

Situation Overview

- According to the latest WHO Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report, a total of 8,011 cases have been reported in the current outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa; WHO has advised that despite the opening of new Ebola Treatment Units, an urgent need for over 4,000 additional beds for treatment remains in the affected countries (Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone).
- The EU has announced funding of €3 million euro to set up of a medical evacuation system in West Africa, that will enable humanitarian responders diagnosed with Ebola to be evacuated in less than 48 hours by plane to hospitals within Europe that are equipped to deal with the disease.
- WFP has expanded its operations to enable the Health response under the United Nations umbrella and to provide the backbone of the logistics response to UNMEER in its efforts to halt the spread of Ebola. A two day planning meeting was held in Dakar on 6 and 7 October to discuss the operationalization of the WFP Common Services Special Operation.
- An air-lift coordination cell will be established in UNICEF HQ in Copenhagen, Denmark; in coordination with WFP Aviation, the cell will provide visibility on incoming charter flights and coordinate and maximize flight capacity.
- The humanitarian corridor connecting Dakar, Conakry, Freetown, Monrovia and Accra is officially open and regular flights have commenced on 7 October. Flights are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The new regional UNHAS schedule (including flights from Dakar and Accra) is available on the website: www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14.

Regional Shipping Update

- Following the contracting by WFP of a time-charter vessel for shunting to three affected country ports, from Las Palmas, Spain, the vessel is currently operational and in Cotonou, Benin; depending on users' demand, the Logistics Cluster may utilise the charter vessel for inter-agency supplies, and use Las Palmas as a cargo consolidation hub for Non-Food-Item (NFIs) shipments.
- Bulk vessels that dock in one of the affected countries are often required to undergo a 21 day quarantine period before they can dock at a port in other countries in the region. The same quarantine procedure does not apply to bulk or container shipments.
- So far there have been no reports of any of the international container lines suspending their services; some liners have altered schedules, but are continuing to call at the three affected country ports. Few commercial carriers continue to provide uninterrupted coverage.
- The following shipping routes are confirmed as being open/ active:
 - Load Ports: Las Palmas (ESP), Abidjan (CIV), Accra (GHA), Lome (TGO), Cotonou (BEN)
 - Discharge Ports: Conakry (GIN), Freetown (SLE), Monrovia (LBR)
- Currently Conakry, Freetown and Monrovia ports are operating normally with no congestion reported.

Regional Air Update

- From Dakar airport, UNHAS has established air corridors into and between each of the affected countries, starting 07 October. As a condition of operation, the Terminal operates from tented

temporary facilities, which provides segregated passenger facilities, compliant with international standards but including dedicated medical screening and monitoring facilities in coordination with the Ministry for Health. The construction of more permanent facilities at Dakar is ongoing, and will need to be rolled out in some form across the air corridors, to augment UNHAS capabilities across affected countries. Please see the Flights and UNHAS information on the Logistics Cluster website www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14.

- Since the first UNHAS flight on 16 August through to 5 October, UNHAS has transported 655 passengers and 9.2mt of light cargo for 30 organizations between Conakry, Freetown and Monrovia and from there to various field locations in the affected countries.
- An agreement with the US, German, British and Senegalese military has been reached in order to coordinate the development of the sites at Dakar airport. Each party has been assigned their area of operation and WFP has been enlarging its base to accommodate storage facilities.
- UNMIL is conducting flights using a Boeing 737 between Accra (Ghana) and Monrovia, on Sundays and Fridays. The aircraft has a 110 passenger capacity (PAX), and cargo capacity of up to 8 MT per rotation, depending on cargo volume. Partners are advised to contact the Logistics Cluster in Monrovia (contact details below) for more information on bookings.
- Increasing challenges are being experienced in the chartering and positioning of aircraft for cargo and passenger movement into Ebola affected countries from one of the surrounding countries.
- In addition to unpredictable flight clearance procedures, some countries' Civil Aviation Authorities (CAA) have restricted air operators from flying into the affected countries.
- With a 19-seat fixed-wing aircraft, UNHAS WAC links the three capitals – Conakry, Freetown and Monrovia and serves field locations in Guinea (Kissidougou and Nzerekore) and Liberia (Foya). A new aircraft (CRJ-200; Pax 50) has been added to the UNHAS fleet, which is operating on the new regional schedule since 7 October (including flights from Accra, Ghana and Dakar, Senegal).
- The UNHAS WAC medium-size helicopter (9 Pax / 1.1 MT Capacity) serves the following destinations from Monrovia: Foya, Voinjama, N'Zerekore, Bo, Phebe Hospital, Cuttington University, and Kenema. More information about UNHAS schedules and booking forms can be found on the Logistics Cluster website: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

Logistics Cluster Common Services

- As a matter of priority, the Logistics Cluster, through WFP, will establish approximately 12 Forward Logistics Bases across the 3 countries for most urgent call-forwards of supplies for Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) and Ebola Care Units (ECUs).

Liberia

- This week, 4,750 m3 supplies were transported on behalf of the Ministry of Health (MoH), USAID/OFDA, Direct Relief International, the World Health Organization (WHO), Samaritan's Purse, WFP Engineers (MoD), Child Fund Liberia, MoreThanMe and the Clinton Foundation to different locations in and around Monrovia. Since the beginning of operations in early September, there has been a cumulative total of over 6,055m3 transported on behalf of partners.
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated the storage of 1,014m3 of cargo for the Clinton Foundation, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), USAID/OFDA, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW), the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF.

- The Logistics Cluster through WFP has loaned 7 Mobile Storage Units (MSU) to MSF Belgium, 2 MSUs to MSF Swiss and 2 MSUs to the Ministry of Health, 4 MSUs to Save the Children, totalling in 15 MSUs.
- Together with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the CHAI Foundation, a national dispatch plan was prepared covering all regional health facilities, Ebola treatment units (ETUs) and Community Care Centers (CCCs). Dispatches are scheduled to start this week.
- The Logistics Cluster intends to offer free-to-user services to partners for the next three months in order to facilitate and hasten the humanitarian response.

Sierra Leone

- UNHAS has started regular service three times a week from Dakar to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
- WFP has provided a technician to help setup two MSUs for a new Ebola Treatment Unit at Kerry Town, for DFID and Save the Children.
- WFP linked a donation from Milla Group of materials for an Ebola treatment centre to International Medical Corps (IMC), to be used for the setup of a 50 bed facility in Lunsar, near Port Loko, to be opened in the 4th week of October. This was a direct result of a private sector coordination meeting organized by the Irish Embassy.

Guinea

- The Logistics Cluster is performing a logistics and location assessment on behalf of UNICEF in Guekedou.
- A Forward Logistics Base is to be established in Kissidougou, near the airstrip. The Logistics Cluster is assessing potential land allocation for the base. The FLB would service multiple districts to give as much coverage as possible for most urgent call-forwards of medical supplies and to preposition food for Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs), Ebola Care Units (ECUs) and any other facility requiring supplies.
- The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, is assessing options for extending storage space and for establishing a Common Logistics Hub in Conakry.
- The Logistics Cluster has provided one MSU to the French government in its upgrade of the Transit Centre in Macenta to an Ebola Treatment Unit.

→ Partners are advised to contact the Logistics Cluster should they have any need for transport or storage. For more information about the logistics situation and operational constraints or for usage of common logistics services, please visit the Logistics Cluster website: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14> or email the relevant contacts below.

Logistics Coordination/Information Management/GIS

- Standardised Service Request Form (SRF) procedures are available online at: <http://www.logcluster.org/document/standard-operating-procedures-sops-logistics-cluster-transport-and-transit-storage-services>.
- The most recent regional UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flight schedules, operational as of 7 October, and booking forms have been published on the Logistics Cluster website. A flight snapshot,

covering all commercial and humanitarian flights into and between the affected countries, is also available on the Logistics Cluster website: www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14.

- Logistics information, meeting minutes, booking forms, Situation Updates, UNHAS flight schedules, maps and other information management products are also shared on the Logistics Cluster website.
- Cluster meetings are conducted regularly in the three affected countries, and in Liberia they have been co-chaired by the government, UNMIL and WFP. Cluster participation has been high, with average of 20 organisations in attendance.

Logistics Gaps or Bottlenecks

- Heavy seasonal rains, road access constraints, border closures and checkpoints continue to impact humanitarian operations across the region.
- There have been significant delays in the discharging of airplanes, and damage of humanitarian cargo, due to lack of capacity at the airports. The Logistics Cluster is working with the relevant governments and other humanitarian actors to assess solutions.

Liberia

- Partners are reporting delays at various checkpoints around the country. Stickers are being provided by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) which should enable safe passage through the checkpoints.

Sierra Leone

- In Sierra Leone, the Ministry of Finance has established a hotline (+232 25 260 472) to facilitate tracking of duty waiver letters. The Government will not provide a blanket waiver, however, it is fast-tracking the clearance procedure; fast-track clearance of air cargo is provided through the Ebola Emergency Operations Centre (EOC): Clearance can take up to 24 hours. Airway bill numbers (needed for the clearance letter) should be obtained by agencies **before** aircraft is fully loaded. 5 copies of the clearance request letter are needed to be given for signature to the EOC.
- In Sierra Leone, transport to Port Loko from the airport is possible only from 9am-5pm because outside these hours the quarantine check-points are closed. For trucks traveling to the airport, trucks passage is facilitated through check points by providing drivers a copy of the cargo clearance request letter, signed by the Ebola Emergency Operations Centre.

Guinea

- OCHA Geneva has shared the following customs information regarding Guinea:
 - A letter signed by the sender of the humanitarian aid (NGOs included) must be sent to the Director General of Customs, Colonel Toumany Sangare; the forwarding agent will deal with the procedures (the Customs Administration can suggest forwarding agents).
 - The following documents should be attached to the letter to the Director General of Customs: AWB, proforma invoice, packing list; it is important to state that the relief items are intended to be used for the Ebola response. Import is not completely tax free; however, should not exceed 100 USD. This procedure can be applied for relief items and medicines.
- Regarding the importation of vehicles and telecommunication equipment, a letter to the Ministry of Budget should be sent to ask for tax exemption and immediate release.

Contacts:

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