



# POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION COMMISSION

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## **PPRC News Brief 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

The Chairman of the Political Parties Registration Commission Hon. Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014 officially presented the three days Ose-to-Ose Ebola Sensitisation Campaign report compiled by the Commission and the ten registered Political Parties in Sierra Leone to the Head of the Emergency Operation Centre Stephen Gaojia and the Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation Foday Sawi Lahai. In his statement he says the fight against Ebola Virus Disease in Sierra Leone is a fight for Political Parties.

He says this is important after the report published after the three days stay at home Ebola Sensitization Exercise.

In his statement, the Coordinator of the Emergency Operations Centre Stephen Gaojia expressed satisfaction on the role played by the PPRC in promoting unity among political parties in the fight against the Ebola Virus Disease. This he says is essential for the development of the nation. Ebola he says is not a political issue as it is a respecter of person. Mr. Gaojia assured the Commission and the Political Parties of the support of the EOC in the fight against Ebola.

Surveillance and Lab Pillar, Case Management Pillar and Social Mobilization Pillar he says are the three key pillars that the EOC is presently focussing on even though logistics, phyco -Social and Communications are also crucial pillars. Political Parties he says, has a key role to play in the social mobilization pillar to save the lives of Sierra Leoneans.

EOC he continued realised that the initial plan that was put in place as a national response plan is very inadequate as it requested for very little resources because the impact of EVD was under estimated.

He informed the meeting that as members of the incident management team, they have come up with a plan with three key elements:

- To achieve Decrease in the growth rate of the disease within 30 days;
- To achieve Decrease in the rate of new infections within 60 days and;
- To reach a single digit new cases on a daily basis 90 days.

This plan he says is ambiguous but achievable as \$137 million is needed.

Commenting on the report, Mr Gaojia says the 117 line that was a problem can now attend to 70 simultaneous calls compared to 17 calls before.

In his statement, the Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation Foday Sawi Lahai says the fight against Ebola is a fight for the political party because if Ebola is not contained the relevance of political parties will be irrelevant. Political Parties he says controls the hearts and minds of the people and every political party has following. This venture taken by political parties he says will help greatly in the fight against Ebola as the Sierra Leonean populace listens more to their political party leaders.

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