

## MACL contributes to the menstrual health awareness program conducted by Zero Waste Maldives.



**Velana International Airport, June 14, 2023** - The Maldives Airports Company Limited (MACL) proudly announces its contribution to the Menstrual Health Awareness Program. This program is led by Zero Waste Maldives in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The Menstrual Health Awareness Program aims to empower women and girls in the local islands, promote sustainable behaviors, and support a climate-friendly menstrual health management system. These goals align closely with national strategic priorities to phase out single-use plastics by 2023 and further women's empowerment.

A ceremony was held at the MACL Corporate Office where the donation cheque was handed over to representatives of Zero Waste Maldives and the UNFPA. Deputy Managing Director of MACL, Mr. Ibrahim Thoha, represented the company and handed the cheque to Mariyam Hamsha Hussain, Co-Founder of Zero Waste Maldives, in the presence of Shadiya Ibrahim, Head of Office, UNFPA Maldives.

In his remarks, Mr. Thoha emphasized the importance of the project: "We are committed to contributing to national development through NGOs and international organizations. This particular project is significant for women's health and contributes to environmental sustainability, aligning with MACL's long-term vision."

This donation falls under MACL's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, as the company continues to support young women in local islands and contributes to the national strategic priority of phasing out single-use plastics. These actions reflect MACL's commitment to environmentally sustainable operations and safeguarding the environment.

The Menstrual Health Awareness program has already had significant reach, impacting over 45,000+ people through various community awareness activities. To date, the program has distributed over 700+ menstrual cups and reusable pads across 20 Atolls and conducted more than 31 sessions both physically and virtually. These efforts have contributed to avoiding over 1.1 tons of menstrual waste annually.

**NOTE TO EDITOR:**

**About MACL**

Maldives Airports Company Limited (MACL) is a 100% government owned limited liability company incorporated under the Companies Act of the Rep of Maldives. MACL is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Privatisation & Corporatisation Board of the Maldives. The Corporate Office of MACL is on the island of Hulhule', Republic of Maldives.

Website: <https://www.macl.aero/corporate/about/profile>

**About Zero Waste Maldives**

Zero Waste Maldives is a Civil Society Organisation that was founded in 2018 and legally registered in the Maldives in 2019. Zero Waste Maldives works on the focus areas of Waste Reduction, Circular Economy, and Climate Change.

The organization also works on promoting a Zero Waste Low Impact Lifestyle in the Maldives and to enable individuals, businesses, communities, and the government to send nothing to the oceans, landfills or incinerators.

Website: <https://zerowastemaldives.com/>

**About UNFPA**

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is the world's largest agency for population development, with programmes in over 140 countries. UNFPA is also the UN's Sexual and Reproductive Health Agency, which empowers people, especially young women and girls, adolescents and the elderly – to manage their own lives and ensure right to bodily autonomy. It is a core mandate of UNFPA to ensure that all individuals make informed decisions in their life, to contribute meaningfully to society and to the progress of the population without leaving anyone behind.

Website: [www.maldives.unfpa.org/en/past-experience](http://www.maldives.unfpa.org/en/past-experience)

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