

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

9 December 2014

### KEY POINTS

- President Sirleaf of Liberia launched the “Ebola Must Go” campaign yesterday in the presence of UNMEER SRSG Banbury and other senior officials.
- UNMEER received the first 20,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment from Japan.
- 17,800 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) have been reported in the three most affected countries, where there have been 6,331 reported deaths.

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. In the presence of UNMEER SRSG Banbury, UNMEER ECM Graaff, the US Ambassador and other senior officials, President Sirleaf of Liberia launched the “Ebola Must Go” awareness campaign at the Christ Kingdom Harvest Church in New Georgia Signboard community, Liberia. The president spoke about the importance of community involvement in fighting EVD, and about preventative measures including not touching the infected, quickly identifying new cases, and safe burials. The president asked everyone in attendance to take a pledge to “protect myself, my family and community, because Ebola Must Go and stopping Ebola is everybody’s business.” SRSG Banbury pledged US\$ 10,000 for the campaign and \$1,000 for the New Georgia Signboard community.

### Human Rights

2. NSTR

### Response Efforts and Health

3. UNMEER and CDC undertook a field visit to Loguatom and Zwedru, Liberia, in the immediate proximity of the Ivorian border. Aspects related to border management, impact on the local economy and livelihoods following closure of borders were discussed over the course of the meetings with local officials, local communities and representatives of the Ivorian refugees in a refugee camp.
4. Yesterday UNMEER received 20,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the Japan Disaster Relief Team. This is the first batch of 700,000 sets of PPEs committed by the government of Japan to UNMEER to help provide critical protection to healthcare workers in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Mali. At the official handover ceremony in Accra, SRSG Banbury thanked the government of Japan and stressed the need for continued contributions from partners around the world to keep up the fight against EVD.
5. Following a field visit by the UNMEER Field Crisis Manager and WHO to the recently affected remote community in Qwenieh/Grand Bassa in Liberia, UNMEER and CDC undertook a flyover of the area, as part of the planning for the deployment of rapid response capacities. A series of constraints have been identified in relation to utilizing the available helicopter resources in accessing remote locations, with no security or communications available at the landing site.
6. Community resistance increased in the past week in certain areas of Guinea, even leading to violent actions by local communities against EVD responders -- including a UNICEF contractor. At the same time, resistance has been overcome in other areas.
7. 17,800 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries, where there have been 6,331 reported deaths.

### Logistics

8. WFP is targeting hospitals and health centres in five priority counties in Liberia (Montserrado, River Cess, Margibi, Grand Cape Mount and Bong) for shipments of medical items, as directed by the Ministry of Health. WFP has so far served 10 out of 17 hospitals and 12 out of 28 health centres with 121m3 of essential medical items. The second wave of dispatches will expand to clinics in the five priority counties, as well as an additional 3-5 counties and their respective hospitals, health centers,

and clinics. The current dispatch plan for December aims to target 36 hospitals, 47 health centres, and over 500 clinics.

9. WFP has deployed a specialised technician to Conakry to coordinate the arrival of an UNMEER C-160 aircraft, which is soon to arrive with the remaining items needed to finalise the construction of Ebola Treatment Units in Beyla and Coyah. The opening of both centres is planned for the end of the second week of December.
10. UNICEF, with World Bank funding, provided 66 4X4 vehicles to the national coordination platform in Guinea for staff and blood samples transportation. In addition, UNICEF provided 10 pick-ups and 200 motorbikes for social mobilization activities at decentralized levels.
11. WFP, through the Logistics Cluster, continues to facilitate the coordination of Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) provision to partners in Sierra Leone. So far, satellite hubs have been set up in Moyamba (1 MSU provided to Mediciens du Monde); Magburaka (1 MSU provided to MSF); Freetown (2 MSUs provided to MSF); Hastings (2 MSUs provided to Aspen) and Kerry Town (1 MSU provided to Save the Children).
12. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

13. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling US\$ 1.5 billion, has been funded for \$ 1 billion, which is around 67 percent of the total ask.
14. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has US\$ 96.8 million in commitments. In total \$ 131 million has been pledged.
15. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of contributions by e-mailing: [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org).

### **Outreach and Education**

16. In Guinea, the radio station Internews has received funding from USAID to launch a countrywide daily broadcast on EVD prevention, in collaboration with 23 rural and private radio stations. Internews and its partner stations will start broadcasting as soon as possible in December.

### **Essential Services**

17. Two EVD-waste management machines have arrived in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The machines will be installed in two EVD treatment facilities: in a military hospital in Freetown and the Hastings Treatment Centre in Waterloo. Two medical waste advisors and two machinists will ensure the machines are installed properly, work effectively, and that staff are trained on how to use them safely. The sterilizing machines, known as autoclaves, decontaminate and compress used medical equipment and waste through several cycles of high-pressure steam and vacuuming, allowing for their safe disposal. The machines are the first of their kind in any of the Ebola-affected countries. UNDP expects a total of 11 autoclaves for ETCs across the country.

### **Upcoming Events**

- 10-11 December - High-level meeting on building resilient health systems in EVD-affected countries
- 11 December - Global Compact CEO-level Action Pledge Event at the UN.

### **Attachments and resources**

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