

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Emergency Readiness/ Response

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 16/ 03 / 2020

Cases reporting

- **13** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country as of 16th March 2020 (all are foreign nationals)
- **5** foreign Nationals **from Kuredu Island Resort (Lhaviyani atoll)** have tested **positive** and **recovering** well in isolation.
- **2** individuals (an Italian couple) brought to Farukolhu Isolation Centre from **Kuramathi Island Resort** were tested **positive**.
- **2** Italians (**elderly couple** from Sandies bathala resort) who tested positive were transferred to **Dharumavantha Hospital 11th floor ICU** for close **monitoring** and further **treatment**.
- **2 Foreign Nationals from Ananthara Dhigu resort tested positive and is in isolation.**
- **2 tourists from a Safari Boat has also tested positive and will be transferred to Farukolhufushi island for isolation.**

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- **Total currently isolated in Farukolhufushi Isolation facility is 09 persons.**
- **There are currently 17 persons isolated in Villivaru Island.**
- **2 Maldivians who returned from Italy (with no symptoms)** have been **isolated for 14 days** in Farukolhufushi island for their **travel history**.
- **1 Maldivian student studying in Kunming City China**, arrived on 10th March and is in **isolation** for having travelled from China with **no symptoms reported**.
- **2 Maldivians living in Wuhan evacuated to India** for 14-day isolation.
- **Contact tracing** has been **completed** in all the above-mentioned islands with a few persons placed **under room isolation and self-monitoring**.
- **HE the President** reviews the COVID19 situation daily with the Cabinet.
- **Declaration of Public Health Emergency** from 12th March for a period of 30 days until 12th April.
- The DGPH banned the travel between tourist resort and inhabited islands; Stopping all excursions to inhabited islands; School, college and University closure; Banning the use of open grounds in Male for gatherings
- **HE the speaker of Majlis invited the WR, HPA and NDMA to update the Peoples Majlis (parliament) on the current ongoing COVID preparedness and response activities.**
- Effective from 15th March 2020, passengers and crew with a **travel history from Spain, some regions of France and selected regions from Germany** additional to previous listed countries (total 8) will **not be allowed to enter or transit** through Maldives as a **temporary travel ban**.
- **The NEOC** is working 24/7 and coordinate the ongoing activities including measures for further strengthening the response given the evolving situation in the country.

WCO activities

- WHO continues to closely work with MOH and EOC and continue to coordinate technical assistance for ensuring compliance to WHO **guidelines**, including the **laboratory testing** and **contact tracing**.
- Technical support for developing the scenario for community transmission in Male and also for building the decentralized capacity for detection, isolation, testing, treatment including ICU care.
- Engagement with high level policy makers for sustained advocacy for evidence-based decisions.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Sitreps are shared daily and new technical documents immediately.
- Facilitation of several training through webinars and webex on clinical management, IPC etc.
- Risk communication including printing of key messages in 8 languages
- WHO handed another batch of COVID19 test kits to Maldives – **making the total testing capacity of Maldives to 6000 samples.**

Support requested from SEARO

- Support to establish **WHO Go.Data tool** in Maldives
- Procurement of additional 750 **PPEs kits.**
- Procurement **of Laboratory supplies** to further strengthen country capacity.
- Continued technical assistance for building the scenario for community transmission in Male
- Technical and financial assistance for building the regional capacity to detect, test, isolate, treat especially with ICU care;
- Support for **BioSafety Cabinet Certification** at IGMH.

Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies

- Needs assessment to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.