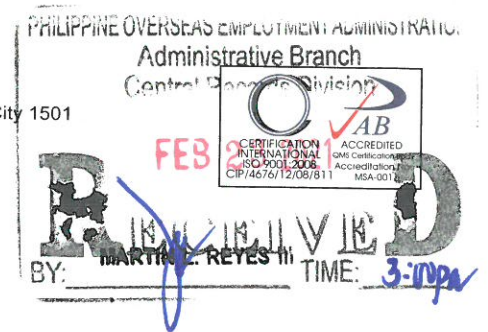




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## Resurgence of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the African Countries of Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Guinea

***New Outbreaks and Confirmed Cases.*** The POEA hereby informs the public that the World Health Organization (WHO) reported on 10 February 2021 that the Ministry of Health (MOH) of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has declared a new outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the country on 07 February 2021 after the death and subsequent laboratory confirmation of a suspected case in the North Kivu Province.

The WHO Regional Office in Africa on 14 February 2021 also reported that the health authorities in Guinea also declared a new outbreak of the EVD in the rural community of Gouéké in N'Zerekore Prefecture after the laboratory confirmation of three new cases of the virus.

The new confirmed case/death in the DRC comes after the 11<sup>th</sup> outbreak of the disease in the country ended on November 2020. On the other hand, the three new confirmed cases in Guinea marked the first time EVD cases have been reported in the country since 2016.

***Symptoms and Transmission.*** Symptoms of the EVD include fever, headache, intense weakness, joint and muscle pain and sore throat and could subsequently include vomiting, diarrhea, rash, symptoms of impaired kidney and liver function, laboratory finding of low white blood cell and platelet count and elevated liver enzymes, and in some cases, internal and external bleeding.

Transmission, on the other hand, could take place through contact with infected animals or through contact with the bodily fluids of infected humans.

***Precautions.*** Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) in the DRC and Guinea are hereby cautioned against the continued outbreak of the EVD in the said countries and are advised to take all necessary precautionary measures to ensure their health and well-being.

OFWs in both countries are likewise reminded to veer away from Ebola-stricken places/communities as well as mass gatherings, limit interaction with animals and patients suspected of contracting the disease and maintain proper hygiene practices. OFWs who may experience symptoms of the disease should to submit themselves to health/medical authorities immediately for proper diagnosis and treatment.

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OFWs are also reminded to be guided by latest health and travel advisories as well as updates on developments relative to the outbreak of EVD from official sources from World Health Organization, the governments of the DRC and Guinea as well as from the government of the Philippines, including from this Administration ([www.poea.gov.ph](http://www.poea.gov.ph)), the Department of Foreign Affairs ([www.dfa.gov.ph](http://www.dfa.gov.ph)) and the Department of Health ([www.doh.gov.ph](http://www.doh.gov.ph)).

For the information and guidance of all concerned.



**BERNARD P. OLALIA**  
*Administrator*

\_\_\_\_\_ February 2021

Sources : World Health Organization (WHO)  
WHO Regional Office for Africa

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