



## HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 9936 cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) have been reported and 4877 deaths.
- SRSG Banbury met with the President of Sierra Leone, Ernest Bai Koroma, to discuss the operational framework for the EVD crisis.
- Many WHO staff, including Assistant Director General for Health Systems and Innovation, Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, are volunteering to test experimental EVD vaccines.

## Key Political and Economic Developments

1. SRSG Banbury met with the President of Sierra Leone, Ernest Bai Koroma, to discuss the operational framework for the EVD crisis response developed at a recent UNMEER Meeting in Accra. The President expressed his support for the framework that would continue to be developed and tailored to the national context of Sierra Leone. SRSG Banbury also met with the head of the National Ebola Response Centre, the Development Group leaders, and the heads of UN agencies to discuss the implementation of the National Response Plan.
2. Many WHO staff, including Assistant Director General for Health Systems and Innovation, Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, are volunteering to test experimental EVD vaccines. Human tests for safety and effectiveness of two promising vaccines have already begun in the Mali, the UK and the US and are about to begin in Gabon, Germany, Kenya and Switzerland. The next phase of human testing will be in West Africa.

## Medical

3. A total of 9936 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in countries with widespread and intense transmission (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone), countries with an initial case or localized transmission (Spain, and the US) and the two previously affected countries (Nigeria and Senegal). There have been a total of 4877 deaths.
4. All but one district in Liberia and all districts in Sierra Leone have now reported at least one confirmed or probable case of EVD since the outbreak began.
5. A total of 443 health-care workers have been infected with EVD and 244 have died.
6. The WHO reported that meeting the overall EVD crisis response target of isolating 70 per cent of EVD cases by 1 December, and 100 per cent of cases by 1 January, requires effective case identification, isolation and treatment. In terms of case identification, WHO estimates that 28 laboratories are required across the three most affected countries. At present, 12 laboratories are operational (three in Guinea, five in Liberia, and four in Sierra Leone). Up to 20 000 contact tracing staff may also be needed. In regard to case isolation and treatment, the WHO estimates that 4388 beds are required in 50 Ebola treatment units (ETUs) across the three most affected countries. At present, 1126 (25 per cent) are in place. In addition, there remains a gap in the availability of foreign medical teams to manage and staff ETUs - there are firm commitments from teams for 30 of the planned 50 ETUs.

### Available and planned EVD bed capacity

	Existing ETU beds	Required ETU beds	Existing ETU beds/required ETU beds (%)
Guinea	160	260	61%
Liberia	620	2690	23%
Sierra Leone	346	1198	29%

7. WHO reported that there are 140 teams trained in the management of dead bodies currently operating - 34 in Guinea, 56 in Liberia, and 50 in Sierra Leone. To meet the EVD response target that 70 per cent of burials are carried out safely by properly trained and equipped teams by 1 December, WHO estimates 230 additional dead-body-management teams will be required in these countries.
8. The Secretary-General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Elhadj As Sy, said the EVD outbreak could be contained within four to six months if the right steps are followed. The time frame is possible with good isolation and treatment for those with confirmed cases of EVD, along with safe and dignified burials for those who died. Mr. Elhadj As Sy also argued that closing borders would not effectively curb EVD infections.
9. The West Africa Health Organization reported that it would deploy 300 health workers to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
10. 83 health workers from Cuba arrived in Guinea and Liberia, bringing to 256 the number of medical workers sent by Cuba so far to the affected countries.
11. Burundi is to send a team of medical staff that will help control the EVD outbreak in the three affected countries.
12. Johnson & Johnson is accelerating work on its experimental Ebola vaccine and aims to produce 1 million doses next year, 250,000 of which are expected to be available by May.
13. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have announced a new program of active monitoring of every person coming back to the US from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The travelers concerned will be asked to carry out daily self-checks for fever and provide contact details of friends or family. Temperatures are recommended to be taken twice per day and reported once per day and these travellers will also receive a care kit that includes a tracking log, instructions for monitoring temperature, and a pictorial description of symptoms. There is also a phone number to call if symptoms develop.

### **Logistics**

14. The IFRC reported on its efforts to stop EVD. Across the affected countries this week the IFRC traced 3,907 contacts, reached 5,600 households through social mobilization and conducted 701 safe and dignified burials.
15. The World Bank and UNFPA donated 38 motorbikes and 13 computers and accessories to the Government of Sierra Leone. UNICEF delivered 8 vehicles and 100 motorbikes to the Government of Guinea.
16. The US Ebola 'czar' starts has commenced work and a 30-member military-led EVD emergency team, including 5 doctors, 20 critical care nurses and 5 trainers who are experts in infectious disease protocols, has begun its training. This team will be rapidly deployed in response to any further EVD cases in the US.

### **Outreach and Education**

17. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is tracking the approximate locations of cell phone users in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone who dial emergency call centers in an effort to predict the onset and spread of EVD.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

18. The World Olympians Association and Oxfam have launched the #TargetEbola campaign to help combat EVD.
19. 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](mailto:fts@un.org).

### **Essential Services**

20. WFP, working in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, has delivered 13,125 metric tonnes of food to 776,000 people since April 2014, transported 1,130 responders by UNHAS, with two planes and one helicopter in operation and provided 7,718 m3 of medical cargo.
21. FAO is urgently calling for USD 30 million to support activities linked to its Regional Response Programme to the EVD Outbreak over the next 12 months. The FAO is aiming to provide immediate assistance to 90 000 vulnerable households to boost their food security.

## Upcoming Events

- 21-24 October - SRSB Banbury to travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone
- 22-23 October - WHO Emergency Committee meeting on Ebola
- 11 December - Global Compact CEO-level Action Pledge Event at the UN

## Attachments and Resources

- WHO Ebola response roadmap:  
[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137091/1/roadmapsitrepre22Oct2014\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137091/1/roadmapsitrepre22Oct2014_eng.pdf?ua=1)
- US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention EVD Outbreak and Distribution Map:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/distribution-map.html>
- OCHA Guinea EVD dashboard:  
<http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/Dashboard-Guinea%20as%20of%2020%20Oct%2014.pdf>
- OCHA Liberia EVD dashboard:  
<http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/Dashboard-Liberia%20as%20of%2020%20Oct%2014.pdf>
- OCHA Sierra Leone EVD dashboard:  
<http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/Dashboard-SierraLeone%20as%20of%2020%20Oct%2014.pdf>
- OCHA Guinea 3W:  
[http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/GIN\\_A4\\_L\\_141020\\_Ebola\\_3W\\_Reponse.pdf](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/GIN_A4_L_141020_Ebola_3W_Reponse.pdf)
- OCHA Sierra Leone 3W:  
[http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/SLE\\_A4\\_L\\_141020\\_Ebola\\_3W\\_Reponse.pdf](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/SLE_A4_L_141020_Ebola_3W_Reponse.pdf)