**03.1 Ebola cases in Albondo**

**Risk communication simulation exercise (SIMEX) – Background 2**





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**Ebola spreads to Alabondo and Boneta: patients may have contracted the disease at a Zambre retreat**



***Five people are believed to have contracted the deadly Ebola virus at a retreat in Zambre held two weeks ago.***

The countries of Albondo and Boneta are likely seeing their first cases of Ebola. Albondo capitol hospital admitted three patients yesterday, all of whom have tested positive for the deadly disease. Less is known about the situation in poverty stricken Boneta. Officials from Boneta Laboratory Agency for Blood (BLAB) state that at least two patients tested positive for Ebola.

The Albondo Minister of Health, Dr Noah Worrese said in a written statement, “Albondans should not be concerned. Albondo has top-notch medical care. We caught these cases early and everything is under control.” Dr Worrese was unavailable for further questions. The Boneta Ministry of Health has yet to release additional information.

Albondan capitol hospital administrator Dr Mora Konsern confirmed that the family of three tested positive for Ebola after seeking help at a rural healthcare clinic. She stated that, “our hospital has been preparing for Ebola but we have long faced a shortage of healthcare workers. We’ve lost thirty percent of our staff over the last five years due to brain drain to the west.”

These patients may have contracted Ebola at the annual Tri-Country Agricultural Retreat two weeks ago. The retreat, held in Zambre this year, celebrates agricultural heritage and is a popular week for thousands of families. For two months Zambre has had a comparatively slow trickle of Ebola cases. There have been 48 cases and 30 deaths all located in the capitol city of Zena. Zambre health officials confirmed that two youth group members attending the retreat tested positive for Ebola two days after the retreat. “The Zambre students became sick on our retreat. Many people tried to care for them. It’s such a tragedy that this has happened to our agricultural community,” explained retreat organizer, Poppy Gromore.

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