

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 19 / 08 / 2020

### Cases reporting

- Over 97,211 samples tested in the country, 164 days since first case.
- 5,909 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 23 deaths reported (0.39%) – 686 new cases since last report.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - 33 active cases in 15 inhabited islands of Maldives during the last week.
- 3,488 people (58.98 %) have recovered. 2,389 cases are active.
- 146 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 7 cases in ICU and 3 on ventilator.
- 99.41% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians among the active cases than foreigners.
- 1518 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The State Trading Organization (STO) supported the installation of medical equipment in the COVID-19 treatment facilities developed in 5 regions across the country.
- The HEOC and the Health Protection Agency (HPA) has temporarily barred staff and passengers from safari boats from disembarking on inhabited islands in a bid to control the spread of COVID19 in atolls and islands.
- The Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services stated that a total of 253 individuals were provided shelter by the State during the Male' City lockdown due to impacts of COVID-19 such as eviction, financial difficulties and unemployment.
- The Ministry of Education stated that the second term of the academic year will commence in January 2021, due to the evolving nature of COVID-19 in the Maldives.
- Maldives has welcomed over 5,000 tourists since reopening of borders in July 15<sup>th</sup> – with all asymptomatic arrivals reported.
- In the resorts – 13 cases have been reported in 9 resorts – 13 staffs and 5 tourists.
- Flu consultations have been reported to be increased in the atolls – with more Maldivians seeking consultations than expats – 25% of total flu consultations are COVID-19 positive.
- 200 additional Bangladeshis have been repatriated back to their country last week – bringing the number of exceeding 5000 total repatriations.
- 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

- Daily HECC meetings attended in the HEOC to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- Provided technical input to finalize National Action plan on Health Services Recovery.
- Support the delivery of Essential Health Services in the country.
- 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 at HEOC.
- Supported Risk Communication strengthening at HEOC by supporting printing of awareness posters.
- Participated in a Teleconference between Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and WHO to provide information on COVID19 vaccine and CORVAX facility.

### 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.