

GO TRAINING

PACKAGE FOR EBOLA PRE-DEPLOYMENT

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK



World Health
Organization

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Introduction

The governments and peoples of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone are working together with the international community to stop an outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) of unprecedented magnitude in West Africa.

The outbreak has highlighted major existing challenges in health systems in all three countries. It has underscored the fact that in the 21st century, with highly mobile populations connected by common social, economic and trade links, a threat to the health of people in one part of the world can quickly become a threat for everyone everywhere. The unprecedented nature of the outbreak has been matched by an unprecedented response by governments and international organizations across the world.

WHO plays a central role in the Ebola response. The Organization is the UN's specialized agency for public health and the Secretariat for the International Health Regulations (2005) which is the international law that determines international cooperation in the event of a public health emergency of international concern. In late 2014, The Director-General of WHO discussed with the UN Secretary General to create a coordinated UN-wide response to Ebola following which the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) was established.

The Ebola outbreak is highly complex. It requires the continuous effort by hundreds of different kinds of organizations and tens of thousands of frontline workers and volunteers to it quickly, effectively and efficiently respond to the outbreak. Countries large and small have stepped up to provide doctors, mobile clinics, outbreak control experts and funding. These efforts show the immense value of international cooperation. The strategy is making progress and we are starting to see a slowdown in the number of new cases.

The massive number of personnel deployed in the response are faced with many risks. For most deployees the Ebola outbreak in West Africa poses a new experience. This is why a pre-deployment training – tailored specially to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa - has been offered to WHO personnel, consultants, and key partners. The material covered in modules 1-4 is applicable and useful to frontline response workers, national and international. Only Module 5, which focuses on operational aspects - the code of conduct for international civil servants and human resources arrangements for WHO deployees, are specifically geared to all internationally recruited personnel and to WHO deployees respectively.

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