Ebola

Ebola virus disease (formerly known as Ebola haemorrhagic fever) is a rare but severe, often fatal, often fatal illness, with a death rate of up to 90% in humans caused by the Ebola virus, a member of the filovirus family. Death rates have varied from 25% to 90% in past outbreaks. The Ebola virus was first identified in 1976 when 2 simultaneous outbreaks occurred, 1 in Yambuku, a village not far from the Ebola River in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the other in a remote area of Sudan. The origin of the virus is unknown, but current evidence suggests that fruit bats (Pteropodidae) may be a host.

Source: World Health Organization (WHO) – Q&A: What is the Ebola virus disease?

DR Congo: Ebola Outbreak - Feb 2021: https://reliefweb.int/disaster/ep-2021-000014-cod
Guinea: Ebola Outbreak - Jan 2021: https://reliefweb.int/disaster/ep-2021-000016-gin


UN Entities

  This website details the UN system and partners response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa. The archived content shows the international effort to get to zero cases. The content was published during 2014-15. The United Nations family remains committed to supporting the long-term recovery of the region and preventing future outbreaks.

  UNMEER, the first-ever UN emergency health mission, was established on 19 September 2014 and closed on 31 July 2015, having achieved its core objective of scaling up the response on the ground.

  The Global Health Crises Task Force was established by former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for a period of one year, beginning on 1 July 2016.

Selected documents:

  on condemning attacks by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and their role in exacerbating the Ebola virus outbreak


  Prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 69/274 B.

- **A/69/1014** (1 September 2015): Letter dated 1 September 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/1014](http://undocs.org/A/69/1014)
  Reports on the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 to 31 July 2015 since the establishment of the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER); records activities carried out by the Special Envoy on Ebola and UNMEER, and provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since the update of 24 July 2015 (A/69/992).

  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 June through 1 July 2015 since the establishment of the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER); provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since the update of 16 June 2015 (A/69/939).

  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 May through 1 June 2015 since the establishment of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER).

  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 Apr. to 1 May 2015; provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since the update of 16 Apr. 2015 (A/69/871).

  Reports, in the capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, the visits to Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Senegal/UN Office for West Africa, from 5 to 10 Apr. 2015, to assess the impact of the Ebola crisis on peacebuilding.
• **A/69/871** (16 April 2015): Letter dated 16 April 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/871](http://undocs.org/A/69/871)
  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 Mar. to 1 Apr. 2015; provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since the update of 13 Mar. 2015 (A/69/812).

• **A/69/812** (13 March 2015): Letter dated 12 March 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/812](http://undocs.org/A/69/812)
The report covers developments from 1 February to 1 March 2015, the 150-day mark since the of UNMEER.

• **A/69/759** (10 February 2015): Letter dated 10 February 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/759](http://undocs.org/A/69/759)
  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 Jan.-1 Feb. 2015; provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since the update of 12 Jan. 2015 (A/69/720).

• **A/69/720** (13 January 2015): Letter dated 12 January 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/720](http://undocs.org/A/69/720)
  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 1 Nov. 2014–1 Jan. 2015.


• **A/69/753** (12 November 2014): Letter dated 12 November 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly: [http://undocs.org/A/69/753](http://undocs.org/A/69/753)
  Reports the work of the UN in the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and covers developments from 19 Sept. through 31 Oct. 2014.


• **A/RES/69/1** (Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2014): Measures to contain and combat the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa: [http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/1)

  In this document the Secretary-General sets forth the Mission’s six guiding principles and 12 actions deemed critical by the Senior United Nations System Coordinator to carry out the Mission’s aims.

• **Further documents – click here**

**Selected press releases & news stories:**

1,600 vaccinated in Guinea Ebola virus outbreak but more jabs needed: WHO (5 March 2021):

West Africa steps up efforts to tackle latest Ebola threat (25 February 2021):

Two die as new Ebola outbreak declared in southern Guinea (15 February 2021):

UN agencies and partners establish global Ebola vaccine stockpile (12 January 2021):

Latest Ebola outbreak in DR Congo is declared over, with lessons for COVID-19 (18 November 2020):

WHO warns against potential Ebola spread in DR Congo and beyond (11 September 2020):

WHO concerned about growing Ebola outbreak in DR Congo (16 July 2020):

DR Congo: eastern Ebola outbreak defeated, ‘mission impossible’ now a ‘sign of hope’ (25 June 2020):

WHO to support DR Congo as Ebola resurfaces in the northwest (1 June 2020):

‘Air bridge’ vaccination operation begins for Ebola-hit communities in DR Congo (13 December 2019):

Armed groups kill Ebola health workers in eastern DR Congo (28 November 2019):

UN Committee says Ebola in DR Congo still an international public health emergency (18 October 2019):

Ebola on the run in DR Congo, ‘now we have to kill the virus’: UN health agency (10 October 2019):

UN highlights milestone of 1,000 Ebola survivors in DR Congo amid complex environment of conflict and mistrust (4 October 2019):

Tanzania urged to provide more information on suspected Ebola case (24 September 2019):

Alarming number of Ebola deaths in DRC a ‘rallying cry’ to scale up treatment (30 August 2019):

Security Council gravely concerned by Ebola outbreak in DR Congo, demands immediate end to violence hampering response (2 August 2019):

UN working ‘intensively’ to stop Ebola in eastern DR Congo, following second case in major border town (31 July 2019):


Ebola ‘not top of people’s agenda’ in DRC communities, says UN health agency (19 July 2019):

Don’t panic, support DR Congo in fight against deadly Ebola virus, UN health agency urges (19 July 2019):

Ebola emergency meeting to go ahead as UNICEF warns of higher risk to very youngest children (16 July 2019):


Second Ebola death confirmed in Uganda as UN health agency mulls global emergency call (13 June 2019):

UN optimistic Uganda’s Ebola preparations will shut down outbreak fast (13 June 2019):

UN health agency identifies 5-year-old Congolese boy as first confirmed case of Ebola in Uganda (11 June 2019):

New emergency Ebola response chief in DR Congo promises more listening, to end ‘frequent interruptions’ in fightback (28 May 2019):

DR Congo: Strengthened effort against Ebola is paying off, but insecurity still major constraint – UN health agency (28 May 2019):

DR Congo: ‘No time to lose’ says newly appointed UN Ebola response coordinator (23 May 2019):


- World Health Organization (WHO)
  o Ebola virus disease: https://www.who.int/health-topics/ebola/
  o WHO makes new recommendations for Ebola treatments, calls for improved access (19 August 2022): https://www.who.int/news/item/19-08-2022-who-makes-new-recommendations-for-ebola-treatments-----calls-for-improved-access
  o Ebola: Then and Now - What a difference a year has made (Updated January 2016): http://www.who.int/features/ebola/then-and-now/en/index.html


- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

- **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**
  - Ebola: [https://www.iaea.org/topics/ebola](https://www.iaea.org/topics/ebola)

- **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

- **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

- **Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)**

  - Ebola: [https://www.unicef.org/topics/ebola](https://www.unicef.org/topics/ebola)

- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

- **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)**

- **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**


**World Bank**


**World Food Programme (WFP)**

- Health Emergencies: [https://www.wfp.org/search?search_api_fulltext=ebola](https://www.wfp.org/search?search_api_fulltext=ebola)
- Support to Populations in Areas Affected by the Ebola Outbreak in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone (This operation has expired on 31 December 2015): [https://www.wfp.org/operations/200761-support-populations-areas-affected-ebola-outbreak-guinea-liberia-and-sierra-leone](https://www.wfp.org/operations/200761-support-populations-areas-affected-ebola-outbreak-guinea-liberia-and-sierra-leone)

**Secretary-General**


**General Assembly**

Informal Meeting of the General Assembly – Progress of the Ebola outbreak response and recovery efforts, 13 January 2016:
- Webcast: [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1j/k1ja3mb9jy](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1j/k1ja3mb9jy)

General Assembly Information Meeting on Ebola, 18 February 2015:
- Webcast: [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1b/k1bnihqamw](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1b/k1bnihqamw)


Ebola virus outbreak - General Assembly, Informal meeting, 69th session (10 October 2014):
- Webcast: [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1h/k1h6cps97j](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1h/k1h6cps97j)

General Assembly meeting on 19 September 2014 on "Measures to contain and combat the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa":
- Meeting Record: [http://undocs.org/A/69/PV.3](http://undocs.org/A/69/PV.3)
- Resolution A/RES/69/1: [http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/1)
Security Council

8590th meeting of the Security Council on Peace and Security in Africa regarding Ebola, 2 August 2019:
- Webcast: https://media.un.org/en/asset/k11/k11sdtv0fq
- Meeting Record: https://undocs.org/en/S/PV.8590

7502nd meeting of the Security Council on Peace and Security in Africa - The global response to the 2013 Ebola virus disease outbreak, 13 August 2015:
- Webcast: https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1c/k1c11f1oz3

- Webcast: https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1t/k1tan7adhl
- Meeting Record: http://undocs.org/S/PV.7318

7279th meeting of the Security Council on Peace and Security in Africa regarding Ebola, 14 October 2014:
- Webcast: https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1u/k1ujmb6ywp
- Meeting Record: http://undocs.org/S/PV.7279

Emergency Session on Peace and Security in Africa (Ebola), 18 September 2014:
- Meeting Record: http://undocs.org/S/PV.7268

Economic and Social Council

Further Information

- ECA Library - Resources on Ebola: [http://libguides.uneca.org/eca_ebola](http://libguides.uneca.org/eca_ebola)