

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 26 / 08 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 104,631 samples tested in the country, 170 days since first case.
- 6,912 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 28 deaths reported (0.39%) – 1003 new cases since last report.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - 50 active cases in 24 inhabited islands of Maldives during the last week.
- 4,216 people (62.19%) have recovered. 2,588 cases are currently active.
- 171 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with 11 cases in ICU and 5 on ventilator.
- 99.41% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (59.46%) among the active cases than foreigners.
- 1458 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The HEOC has announced stricter measures due to growing number of cases in greater Male' region – such as restricted movement in the region from 8pm – 5am, this is in addition to the ongoing measures such as no gatherings allowed of more than 5 persons in public spaces.
- HEOC has also announced that positives are mostly seen among contacts of cases, flu clinics samples as well as Quarantine samples. They have been advised to reducing risk of transmission.
- Traveling from Male' to any other islands or atolls has also been restricted – with travel allowed only for Health Emergencies and Essential health services.
- Over 3000 travelers have arrived in the Maldives in the past week – with all asymptomatic arrivals reported.
- In the resorts – 20 cases have been reported in 14 resorts – 15 staffs and 5 tourists.
- Flu consultations have been reported to be increased – with more Maldivians seeking consultations than expats – 25% of total flu consultations are COVID-19 positive.
- Ministry of Education has announced reducing of school hours in the “New Normal” once schools reopen.
- As at 20 August 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,147.5 million; a 0.6% increase from the week before. In this review period 51.5 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
<https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/BKhD2m79TMkD218w67OxJG6LPHk38to3FSqILt6z.pdf>

WCO activities

- Daily HECC meetings attended in the HEOC to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- Provided technical input to finalize National Action plan on Health Services Recovery.
- Support the delivery of Essential Health Services in the country.
- Working with the MoH to see how WHO can strengthen HR needs for contact tracing including trainings.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Continues to provide technical support to the Health Emergency Coordination Committee and Technical Advisory Group at HEOC.
- Supported Risk Communication strengthening at HEOC by supporting printing of awareness posters.
- Participated in a Teleconference between Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and WHO to provide information on COVID19 vaccine and COVAX facility.

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.