

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 28 / 07 / 2021

Cases reporting

- 76,953 confirmed cases; 765 new cases reported within the week, 2,611 active cases in the country (1,413 locals and 1,198 foreigners).
- 03 death was reported during the week and mortality rate currently at 0.29% with 220 deaths.
- 770 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 74,110 persons that is 96% have recovered (57,864 locals and 16,246 foreigners)
- Over 1,118,10 samples have been tested; 5,424 samples tested in the last 24hours – 105 new cases. Sample positivity rate is currently maintained at 2%.
- 16 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease, with only no persons in critical care or ICU.
- Outside of the GMR in the atolls, there are 844 active cases across 33 inhabited islands outside GMR. The number of islands under monitoring status is reduced to 12.
- In Shaviyani atoll island of Foakaidhoo, the case numbers have increased to 134 active cases.
- In the isolated island of Kaashidhoo in Kaafu atoll, there are 103 active cases (81 locals and 22 foreigners).
- Monitoring status has been finally lifted from Gaafu Dhaalu island of Thinadhoo, with currently 65 active cases currently. In the neighboring island of Gaafu Dhaalu Nadella, 165 active cases are reported.
- In resorts, there are 276 active cases across 92 resorts.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives overall vaccine coverage now stands at 56.55% for first dose and 46.03% as second dose as of TOTAL population.
- H.E President announced on Independence Day message to country, that country has enough stock to fully vaccinate eligible population and aims to vaccinate 90% of the population by end of August 2021.
- Country has conveyed acceptance of AZ-Japan 1,12,000 doses to COVAX. Documentation is pending due to holidays and same has been informed to COVAX. The government has also received new stock of AstraZeneca vaccines from an anonymous donor.
- During the holidays, COVID-19 vaccination is being provided only for some specific emergency cases in Male' on appointment. Regular Sinopharm vaccination will resume in Male' from 28th July.
- With the decline in case numbers in the GMR, the government has further eased out the restrictive measures on international travel – Vaccinated Maldivians and work permit holders who return to the Maldives from abroad are not required to quarantine from 26th of July 2021.
- Persons who are exempt from undergoing quarantine include individuals who had tested positive for COVID-19 in the Maldives less than 60 days prior to their arrival, as well as individuals who completed their vaccine doses (WHO EUL Approved vaccine) 14 days prior to their arrival. Children who travel are to complete a PCR test 5-7 days within arrival into country, otherwise must observe quarantine for 14 days.
- The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has revised its policies such that unvaccinated tourists can check in to local guest houses if 60 percent of the island's population completes both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The new policy will come into effect on July 26.

- The ministry of education has informed all school employees to complete their COVID-19 vaccination doses before August 2021, the commencing of the new academic year. They are working with the HPA to provide easy access to vaccination.

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.
- Coordinating communications between IGIB India and HPA regarding 4th round of sample sending for genomic sequencing.
- In discussion with Maldives Red Crescent to identify areas of support including mental health as well as trainings on Rapid Response and first aid.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Review of Maldives case study on COVID-19 and Public Health Care;
- Shared Technical Guidance, social media materials and Key messages for safe Eid celebrations with Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC);
- Continued technical support to develop: -
- Regional Guidelines and Situational Assessment Report for Climate Resilience and Environmentally Sustainable Health Care Facilities (CRESHCFs) in Maldives;
- National Mental Health Strategic Plan.