



MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

**URGENT: FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION!**

## C I R C U L A R

**Ref Number:** 88-SS/CIR/2020/4

**Date:** 26 January 2020

**To:** All Tourist Accommodation Facilities

**Subject:** **Reporting of Cancellations & Reservations - Coronavirus Outbreak**

Dear Sir/Madam,

With the current outbreak of the highly contagious and rapidly spreading **Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)**, in the People's Republic of China and confirmed cases in other parts of the world, the government of the Maldives is taking all measures to prevent its spread in the Maldives. The World Health Organization's (WHO) latest assessment of the risk of the outbreak is very high in China, high at the regional level and moderate at the global level.

China being the number one market to the Maldives, and with the Chinese New Year Holidays in progress, the outbreak is predicted to affect traveler movements, especially from China. Furthermore, among the countries with confirmed cases of the virus include key markets to the Maldives.

Hence, the Ministry of Tourism will be working closely with tourism industry stakeholders to assess the situation and minimize any negative impacts of this health crisis, on the tourism industry of the Maldives. As such, a Situation Monitoring Unit (SMU) has been activated at the Ministry of Tourism. The SMU will be monitoring and collecting data on cancellations from tourist facilities. Therefore, with effect from **27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**, until further notice, all tourist facilities are requested to report their daily cancellations and reservations to this Ministry, as in the attached format. Please submit the reports to us **by noon daily (12:00hrs.)** via email to [stat@tourism.gov.mv](mailto:stat@tourism.gov.mv).

Should you have any queries regarding this, please contact Ms. Mariyam Sharmeela, Director, at 3022216.

We take this opportunity to thank you for the support and cooperation you have extended to us at all times and anticipate your full support for this and advise all facilities to follow the guidelines set by Health Protection Agency of Maldives for tourist establishments regarding the outbreak.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Mohamed Hassaan  
Senior Policy Director

