

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 14 / 10 / 2020

### Cases reporting

- **Over 158,000 samples tested to date**, with daily 1200 – 1400 tests run per day – **a slight decrease** in samples overall for the week and a flu positivity rate at 4% – 218 days since first case in the country.
- **9,783 people (89.4%) have recovered. 1,118 cases are currently active across the country.**
- **10,943 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 and one additional death reported in the week, total deaths have come up to **35 deaths (0.32%)** reported. **376 new cases since last week - cases continue to show decline in the last 7 days.**
- **74 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 4 cases in ICU and no one on ventilator support.**
- **99.82% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (63.87%) among the active cases.**
- **369 people** are in **isolation** facilities across Maldives and rest 103 persons under home isolation with 596 persons under home Quarantine.
- Cases continue to be seen mostly from Greater Male' region. 967 active cases are currently reported from the Male' region, with 100% of all cases in the atolls having link to history travel from greater Male' area.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - **151 active cases in 21 inhabited islands** during the last week – 88 locals and 63 expats.
- In the north of the country, Haa Dhaalu Atoll Kulhudhuffushi island has reported 7 active cases with the island – linked to a new emerging cluster of Maldives Police Services – with single cases links in 3 different islands across the country.
- In the central region, in Laamu atoll there are currently 58 active cases – 23 additional cases identified during the week, belonging to a single identified cluster with history of travel.
- In the South, no additional cases have been reported in addition to the 55 imported cases.
- The number seems higher this week due to the 2 big clusters in the atolls – which if we remove, the numbers in atolls are only 38 active cases.
- In the resorts – currently there are **31 active** COVID-19 cases across **20 resorts** – 19 staffs and 12 tourists. This includes staff from non-operational resorts as well.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Overall, confirmed cases continue to be found mostly among contacts of active cases, from flu clinics and through active surveillance. Flu Clinic positivity rate is also declining and other indicators for monitoring of restrictions show positive changes.
- In Hulhumale Fiyavathi Children's Shelter, 23 cases are currently active (11 children, 11 care workers and 1 senior staff). All cases have been isolated separately as needed with the support of Ministry of Gender. During the weekend, 2 positive cases were reported from Villingili Children's Shelter – with 89 contacts identified and samples collected and no additional positives reported during this time.
- The country in preparation to open up local guesthouse tourism in the country on 15<sup>th</sup> of October has updated and released the Public Health Interventions to prevent COVID-19 transmission in the Tourism Sector – in consultation with WHO and Technical Advisory Group at HEOC.
- The Ministry of Education has announced that schools across the greater Malé region are to resume physical classes for students from grades seven and eight – in addition to the higher grades 9-12<sup>th</sup>, under the instructions and guidelines set by the Health Protection Agency (HPA).
- The Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with Allied Insurance Company of Maldives has launched the Maldives Covid-19 Insurance Plan with the special travel insurance packages for medical procedures for tourists.
- A new guideline has been released by HEOC on Antigen Test for COVID-19 diagnosis in the country, in consultation with the WHO maldives.  
<https://covid19.health.gov.mv/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FINAL-Ag-RDT-testing-guideline- -English-07.10.2020.pdf>

- As of 08 October 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,271.5 million; a 1.3 % decrease from the week before. This is due to a decrease in the consumed budget of MoH following a cancellation of a purchase order worth MVR 20.2 million.
- In this review period 46.6 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
- <https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/IWxMk2ebO1lwpYjtn81qdfSuu0aCajTyY8cfkfXC.pdf>

### WCO activities

- Actively participate at daily HECC meetings to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- WHO working with HPA and MTAG-Immunization to develop and finalize the Routine Immunization training to be used on a digital platform.
- Conducted exercise with the TAG and MoH to identify research priority areas to support COVID-19 response in region.
- WCO hosted the high-level briefing meeting for relevant ministries and partners for introduction of the VIRAT Tool for COVID-19 Vaccine introduction.
- Supported recruitment of additional staff to strengthen HECC response.
- Regularly sharing information and advice with UN partner and other stakeholders.

### WHO support provided to Member State

- Working with SEARO team to mobilize 15,000 PCR test kits for COVID-19 diagnosis on an urgent basis.
- Coordinated with HPA to complete a Vaccine Introduction Readiness Assessment Tool VIRAT for the country to introduce COVID-19 vaccine in Maldives.
- Handed over disinfectants, PPEs and handwashing stations to Ministry of Education.