

BAA ATOLL CONSERVATION FUND BOARD MEETING

Date: 14 February 2015

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: Ministry of Environment and Energy

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting of the Baa Atoll Conservation Fund Board was attended by 8 participants from 8 stakeholder organisations (Annex 1).

The meeting was chaired by the Director General of the Ministry of Environment and Energy, Mr. Ibrahim Naeem.

In his opening remarks he welcomed all members who attended the meeting and briefed the participants on the agenda items scheduled for the meeting (Annex 2).

Agenda, Item 2

Presentation of BACF 2015 Budget, BR Office Workplan 2015

As the second item on the agenda the BACF 2015 Budget BACF together with the Workplan of BR Office of 2015 was presented by the Fund Manager and BR Office. In the presentation briefing was given on the work undertaken by the Programmes of the BR Office (Conservation, Outreach and Livelihood).

With regards to BACF Budget and BR Workplan, the following were discussed:

BACF

All documents presented in the meeting in relation to the finance are work undertaken by the Finance Department of the Environment Ministry as it is them who look after the financial aspects of the Fund and the BR Workplan was prepared by BR Office.

CHAIR/EPA

Reiterated that Finance Department of the Ministry is responsible to produce all financial reports.

BR Office

Informed the members that BR office has plans to undertake work in relation to birds and turtles as there has been an increase in poaching of turtles for their eggs and catching of migratory birds and informed that BR Office will be working closely with resorts in the atoll to work collectively on this.

RESORT REPRESENTATIVE

In principle no issues with the Workplan and Budget and welcomed the initiative to work more closely with BR Office in managing the atoll. Also highlighted that more work needs to be undertaken by the concerned authorities working together with all stakeholders in ensuring that enforcement of rules is in place.

It was also mentioned that visiting Liveboards need to be more aware of what Baa Atoll is about and BR Office should in their workplan include a component on an outreach component on this subject.

LAM

The representative from LAM agreed to the suggestion and indicated that they are willing to work with BR Office and this and agreed that Baa is different to other atolls and awareness should be raised on this subject.

EPA

It was mentioned that BR Office has informed EPA that visiting international yachts, catamarans etc. to the atoll is an issue as most of the time those on board do not speak good English and communication with them is an issue and are not aware of the regulations in place.

LGA

If the case is so the representative from LGA mentioned that EPA should work with Tourism Ministry and others involved in providing permits to these vessels in making them aware of Baa Atoll BR.

BAA ATOLL COUNCIL

Agreed to the suggestions on addition of more outreach work to the workplan focussing on birds, turtles and working with Liveboards and are ready to work with all.

The following decisions were taken by the BACF Board in relation to the Agenda Items discussed:

1. Approval was given to the Workplan and the Budget by the members.
2. To include a segment in the Workplan on Outreach for Liveboards.

The meeting came to a close at 3.00pm.

Annex 1

Participant's List

	Name	Designation	Organization
1.	Ibrahim Naeem	Director General	Environment Protection Agency
2.	Mohamed Adil	President	Baa Atoll Council
3.	Peter Gremes	General Manager / RBR	Resort Representative
4.	Abdulla Azmeen	Assistant Director	LGA
5.	Ismail Shahid	Vice President, LAM	LAM
7.	Shaafee Ali	Outreach Officer	BR Office
8	Abdulla Shibau	Fund Manager	BACF

Other Participant's

	Name	Designation	Organization
1.	Mariyam Rifga	Environment Analyst	Environment Protection Agency

Annex 2

Agenda

1. Welcome Chairman
2. BACF Workplan 2015/ Budget Discussion BACF
3. Discussion
4. Other Issues