

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 23 / 09 / 2020

### Cases reporting

- **Over 141,184 samples tested, one of the highest rates of COVID-19 testing per 1000 population globally.**
- **9,770 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 and **34 deaths (0.35%)** reported. **527 new cases since last.**
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - **47 active cases in 22 inhabited islands** during the last week – 34 locals and 14 expats.
- **8390 people (85.88%) have recovered. 1,340 cases are currently active.**
- **93 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 8 cases in ICU and 1 on ventilator support.**
- **99.80% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (63.02%) among the active cases.**
- **692 people** are in **isolation** facilities across Maldives and rest under home isolation.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The HEOC announced that the current epidemic monitoring score of Maldives is at seven, indicating a more stable situation compared to the month of August when the number rose to an alarming nine – doubling time for this week for 76 days.
- Under the guidance of HE Vice President and Acting Minister of Health, discussions are ongoing to further expand and strengthen laboratory and testing capacities – especially in lieu of more tourist's arrival anticipated in the coming weeks.
- Current testing capacity in greater Male' region alone is at **2650** samples every 24hrs.
- In the island outside of greater Male' region with the greatest number of cases – GDH Hoadedhdhoo – with 25 recoveries reported during the week, currently there are only 19 active cases.
- In the resorts – **55 active** COVID-19 cases have been reported in **27 resorts** – 39 staffs and 16 tourists. This includes staff from non-operational resorts as well.
- The Education Ministry also announced that efforts were underway to finalize separate and special exam arrangements to be made for A level students who may test positive for COVID-19 or find themselves required to undergo quarantine during the period.
- HE Minister of Tourism announced that Maldives has seen a total of 13,750 total tourist arrivals since July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Out of 166 resorts, only 82 resorts are currently in operation.
- As of 17 September 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,275.1 million; a 4.3 % increase from the week before. In this review period 52.1 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
- In terms of week-on-week spending, the disbursement of front-line allowances for MNDF and Maldives Police Service employees stood out amongst all expenditures.  
<https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/QAVdHwvFwCX5jkKyJ7VCElbHLwGO3WvYCDD2Ydfi.pdf>

### WCO activities

- Actively participate at daily HECC meetings to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- Continue to monitor trend of COVID-19 in the country and implement collaborative workplan to strengthen essential health services
- Lead and facilitated meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> UNCT Health and WASH working group meeting for COVID-19 response support to the country
- EU proposal updated and shared with the PIR team as per guidance.

#### WHO support provided to Member State

- WHO Representative gave a comprehensive presentation to HECC on COVAX Pillar including importance to prepare for planning for COVID-19 vaccine introduction.
- Handed over various laboratory items to establish COVID-19 testing at regional level in South and North Atolls;
- Facilitated teleconference between Regional Office and HEOC Laboratory Cluster team to long term Laboratory expertise support from Regional Laboratories for COVID-19 diagnosis and capacity building.
- Various WHO guidelines and references shared