

Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone - Ebola Emergency Response Project**Chair Summary*****September 16, 2014**

The Executive Directors approved International Development Association (IDA) grants in the amount of SDR 16.5 million (US\$25 million equivalent) for the Republic of Guinea, SDR 34.3 million (US\$52 million equivalent) for the Republic of Liberia, and SDR 18.5 million (US\$28 million equivalent) for the Republic of Sierra Leone for the Ebola Emergency Response Project, on the terms and conditions set out in the President's Memorandum (IDA/R2014-0284). The financing will be provided under from IDA's Crisis Response Window (CRW) entirely on grant terms, rather than on each country's standard IDA terms.

Directors strongly supported the World Bank's emergency response, recognizing the positive externalities that will result from mitigating the spread of Ebola Disease Virus (EVD) in the affected countries and by reducing its impact on at-risk neighboring countries. They welcomed the alignment of the project with the World Health Organization (WHO) Ebola Response Roadmap, the World Bank Group strategies for each of the countries, and the Africa Regional Integration Assistance Strategy. Directors commended the leadership of governments in the affected countries, complemented by efforts of the World Bank, WHO, United Nations, other development partners, and non-governmental and civil society organizations in response to the EVD crisis. Directors emphasized the importance of rapid response, flexibility, and on-the-ground assistance, encouraging the World Bank to play a leading role in coordination with UN and other partners. They welcomed the strong multi-practice collaboration under the new Global Practices structure in the World Bank Group to address the multi-sectoral challenges involved in the EVD outbreak.

Directors expressed concern about the escalation of EVD cases as well as the serious economic impact of the epidemic. They noted the need to mobilize additional emergency assistance as well as long-term financial and technical support for Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. They urged the World Bank Group to develop responses to the crisis in coordination with the International Monetary Fund and other partners.

Directors called for long-term capacity to detect and control EVD and other infectious diseases, the adoption of preventive measures in unaffected countries, and more resilient health care and social support systems to stem future epidemics. They emphasized the need to address the root cause of infectious disease, including research, vaccine development, and treatment capacity. They strongly encouraged the World Bank Group to fully leverage its resources and capacity in response to epidemics in all countries. They welcomed the World Bank's focus on strengthening health systems and surveillance capacity in the West Africa sub-region most heavily impacted by EVD as a next step.

* This summary is not an approved record.