccinations will be front-line workers. The trial design for Guinea will use ring vaccination – the same method that was used to eradicate smallpox.
5. In the previous week in Guinea, six number of villages in Yomou reported resistance to safe burials. In Gueckedou, an infant community death was reported on 4 March, but was buried by the community before the arrival of the safe and dignified burial team. Also a death was reported on 3 March in Lola, but the corpse was allegedly secretly transported to Cote d'Ivoire. No EVD testing was performed but it is thought that the individual was HIV positive. In Niala village in the sub prefecture of Fanah, the SDB team was impeded from its work by the community.
6. UNMEER ECM Ms. Bintou Keita met with UN AFPs, humanitarian actors, national authorities and development partners to review response efforts and reiterate the need to manage the challenges associated with environmental health and sanitation in EVD response efforts.
7. In Sierra Leone, the NERC and UNMEER convened the bi-weekly Information Management Working Group meeting where the adverse effect of EVD on the health system was discussed and data on diseases and Anti-natal care - before and during the emergency, was examined. UNMEER informed the meeting on the development of the 4W information tool – version II, which will be made available through the NERC upon completion.

Logistics

8. Last week in Liberia, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the delivery of 3.2 metric tonnes of nutrition supplies, on behalf of UNICEF to health facilities across the country. Over 2 metric tonnes were transported via road transport to Gparpolu, Grand Gedeh, Nimba and Rivercess counties, and 392kg were transported by air to Grand Kru, River Gee and Sinoe Counties.
9. The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, is now able to offer temperature controlled storage to partners in Sierra Leone, due to the donation of a 40ft refrigerated container from DfID. The container has been set up at the WFP main logistics hub in Port Loko and partners have been encouraged to send their

requests for this storage facility via the Service Request Form, available at: <http://www.logcluster.org/document/sierra-leone-service-request-form>.

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 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.31 billion, which is around 58% 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.

Outreach and Education

14. NSTR

Essential Services

15. In Sierra Leone, the Moyamba and Pujehun District Education Offices convened stakeholder meetings to discuss the government's plan for the re-opening of schools at the end of March. The meeting focused on ensuring schools operate in a safe environment that prevents EVD infection, including upholding high levels of hygiene. The authorities underscored that each school will be provided thermometers and IPC materials and parents were informed not to send their children to school if they were unwell. The provision of teaching/learning materials to all government assisted schools was also discussed.
16. WHO is responding to a request from the Education Cluster in Liberia, including the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and partners, to provide technical public health advice on implementation of practices to support the safe reopening of schools. This includes infection prevention and control, appropriate use of thermal scanners, the referral system for students or staff requiring health assessment and appropriate use of school space for distancing an unwell student or staff member awaiting further assessment. In support of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, as lead UN agency, WHO and partners are also monitoring implementation (i.e. placement of hand washing stations) in schools over a five week period.

Upcoming Events

17. UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed will visit Guinea from 9 to 13 March, where he will hold meetings with national authorities and response partners.

Attachments and resources

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