

## Aide-Memoire

### 1. Background

Management of solid wastes and sewage was the subject of Chapter 21 of Agenda 21, which recognized that “environmentally sound management of wastes was among the environmental issues of major concern in maintaining the quality of the Earth’s environment and especially in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development in all countries.” Solid wastes, as referred to in Chapter 21, included all domestic refuse and non-hazardous wastes such as commercial and institutional waste, street sweepings and construction debris and, in some countries, human waste. Hazardous waste is frequently intermixed with othe

identifying practical actions and options by all implementation actors to overcome obstacles and constraints, address new challenges and opportunities as well as share lessons learned and best practices in waste management for sustainable development.

In this regard, the outcome of the 2010 Consultative Meeting will contribute to the overall designing and programming of the International Conference in 2011.

## **2. Rationale and Objectives**

The rapid increase in volume and diversification of solid wastes generated mainly as a result of economic growth, urbanization, industrialization, and unsustainable production and consumption patterns has severe impacts on the global and local environment, natural resources, public health, local economy, and living conditions, and threatens the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. Thus, development of appropriate policy frameworks and institutional arrangements are essential for providing efficient waste management services to the local communities, as well as to overcome health- and environment-related challenges resulting from poor service provision and facilities.

In developing countries, a number of challenges and obstacles on the proper waste management and 3R could be pointed out, such as the lack of organizations, systems and institutions in national and local governments, the shortage of the human resources in the local governments and the operator and the manager of the private companies and the group on waste management, financial problems of waste management services and facilities, increase of the necessity of the management of hazardous



The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) of UN/DESA), *inter-alia*, facilitates advancing the implementation of a sustainable development agenda by regularly organizing conferences, capacity-building workshops, and expert group meetings with emphasis on building national capacities through sharing of lessons learned, promoting scaling up of best practices, and creating opportunities for building partnerships. These conferences/workshops are usually organized around the issues/themes to be considered by the CSD in that particular year/cycle.

## **5. Participants**

Participation in the International Consultative Meeting is by invitation only. It is expected that some 40 to 50 managers/experts/participants from around the world and from the host country will attend the event, including:

- Senior managers of public waste management utilities (municipalities)
- Private service providers
- Community-managed waste management programmes
- Mayors of selected cities
- Selected national government officials and policymakers
- Representatives of UN and international institutions, including international financial institutions/donors
- Distinguished waste management experts