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

Country: MALDIVES                      Date: 20 / 05 / 2020

Cases reporting

• 1106 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 04 deaths reported – 244 new cases since last report.
• 80 people have recovered from COVID19 and 13 are hospitalized for monitoring, 2 in ICU.
• 1509 People are in Quarantine and 982 in isolation facilities across Maldives.
• 15602 samples have been tested.

Developments/activities carried out by Member State

• The Director-General of Public Health has extended the lockdown period for the Greater Male’ Region until 28 May 2020 including suspension of congregational prayers.
• HPA in consultation with Male’ City council have released a new SOP on amended regulations regarding persons seeking to leave Male’ city to travel to their own islands during lockdown.
• Active case surveillance and random sampling initiated in closed settings such as Prisons, Drug Rehab centers, Old age homes.
• The Health Protection Agency conducted a mobile medical operation for migrant workers residing in living quarters under Maldives Police Service surveillance where over 80 expats were screened.
• Routine immunization services have been started at Male’ on an appointments basis.
• The Maldives Transport and Contracting Company (MTCC) announced special ferries to help with transportation of goods and other logistics needed for islands and atolls.
• The Ministry of Economic Development has published regulations under which allowances will be issued to individuals whose livelihoods have been affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
• The Ministry of Finance will be releasing weekly reports on total government expenditures.
• A total of 234 Maldivian nationals from 16 cities in India returned to the Maldives on two Maldivian Airways repatriation flights.
• A total of 148 Thai nationals were repatriated onboard a chartered Maldivian Airlines flight by the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo and the Royal Thai Consulate in the Maldives.
• A total of 284 Sri Lankan nationals, 14 Japanese nationals and 2 South Korean nationals and 43 Pakistani nationals were repatriated via Sri Lankan Airlines special flights on 19th and 15th May respectively.

WCO activities

• 6,000 reactions for COVID19 diagnostics were handed over to MOH thru virtual handover.
• Coordinating with UNDP to mobilize SARS nCoV GeneXpert Cartridges.
• Finalization of proposals for European Union and British High Commission.
• Finalizing CPRP and leading UNCT response to COVID-19.
• Support in development of 7 videos for Maldives Ekugai Emmen Solidarity Campaign for COVID19.

WHO support provided to Member State

• Organizing WebEx Refresher PCR Training for Laboratory staff from IGMH.
• Facilitated interaction between Regional Office experts, TAG and National Programme to better use local data for action.
• Assist the Presidential High-Level Task force in development of strategic plan in line with guidelines on adjusting Public Health and Social measures.
- Supporting the plan for continuity of essential health services including immunization, dengue control, elderly care and people with Special Needs
- Supporting PCR-lab expansion in 2 Atolls, operationalization of medical isolation facility in Hulhumale and ICU in 2 regional hospitals

**Support requested from SEARO**

- Support to send 100 E-gene Kits urgently
- Depute a lab expert for 3 months

**Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies**

- Share details to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.