



**Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States**

**at the General Assembly adoption of resolution**

**"Measures to contain and combat the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa"**

**New York 19 September 2014**

**- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -**

Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

We are deeply concerned about the crisis caused by the Ebola virus outbreak, which is not only a regional problem but one that affects us all, as confirmed yesterday in the emergency meeting of the Security Council on Ebola.

We deplore the loss of lives, both among citizens of the affected countries and among international responders. We pay tribute to all humanitarian and health workers in the front line who are working tirelessly to bring this crisis to an end.

We welcome the UN coordination system created by the Secretary-General, including the establishment of a United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency, to ensure that all relevant parts of the UN system are activated and working coherently

The EU is preparing a Comprehensive Framework in response to the Ebola epidemic, which also will include considerations on related impacts, notably the food crisis, the health system crisis and the negative macro-economic impact. This document, aligned with WHO's Ebola Response Road Map, highlights the main challenges and in what ways the EU has and will further assist with the response.

We will continue to assist, in particular the most affected areas, and to work with national authorities in the affected countries, WHO, OCHA and other UN, regional, including ECOWAS, and NGO partners to help tackle the disease as swiftly and efficiently as possible.

As it stands, the EU has pledged one hundred and fifty million euros for the treatment of patients, training, measures to contain the epidemic, medical laboratories, maintaining basic health services, and budget support. As part of this package, the EU has also provided five million euros to the African Union to support their efforts to provide assistance to the affected countries. To this, one needs to add the very substantive bilateral contributions made by EU Member States, both in funding and through in-kind assistance, including the secondment of specialists. Some of their bilateral contributions are coordinated through the Union's Civil Protection Mechanism.

The EU and its Member States are working actively to find possible options to reduce the growing isolation of countries in the region. The EU will address the urgent need to retain and re-establish transport links and the necessary medical evacuation.

Mr. President,

We all recognise the magnitude of the challenge in front of us. The European Union and its Member States are committed to deploy all efforts to step up support and assist in putting an end to this outbreak.

Thank you.