

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 25 / 08 / 2021

### Cases reporting

- 80,218 confirmed cases; 799 new cases reported within the week; 1,687 active cases in the country.
- THREE additional deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate currently at 0.28% with 225 deaths.
- 788 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 78,294 persons that is 98% have recovered.
- 6,736 samples tested in the last 24hours – 151 new cases reported. Sample positivity rate has been maintained at 2% since the last week.
- 15 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with 03 persons in critical care.
- Outside of the GMR in the atolls, as of 24<sup>th</sup> August, there are 980 active cases (940 locals and 40 foreigners) across 46 inhabited islands outside GMR.
- The number of islands affected has increased since last week reporting small sporadic clusters. There are currently 17 islands under monitoring status.
- The highest number reported in the atolls is from Alif Alif atoll island of Himandhoo, with 164 active cases. In Raa Atoll, island of Dhuvaafaru continues to report high number of cases, currently 146 active cases.
- In Gnaviyani Atoll island of Fuvah Mulak, the number has increased to 171 active cases, with the city being placed under monitoring status once again.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives total vaccinated coverage now stands at 69% for first dose and 54.97% as second dose as of TOTAL population (545,847).
- Ministry of Education has revealed over 20,239 ie. 50% of students eligible for vaccination have been administered the COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) under the new vaccination program launched for children aged 12-17, in August 2021.
- The Government of Japan has donated 112,000 doses of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines to the Maldives through the World Health Organization (WHO) COVAX Facility, as part of Japan's Last One Mile Support initiative, received by H.E Minister of Health.
- Health Minister Ahmed Naseem has announced starting of administration of a booster shot to persons who have received two doses of the Sinopharm vaccine in the Maldives
- H.E President Ibrahim Solih has warned that actions will be taken against tourism establishments who fail to adhere to COVID-19 guidelines and SOPs, especially in inhabited islands with local tourism guesthouses.
- According to latest statistics publicized by the Ministry of Finance on Monday, the total health and social expenses reached MVR 2,049.6 million by August 12. Between August 5 – 12, expenditure related to health social sectors saw a three percent increase from the week before. During the review period, there were no additional disbursements made under the Economic Response Package.

### WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group and UN Crisis Management Team.

- Arranging online training on ICD 11 for MoH Staff.
- Meeting with ADB consultants on elderly health and care in Maldives.
- Technical review of autoclaves with biomed team and Hhealth care waste management project.

#### **WHO support provided to Member State**

- Continued support to Ministry of Health and HEOC to repair and maintain ambulances.
- Support to upload Maldives Genomic Sequencing data to GSAID Platform.
- Facilitated sending of COVID-19 samples for 5<sup>th</sup> round of genomic sequencing to IGIB New Delhi.
- Sharing of WHO guidance and expertise to establish Sequencing capacity in Maldives and the importance of Variant tracking during a pandemic.