



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE NO 6

### Situation Update from Democratic Republic of Congo as on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018

- Cumulative cases are: 44
- Confirmed cases : 17
- Probable : 27
- Total deaths : 36
- Cases under investigation : 47
- Areas affected : Two provinces
  - North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo
  - Ituri- Mambasa, Mandina

*Note : There is no suspected or confirmed case in Uganda*

### EVD Preparedness in Uganda

#### ***i) Coordination***

- There is a National Task Force Meeting today 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at the MoH Emergency Operations Center .
- The WHO Representative and team visited Bundibugyo district and met with Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), the District Health Officer (DHO), the District Health Team (DHT) and partners. They discussed Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) preparedness. The team also visited the Busunga border point where the Uganda Red Cross is screening people coming from DRC. They also checked on the proposed Ebola Treatment unit at Bundibugyo Hospital.
- In Kasese districts the WHO Representative and team met the District Chairman, the CAO and the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) and discussed EVD preparedness.
- The Ntoroko District Task Force refined the work plan with support from the MoH/WHO team. The plan was submitted to MoH yesterday.
- The MoH/WHO team briefed the Kabarole DTF on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) emphasizing the urgent need to constitute response pillars for preparedness. Regional Referral Hospital (RRH) structures will be integrated into the DTF.

#### ***ii) Laboratory investigations/Surveillance***

- The MoH/WHO team assessed readiness of 8 health facilities along the DRC border located in Kasese, Bundibugyo and Ntoroko district with focus on case detection, case



management, Infection Prevention and Control and communication. They identified and mapped health facilities that require urgent support.

- The MoH/WHO Surveillance Team disseminated EVD case definition to all health workers in the sub-region using mTrac. All health facility in-charges in Bundibugyo are set to be trained on active EVD surveillance, alert management and reporting. The team is also strengthening the district surveillance team.
- Red Cross volunteers under the Prevention of Pandemics project in Bundibugyo have been provided with EVD community case definition and are working with communities to quickly identify and refer any suspected cases.
- Active facility-based surveillance was initiated in Bunyangabu district with WHO support. Main activity was mentoring health workers.
- Active EVD surveillance was initiated at (Kichwamba HCIII and Butuuku HCIV including mentoring of health workers.

### ***iii) Risk Communication***

- The Uganda Red Cross trained 24 volunteers and four Health Assistants on EVD prevention and community engagement. They developed a social mobilization plan and distributed IEC to volunteers of in Bwera Town Council and Nakiyumbu. They gave a health education talk to OPD patients at Bwera hospital and sensitized 300 participants attending Seventh Day Adventist Camp meeting.
- The RDC, the DHO and DHE participated in a radio talk show UBC Voice of Bundibugyo FM and were scheduled to appear on Development FM the following today.
- UNICEF is supporting airing of EVD radio spots since 7<sup>th</sup> August on 21 radio stations in 13 high-risk districts in 13 languages districts for three months.
- UNICEF is supporting printing of posters and leaflets in 13 languages (including local languages) that were approved by the MoH. These materials are expected in the districts on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

### ***iv) Cross-border Activities***

- Active EVD screening is going on at the border point in Bundibugyo district.
- Yesterday Kasese district initiated screening of all people coming from DRC at Mpondwe border point. This is a high volume entry point through which over 5,000 people cross to attend a biweekly (Tuesday and Friday) public market. WHO has supplied ten (10) infrared thermometer to strengthen temperature screening at this border point.
- The team noted the continued movement patterns of people through un-gazette border crossing in Kasese district that increase the possibility of EVD importation.



- Baylor Uganda has donated a tent for hosting the border point screening facility at Busungu border post and and Butuungo manned by Red Cross volunteers trained by MoH/WHO. WHO has provided infrared thermometers to facilitate the temperature screening.
- The Uganda Red Cross and Medical Team International (MTI) agreed to support EVD screening at Ntoroko post. MTI has been screening only refugees at the collection point.

**v) Case management**

- Bundibugyo hospital received PPEs provided by WHO. A facility has been established at Bundibugyo hospital to serve as the Ebola Treatment Unit. The MoH/WHO case management team will now concentrate on training the local case management team that includes staff who participated in the 2007 Ebola outbreak in the district.
- Bwera Hospital in Kasese district was assessed and the teams noted that the district needs more support to have an appropriate insolation facility in case of suspected cases.

**vi) Logistics**

- Fort Portal RRH will provide an inventory of the available PPEs so as to enable replenishment to cater for other districts.
- UNICEF dispatched two chlorine generators to Kisoro and Kasese districts. These generators are not yet installed. When installed, they will improve the infection prevention and hygiene protocols in health facilities.
- The pre-positioned WASH and health supplies in UNICEF warehouse, Districts and with Uganda Red Cross Society will be dispatched to the high-risk districts of Kisoro, Bundibugyo and Ntoroko) by 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018. The distribution list will be guided by the result of the assessment which are being carried out in above locations.

**Vii) Capacity Building**

- The MoH/WHO team oriented thirty (30) customs, immigration and security officials at Mpondwe border post on EVD prevention and control. The team also trained the border post health staff on EVD screening and hospital staff on donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs).

**-End-**



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