because of the crisis, it will still take a while to get enough manufactured and sent out because of how widely spread the virus is.

Questions to consider:

1. Has your country been affected (directly or indirectly) by the Ebola outbreak?
2. What has your country done to fight the outbreak?
3. What do you think the role of the WHO should be in fighting this disease? What policies do you propose? What reforms are necessary?
4. Are there any security implications/repercussions of the Ebola outbreak?
5. Did the international community overreact to the disease? (after all, very few people were infected and fewer died!)
6. What other diseases should the WHO and the international community keep an open eye on?

Resources:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/ebola/en/

http://www.who.int/features/2014/who-ebola-response/en/

http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/ebola/response-roadmap/en/

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/sep/25/-sp-ebola-crisis-briefing

Topic #2: Access to Healthcare in Conflict Zones

In conflict zones healthcare can often be disrupted causing many deaths that may have been preventable. This was seen during conflicts such as Mozambique's Civil War, the Rwandan Genocide, and the Syrian Civil War. Sometimes hospitals and clinics are destroyed during the war. Doctors and other healthcare workers may be killed. In areas that already are lacking in healthcare professionals, this may leave patients with no medical help at all. If transportation is destroyed or blocked off, certain areas go without necessary medical supplies. As a result even after the conflict ends, there may be a high number of deaths from diseases or injuries that may

have been treatable if provided with some basic healthcare. It takes time to rebuild the infrastructure of an area.

Another serious health problem during and after conflict is mental health care. Many people need mental health care after experiencing violent conflicts; unfortunately it is not often available. This leaves large number of people suffering from post-conflict traumas without treatment or care. This is turn might have some serious repercussions on society itself; one such repercussion could be the rise in crimes or violence committed by the traumatized, especially violence against women and children. Access to mental healthcare is essential but this is unfortunately something that many countries do not pay attention to.

Questions to Consider:

1. How does lack of healthcare affect citizens in conflict zones?
2. What can we do to enhance healthcare services for war zones or post-conflict countries?
3. How do individuals with post-conflict trauma behave? If left untreated, what could happen? How would they act? How would their behavior affect their societies and countries?
4. What has the WHO done to deal with the issue of traumatized individuals?
5. What should the WHO do?
6. What should the international community do?
7. Think of the effects of the wars going on now in the Middle East, in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan and what the implications are.

Resources:

http://www.who.int/hac/en/

http://www.who.int/topics/human_rights/en/

http://www.who.int/hac/crises/en/

http://www.conflictandhealth.com/

Topic #3: Water Supply and Sanitation

Around the world there are people who lack safe access to the basic necessity of water. There are

Topic #4: Reducing Air Pollution

There are two facets to air pollution: indoor and outdoor, or household and ambient. People do not often seem to think of indoor air pollution, but around 3 billion people use open fires or simple stoves to cook and heat their homes. These stoves are powered by wood, animal dung, crop waste, or coal. The pollution produced by these methods has serious consequences. The other side of air pollution is outdoor. The main culprits for ambient air pollution are industrial waste, transportation emissions, power generation emissions, and waste management. From China to the UK to India, air pollution has become a global problem. Once pollution gets into the air, it cannot be contained within the country of origin: it simply becomes a global problem. Annually there are 3.7 million deaths that are attributable to ambient air pollution, although new estimates show that it might be double this number. The areas that are most at risk for air pollution related deaths are countries with low-to-middle incomes in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific. Many of these people experience a combination of household and ambient pollution, doubling their risk. WHO has Air Quality Guidelines, but even in those countries that have made it below the guideline level of concentration of pollution it is estimated that life expectancy is still shorter at that level of pollution.

Questions:

What could individuals and communities do to reduce air pollution?

What could and should governments do to reduce air pollution?

what are the health implications of air pollution?

What should the WHO do?

Resources:

http://www.who.int/topics/air_pollution/en/

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs292/en/

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs313/en/

http://www.who.int/phe/health_topics/outdoorair/databases/en/

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2014/air-pollution/en/