



## **Outbreak declared an international emergency**

*Clip from 'This World, Outbreak: The Truth About Ebola'*

*DR MARGARET CHAN:*

I am declaring the current outbreak of Ebola virus disease a public health emergency of international concern. The committee acknowledges the serious and unusual nature of the outbreak and the potential for further international spread.

*NARRATOR:*

The WHO put a high-level team of experts in Geneva in charge of the response. They faced a daunting task.

*DR BRUCE AYLWARD:*

We were looking at one of the most dangerous pathogens that we knew growing at an exponential rate across a broad geographic area – something we had never seen before.

We needed clinical management, people to go in there and manage the Ebola cases. We needed public health expertise on the ground to be able to do the contact tracing and I realised that capacity to manage something on this scale doesn't exist.

*NARRATOR:*

The WHO now had a plan but nobody to carry it out. They needed to convince wealthy governments to provide money and manpower, and time was against them because the outbreak was about to enter its most shocking and deadly phase.