

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 20 / 10 / 2021

Cases reporting

- 86,324 confirmed cases; 592 new cases reported within the week; 1,279 active cases in the country (increased since last report).
- FOUR new deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate currently at 0.27% with 239 deaths.
- 501 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 84,793 persons that is 98% have recovered.
- 3,636 samples tested in the last 24 hours – 113 new cases reported (77 cases outside of the GMR and 36 in GMR). Sample positivity rate is at 3% overall.
- The country has maintained low hospitalizations with currently only 17 persons hospitalized with moderate to severe disease.
- Highest number outside of the GMR is reported from Addu City, with 232 active cases across 5 districts. 85 cases are reported from GA atoll.
- Addu City continues to be under monitoring. As on 20th October, 15 islands are under monitoring. Sh. Feevah, B. Thulhaadhoo and B. Kudarikilu have been put under monitoring over the week due to increase in cases

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- As on 17th October 2021, a total of 393,718 persons have been vaccinated with the first dose and 351,570 with the second dose. The coverage for Maldives based on total population stands at 72.12% for first dose and 64.4% for second dose.
- Maldives has started third dose (booster dose) of COVID-19 vaccination from 3rd October 2021, for specific high-risk groups those who have completed 6 months since their 2nd dose. Irrespective of vaccine used for primary doses, Pfizer vaccine will be given for third dose vaccination.
- As on 20th October, 151 islands have achieved more than 90% vaccination with 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccination among resident population aged above 12 years age.

WCO activities

- Active participation in the National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group and UN Crisis Management Team.
- Ongoing technical guidance and support to establish Genomic Sequencing in Maldives.
- Supporting sending of COVID-19 specimens abroad to WHO-CC lab for 11th round of genomic sequencing.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Supporting the consultants visit to Maldives for discussion on DHIS piloting with MoH.
- Participated in Measles-Rubella (MR) Elimination international desk review for Maldives was held on 12th October 2021 participated by MoH, MTAGI, WHO and UNICEF. Maldives was appreciated for efforts in sustaining eliminations status of both Measles and Rubella amidst COVID-19 pandemic
- Continued technical support in supportive supervision & monitoring of vaccination sessions. trainings and orientations, AEFI investigation and causality assessments, etc.

Continuing Challenges

- No designated Public Health Laboratory or National health laboratory.
- Need for continued capacity strengthening on critical care for doctors in islands and atolls.
- Need for supply and procurement management system for MoH.