

# WORKSHOP RELATED TO THE SECOND NATIONAL COMMUNICATION TO THE UNFCCC HELD

A stakeholder workshop which was composed of Government ministries, regulatory bodies and civil societies, was held on 2nd March 2011 in Hakuraa Maalan at Dharubaaruge to discuss the formulation of

the project document required for the financing of the Second National Communication to be submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).



The workshop was inaugurated by the Minister of State for Housing and Environment, Dr. Mohamed Shareef. In his opening speech, he highlighted the National Communications as an important strategic tool to help countries align their interests and priorities to the overall goals of the UNFCCC. He also mentioned that they are also the principal instruments for highlighting and disseminating climate change concerns to a wider national audience.

The main elements of the national communications are information regarding emissions as well as its reductions, and also details of the activities the Party has undertaken to implement the UNFCCC. These elements are core for both Annex1 and non-Annex1 Parties to the UNFCCC.

Maldives comes under non-Annex1 parties and the First National Communication was submitted by the Maldives in November 2001. The preparation for the Second National Communication is currently underway and the ICF Marbek will be assisting in developing the preparatory project documents required to secure financing of the Second National Communication.



The outcome of this workshop will guide the whole National Communication process. The overall objective of this stakeholder workshop is to present findings and

outcomes of the past three day consultations that were carried out by the project consultant. Also, this workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the findings and fine tune the structure of the Second National Communication.

The celebrations, led by the Scouts Association of Maldives, followed this year's official theme "Go Beyond The Hour" – encouraging the community to plan environmental activities throughout the year instead of only switching off lights during Earth Hour.