



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Mali has confirmed its first case of EVD.
- The WHO Emergency Committee in Geneva agreed that the EVD outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone continues to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

## Key Political and Economic Developments

1. SRSB Banbury continued his consultation with the governments of the affected countries on the operational framework for the EVD response, meeting with President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia. Once consultations have concluded, the framework will be tailored to the specific circumstances of each affected country. Key elements are already being rapidly implemented as all partners in the EVD crisis response work toward the overall goal of 70 per cent of cases isolated and 70 per cent of burials conducted safely and in a dignified manner by 1 December.
2. The third meeting of the WHO Emergency Committee in Geneva agreed that the EVD outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone continues to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The WHO reported that cases are increasing exponentially and the primary emphasis must remain on stopping the transmission of EVD in these three countries. Exit screening is also critical for reducing the exportation of EVD cases. The Committee reiterated its recommendation, however, that there should be no general ban on international travel or trade as it would be likely to cause economic hardship and increase the uncontrolled migration of people from affected countries. The key lessons learned to control the outbreak include the importance of leadership, community engagement, bringing in more partners, paying staff on time, and accountability.

## Human Rights

3. 43 people quarantined for EVD monitoring in western Liberia are reportedly threatening to break out of an isolation center because of a lack of food.
4. Work has commenced on an EVD holding facility at Freetown's largest prison. With almost 2,000 inmates, EVD could spread quickly among this vulnerable population. With support from UNDP, the correctional facility will refurbish two holding centres - one for women and one for men - that will house new inmates and keep them separate from the general population for 21 days. UNDP also handed over equipment like buckets, soap, blankets and mosquito nets that will help inmates and guards at Freetown's prison and all 17 prisons in Sierra Leone.

## Medical

5. Mali has reported its first confirmed case of EVD. The patient in the western region of Kayes is a two-year-old girl who had recently arrived from neighboring Guinea.
6. A physician who recently returned from the affected countries has tested positive for EVD at a New York City hospital.
7. Guinea has started paying compensation to the families of health workers who have died of EVD. Eight families have already been paid a USD 10,000 lump sum. The families of 42 victims, including doctors, nurses, drivers and porters, have been identified to receive compensation.
8. WHO and the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation are now training 240 Health Care Workers a week, up from 120. To date 756 people have been trained.
9. The AU will send more than 1,000 health workers to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
10. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced the deployment of 3 mobile laboratories in the affected countries to enable the collection of plasma for clinical studies and the treatment of EVD.
11. A large-scale laboratory will be airlifted to Sierra Leone to conduct tests on EVD patients across the country and is expected to open on 27 October. The laboratory has the capacity to carry out 300 EVD tests a day.

12. The first Community Care Centre will start receiving patients this weekend in Port Loko, Sierra Leone. Three more are planned to follow.

### **Logistics**

13. UNICEF has airlifted 660 metric tons of emergency aid, including essential protective gear, tents, diarrheal kits, treatment for emergency malnutrition cases, and sanitation supplies like chlorine since the beginning of the outbreak.
14. A fleet of 32 UK-funded vehicles are on their way to Sierra Leone where they will transport staff, medicines and equipment.

### **Outreach and Education**

15. The Liberian Ministries of Education and Health and Social Welfare began a district-level training programme on social mobilization on the EVD emergency response for 11,400 public and private school teachers and administrators.
16. Plan International launched a joint project entitled "Fight against the Ebola epidemic in Guinea through intensified social mobilization and better monitoring of contact cases". The 6 months project will support on-going efforts particularly in the area of social mobilization and case finding.
17. Supported by UNICEF, a group of young girls in Monrovia are spreading messages of EVD prevention through a programme called "A-Life", or "Adolescents Leading the Intense Fight against Ebola". This week, 3,000 households in Monrovia have been reached with EVD prevention messages.
18. Reportedly more than half the beds in treatment centers in Monrovia, Liberia, remain empty because of the government's order that the bodies of all suspected EVD victims be cremated. Cremation violates Liberians' values and cultural practices leading to the sick often being kept at home and buried in secret, increasing the risk of more infections.
19. UNFPA trained an additional 200 general community health workers to support the efforts of contact tracing in Liberia and provide information to households. The 200 community health workers are working in counties that are bordering Sierra Leone.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

20. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements of USD 988 million has received USD 488 million, which is 49 per cent of the total ask.
21. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has deposits of USD 8.8 million. In total USD 84 million has been pledged against a target of USD 100 million by end of October 2014.
22. UK Prime Minister David Cameron has pledged a further 80 million pounds (USD 131 million) to the EVD crisis response.
23. Billionaire Paul Allen will contribute at least USD 100 million to help stop EVD.
24. The EU has contributed another 24.4 million euros (USD 31 million) to the EVD crisis response. The EU is seeking to raise a total of 1 billion euro (USD 1.26 billion) and at the start of a two-day EU leaders' summit (23-24 October) it is more than halfway toward that goal. The EU also named Christos Stylianides of Cyprus as its coordinator on EVD.
25. 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**

26. UNICEF and key partners are supporting the Liberian health ministry to collect data from frontline health workers and use that to provide the general population with access to basic health services across the country in real time through SMS.
27. UNFPA started its third round of distributing infection prevention and hygienic items and supplies to 50 per cent of health facilities in Liberia

### **Upcoming Events**

- 21-24 October - SRSG Banbury to travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone
- 24 October - Meeting of the Global Ebola Response Coalition
- 11 December - Global Compact CEO-level Action Pledge Event at the UN