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?
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 prevention 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 the United Nations 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, the 300-day mark 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.
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- **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).

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).

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.


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:**


Ebola on the run in DR Congo, ‘now we have to kill the virus’: UN health agency (10 October 2019): https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/10/1048951


**World Health Organization (WHO)**

- Ebola virus disease: [https://www.who.int/health-topics/ebola/](https://www.who.int/health-topics/ebola/)
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- **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)**


- **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)

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**Secretary-General**


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**General Assembly**

Informal Meeting of the General Assembly – Progress of the Ebola outbreak response and recovery efforts, 13 January 2016:
- Letter from the President of the General Assembly, dated 7 January 2016, to all permanent representatives and permanent observers: [https://un4.me/2maWfIL](https://un4.me/2maWfIL)
- 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/k1bnnhqamw](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1b/k1bnnhqamw)


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:

- Meeting Record: [https://undocs.org/en/S/PV.8590](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](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1c/k1c11f1oz3)


- Webcast: [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1t/k1tan7adhj](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1t/k1tan7adhj)
- Meeting Record: [http://undocs.org/S/PV.7318](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](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1u/k1ujmb6ywp)
- Meeting Record: [http://undocs.org/S/PV.7279](http://undocs.org/S/PV.7279)

Emergency Session on Peace and Security in Africa (Ebola), 18 September 2014:

- Webcast: Part 1 - [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1I/k1Itt5rk2k](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1I/k1Itt5rk2k), Part 2 - [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1y/k1y6qhslo7](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1y/k1y6qhslo7), Part 3 - [https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1I/k1Igpz64st](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1I/k1Igpz64st)
- Meeting Record: [http://undocs.org/S/PV.7268](http://undocs.org/S/PV.7268)

Economic and Social Council


Further Information


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