

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

**Country: MALDIVES**

**Date: 05 / 08 / 2020**

### Cases reporting

- **Over 83,115 samples tested in the country, 151 days since first case.**
- **4,293 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 19 deaths reported – 1077 new cases since last report.**
- **Outside of Greater Male' Region - 29 in cases in 8 inhabited islands of Maldives during the last week.**
- **2,693 people (60 %) have recovered. 1721 cases are active – more males affected than females.**
- **105 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 6 cases in ICU and 3 on ventilator.**
- **99.41% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians among the active cases than foreigners.**
- **1047 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives.**

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- **Maldives COVID-19 transmission continues to be focused in Male. 98.5 percent of the cases have been reported in the capital. Case number has been increasing since ease of lock down and during the week of Eid holidays 500 cases were reported in 3 days from 29-31 July 2020.**
- **The Ministry of Health/ HECC continues to review the situation and take corrective measures. Key actions implemented for current situation are as follows**
  - o **President Solih acknowledged the worsening situation following easement of restrictions and advised the public to follow precautionary measures and wear masks to avoid a second lockdown. Government Offices have been closed from 4 to 6 August as a measure to contain the spread. The Minister of Health stated that the Government has no plans to return to a second lockdown despite the increase in number of cases.**
  - o **The Rapid Response Team is operating actively to identify, trace and manage cases and contacts.**
  - o **It has been made mandatory to wear mask outdoors. Non-compliant people will be fined Rf1000.**
  - o **There will be curfew from 10 PM to 5 AM and all shops/marts needs to be closed by 930 PM.**
  - o **More than 4 people cannot be together at public places at any time.**
  - o **No sports activities, avoid congressional prayers**
  - o **School will remain closed**
  - o **All offices to operate max at 50% capacity, and to hold all meeting virtually not in persons.**
- **The Government of Maldives extended the State of Public Health Emergency until 7 August 2020.**
- **As at 16 July 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health efforts stood at MVR 1,078.3 million; a 3.4 % increase from the week before. In this review period 53.5 % of total health spending was committed-spending.**
- **Government in its aim to repatriate over 20,000 migrants has reported repatriation of over 4582 migrants thus far.**
- **Over 1745 tourists have arrived in the country since reopening of borders in July 15 2020.**

### WCO activities

- **Participation in a meeting with the Presidential taskforce to finalize National Action plan on Health Services Recovery.**
- **Continues to support the delivery of Essential Health Services in the country.**
- **Working with HEOC to restructure the country's COVID-19 response strategy.**
- **Working with the MoH to see how WHO can strengthen HR needs for contact tracing including trainings.**
- **Working with the HEOC to advise on best way forward regarding persons with substance abuse problems under isolation and quarantine for COVID19.**

### WHO support provided to Member State

- **Continues to provide technical support to the Health Emergency Coordination Committee and TAG**
- **Facilitated virtual participation of the Maldives in the WHO bi-regional APSED meeting**

- Arranged a TC between SEARO, IGMH, HPA and NRL-Thailand to facilitate COVID-19 samples' genotyping.

#### **Support requested from SEARO**

- Maintain pipeline supply of E -gene Kits and send 10,000 GeneXpert cartridges.

#### **Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies**

- Share details to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.