

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 14 / 07 / 2021

Cases reporting

- 75,332 confirmed cases; 2,537 active cases in the country.
- 01 death was reported during the week and mortality rate maintained at 0.29% with 214 deaths.
- 1,355 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 72,567 persons that is 96% have recovered.
- Over 1,010,712 samples have been tested; 6,750 samples tested in the last 24hours – 170 new cases.
- Sample positivity rate has declined to 1% for last 4 days. Active surveillance positivity at 0.4%.
- 17 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with only 01 person in critical care receiving ventilator care.
- Cases in atolls have reduced, with currently only 940 active cases across 57 inhabited islands outside GMR. 21 islands are currently under monitoring status.
- The cluster from Gaaf Dhaalu atoll Thinadhoo island reports 180 active cases; Raa Atoll Dhuvaafaru island with 173 active cases; and Alif Alifu Thoddoo island reduced to 69 active cases.
- In Haa Dhaalu Dhidhdhoo island with 118 active cases this week, and single digit cases as contacts reported from 6 nearby islands.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives overall vaccine coverage now stands at 55.87% for first dose and 35.15% as second dose as of TOTAL population.
- With the decline in case numbers in the GMR, the government has further eased out the restrictive measures. Curfew has been lifted from the GMR, and travel between islands reopened.
- The eases announced last week allows inter-island travel without quarantining for fully vaccinated individuals that have passed the 14 day observatory period, if they have a negative PCR test.
- HPA banned holding large gatherings or events to celebrate the holidays, as well as events inviting residents from other islands, and sports events but allowed eases for public gatherings allowed of less than 30 people. Cafe's and restaurants resumed dine-in services from July 8.
- The HPA also has revised guidelines such that children below 18 years of age can travel without quarantine. Quarantine period for inbound international travelers to Maldives including Work permit holders has been reduced to 7 days.
- Resort workers who have completed both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine can travel back to their islands without having to quarantine (if the island and resort is not under monitoring). According to the latest statistics publicized by the Ministry of Tourism, 0.24 percent of tourists who had visited Maldives between January 1 – June 23 2021 had tested positive for Covid-19.
- Government assists 19 families to move back to their home islands under the 'Ahulu' Program which was initiated to help migrant families from islands residing in Male', who are struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to move back to their native islands
- Ministry of Finance has revealed it has disbursed USD 10.8 million as COVID-19 frontline allowance. The latest data from the finance ministry shows USD 10.8 million was disbursed to 12,479 frontline workers as of July 11.

WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group - DHIS2 Information session for UN staff provided.
- IPC Measures: ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Providing support in development of National Occupational Safety and Health policy
- Providing and facilitating support to the ongoing Water and Sanitation Master Plan development consultancy

WHO support provided to Member State

- Meeting between Her Excellency Minister of Environment and the WHO Representative to discuss areas of cooperation especially in the area of waste management, water and sanitation.
- Coordinating and facilitating dialogue exchange with COVAX facility as and when needed.
- Technical consultancy to develop National Mental Health Strategic Plan
- Support local consultancy to develop Expatriate recruitment portal