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

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 24 / 02 / 2020

Cases reporting

- NO confirmed case of COVID-19 in the country as of 24 February 2020.
- NO person is in isolation.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- Capacity to diagnose COVID-19 testing has been established at Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital through WHO support.
- The Rapid Response Teams are actively taking actions where required including mass awareness, screening, isolation, sample collection, referrals and ensuring appropriate clinical care too.
- Ministry of Health team screened total of 4478 passengers and crew from 3 Cruise Liners docked near Male’ City as part of the COVID-19 surveillance protocol. There were no suspected cases.
- Dharumavantha Hospital’s ICU is set-up and fully equipped for handling patients severely infected with coronavirus.
- Island and city councils are allocating 1 room/space for suspect cases in each resort/island.
- Sea Ambulance services have been arranged for suspected case transfer to isolation facilities with the support of Maldives National Defense Force and Maldives Police Services.
- 24*7 Incident Management System is in place and regular meeting of Health Emergency Coordination Committee is continuing.

WCO activities

- WHO donated primers and probes to diagnose COVID-19 to the Ministry of Health.
- WHO donated PPE kits to MOH containing 250 protective googles, 10000 gloves, 16030 different kinds of masks, and 500 surgical gowns.
- WHO is fast tracking procurement of critical supplies like Universal Transport Media, Triple Packaging Boxes, and Personal Protective Equipment.
- WHO supported orientation of local experts on Clinical Management of COVID-19 by Video Conference and facilitated orientation and training activities of different stakeholders.

WHO support provided to Member State

- WCO continues to closely work and support MOH in their response to COVID-19.
- Sitreps are shared daily and new technical documents immediately.

Support requested from SEARO

- Procurement of additional 1000 PPEs.
- Facilitate Webex Risk communication training for MoH staff and UN Emergency Focal Persons.

Support / Coordination from SEARO and other agencies

- Needs assessment to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.