

In the Name of God

Waste Management Law

Article 1- To fulfil the fiftieth Principle of the Islamic Republic of Iran Constitutional Law and in order to protect the environment from harmful effects of waste materials, all ministries whose liability to Act requires a mention of their names, and all juridical and natural persons should observe regulations and policies ordained in the present Act.

Article 2- Terms and Expressions used in the Act herein are interpreted as follows:

A) **Organization:** it refers to the Environment Protection Organization.

B) **Waste materials:** it refers to any solid, liquid or gas (except sewage) wastes which are directly or indirectly generated as a result of man's activities and are considered as waste from generator viewpoint.

Wastes fall in to five groups:

1) **Ordinary Wastes:** means any wastes which are commonly generated as a result of man's life process inside and outside cities and villages such as household and demolition wastes.

2) **Medical (Health Care) wastes:** means any infectious and harmful wastes generated by hospitals, health and treatment facilities, medical laboratories and other similar facilities. Other harmless hospital wastes are not included.

3) **Special wastes:** Any wastes requiring special care due to containing at least one of the hazardous components of poisonous, pathogenesis, explosiveness, inflammability, corrosiveness and the likes. Those medical wastes, as well as some part of ordinary, industrial, and agricultural wastes which needs to special management, are included as specific wastes.

4) **Agricultural wastes:** Any wastes resulted from productive activities in the agricultural section including animal refuse, animal corps (cattle, poultry, and aquatic animals), decayed or unusable agricultural products.

5) **Industrial Wastes:** Any wastes resulted from mine and industrial operations and gas, oil, petrochemistry refinery and power stations wastes and the likes, such as filings, slag and industrial sludge.

C) **Executive Management of Wastes:** A juridical or natural (individual) personality who is responsible for planning, organizing, controlling and executive operations deals with generation, collection, storage, separation, transportations, recycling processing (treatment) and disposal of wastes as well as publicizing and training activities in this regard.

1) **Disposal:** Any methods used for the eliminating or reducing the risk arising from wastes including recycling, sanitary disposal (land-filling) and waste incineration.

2) **Processing (treatment):** Any mechanical, chemical and biological process which facilitates disposal operations.

D) **Pollution:** encompasses the same meaning defined in the Article (9) of the Environment Protection and Improvement Law approved in 1974.

Note 1: Medical wastes as well as some parts of ordinary, industrial and agricultural wastes which require special type of management are considered as special wastes.

Note 2: A list of special wastes will be determined by the Environmental Protection Organization (Department of Environment) in cooperation with concerned departments and approved by the High Council for Environmental Protection.

Note 3: Radioactive special wastes are subject to their relevant rules and regulations.

Note 4: Sludge produced from urban waste water treatment plants and discharging of household absorbent sewage wells (if they are dry or have low humidity) are categorized as ordinary wastes.

Article 3- The Standard and Industrial Research Institute should provide standards for quality and sanitary of recyclable (recycled) materials and products as well as and their authorized usage, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education and other departments as the case may be.

Article 4- Concerned executive departments should adopt appropriate policies for recycling and disposal of wastes in accordance with the executive by-laws of Act herein. The said executive by-laws should also encompass the followings:

1) Regulations should lead to the reduction of wastes arising from production and consumption.

2) Facilities required for producing and consuming more-easily recyclable goods should be provided, and producing and importing less-easily recyclable and disposable products be restricted.

3) Policies should be adopted for increasing the use of recyclable raw materials in productions.

4) Generators are in charge of providing (allocating)?? and paying of some part of recycling costs.

Article 5- Executive managers for wastes should adopt arrangements based on the standards and regulations of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, to provide and assure for health and safety of executive agents under their supervision.

Article 6- The Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting Organization and other media which have publicizing role, as well as educational and cultural organizations should take action to publicize and training, proper separating, collecting and recycling of wastes. They should also cooperate with related authorities and organizations.

Note: In order to reduce agricultural waste, The Ministries of Agricultural Jihad, the Ministry of Mines and Industries, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education should take necessary actions for giving information and training to villagers and producers.

Article 7- Executive management for all wastes, excluding industrial and special wastes, within cities, villages and their borders is responsibility of municipalities and rural government bodies.

The district beyond the borders, responsibility shall be on governing bodies of rural districts and of it changes to ordinary wastes, responsibility shall be on municipalities and rural districts.

Note: Executive managers can leave thou all or some parts of separation, collection and disposal activities to individual or firms.

Article 8- Executive managements may receive relevant costs from waste generators, via tariffs, which in accordance with instructions of the Ministry of Interior, determined by Islamic Councils in term of kind of waste, and spend merely for wastes management affairs.

Article 9- The Ministry of Interior, with the cooperation of the Organization, should schedule and make necessary planning and strategies for separating ordinary wastes. Executive managers referred to in Article (7) should separately collect, recycle and disposal of Ordinary wastes, accordance with the said schedule framework and within the time limits determined in the executive by-law of Act herein.

Article 10- To implement of duties referred to Act herein, the Ministry of Interior should provide instructions for organizing wastes executive management in municipalities, countries, rural governing and rural districts governing bodies, within 6 months after approval of Act herein.

Article 11- The Environmental Protection Organization, with cooperation of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education (in the field of medical wastes), the Ministry of Mines and Industries, the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of Oil (in the field of industrial and mine wastes), the Ministry of Agricultural Jihad(in the field of agricultural wastes), should compile standards and methods for wastes executive management and make approved them in High Council of Environment Protection. The said Ministries are responsible for supervising over the implementation of approved methods and standards.

Article 12- Landfill sites for wastes, on the basis of environmental standards, should be determined by the Ministry of Interior and in coordination with the Organization and the Ministry of Agricultural Jihad.

Note1 : High Council of Urban Development and Architecture, via comprehensive area planning, should consider suitable regions for wastes disposal.

Note 2: The Ministry of Interior, personally or by private section, should provide credits, facilities and equipment required for establishing and putting into operation the waste disposal sites.

Article 13- Mixing of medical wastes with other wastes and their discharge and dispersion in the environment or sale, use, and recycling this kind of waste is prohibited.

Article 14- Extraterritorial transportation of special wastes should be subject to the regulations of Base1 Convention and should take place under the supervision of the National Authority of the said Convention. Exterior transportation of special wastes will be subject to by-law approved by the Board of Ministers.

Article 15- Generators of those special industrial wastes, which contain one of special wastes specifications, should minimize their wastes through optimization of their process and recycling operations and keep the wastes generation within the permitted extent determined in the by-laws of Act herein.

Article 16- Storage, mixing, transportation, selling and purchasing, disposal, exportation and discharging of wastes in environment should be according of the regulations of Act and by Acts herein; otherwise offenders will be will be condemn to cash penalty, by judicial court, the first offenders from Rls.500,000 to Rls. 100,000,000 for ordinary wastes, and from Rls.2,000.000 to Rls. 100,000,000 concerning other wastes, and in case of repeating the offence, twice as much as the amount in previously penalty in Act herein.
Concerning other wastes, offenders of the ordinance in Article 13 will be condemned to cash penalty from Rls.2,000,000 to Rls.100,000,000 and in case of offence repeating, twice as much as the maximum penalty and in case of next offense repeating, twice as much as the amount in previous penalty.

Article 17- Those offenders of the ordinance in Article (14) should return wastes, enlisted in Base1 Convention, to the country of origin, or if there is the possibility of wastes removal in home country, offenders should properly dispose of them on their own account and under the supervision of the Organization (National Authority of the said Convention in Iran). Otherwise, they should accept penalties referred to in Article 16.

Article 18- Where pollution entails immediate hazards for man and the environment, offenders and pollution causers should, upon warning by Organization and the Ministry of Health, treatment and Medical Education, should take immediate measures to stop activities leading to pollution and damage of environment and to remove the pollution and clear the environment.
Otherwise, the judicial authority will examine the case out of turn and enforce offenders and pollution causers to removal of pollution and clearing the environment in addition to paying specified cash penalty.

Article 19- In all the mentioned penalties, the judicial authority will condemn offenders to compensate for damages incurred by persons or compensate at the request of responsible department, in addition to pay cash penalty, in favor of government fund.

Article 20- Vehicles which discharge wastes on not permitted places should be hold in restrain from one to ten weeks, in addition to pay the said penalties.

Note: If wastes are discharged in public, city and intercity pathways, the restraint period should be maximum.

Article 21- Income from such cash penalties should be deposited to government treasury and the equivalent of deposited sum, from specific credits predicted in annual budget law should be allocated to the organizations will be determined in executive by-laws of Act herein, in order to be spent for training, cultural development, publicize, removal of pollution generated by wastes, environmental protection, and providing facilities required for fulfilling the Act herein.

Article 22- Executive by-laws of Act herein will be developed in at most six month by the Ministry of Interior and other executive concerned departments and approved by the board of ministers.

Article 23- Supervision and the responsibility of good- performance of the Act herein is duty of Organization.

The above-mentioned Law consists of twenty three articles and nine notes. The Law was approved by Parliament on May 9, 2004, confirmed by the Guardian Council on May 29, 2004, and was finally signed on June 6, 2004 by the leader of the Islamic Parliament (Khordad 17th 1383 under the Iranian calendar - Reference number 18295).

Signed by: Gholam Ali Haddad-e-Adel
Leader of the Islamic Parliament