

## UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 210400LOCT14

21 October 2014

**(U) Liberia**

**(U) National Elections Commission (NEC) Proposes New Election Date:** President Sirleaf postponed Senate elections, originally scheduled for October, due to the EVD crisis. On 17 October, following NEC consultations with political parties and independent candidates, all groups agreed to reschedule the elections for 16 December. This date was set with the understanding that all parties need to be flexible in case elections need to be postponed again due to the crisis. The agreement also allowed for omitting counties still battling the outbreak from elections if necessary.

**(U) ETU Beds Available Throughout Liberia:** According to USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), EVD treatment units (ETUs) in Liberia currently have a capacity of 742 beds, however only 350 are in use. Health officials state that patients may resist treatment at ETUs due to transportation challenges, preference for community-based care, and fears about cremation. The DART reported that presently the ELWA 3 ETU in Monrovia is only at 50% occupancy.

**(U) Cesto City, River Cess County ETU Site Update:** The ETU construction site is located in a remote area, three kilometers from the nearest town and a co-located Liberian National Police (LNP) station. The road to the ETU is unimproved and floods often during the rainy season. Property crimes in the county have increased since the EVD crisis. Residents are very supportive of an ETU being built in Cesto City.

**(U) Montserrado County Update:** Contact tracing teams are monitoring 4,003 contacts in Montserrado County. Four of the contacts died of EVD and 141 have successfully completed the 21-day quarantine. The county has reported 24 deaths over the last week, only 13 of which were within the ETUs. County health officials trained 150 people on how to identify the signs and symptoms of EVD and how to take preventive measures. The county is promoting multiple health awareness engagements throughout the county using engagement teams; the teams have visited 75 homes and mapped the locations of 125 houses. These efforts will inform the populace and help trace teams identify infection clusters throughout the county.

**(U) Influx of Patients at Bong County ETU:** On 20 October, the Bong County ETU admitted a large influx of EVD patients arriving by multiple means of transportation. The ETU now has four ambulances to collect patients throughout the day. Long distances and poor road conditions mean each ambulance collects on average two patients per day. Due to prevention concerns, the ambulances will not transport more than one patient at a time unless the patients are from the

same household. Patients who do not arrive by ambulances are transported by family or simply walk in.

(U) **Africa’s “Richest Man” Helps in Ebola Fight:** On 20 October, *Forbes* reported that Africa’s wealthiest man, Aliko Dangote, has promised to assist Liberia in the fight against EVD. The Dangote Foundation will work closely with the Liberian government to determine what assistance is needed.

(U) JOA

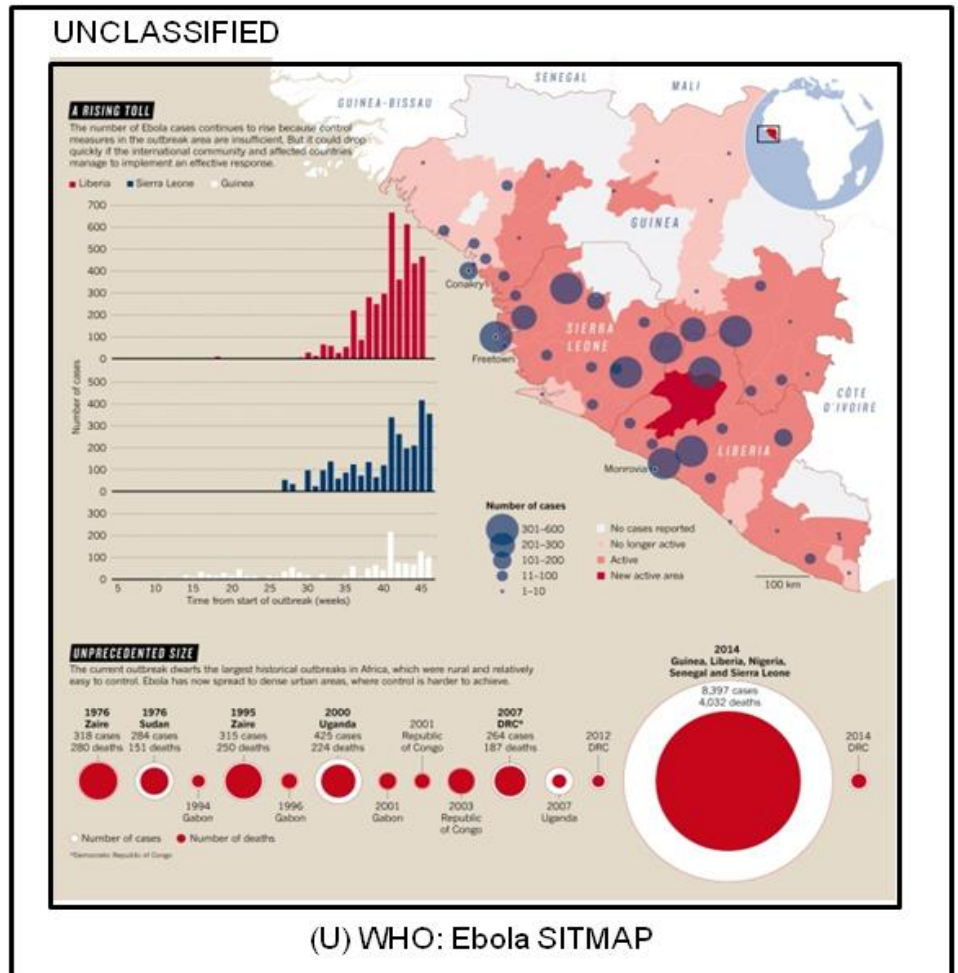
(U) **WHO JOA Case Update:** The Ebola outbreak in West Africa continues, with the number of people infected roughly doubling every 3–4 weeks. As depicted on the map to the right, the WHO, notes more than 8,000 people are thought to have contracted the disease, and almost half of those have died. However, health officials admit that the actual number of cases and deaths are likely to be far greater.

(U) **Worldwide**

(U) **WHO Declares Nigeria “Ebola Free”:** On

20 October, the WHO declared Nigeria “Ebola free” after a 42-day period with no new cases. This is three days after the WHO declared Senegal “Ebola free.”

(U) **EU Foreign Ministers Discuss Ebola:** On 20 October, European Union foreign ministers met in Luxembourg to discuss the EVD epidemic amid growing concerns in Europe about the virus. The ministers discussed various options and what more needs to be done. One option is to send a civilian EU mission to Liberia to help with counter-Ebola efforts. They also emphasized the need to reassure medical workers that they would receive Western medical treatment if they



contract the disease, and the need to quickly contain cases that develop outside of the affected region.

(U) **France Names New “Ebola Czar” to Oversea Ebola Campaign:** On 17 October, the French Prime Minister announced the appointment of Jean-François Delfraissy, the current President of the National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis, as their new “Ebola Czar.” Delfraissy will oversee all French efforts to counter Ebola, including: international coordination; surveillance, sanitary preparations, and interventions, science and research; and national internal operations.

(U) **Weather**

(U) Liberia will have isolated thunderstorms around Monrovia from 10z to 15z on the 21<sup>st</sup> and low cloud ceilings throughout the entire day. *Most rain will stay along the coast, receiving up to a half inch with the southern third of the coast receiving up to one and a half inches. This is the area that will see most degradation to roadways and impact travel. The interior will receive less than a quarter inch, which will slightly hinder movement on unpaved roads while paved roads remain favorable for travel.* The rest of the forecast period will see fair weather with isolated thunderstorms occurring the afternoon of the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

(U) Conakry and Freetown will have fair weather in the mornings and afternoon thunderstorms over the next 5 days with heavy rains and thunderstorms occurring on the 23<sup>rd</sup> going into the 24<sup>th</sup>.