



PRESS RELEASE

UNMEER to align support behind “courageous” Ebola containment steps by Guinea

Conakry, 30 March 2015 – The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed welcomes measures Guinean President Alpha Condé announced last Friday night to contain the Ebola outbreak in the capital Conakry and coastal prefectures still recording new cases.

“This firm and solemn message to the nation is courageous and timely. I hope it brings about the shock therapy required to break complacency and instill a renewed sense of urgency,” he said.

The president’s televised address follows a new spike in Ebola cases during the week, including among medical staff.

The measures for a period of 45 days cover Conakry, Boffa, Coyah, Dubreka, Forecariah and Kindia. They include the temporary closure of hospital and clinic wards where Ebola cases are reported, systematic safe burials and testing of corpses, as well as funeral ceremonies restricted to the family. The president also announced targeted cantonments where necessary, with assurance that assistance will be provided to families affected.

The Head of UNMEER pledged to support the president’s efforts: “On behalf of the international community, we are committed to aligning our support behind the measures set out in President Condé’s address. I have already met UN agencies, CDC, bilateral missions and others to begin planning for this.”

For more information:

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