

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 11 / 08 / 2021

Cases reporting

- 78,578 confirmed cases; 820 new cases reported within the week; 2,562 active cases in the country.
- No additional deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate maintained at 0.29% with 222 deaths.
- 713 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 75,778 persons that is 96% have recovered.
- Over 1.3 million samples have been tested; 5,301 samples tested in the last 24 hours – 110 new cases. Sample positivity rate has been maintained at 2% since the last week.
- 19 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with only 02 persons in critical care.
- Outside of the GMR in the atolls, there are 924 active cases (870 locals and 54 foreigners) across 41 inhabited islands outside GMR. The number of islands under monitoring status is reduced to 14. Several islands report evolving clusters of more than 50 active cases each.
- The highest number reported in the atolls is from Raa Atoll, island of Dhuvaafaru with 157 active cases, and island under monitoring since 25th May 2021.
- In Shaviyani atoll island of Foakaidhoo, the case numbers have decreased to 19 active cases, but 96 active cases are reported from neighboring Feevah island. In the isolated island of Kaashidhoo in Kaafu atoll, numbers have come down to 103 active cases.
- In Gnaviyani Atoll island of Fuvah Mulak, there are 111 active cases, with the city being placed under monitoring status once again.
- The southern-most Addu city is reporting over 60 cases in 4 islands in the atoll – after a family under quarantine and their contacts have been identified.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives total vaccinated coverage now stands at 60.97% for first dose and 52.69% as second dose as of TOTAL population (545,847).
- The US Government has donated 128,700 doses of Pfizer vaccine to the Maldives through the COVAX facility, received by H.E Minister of Health on 9th August 2021.
- Ministry of Health has extended the State of Public Health Emergency in the Maldives again, until September 1, 2021.
- H.E President Solih has reopened government institutions starting from 8th August 2021, under strict HPA guidelines.
- Maldives Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (MTAGI) has decided to administer the Pfizer vaccine to school children from 12-18 years of age starting from August 2021. With the support from Ministry of Education, a special vaccination drive has been planned.
- HPA has released a new guideline to incentivize vaccination, to be enacted from 1st September 2021.
- The Director General Public Health in a bid to encourage vaccination has announced that from September 1st onwards, unvaccinated people will not be allowed to dine in cafes and restaurants, as well as use public transport systems. They are barred from using gyms and salons. Restrictions are to be imposed to unvaccinated office employees and other service providers as well. Furthermore, unvaccinated people are to be banned from domestic air travel.

- The new academic year of 2021-2022 has started from 10th August 2021, reopened for physical classes after months of online classes following coronavirus safety measures. Ministry of Education has called upon all school officials and staff to get vaccinated as persons not vaccinated will be banned from entering schools.
- Maldives Immigration has revealed all of its border officers have completed the full dosage of the COVID-19 vaccines.

WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group and UN Crisis Management Team.
- Facilitating revision of Emergency Use Listing (EUL) of AstraZeneca and Pfizer vaccine for MFDA
- Coordinated sending of COVID-19 samples to IGIB New Delhi for fourth round of genomic sequencing.
- Participation in the WHO 10th Meeting of the SEARHEF Working Group (Virtual), 11 August 2021.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Continued support to Ministry of Health and HEOC to repair ambulances enabling movement of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs), paramedics and response activities;
- Continued technical support on the District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) consultancy.
- Technical support to develop training video for 'Jamaa'aiytherin' (funeral directors) on funeral and burial practices for COVID-19 patients;
- Supporting the immunization training for all atoll and island doctors and nurses on Pfizer vaccination rollout and orientation of teachers and parents on the topic.