

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

**Country: MALDIVES**

**Date: 21 / 07 / 2021**

### Cases reporting

- 76,188 confirmed cases; 2,619 active cases in the country.
- 03 death was reported during the week and mortality rate maintained at 0.28% with 217 deaths.
- 773 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 73,340 persons that is 96% have recovered.
- Over 1,109,241 samples have been tested; 4,581 samples tested in the last 24hours – 169 new cases. Sample positivity rate is currently at 2-3%.
- 08 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with only 02 person in critical care.
- Cases in atolls have reduced further, with currently only 760 active cases across 48 inhabited islands outside GMR. 15 islands are currently under monitoring status.
- The cluster from Gaaf Dhaalu atoll Thinadhoo island reports 85 active cases; Raa Atoll Dhuvaafaru island with 157 active cases; and Alif Alifu Thoddoo island reduced to 22 active cases.
- New emerging cluster is reported from Shaviyani Atoll in the island of Foakaidhoo, with 70 active cases.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives overall vaccine coverage now stands at 56.44% for first dose and 45.64% as second dose as of TOTAL population.
- HEOC has also revealed that more than 50% of the eligible population has been fully vaccinated in the Maldives (both doses completed)
- The vaccination program has been in full swing with the arrival of new stock of Astrazeneca vaccines, with priority given to those who received first dose in April 2021.
- With the decline in case numbers in the GMR, the government has further eased out the restrictive measures on international travel – Tourists traveling from South Asia will be issued on-arrival tourist visa and allowed to stay in Tourist Resorts effective from 15th July 2021, and guesthouse tourism to resume from 30<sup>th</sup> July onwards.
- Effective 8th July 2021, individuals who have completed two doses of a Covid-19 vaccine 2 weeks prior to travel date, may be exempted from the mandatory travel quarantine (within Maldives) given that a Negative PCR test (taken 72 hours prior to travel) is presented. However, approval should be obtained through “HAALUBELUN PORTAL” and it shall be ensured that none of the respective islands/tourist establishments are under monitoring status before travel.
- Mandatory quarantine period for Work Permit Holders shall be reduced to a period of 7 days, given that they present a Negative PCR test taken 96 hours prior to departure AND have completed 2 doses of a WHO recognized Covid-19 vaccine 2 weeks prior to the travel date. Individuals who do not fulfill this requirement shall complete 14 (fourteen) days of quarantine.
- Maldives Correctional Service (MCS) in coordination with HEOC has allowed families of inmates to visit prison if they have completed two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, after having stopped the service due to COVID-19.
- As of 08 July 2021, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1815.9 million; a 0.6% increase from the week before. In this review period, 39.9 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.

## WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group - DHIS2 Information session for UN staff provided.
- IPC Measures: ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Providing WHO inputs and support to establish vaccine cold storage and safe vaccine handling.
- Following up on AFP vaccine related cases.

## WHO support provided to Member State

- Providing support to MoH for active participation in WHO HLP meeting.
- Meeting with Ministry of Education to support developing School Health Emergency Plans.
- Supporting HEOC Risk comms team to develop short videos on COVID-19 awareness and safety while traveling to islands
- Providing and facilitating support to the development of Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Safety Plan and guidelines through International consultant firm LCI.
- Technical support to develop national guidelines on cervical and breast cancer screening.