

# Japan's Response to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

The intergovernmental coordination meeting on EVD measures

## Situation of Japan

- ❑ In March 2014, Guinea reported a major Ebola outbreak to the WHO.
- ❑ The infection rapidly spread mainly in three African countries ( Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone ) .
- ❑ On August 8th 2014, the WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern ( PHEIC ) .
- ❑ Infections were also confirmed in other African ( Nigeria, Senegal, Mali ) and Western countries ( Spain, UK, USA ) .
- ❑ As of April 8th, about 26,000 cases of infection and over 10,000 deaths were reported.

## Situation of Japan

**No confirmed EVD infection inside Japan and among Japanese residents abroad.**

### Domestic Situation

- Although six suspected cases were reported in Japan, all specimens of the suspected patients were carried into the National Institute of Infectious Diseases and proved negative as a result of tests.
  - Two suspected cases were reported at the Quarantine.
  - Four suspected cases were reported through the health monitoring by the Quarantine after the entry into Japan

### Situation on Japanese Residents abroad

- No infection confirmed among Japanese Residents abroad.
  - Decrease of the number of Japanese residents in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone: from around 100 as of early August, 2014 to around 35 as of 13 April, 2015.
  - No suspected cases found among these residents.

## Establish a system in government

The ministerial meeting on the Response to EVD (presided by Prime Minister) was established and held (October 28, 2014) and later, in government, and the following systems were established.

### Cabinet

- **"The intergovernmental coordination meeting on EVD measures "** established (chair Cabinet Crisis Management Audit) on October 28, 2014, and held on November 5, 2014.
- **"The steering committee of the intergovernmental coordination meeting on EVD measures "** established (November 5, 2014).
- **"Office for Preparedness and Response to EVD"** established within the Cabinet Secretariat (October 28, 2014).
- **Information liaison office** established within the Crisis Management Center of the Prime Minister's Office (October 28, 2014).

### Relevant ministries and agencies

Meetings on EVD measures were set up in the following relevant ministries and agencies.

- National Police Agency : Office on the Response to the EVD
- Fire and Disaster Management Agency : The emergency measures meeting of EVD
- Ministry of Justice : HQs of EVD measures of the Immigration Bureau
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan : Office on the Response to EVD
- Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare : HQs for promoting the response to EVD, etc.

# Response at Quarantine

Since August 2014, the government of Japan (GOJ) has scaled up the quarantine level for the people from the three affected countries (e.g. reminder, health counseling).

PHEIC (Aug. 8, 2014)

Oct. 2014

Ministerial MTG  
(Oct. 28, 2014)

Dec. 2014

Jan. 2015

Feb. 2015

## Quarantine procedure

- Clarifying the quarantine status of the people from the affected countries (※1) (Aug. 8, 2014)

(※1) Procedure of isolation and health monitoring

- Clarifying the quarantine for ships (※2) (Aug. 15, 2014)

(※2) Procedure of reporting from a captain of a ship

- Starting a health monitoring for the people who are in the affected countries in the past 21 days. (Oct. 21, 2014-)

## Health counseling

- In addition thermography which is conducted regularly at quarantine stations, MHLW started reminder directly and with posters (Aug. 1, 2014-)

- Requesting airline companies to do in-flight announcement to passengers on board to declare whether to stay in the affected countries in the past 21 days (Aug. 12, 2014-)

- Reminder with posters in 9 languages at quarantine stations (Aug. 12, 2014-)

- Increasing quarantine officers at airports (Dec. 9, 2014-)

## Correspondence to immigrants

- Requesting companies to cooperate with information sharing on infection prevention and declaration and health counseling at quarantine stations when coming back to Japan. (Aug. 22, 2014-)

- Strengthening quarantine at airports and seaports (e.g. questionnaire board)
- Strengthening quarantine and immigration to check travel history of the affected countries in the past 21 days (Airport: Oct. 24, 2014-, Seaport: Nov. 21, 2014-)

# Response in case of domestic infection

PHEIC (Aug. 8, 2014)

Oct. 2014

Ministerial MTG  
(Oct. 28, 2014)

Dec. 2014

Jan. 2015

Feb. 2015

## Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)

- MHLW requested municipalities to assure the first response plan and medical systems in each jurisdiction (Aug. 7, 2014 -)
- MHLW requested municipalities to deal with people with any symptoms who are in the three affected countries in the past 21 days as Ebola suspected cases (Oct. 24, 2014-, Nov. 21-)
- MHLW requested prefectures to practice exercises of transporting patients and samples. (Nov. 3 2014-)
- MHLW distributed clinical guideline including a lab manual and infection control guideline for medical staff to medical facilities
- MHLW carried out PPE trainings in the designated medical facilities for high contagious pathogens (Oct., 2014-)
- MHLW increased staff of National Institute for Infectious Diseases (Dec. 9, 2014), purchased PPE for Health Centers and supported designated medical facilities to setting up high containment units (Feb. 3, 2015-)

## Fire and Disaster Management Agency

- MHLW and Fire and Disaster Management Agency issued a notice to municipalities regarding a cooperation on patient transportation between Health Centers and Fire and rescue authorities (Nov. 28, 2014)

For each fire department, and issued a clerical contact to encourage information sharing and cooperation with the information collection and sanitation main departments (September 3, 2014)

For each fire department, to those who have complained of fever symptoms at the time of emergency request, if the travel history within the past one month of Guinea, Liberia or Sierra Leone is found, immediately contact the health center, it takes over the corresponding to the health center, etc. notify the basic correspondence of content and the fire department (October 28, 2014)

## National Police Agency

- NPA instructs prefectural police on the following contents. (October 24, 2014, etc.)
- Preparation for infection protection equipment, participation in various measures taken together by related organizations implementation of training, etc.
  - If the infected person have been confirmed in the country, as needed vigilance activities and traffic regulations in airports, medical institutions, other areas the support for transporting specimen, and the infected persons.

## Ministry of the Environment

For prefectural governments and related organization, to notify waste disposal operators and medical service providers of proper management of infectious waste if the patient in the country has occurred (October 29, 2014)

## The protocol of announcement at the time of occurrence of Ebola Virus Disease patients (including patients suspected)

MHLW coordinated with related ministries, agencies, and published the protocol (November 21st 2014)

# Response to Japanese Residents abroad

## Support for Oversea Residents and Travelers

MOFA's Web Site(Overseas Safety Home Page)

Release of Spot Travel Info and Wide-Area Info on infectious diseases on the three affected West African States, since March 2014.

Sharing info on the spread of the disease and the infection prevention measures, etc.

Release of Travel Advice and Warning on Infectious Diseases on the three affected West African States after the declaration of PHEIC by WHO, since 8 August,2014.

For Residents : Advise to take infection prevention measures and consider early evacuation from the three countries.  
For Travelers : Advise to postpone non-essential travel to the three countries.

- Limited number of Japanese nationals staying in West Africa; the Japanese Embassies were informed of the situation on them through regular contacts made.
- When a Japanese national is infected to EVD virus abroad, GOJ, under the coordination of related ministries/agencies, will quickly take the best measures available taking all into account the diagnosis by the doctor, the will of the national and the preference of the family.

## Summary (Stance toward future)

- ◆ Under the circumstance of decreasing number of the newly infected patients since last Autumn, WHO reported that "The response to the EVD epidemic has now moved to a second phase, as the focus shifts from slowing transmission to ending the epidemic," keeping the PHEIC declared on August 8<sup>th</sup> 2014, in the end of January this year.
- ◆ WHO also showed in early February the new infection changed to increase in the west Africa, especially in Guinea.

GOJ continues to carry out the current measures in the intergovernmental cooperation and to provide the information to the public in a right and prompt way while paying close attention to the future international developments, and then to secure safety and security of the Japanese people.

# The information on the Ebola suspected cases

Date	Age	Sex	Nationality	Address	Place of sojourn	Details	EVD +/-	Others
27, Oct (2014)	40's	M	-	-	West Africa	Fever on arrival at Tokyo International Airport	(-)	Further information is not disclosed
7, Nov (2014)	60's	M	Japanese	Tokyo	Liberia	Call to quarantine station	(-)	Diagnosed as tonsillitis
7, Nov (2014)	20's	F	Guinean	-	Guinea	Fever on arrival at Kansai International Airport	(-)	Malaria(+)
12/29 (2014)	30's	M	Japanese	Tokyo	Sierra Leone	Call to Health Center	(-)	Contact with corpse bag. Diagnosed as acute sinusitis
18, Jan (2015)	70's	F	Japanese	Tokyo	Sierra Leone	Call to quarantine station	(-)	Flu(+)
16, March (2015)	40's	M	-	Tokyo	Liberia	Call to quarantine station	(-)	-

(Source) MHLW

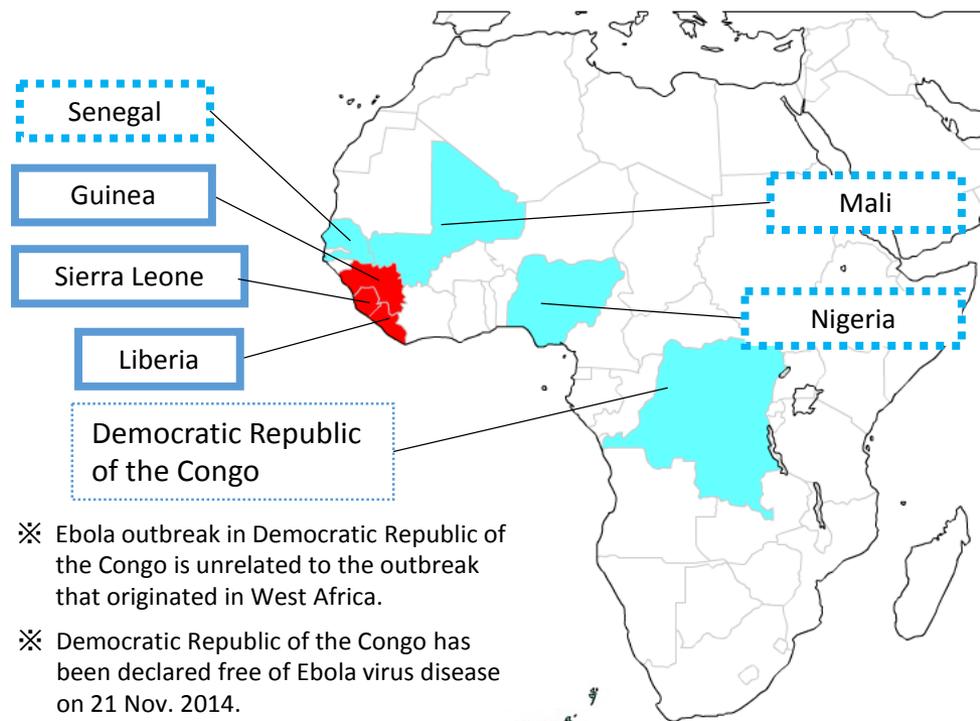
# EVD : Cases infected and Deaths

## Ebola virus disease cases and deaths.

WHO EBOLA SITUATION REPORT (date up to 8 Apr. 2015)  
Involved confirmed, probable and suspected cases and deaths.

Countries with widespread and intense transmission	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative deaths
Guinea	3,515	2,333
Liberia	9,862	4,408
Sierra Leone	12,138	3,831
Countries with an initial case or cases, or with localized transmission	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative deaths
Mali	8	6
Nigeria	20	8
Senegal	1	0
Spain	1	0
United States of America	4	1
United Kingdom	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,550</b>	<b>10,587</b>

※ Senegal has been declared free of Ebola virus disease on 17 Oct. 2014, Nigeria on 20 Oct., Spain on 2 Dec., Mali on 18 Jan. 2015., and United Kingdom on 10 Mar.



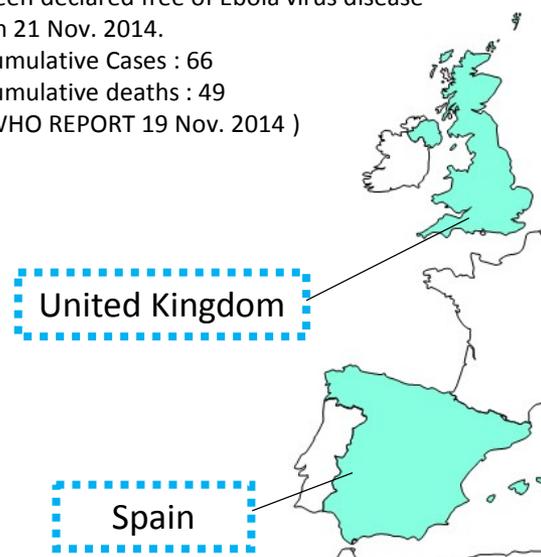
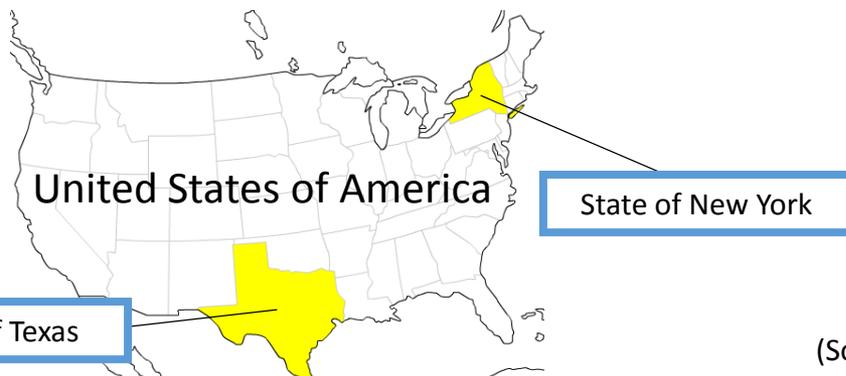
※ Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of the Congo is unrelated to the outbreak that originated in West Africa.

※ Democratic Republic of the Congo has been declared free of Ebola virus disease on 21 Nov. 2014.  
Cumulative Cases : 66  
Cumulative deaths : 49  
(WHO REPORT 19 Nov. 2014 )

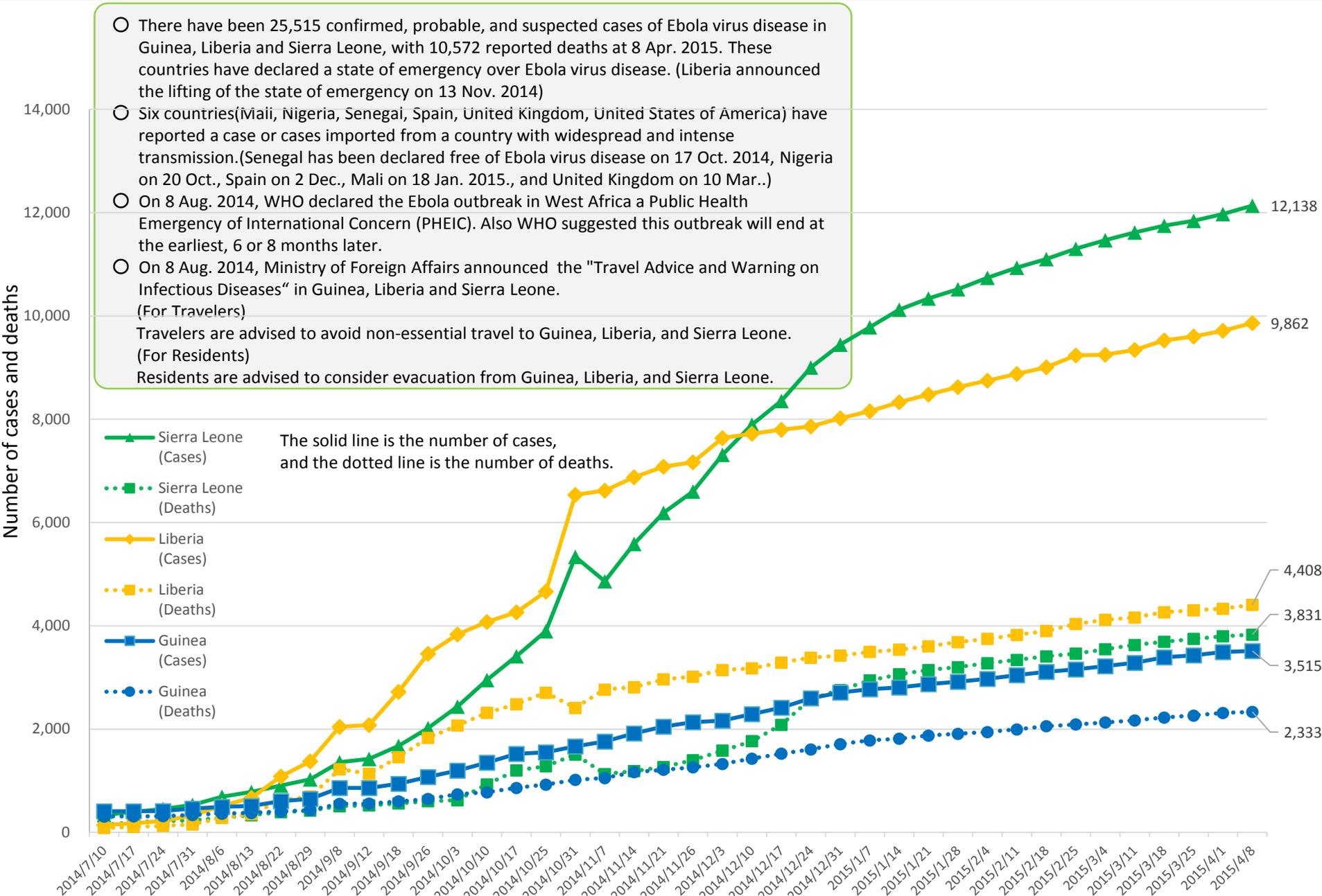
**RED :**  
Countries with widespread and intense transmission.

**YELLOW :**  
Countries with an imported transmission, or with localized transmission.

**BLUE :**  
Countries declared free of EVD.

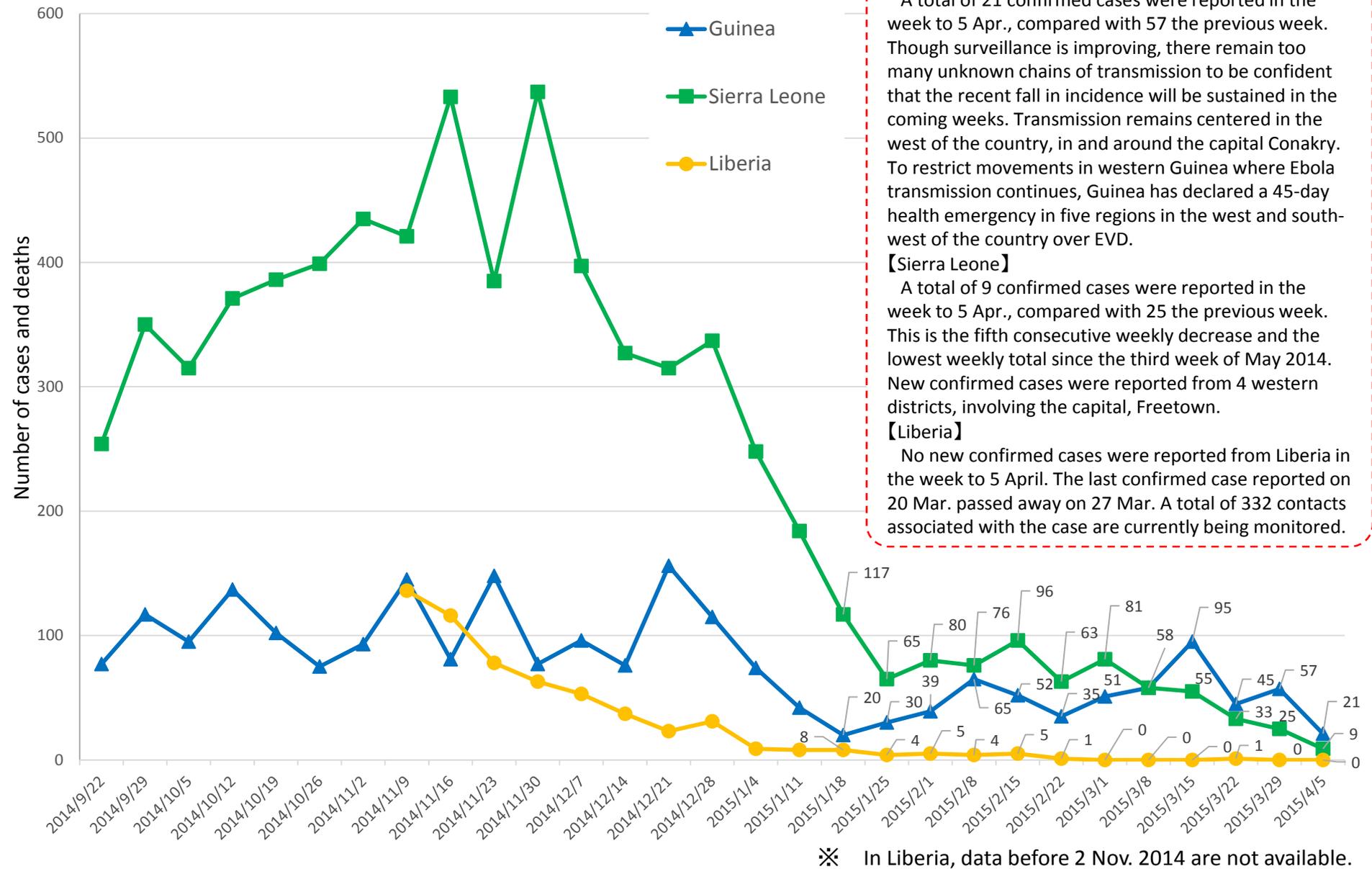


# Ebola virus disease cumulative number of cases infected and deaths



(Source) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, based on WHO EBOLA SITUATION REPORT.(8 Apr. 2015)

# Confirmed weekly Ebola virus disease cases



**【Guinea】**  
 A total of 21 confirmed cases were reported in the week to 5 Apr., compared with 57 the previous week. Though surveillance is improving, there remain too many unknown chains of transmission to be confident that the recent fall in incidence will be sustained in the coming weeks. Transmission remains centered in the west of the country, in and around the capital Conakry. To restrict movements in western Guinea where Ebola transmission continues, Guinea has declared a 45-day health emergency in five regions in the west and south-west of the country over EVD.

**【Sierra Leone】**  
 A total of 9 confirmed cases were reported in the week to 5 Apr., compared with 25 the previous week. This is the fifth consecutive weekly decrease and the lowest weekly total since the third week of May 2014. New confirmed cases were reported from 4 western districts, involving the capital, Freetown.

**【Liberia】**  
 No new confirmed cases were reported from Liberia in the week to 5 April. The last confirmed case reported on 20 Mar. passed away on 27 Mar. A total of 332 contacts associated with the case are currently being monitored.