



## **National Ebola Response Centre (NERC)**

Chief Executive Office's Office  
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Sierra Leone. Website: [www.nerc.sl](http://www.nerc.sl)

### **Press Statement**

#### **Outcome from the Kailahun EVD Positive Case Investigation**

The National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) wishes to inform the general public that it received a report of a positive swab in Kailahun on 3rd April, 2015, after 110 days without recording a positive Ebola Case.

The NERC as part of its EVD Event Management Strategy, immediately instructed a thorough investigation and management of this case. A Rapid Response Team (RRT) comprising the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) experts left Freetown on Saturday for Kailahun to embark on the investigation. The team from Freetown was joined by district teams from Kenema and Kailahun Districts, which all took active part in the investigation.

The mandate of this team was to carry out a technical investigation aimed at establishing the validity of the case and putting measures in place to control further transmission. Upon completion of the technical investigation, the team submitted its findings to the NERC leadership this morning in a detailed report, with the following conclusions:

- There is no evidence to suggest that there is an ongoing Ebola transmission in Kailahun
- That the child in question is not an Ebola Case as the sample in question is not from the child

The NERC will inform the leadership in Kailahun District of this new development and will instruct the District Ebola Response Coordinator and the District Medical Officer to immediately end quarantine for all those contacts that were quarantined as a result of the positive result. Our deepest condolences to the bereaved family

for the loss of their child and for the pain they have had to endure the past couple of days. The NERC will continue its investigation into this matter, to ascertain whether this was a genuine error.

The country has tremendous progress in the fight against Ebola and week by week our confirmed cases have dropped drastically. Last week, Sierra Leone recorded nine confirmed cases, which is the lowest since we peaked last year, but this progress is because many districts have remained vigilant. As we make progress however, we must also remember that we still have Ebola and therefore have no room for complacency. NERC is very much appreciative of the cooperation it team received from the People of Segbwema and the interest indigenes of Kailahun showed in this matter.

The NERC encourages everyone to remain vigilant in their respective communities as we continue our drive to a resilient zero.

Together we will defeat Ebola

ALFRED PALO CONTEH (Major Retired)

Chief Executive Officer