WHO, in consultation with the countries, conducted a risk analysis in the region.

**Criteria for risk characterization**
- Proximity to the epicenter
- Trade and regional connectivity
- Cultural and social connections including refugee ties
- Ease of mobility and highways

**Six (6) countries are prioritized currently:**
- Priority 1: High risk - Rwanda and South Sudan
- Priority 2: Moderate Risk - Burundi, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tanzania
Assessment of current capacities, September 2022

- **SVD self assessment checklist** with indicators that:
  - assess the establishment of systems and capacities at the national/subnational level that;
    - Guides planning and readiness
    - Assists member states in assessing their level of readiness
    - Identifies operational gaps and recommendations to close the gaps
- **SVD readiness dashboard** publishes the KPIs that will be monitored every month
The overall regional average capacity for readiness is at 52% which is slightly above average and calls for attention and action.

Coordination, RRT and IPC were rated high while case management, surveillance, contact tracing and POE capacities scored low.
Current efforts to enhance readiness

- **Regional Readiness and Response Plan** developed, based on country contingency plans
  - Cost: $29,465,000 for four months
- WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE) availed $3,000,000
- Capacity initiatives in place
  - Training of case management experts in Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and South Sudan
- Technical assistance to the countries to enhance the capacities
- Prepositioning of supplies (test kits and reagents)
- Deployment of mobile labs in selected high-risk regions
High Level Ministerial Meeting on Ebola, 12 October, Kampala

Key Highlights

- Nine (9) countries participated along with several partners
  - Burundi, DRC, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda
- Reflection on Framework for cross border collaboration, Goma 2019
- Common alignment on:
  - the regional importance of the outbreak and associated risks
  - Standing in solidarity with Uganda in response to the outbreak
  - Need to rapidly scale up readiness capacities in the countries
  - Exchange of technical expertise across the countries to build capacity
  - Transparency and timely information sharing
  - Advancement of research on SVD including vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics
- Joint Communique on collaboration endorsed by the nine countries
- Regional Ebola Task Force to be established with the coordination support from WHO, Africa CDC and RECs to facilitate joint plan of action and monitoring