

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

**Country: MALDIVES**

**Date: 27 / 10 / 2021**

### Cases reporting

- 87,186 confirmed cases; 862 new cases reported within the week; 1,553 active cases in the country (increased since last report).
- THREE new deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate currently at 0.28% with 242 deaths.
- 585 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 85,378 persons that is 98% have recovered.
- 3,541 samples tested in the last 24 hours – 115 new cases reported (85 cases outside of the GMR and 22 in GMR). Sample positivity rate is at 2-3% overall.
- The country has maintained low hospitalizations with currently only 20 persons hospitalized with moderate to severe disease.
- Outside of the GMR, there are 936 active cases across 48 inhabited islands. Sample positivity rate in the atolls is at 11-12%. There are 20 islands currently under monitoring.
- Highest number outside of the GMR is reported from Addu City, with 221 active cases across 5 districts. Total of 8 deaths have been reported in Addu city since the first case reported in 2020.
- A new cluster has been reported from Kaafu Atoll island of Guraidhoo, in the Home for Persons with Special needs. There are 112 active cases reported, and the center along with the island placed under monitoring.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- As on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021, a total of 394,176 persons have been vaccinated with the first dose and 355,250 with the second dose. The coverage for Maldives based on total population stands at 72.21% for first dose and 65.08% for second dose.
- The Ministry of Health in a bid to strengthen emergency response services in the peripheries has procured 20 ambulances brought in by State Trading Organization STO.
- Statistics from Ministry of Tourism show that 102,434 tourists visited the Maldives as of October 24. The number of tourist arrivals this month is a 599% increase compared to the same period last year. However, the number of tourist arrivals in October is 2% lower compared to the 104,567 tourist arrivals recorded in the same period in 2019.
- As of 21 October 2021, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 2,151.8 million; 0.2% increase from the week before. In this review period, 32.8% of total health and social spending was committed spending. In terms of week-on-week spending, Ministry of Health registered the highest spending compared to its peers.

### WCO activities

- Active participation in the National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Leading the UN Health and Wash group and UN Crisis Management Team.
- Ongoing technical guidance and support to establish Genomic Sequencing Capacity in Maldives.
- Facilitated Maldives Ministerial participation in the Regional High Level meeting to EndTB.

### WHO support provided to Member State

- Supporting sending of COVID-19 specimens abroad to WHO-CC lab for 14th round of genomic sequencing.
- Coordinating and facilitating dialogue exchange with COVAX facility as and when needed.
- Facilitated meeting regarding introduction of Wolbachia in Maldives, with MoH Sri Lanka.
- Meeting between WHO and Maldives National University to discuss introduction of FETP program.

### Continuing Challenges

- No designated Public Health Laboratory or National health laboratory.
- Need for continued capacity strengthening on critical care for doctors in islands and atolls.
- Need for supply and procurement management system for MoH.