

Informação da Organização Mundial de Saúde (OMS):

Situation update

On 3 May 2018, the Health Division of Equator Province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) reported 21 cases of suspected viral hemorrhagic fever, including 17 deaths in the Ikoko Impenge health area, Bikoro Health Zone, Equator Province. Ikoko Impenge health facility is located 30 Km from the central office of Bikoro, itself located 400km from Mbandaka, the capital of Equator Province.

A team from the central level of the Ministry of Health, supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), visited the site on 5 May 2018. The team identified five active cases, including two hospitalized at the Bikoro General Hospital and three in the Ikoko Impenge Health Center.

Five samples collected from suspected cases were sent for analysis to the National Institute of Biological Research (INRB) in Kinshasa on 6 May 2018. Of the five samples tested, two were positive to Ebola virus disease (EVD) by RT-PCR.

On 8 May 2018, the DRC Government declared a new outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD), the country's 9th.

As of 19:00, 10 May 2018, there have been 32 cases, including: 12 suspected, 18 probable (deceased) and 2 confirmed.

Outbreak Response

The Ministry of Health has taken all necessary measures to respond promptly and effectively to this new epidemic of Ebola virus disease in the DRC with its well-trained and experienced teams.

In Bikoro, a local team from the Ministry of Health is working to organize and coordinate the response. MSF teams have established treatment centres in the area and there are currently 11 patients hospitalized, 7 in Bikoro and 4 Itipo. The national Red Cross society is mobilizing volunteers in affected area for community level activities, risk communications and early community case detection. UNICEF's focus will be on risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), WASH and IPC in the community and in health facilities, health, supply and logistics, and psychosocial support.

WHO is working closely with the Government of the DRC and WHO African regional office to rapidly scale up its operations and mobilize health partners using the model of a successful response to a similar EVD outbreak in DRC in 2017. A Centre of operations is being established in Bikoro. In addition, preparations are in progress for ring vaccination of contacts and the use of experimental antivirals. WHO has assessed the risk as high at the national level, moderate at regional and low at global levels. The GOARN OST is integrated into the WHO HQ and RO Incident Management, and will advise partners if there is a request from DRC MoH for assistance.

Preliminary call for support

Detailed needs of support are being identified in collaboration with incident management teams in the WHO Country office DRC, WHO Regional Office for Africa and WHO HQ. Pending a formal request for assistance, WHO is asking GOARN partners to identify experts who could be called upon by the country for potential deployment to the field depending on the scale of the event. Candidates should submit their CV and details of availability in the same way as with the standard GOARN Request for assistance.

Based on our planning scenarios the following skills may be sought to further strengthen the response over the next 3 months:

Areas of expertise:

- Field Epidemiologists
- Health technical expertise team lead
- Case management expert – clinical care
- Case management expert – health system
- Infection, prevention and control expert
- WASH expert
- Laboratory expert
- Social anthropologist
- Operational research

Preference will be given to deployments that can cover the entire operational timeframe; however, WHO will also consider rotation of staff for a minimum of 6 week field periods, provided adequate planning and overlap are assured.

All positions will work in close collaboration with other members of the team, WHO Country Office in DRC, Ministry of Health and Operational Partners in the field.

Requirements

Description	Essential requirements	Desired
Education and training	- First level university degree or equivalent. - Postgraduate degree in discipline, or equivalent in experience	
Experience	- Demonstrated knowledge of area of expertise as related to Ebola virus disease response operations or other hemorrhagic fever diseases	- Previous experience with WHO or other UN agencies
Skills	- Excellent communication skills. - Excellent analytical, planning and	

	organizational skills. - Ability to work in the team, with limited supervision. - Ability to work under pressure.	
Languages	- Fluency in spoken and written French	
Deployment duration	- 6 weeks minimum	- 8 weeks or more.

In line with the usual GOARN procedures, WHO would cover the cost of travel and per diem (daily allowance) for staff deployed, and provide logistics and security support in country.