

## The initial report referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (Initial report)

<b>Party</b>	Maldives
<b>NDC period</b>	2021-2030
<b>Report number for the NDC period<sup>1</sup></b>	1
<b>Report type</b> Initial report Updated initial report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Version</b>	1.0
<b>Date</b>	03/07/2025
<b>Name(s) of cooperative approach(es) included in this report</b>	The Joint Crediting Mechanism between the Government of Maldives and the Government of Japan

### I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))

A. Information on how the Party ensures that it is a Party to the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(a), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Maldives ratified the Paris Agreement on 22 April 2016 and continues to be a Party to the Paris Agreement.

Reference: [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=XXVII-7-d&chapter=27&clang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-d&chapter=27&clang=en)

B. Information on how the Party ensures that it has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 (para. 18(a), para. 4(b), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Maldives communicated its Second Nationally Determined Contribution NDC on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and continues to implement the NDC in accordance with national plans and policies.

Reference to Second NDC:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Maldives%20Nationally%20Determined%20Contribution%202020.pdf>

The Maldives communicated its Third NDC to the UNFCCC on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The cooperation covers the period for the issuance of credits that covers GHG emission reductions or removals from JCM projects until December 31, 2030. Hence, the Second NDC will be referenced unless otherwise stated.

C. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3 (para. 18(a), para. 4(c), to be updated by para. 21(a))

The Republic of Maldives's competent Authority for Article 6.2 Cooperation and engagement in carbon markets is the Climate Change Department under the Ministry of Tourism and Environment in accordance with the Climate Emergency Act (Act no. 9/2021).

D. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place that are consistent with the Article 6, paragraph 2, guidance and relevant decisions of the CMA for tracking ITMOs (para. 18(a), para. 4(d), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Under the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) with Japan, Maldives established the JCM registry to record issuances and transactions relating to the credits issued by the Maldives side under the JCM, with a unique identifier assigned to each credit. The authorized JCM credits are issued and tracked in the Japan side's JCM registry. Both registries are developed in accordance with Common Specifications of the JCM Registry.  
The issuance records of JCM credits can be found on the country page of the JCM website <https://www.jcm.go.jp/>

E. Information on whether the most recent national inventory report required in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1 has been provided (para. 18(a), para. 4(e), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Maldives provided its most recent national inventory in the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) submitted on 16 November 2024, covering national greenhouse gas inventories from 2011 until 2022.

Reference to the First BTR:  
<https://unfccc.int/documents/643923>

F. Information on how the Party ensures participation contributes to the implementation of its NDC and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(f), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Maldives intends to use Article 6 to promote the implementation of mitigation activities, in addition to its domestic efforts, which generates emission reductions in Maldives, part of which are maintained in the country and contribute to the implementation of its NDC.

The scope of activities implemented/authorized by Maldives under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement aligns with the national priorities and climate policies of the Maldives, and supports the strengthening of its NDC implementation in sectors covered by the NDC. These activities also promote Maldives' achievement of a 26% reduction of emissions under a BAU scenario by 2030, which is consistent with the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement to limit the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C below pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C below pre-industrial levels.

## **II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))**

A. Target(s) and description, including target type(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(a))

The Maldives targets a 26% reduction in its National greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to projected emission in 2030 under business-as-usual scenario, in a conditional manner, in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by availability of financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building.

B. Target year(s) or period(s), and whether they are single-year or multi-year target(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(b))

2030, Single-year target

C. Reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s), and their respective value(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(c))

Business-as usual scenario in 2030 (3,284.92 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>eq) which is projected from base year emissions in 2011.

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D. Time frame(s) and/or periods for implementation (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(d))

The NDC implementation period is until December 31, 2030

E. Scope and coverage, including, as relevant, sectors, categories, activities, sources and sinks, pools and gases (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(e))

Sectors: Energy and Waste  
Gases: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O

F. Intention to use cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes under Article 6 towards NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(f))

The Maldives intends to engage with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, aiming to utilize its cooperative mechanisms. The Maldives is currently developing the necessary frameworks and mechanisms to facilitate its participation in Article 6 activities and is exploring opportunities for voluntary cooperation by leveraging bilateral arrangements and assessing the benefits of engaging with the international carbon market.

G. Any updates or clarifications of previously reported information (e.g. recalculation of previously reported inventory data, or greater detail on methodologies or use of cooperative approaches) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(g))

Information on updated projections done for BTR.

### III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))

A. ITMO metrics (para. 18(c))

The ITMO metric is tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq).

B. Method for applying corresponding adjustments as per chapter III.B (Application of corresponding adjustments) (para. 18(c))

1. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustment for multi- or single year NDCs that will be applied consistently throughout the period of NDC implementation, if applicable (para. 18(c))

Maldives shall apply corresponding adjustments by using the method referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, III.B 7(a)(ii), calculating the average annual amount of ITMOs first transferred and used over the NDC implementation period.

2. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustments where the method is a multi-year emissions trajectory, trajectories or budget, if applicable (para. 18(c))

Not applicable.

C. Quantification of the Party's mitigation information in its NDC in t CO<sub>2</sub> eq, including the sectors, sources, GHGs and time periods covered by the NDC, the reference level of emissions and removals for the relevant year or period, and the target level for its NDC or, where this is not possible, the methodology for the quantification of the NDC in t CO<sub>2</sub> eq (para. 18(d))

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Sectors and sources covered by the NDC	Energy and Waste
GHGs covered by the NDC	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O
Reference level of emissions and removals for the relevant year or period	3,284.92 Gg CO <sub>2</sub> eq (BAU Scenario)
Target level for the NDC	26% reduction of emissions (under a BAU scenario) in 2030

D. Quantification of the Party's NDC, or the portion in the relevant non-GHG indicator, in a non-GHG metric determined by each participating Party, if applicable (para. 18(e))

Not applicable.

E. For a first or first updated NDC consisting of policies and measures that is not quantified, information on quantification of the Party's emission level resulting from the policies and measures that are relevant to the implementation of the cooperative approach and its mitigation activities for the categories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks, as identified by the first transferring Party pursuant to paragraph 10, and the time periods covered by the NDC (para. 18(f))

Not applicable.

#### IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)

A. Copy of the authorization by the participating Party (para. 18(g))

As per the paragraph 2 of the decision on CMA.6 Article 6 paragraph 2 guidance on cooperative approaches, the authorization is clarified as the authorization of the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes from a cooperative approach referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 18. It was also noted that there are three components of authorization, as applicable: authorization of the cooperative approach, authorization of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes and authorization of entities.

Government of Maldives authorizes the JCM as a cooperative approach and authorizes the JCM credits issued in the JCM registry of Japan as the ITMOs for use towards achievement of the NDC, and authorizes the entities, if any, as per the copy of authorization as attached template.

Following approach will be implemented in accordance with JCM rules and guidelines:

1. Authorize the JCM as the cooperative approach (anytime once it is ready)
  - Attach such authorization document to Initial Report
2. Authorize ITMOs on each project basis
  - At JCM registration, Partner country and Japan each authorizes the estimated amount of ITMOs
  - At JCM credit issuance, Partner country and Japan each confirms the amount of ITMOs and report by annual information

B. Description of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is a bilateral crediting mechanism established in order to quantitatively evaluate the contributions of Japan to greenhouse gas emission reductions and removals, which are achieved through the diffusion of, among others, leading decarbonizing technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructures, as well as through the implementation of measures in developing countries and others, and in order to use such contributions to achieve Japan's NDC consistent with the Article 6.2 guidance and relevant decisions of the CMA.

The JCM between the Government of Japan and Maldives is implemented consistently with the Article 6.2 guidance, contributing to the achievement of both countries' NDCs while ensuring the avoidance of double counting through corresponding adjustments.

Both governments establish a Joint Committee (JC) consisting of representatives from both countries to make the necessary decisions.

All the relevant rules, guidelines, and decisions made by the Joint Committee, including approval of methodologies, registration of projects, notification to issue JCM credits, and issuance of credits by each government are made publicly available on the JCM website <https://www.jcm.go.jp/>. In addition, all calls for public input on the proposed methodologies and proposed projects are announced on the same website.

C. Duration of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

The cooperation starts from June 29, 2013, and covers the period for the issuance of credits that covers GHG emission reductions or removals from JCM projects until December 31, 2030. Both governments may consider a possible extension of the above-mentioned period and reach a decision by 2030.

Bilateral document and rules of implementation are available on the JCM website: <https://www.jcm.go.jp/>

D. Expected mitigation for each year of the duration of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

Estimated emission reductions in each year for JCM projects are included in a Project Design Document (PDD), a document that includes monitoring methods and estimated emission reductions.

For those projects and their emission reductions or removals (average), see the website below: <https://www.jcm.go.jp/projects/registers>

E. Participating Parties involved in the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

The Republic of Maldives and Japan

F. Authorized entities (para. 18(g))

Authorization decisions taken by the Government of Maldives will be made publicly available in the CARP UNFCCC website:

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation/carp>

G. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity (para. 18(h), to be updated by para. 22(b))

1. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods (para. 18(h)(i), to be updated by para. 22(b)(i))

Both governments mutually recognize that part of the credits issued from emission reductions and removals achieved by the JCM projects may be used towards the achievement of Japan's NDC while ensuring that double counting is avoided on the basis of corresponding adjustments consistent with the Article 6.2 guidance. The corresponding adjustments are applied to authorized credits.

Furthermore, in line with para. 8(b) of Annex to decision 2/CMA.3, JCM credits will be authorized by both Japan and a partner country, and such authorized JCM credits acquired by the government of Japan will be used towards the achievement of Japan's NDC within the same NDC implementation period as when they occurred to ensure there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods.

2. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity through robust, transparent governance and the quality of mitigation outcomes, including through conservative reference levels and baselines set in a conservative way and below 'business as usual' emission projections (including by taking into account all existing policies and addressing uncertainties in quantification and potential leakage) (para. 18(h)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(ii))

The JCM is established by a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed between both governments and implemented in line with the relevant domestic laws and regulations. In line with the MoC, the JC is established, consisting of representatives from both countries.

The JC adopted relevant rules and guidelines, which are made publicly available on the JCM website. In addition, all calls for public inputs on proposed methodologies and proposed projects are informed on the same website.

The methodologies are developed in line with JCM Guidelines for Developing Proposed Methodology, which explain the key concepts, such as reference emissions and eligibility criteria under the JCM. The JC assesses and considers the approval of the proposed methodologies. The list of approved JCM methodologies can be found on the JCM website (<https://www.jcm.go.jp>).

The JCM Guidelines for Developing Proposed Methodology stipulate that project participants to justify that the reference emissions are calculated to be below business-as-usual (BaU) emissions, which represent plausible emissions in providing the same outputs or service level of the proposed JCM project by adopting conservative figure/data as reference among available sources or that from the best available technology, where reasonable. Therefore, the baselines are to be set in such a way that emission reductions would not overestimate mitigation from an activity.

3. Description of how the cooperative approach is minimizing the risk of non-permanence of mitigation across several NDC periods and how, when reversals of emission reductions or removals occur, the cooperative approach will ensure that these are addressed in full (para. 18(h)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(iii))

Not applicable as currently there are no projects with risks of non-permanence.

#### H. Additional description of the cooperative approach (para. 18(i))

1. Description of how the cooperative approach minimizes and, where possible, avoids negative environmental, economic and social impacts (para. 18(i)(i), to be updated by para. 22(f))

The JCM is implemented taking the negative environmental, economic, and social impacts into consideration in consultation with the relevant stakeholders in line with the relevant domestic laws and regulations in force. Where negative impacts are found, the project participants are requested to propose and implement safeguard measures.

Guideline for developing sustainable development is applied.

When designing a proposed JCM project, Project Participants (hereinafter referred to as “PPs”) are required to apply these Guidelines and provide a comprehensive description of an implementation plan on contributions to sustainable development (hereinafter referred to as “SD”) through their project. PPs should conduct an ex-ante analysis of the contribution to SD using the Sustainable Development Implementation Plan (SDIP) form and an ex-post evaluation of the contribution to SD using the Sustainable Development Implementation Report (SDIR) form.

The reference can be found on the JCM website (<https://www.jcm.go.jp>).

2. Description of how the cooperative approach reflects the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement, acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity (para. 18(i)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(g))

Each project's compliance with the domestic laws and regulations is monitored by both governments, ensuring that the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement is respected by the JCM projects.

In addition, project participants who receive financial support from the Government of Japan should take the best possible measures in line with the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (2020-2025) and the Guidelines on Respecting Human Rights in Responsible Supply Chains.

Guideline for developing sustainable development is also applied.

Additionally, the "Guideline on Gender Equality for the JCM" was developed to provide basic principles and specific recommendations on gender equality and to encourages stakeholders, especially project participants who implement a JCM model project, to take actions at all the stages of the project cycle (planning, implementation, and monitoring).

Website: [jcmsbsdR6\\_gender\\_en.pdf](#)

3. Description of how the cooperative approach is consistent with the sustainable development objectives of the Party, noting national prerogatives (para. 18(i)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(h))

The JCM is implemented to contribute to the sustainable development in consultation with relevant stakeholders in a way that is consistent with their national objectives by adopting rules and guidelines for sustainable development.

The guidelines for developing sustainable development for the JCM projects are to be approved. These documents assess sustainable development contributions through JCM project development and implementation. Before the credit issuance, a third party will verify the overall project assessment including the environmental impact assessment. Based on the monitoring report and the third-party verification report, the final decisions will be issued by the Joint Committee (JC).

4. Description of how the cooperative approach applies any safeguards and limits set out in further guidance from the CMA pursuant to chapter III.D (para. 18(i)(iv), to be updated by para. 22(i))

Not applicable.

5. Description of how the cooperative approach contributes resources for adaptation pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(v), to be updated by para. 22(j))

The Government of Maldives does not require adaptation contribution from mitigation activities under the JCM. Any further information is as per discussions between Japan and Maldives or as applied by the Maldives on the voluntary basis. Any updates will be communicated by updated initial report.

6. Description of how the cooperative approach delivers overall mitigation in global emissions pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(vi), to be updated by para. 22(k))

The Government of Maldives does not require the cancellation of a certain amount of JCM credits for delivering overall mitigation of global emissions.

The JCM aims to deliver overall mitigation in global emissions. Any further information is as per discussions between Japan and Maldives or as applied by the Maldives on the voluntary basis. Any updates will be communicated by updated initial report.

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