

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 02 / 06 / 2021

Cases reporting

- **65,164 confirmed cases** have been reported till date.
- There are **24,035 active cases** in the country, highest ever active cases to date – more than **15,000** active cases are in the greater **Male' region**.
- **Twenty five additional deaths** were reported during the week and mortality rate 0.25% with 169 **deaths**. More deaths are reported among persons above the age of 55, with mostly only a single dose, or no dose of any vaccination.
- Over 850,113 samples have been tested till date. **Sample positivity rate** is currently at **24% in greater Male' region - decreased from the week before. Sample positivity in outside of GMR is 10%.**
- Cases continue to be seen more among **contacts** of positives and from departure samples from tourists and travelers. More positives are being reported from Clinical samples this week. Most affected age groups this week is 18-39 years of age. Both males and females are affected similarly. More positives under the age of 18 are being reported, currently 710 active cases between the age of 10 and 18 years.
- **6,792 new recoveries** were reported during the week. 40,951 (60%) have recovered. **208 people are hospitalized** with moderate to severe disease. Most common comorbidity among admitted cases are Hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia.
- Cases in atolls are increasing with currently over 4,267 **active** cases across **120 inhabited islands outside Male, the highest number outside of Male' region**. The majority of cases were identified as contacts of positives in addition to post quarantine upon testing.
- Only 05 islands report more than 200 cases – highest number from Kaafu Himmafushi island with 334 active cases. The island is a local tourism island which houses a prison as well as a rehabilitation facility. Maldives Correctional Service has reported that 122 random samples were taken from among the inmates at the jail Himmafushi prison due to surge of cases in the island, and 94 samples tested positive for COVID-19. High risk inmates have been identified and placed under house arrest for isolation.
- Alif Dhaal Atoll Maamingili island reports 206 active cases, with links to 15 nearby islands reporting a total of 307 active cases. Lhaviyani atoll reports cases from 4 inhabited islands linked to the cluster from nearby fishfactory island in March 2021, reporting 472 active cases, and 254 from Gnaviyani atoll Fuvah Mulak and 179 active cases in Addu city.
- In tourist establishments and operational resorts, there are currently only **555 active** cases across 99 resorts. Cases are seen more among staffs more than tourists for the week.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- As of 31st May, a total of A total of 310,519 has been vaccinated with the first dose and 167,753 with the second dose. These include, 228, 653 (covishield first dose), 119,350 (covishield second dose), 78,652 (sinopharm 1st dose), 47,137 (sinopharm second dose), Pfizer 2905 (first dose) and 1270 (Pfizer second dose).
- The coverage for Maldives based on total population stands at 54.63% for first dose and 29.5% for second dose. Coverage based on eligible population is 70.61% and 38.14% respectively.
- With the ongoing surge of cases in atolls, Health Protection Agency (HPA) has stated that curfews will be imposed on all islands which is under HPA's monitoring status from 9:00 pm until 04:00 am in all islands

where the agency's monitoring mechanisms have been activated. A vehicle ban will be in effect at this time, and the public will not be allowed outside.

- Closure of all offices (including private), restaurants only open for take away and delivery, closure of salons, gyms, and all schools and colleges to have classes online only have been extended including suspension of congregational prayers. Travel between islands is also allowed only with a permit and with 14 days mandatory quarantine till 8th June 2021.
- Statistics from the HPA showed mainly individuals between 18 and 49 tested positive for COVID-19 in this calendar year, adding 40% of them had not taken a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine, urging everyone to vaccinate.
- The HEOC in partnership with Maldives Police Services has revealed that many people do not adhere to curfew and are being fined for not wearing mask as well as for not in compliance with the restrictive measures. Business are fined MVR 5,000 if not in compliance.
- Ministry of Finance has disbursed USD 9.6 million as COVID-19 front-line allowance. The latest data from the finance ministry shows the USD 9.6 million was disbursed to 11,625 front-line workers as of May 24.

WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Providing guidance to HEOC/HPA and TAG on WHO recommendations with the latest updates on COVID-19
- Facilitated Maldives participation in WHO Arbovirus survey.
- Ensure timely reporting of Maldives data on Global TB platform.
- IPC Measures: such as ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Ongoing support for AEFI casualties assessments.
- Support for ongoing trainings for HCWs on Donning and Doffing of PPEs in COVID-19 facilities.

WHO support provided to Member State

- WHO continues to monitor the vaccination sites and is actively involved in deliberations of the National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group's.
- Wolbachia introduction briefing meeting to partners and interested parties and technical brainstorming session held among the working groups;
- Support in procurement of portable X-ray machine for National TB Program to strengthen TB Screening in closed spaces.
- Strengthening the capacity at HEOC with operational and logistic support.