

National Healthcare Waste Management Strategic Plan

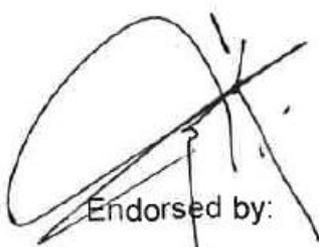
2016-2021



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Table of Contents

Abbreviations	3
Foreword	4
Lead Authors.....	5
Working Group Members	5
Introduction and Justification	6
Strategic Approaches	7
Strategic Priorities	8
1.1 Strategic Priority 1: Improving the legal framework for healthcare waste management.....	8
1.2 Strategic Priority 2: Improving knowledge management and capacity building	8
1.3 Strategic Priority 3: Implementing of an integrated healthcare waste management system.....	8
1.4 Strategic Priority 4: Improving and adapting of national and local monitoring and evaluation process	8
1.5 Strategic Priority 5: Resource Mobilization	8
Objectives to implement the strategic priorities.....	8
1.6 Strategic Priority 1 Objectives:.....	9
1.7 Strategic Priority 2 Objectives:.....	9
1.8 Strategic Priority 3 Objectives:.....	9
1.9 Strategic Priority 4 Objectives:.....	9
1.10 Strategic Priority 5 Objectives:.....	9
Strategic Plan Implementation and Monitoring.....	9
Implementation Plan 2016 – 2021	10
1.11 Strategic Priority 1: Improving of the legal framework on healthcare waste management.....	10
1.12 Strategic Priority 2: Improving of knowledge management and capacity building.....	12
1.13 Strategic Priority 3: Implementing of an integrated healthcare waste management system.....	17
1.14 Strategic Priority 4: Improving and adopting of national and local monitoring and evaluation process	21
1.15 Strategic Priority 5: Resource Mobilization	23

Abbreviations

EPA	Environment Protection Agency
HCF	Health Care Facility
HCWM	Healthcare Waste Management
HPA	Health Protection Agency
RAHSD	Regional and Atoll Health Service Division
MFDA	Maldives Food and Drug Authority
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoEE	Ministry of Environment and Energy
QAD	Quality Assurance Division
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
WAMCO	Waste Management Cooperation
WHO	World Health Organisation

Foreword

Developing an integrated and sustainable health care waste management system is of utmost importance to ensure that all wastes generated within the health sector are managed without adverse effects on human health and environment, as the Republic of Maldives is moving towards the development of an environmentally sound waste management system in the country.

The development of this strategic plan under the “National Healthcare Waste Management Policy (2016)” is a key achievement to improve the present situation of health care waste management in Maldives. This strategic plan will, therefore, guide in enforcing the “National Healthcare Waste Management Policy 2016” and achieving its objectives through the establishment of an integrated countrywide system that is economical, socially and environmentally sustainable. Implementation of this plan in the future will protect the patients, the health of the workers, the health of the public and the environment from hazards associated with health care wastes generated in the country.

I acknowledge that the “Health Care Waste Management Strategic Plan (2016 – 2021)” was developed through extensive consultations with the relevant government institutions, health care facilities in the Male city, and relevant non- governmental organizations. I guarantee that the plan is practical and achievable.

Likewise, effective implementation of this plan requires multi-sectorial effort, cooperation, and engagement at all levels. It requires the involvement of the institutions that generates health care waste, relevant stakeholders of the government, public partner agencies and other institutions, to protect the health of our people and environment.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the members who worked hard in making this plan a success and call upon all the relevant stakeholders to join hands with Ministry of Health in the successful implementation of the plan.

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Introduction and Justification

Healthcare waste poses risks to human health and to the environment when managed inappropriately. The Ministry of Health (MoH) of the Republic of Maldives, recognises the need to improve the management of healthcare waste in the country. Hence, the “National Healthcare Waste Management Policy 2016” states the following vision:

“Ensuring that all waste generated within the health sector is managed without adverse effects on human health and environment in an integrated manner that is environmentally and economically sustainable.”

In this Strategic Plan the gaps of the current healthcare waste management system in the country are identified and accordingly objectives, key statements and priorities of actions are outlined to improve the management of healthcare waste in the country.

Health Master Plan 2016-2025 identifies healthcare waste management as an area of concern for health care quality. It states the enforcement of regulations and standards on the management of waste and waste reduction, including healthcare waste.

The purpose of this Strategic plan is to enforce the “National Healthcare Waste Management Policy” by establishing a countrywide integrated healthcare waste system, which is managed without adverse effects on human health and environment, and that is environmentally and economically sustainable.

Strategic Approaches

This strategic plan and strategic plan was developed in consultation with the following stakeholders;

1. Ministry of Health
2. Ministry of Environment and Energy
3. Ministry of Finance and Treasury
4. Environment Protection Agency
5. Maldives Food and Drug Authority
6. Health Protection Agency
7. Faculty of Health Science
8. Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital
9. Hulhumale' Hospital
10. Villimale Hospital
11. Waste Management Cooperation Ltd
12. Medica Hospital
13. ADK Hospital
14. Maldivian Blood Services
15. Senahiya
16. UNDP

The implementation plan is based on the identified priority areas, objectives, and activities. A phased implementation is envisaged, which will start with the improvement of the legal framework, capacity building, public awareness building activities and the initiation of a pilot project.

This strategic plan is developed in line with the “National Waste Management Policy” and “Waste Management Strategic Action Plan” endorsed by the Ministry of Environment and Energy which envisages the establishment of Waste Centres on each inhabited island and the construction of Regional Waste Management Facilities.

Strategic Priorities

An assessment was done to identify the current practices of health care waste management in Maldives. The following areas were identified based on the findings:

Strategic Priority 1: Improving the legal framework for healthcare waste management

Requirements for the safe management of healthcare waste need to be reflected within various legal instruments. Therefore, the revision of the existing legal framework and the development of new instruments which are in line with this strategic plan are needed.

Strategic Priority 2: Improving knowledge management and capacity building

To promote proper knowledge management on healthcare waste by institute training programs and raising awareness among policy makers, healthcare workers, waste handlers, patients and the general public.

Strategic Priority 3: Implementing of an integrated healthcare waste management system

In order to improve the safe management of healthcare waste without adverse effects to the human health and environment, an integrated healthcare waste management system will be implemented in line with national waste management requirements and international treaties.

Strategic Priority 4: Improving and adapting of national and local monitoring and evaluation process

Good governance requires periodic monitoring of health care waste management activities and corrective actions.

Strategic Priority 5: Resource Mobilization

Resource mobilization will ensure different types of support such as physical, financial, technical, and human capacity to achieve the strategic plan.

Objectives to implement the strategic priorities

Based on the above-outlined priority areas, the objectives and general activities needed to implement the strategic plan are outlined. The comprehensive approach of this strategic plan needs to aim all different kinds of waste generated in healthcare facilities (general waste, infectious and sharp waste, pharmaceutical waste, pathological waste, hazardous waste and chemical waste) from point of generation to disposal. Here, the measures need to be planned for each waste management step: waste minimization, Segregation, internal transport, storage, treatment, external transport, and disposal.

Strategic Priority 1 Objectives:

Review and revise existing legal documents
Strengthen policy and regulatory structures for HCWM

Strategic Priority 2 Objectives:

Develop national training packages on health care waste management
Implementation of developed HCWM training programs
Increase advocacy awareness for behavioural change
Promote Research, new technologies and innovative methods for sound management of HCW

Strategic Priority 3 Objectives:

Assessment of the current waste management situation
Set up of an integrated system in a pilot Atoll
HCWM Planning
Promote green procurement and minimizing waste
Improvement of Infectious Waste and Sharp Waste Management
Improvement of Pharmaceutical and Chemical Waste Management

Strategic Priority 4 Objectives:

Assessment of current monitoring situation
Strengthen reporting, monitoring, and evaluation mechanism on HCWM
Regular monitoring and evaluation of the Health Care Waste Management System and performance of the equipment

Strategic Priority 5 Objectives:

Establish sustainable sources of funding
Budget completion

Strategic Plan Implementation and Monitoring

The implementation of the strategic plan will be achieved through the development and integration of the proper management of healthcare waste into the current waste management activities. Furthermore, the annual action plans of city/atoll/island councils will contribute to the implementation of the Strategic plan. Decisions on the adjustments of the Plan will be taken on the basis of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of annual plans.

MOH plays the role of coordination of the process of implementation and monitoring and is responsible for:

a systematic analysis and evaluation of the annual reports on the status of implementation;

- The validity of the necessary costs for the implementation of strategic activities;
- Identify possible sources of funding the implementation of measures;
- Organization monitoring and evaluation system,
- Identify deviations from the stated goals and objectives, analyse the causes and make the necessary adjustments.
- Dissemination of the results of monitoring and reporting to relevant stakeholders.

Implementation Plan 2016 – 2021

1.1 Strategic Priority 1: Improving of the legal framework on healthcare waste management

#	Objectives	Measures / Actions	Expected results	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				Responsible agency (ies)	Budget USD
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																						
1	Review and revise existing legal documents	Identify gaps and outdated legal documents, Identify overlapping mandates of authorities and relevant stakeholder	Clear understanding of terminology, overlapping mandates and roles and responsibilities identified																									HPA, MoH, MoEE	0
		Review and revise existing legal documents	Existing legal documents are revised																									HPA, MoH, MoEE	3,000
2	Strengthen Policy and regulatory structures for HCWM	Develop and update missing and outdated legal documents in the area of healthcare waste management	Legal documents developed and updated																									Foreign Ministry, MoH, HPA, Labour relations Authority, WAMCO, MoEE, EPA, MoT, LGA,	6,500
		Disseminate strategic plan and legal documents on HCWM to relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders are informed about the strategic plan and legal documents on HCWM																									HPA	3,000
		Clear definition and approval of roles and responsibilities	Roles and responsibilities are documented and approved																									Foreign Ministry, MoH, HPA, Labour relations Authority, WAMCO, MoEE, EPA, MoT,	0

1.2 Strategic Priority 2: Improving of knowledge management and capacity building

#	Objectives	Measures / Actions	Expected results	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				Responsible agency (ies)	Budget USD
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																						
1	Develop national training packages on health care waste management	Identify gaps and needs of the current training system for healthcare waste management	Gaps and needs are identified																									MoH / HPA	0
		Develop a training package for health care workers and conduct a trial training for the final revision of the training package.	The training package is available, trial training conducted and training package finalized.																									MoH	16,000
		Develop an online training tool for regular refresher training activities – trial testing and revision	Online training tool is developed, tested and revised																									MoH	4,000
		Liaise with relevant government bodies to approve HCWM component to be included in the curriculum	Content approved																									HPA	0
		Consultative meetings with Universi-	A national training/capacity building																									MOH/MNU & MOE	11,300

#	Objectives	Measures / Ac-	Expected results	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Responsible	Budget
		ty, Education Ministry & Ministry of Health: Develop and incorporate HCWM for various categories of training /assessments	for HC waste management in the education sector is developed								
		Resource mapping to identify trainers trained on HCWM	Trained trainers are identified and documented.							HPA	0
2	Implementation of developed HCWM training programs	Train and certify master trainers from MNU campuses and schools, create pool of trainers at regional level	Master trainer and pool of trainers are trained							MNU/HPA/MoH	130,000
		Assign a focal point in HCWM in each health facility and train focal points by the master trainers at regional level	Have a trained person in HCWM in each health care facility							MoH / Health facilities	9000.00
		Mandatory sensitization programs to Policymakers	Policy makers and Hospital managers are trained							HPA with institutions	2,500

#	Objectives	Measures / Ac-	Expected results	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			2021			Responsible	Budget
		and Hospital managers																					
		Mandatory basic training for various cadres by the trained focal persons of the healthcare facilities: Attendants / Housekeeping, staff/contractors, waste handlers outside hospital, waste equipment operators, focal points from island councils	Personnel from various cadres are trained on HCWM																			HC facilities	0
		Follow up & refresher training on annual basis at regional level	Follow up done and refresher conducted on annual basis																			HPA with institutions	0
		Introduce and provide an online mandatory training and assessment module for all levels of staff employed in a health care facility.	The online training introduced and used.																			MoH	0
3	Increase advocacy awareness for behavioral	Develop and disseminate "Information, Education	Leaf-lets/posters/Ads developed and dis-																			HPA	6,500

#	Objectives	Measures / Ac-	Expected results	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Responsible	Budget
	change	and Communica- tion” materials to create awareness	seminated								
		Promote aware- ness on HCWM for Policymakers (Green and environment- friendly procure- ment) and waste handlers by picto- rial reminders, promote guide- lines and SOPs	Improved aware- ness among policy makers and relevant stakeholders							HPA / Institu- tions	6,500
		Increase aware- ness by Radio, TV ads and social media, Mobile phone Applica- tions	Improved aware- ness of the public							HPA / Institu- tions	4,000
4	Promote Re- search, new technologies and innovative methods for sound man- agement of HCW	Enhance collabo- ration between MNU/private col- leges faculties and other stakeholders in order to facili- tate research in the area of HCWM	Locally adapted methods identified / Global best practices contextualized							HPA / MoEE / MNU / MoE	0
		Conduct research on healthcare waste incinerator/waste	Research paper is written and dissemi- nated							MoEE / EPA / MNU	10,000

#	Objectives	Measures / Actions	Expected	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Responsible	Budget
			and health facility staffs trained and awareness created							/ MoH	6,500 per atoll)
		Conduct stakeholders' meeting to share the results of the pilot project	Pilot project result shared with relevant stakeholders							UNDP / WHO / MoH	2,000
		Development of HCWM plans templates specific to the kind and level of institution	Templates on HCWM plans are developed and disseminated							Health Facilities	0
3	Improving HCWM Planning and procurement process	Develop a proper procurement plan (annual plan)	Annual plans are available							RAHSD MOH	/0
		Disseminate the specifications of the consumables/commodities/supplies	Specifications are available and disseminated							RAHSD MOH	/0
		Calculation of annual budget needed for HCWM at each HCF and provided as a separate budget line.	Annual operation and maintenance costs are calculated and available.							Healthcare facilities, councils, MoH, MoFT	0
4	Promote green procurement and minimizing	Developing a Resource Toolkit for Green procurement	Green procurement toolkit developed							HPA and MoEE / EPA	2,500

#	Objectives	Measures / Actions	Expected	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				Responsible	Budget				
		generated	for infectious and sharp waste are available and operational for all HCF																														115000.00
6	Improvement of Pharmaceutical and Chemical Waste Management	Establishment of storage areas for pharmaceutical and chemical waste in the HCF in accordance with national guideline	Storage areas for pharmaceutical and chemical waste are available in all HCF																									MoH/ RAHSD/HPA	0				
		Ensure regular collection and treatment of pharmaceutical and chemical waste on regional/national level	Regular collection contracted and contracts available																									MoH/MFDA / RAHSD / HPA	0				

1.5 Strategic Priority 5: Resource Mobilization

#	Objectives	Measures / Actions	Expected results	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021				Responsible agency (ies)	Budget USD
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																						
1	Establish sustainable funding sources	Listing down pipeline projects	Pipeline projects identified																									HPA / stakeholders	0
		Identify co-financing possibilities	Co-financing possibilities identified																									HPA / stakeholders	0
		Donor Forum (local and international)	Sustaining HCWM system																									MoH/WAMCO/MoEE	5,000
		Undertake resource mapping of all health facilities and identify gaps in funding	Resource mapping was done and gaps identified																									HPA/RAHSD, MoH	0
2	Budget completion	Complete budget calculation of the strategic plan	Budget calculation completed and reviewed																									MoH/HPA	-
		Approval of budget	Budget approved																									MoH / MoFT	-

