

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 09 / 09 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 122,148 samples tested in the country, 185 days since first case.
- 8,667 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 29 deaths (0.33%) reported. 863 new cases since last report.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - 91 active cases in 35 inhabited islands during the last week.
- 6,052 people (70%) have recovered. 2,580 cases are currently active.
- 142 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 8 cases in ICU and 3 on ventilator support.
- 99.41% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (62.95%) among the active cases.
- 1,118 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives and rest under home isolation.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- State of Public Health Emergency has been extended till 6th of October 2020.
- All tourists and short-term visitors travelling to Maldives on or after 10 September 2020 must present a negative PCR COVID-19 test report in English that was conducted with in a maximum of 72 hours prior to departure to Maldives.
- All cases in the atolls are linked to Male' region – with mostly quarantine release samples testing positive.
- Currently active transmission has been detected in Hoadedhdhoo island, GDh Atoll– with a total of 25 positive cases and over 40 contacts. RRT are responding to the community outbreak in coordination with the Island Task Force
- In the resorts – 67 active COVID-19 cases have been reported in 15 resorts – 48 staffs and 15 tourists.
- Maldives reported 5,177 tourist arrivals since reopening of borders in July 15th 2020.
- Education Ministry has announced that recommence of face to face classes in greater Male' area has been postponed until late September and will operate through virtual classes.
- As at 03 September 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,210.0 million; a 2.6% increase from the week before. In terms of week-on-week spending, the most noteworthy spending was the payment of Front-line Allowances worth MVR 20.1 million. Apart from this major spending, key front-line agencies such as MoH and IGMH primarily spent on operational services.
- To date, NDMA, MoH and IGMH account for 91.5% of all COVID-19 spending on health and social efforts.
<https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/EWcWjXU9FjykrBCMjX5KSbiVN7563nluwyqfKB6F.pdf>

WCO activities

- Actively participate at HECC meetings to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- Studying genotyping of SARS-CoV-2 virus circulating in Maldives with supported from WHO Collaborating Centre in Thailand.
- Handover of additional 11,000 additional SARS-CoV-2 GeneXpert cartridges and 23,000 total till date.
- Handed over medicines to National Drug Agency (NDA) as part of strengthening detoxification program at the rehabilitation center.
- Working with the MoH to see how WHO can strengthen HR needs for contact tracing including trainings.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Facilitated teleconference between Regional Office and Indra Gandhi Memorial Hospital Lab team to discuss interpretation of GeneXpert results for COVID-19 diagnosis.
- Continued support to HEOC on training journalists in reporting effectively during the pandemic.
- Briefed Ministry of Health and UN Partners virtually on COVAX facility and COVID-19 vaccines.
- Exploring and continuing efforts to mobilize resources for COVID-19 response in the Maldives.

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.