

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

29 April 2015

KEY POINTS

- Sensitization and detection of Ebola cases campaign continued in Coyah, Guinea, with some logistical problems and reported resistance.
- Only one confirmed Ebola case in each of the last two days in Sierra Leone, one each in Kambia and Western Area Urban.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, his successor, Peter Graaff, and the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, David Nabarro, visited Freetown, Sierra Leone yesterday.

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 26,277 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,884 reported deaths.
3. During their visit to Freetown yesterday, UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, his successor, Peter Graaff, and the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, David Nabarro, were briefed by the National Ebola response Centre (NERC) on efforts to achieve zero transmission. They were informed that Kambia District was still a transmission epicentre due in part to it neighbouring Forécariah in Guinea, which continues to record a high number of Ebola cases. Efforts were underway to strengthen collaboration with Guinea in different areas, including in sharing information as well as making use of the laboratory in Kambia for Ebola testing of suspected cases in Guinean border towns.
4. According to the NERC in Sierra Leone, there has been one confirmed Ebola case in each of the last two days (in Kambia and Western Area Urban respectively). Moyamba District has now been Ebola-free for 42 days.
5. In Guinea, as of 26 April, the third day of the sensitization and early detection of Ebola cases campaign in Coyah prefecture, 16 alerts had been received, but no Ebola cases have been confirmed. The local media have been disseminating messages in support to the campaign. Incidents of resistance were reported on the third day of the campaign in Manéah, Kouria, Wonkifong and Coyah localities. Dr. Sakoba, the National Coordinator of the Guinea Ebola Response explained that in some cases the resistance was caused by the family Chief being absent during the visits, due to rumours that the teams were going to fumigate the houses or due to the fact that some of the houses had not received hygiene kits. Two other incidents of resistance involving threats by locals armed with machetes in Daoudayah and Moriabori were also reported.
6. During a meeting of the National Coordination, Dr. Sakoba noted several problems relating to the sensitization and detection campaign in Coyah. There were insufficient stocks of important items in several places and often sensitization teams were not accompanied by health staff. Some of the teams had not carried out active research of potential Ebola cases and other teams had not disseminated sensitization messages accurately. Finally, some houses had not received hygiene kits.
7. Peace Link Liberia, UNMEER's Quick Implementation Projects (QIPs) implementing partner in Lofa County completed the distribution of hygiene and infection prevention and control materials as well as ledgers to 19 border communities, 3 primary and 7 secondary check points in Kolahun District. At Kolahun checkpoint on 27 April, Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (BIN) in collaboration with health officials registered and documented 427 travellers.

Logistics

8. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

9. Within the framework of the WFP-WHO Joint Collaboration, WFP deployed 9 prefabricated offices in five locations in Guinea (Kindia, Mattam, Boffa, Dubreka and Kaloum), where the current hotspots are located. WFP also provided more than 300 phones for team communications and 30 satellite phones for emergency communications. In Liberia, WFP is working with the Ministry of Health to obtain land permits for the installation of prefabricated offices and accommodation. The UN Humanitarian Response Depot in Accra is working on the procurement and shipment of about 40 prefabricated structures that will be deployed to Liberia. In Sierra Leone, the 11 prefabricated offices provided by WFP to WHO in Kambia are now operational; the installation in Port Loko has also been finalized.

Resource Mobilisation

10. 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.
11. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total USD 142 million has been pledged.
12. 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

13. Many partners in Guinea are continuing to organize training on Ebola prevention and response. In recent days this has included the training of 40 police officers in Kindia prefecture; the training of school directors in Forécariah prefecture and the training of community agents in Macenta prefecture. In Kindia, 50 religious leaders received a sensitization session on dignified and safe burials on 25 April and the association of Ebola survivors in Forécariah is carrying out sensitization activities against Ebola stigmatization.

Essential Services

14. WFP is scaling up its *transition* assistance, aimed at populations residing in areas that have been declared Ebola-free by health authorities, but where access to food remains a challenge. In Guinea, WFP last week provided more than 80,000 people with food rations in the prefectures of Guéckédou and Kankan. In Liberia, WFP provided almost 34,000 people with mixed rations of food and cash assistance to support household nutritional needs while stimulating the local economy. In Sierra Leone, WFP provided almost 6,000 vulnerable people in Kenema District with one-month of food assistance, following a request from the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) and community councillors. In addition, WFP provided food rations to 12 Ebola-orphaned children who were recently discharged from the Observational Interim Care Centre (OICC) in Bombali District.
15. In Liberia, UNMEER and WHO carried out an assessment of five schools in Nimba County (Saclepea Mah and Gbehlay-Geh Districts) on 23 April. The observations from the joint field mission included the need to adhere to the safe school protocols mandated by the Ministry of Health as well as challenges and needs of these schools related to Water and Sanitation.
16. Following a meeting between UNMEER Liberia, WHO, Project Concern International (PCI), Liberia Red Cross, UNFPA, Ministry of Education and the County Health Team (CHT) school health supervisor in Nimba County to develop strategies for improving school health, the Ministry of Education agreed to communicate to all District Education officers the need to intensify school supervision, paying particular attention to Water and Sanitation and infection, protection and control protocols. UNMEER, CHT, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education also agreed to carry out a second joint assessment mission to schools in Saclepea District.

Upcoming Events

17. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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