



ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
 MINISTRY OF HEALTH
 THIMPHU :BHUTAN
 P.O.BOX : 726



DoPH/General/IHR/14-15/328

12/08/14

To,
 Dasho Secretaries,
 All Ministries → MoF

Updated Travel Notice (Ebola Virus Disease)

Respected Dasho,

Ministry of Health would like to inform you that with effect from 8 August 2014 World Health Organization has declared Ebola Outbreak in West Africa a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and has issued the member states Temporary Recommendation under international Health Regulation (2005) to reduce the International spread of Ebola.

Ministry of Health (MOH), Bhutan has issued an advisory on the subject matter in www.health.gov.bt and would like to request you all to upload the same message in you web-site for wider reach. This is done to reduce the risk of exposure to Ebola and strongly advising Bhutanese to consider postponing non-essential travel to affected area.

Kindly find attached message attached for your kind action.

Your Kind cooperation will help reduce the international spread of Ebola.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr DORJI wangchuk)
 Director General

CC:

- IHR PO for Information and follow up.

*C/O APD
 Khem
 Please upload on MoF web.*

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
 Administration & Finance Division
 I.C.M No.....Date.....14/8/14

Status of Ebola outbreak in Western Africa as of 8th August 2014

The current EVD outbreak began in Guinea in December 2013. This outbreak now involves transmission in Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. As of 4 August 2014, countries have reported 1 711 cases (1 070 confirmed, 436 probable, 205 suspect), including 932 deaths. This is currently the largest EVD outbreak ever recorded. In response to the outbreak, a number of unaffected countries have made a range of travel related advice or recommendations.

Health Advisory Notice

Ministry of Health (MOH), Bhutan has issued an advisory on the subject matter. To reduce the risk of exposure to Ebola, Bhutanese are **strongly advised to consider postponing non-essential travel to affected areas.**

Those travelling to affected areas should remain vigilant. They are advised to monitor local developments through the media and their local contacts as well as observe measures recommended by local health authorities.

When overseas, travelers are to adopt the following general health precautions:

1. Practice frequent hand washing of grim and dirt
2. Avoid direct contact with blood, secretions or other body fluids of infected living / dead persons / animals.
3. Avoid contaminated environments with infectious fluids such as soiled clothing, bed linen or used needles
4. Avoid participating in burial ceremonies which require direct contact with the body of a deceased infected person
5. Avoid direct contact with the body of a deceased infected person when participating in burial ceremonies
6. Avoid contact with wild animals, including bats, monkeys, apes, chimpanzee and gorillas, whether alive or dead.
7. Avoid consumption of raw / undercooked meat of wild animals
8. Returning travelers from affected areas / travelers who suspect that they have been exposed to Ebola should seek immediate medical attention
9. Returning travelers from affected areas / travelers who suspect that they have been exposed to Ebola who develop any disease symptoms while travelling **in or within 3 weeks** of being in any of the areas must mention their recent travel to the attending physician