Situation Report: COVID-19 and other local and global health issues

A. COVID-19

1. Daily reported cases of COVID-19

A total of 669,749 cases have been reported as of 28 August.

The number of cases reported over the past 2-week period (15 – 28 August) is 1,602 which is a 29.5% decrease compared to the previous two weeks (1 - 14 August).

The average weekly incidence over the past 7 days is 2.67 per 100,000 population.

2. Daily reported deaths due to COVID-19

A total of 16,687 deaths have been reported as of 28 August with 56% being males. More than three quarters (76%) of the deaths are in age group of 60+, while 22% are in the 30-60 years age group.

The number of deaths reported over the past 2-week period (15 – 28 August) is 66. The corresponding figure for the previous two weeks (1 - 14 August) was 65.

The average weekly case fatality rate over the past 7 days is 0.15 per 100,000 population.
3. COVID-19 Vaccination

- 82% of the over 12 years age group have been vaccinated with two doses and this corresponds to 66% of the total population (14.5 million persons).

- A single booster dose (with Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine) has been administered to 8 million persons (36.5% of the total population). The second booster dose has been administered to 137,130 persons as of 21 August.

![COVID-19 vaccination coverage](image)

*Source: Ministry of Health. Data updated until 28 August 2022*

4. Genomic Sequencing

- The variant of concern which is currently circulating in the country is Omicron.

- Latest available genomic sequencing report on 12 August indicated that BA.5 sub-lineage of Omicron was present in approximately 90% of the samples sequenced.

![Genomic Sequencing](image)

*Source: Allergy Immunology and Cell Biology Unit, Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura*
5. COVID-19 Regional situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>New cases</th>
<th>% change in new cases</th>
<th>New cases per 100,000 pop</th>
<th>New deaths</th>
<th>% change in new deaths</th>
<th>New deaths per 100,000 pop</th>
<th>Test Positivity Rate (last 7DMA)</th>
<th>% change in TPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>81,939</td>
<td>-14.3</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>-33.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>11.6</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>11.5</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>18.9</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<td>3.9</td>
<td>-13.5</td>
</tr>
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<td>4.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-9.4</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
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<td>DPR Korea</td>
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<td>SEAR total</td>
<td>131,181</td>
<td>-13.0</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>-4.0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WHO SEARO. Data updated until 24 August 2022

6. WHO support on COVID-19 response

- The 33rd health cluster meeting co-chaired by WHO, MoH and CSO collective was organized on 30 August and WHO, MoH and partners shared information related to COVID-19 including actions taken to respond to COVID-19 pandemic.
B. Dengue

- During week 33, 1,486 suspected dengue cases were reported from 25 districts, which is a 6.5% reduction compared to week 32 (1,590 cases were reported in week 32). The total number of cases reported by week 33 of 2022 was 51,427, while the corresponding figure for 2021 was only 17,527.

- Majority of cases have been reported from Western Province (43.9%). The highest number of cases during week 33 is observed in Colombo, Gampaha, Kandy, Ratnapura and Kalutara. Fifty Medical Officer of Health (MOH) areas were flagged as high-risk areas during the week.

**WHO support in Dengue prevention and control:**

- WHO is supporting the National Dengue Control Unit in conducting a premise inspection programme from 1 to 3 September 2022 covering 60 high-risk MOH areas in ten districts. This exercise will deploy ten teams per MOH area and each team would consist of three officers representing health and non-health sectors. Total of 1,800 personnel will be deployed to inspect different types of premises and take corrective actions in case of breeding places.

Source: National Dengue Control Unit, Ministry of Health
C. WHO support in the context of the current economic crisis and its impact on health

- WHO Country Office is undertaking a series of analytical activities in the health system building blocks of service delivery, financing, human resources for health and essential medicines to highlight policy action needed for health in the context of the dual challenge of a prolonged global pandemic and an unprecedented economic crisis.

- On the request of the Government of Sri Lanka, WHO will provide additional drugs and consumables worth 4.1 million US dollars.

D. Global health issues

Multi-country monkeypox (MPX) outbreak in non-endemic countries

- As of 22 August 2022, a total of 41,664 laboratory confirmed MPX cases including 12 deaths have been reported to WHO from 96 Member States across all six WHO regions (since 1 Jan 2022). The number of weekly reported new cases globally has decreased by 21% in week 33 (n=5,907 cases) compared to week 32.

- As of 22 August, the five most affected countries globally are: United States of America (n=14,049), Spain (n=6,119), Brazil (n=3,450), Germany (n=3,295) and The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (n=3,225).

- The outbreak is mainly affecting young people of male gender, with 98.2% (20,138/20,500) of cases with available data on the gender being males with a median age of 36 years.

- Among cases with sexual orientation reported, 95.8% (9,484/9,899) identified as men who have sex with men. Of all reported types of transmission, a sexual encounter was reported most commonly, with 5,954 of 7,250 (82.1%) of all reported transmission events.

- As of 24 August 2022, 15 laboratory-confirmed MPX cases have been reported from SEAR with nine cases in India, five cases in Thailand and one in Indonesia. One confirmed death has been reported from India.

- The risk at the global level and in the South-East Asia Region is currently assessed as moderate while the risk at the European Region is graded as high.

- Human-to-human spread of MPX can be controlled by public health measures including early case-finding, diagnosis and care, isolation and contact-tracing.

For further details:
- Multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, External situation report #4-24 August 2022: