

To whom it may concern:

Recently, Ebola virus disease (EVD) in West Africa was outbreak again. In order to cope with the tense situation, we call for your attention.

The outbreak of Ebola virus disease in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea is the largest, longest, most severe, and most complex in the history of EVD. In the past 2014, it delivered some horrific shocks and surprises. In face of such a powerful destructive diseases, all of us, including WHO, was too slow to see what was unfolding before us.

Ebola is more than a disease that has taught the world many lessons, the most important is how to prevent similar events in the future. Factors of culture, history, geography, and health infrastructures produced a mix of opportunities that the virus quickly exploited. Exceptionally mobile populations moving across exceptionally porous borders infected new areas, re-infected others, and eluded contact tracing teams.

In efforts coordinated by WHO, scientists and the pharmaceutical industry have geared up to develop, test, license, and introduce the first Ebola vaccines, therapies, and point-of-care diagnostic tests. Finally we got encouraging results, but new problem comes along. Under the limited of the speed of manufacturing of the vaccine or drug, how can we optimize our delivery strategy to eradicate the EVD or ease current strain as far as possible.

To deal with the problem, we build a realistic, sensible, and useful model containing all critical factors we considers necessary. We are outlined to show how initial control efforts were eventually overwhelmed by the wide geographical dispersion of transmission, the unprecedented operational complexity of the outbreaks, understand the power of medical treatment measures to disrupt transmission chains.

The assessment takes a look at the potential future evolution of the Ebola epidemic. Based on real data what has been learned during this first year, our model was verified through its excellent performance in predict. Most encouragingly, we have answer a difficult problem in the control of infectious diseases. What critical strategies and interventions will give countries and their partners the best chance of bringing the outbreaks under control? We did it.

The Ebola outbreak elicited an extraordinary outpouring of assistance from many countries, many other countries and partners too numerous to mention. I must also highlight the unprecedented extraordinary leadership and efforts of governments in the affected countries. All this was done in a spirit of global solidarity with the people of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone and their governments. Countless agencies, nongovernmental organizations, like MSF and Save the Children, doctors and nurses, and volunteers courageously risked their lives to help patients survive.

As I conclude, I urge all of us to turn the 2014 Ebola crisis into an opportunity to build a stronger system to defend our collective global health security. We need your help to fill the huge gap in our budget in order to eradicate the Ebola through our models.

The volatile microbial world will always deliver surprises.

Never again should the world be caught by surprise, unprepared.

Thank you.

World Health Organizations

2015-02-09