27 May 2014: Africa - Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) and Cholera Outbreaks



Sierra Leone - Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Outbreak

- On 25 May, WHO was notified of an Ebola Virus Outbreak in Sierra Leone. Initial reports indicate four or five community deaths (as opposed to deaths in healthcare units) and one confirmed case (tested by the VHF laboratory in Kenema hospital). The outbreak is localized in Koindu Chiefdom, bordering Gueckedou, the current Ebola hotspot in Guinea.
- The outbreak is raging in Guinea since March and has touched 258 persons so far (146 confirmed cases). 12 confirmed cases had also been registered in neighbouring Liberia where the epidemic is considered contained as of 22 May, since more than two incubation periods (42 days) had passed without new cases.

South Sudan - Cholera Outbreak

- The Ministry of Health of South Sudan and the WHO declared a Cholera Outbreak in Juba on 15 May, following field investigation and laboratory confirmation.
- As of 25 May, a cumulative of 586 cases had been reported in Juba, an increase of 72 cases within one day.
- The cumulative number of deaths since the onset of the outbreak reached 22.
- Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection, caused by consumption of contaminated water and food.

Sources: ECHO, WHO, Local Ministry of Health, ECDC

