

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 31 / 03 / 2021

Cases reporting

- **23,671 confirmed cases** have been reported till date.
- **1009 new cases have been reported since last week**, and there are **2,759 active cases** in the country currently – more than **1,845 active cases** are in the greater **Male’ region**.
- **NO additional deaths** were reported during the week and mortality rate 0.29% with **66 deaths**.
- 643,952 samples have been tested till date. **Sample positivity rate** is at **3-4%**. Cases continue to be seen more among **contacts** of positives and from departure samples from tourists and travelers.
- **580 new recoveries** were reported during the week. 20,722 (**89%**) have recovered. **93 people are hospitalized** with moderate to severe disease, no cases in ICU or on ventilator care.
- There are currently **471 active cases** across 54 **islands outside Male**.
- In the central Kaafu atoll, two islands are reporting big clusters. In Kaafu Dhiffushi island, there are 47 active cases related to a quarantine release sample positive from a local. In Kaafu Huraa island, 2 persons tested positive upon quarantine release, and 94 contacts have been identified as positives since.
- In Lhaviyani atoll, in the industrial island of Felivaru, a cluster was discovered during random sampling, with over 71 positives reported to date. Over 100 Cases have been found in the neighboring islands of Hinnavaru as well as Naifaruu within the atoll; who had been in contact with the Felivaru cluster. The atoll is placed under monitoring.
- Kudahuvadhoo island in **Dhaalu atoll** is still under monitoring following the confirmation of **26 active cases** in the community.
- In tourist establishments and operational resorts, a total of **418 cases** have been reported from **97 resorts** across the country.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Over 233,875 persons have been vaccinated in Maldives. 104,155 were from atolls COVID-19.
- Maldives started vaccination with SINOPHARM vaccine from 22nd March 2021, having vaccinated over 12,894 persons to date.
- The government of Maldives is gearing up for Local Council Elections in discussion with the HPA and HEOC to plan on how to conduct voting in islands under monitoring status with positive COVID-19 cases.
- The Presidents Office has announced that the working hours for government institutions and offices have been set from 9am to 1pm during the Holy month of Ramadan.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has confirmed that the Maldives has received the first 100,000 doses of the Covishield vaccine which is part of the 200,000 doses purchased.
- The government has issued a total of MVR 377.4 million as income support allowances rolled out under the government’s economic relief package introduced in light of the pandemic.
- Over 100,000 tourists visited the Maldives over the past month, statistics have shown; the first time the tourist arrivals exceeded 100,000 after the country reopened its doors to tourists following border closure.

WCO activities

- WHO continues to monitor the vaccination sites and is actively involved in deliberations of the National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group.

- Supporting the National TB program for activities on World TB Day 2021.
- Technical Consultancy to Develop Guidelines and Training Program for the Methadone Maintenance Treatment.
- Supporting IPC Measures: such as ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Training on WHO Global Pharmacovigilance system and AEFI reporting system VigiFlow and VigiBase was conducted for MFDA and National Immunization Program.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Providing guidance to HEOC/HPA and TAG on WHO recommendations with the latest updates from IHR Committee meetings.
- Support to MNU for developing short term Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) for Maldives.
- WHO handed over IT equipment (tablets and sim cards for data) to plan Revitalizing Primary Health Care in the country.