

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 1 / 12 / 2020

Cases reporting

- **Over 240,000 samples tested to date.** Daily testing rates have been increased during the last week to 1800 tests a day.
- **13,011 total confirmed cases and 46 deaths (0.35%) have been reported. 253 new cases reported since last week. 1090 cases are currently active in the country. Cases continue to be concentrated mostly to Greater Male' region. 772 of the active cases are currently reported from the Male' region, with 99% of all cases in the atolls having link to history travel from greater Male' area and quarantine.**
- **11,939 confirmed cases have recovered (91.76 %).**
- **A total of 95 persons are hospitalized, all admitted in facilities in the greater Male' region, with moderate disease with no cases in ICU or ventilator support.**
- 99.85% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (62.78%) among the active cases even in and outside of Greater Male' region.
- **283 people** are in **isolation** facilities across Maldives with more than **641** persons under home isolation
- Out of 1,019 active cases, 722 are in Male' Area, 22 in atolls, 60 in resorts, 13 in other tourist establishments (yacht/Safari), 151 in islands under development and 1 in an industrial island

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Discussions are underway at policy level on further easing out measures under guidance from TAG
- Realizing the possible influx of tourists over the peak season, measures needs to be made stringent in airport and all tourist establishments. A health team is to be placed at Airport as an additional support in addition to Tourism Help Desk. A clinician from TAG is directly assigned to deal with any health-related concerns that might come during the period
- The COVID19 dashboard and public communication strategy has been revised for more transparency
- Efforts are underway at HECC to further strengthen the inspection program with focused recommendations to encourage implementation of preventive measures
- The 3rd Meeting of the National Steering Committee for COVID19 vaccine introduction was held on 30th of November 2020. Subgroups meetings as part of the Vaccine Introduction Readiness and meetings are being held daily
- Since border reopening, a total of **67,564** tourists have arrived making the total up to **450,411**. The country has also received the **award for World's Leading Destination 2020**.
- As of 19 November 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at **MVR 1,320.6 million**; a 0.3% increase from the week before. In this review period 45.9% of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
- Maldives and China have held discussions on economic recovery and development cooperation. The discussions were held during a meeting between Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid and Chinese Ambassador to Maldives, Zhang Lizhong as well as Finance Minister Ibrahim Ameer, on 30th November 2020
<https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/TlrDy6YC3kVMGPO2CLKRN51m4dwIeiKU9hE6bXPF.pdf>

WCO activities

- Continuing support, technical assistance and high-level advocacy for COVID-19 response with HECC.
- Strategizing resource mobilization for COVID-19 and Essential health Services
- Supported commemoration of the World Antibiotic Awareness Week 2020
- Recruited staff to strengthen National Influenza Surveillance of the Health Protection Agency
- WHO Representative addressed in a social media event organized to mark the Hepatitis Day facilitated by Maldives Ambassador for Hepatitis
- Continuing facilitating support for COVID-19 vaccine introduction. Country submitted the Technical Assistance Request to WHO & UNICEF for the COVID-19 vaccine introduction
- Continuing support in Essential Health Services expansion

WHO support provided to Member State

- Facilitated country participation on High-Level Leadership Meeting on World AIDS Day, 1 December 2020
- Supporting preparedness for COVID-19 vaccine deployment and expanding cold chain system in preparation for COVID19 vaccine introduction