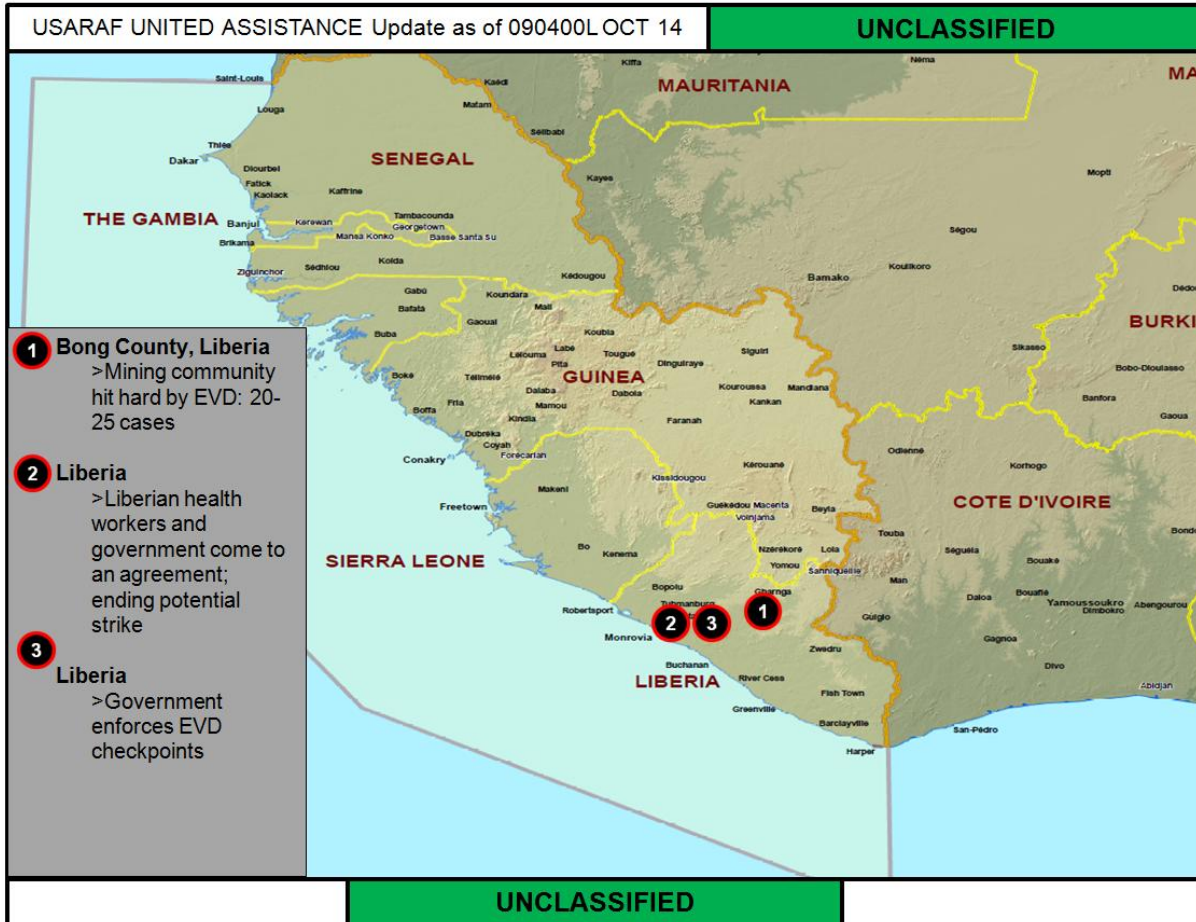


UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 090400LOCT14

9 October 2014



(U) Executive Summary: *There has been no significant reporting in the last 24 hours and the security situation in Liberia will likely remain stable in the near term. Liberia continues to struggle with the increasing rate of EVD cases, hampered by the combination of administrative and logistical issues concerning medical personnel and equipment. However, the government is determined to compromise and identify mitigations to contain the spread by strengthening their security force, empowering their medical staff, and educating their population.*

(U) **Liberia**

(U) **UNMIL Loses Second Staff Member to EVD:** On 8 October, United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) officials announced that an International Staff Member has died of EVD. Of the two UNMIL workers that have been victims of EVD, one was a female security guard and the second was a healthcare worker. Both infected staff members are working in Monrovia. UNMIL is continuing to review and emplace procedures to further protect its employees. Karin Landgren, UN Special Representative for Liberia, stated UNMIL has taken steps since this loss to educate and protect personnel. She also referred to EVD as “Liberia’s gravest threat since the civil war.” *The continuing infections suggest UNMIL staff members are not exercising proper precautions, and there cases are possible.*

(U) **Bong County Mining Industry Hit by EVD:** On 8 October, the Bong Mobile lab reported an EVD outbreak in local mines 20-25 mine workers suspected of having EVD. Efforts are underway by CDC to bring these patients to an ETU and the mobile lab in Bong is expecting to process these samples. *Bong County is a very remote location in Liberia making it logistically difficult to reach, in turn slowing down the identification of EVD patients and educating the populace. Industries that have workers in close quarters such as mining are at higher risk for EVD outbreaks.*

(U) **Health Worker Strike Averted:** Liberian Officials have informed OUA JOC that a deal was struck with Liberian health workers at the Island Clinic in Monrovia. The health workers were threatening to strike for more benefits and pay. Terms of this agreement were not disclosed. *This labor agreement positively demonstrates the government’s commitment against EVD; a strike would have had a major impact on already strained EVD treatment capacity.*

(U) **EVD Checkpoint:** The government has started to emplace EVD checkpoints. These vary in size and manning and OUA personnel confirmed three locations: Checkpoint 1 (29N KH 92694 39482), 2 (29N KH 8108 243420), and 3 (29N KH 63653 53586). The EVD checkpoints ask for vehicle passengers to stop and passengers to exit vehicles. The passengers then have their temperatures taken and are asked to wash hands. The checkpoints are manned mostly by uniformed Liberian personnel but some are manned by citizens. *These checkpoints are a improvement in the EVD response and will likely improve awareness among the populace. The personnel operating the checkpoints are very professional and diligent. If a suspected EVD patient is discovered they are referred to a local ETU.*

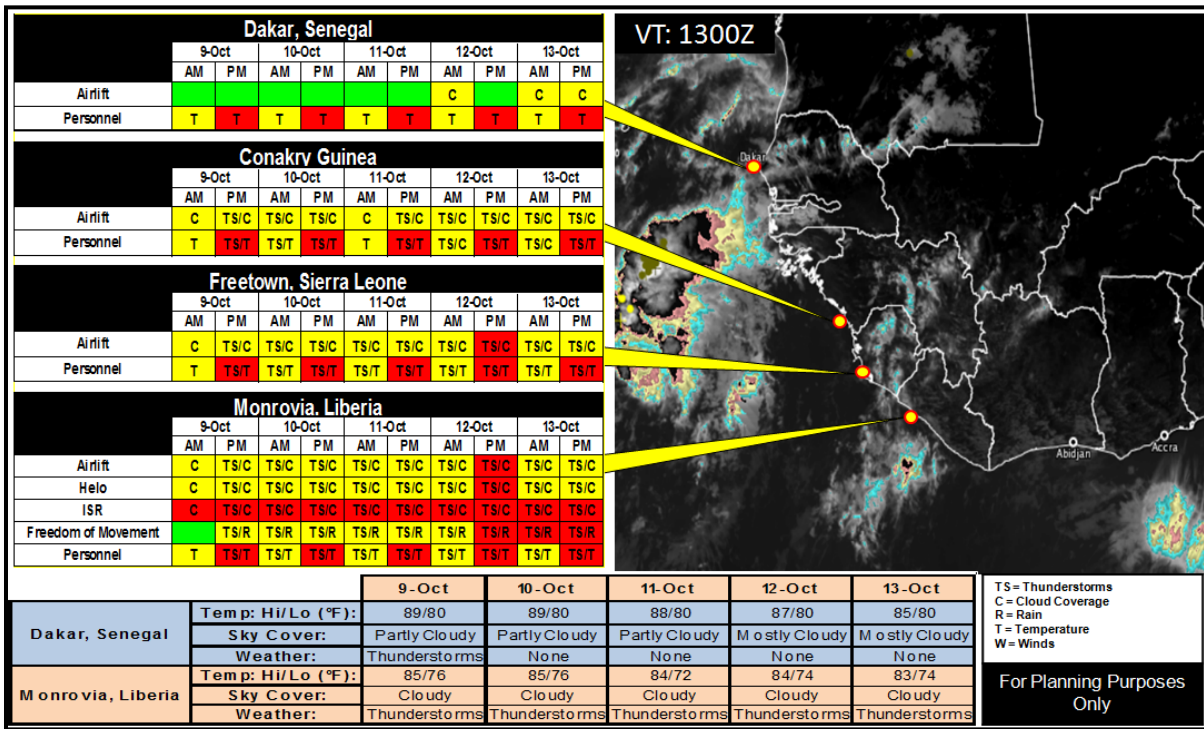
(U) **ETU Construction Update:** Montserrado ETU is still in construction phase and Bong County’s ETU is complete with a 36-bed capacity, *however, it may expand to 70 beds.* The current issues are the construction time and amount of available locations remain inadequate. Island Clinic ETU is currently 56 people over its 100-bed capacity; however, the healthcare professionals accept this as there are no additional locations to send patients. *ETU construction*

has been slow because of inadequate infrastructure and continued rains. Liberia will continue to require international support to ramp up ETU construction.

(U) **Senator Appeals For Lifting Of Travel Restrictions On Liberia:** On 6 October, Lofa County Senator George Tengbeh requested African countries that have placed travel restrictions on Liberia to reconsider their decision for an already strained Liberian economy. Tengbeh indicated that self-preservation is currently vital; travel restrictions may create shortages of food and other basic commodities, and generate fear in Liberia. The travel restrictions have already hindered imports of rice and other commodities. *The travel restrictions may mitigate the spread of EVD outside the JOA; however, restrictions have made commodities scarce which will increase potential for criminal activity the longer they persist.*

(U) **VP Boakai's Ebola Projections:** On 7 October, Vice President Joseph Boakai stated his optimism about the Ebola crisis tapering off in Lofa county, and noted international community predictions that West Africa could report more than a million infected people within the next six months were unlikely. *The continued strong international response will likely avert the WHO's worst case scenario projections which recently received wide press coverage.*

(U) **Weather**



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(U) Liberia will see a break from rain and thunderstorms for most of the 9th with isolated chances for storms returning in the evening and continuing throughout the forecast period. ***The let up in rain will allow for “all weather” roads to have favorable travel conditions while unpaved roads will still be heavily degraded from previous rainfall.*** Conakry and Freetown will also see breaks in rainfall but cloud ceilings will continue to remain low throughout the region marginally impacting airlift operations.

(U) Dakar will see fair weather through the 13th with low ceilings occurring on the 12th and 13th of the month. Temperatures will decrease slightly heading towards the 13th. Temperatures will still be marginal to unfavorable, throughout the region, with high humidity keeping heat indices above the 90s for most of the day.

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