



HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 8997 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola virus disease have been reported - there have been 4493 deaths
- It is clear that the situation in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone is deteriorating, with widespread and persistent transmission of EVD

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. The United Nations Security Council issued a press statement in response to Tuesday's special session on the Ebola virus disease (EVD) crisis. The full statement is attached.
2. The leaders of France, Germany, Italy, the UK and the US agreed that the Ebola epidemic is "the most serious international public health emergency in recent years" during a conference call (convened by the UK) on Wednesday.
3. Healthcare unions in Liberia called off a strike over pay and working conditions for medical staff tackling EVD. The strike, which began on Monday, garnered poor support and most hospitals and clinics in the country had been operating normally.
4. The Government of Liberia is reportedly planning to lay-off non-essential workers currently on compulsory leave due to EVD. The decision is due to the apparent realization that service delivery has continued without interruption, even in the absence of non-essential staff.
5. President Alpha Conde of Guinea has issued a call for retired doctors to return to work to help fight EVD. The appeal has already prompted some doctors to volunteer, however many health workers in the country have fled in fear of the disease. The Government of Guinea said 76 doctors have been infected and 37 have died since March.
6. UNMEER Guinea Acting Head attended the hand-over ceremony of cars and motorcycles by UNICEF to the Government of Guinea and the Guinean Red Cross. UNICEF donated a total of 8 vehicles and 100 motorcycles, with total value of USD 284,000.

Human Rights

7. A standard operating procedure (SOP) for enforcing roadblocks and quarantines, drafted with the help of UNDP, has been approved by the Government of Sierra Leone. UNDP will work to scale-up the implementation of the SOP and support the training of 4,000 - 5,000 officers nationwide.
8. UNICEF have registered 111 orphaned, separated and unaccompanied children affected by EVD to receive one-off cash assistance as part of immediate recovery support.

Medical

9. The WHO reports that a total of 8997 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) have been reported in seven affected countries (Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, and the United States of America) up to the end of 12 October. There have been 4493 deaths. It is clear that the situation in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone is deteriorating, with widespread and persistent transmission of EVD. An increase in new cases in Guinea is being driven by a spike in confirmed and suspected cases in the capital, Conakry, and the nearby district of Coyah. Of the countries with localized EVD transmission, Nigeria and Senegal are now approaching 42 days since the date of last potential contact with a probable or confirmed case. Both Spain and the United States continue to monitor potential contacts with index patients. 427 health-care workers (HCWs) are known to have been infected with EVD up to the end of 12 October and 236 HCWs have died.
10. UNMEER Guinea has also observed an increase in the number of deaths occurring outside of treatment centers and difficulties with the transfer of patients to the centers.

11. The WHO reports that efforts to scale-up the number of available EVD-specific beds have been intensified in countries with widespread and persistent transmission. Finding donors to fund the construction of new treatment facilities, and foreign medical teams to staff them, remains an on-going priority.

	Existing ETU beds	Planned ETU beds	Existing ETU beds/planned ETU beds (%)
Liberia	620	2930	21%
Guinea	160	260	50%
Sierra Leone	346	1198	29%

12. A second Texas healthcare worker who treated the first patient in the US to be diagnosed with Ebola has tested positive for the disease. The worker was immediately isolated after reporting a fever on Tuesday.
13. The European Commission has recommended that member states give medical information at airports to travellers from Ebola affected countries yet stopped short of recommending full EU-wide screening. Meanwhile France has joined Canada, the UK and the US in carrying out passenger screenings.
14. Fiji will stop sending peacekeeping police officers to Liberia due to the Ebola crisis. The Fiji Police Force will phase out the 27 officers currently stationed in UNMIL after the completion of their one-year tour of duty.
15. Firestone Tire and Rubber Company's production facility in Liberia, which employs more than 8,000 workers, has seen approximately 71 employees, family members, retirees, and people living in the surrounding communities contract EVD. Firestone's Ebola Treatment Center (ETC) has helped 17 people survive and become a model ETC in the process.
16. Twenty-one medical personnel arrived in Sierra Leone from Addis Ababa. These staff will be deployed to the hinterland by the weekend and UNMEER-provided vehicles will help logistically and with operational requirements.
17. The WHO e-learning module is nearing finalization and a training center with a simulated ETC is being operationalized which will aim to train 300 people each week.

Logistics

18. A German aircraft arrived in Accra, Ghana, to be loaded with UN humanitarian supplies and equipment for delivery to Sierra Leone and Guinea later in the week. This is done under the coordination of UNMEER. Items include high-energy biscuits for people affected by the crisis and infrastructure equipment to set up a logistics chain for future aid delivery.
19. The WHO and the WFP are doing groundwork for four ETCs in Monrovia with a total of 400 beds. Construction of two of the centres is expected to be completed by this weekend. The construction of treatment centers by WFP in Guinea is also underway and is expected to be completed in the next week.
20. UNHRD depots have dispatched a combined USD 1.5 million (159 metric tonnes) worth of equipment for the set-up of forward logistics bases in Liberia and Guinea in the last 72 hours. The depots in Dubai, Ghana, Italy and Spain have so far dispatched a combined 449 metric tonnes, worth US\$ 3.9 million, of protective gear, emergency health kits, relief items and support equipment to the region in response to the EVD crisis.
21. A flight from the WFP is en route to Liberia carrying 58 metric tons of supplies, including water tanks, washing units and generators.
22. To support the establishment of ETCs and Community Care Centres in Liberia, UNICEF released 19 tents, 1,000 household protection kits and 3 diarrhea kits to local counties.
23. Director of operations for Medecins Sans Frontieres, Brice de le Vingne, reports that it is reaching its limit and called on all partners step up efforts against EVD.

Outreach and Education

24. Social media users in Sierra Leone are turning to chat apps to disseminate information about EVD. Private groups are being set up on WhatsApp, a smartphone instant messaging service, so that information about Ebola can be shared in a space where conversations can take place more freely than on Facebook.
25. About 60,000 people in the 6 worst-hit counties in Liberia were reached by UNICEF last week using interpersonal communication within communities, marketplaces and house-to-house campaigns.

Resource Mobilisation

26. The US has pledged USD 142 million to build and staff treatment centers as well as 5 million to help Liberia compensate health workers on the frontline of the EVD epidemic.
27. Norway will increase by around 9 million euros (USD 11.5 million) its support for the EVD crisis response bringing its total support to some 39 million euros (USD 49.8 million).
28. The World Cocoa Foundation announced a donation of \$600,000 to fight EVD.
29. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org.

Essential Services

30. A WFP-contracted ship left Cotonou, Benin, with 7,000 metric tons of rice. It is scheduled to reach Freetown in Sierra Leone before the end of the week, before heading to Monrovia, Liberia.
31. In an effort to address the nutrition requirements of patients with EVD, UNICEF procured 500 cartons of high energy bars to feed patients in ETCs in Liberia. UNICEF is also supporting the identification and referral of severely malnourished children to 7 health facilities in Montserrado county.

Upcoming Events

- 13-17 October – U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Rajiv Shah will travel to Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Senegal
- 15-18 October – Crisis management operational planning meeting UNMEER HQ, Accra
- 16 October – Meeting of EU health ministers to discuss screening possible EVD victims when entering the EU block
- 16 October: VTC - UNMIL/Liberia CRC meeting
- 16-17 October – Survivors' Conference in Kenema, Sierra Leone, hosted by the Government of Sierra Leone and UNICEF
- 17 October – Next meeting of the Global Ebola Response Coalition
- 11 December – Global Compact CEO-level Action Pledge Event at the UN

Attachments and Resources

- United Nations Security Council Press Statement issued on 15 October 2014

Security Council Press Statement – Ebola (15 October 2014)

On 14 October 2014, the members of the Security Council heard briefings by Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Mission for Emergency Ebola Response (UNMEER) Anthony Banbury, as well as Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Hervé Ladsous and Assistant-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Tayé-Brook Zerihoun.

The members of the Security Council reiterated their grave concern about the unprecedented extent of the Ebola outbreak in Africa, which constitutes a threat to international peace and security, as well as the impact of the Ebola virus on West Africa, in particular, Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. The members of the Security Council recognized the strenuous efforts made by the Member States of the region, especially Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, to lead the ground-level response against the Ebola outbreak, as well as to address the wider political, security, socioeconomic and humanitarian impact of the Ebola outbreak on communities. The members of the Security Council affirmed the importance of preparedness by all Member States to detect, prevent, respond to, isolate and mitigate suspected cases of Ebola within and across borders. They also recalled the International Health Regulations (2005), which aim to improve the capacity of all countries to detect, assess, notify and respond to public health threats.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the swift establishment on 19 September 2014 by United Nations General Assembly resolution 69/1 of UNMEER. They expressed their appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the Mission to provide overall leadership and direction to the operational work of the United Nations System, as mandated by the United Nations General Assembly. They requested that the Secretary-General help to ensure that all relevant United Nations System entities, including the United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions in West Africa, within their existing mandates and capacities, collaborate closely and urgently to respond to UNMEER's requests and to provide immediate Ebola response assistance to the governments of the three most affected countries.

The members of the Security Council reiterated their deep and abiding admiration for the first-line responders to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, including national health and humanitarian relief workers, educators, and those providing burial services, as well as international health and

humanitarian relief workers contributed by the Member States of diverse regions and non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations. The members of the Security Council expressed their condolences to the families of the victims of the Ebola outbreak, including national and international first-line responders, and wished swift recovery to those infected. They also underscored the critical importance of putting in place necessary arrangements, including medical evacuation capacities and treatment and transport provisions, to facilitate the immediate and unhindered deployment of health and humanitarian relief workers in the affected countries.

The members of the Security Council called on the governments of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to continue to strengthen coordination with all national, regional and international actors, including bilateral partners and multilateral organizations, including the Mano River Union, African Union, Economic Community of West African States, European Union, World Bank Group and the United Nations System, in order to more fully and efficiently utilize all Ebola response assistance.

The members of the Security Council stressed that the response of the international community to the Ebola outbreak has failed to date to adequately address the magnitude of the outbreak and its effects. In this regard, they urged all Member States, and bilateral partners and multilateral organizations, to accelerate and dramatically expand the provision of resources and financial and material assistance, including mobile laboratories; field hospitals; dedicated and trained clinical personnel and services in Ebola Treatment Units and isolation units; therapies, vaccines and diagnostics to treat patients and limit or prevent further Ebola infection or transmission; and personal protective equipment for first-line responders. They further urged Member States and all relevant actors to provide logistical, aeromedical, transport and construction capabilities for the Ebola response. They called on Member States, especially in the region, to facilitate immediately the delivery of such assistance, to the most affected countries.

The members of the Security Council strongly urged Member States, as well as airlines and shipping companies, while applying appropriate public health protocols, to maintain trade and transport links with the most affected countries to enable the timely utilization of all efforts aimed at containing the Ebola outbreak within and across borders of the region. They expressed their continued concern about the detrimental effect of the isolation of the

affected countries as a result of trade and travel restrictions imposed on and to the affected countries, as well as acts of discrimination against the nationals of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.



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