(U) West Africa: Operation UNITED ASSISTANCE Security Update—1 October 2014

(U) SITUATION OVERVIEW

(U) As of 1 October 2014, the World Health Organization indicated that 6,553 probable, confirmed, and suspected cases of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) and 2,083 deaths have occurred. Cases are primarily confined to Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Nigeria and Senegal have successfully treated cases. Limited minor security incidents were reported in the last week, though all three countries remain

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generally stable. The lack of basic necessities is more likely to cause unrest in urban areas because health restrictions have closed shops and markets, resulting in reduced access to basic goods and foodstuffs. The restrictions also reduced economic activity overall.

(U) GUINEA

(U) No security incidents have occurred in Guinea in the past week. International aid organizations and the Guinean government are taking protective measures following the 16 September attack on health care workers and journalists, including reducing outreach efforts in the remote southeastern region of the country. The Guinean military and police have not increased the domestic security posture in response to the 16 September attack.\(^1\),\(^12\),\(^13\)

(U) LIBERIA

(U) Liberia is redeploying Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) teams from checkpoints back to barracks to construct Ebola containment units. Minor security incidents occurred in Liberia in the last week, though none risked broader escalation. Corpse disposal remains a contentious issue in Liberia and is a potential source of public anger.

> (U) During a mid-September national address, Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf announced all AFL troops currently deployed to checkpoints throughout Liberia were to return to their barracks by 30 September.\(^14\)

> (U) According to a Red Cross spokesperson, the Liberian Health Ministry advised health officials to cremate all corpses in Monrovia—not only EVD victims—creating consternation for the population.\(^15\) Because Liberian culture values gravesite visitation on Decoration Day to clean and beautify loved ones’ plots.

(U) SIERRA LEONE

(U) No major security incidents occurred in Sierra Leone over the past week.

> (U) In the past 2 weeks, Sierra Leone enacted a 3-day, complete shutdown across the country followed by a quarantine in the northern districts of Port Loki and Bombali, the southern district of Moyamba, and 12 chiefdoms “with immediate effect.”\(^16\) Five of the nation’s 14 districts and 12 of the 149 tribal chiefdoms are now quarantined from the rest of the country.\(^17\)
3 (U) UN webpage, Department of Public Information, 230000Z SEP 14, (U) Secretary-General Appoints David Nabarro Special Envoy on Ebola Anthony Banbury Special Representative Head of UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
5 (U) OSC, AFO2014092947178634, 291313Z SEP 14, (U) UN Chief Commends Ghanaian President for Leading Fight Against Ebola, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
6 (U) AFP, online news, 250000Z SEP 14, (U) UN Ebola Mission Set to Deploy in Coming Days, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
8 (U) All Africa, AFR2014092944384417, 291227Z SEP 14, (U) UN Ebola Response Team to Arrive in Accra Ghana 29 September, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
10 (U) OSC, CHR2014092980871577, 292234Z SEP 14, (U) Xinhua Head of New UN Ebola Response Mission Arrives in Ghana, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
11 (U) AFP, online news, 250000Z SEP 14, (U) UN Ebola Mission Set to Deploy in Coming Days, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
16 (U) AP, no serial number, 241905Z SEP 14, (U) Sierra Leone to cordon off 3 areas to stop Ebola, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U
17 (U) Aljazeera, no serial number, 250000Z SEP 14, (U) Sierra Leone quarantines over one million, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U