

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 24 / 06 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 42,830 samples tested in the country.
- 2,217 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 08 deaths reported – 152 new cases since last report.
- 1813 people (81.78%) have recovered. There are 394 active cases and 03 are hospitalized with severe disease.
- 99.10% of cases belong to known and existing clusters; 18 imported and the rest to be linked.
- 140 people are in Quarantine and 308 in isolation facilities across Maldives.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- HE President Solih in his press conference shared the Government's planned activities to help the country recover and rebuild under a 'new normal' – one of the important highlights is opening of Maldives borders for international travel from 15th July 2020;
- Government offices, schools, restaurants and cafés are likely to reopen from mid-July onwards while guesthouses to reopen in August.
- HE President Solih convened the National Taskforce on Resilience Building and Economic Recovery for its inaugural meeting on 18 June 2020 with 3 subgroups – Finance, Social Sector and Economic Recovery. WHO Country office is member of two sub-groups including Health services and system strengthening and essential services and social protection.
- Government institutions will continue to be allowed to open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – with all offices to comply with safety-measures outlined by the HPA to protect against exposure to COVID-19.
- The national policy on transporting patients between islands under medical emergencies including safety obligations as well as instructions on disinfection of the vessels has been released by MOH & HPA.
- Government has extended the period during which companies are required to pay annual fees to 31 December 2020, devoid of any charges.
- Government waived off customs and import duty worth MVR 16.2 million from goods related to the Maldives COVID-19 response in the last 5 months.
- A total of 195 Maldivian, 200 Bangladeshi and 156 Indian nationals were repatriated.

WCO activities

- WHO team met with Hon Minister and his senior officials & discussed ongoing COVID19 response, preparations for easing out and maintenance of essential health services.
- Support to enhance and expand the testing capacity at regional level ongoing.
- WHO is an actively participating member of the Presidential taskforces and its different subgroups as stated above.
- Working with the UN teams to develop and finalize the UN COVID19 recovery strategic framework focusing on Pillar 1: "Protecting health services and systems during the crisis".
- Supporting the care of the elderly, joining call of the UN SG, WHO DG, RDs call to ensure access and quality of care of the elderly.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Supporting TAG and NEOC in refining and updating the next PHASE of Easing Out Plan from Lockdown.
- Shared COVID-19 Pregnancy, Child Birth, Breast-feeding guidance with NEOC.
- Coordinated and conducted the Dengue Stakeholders Meeting to finalize the actions Responsibilities under the NAP.
- Virtual Trainings coordinated on Clinical Management of Dengue in 20 Atolls. Training completed in 5 Atolls.
- Continued ongoing participation in the National Presidential Taskforce and its different committees.

- 15,000 Viral Transport Media and 5000 lab tests handed over to the Ministry of Health.
- 2 Bio-safety cabinet, 50000 Ampules of Fentanyl and 700 vials of midazolam handed over to the Ministry of Health.

Support requested from SEARO

- Maintain pipeline supply of E -gene Kits and send 10,000 E-Gene tests

Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies

- Share details to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.