Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19
Situation Report No. 7 (9 April 2020)

This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- Two more coronavirus-related deaths have been reported today, bringing the total number of deaths to 29. The patients were a 79-year-old man from Orhei and a 53-year-old woman from Soroca.
- The total number of confirmed cases continued to grow but at a more moderate rate compared to last week. The average daily growth rate for the week currently stands at 10.5%. Another 115 new cases were reported today after the processing of 534 tests, with the total number of confirmed cases reaching 1,289. This represents a 9.8% increase compared to yesterday. Approximately one in four cases are health care workers.
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 50 patients have recovered. At the same time, 128 patients are in serious condition.
- The share of the local transmission cases in the total number of confirmed cases has increased considerably since the beginning of the outbreak. Now, a little over nine in ten cases are of the local transmission type.
- The geographical distribution of cases has not changed much over the past few days, with Chisinau continuing to have the highest number of cases (440), followed by Stefan Voda (177) and Soroca (151). With 74 confirmed cases so far, the Transnistria region also remains one of the most affected areas in the country if absolute numbers are considered. Glodeni, with 53 cases, is next on the list of areas with the highest number of confirmed cases. Taken together, these five areas account for almost 70% of all confirmed cases. All other areas have fewer than 50 cases each and account for the remaining approximately 30% of all cases.
If the number of confirmed cases is considered, individuals in the 50-59 age group continue to be most affected by the disease. Almost one quarter of all confirmed cases fall in this group. Those in the 30-39, 40-49 and 60-69 age groups account for 15%-18% of all cases each. Taken together, these four groups account for approximately 75% of all confirmed cases. Children, adolescents and adults over 70 years of age continue to be the groups with the lowest number of cases.

More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 59% vs. 41%.

The number of suspected cases stands at 190, and approximately 38,000 people are quarantined at home.

Real time figures and graphs can be accessed here.

Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- Decision 15 of the Commission for Exception Situations has created a new aid management center under the State Chancellery. Also in the Centre will be the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Social Protection, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The new Director of the Center, the Deputy Secretary general of the State Chancellery will brief development partners on this new structure on April 13th. The Center for the coordination of external assistance to eliminate the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic aims to streamline the directing and capitalization of external assistance aimed at eliminating the consequences of Covid-19, including by centralizing the requests for support, facilitating the exchange of information, communication and participation of all stakeholders in the decision-making process regarding the prioritization, coordination, and monitoring of external assistance for Covid-19.

- A Development Partners meeting will be held on Monday 13 April at 14.00 and can be joined via this link. The UN Resident Coordinator will chair and will be joined by:
  1. Adrian Ermurachi, Deputy Secretary General, State Chancellery
  2. Tatiana Ivanichkina, State Secretary, Ministry of Finance
  3. Tatiana Molcean, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
  4. Alexandru Holostenco, State Secretary, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Social Protection
  5. Dr Igor Pokaneyvch, WHO Representative in Moldova

- The preparation of the MoldExpo to triage cases is in progress and will likely be opened by 10 April (no formal opening on the site itself). The Resident Coordinator’s Office, UNDP, the US Embassy, USAID, StarNet, and Foundation Youth Development for Innovation have come together to ensure the administration block has all the necessary IT equipment and network service to manage patient records (23 laptops, cabling / backbone infrastructure, network, wifi etc.). The WHO and the Resident Coordinator visited April 8 with the US Ambassador and the Minister of Health, Labour, and Social Welfare, and the Mayor Chisinau, and the CEO of StarNet.

- The Moldova 2030 Multi-Donor Trust Fund Covid-19 Window will be launched next week at the Development Partners Meeting (see link above).

- The RC and WHO briefed Ambassadors from US, Romania, Germany, UK, and France on 8 April.
Update on Restrictions*

*these are subject to changes and amendment and should be viewed as an overview and not as a definitive source for decision making

- The restoration, starting with April 10, 2020, at 08:00, of the international road traffic of passengers / freight through the crossing points of the state border on the Moldovan-Ukrainian border segment Ocnița - Sokireanî and Larga-Kelmenți.
- The quarantine regime in Talmaza village, Ștefan Voda district, is being introduced from April 9, 2020, at 8:00 am.
- There will be no public transport in Chisinau and Balti municipalities on 11-12 April 2020.

Security:
- The Host Governmental Security Focal Point noted in a telephone call that no major changes were registered in the security environment.

Transnistria Region:
- The de facto leader announced that he is taking over the management of the health care system in the region in light of the Covid-19 spread. The de facto leader added that the Slobozia hospital, which has been admitting Covid-19 patients, has been efficient and up to the task. The hospital has admitted a total of 268 patients. There are currently 69 confirmed cases in the region.

Economic Impact:
- To address the disposable liquidity and financial stability of commercial banks, the National Bank of Moldova decreased the mandatory reserves norms by commercial banks in MDL to the 34% for the period of 16 April-15 May 2020 which as expected will increase the liquidity available at commercial banks by 3 bln lei. At the same time, to maintain stability and capitalization, the BNM recommended to commercial banks to suspend payment of dividends and other forms of capital redistribution until end September 2020.
- National Bank of Moldova reserves are at the level of $2.95 bln which can cover 5+ months of imports and short-term external debt.
- The share of remittances from the EU in the last three years almost doubled, while in February this number increased by 5% compared to January 2020 (BNM).

Resource Mobilisation
- Bilateral ad-hoc emergency response donations and programmes will now be coordinated through the Aid Coordination Centre in the State Chancellery. Normal mechanisms remain in place for ODA through the Ministry of Finance, including all negotiations and coordination with International Financial Institutions.
- The Office of the Resident Coordinator will hold a planning meeting with the State Chancellery on 10 April.
Summary of contributions through the UN System for Covid-19 response:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funding</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>Implementing partner</th>
<th>Areas of support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Cooperation</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>PPEs (gowns)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Cooperation</td>
<td>$569,913</td>
<td>WHO - UNDP</td>
<td>WHO: Risk communication, monitoring, materials for the laboratory, among others. UNDP: ventilators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
<td>WHO - UNICEF</td>
<td>Risk communication, surveillance, capacity building, sanitizers, etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>$32,800</td>
<td>One UN</td>
<td>Risk communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>4,300,000</td>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>TBD (project in progress)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>Lab Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$6,402,713</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moldova has put in a request to NATO’s Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) Overview of Outstanding Requests for International Aid.

Moldova is among a number of countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, Hungary, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran and the Union of Myanmar) that Japan has offered free trial anti-influenza drug Avigan (Favipiravir) to help strengthen the international efforts to conduct clinical trials to treat Covid-19. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Integration of Europe welcomes the initiative in a statement here.

Charter from China is planned, information TBC

WHO Partnership Platform https://covid-19-response.org/. All partners are invited to participate. For more information send an email to laura.fiorotto@un.org. This will shortly move to also covering social and economic requirements.

Development Partners supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Resident Coordinator’s Office in order to map all supports and avoid duplication of efforts. Focal person in RCO: laura.fiorotto@un.org and christine.petre@un.org

Preparedness & Response of UN System in Moldova

Procurement support and Equipment

- UNDP: The total number of PPE gowns delivered up to today from the contract amendment is 7,400 units (remaining 10,000 units) estimated to be delivered by 13 April, the latest.
- Please see sitrep 7 April for latest update

Assessment and Data

- The real time monitoring dashboard on Covid-19 developed with UNFPA, WHO and RCO support has reached 884,000+ views (number of times the site is accessed) as of 7 April 2020. In addition, UNFPA is working to make the dashboard available in Russian language.
- ILO/UNESCO survey for TVET providers, policy-makers and social partners on addressing the Covid-19 pandemic: The purpose of the survey, prepared by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), is to gather information on good practices and to allow knowledge sharing, with the aim of helping countries around the world mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in the areas of education and training. Moldovan constituents have been kindly invited to contribute to the survey which answers will be instrumental for shaping proposals on maintaining TVET during the Covid-19 pandemic and ensuring sufficient skills supply for post-crisis recovery.
Migration
- The UNCT’s Migration Task Force continues to meet and is currently looking at how Covid-19 and Moldova’s migration profile will affect vulnerability and development in the country. The Task force will be fundraising for support to households that stop receiving remittances and short-term migrants that return jobless as the gig economy evaporates in Europe.
- The Task Force has submitted a $2m proposal to the Migration MPTF this week with IOM, UNDP, UNICEF and ILO participating.

Education and youth
- UNICEF convened the fourth meeting of the UN Coordinated Education Task Force on 9 April. UNICEF initiated consultations with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research on the institutions who will benefit from hygiene supply under the USAID-Funded Covid-19 Response Project.
- Information on positive parenting during Covid-19 pandemics, developed with UNICEF support, translated into Romanian and Russian shared with MECR and Chisinau municipality.
- The report on Young people’s impressions on Covid and Remote Learning developed to be used for related further follow-up planning (also in relation to mental health concerns). Key findings and especially the youth’s recommendations are planned to be shared with MECR and the UN coordinated Education Task Force for Covid-19.
- U-Report youth ambassadors continued social media campaign #CyberHygiene, encouraging peers to report on fake news and #MoldovaStaAcasa, engaging others to share what they do at home during the quarantine. A LIVE webinar organized jointly with the Press Council will be broadcasted Friday, 10 April.

Socio Economic Task Force
- The task force meets regularly with the latest meeting held on 8 April.
- The UNDP socio-economic impact assessment proposal has been approved by the UNDP HQ Rapid Response Facility. It will be implemented in the coming six months. UNDP will initiate the planning process which will be shared with UNCT and the SE taskforce. The conduction of this assessment is expected to complement and capitalize on existing ongoing efforts. The proposal focuses on: 1) impact assessment and design of recovery measures for the most vulnerable groups, men and women in the context of (rising) urban-rural divide as well as income and non-inequalities, faced by most vulnerable; 2) impact of the crisis on local private sector, existing supply and sales chains, on trade and competitiveness of the enterprises of all types and size, by prioritized sectors and locations of the companies, in coordination with development partners and using newly available evidence from alternative sources of data.

Human Rights
- OHCHR today published its first two-pager in a series. The first one provides succinct information on when and how rights of the Convention on Civil and Political Rights can be limited or restricted.

Communications
- UNDP started the “Online Easter” campaign with the involvement of young people from 35 partner communities to engage virtually during Easter holidays with friends and relatives, including diaspora members. This will contribute to boosting the morale of communities, while maintaining required social distance.
- UNDP involves young graphic artists to motivate people to stay home during the pandemic. Thus, the winners of the creative workshop VotART, organized last year, will come to the next period with graphic messages/illustrations that will encourage young people to stay at home and respect the quarantine rules.
- UNICEF engaged with child vloggers to reach out to the general public and families on the importance of staying home.
● As part of the Crisis Communication team, UNICEF and WHO developed communication materials to inform Moldovans who enter the country from Covid-19 affected countries on the importance of self-isolation and the related administrative responsibility in case of non-compliance. The leaflets will be available in the airport in two languages (Romanian and Russian).
● The Resident Coordinators Office and the Government of Sweden are supporting the new Covid-19 Centre with all required signage and health information required.

Gaps/Needs Identified
● Consolidated PPE needs assessments across all non-health related sectors (police, border police, prison service)
● Coordination on bilateral support being provided

Content Contact
Christine Petre, Special Assistant to the UN Resident Coordinator
christine.petre@un.org

Media Contact
Cristina David, Communications and Advocacy, Office of the Resident Coordinator
cristina.david@un.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ONUMoldova/ * Twitter: @UNMoldova * Website: https://moldova.un.org/