

## Health Information Update

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Event Updated	Country	Hazard	Disease	Event Description	IHR Assessment
2018-08-01	Democratic Republic of the Congo (the)	Infectious	Ebola Virus Disease	<p>The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo <u>announced today a cluster of cases of Ebola virus in North Kivu province</u>. Initial laboratory investigations at Institut National de Recherche Biomédicale (INRB) in Kinshasa indicate that four of six samples are positive for Ebola virus. Further testing is on-going to identify the virus strain. The Ministry of Health have received reports of twenty six suspected cases of Ebola virus disease including 20 deaths (CFR; 77%) since 11 May 2018. The North Kivu province borders Uganda. All cases are from the Mangina Health Area in the Mabalako Health Zone, located 30 km southwest of Beni. Investigations are ongoing to assess the full extent of the outbreak and therefore high vigilance needs to be maintained.</p> <p>Over the last four decades, the Democratic Republic of Congo has experienced nine Ebola outbreaks. The last outbreak took place in May 2018 in three Health Zones, located in Equateur Province, in western Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the border with the Republic of Congo. The last outbreak was declared over one week ago on 24 July 2018. This outbreak occurs in a complex epidemiological and humanitarian context. The country is experiencing several outbreaks including cholera, measles and Monkeypox. The prolonged humanitarian crisis and the deterioration of the security situation in North Kivu could hinder the response to the outbreak. In addition, the country is experiencing a long-term economic and political crisis.</p> <p>This new outbreak of Ebola virus disease is affecting the Mabalako Health Area in the North Kivu province, at the border with Uganda. The air, river and road links between North Kivu and the rest of the country, the population's internal displacement in the province and the influx of Congolese refugees in neighboring countries, including Uganda, Burundi and Tanzania, represent potential risk factors for transmission of EVD at national and regional levels. Based on this context, <b>the public health risk is considered high at the national and regional level and low globally.</b></p> <p><b>WHO advises against any restriction of travel and trade to Democratic Republic of the Congo</b> based on the currently available information. WHO continues to monitor travel and trade measures in relation to this even, and <b>currently there are no restrictions of the international traffic in place.</b></p>	Public Health Risk

\* A public health risk is something that is (or is likely to be) hazardous to human health or could contribute to a disease or an infectious condition in humans.