

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

**Country: MALDIVES**

**Date: 23 / 06 / 2021**

### Cases reporting

- 72,149 confirmed cases; there are 4,784 active cases in the country, much reduced from last week; 1,749 active in the Greater Male' region.
- 08 additional deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate 0.27% with 206 deaths. 4,615 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 67,148 persons that is 93% have recovered.
- Over 950,000 samples have been tested till date; 5,296 samples tested in the last 24hours. Sample positivity rate is reduced to 5-6%.
- 44 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with 08 persons in critical care, 06 receiving ventilator care.
- Cases in atolls have reduced, with currently over 1,703 active cases across 87 inhabited islands outside GMR. The majority of cases were identified as contacts of positives in addition to upon post quarantine testing. 56 islands are currently under monitoring status.
- Outside of GMR, some of the bigger clusters in the atolls include Raa atoll Alifushi with 113 active cases and 55 cases with link to Alifushi from 3 neighboring islands. Kaafu atoll Himmafushi Island and Dhiffushi island also report more than 100 active cases.
- In Gaaf Dhaalu atoll in island of Thinadhoo reports 228 active cases, the highest number outside of GMR. In Fuvah Mulak City and Addu City, case numbers have reduced to below 100 cases.
- In resorts, there are 321 active cases across 71 resorts, cases more among staff than tourists for the week.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives overall vaccine coverage now stands at 55.47% for first dose and 32.26% as second dose as of TOTAL population. 61% of population in GMR has received 1<sup>st</sup> dose of vaccine and the demand for second dose is high in the country.
- With active case numbers in decreased in GMR, the government has further eased out the restrictive measures - curfew hours from 4am-6pm. Gyms can reopen to serve on appointment basis with no group activities allowed. Takeaway and delivery hours in the city have also been extended till 6pm. Travel between islands which are not under monitoring status with permission from HPA and the island councils has been reopened.
- The office of the president announced government offices closure has been extended till 29<sup>th</sup> June. Schools also remained closed until further notice.
- Random sample collection in the GMR has increased, with daily 400-700 samples being collected to see the extent of transmission.
- A special vaccination drive is planned for detainees in prisons across the country in partnership with Maldives Police Services and HEOC.
- Minister of Finance Ibrahim Ameer has revealed the Maldives is expected to lose USD 2.3 billion in income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Over MVR 421 million has been disbursed as income support for those whose employment status had changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The government has been issuing an income support

allowance of MVR 5,000 per month under its Economic Relief Package for those whose employment was affected due to the COVID-19.

### 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
- Leading the UN country teams to update the CPRP document and discussions at the health and WASH group.
- IPC Measures: such as ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Supporting procurement request from Ministry of health and Ministry of Gender for PPEs.

### WHO support provided to Member State

- Facilitated a clinical guidance call between Maldives TAG and CMAT and WHO experts at SEARO and HQ.
- Received support from SEARO for a teleconference between Maldives Lab experts and SEARO Experts to discuss COVID-19 inconclusive test results and other laboratory discussions.
- Hiring of 25 field workers for HEOC to support their HR needs; further strengthening the capacity at EOC.
- Participation in discussions with SEARO and MoH to establish genomic sequencing capacity in Maldives.