

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 13 / 10 / 2021

### Cases reporting

- 85,732 confirmed cases; 534 new cases reported within the week; 1,192 active cases in the country (decreased since last report).
- THREE new deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate currently at 0.28% with 235 deaths.
- 718 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 85,732 persons that is 98% have recovered.
- 3,898 samples tested in the last 24hours – 110 new cases reported (75 cases outside of the GMR and 26 in GMR). Sample positivity rate is at 2% overall.
- The country has maintained low hospitalizations with currently only 13 persons hospitalized with moderate to severe disease.
- Outside of the GMR in the atolls, as of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021, there are 643 active cases across 40 inhabited islands. There are currently only 15 islands under monitoring status.
- The highest number outside of GMR continues to be from the Southernmost atoll of Addu City, with over 196 active cases across 4 districts - Maradhoo island reporting 15 active cases, MaradhooFeydhoo island with 29 active cases, Hithadhoo island with 97 cases and Feydhoo island with 53 cases.
- Addu atoll continues to be under monitoring with PHSM implemented and extended for an additional week. Gaafu Alif atoll continues to be under monitoring, after 4 islands reported active cases with links to travel across the atoll. There are total 128 active cases across the 4 islands.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- As on 10th October 2021, a total of 393,133 persons have been vaccinated with the first dose and 346,781 with the second dose. The coverage for Maldives based on total population stands at 72% for first dose and 63.53% for second dose.
- Maldives has started third dose (booster dose) of COVID-19 vaccination from 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021, for specific high-risk groups those who have completed 6 months since their 2nd dose. Irrespective of vaccine used for primary doses, Pfizer vaccine will be given for third dose vaccination. 331 persons have received the dose as of 10th October 2021.
- The United Kingdom has announced that they will be accepting the three COVID-19 vaccines used in the Maldives and will be allowing those who received the vaccines to travel to the UK without quarantine, with the change coming into effect from 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.
- Latest statistics publicized by the Ministry of Finance reveal that the total Covid-19 expenditure related to the health and social sectors sat at MVR 2,121.9 million by the end of September, whereas the total economic response expenditure reached MVR 1,773.4 million by then, which remains unchanged for weeks.

### 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.
- Ongoing technical guidance and support to establish Genomic Sequencing in Maldives.
- Supporting sending of COVID-19 specimens abroad to WHO-CC lab for 11<sup>th</sup> round of genomic sequencing.

## WHO support provided to Member State

- Supporting the consultants visit to Maldives for discussion on DHIS piloting with MoH.
- Participated in SEARO MR Elimination international desk review briefing meeting on 1st October 2021.
- Debriefing meeting on field monitoring visits was held with State Minister of Health on COVID-19 vaccination.
- Continued technical support in supportive supervision & monitoring of vaccination sessions. trainings and orientations, AEFI investigation and causality assessments, etc.

## Continuing Challenges

- No designated Public Health Laboratory or National health laboratory.
- Need for continued capacity strengthening on critical care for doctors in islands and atolls.
- Need for supply and procurement management system for MoH.