

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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 04 / 11 / 2020

Cases reporting

- **Over 200,000 samples tested to date.** 1800 -2000 samples tested per day during the last week. Sample positivity rate has been maintained at about 2%.
- **Recovery percentage has increased with a total of 10,915 (93.00%) recoveries. 776 cases are currently active across the country including resorts.**
- **11,737 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 and **ONE** additional death reported in the week, total deaths raised to 38 deaths (0.32%) reported. **205 new cases since last week – a 100 cases less than the week before.**
- **50 persons are hospitalized in the greater Male' region, with moderate or severe disease with 2 cases in ICU and currently no one on ventilator support. 6 persons have been admitted in the Baa Atoll COVID-19 facility.**
- **99.83% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (63.73%) among the active cases even in and outside of Greater Male' region.**
- **251 people** are in **isolation** facilities across Maldives and rest under home isolation with more than 241 persons under home Quarantine.
- Cases continue to be concentrated mostly to Greater Male' region. **621** of the active cases are currently reported from the Male' region, with 99% of all cases in the atolls having link to history travel from greater Male' area and quarantine.
- A new cluster is emerging in one of the operational resorts in Dhaalu Atoll – with 19 persons testing positive and one death reported during the week. The island resort has been placed under monitoring and samples collected from all 206 staff of the resort in addition to the 100 tourists currently holidaying there.
- The cluster among migrant workers in Hulhumale' Phase 2 in the Greater Male' region which was seen during the week – with no additional cases detected from the cluster other than the total 72 cases reported.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region the numbers have significantly decreased in the atolls - **15 active cases are reported in 13 inhabited islands** during the week – 4 locals and 11 expats.
- In the north of the country, in Haa Dhaalu Atoll Kulhudhuffushi island where 12 active cases were – linked to the cluster of Maldives Police Services – have reported all recovered with currently **NO** active cases in the island.
- In the central region, Laamu atoll which had reported over 58 cases have reported all recoveries during the week – with currently only **NO** active cases.
- In the resorts – currently there are more cases being reported - **140 active** COVID-19 cases across 31 **resorts** – 97 staffs and **43 tourists**. This includes staff from non-operational resorts as well (as new groups of workers who travels to nonoperational resorts for work).

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- H.E Vice President of Maldives along with the newly appointed Honorable Minister of Health leads the HECC meetings and COVID-19 response in the country with daily meeting and participation from relevant cabinet ministers as needed.
- In the atolls and islands the case numbers have significantly reduced since the last three months – with fewer persons traveling to the islands for quarantine.
- Increase of case numbers have been seen mostly in nonoperational resorts – with history of travel from Male' City among groups of workers in addition to migrant workers arriving for work in resorts.
- Flu Clinic positivity rate as well as sample positivity rate is also declining – even excluding the departure samples, the positivity rate remains at 1-2% during the week.
- The Ministry of Tourism has announced that 1210 tourists have arrived to stay in Guesthouse local tourism islands, in addition to the 41,766 tourists who have arrived in the country since July 15th when borders reopened.

- The Ministry of Education has mentioned that they are having regular policy level meetings to plan for safe school reopening in 2021 – in addition to strengthening ongoing tele-classes for students.
- As of 22 October 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,296.3 million; a 1.2 % increase from the week before. In this review period 46.3 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
- In terms of week-on-week spending, MoH registered the highest spending compared to its peers. Approximately MVR 8.7 million was spent on medical consumables and catering for individuals in covid-19 related facilities. Travel expenses of MoH pertaining to Covid-19 health and social efforts was also relatively higher compared to all other expenses by other peers.
- <https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/ieNaMv9y5SHiHB7uHGN3slRfqssz1fusqjgtrNHU.pdf>

WCO activities

- Continuing support, technical assistance and high-level advocacy for COVID-19 response with HECC.
- Recruiting multiple staff to ensure continuity of COVID-19 response and support manage Essential Health Services
- Support for quarantine and isolation at 'Fiyavathi' orphanage by providing much needed hygiene items, stationaries and tablets for the children and caretakers.
- Finalizing proposal to support medical waste management for funding support from Global Affairs Canada
- Documenting COVID-19 Response in the country
- Viral Hepatitis Awareness activities being developed along with Hepatitis Ambassador along with the National Program.
- Technical support to Maldives Blood Services for developing video spots on voluntary blood donation in the country.
- Participation in the consultative process for the development of Advocacy Toolkit on Climate Change & Health for South East Asia Region.

WHO support provided to Member State

- WHO has handed over 2 RT PCR machines to the two molecular diagnostic laboratories to be established in North and South of Maldives.
- Handover of 40 handwashing units, disinfectants and PPE to Ministry of Education to support infection prevention and control in schools.
- Supporting preparedness for COVID-19 vaccine deployment and expanding cold chain system
- Support in strengthening of TB diagnostic capacity in the country, with the support to procure Biosafety cabinet essential for National TB Centre.
- Continued support for Risk Communication and COVID-19 documentation – including streamlining of data for reporting.
- Supporting operationalization of Hulhumale Isolation Facility