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

Country: MALDIVES  
Date: 12 / 08 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 90,704 samples tested in the country, 158 days since first case.
- 5,223 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 21 deaths reported – 930 new cases since last report.
- Outside of Greater Male’ Region - 30 in cases in 12 inhabited islands of Maldives during the last week.
- 2,831 people (54.90 %) have recovered. 2354 cases are active – more males affected than females (ages 21-40 mostly).
- 148 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 8 cases in ICU and 1 on ventilator.
- 99.41% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians among the active cases than foreigners.
- 1507 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- More cases continue to be reported in Male’ City with more restrictions being put on the lockdown ease phase 3 measures due to increase in number of cases; the HE Minister of Health stated that the Government has no plans to return to a second lockdown despite the increase in number of cases.
- The HE Minister of Health announced the extension of State of Public Health Emergency till 6th of September 2020.
- The government offices have reopened since the 9th of August to be operating strictly under HPA guidelines – and to be operational under 50% of staff at work place at a time.
- Cases of COVID19 have been reported in 9 resorts – 6 tourists and 10 staffs total – with all asymptomatic arrivals in to the country since border reopening.
- Over 5000 migrants have been repatriated back to their homes in the governments aim to repatriate over 20,000 persons this year.
- As at 06 August 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health efforts stood at MVR 1,114.1 million; a 1.4% increase from the week before. In this review period 53.9 % of total health spending was committed-spending. [https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/UVx8AgYmaFh3WINyu96JT3X7Yd82p9miB5xJ8dQv.pdf]

WCO activities

- Continued active participation in meetings 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.
- Daily HECC meetings attended in the HEOC to strategize the country’s COVID-19 response strategy.
- Working with the MoH to see how WHO can strengthen HR needs for contact tracing including trainings.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Continues to provide technical support to the Health Emergency Coordination Committee and Technical Advisory Group TAG at HEOC.
- Supported Risk Communication strengthening at HEOC by supporting printing of awareness posters.
- Arranged a second 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.