



HIGHLIGHTS

- UNMEER SRSG Banbury and team arrive in Accra
- UNMEER advance team in Guinea meets with UNCT and Minister for International Cooperation
- Recently opened humanitarian air-bridge in Dakar results in strained capacity at Dakar airport
- China provides financial support to Ghana for its Ebola preparedness plans

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. Yesterday, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Sierra Leone, Samura Kamara, during which they discussed the effects of the Ebola outbreak on the country and how the UN would work with Sierra Leone to combat the epidemic and mitigate its effects.
2. Yesterday, SRSG Anthony Banbury, head of the newly established UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER), and a ten-person advance team arrived in Accra, Ghana. Upon arrival at Ghana's international airport, SRSG Banbury delivered a press briefing.

Medical

3. While the EVD outbreak in Senegal is currently considered to be contained, a recent risk assessment conducted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) indicated that the porous borders with Guinea, trade flows through the regular weekly markets and the poor state of roads constitute a serious risk to the spread of EVD in the country. The IFRC assesses that Senegal remains a high-risk country, particularly since many residents from affected countries seek to cross the border for treatment.

Logistics

4. According to WFP's most recent update, it has delivered 4,979 metric tonnes of food for 389,827 people in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone since April 2014; WFP intends to provide food to up to 1.35 million people in these three most-affected countries by the end of February 2015. To facilitate the transportation of such supplies, WFP has contracted a ship which is currently in Cotonou, Benin. The ship will be loaded with 7,000 metric tonnes of rice to be transported to Monrovia and Freetown.
5. As of 25 September, the WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has transported 426 passengers and approximately 6.6 metric tonnes of light cargo for 25 organizations.
6. Weekly dispatches from the UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) are ongoing, with depots in Dubai and Accra having dispatched 144 metric tonnes of protective gear, emergency health kits and equipment to the region thus far.
7. Following Saturday's announcement of the opening of a humanitarian air-bridge between Dakar and affected countries, the Logistics Cluster cautions that capacity at the airport in Dakar has become strained due to a high volume of aircraft and flights. The Cluster notes that international cargo flights should go to UNHRD depots in Accra and Las Palmas, Spain to avoid further congestion in Dakar.
8. In its latest update, the Logistics Cluster reiterated the ongoing nature of a number of logistical challenges reported last week, including the need to manage and coordinate the use of airport and airspace; land, sea and air access constraints; increasing storage needs; and poor weather conditions hampering operations. The Logistics Cluster is working with relevant government actors and humanitarian partners to identify solutions these challenges. Meanwhile, the Logistics Cluster also reported that construction of an Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) site (approximately 200-beds) by the Liberian military is estimated for completion by 4 October, while construction continues on an additional ETU site at Monrovia's Samuel K. Doe Stadium (approximately 300-beds).
9. According to media, one of two German military transport aircraft carrying aid to Senegal as part of the Ebola response was grounded yesterday on the Spanish island of Gran Canaria due to a defect.

Resource Mobilisation

10. In addition to financial and in-kind support China has already provided to other West African countries, yesterday, China donated CNY 5 million (approximately USD 833,000) worth of equipment and medical supplies to Ghana to assist in the battle against EVD.

Essential Services

11. Further to last week's mention, WFP continues to use mobile Vulnerability Assessment Mapping technology to track the impact of the Ebola crisis on food security. In Sierra Leone, data collection via SMS has been completed for a total sample of 800 households. WFP is also preparing data collection through interactive voice response in Guinea and Liberia.

Regional

12. Ghana has nearly completed the construction of its first Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU), according to the Minister of Health. While there are no Ebola cases in Ghana, the Minister noted that the country wanted to ensure that it was fully prepared for any eventuality related to the Ebola outbreak. The ETU has yet to be equipped with beds or medical equipment, including personal protective equipment, to make it operational. The Minister further noted that an isolation facility had been identified and that two other facilities would be converted into additional ETUs.

Upcoming Events

- 30 September – Press conference with SRSG Banbury at the Ministry of Information in Accra
- 1 October – SRSG Banbury to travel to Liberia
- 3 October – SRSG Banbury to travel to Sierra Leone
- 5 October – SRSG Banbury to travel to Guinea

Attachments and Resources

- [Logistics Cluster: Ebola Response Fact Sheet, as of 26 September 2014](#)
- [Report of the Secretary General: United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response and the Office of the Special Envoy on Ebola, 24 September 2014](#)