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

Country: MALDIVES                      Date: 22 / 07 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 68,696 samples tested in the country, 137 days since first case.
- 3,044 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 15 deaths reported – 282 new cases since last report.
- During the week, 11 cases have been reported outside of Male’ City in 6 inhabited islands – 3 in Raa Dhooafaru island, 2 in AA Thoddoo island, 1 in Kaafu Himmafushi island and 2 cases in Haa Dhaal atoll Nolhivaran island.
- 2 new cases have been reported from Soneva Fushi Island Resort and Soneva Jani Island Resort in Baa Atoll.
- 2,397 people (78%) have recovered. 617 cases are active. 53 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with no cases in ICU.
- 99.28% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians among the active cases than foreigners.
- 384 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Maldives has opened up its borders since 15th July 2020. Maldives Immigration declared that all travelers must submit a self-declarative health declaration 24 hours prior to their travel - via Immigrations online portal ‘Imuga’ at imuga.immigration.gov.mv
- The government has released a set of FAQ’s and guidelines for persons who wish to visit Maldives under the new Normal which can be found at “New Normal: FAQs for visiting the Maldives” can be found on: https://covid19.health.gov.mv/new-normal-faq-for-visiting-the-maldives/
- As of 09 July 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health efforts stood at MVR 1,042.9 million; a 1.4 % increase from the week before. In this review period 53.1 % of total health spending was committed-spending. The weekly government COVID-19 expenditure report is available https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/5Uc2RI7zyTgxwg9N76C9szeLOTAFdqhUtpt4zxgm.pdf
- Over 1,000 Bangladeshi undocumented immigrants have been repatriated over the past two weeks

WCO activities

- Published Maldives Case study in the WHO’s action at countries June 2020 bulletin.
- Continues to support the delivery of Essential Health Services in the country.
- Initiating implementation of the MPTF to establish COVID-19 treatment Center at Home for People with Special Needs, Guraidhoo Island, Kaaafu Atoll and related training.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Continues to provide technical support to the Health Emergency Coordination Committee and TAG
- Facilitated sharing to COVAX Consortium the Expression of Interest of the Government to obtain COVID-19 vaccine when available and MOH participation in the COVAX country consultation.
- Handed over 18 Oxygen concentrators and 10 Biosafety cabinets to the Ministry of Health.
- Technical support to ‘Back to School Campaign’ including development of videos for disinfection.

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.