



19 February 2021

To: Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP

**Statement of Support on
a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging Scheme**

Greenlace Environment Company fully supports the Legislative Council's efforts to pass the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill (MSW bill) before the end of the 2020/21 Legislative year. The implementation of municipal solid waste charging, following the 'Polluter-Pays Principle', will be an essential step for substantial improvement of Hong Kong's waste management system. It will bring appreciable benefits for the environment, especially the awareness in food waste reduction. Our company concern the legislative control on the food waste sector under the MSW bill in Hong Kong. Currently, Hong Kong produces over 15,000 tonnes of MSW per day, consisting at least 3,500 tonnes of food waste. Greenlace Environment Company believes charging for MSW will drive fundamental behavioural changes in MSW disposal and the effectiveness on applied "polluter pays" principle after the pass in MSW bill.

Though the HKSAR Government set an ambitious goal in 2021 with the "Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022", the generation rate of Municipal Solid Wastes (MSW) has gradually increased from 1.33 kg/capita in 2013 to 1.47 kg/capita in 2019, representing over 10% increase since 2013. Over 70% of the MSW wastes were disposed of at landfills in 2019, which is clearly not a sustainable way of managing wastes. Besides, this rising trend is very concerning, and the targets set forth in the Blueprint are unlikely to be achievable.

Without implementing a "polluter-pays" waste management policy, the city will be required to search for alternative waste management that likely a huge investment on tackling the problems on increasing amount of waste. The MSW bill is thus urgently needed to abate waste generation and improve waste management with the effective legislative control to support. It will also be an outstanding

reinforcement of EPD's various complementary waste initiatives, offering citizens more waste management options and a convenient recyclables collection network.

As part of the infrastructure supporting the MSW bill's adoption, Greenlace Environment Company supports the introduction of a grace period of no more than 18 months to allow adequate time for adoption across the society before full implementation, since the successful experiences in South Korea.

Given its critical benefits and strong public support, Greenlace Environment Company wishes to see the MSW bill receive sufficient backing in the Legislative Council. Greenlace Environment Company believes the MSW bill marks a turning point in upgrade Hong Kong waste management system in smart and sustainable city, and looking forward to its implementation.

Thank you for your kindly attention.

Mr. LAM Tsz Kai

Founder

Greenlace Environment Company

GREENLACE ENVIRONMENT COMPANY
6/F No. 608 Hollywood Centre 71-91 Queen's
Road West Central, Hong Kong