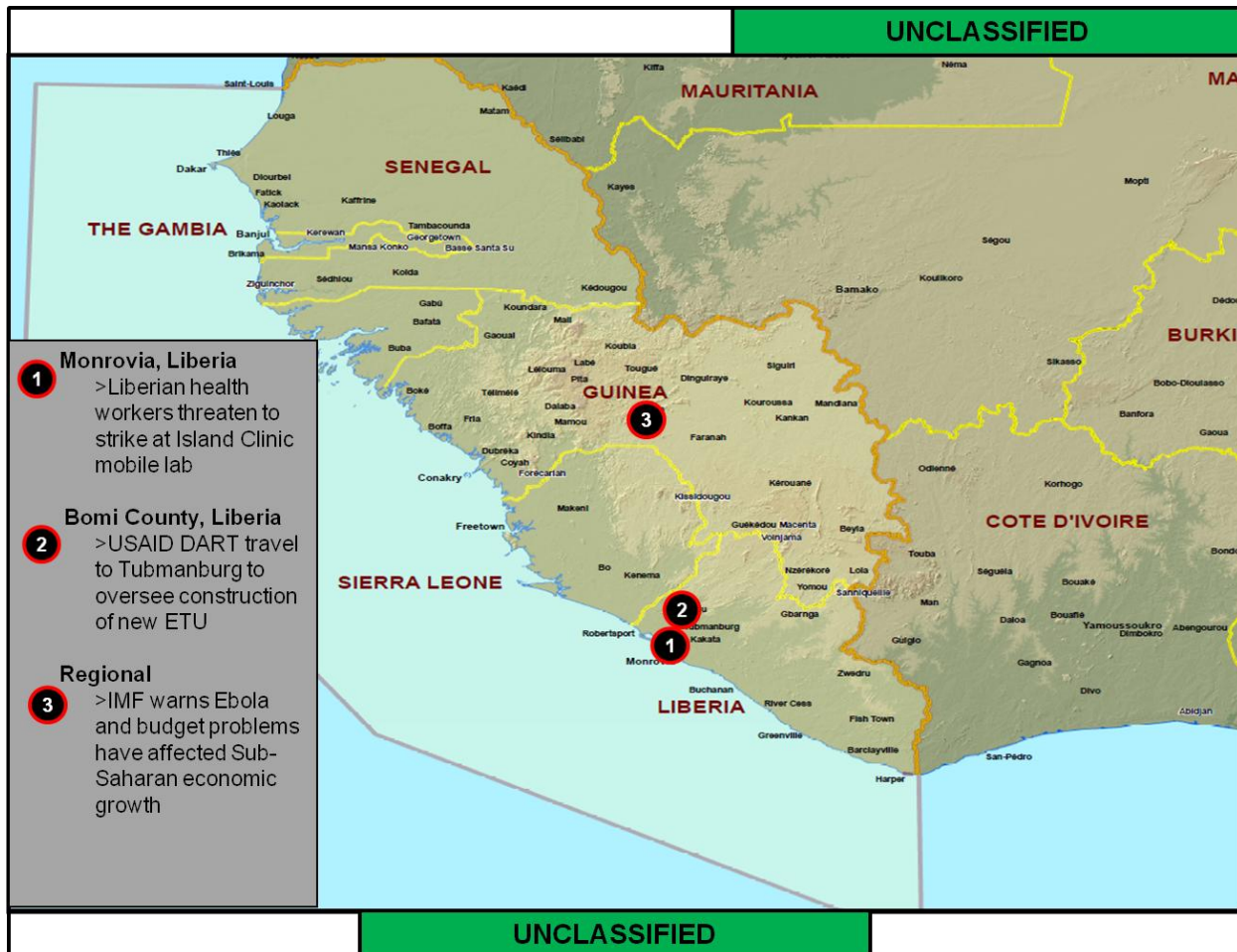


UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 080400LOCT14

8 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. An UNMIL staff member has tested positive for Ebola and been evacuated to Germany for treatment. UNMIL is responding well with increased precautions against EVD, but further infections could jeopardize international commitments to the mission. Island Clinic Mobile Lab workers have threatened to strike after demanding more pay, a trend which could hinder EVD treatment. The IMF warned of significant slowdowns in local economies due to EVD, with Liberian GDP growth slowing from 5.9% to 2.5% thus far, raising the potential for civil unrest the longer the crisis persists.*

(U) Liberia:

(U) UNMIL Staff Member Tested Positive for Ebola: On 7 October, OUA JOC received reports a health worker with the UN Mission for Liberia (UNMIL) tested positive for EVD over the weekend and is being evacuated to a health facility in Germany. Additional measures are in place to prevent further spread of EVD, including quarantine for personnel who were in contact with the EVD positive member, an isolation, evacuation, and treatment plan for infected personnel currently being tested, and a review of procedures and personnel in Liberia.¹ **J-2 FWD:** *UNMIL has an enduring presence in Liberia with a wealth of knowledge and relationships. UNMIL has been and will continue to be paramount in the containment of EVD in Liberia. Positive efforts to restrict spread of Ebola among members will likely encourage participating states to continue troop contributions, unless precautions fail and UNMIL infections mount.*

(U) Non-Violent Crime Offenders to be Released from Confinement: On 7 October, the Liberian National Police have standing orders not to confine non-violent offenders and those in pre-confinement for non-violent offenses, and pretrial confinement prisoners are on order to be released. Officials are calling this an attempt to prevent an EVD outbreak in the prison system.² **J-2 FWD:** *This action is likely in response to Chief Justice Korpor's desire to be flexible on criminal detainment. With the crime rate already high, the lack of prosecution of petty criminals will likely create additional force protection problems for OUA forces.*

(U) WHO Completes First Health Care Training: On 5 October, the WHO, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, completed training of 67 domestic and foreign health care workers. The health workers are slated to work in newly constructed ETUs. The WHO has fielded 20 training teams to conduct additional training to ensure Liberia has the capacity to man all ETU sites.³ **J-2 FWD:** *The WHO training teams will likely improve Liberia's capacity shortfalls and will ensure that all health workers adhere to a national standard.*

(U) Bomi County ETU Breaks Ground: On 3 October, USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) traveled to Tubmanburg to oversee construction of the ETU. The Tubmanburg ETU will have an initial 10-bed capacity in 3 weeks time and will expand to 100-bed capacity by November. Bomi County has reported 87 cumulative cases of EVD, seventh highest of the 15 counties in Liberia. This ETU will support the currently over-capacity 12-bed facility.⁴ **J-2 FWD:** *The 12-bed facility is scheduled to be expanded to twice its current capacity. Bomi County is one of the 10 priority ETU builds currently coordinated by OUA.*

(U) 2,475 Test Positive for Ebola Virus in Liberia in 4 Months: Liberia's assistant Health Minister for Preventative Services, Tolbert Nyeswah, stated that a total of 4,500 people with symptoms were tested between June and September 2014. Nyeswah told journalists at the daily

¹ (U) OUA JOC, 7 OCT 14, (U) JOC UNMIL Update, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

² (U) OUA JOC, 7 OCT 14, (U) JOC LNP Update, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

³ (U) USAID, 6 OCT 14, (U) West Africa Ebola Outbreak – Update #24, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

⁴ (U) USAID, 6 OCT 14, (U) West Africa Ebola Outbreak – Update #24, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

Ministry of Information briefing on Ebola in Monrovia on Monday that 55% of this number tested positive. The installation of two additional laboratories has enabled the Ministry of Health and to test 500 cases each day and make quick decisions on the results.⁵ *Testing capabilities have been greatly increased by the new laboratories and capabilities will likely continue to improve.*

(U) The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Commits to Liberian Ebola Fight: According to press, the CRS committed itself to joining both local and international efforts aimed at fighting Ebola. The CRS engaged with five communities in Monteserrado County to help assist their efforts. CRS leadership mentioned a possible extension of partnership and other program focus areas helpful to curbing the rising Ebola cases and deaths in Liberia.⁶ *The CRS efforts in outlying areas in Liberia are positive and will likely help mitigate the spread of the disease.*

(U) JOA:

(U) IMF Warns Ebola, Budget Strains Endanger African Growth: On 7 October, the IMF stated Sub-Saharan Africa's economic growth is set to continue this year and next, but Ebola and budget problems have exposed the region's vulnerabilities. The IMF warned that while regional economic growth is forecast for 5.1% this year and 5.8% in 2015, the Ebola epidemic has exacted a heavy toll.⁷ Economic growth is expected to fall in Liberia from 5.9% to 2.5%, in Sierra Leone from 11.3% to 8%, and in Guinea from 4.5% to 2.4%, according to the World Bank.⁸ Liberian GDP growth is currently estimated at 2.5% by the IMF.¹⁰ *The slowdown in economic growth will adversely affect fiscal revenues and public finance. If the Ebola-affected countries are unable to finance already strained public health services, it could lead to public outcry as the crisis progresses.*

⁵(U) *Al Bawaba Business*, 07 OCT 14, (U) 2475 *Test Positive to Ebola Virus in Liberia in 4 Months*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

⁶ (U) *All Africa*, 07 OCT 14, (U) *CRS Commits to Liberian Ebola Fight*, , cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

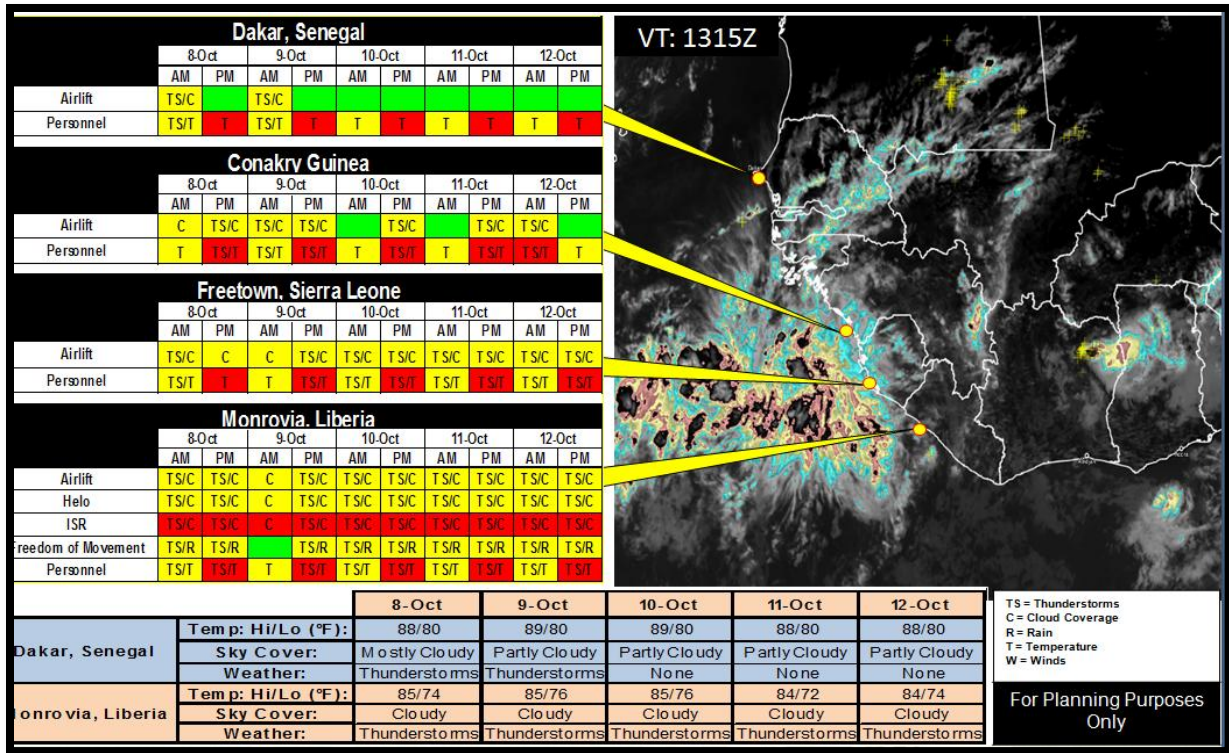
⁷ (U) *AFP*, 7 OCT 14, (U) *IMF warns Ebola, budget strains endanger African growth*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

⁸ (U) *AFP*, 7 OCT 14, (U) *Liberian Minister of Commerce Says Ebola Epidemic Battering Country's Economy*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

⁹ (U) *Xinhua*, 7 OCT 14, (U) *World Bank gauges economic impact on Ebola-plagued West Africa nations*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

¹⁰ (U) *FrontPageAfrica*, 7 OCT 14, (U) *Closing Deficit – Ebola Lifeline for Ailing Liberian Economy*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

(U) Weather



(U) Liberia will see isolated thunderstorms throughout a majority of the forecast period with rain and lightning ending during the morning hours of 9 October. Precipitation amounts in Monrovia, and the rest of the country, will equal .25 to .5 inches of rain over the next 24 hours. Freedom of movement will be improved as rain amounts decrease up to the 9th with “all weather” roads having favorable conditions as rain ceases. Despite improved conditions, unpaved roads will still be degraded due to near-continuous rain.

(U) Dakar will experience low ceilings and isolated thunderstorms the morning of 8 and 9 October with fair weather being predominant in the afternoon. Fair weather will continue through 12 October with the only impacts being to personnel under repressive heat indices throughout the day, reaching up to 95°F in the afternoon.