

The Drainage and Plumbing Regulations 1996.

In accordance with the powers vested in the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the mandate of the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority, the Minister of Health and Welfare hereby makes the following regulations.

1. Title and Commencement

- (1) These regulations may be cited as the Drainage and Plumbing Regulations 1996.
- (2) These regulations shall come in to force on first day of July 1996.

2. Purpose

- (1) The purpose of the regulations is to ensure that premises intended for human occupation are provided with adequate sanitary fixtures to protect and promote the health of residents and visitors, and
- (2) To safeguard people from illness due to infection or contamination resulting from personal hygiene activities, and
- (3) To protect people from loss of amenity due to the presence of unpleasant odours or the accumulation of offensive matter resulting from foul water disposal.

3. Definitions

- (1) In those regulations, the various terms used shall have the meanings defined as follows, unless the context otherwise requires.

“Adequate” means adequate to achieve the purpose of these regulations

“Authority” means the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority

“Diameter” means the nominal internal diameter

“Discharge Pipe” means any pipe which is intended to convey discharges from sanitary fixtures or sanitary appliances and includes a waste pipe, combined waste pipe, branch discharge pipe and discharge stack

“Drain” means a pipe normally laid below ground level including fittings and equipment, and intended to convey foul water or surface water to an outfall.

“Drain vent pipe” means any pipe which is intended to permit the movement of air into and out of a drain or sewer.

“Fitting” or “Fixture” means any article which is intended to remain permanently attached to and form part of a building

“Fixture discharge pipe” means a discharge pipe which is used to convey waste from a single sanitary fixture or sanitary appliance to a branch discharge pipe, a discharge stack, or directly to the drain

“Fixture vent pipe” means a vent pipe which is connected to a fixture discharge pipe or the sanitary fixture itself

“Foul water” means the discharge from any sanitary fixture or sanitary appliance

“Foul water drainage system” means drains, joints, and fittings normally laid underground and used specifically for the conveyance of foul water from the plumbing system to an outfall

“Gully trap” means a fitting designed to prevent foul air escaping from the drainage system and used to receive the discharge from waste pipes,

“Outfall” means the part of the disposal system receiving surface water or foul water from the drainage system. For foul water the outfall may include a sewer or septic tank. For surface water, the outfall may include a natural water course, kerb and channel, or soakage system.

“Plumbing System” means pipes, joints and fittings laid above ground and used for the conveyance of foul water to a foul water drain, and includes vent pipes.

“Sanitary appliance” means an appliance which is intended to be used for sanitation, but which is not a sanitary fixture. It includes machines used for washing dishes and clothes.

“Sanitary fixture” Means any fixture which is intended to be used for sanitation.

“Sanitation” means the activities of washing and/or excretion carried out in a manner so that adverse effects on health are minimised, with regard to dirt and infection.

“Sewage disposal undertaking” means a person or organisation who is the operator of a sewerage system or a storm water drainage system.

“Sewer” means a drain which is under the control of or is maintained by, a sewage disposal undertaking.

“Soil fixture” means a sanitary fixture constructed to receive solid and/or liquid excreted human waste. It includes a bedpan disposal unit, slop sink, urinal, water closet pan and bidet.

“Vent pipe” means a pipe which is open to the atmosphere at one end and acts as a pressure limiting device

“Waste pipe” means a discharge pipe which conveys the discharge from waste water fixtures to a gully trap.

“Waste water fixture” means a sanitary fixture used to receive wastes which is not a soil a fixture.

“Water seal” means the depth of water which can be retained in a water trap

“Water trap” means a fitting designed to prevent foul air escaping from the plumbing system or foul water drainage system and entering a building.

4. Application

(1) These regulations shall apply throughout the Republic of Maldives

(2) These regulations shall not apply to any existing premises except where, in the opinion of the Authority, the public health is or might be endangered, or any insanitary condition has arisen or could arise. In any such situation, the Authority may, by notice in writing, require the owner or owners concerned to undertake such remedial action as the Authority may specify, within such time as the Authority may direct.

5. Obligation to Comply

(1) Subject to Regulation 6 of these regulations, every person on whose behalf any building is erected, extended, altered or repaired, or any drain is constructed altered or repaired, or any sanitary plumbing is carried out, shall cause the provisions of these regulations to be observed in respect of such building, drain or sanitary plumbing.

6. Relation to Building Code

(1) These regulations shall be read in conjunction with any approved building code which may be issued by any government agency. Such building code may provide detailed requirements for the design, installation, construction and maintenance of drainage and plumbing systems. The

observance of the requirements of any such building code shall be deemed to constitute compliance with these regulations with respect to the design, installation, construction, and maintenance of drainage and plumbing systems.

7. General Requirements

- (1) Every premises intended for human occupation shall be provided with sanitary fixtures and sanitary appliances by the owner, as required by these regulations.
- (2) Every household unit which is connected to a piped public water supply shall have at least one water-closet pan, one wash-hand basin, one bath or shower, one kitchen sink and provision for washing clothes.
- (3) Every other household unit shall have at least one privy, and such other facilities for washing hands, bathing, preparing food and washing clothes as the Authority may require.
- (4) Every resort, hotel, guest house or other building intended for intermittent or casual human occupation shall be provided with at least the number of water closet pans, baths, showers, wash-hand basins, and urinals as set out in the First Schedule to these regulations.
- (5) Every owner of premises shall provide for the premises suitable and sufficient drainage, to carry away the whole of the foul water, storm water, and other liquid wastes from the premises to such public drain, private drain, sewage tank, or other outfall as the Authority may lawfully direct.
- (6) Every owner of premises shall provide for the premises all necessary sanitary plumbing to convey foul water from the premises

8. General Prohibitions

- (1) No person shall carry out any drainage work or any sanitary plumbing except in accordance with these regulations
- (2) No person shall carry out any drainage work or any sanitary plumbing except in accordance with a permit for that drainage work or sanitary plumbing issued by the Authority
- (3) Permits for drainage shall not be issued to any person other than the registered drainlayer who is to do the work or who is to exercise personal supervision of the work
- (4) Permits for sanitary plumbing shall not be issued to any person other than the registered plumber who is to do the work, or who is to exercise personal supervision of the work, or under whose direction the work has to be done

9. Registration of Drainlayers and Plumbers

- (1) The Authority shall maintain a register of persons who are suitably qualified and experienced to undertake drainage and sanitary plumbing in accordance with these regulations

- (2) Any person may apply to have his or her name entered in the register, and the Authority may do so subject to its being satisfied that the person concerned has the necessary qualifications and experience to undertake drainage or sanitary plumbing as the case may be.
- (3) Registration shall be for a period of not more than 12 months commencing on the first day of January of each year.
- (4) Any registered drainlayer or registered plumber who fails to comply with the requirements of these regulations shall have his or her name removed from the Register for such period as the Authority shall determine, taking into account the circumstances of the failure to comply.
- (5) The Authority may charge such fees for initial registration, re-registration and the issue of permits as it may determine, in consultation with other government agencies, from time to time.
- (6) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Authority with respect to registration, may appeal to the Minister of Health for a review of the decision.

10. Connection to Public Sewer

- (1) Wherever a public sewer is available within reasonable distance (100 m ?) of the premises, the method of disposal of foul water shall be by connecting the drain from the premises to the sewer.
- (2) No person shall connect any storm water drain to a public sewer designed for the transport of foul water.
- (3) Where no public sewer is available, foul water and storm water shall be disposed of by such methods of treatment and disposal as the Authority may specify and require.

11. Capacity of Drains

- (1) Subject to Regulation 6 of these regulations, all drains shall be of adequate capacity, and shall be designed, constructed and maintained so as to convey foul water from the building or buildings concerned without clogging or overflowing.

12. Gully Traps to be Provided

- (1) Every drainage system shall incorporate at least one gully trap so designed and installed as to isolate the plumbing system from the drainage system and to prevent the emission of odours from the drainage system.

13. Ventilation of Drainage System

- (1) Every drainage system shall be ventilated by a flow of air to minimise the accumulation of foul air

- (2) Ventilation shall be provided by a drain vent pipe near the head of the drain or by such other means as the Authority may approve.

14. Capacity of Plumbing System

- (1) Subject to Regulation 6 of these regulations, every sanitary plumbing system shall be designed, constructed and maintained so as to have adequate capacity for the foul water from the sanitary fixtures and appliances which it serves without overflowing or clogging.

15. Traps on Waste Pipes

- (1) Subject to Regulation 6 of these regulations, all discharge points to the plumbing system shall have a water trap to prevent foul air from the plumbing system entering the building.
- (2) Every trap shall be located as close as practicable to the outlet of the waste water fixture or appliance to which it is connected.

16. Ventilation of Waste Pipes

- (1) Subject to Regulation 6 of these regulations, all waste pipes shall be vented to the atmosphere to protect the water seals in water traps and water- closet pans.

17. Application and Approval for Registration and Permits.

- (1) Application for registration as a drainlayer or plumber shall be made in the form given in Second Schedule to these regulations.
- (2) Approval of registration as a drainlayer or plumber pursuant to Regulation 9 shall be given in the form given in the Third Schedule to these regulations.
- (3) Application for a permit to carry out drainage work or sanitary plumbing shall be made in the form given in the Fourth Schedule to these regulations.
- (4) Approval of permits for carrying out drainage work or sanitary plumbing shall be given in the Fifth Schedule to these regulations.

18. Offences

- (1) Every person commit an offence against these regulations who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of these regulations or with any requirements, directions, notice or approval made or given under these regulations. Every such person is liable upon conviction, to such penalty as the Maldivian Penal Code may prescribe.
- (2) For the purposes of this regulation, the continued existence of any work or thing in a state contrary to any of the provision of these regulations shall be deemed to be a continuing offence.

Explanatory Note

These regulations are administered in the Ministry of Health and Welfare by the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority.

First Schedule

Number of Sanitary Fixtures for Resorts, Hotels, Guest Houses and Other Buildings Intended for Intermittent or Casual Occupation

Type of Fixture	Maximum number of Persons Served	Minimum Number of Fixtures Required
Water Closet Pans	6 14 24 36 48 60	1 2 3 4 5 6 Plus an additional fixture for every additional 10 persons or part thereof
Wash-hand basins	6 14 24	1 2 3 Plus an additional fixture for every additional 10 persons or part thereof
Baths or Showers		10 Plus an additional fixture for every additional 10 persons or part thereof

Second Schedule

Application for Registration as Drainlayer or Plumber

To the Director
Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority
Majeedhee Magu
Male`

1. Application

I, the undersigned(Full name)..... of(Full address)..... hereby apply for registration as a drainlayer and as a plumber(strike out what does not apply) for the year ending 31 December ...(Year).....

2. Qualifications and Experience

In support of my application, I attach a brief record of my qualifications and experience. I have previously been registered as a drainlayer in the years and as a plumber in the years..... I am/am not currently registered. My current registration number is as a drainlayer, and as a plumber.

3. Application Fee

For registration as a drainlayer Rf

For registration as a plumber Rf

Total fee enclosed Rf

Date of application

Signature

Third Schedule

Form of Registration as a Drainlayer and Plumber

1. Registration

This is to certify that(Full name).....
of(Address).....
.....

is registered as a drainlayer and plumber (strike out what does not apply) for the year ending 31
December ..(Year)..... pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 9 of the Drainage and Sanitary
Plumbing Regulations 1996.

Registration Number as a Drainlayer
Registration Number as a Plumber
Date of first registration as Drainlayer as Plumber

2. Authority

This certificate is issued by the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority and entitles the holder to
undertake drainage work and sanitary plumbing in accordance with the provisions of the Drainage
and Plumbing Regulations 1996.

Name of issuing officer
Designation of issuing officer
Date

Fourth Schedule

Form of Application for Permit for Drainage Work on Sanitary Plumbing

To the Director
Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority
Majeedhee Magu
Male'

1. I the undersigned (full name) of (full address) being a registered drainlayer and registered plumber hereby apply for a permit to do the work described in the enclosed specification and as set out in the plans attached hereto, to be carried out in the premises situated at

Name of property:
Address of property:
.....

for Name of owner:
of Address of owner:
.....

2. Fees

The estimated value of the work to be carried out is

(a) Plumbing - Rf
(b) Drainage - Rf

Total - Rf

An application fee of Rf calculated at the rate of 1 Rf for each Rf
of the total value of the work, is enclosed.

Name of applicant
Registration no, as drainlayer
Registration no, as plumber
Signature
Date

Fifth Schedule

Form of Permit for Sanitary Plumbing or Drainage Work

Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority Permit No.

Mr ..(Name).....of...(full address)..... is hereby authorised to carry out the work described herein, as set out in the plans deposited with the authority, in the premises owned by Mr..(Name of owner)..... and situated at ...(Address of premises).....

Description of Work

Estimated Value of Work Rf

Permit Fee Rf Receipt No.

The work is to be carried out in accordance with the Drainage and Plumbing Regulations 1996 and shall be completed on or before(date)..... . The Authority shall be notified of the completion of work within 72 hours of completion, and may require any work which does not comply with the regulations to be removed and / or replaced so as to comply.

Name of issuing officer:

Designation of issuing officer:

Signature:

Date: