

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 12/ 03 / 2020

Cases reporting

- 8 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country as of 9th March 2020 (all are foreign nationals)
 - 4 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 (the **elderly couple** from Sandies bathala resort) were transferred to **Dharumavantha Hospital 11th floor ICU** for close **monitoring** and further **treatment**.
- **Maldivian** from Shaviyani atoll **Foakaidhoo** who **had been in contact** with the 2 cases from Lhaviyani Kuredu island resort **tested negative**.
- **3 islands after temporary restricted entry/exit for contact tracing and screening** – Lhaviyani Kuredu resort, Shaviyani Foakaidhoo and Bathala Sands resort in Alif Atoll – **REOPENED for travel**.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Currently **15 people are in isolation** in Farukolhu island and **13 are in quarantine** in Villivaru island awaiting the results of the tests.
- **2 Maldivian**- a mother and her 1-year old daughter were in isolation in Farukolhufushi island **released after 14 days isolation**.
- **2 Maldivians** who **returned from Italy (with no symptoms)** and **1 Maldivian student returning from Kunming, China** have been **isolated for 14 days** in Farukolhufushi island for their **travel history**.
- **2 Maldivians** living in Wuhan **evacuated to India continue to be in** 14-day isolation currently.
- **Contact tracing** has been **completed** in all the above-mentioned islands with a few persons placed **under room isolation and self-monitoring in resorts islands**.
- **HE the President** has been convening daily cabinet meetings in order to discuss and determine next steps.
- As of 10th March 2020, passengers and crew with a **travel history from Bangladesh** will be **not allowed to enter or transit** through Maldives as a **temporary travel ban**.
- This makes the **total number of countries** with temporary travel restriction as **5 countries** – China, South Korea, Iran, Italy and Bangladesh)
- **The NEOC** is working 24/7 to determine the gaps and strengthen response with the evolving situation in the country in addition to **strengthening contact tracing**.

WCO activities

- WHO has been supporting the MoH and NDMA every step of the way to ensure the response is as per **WHO guidelines**, including the **laboratory testing** and **contact tracing**.
- WHO has facilitated **teleconference calls** to the SEARO IPC colleagues as per request from MoH **Technical Advisory Committee** for COVID19.
- WHO has brought another batch of COVID19 test kits to Maldives – **2500 screening reactions** and **500 confirmatory reactions**.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Sitreps are shared daily and new technical documents immediately.

Support requested from SEARO

- Support to establish **WHO Go.Data tool** in Maldives
- Procurement of additional 750 **PPEs kits**.
- Procurement **of Laboratory supplies** to strengthen country capacity.
- Support for **BioSafety Cabinet Certification** at IGMH.
- Orientation and training of contact tracers, clinicians in critical care and IPC.

Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies

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