

National Solid Waste Management Policy for the Republic of Maldives



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The National Solid Waste Management Policy has been prepared to reflect the current status of solid waste management in Maldives, the results of research, and the initiatives that are already in the process of being implemented. For this we must thank all stakeholders from the private and public sectors, and from island communities who participate in the development of the Policy concepts and/ or who provided much appreciated and valued feedback during consultation. Their engagement was genuinely felt to be positive and injected enormous confidence into the process. Their contribution was significant, and one that helped greatly in the shaping of the vision, policy objectives and strategies.

Ministers Foreword

It has been over three years since the "Barriers Report" on waste management was released. The report is the first to recognise the need for a consolidated and standalone National Solid Waste Management Policy for the Maldives. The policy document itself has taken more than a year to develop and is the culmination of a number of activities in the sector undertaken over the past 18 months by the Environment Research Centre on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water.

I am pleased to note that during the development of the Policy document, a systematic process of collecting information, research and consultation was undertaken involving not only Government, but also community and private sector stakeholders. The vision of the Policy is therefore, a true and accurate reflection of what we in the Maldives wants to achieve with respect to waste management in the Maldives.

The Policy objectives are broad ranging, as they must be if we are to realise our shared Vision, and deal with many diverse aspects of waste management from governance through awareness and and behaviour. Many of the Strategies proposed to deliver the Policy Objectives will require us all to rethink, not only on present behaviour, but also our perception that all share the responsibility for waste management. It is clear this responsibility extends to those who manufacture, import and retail products as well as those who consume these products most of which are ultimately discarded as waste. We must also inculcate new ways and behaviour through which we can reuse some of the waste for useful purposes. This Policy and related programmes aims to reduce, reuse and recycle waste as a key element.

The National Solid Waste Management Policy is a significant step in the right direction and there is still much to do in the coming years. Guided by President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom's continued leadership and commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development, it is a priority of the Government to develop a good waste management system through providing policy, participation and coordination. The Objectives of this Policy and priority can be achieved through our collective commitment and participation. The Vision for waste management applies to all people and communities, Government, institutions, and industrial and commercial enterprises in the country. Accordingly, all sectors over the coming years will be required to participate and contribute to the development and implementation of the waste management policies and strategies.

I am confident that the robust and measured debate, enthusiasm and commitment in developing this policy during the consultation process will carry forward to the implementation stages. I would like to express my deep gratitude to the respective Ministries and Departments, Donors and Agencies, NGOs community and everyone for their contribution to this task. Special-

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20 January 2008

Ahmed Abdullah
Minister of Environment, Energy and Water

STEPS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE POLICY



The National Solid Waste Management Policy has been developed after an intensive process of research, reflection and consultation.

Initial Research

Initial research on the current situation on solid waste management practices was conducted, based on a literature review and site visits involving consultative meetings with the key stakeholders in waste management and an appraisal of the current practices and infrastructure.

Identification of key issues and options

From the findings of the initial research, site visits and stakeholder consultations, an issues and options paper was prepared. The issues and options paper took the current initiatives into account and highlighted the deficiencies and areas of weakness in the current waste management system.

The Issues and Options paper proposed a logical philosophical structure for the policy which would include policy statements and strategies to address the issues ordered in the following five principal objectives areas:

- establishing and activating waste management governance;
- creating waste producers' duties;
- establishing the waste management infrastructure;
- activating the waste management system; and
- influencing consumer choices and waste management practices.

Consultation Workshops

National consultation on the Issues and options was conducted, to identify the most workable and acceptable ways to take the policy forward in the Maldives. The consultation included the major government and industry stakeholders as well as the island communities. Workshops were held in Male, Kulhuduffushi, M. Muli and S. Hithaddoo. The consultation produced lively discussions about the issues and options and showed positive support for improving the solid waste management system. The consultation endorsed the general principles proposed in the Issues and Options paper. The workshops also advanced some new ideas about how the policy should be taken forward and brought some existing concepts into sharper focus.

Consultation on the drafts

A preliminary draft of the Policy based on the above methodology was prepared for review and comment with all stakeholders who had participated in concept preparation and consultation. The comments of the

NATIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT VISION AND TARGETS



This Solid Waste Management Policy has been developed by the Government in consultation with the community as a shared National vision. It applies to all people and to all community, government, institutions, industrial and commercial activities undertaken in the Maldives. This policy will be applied as a means of protecting the environment and improving living conditions in the Maldives.

Our Vision

We recognize that a national approach to waste management in the Maldives has been lacking. The lack of a national approach has resulted in inequity in governance and resources both in terms of capacity and infrastructure. We recognize that there has been a lack of leadership for waste management in the Maldives and that this has resulted from an absence of clearly defined roles and responsibilities for waste management, not just at National level but also at regional, atoll and Island level. We also recognize that there has not been adequate provision given to waste awareness, incentives to encourage positive waste management behavior and enforcement of punitive measures to dissuade negative waste management behavior.

Our vision for the future is to build on the initiatives already in place and methodically advance the development and implementation of additional initiatives that will ensure greater equity in access to waste management infrastructure and stronger administrative capacity across the Maldives. We will prioritize initiatives that will reduce the rate at which wastes are being produced by encouraging waste recycling, reuse and influencing consumer preferences. For the waste that we continue to produce we will ensure that waste disposal options selected are those which provide the maximum environmental, economic and social benefit to our communities.

Our community will become aware and actively engaged in good waste management practices by participating in waste awareness programs and in waste management planning processes at island, atoll, regional and national level. We will all begin to take responsibility for the waste we produce which may include changing our behavior in ways that will help reduce waste or by contributing towards the cost of maintaining waste management systems that ensure the wastes we produce are collected, transported and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Our first steps will be to create the basic framework and build our administrative capacity. Our administrative and regulatory framework will be structured with clear roles and responsibilities. Robust private sector participation in the delivery of waste services will be supported within this framework by establishing transparent and accountable bidding and operational arrangements.

Our medium term goals are to implement information and awareness programs to help our communities to understand, appreciate and take responsibility for the waste we produce.

Our longer-term goals are to build a system of strong and efficient waste management infrastructure, to fully fund waste management services and to move waste management forward in the Maldives with strong private sector participation.

Our targets

We are adopting targets for waste reduction, recycling and recovery to ensure progress is made toward achieving our vision. The primary targets set out the major goals. Secondary targets set out interim and supporting measures, or actions which relate to particular stakeholders or waste streams. Secondary targets are intended to facilitate a flexible approach in the roles the Government, community and private sector take in reaching the primary target.

Primary targets

The estimated quantity of solid wastes generated in our country will increase by 30% over the next 5 years from 248,000 tonnes in 2007 to 324,000 tonnes in 2012. By 2012 our target is to reduce the 2012 figure by 25% through recycling, reuse and influencing consumer preferences.

Secondary targets

- Develop a national waste awareness program and deliver at least 5 waste awareness campaigns at National, sectoral and community level. The campaigns will include messages about reducing, reusing, recycling, good waste management practice and producer responsibilities.
- Construct island waste management centres and provide equipment that will enable communities to process and manage reusable and recyclable waste materials on all islands with a population greater than 1000 persons.
- 90% of all inhabited islands to have developed island waste management plans which will include information on how island communities propose to operate and manage the island waste management centres and equipment to process and manage reusable and recyclable materials they produce;
- All Atolls and at least 10 government Ministries to have developed Waste Management Plans that will include information on how they propose to reduce, reuse and recycle the wastes they produce.
- 80% of all health care facilities to adhere to minimum standards for health care waste management.
- Develop an income based approach to national recycling that will encourage greater private sector participation in reclaiming major recyclable components of the household and commercial waste streams.
- Establish a framework for Extended Producer Responsibility where manufacturers, importers and retailers are required to support product return, collection and recovery systems or other product stewardship programs.



NATIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY



DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy

- 'Waste'** : means any substance or thing that is no longer of use, irrespective of value, and a holder discards or intends to discard from industrial, commercial, domestic, individual and/or community activity. A waste can be solid, liquid or gaseous.
- 'Commercial waste'** : means waste from premises used wholly or mainly for the purposes of a trade or business or for the purposes of sport, recreation, education or entertainment but does not include household, agricultural or industrial waste.
- 'Industrial waste'** : includes waste produced or arising from manufacturing or industrial activities or processes.
- 'Special wastes'** : are wastes that should not be managed within the mainstream waste management system by virtue of the hazards they pose or the value they may contribute. Special waste may include but are not limited to the following:
 - **'Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment' (WEEE)** - Includes all waste goods that operate on electric power (including by battery).
 - **'Hazardous waste'** - is defined in the Basel Convention. It includes corrosive, toxic, reactive, carcinogenic, infectious, irritant or otherwise harmful to health or to the environment, such as pesticides, herbicides, paints, medicines, oils, batteries and solvents.
 - **'MARPOL waste'** - means garbage from ships operating in marine waters both internationally and domestically as dealt with under Annex V and Amendment 73/78 of the MARPOL Convention. The Convention also covers harmful substances that may include garbage from ships.
 - **'Health care and related waste'** - is any waste from medical, nursing, dental, veterinary, pharmaceutical or other similar practices, treatment, care, teaching or research, which contains human or animal tissue, blood, bodily fluids, excretions, pharmaceutical products, or used swabs, dressings, syringes, needles or sharp objects and therapeutic and diagnostic nuclear isotopes.
 - **'Construction and building waste'** - is the waste derived from construction and demolition, but does not include hazardous wastes such as asbestos or lead.

PRINCIPLES

The following principles create the underlying logical and philosophical structure of the policy. They also represent universally accepted practices in waste management.

Strategic Principles:

- **Polluter pays principle** - means that polluters should bear the full costs of any measures required to protect the environment as a result of their actions. In waste management terms, this means that waste generators should pay the full costs of providing services to manage their wastes. The polluter pays principle can be applied through (i) user pays services, where the waste generator pays for the services used to collect, transport, treat and dispose of wastes produced or through (ii) extended producer responsibility where manufactures, packers, importers and retailers are required to establish and support product return, collection and recovery systems or other product stewardship programs.
- **Integrated solid waste management** - No single approach is capable of solving the mounting waste crisis due to the diversity of waste stream components, the disparities in available capital and infrastructure, and the wide variety of, geographical and demographic conditions in the Maldives. Integrated solid waste management requires consideration be given to a number of alternative waste disposal methods that, if combined and operated in a complementary manner, can work in a way that best meets local needs.
- **Waste management hierarchy** - The hierarchy indicates the relative priority of different methods of managing waste, and provides instruction to waste management policy and planning initiatives on how to progress towards more sustainable waste management practices. The first priority for more sustainable waste management is waste reduction. Some wastes may be avoided completely, while in other cases they can be minimised. After reduction comes reuse, that is putting objects back into use so that entry into the waste stream is delayed or avoided. The third level of the waste hierarchy is recycling, which means reprocessing materials back into new raw materials and products. Energy recovery means to gain value from waste products by converting them into energy. The major method used is incineration with energy recovery (EfW), although other technologies are available. Waste disposal comes at the bottom of the hierarchy and is the least desirable waste management option. The priority for waste disposal is to ensure that it is carried out to a high standard of environmental performance to make it as sustainable as possible.
- **Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO)** - BPEO entails a systematic and balanced assessment of a range of different waste disposal options, in order to identify the option which provides the maximum environmental, economic and social benefits. A BPEO analysis involves a process of identifying viable scenarios for waste management, followed by a process of performance assessing against a number of decision criteria such as environment, feasibility and cost, in order to determine which scenario is the Best Practical Environmental Option.
- **Best Available Technology Not Entailing Excessive Costs (BATNEEC)** is a principle used to judge the selection of a technology which is considered to be the best at preventing pollution, whilst at the same time being reasonable to implement in financial terms. BATNEEC is typically applied once the BPEO has been determined; for example in choosing which of a range of possible pollution control technologies should be installed at a waste facility.

- **Equity** - Waste management interventions have the potential to impact positively or negatively on society at a local and national level and can result in different winners and losers. The Social Equity principle is used to gauge the fairness in the distribution of costs and benefits, and the application criteria and decision-making processes irrespective of geographic location, gender, age etc.
- **Proximity principle** - waste will be disposed of or otherwise managed as close as possible to the geographic location where it is produced.
- **Private Sector Participation** - will be maximised wherever this is financially feasible for both the Government and the private sector, as a mechanism to deliver sustainable waste services and to introduce private sector financing into the waste management system.



Solid Waste Management Governance Principles:

- **Decision-making** - will be transparent and based on verifiable information, taking into account short term and long term impacts on the environment and community.
- **Institutional functions** - where possible, the Government will assume the role of facilitator and administrator of the waste management system and will minimise its role as service provider in favour of the private sector undertaking this function.
- **Island, Regional and Central Administrations** - will be allocated roles within the waste management system to maximise system efficiency and to facilitate the mobilisation of the entire community in sound waste management.
- **The Government leads the way** - Government agencies will act as role models to the Nation for sound waste management practices.
- **Capacity** - every waste administration will have the capacity to discharge its responsibilities.
- **Community engagement** - will be an integral part of the decision-making processes and of the implementation of the waste management system.
- **Flexibility** - will be encouraged to enable communities to develop their own optimal waste management solutions within the waste management system.
- **Incentives and disincentives** - will be applied to influence waste management behaviour.



ESTABLISHING AND ACTIVATING WASTE MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE



POLICY 1 - ESTABLISH A GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT WHICH WILL DISTRIBUTE CLEARLY DELINEATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AT ISLAND, REGION AND NATIONAL LEVELS WILL BE ESTABLISHED

Currently roles and responsibilities for leadership in waste management are split across a number of Government Ministries at the National level. As the standards, expectations and approaches differ between the Ministries mandated with roles and responsibilities for waste management there is little opportunity to develop a coordinated approach which takes account of responsibilities that may lie at regional and community level. To reverse this, the Government of Maldives will consolidate the roles and responsibilities for waste management at the National level and some governance functions will be allocated to levels closer to the community in order to maximise opportunities to engage the community about responsibility for the management of wastes they produce. Waste service delivery will also be separated from the planning and coordination functions of government in order to open up opportunities for private sector involvement and to focus government on facilitating and supporting waste management services.

STRATEGY 1.1 - Establish the following waste management administrations, delegate powers and mandate functions to administer the waste management systems:

- **The Central Waste Administration** – the Central Waste Administration will plan, regulate, co-ordinate and monitor the national waste management system, administer nationally-based waste management programs (such as for hazardous wastes, product stewardship etc), administer complex private sector participation, provide advice, guidance and capacity development assistance to the other levels of Government to enable them to perform their functions, and create an inspectorate to advise on and enforce the law.
- **Island Waste Administration** - each Island Waste Administration will be responsible for developing island based waste management plans, implementing operational policies and guidelines and complying with regulations. They will administer local arrangements for waste collection, Island Waste Management Centre operations, fee collection, simple private sector participation and co-ordinating waste transfer activities with the Atoll Administration, Regional Waste Administration and/or private sector contractor.
- **Regional/Atoll Waste Administration** - where a regional waste catchment area has been created, the Regional/Atoll Waste Administration will be responsible for developing regional waste management plans, implementing operational policies and guidelines and

complying with legislation of the Central Waste Administration. The regional Atoll waste administration will coordinate with the Island Waste Administrations and the atoll authorities within its catchment and administer arrangements for the operation of the regional Waste Management Facility.

- STRATEGY 1.2 -** Support the development of the capacity of waste administrations, so that they have the capacity to perform their functions under this Policy, through training, the preparation of operational policies and guidelines and by providing, where feasible to do so, financial assistance.:

CREATING WASTE PRODUCERS' DUTIES



POLICY 2 - ALL WASTE PRODUCERS HAVE A DUTY TO MANAGE THE WASTES THEY GENERATE

Poor waste management practice is an issue for the entire Maldivian community because it can have an impact on health, environment and economic well-being. Individuals, Government Agencies and their institutions, commercial and industrial enterprises, communities and organizations have a responsibility for the waste they generate and a duty to manage those wastes in accordance with agreed plans, operational policies and strategies.

- STRATEGY 2.1 -** Government Agencies will participate in the development of waste management plans that will include information on how they propose to reduce, reuse and recycle wastes and/or how they propose to dispose of waste that they produce. These Agencies will set an example to the rest of the Maldives for excellence in the management of the wastes they produce.

- STRATEGY 2.2 -** Individuals and householders will participate in the development of island waste management plans which will include information on how island communities propose to operate and manage Island Waste Management Centres and equipment, and how they propose to manage the reusable and recyclable wastes materials they produce. Individuals and householders will, as far as possible, contribute to the costs of providing the services used to collect, transport, treat and dispose of the wastes they generate.

- STRATEGY 2.3 -** Commercial enterprises will participate in the development of sector based waste management plans which will include information on how they propose to reduce, reuse and recycle waste materials they produce. Commercial enterprises will pay the full costs of providing the services used to collect, transport, treat and dispose of wastes they generate.



STRATEGY 2.4 - Product manufacturers, importers and retailers will participate in the development of sector based waste management plans which will include information on how they propose to reduce, reuse and recycle waste materials they produce. They will pay the full costs of providing the services used to collect, transport, treat and dispose of wastes they generate. They will also participate in extended producer responsibility programs to support product return, and recovery systems, product stewardship schemes, and/ or minimisation/ phase out schemes of products/packaging that generate waste of that can not effectively be recovered, recycled or reused.



ESTABLISHING THE WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE



POLICY 3 - WASTES WILL BE MANAGED AND DISPOSED AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE PLACE OF THEIR GENERATION.

The development of Island Waste Management Centres and Regional Waste Management Facilities are the keystones of the waste management system in the Maldives. They both enable wastes to be managed and disposed as close as possible to the place of their generation. They will apply the waste management hierarchy by making it possible to segregate wastes and minimise the quantities that leave the island for final disposal. The polluter pays principle will ensure that they will be financially viable.

STRATEGY 3.1 - Construct Island Waste Management Centres on all inhabited islands with a population of 1000 or more and ensure, as far as practicable, that the centres are equipped to enable the Island communities to reuse and recycle the wastes they produce. For Islands with populations less than 1000, provide equipment and protocols appropriate for the management of the waste volumes produced.

STRATEGY 3.2 - Develop and construct Regional Waste Management Facilities. The sites will be selected after consideration of environmental and social impacts. The most appropriate waste storage, processing and/or disposal technology solution will be selected using the Best Practical Environmental Option approach. Regional Waste Management Facilities will include facilities for the management and disposal of special wastes as appropriate.

STRATEGY 3.3 - Explore the future of the existing landfill facilities including arrangements and responsibilities for remediation, closure or upgrade.

STRATEGY 3.4 - Provide sorting infrastructure and equipment at island regional level to support the reclamation of recyclable materials from the waste stream and develop a national recycling strategy which will guide the development of a National recycling industry.

POLICY 4 - THE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL ACCOMMODATE THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF SPECIAL WASTES.

Currently Maldives lacks systems and procedures for the management and disposal of special wastes. For some special waste categories, pre treatment by the producer may enable the waste to enter the mainstream transport and disposal system, in other cases, pre treatment to a standard that will enable the waste to enter the mainstream waste system may not be possible. In such cases specific arrangement will need to be put in place to allow for the safe handling and disposal of such wastes.

STRATEGY 4.1 - The producers of hazardous wastes, MARPOL wastes and WEEE retain primary responsibility for the safe collection, handling and disposal of the wastes they generate. The Central Waste Administration will develop a system for the management and disposal of hazardous wastes, MARPOL wastes and WEEE, assist and facilitate these wastes' producers to develop and implement operational policies, guidelines and standard operating procedures, and explore the feasibility of engaging private sector participation in the delivery of waste management services for such wastes.

STRATEGY 4.2 - The producers of health care and related wastes retain primary responsibility for the safe collection, handling and disposal of the wastes they generate. The Central Waste Administration will assist and facilitate health care waste producers to develop and implement operational policies, guidelines and standard operating procedures for health care and related wastes, including those wastes which cannot enter in to the mainstream waste system.

STRATEGY 4.3 - Develop guidelines for the reuse and recycling of construction and building wastes.

POLICY 5 - WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING WILL BE BASED ON VERIFIABLE FACTS AND KNOWN EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES.

Information enables transparency and accountability and enables the waste administrations to make strategic decisions based on verifiable facts. Gathering information about the quantities and types of wastes generated in the country is critical to future waste management planning and review. It is also an effective means to track the movement of waste to ensure that it is managed and disposed of properly.

STRATEGY 5.1 - Develop a database that generates information about the types and quantities of wastes, and provides details of their transport, treatment and final disposal location. The information from the database will be used to monitor progress towards achieving waste reduction targets and to review and set future waste-related targets. Information from the data base will be made publicly available.

STRATEGY 5.2 - Develop operational policies requiring Islands Waste Administrations, waste transporters, specified waste producers and waste management facilities to supply information to the database. Government agencies, commercial and industrial enterprises, islands and the private sector waste service providers will be encouraged to access the data when developing waste management plans or making decisions about waste management.

ACTIVATING THE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



POLICY 6 - THE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL BE FINANCIALLY VIABLE.

The waste management system should not suffer from financial incapacity as this will compromise its ability to manage wastes effectively. Taking into account equity and capacity to pay issues, the polluter pays principle will be activated to secure the financial viability of the system. This will also create the conditions for the entry of the private sector into the delivery of waste management services.

STRATEGY 6.1 - Establish a user pays system where waste producers will pay for the total cost (including a government contribution) for the services used to collect, transport, treat and dispose of wastes generated. The cost to manage household, municipal, industrial, commercial and institutional waste will be calculated taking into account the true cost of providing the waste services and the capacity of the waste generators to pay.

STRATEGY 6.2 - Establish a framework for Extended Producer Responsibility where manufacturers, importers and retailers are required to support product return, collection and recovery systems or other product stewardship programs.

STRATEGY 6.3 - Establish a dedicated fund to support waste management initiatives. The fund will enable contributions to be made under extended producer responsibility programs as well as from import taxes imposed on products and materials which when become waste can not be reclaimed or are hazardous.

POLICY 7 - CONSOLIDATED LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS POLICY

Legislation is necessary to give legal effect to the policy and to provide clarity, consistency and transparency within a comprehensive body of laws. Participants of the consultative process consistently requested this legislation to be strong.

STRATEGY 7.1 - Review current legislative mandates for waste management in the Maldives and develop consolidated legislation that will support the implementation of the National Solid Waste Management Policy, including facilitating private sector participation, ensuring transparent decision-making, and enabling regulatory enforcement.

STRATEGY 7.2 - Review commitments made by the Government of the Republic of Maldives to International Conventions, Protocols and obligations relating to solid waste management and, where required, develop enabling mechanism so that they have legal force in the Maldives.

POLICY 8 - PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION (PSP) WILL BE FACILITATED WHERE IT IS FINANCIALLY VIABLE FOR BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

Greater involvement of the private sector in waste management will generate business and employment opportunities. The private sector has the capacity to bring additional and much-needed finances to the waste management system. For PSP to be effective it must be well planned, managed and administered transparently.

STRATEGY 8.1 - Identify the types of businesses that the private sector could become involved with and encouraged private sector participation in providing waste management services that are necessary and where there is opportunity to create viable and profitable businesses.

STRATEGY 8.2 - Develop and establish the forms of Private Sector Participation to be employed, and the procedures and administrative arrangements necessary to implement participation of the private sector in waste management in the Maldives.



INFLUENCING CONSUMER CHOICES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



POLICY 9 - FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES WILL BE PURSUED TO SUPPORT GOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Fiscal incentives and disincentives are extremely effective as a means to discourage the purchase of goods of significant waste concern and to reverse poor waste management behaviour

STRATEGY 9.1 - The polluter pays principle will be applied as far as practicable as a direct cost on waste producers through the user pays systems and on manufacturers, importers and retailers through the extended producer responsibility initiatives and product stewardship schemes. The polluter pays principle will be introduced in order to encourage waste reduction across all sectors of Maldivian society.

STRATEGY 9.2 - Create incentives and disincentives through the import duties system. The dedicated waste management fund will target revenues from import taxes imposed on products and materials which, when they become waste, cannot be reclaimed or are hazardous.

POLICY 10 - GOODS THAT ARE HARMFUL TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR CAUSE PUBLIC NUISANCES AND UNACCEPTABLE WASTE ACTIVITIES WILL BE DISCOURAGED

Certain goods are harmful to human health and the environment or cause a public nuisance because when they become waste they cannot be safely reused, recycled or disposed of. The importation of these goods should be discouraged. Certain activities also harmful to human health and the environment or cause a public nuisance. These activities should be discouraged.

STRATEGY 10.1 - Prohibit the importation of non-biodegradable plastic bags and develop the facility to ban further importation of other wastes for which there is little or no opportunity to recover or recycle.

STRATEGY 10.2 - Prohibit activities such as dumping waste and littering and introduce a licensing system that prohibits certain activities such as collecting, transporting and disposing of special wastes except under license.

STRATEGY 10.3 - Create an Inspectorate within the Central Waste Administration to advise and enforce legislative provisions relating to the Import of prohibited goods and unacceptable waste activities.

POLICY 11 - THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN AND AWARENESS ABOUT GOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES WILL BE MAXIMISED

Awareness raising is central to the success of the waste management system. All waste producers must appreciate the negative impact of poor waste practices and the benefits of good waste management practices. Awareness mobilises the community, enhances voluntary compliance and community engagement within the system.

STRATEGY 11.1 - Develop a National Waste Awareness Program targeting the community, formal and informal education sectors, the media, commercial and industrial enterprises and Government agencies. The Awareness Program will include messages about reduce, reuse, recycle good waste management practice, consumer preferences and producer responsibility for the wastes they produce.

STRATEGY 11.2 - Develop and deliver waste awareness and training campaigns that engage and inform the community, formal and informal education sectors, the media, commercial and industrial enterprises and Government agencies about the waste management system and good waste management practices for the wastes they produce.

STRATEGY 11.3 - Deliver national campaigns to engage and inform the community and special waste producers about safe handling and good waste management practice for the treatment and disposal of special wastes.





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