

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

**Country: MALDIVES**

**Date: 09 / 06 / 2021**

### Cases reporting

- 68,872 confirmed cases have been reported till date; there are 17,461 active cases in the country, reduced from last week – more than 14,500 active cases are in the greater Male' region (5,732 active cases under 18 years of age included)
- Twenty new deaths were reported during the week and mortality rate 0.27% with 189 deaths. 10,262 new recoveries were reported during the week, total 51,213 persons that is 74% have recovered.
- Over 918,165 samples have been tested till date. Sample positivity rate is reduced to 16% in greater Male' region. Daily Sample positivity in for the country is at 9% (11% for locals and 3% foreigners).
- 152 people are hospitalized with moderate to severe disease. Most common comorbidity among admitted cases are Hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia with 14 persons in critical care, 7 receiving ventilator care.
- Cases in atolls have also started to come down, with currently over 3,157 active cases across 121 inhabited islands outside GMR. The majority of cases were identified as contacts of positives in addition to upon post quarantine testing. 71 islands are placed under monitoring status with 8hr curfew in place.
- Currently there is only one island reporting more than 200 cases – from Kaafu Himmafushi island with 244 active cases. Case numbers from the rest of the islands is on a downward trend, with some few small new clusters emerging from a few islands related to travel from Male' and quarantine.
- In tourist establishments and operational resorts, there are currently only 646 active cases across 100 resorts. Cases are seen more among staffs more than tourists for the week.

### Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- The Maldives overall vaccine coverage now stands at 55% for first dose and 30.66% as second dose as of TOTAL population.
- The country has a huge demand for vaccine, especially for the second dose of COVIDSHEILD vaccine which has been extended to 16 weeks between two doses.
- Maldives Food and Drug Authority has announced Moderna and Janssen vaccines has been approved for emergency use, with consideration to the COVID-19 situation in the Maldives. Both vaccines have been authorized to be administered to people over the age of 18.
- The state of Public Health Emergency has been extended for the 15<sup>th</sup> time till 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2021.
- With the ongoing surge of cases, the government has extended the restrictive measures to an additional week in the GMR.
- The surge of cases globally has affected tourism, and Ministry of Tourism has revealed the number of tourist arrivals had decreased by 29% in May 2021 compared to the previous month, and daily tourist arrival dropped to 2000 a day (highest number was previously from India, now from Russia)

### WCO activities

- Active participation in the daily National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group meetings.
- Providing guidance to HEOC/HPA and TAG on WHO recommendations with the latest updates on COVID-19
- Working with the UN country teams to update the CPRP document.

- Supported MoH to review of Maldives case study on COVID-19 and Public Health Care.
- Procurement of printers and other logistical support to strengthen operations at HEOC;
- IPC Measures: such as ongoing efforts to monitor the vaccination sites for IPC related support.
- Ongoing support for AEFI casualties' assessments.
- Continuing the ongoing trainings for HCWs on Donning and Doffing of PPEs in COVID-19 facilities and waste management.

#### **WHO support provided to Member State**

- WHO continues to monitor the vaccination sites and is actively involved in deliberations of the National Vaccine Steering Group and Operations Group's.
- Facilitation of recruitment of support staff as required for Ministry of Health for COVID-19 data management as well as Graphic designer for Comms group at HEOC.
- Continued support to Ministry of Health and HEOC to repair ambulances enabling movement of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs), paramedics and response activities.
- Supporting HEOC to identify key audiences for Inclusivity Stakeholder Group and to develop youth-oriented advocacy videos for TikTok and Instagram.