

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

24 April 2015

### KEY POINTS

- SRSG UNMEER in Guinea to observe latest progress and challenges.
- Sierra Leone focuses efforts on reducing community resistance in Samu Chiefdom, Kambia.
- Guinea's campaign of sensitisation and early detection has reached 92% of targeted persons in Forécariah. Lessons are being learned from Forécariah in order to inform roll out to other areas.

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

### Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 26,074 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,820 reported deaths. The decline in rate of confirmed cases of EVD has halted over the last three weeks - in the week to 19 April, a total of 33 confirmed cases was reported, compared with 37 and 30 in the preceding weeks.
3. Over the period 20-22 April there have been nine confirmed cases in Guinea of which there was one case in each of Boffa, Dubreka, and Kindia, two cases in Fria and four cases in Forécariah. Over the same period there were nine cases in Sierra Leone of which six were in Kambia, two were in Western Rural and one was in Western Urban (Freetown). Liberia had no new cases - in the five days to 19 April, 212 new laboratory samples were tested for EVD, with no confirmed cases. Forty-two days will have elapsed since burial of the last confirmed case in Liberia on 9 May.
4. SRSG UNMEER, Mr. Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, has met with representatives of Government, UN and international community to understand the latest progress and challenges in Guinea. During his meetings, SRSG emphasised ongoing challenges of unsafe burials, the need for strengthened engagement of Muslim religious leaders, the importance of strict enforcement of EVD protocols, and the importance of strong regional cooperation. In his meeting with ambassadors and UN representatives concerns were raised about the impact of growing political tensions on the EVD response. In follow up to this, the international participants met with representatives of the extra-parliamentary and parliamentary oppositions.
5. 11 people in Guinea have been sentenced to life in prison for murdering a team educating locals about the risks of EVD in Womey, Nzérékoré prefecture. The attack was carried out in September 2014 and reportedly killed eight persons, including two doctors and three journalists.
6. Following last weekend's attacks on EVD response teams in Samu Chiefdom, Kambia District, Sierra Leone, WHO is working with the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) to remove cases and high risk contacts from communities in the Chiefdom. The CEO of the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) will be identifying influential political leaders who will engage Samu chiefdom community.

### Logistics

7. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.
8. The Logistics Cluster facilitated the offloading and storage of 29 containers holding equipment donated by the Chinese to the government of Liberia for the fight against the EVD outbreak. The assets consisted of pick-up trucks, ambulances, forklifts, motorbikes, incinerators and humanitarian supplies.

9. In Sierra Leone, 10 vehicles from WFP's Common Services operation are being used in support of the WFP/WHO Joint Collaboration initiative. In addition, WFP will use 10 vehicles donated by UNMEER in support of WHO in Kambia starting from the beginning of May.
10. In Sierra Leone, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster has provided internet connectivity to the four new WHO offices, while in Liberia assessments of needs and requirements were completed in five locations. In Guinea, the list of necessary ICT equipment has been finalised for the twelve locations.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

11. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.5 billion, which is around 66% of the total ask.
12. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total USD 142 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. As at 21 April, Guinea's National Coordination reported that its sensitisation campaign in Forécariah had reached 92% of targeted persons (60,767), however numbers of alerts per day was significantly lower than anticipated. According to National Coordination the community participation and support from community leaders had been good and there were no reported security incidents. However, there had been insufficient preparation for the campaign and the duration should have been longer. Furthermore the campaign was hampered by incorrect management of alerts, insufficient supplies of hygiene kits in several areas, and delays in transport of blood samples (three hours rather than one).
15. Yesterday, Women in Media in Sierra Leone (WIMSAL) and UNMEER held training for female journalists on EVD. WIMSAL is to strengthen its partnership with the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists to deliver messages to the media and ordinary people in the drive to reach zero. A women's street rally is planned for 27 April, Sierra Leone's Independence Day.

### **Essential Services**

16. Following advice and recommendations from WHO based on the likely number of malaria patients meeting EVD case definition during the rainy season, the NERC has approved Moyamba, Sierra Leone, DERC's proposal for a 10-bed holding centre located within the Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC). Taking account of the transmission rate in Kambia, a new ETC will be setup in there to be run by International Medical Corps by IMC. Due to its close proximity to a school, which reopened recently, the NERC Coordination Group has ordered the closure of ADRA ETC in the Western Area.
17. In support of the sensitisation and early detection campaign in Forécariah, Guinea, UNICEF's supply and WASH teams have provided soap and other supplies whilst the Communications for Development (C4D) team has trained social mobilisers, crafted health and hygiene-related messages, and helped organise radio broadcasts.
18. UNICEF Guinea and its partners have distributed 8,157 household WASH kits benefitting 57,009 people in Ebola-affected areas country-wide. This has brought the total number of household WASH kits distributed to 240,526 and the total number of beneficiaries to 1.6 million people.
19. The measles immunisation campaign in the Nzérékoré prefecture has not achieved the desired participation. By the third day of the campaign (20 April), the participation rate was estimated by the Prefectural Health Department (DPS) at 39% far short of their target of 95% by the end of the campaign. In response, mobilisation of children (six months to 10 years) will be stepped up.

### **Upcoming Events**

20. NSTR.

### **Attachments and resources**

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