

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 03 / 03 / 2021

Cases reporting

- **19,979 confirmed cases** have been reported till date.
- **1210 new cases have been reported since last week**, and there are **2,567 active cases** in the country currently – **1,936 active cases** are in the greater **Male' region**.
- **ONE new death** was reported during the week and mortality rate 0.32% with 62 deaths.
- 527,850 samples have been tested till date. **Sample positivity rate** is currently at **4-5%**.
- **992 new recoveries** were reported during the week. 17,343 (**87.5%**) have recovered. **170 people are hospitalized** with moderate to severe disease, 3 persons in ICU and none on ventilator.
- There are currently **212 active cases** across **47 islands outside Male**.
- The cluster from **Seenu Atoll** currently report **42 active cases**.
- In **Gnaviyani Atoll** Fuvah Mulak, only **19 cases are active**. Random sampling has been done and **NO additional positives** identified.
- In tourist establishments and operational resorts, a total of **392 cases** have been reported from **77 resorts** across the country.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Maldives COVID-19 vaccination campaign is in full swing one month since initiation, having vaccinated over 117,115 to date.
- The HEOC, HPA and Maldives Red Crescent has initiated vaccination for undocumented migrants in the Maldives. Foreign workers will receive the vaccine free of cost, once they register with the MRC.
- An additional restrictive public health and social measure has been introduced by the HEOC prohibiting dine-in services in cafés and restaurants after 8pm, in addition to the ongoing vehicle restriction as well as curfew measures in Greater Male' area.
- HPA began the fifth round of mass public health inspection in the Greater Male' Region, following a new surge of COVID-19 cases in the capital. Cafes, restaurants, gyms, salons, markets, and other similar establishments are inspected during this round and will be closed for 24 hours upon violation.
- Maldives Airports Company has also launched an airport-wide vaccination campaign, which is scheduled to start in March 2021, in a bid to vaccinate all employees of airports across the country, as well as persons with airport access passes. With the anticipated increase of tourist arrivals, the safety of the airport staff has been prioritized.
- The Ministry of Education has announced that schools will resume but will be conducted via online classes for students from LKG to grade 8th standard classes. These measures are for students and schools in the Greater Male' region, as well as for islands reporting COVID-19 active cases.

WCO activities

- WCO also has facilitated several trainings and webinars for country teams including the MTAGI, AEFI and National Program.
- WCO has also been facilitating necessary training for vaccinators, cold chain handlers, health care workers, doctors and nurses etc.

- Actively monitoring the vaccination sites and is actively involved in the National Vaccine Steering group and operations group meetings.
- Supporting IPC Measures such as ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Efforts are underway to strengthen the AESI surveillance within the AEFI system on

WHO support provided to Member State

- Madam RD Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh during a virtual handover ceremony handed over cold chain, laboratory supplies and other essential items to strengthen Health System to Hon. Minister of Health Ahmed Naseem.
- Providing guidance to HEOC/HPA and TAG on WHO recommendations with the latest updates from IHR Committee meetings.
- Regular sharing of WHO guidelines and recommendations for informed and evidence-based decisions during response.
- Active participation in the Vaccine steering committee meetings.
- Coordinated a meeting between SEARO, HQ and relevant departments of MOH on strengthening ear and hearing care in the country.
- Finalization of Research Capacity Assessment for Maldives (the first country in the region to complete the assessment using the tool)