RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
NATIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (2012-2016)

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) 9003 provides for the adoption of a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program which shall, among others, ensure the protection of public health and the environment, and encourage greater private sector participation in solid waste management;

WHEREAS, Section 15 of RA 9002 mandates the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) to formulate and implement a National Solid Waste Management Framework, along three (3) principle dimensions: (a) scope of waste management activities, (b) critical actors and partners in implementing the activities, and (c) the means for implementing the SWM objectives;

WHEREAS, the Framework Plan is a dynamic document, which requires periodic updates due to changes in laws, ordinances and regulations, technologies associated with waste management practices and the social and economic conditions;

WHEREAS, the National Solid Waste Management Strategy, in support to the National Solid Waste Management Framework and the Philippine Development Plan, is a medium-term plan that deals with key issues, needs and problems experienced in the management of solid waste. It shall serve as a road map to achieve an improved environmental quality for a cleaner and healthier environment. The strategy provides an avenue for more concrete initiatives to achieve the objectives of the RA 9003;

WHEREAS, the NSWMC and its Secretariat, with support from the Solid Waste Management for Local Government Units (SWM4LGUs) Project of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) - AIT GROUP AG, formulated the National Solid Waste Management Strategy in consultation with various stakeholders all over the country. The Strategy consists of seven (7) thematic components and three (3) cross-cutting issues, each elaborated by corresponding key initiatives that articulate the issue statements, objectives, indicative actions, time frame target groups, resource requirement and sources, as well as the identified lead and cooperating agencies to implement the key initiatives;

WHEREAS, the members of the NSWMC’s Technical Working Group, in its May 14, 2012 meeting recommended to the NSWMC the adoption of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2012-2016).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (2012-2016) consisting of the following components be adopted by the National Solid Waste Management Commission:

Component 1: Bridging Policy Gaps and Harmonizing Policies. There is a need to clarify and address policy gaps in the implementation of RA 9003. There is also a need to harmonize RA 9003 with other national laws currently being implemented. Consistent policies will guide not only the regulated community, but also the regulators themselves. Some SWM undertakings have also become irrelevant and inconsistent with emerging systems and models for resource
Utilization and management. Complementation of policies and initiatives among different sectors (government, private sector, NGOs, etc.) could promote more efficient SWM, making it more responsive to the felt needs of the stakeholders.

Component 2: Capacity Development, Social Marketing and Advocacy. The NSWMC, its members and partners as well as the LGUs play important roles in the information and education campaign to effectively raise the awareness of the general public and consequently motivate them to observe waste avoidance and the 3Rs, which are crucial to achieving the goals of SWM. As such, these channels of communication need to be capacitated in technical and values formation aspects of SWM.

Component 3: Sustainable SWM Financing Mechanisms. Financing has always been a critical aspect in SWM work, both at national and local levels. It is also an important sustainability indicator. The urgent need to address SWM financing arose from the unavailability of resources that hinder the effective implementation of the law even as RA 9003 provides the mechanisms for solid waste management financing, incentives, and cost recovery. To support the LGUs’ financing needs, the NSWMC shall strive to achieve enhanced financing options for LGUs and sustainably financed SWM at the local level.

Component 4: Creating Economic Opportunities. The full potential of recycling has always been hindered by the scarcity of market. Appreciation of the available products, the market place, supply and demand, and the players: producers, sellers, buyers and potential investors are oftentimes limited. The creation of economic opportunities from recyclable and recycled (including compost) products shall be realized if sustainable markets are established and incentives are available and accessible to investors.

Component 5: Support for Knowledge Management on Technology, Innovation and Research. Most LGUs do not have the means to access appropriate SWM technologies and to conduct necessary research for a variety of reasons. More than 50% of municipalities in the country are classified as low-income communities and are only dependent on Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) shares. Some of them may have the resources but lack the capacity, or vice versa. Still a few others have limitations on both. Stakeholders need technical assistance and guidance in accessing suitable SWM technologies.

Component 6: Organizational Development and Enhancing Inter-agency Collaboration. There is a need to strengthen the commitment of internal and external stakeholders and increase their capacities to effectively respond to the clients’ needs. Currently, there is still low level of commitment of internal and external stakeholders resulting in a relatively low compliance despite efforts that have been in place since the law took effect in 2001.

Component 7: Compliance Monitoring, Enforcement and Recognition. Without a mechanism for monitoring, sectors that do not comply are not penalized; while those that comply are not recognized. The lack of an institutionalized system could continue to perpetuate non-compliance, where implementers and concerned sectors could just ignore their mandate. Enforcement provides the ‘stick’ in the carrot-and-stick policy to motivate implementers to do their work in timely and technically sound ways. Regular monitoring and evaluation also improves the management cycle through proactive responses.

Cross-Cutting Issues: Good SWM Governance, Caring for Vulnerable Groups, and Reducing Disaster and Climate Change Risks through SWM. Also identified are issues that cut across the whole dimension of the implementation of the RA 9003. (a) Acknowledging that Good SWM Governance is a key factor that shall enable stakeholders to sustainably implement SWM plans, it is hoped that the objective of responsible, transparent and accountable government and citizens working together for achieving effective and efficient waste management be accomplished; (b) To protect, uphold and fulfill the rights of vulnerable groups, strategies towards the integration of the informal waste sector in the plans and programs of national and local governments shall be
fully implemented; (c) Having acknowledged the potential contribution of ecological solid waste management to reducing disaster and climate change risks, strategies that shall climate-proof SWM systems, programs and infrastructures shall be implemented.

The DENR and, as may be necessary, other members of the Commission, shall issue their respective Administrative Order(s) or any appropriate issuance for the implementation and dissemination of this Resolution.

This resolution takes effect upon approval.

APPROVED on this 24th day of January, 2013.

ATTESTED BY:

Crispian N. Lao
Representative, Recycling Industry and Vice Chairman, National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC)