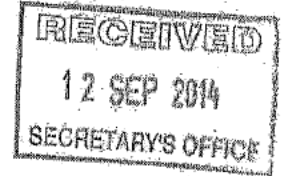




**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health**

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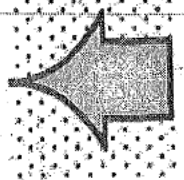


Minute

David Learmonth  
Acting Secretary

Approved / Not Approved

*[Signature]*  
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(signature) 12/9



**AUSTRALIAN HEALTH MINISTERS' ADVISORY COUNCIL (AHMAC) AGENDA PAPER- EBOLA UPDATE**

**Purpose**

To seek your clearance of the AHMAC Agenda Paper regarding the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa for the 19 September 2014 meeting.

**Issue**

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the EVD outbreak in West Africa a public health emergency of international concern. The WHO has assessed that extraordinary measures are required to contain the outbreak, and published a 'roadmap' to guide efforts to prevent or reduce international spread of the disease.
- The EVD outbreak has attracted significant media attention, and although the risk of transmission to Australia is currently considered to be very low, the matter is potentially contentious and politically sensitive. AHMAC has requested an update on the outbreak be included as an agenda item at its 19 September 2014 meeting.
- The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) will be leading the discussion on behalf of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee.

**Background**

As at 5 September 2014 in West Africa, there had been 3,967 clinical cases, and 2,105 deaths (case-fatality rate 53 per cent). New cases continue to be reported.

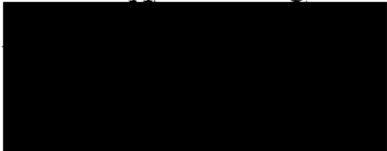
The possibility of more extensive spread in Nigeria is now a major concern. There is also an unrelated outbreak of EVD in the Congo.

The CMO continues to participate in outbreak response teleconferences coordinated by the WHO. The National Incident Room is monitoring the situation and coordinating the Department's response to the situation.

**Recommendation**

That you:

- Approve the Agenda Paper for the AHMAC meeting of 19 September 2014.



Professor Chris Baggoley  
Chief Medical Officer

19 September 2014