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THE GARISSA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BILL, 2015

A Bill for

AN ACT of the Garissa County Assembly to make provision for management of solid waste in the County and for related matters

ENACTED by the Garissa County Assembly as follows—

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the Garissa County Solid Waste Management Act and shall come into effect on such date as may be determined by the County Executive Committee Member in consultation with the Governor.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

   “agricultural waste” is waste that is generated from animals rearing and the production or harvesting of crops or trees and includes animal carcasses;

   “authorized officer” means the chief officer, the Director of Environment or any other officer authorized by the County Government in writing for the purposes of the enforcement of the provisions of this Act;

   “biomedical or clinical waste” means all waste arising from medical, nursing, dental, veterinary, pharmaceutical or similar practice, which by nature of its toxic, infectious or dangerous content and includes human or animal tissue excretions, drugs and medical products, swabs, dressings and instruments or similar substances;

   “chief officer” means the Chief Officer responsible for environment;

   “construction and demolition waste” means waste generated from construction, renovation, repair and demolition of structures including buildings and roads;

   “county” and “county government” at all times shall mean the Garissa County and Garissa County Government and all its agencies and administrative institutions;

   “disposal” in reference to waste means the final placement of waste in the designated site without intention...
of retrieval and may include the disposal of raw or intermediary handled inert or otherwise unwanted residues;

“domestic waste” means waste produced from dwellings but does not include agricultural waste;

“disposal site” means any area of land on which waste disposal facilities are physically located or final discharge point without the intention of retrieval but does not mean a re-use for re-cycling plant or site;

“e – Waste” means electronic products that have become unwanted, non-working or obsolete;

“executive committee member” means the County Executive Committee Member responsible for environment;

“environment” includes physical factors of the surroundings of human beings including land, water, atmosphere, climate, sound, odour, taste, the biological factors of animals and plants and the social factors of aesthetics and includes both the natural and the build environment;

“hazardous waste” means any waste which has been determined by the Executive Committee Member to be the hazardous waste or to belong to any other category of waste provided for in section 91 of the National Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act;

“incineration” means the controlled burning of solid wastes to produce gases and residues containing little or non combustible materials for purposes of eliminating or minimizing potential adverse impacts of the waste to the environment;

“industrial solid waste” means waste generated by businesses for an industrial or manufacturing process;

“ junk waste” consist of assorted item including automobiles, bicycles, industrial plants and other equipment that are obsolete whether abandoned or not in public or private places;

“market waste” means organic waste generated from public market facilities;

“municipal waste” means everyday waste items generated by commercial establishments and households;
“occupier” means a person in occupation or control of premises and in relation to premises, different parts of which are occupied by different persons means the respective persons in occupation or control of each part;

“premises” includes passages, buildings, lands and segment in every tenure and machinery, plant or vehicle used in connection with any trade carried on at any premises;

“re-use” means use of waste with or without cleaning or repair;

“solid waste” includes any waste in solid form which is deposited in the environment in such volumes or composition likely to cause an alteration of that environment;

“solid waste management” means the activities, administrative and operational that are used in the handling, packaging, treatment, conditioning, reducing recycling re-use, storage and disposal of the solid waste so as to protect the environment against the possible resultant adverse effects;

“transport” in reference to solid waste means the transfer of solid waste from any point including but not limited to generation, intermediate handling and collection points and final disposal;

“waste generator” means any person whose activities under his or her direction produces waste, or if that person is not known the person who is in possession or control of that waste;

“zone” means a zone into which the county is divided for the purposes of this Act.

PART II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

3. The objects and purposes of this Act are to—

(a) provide the legal framework for solid waste management function as spelt out in the Part II of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010;

(b) pursuant to Article 69(1) (d) of the Constitution, provide for a frame work to encourage public participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment;
(c) provide for a legal basis for the implementation of the county integrated solid waste management plan; and

(d) provide for and regulate the participation of the various actors in solid waste management in the county.

4. Solid waste management shall be a shared responsibility amongst all actors including the County Government, generators, owners and occupiers of premises and contracted service providers.

5. Pursuant to Article 42 of the Constitution, every person within the county is entitled to a clean and healthy environment and has a duty to safeguard and enhance the quality of the environment.

6. (1) The Executive Committee Member in consultation with the Governor shall allow for and facilitate the participation of all persons including individuals' corporate entities and community and neighborhood associations and organizations in all aspects of solid waste management in order to attain and maintain high and sustainable standards in solid waste management within the county.

   (2) The Executive Committee Member, in consultation with the Governor shall establish mechanisms for the involvement of the various stakeholders in solid waste management in the county and these mechanisms may include—

      (a) franchise system;

      (b) management contracts paid for by the County Government; or

      (c) any other arrangement for provision of specified solid waste management services.

   (3) The mechanisms referred to in subsection (2) may be applied in a specified zone and for a definite duration of time as determined by the Executive Committee Member in consultation with the Governor.

   (4) Every stakeholder in solid waste management services including generators and service providers shall operate within the frameworks in place for their particular zones.
7. The Executive Committee Member in consultation with the Governor may, by gazette notice impose charge on generators of solid waste within the county for purposes of meeting the costs of solid waste management within the county.

8. (1) The Executive Committee Member responsible for finance, may in consultation with the Governor by order impose at the rate of not more than two per cent of the property rates payable in respect of a ratable property a charge to be known as the Environmental Levy to be applied in waste management dealing with environmental nuisances and to improve the quality of the environment generally.

(2) The order mentioned in subsection (1) shall establish guidelines and undertake activities to facilitate and promote recovery of waste materials thorough reduction, re-use, recycling and composting of waste by the various actors in solid waste management.

9. The Executive Committee Member shall establish guidelines to undertake activities to facilitate and promote recovery of waste materials through reduction, re-use, recycling and composting of waste by the various actors in solid waste management.

10. (1) The Executive Committee Member shall by Regulations, provide for the means to divide solid waste generated in the county into various categories depending on their physical or chemical characteristics and provide for the necessary manner of the handling of such waste so as to guarantee the health and safety of all including but not limited to the waste handlers as well as the wellbeing of the environment.

(2) The categories of solid referred to in subsection (1) include—

(a) municipal waste;
(b) market waste;
(c) construction and demolitions waste;
(d) industrial solid waste;
(e) agricultural waste;
(f) biomedical or clinical waste;
(g) hazardous waste
(h) e-waste;
(i) plastic waste
(j) junk waste
(k) Any other category of waste as the County Executive Committee Member may in writing determine.

11. (1) The Executive Committee Member may, by gazette notice, divide the county into such zones for purposes of convenient management of waste collection and transportation and may from time to time alter such zones.

(2) Any person or firm authorized to collect and or transport waste shall be guilty of an offence if they operate outside the zone in which they are authorized to operate in.

12. An authorized officer may at any reasonable hour, for proper performance their duty, under this Act, enter any land or premises to make any inspection, inquiry, investigation or to perform any other work or do anything which is required or authorized by this Act or any other law to do such inspection, inquiry, investigation or work is necessary for, or is incidental to, the performance of his or her duties or exercise of his or her powers under this Act.

13. A person shall not be licensed to carry on a business or an activity that generates solid waste unless that person demonstrates that he or she has established measures to minimize solid waste generation by adopting the following cleaner production principles—

(a) improvement of production process through conserving raw materials and energy;
(b) incorporating environmental concerns in the design, process and diposal of a product;
(c) monitoring the product cycle from beginning to end in order—

(i) enable the recovery and re-use of the product where possible;
(ii) facilitate reclamation and recycling.

14. (1) No person may manufacture, have in their possession, offer for sale or distribution in any manner within the county any carry bags from virgin plastic of thickness of less than 30 micron and of a size less than 8x12 inches and of a colour other than the specified colour of the Kenyan standard.

(2) A person who contravenes this provision commits an offence.

PART III—COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE

15. The County Government, through the department responsible for environment, may directly or indirectly undertake collection of solid waste from the streets or any other public spaces.

16. (1) It shall be the duty of every occupier or owner or agent of a house, or other premise to clean or cause or permit to be cleaned ten metres radius around his or her control but which shall not include a main road or street.

(2) No person shall place or cause or permit to be placed upon frontage of a house building or any other premises any waste other than for purposes of enabling the convenient collection of such waste by a waste collector or transporter.

(3) Anyone who contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence.

17. (1) The County Government shall provide appropriate waste containers for the disposal of solid waste in the public and other public places.

(2) Any person who places or causes or permits to be placed any solid waste anywhere except in a designated waste container shall be guilty of any offence.

(3) Any person who uses or allows usage of a waste container in a public or private premises which is not of such a design, size shape and quality prescribe by or under this act shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) The County Government may hire out to the owner or occupier of any premises approved waste containers at such charges and in accordance with such conditions as the County Government may determine.
18. (1) Every waste container shall be of size and pattern approved by the County Government and shall—
   (a) have suitable handles where appropriate;
   (b) be close fitting, water and fly-proof; and
   (c) fitted with appropriate liner bags.

   (2) Any person who uses or allows the use of a waste container of a size or pattern not approved by the County Government under this section shall be guilty of an offence.

19. (1) Litter bins, liner bags and other solid bags shall be coded as follows in order to facilitate waste segregation —
   (a) green liner container for organic waste;
   (b) blue liner container for plastics and paper waste;
   (c) brown liner container any other waste.

   (2) The Executive Committee Member may, by regulation, prescribe other colour codes to be used in the segregation of further categories of solid waste matter.

   (3) Any person who deposits solid waste in any other manner other than in the litter bin, liner bag or other container for which the collects contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence.

20. (1) The following information shall be clearly printed or marked on one side of the liner bags and the containers—
   (a) the name and logo of the service provider;
   (b) the logo address and phone number of the service provider; and
   (c) any other information that may be prescribed by the Executive Committee Member.

   (2) Any person who uses or being a service provider provides for use a liner bag or container that does not comply with subsection (1) commits an offence.

21. (1) Every owner or occupier of any premises shall provide it with an appropriate waste container and maintain it in accordance with this act and shall cause all domestic waste from his or her premise to be placed in such container and not anywhere else.
(2) Every such owner or occupier shall cause all waste containers upon his or her premises to be placed and kept in an approved place upon his or her premises or elsewhere as directed by the authorized officer so as to be accessible to the service provider that he or her has subscribed to for the purpose of its removal.

(3) Every such owner or occupier of any premise shall cause all refuse containers upon his or her premises to be continuously covered so as to prevent any escape of the contents thereof or any soakage thereof into the ground save when refuse is being deposited therein or discharged thereof.

(4) Every owner or occupier of any premise shall cause all waste containers on his or her premises to be kept reasonably and maintained in good condition.

(5) It shall be the duty of such owner or occupier to ensure a safe and sanitary disposal of his or her waste and show proof thereof failure to which he or she shall be guilty of an offence.

(6) Any authorized person may issue a notice requiring the owner, or occupier of any premises within the county to provide such number of waste containers and of specific type as he reasonably thinks are necessary for the reception of domestic or trade waste.

(7) Provision of required number of waste containers shall be a condition to be fulfilled for the purpose of granting of occupation permits and other licenses required for public, residential and commercial buildings.

(8) Anyone who contravenes any of these measures and requirements or fails to comply with a lawful direction issued by an authorized officer under this section shall be guilty of an offence.

(9) Any person who places causes or permits to be placed in any waste container, any waste, and substance or matter which in the opinion of the authorized officer has been exposed to infection or is contaminated or is infectious or which is in any way hazardous in nature shall be guilty of an offence.

(10) Every owner or occupier of any dwelling or any premises shall show proof if required to do so by the
authorized officer of safe disposal of refuse from his or her dwelling or premises.

(11) Anyone who contravenes any of these measures and requirements or fails to comply with a lawful direction issued by an authorized officer under this section shall be guilty.

22. (1) Any persons (s) or firms(s) whose waste is being collected by the County Government shall have proof of such arrangements which shall include but not limited to a payment receipt from the County Government for such services.

(2) Any person whose waste containers are being serviced by an approved private service provider shall have proof of such arrangement which shall include but not limited to a payment receipt from the service provider for such services.

(3) It shall be sufficient proof of safe disposal of refuse if an authenticated payment receipt form a licensed private service provider in case of domestic waste or a conservancy certificate issued by the County Government in case of trade or commercial waste is produced.

(4) It shall be an offence for any waste generator to subscribe to a solid waste collection services provider who is not approved by the County Government.

(5) Every owner or occupier of any dwelling or any premises shall show proof if required to do so by the authorized officer of safe disposal of refuse from his or her dwelling or premises.

(6) Any person who contravenes any of the requirements of this section or fails to comply with a lawful direction issued by an authorized officer under this section shall be guilty of an offence.

23. (1) Any person who makes away with or willfully damages any solid waste container, or any part hereof the property of the County Government shall be guilty of an offence and in addition to any penalty that may be imposed by court shall pay to the County Government cost of replacement or repair of such container.

(2) Any person who makes away with or willfully damages any solid waste container, or any part thereof the
property of anyone duly authorized by the County
Government to install and maintain such container shall be
guilty of an offence and in addition to any penalty that may
be imposed by the court shall pay to the owner of the
container cost of replacement or repair of such container.

24. (1) Every generator of solid waste shall be
separated into the various categories including—

(a) organic;
(b) plastic;
(c) paper;
(d) metals;
(e) any other that may be provided for in
Regulations.

(2) The segregated waste referred to in subsection (1)
shall be respectively contained separately in the approved
containers for such category of waste prior to collection or
other handling as appropriate.

(3) Every generator shall ensure appropriate collection
and transportation of the different wastes separated.

(4) A person who commits an offence under any of
this section shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) A person who commits an offence under any of
this section shall upon conviction be liable to a fine not
exceeding three hundred thousand shillings or to an
imprisonment not exceeding three years or both.

PART IV—TRANSPORTATION OF WASTE

25. (1) Any person intending to collect and transport
solid waste within the county shall prior to commencing
such activity apply to the authorized officer in the
prescribed manner a license to transport waste.

(2) Where the authorized officer rejects an application
made under the section, he or she shall within twenty one
days of that decision notify the applicant of the decision
and shall specify the reasons for the decision in the notice.

26. (1) The authorized officer may revoke a license in
respect of any vehicle if such vehicle does not maintain the
set operational guidelines as may be prescribed.
(2) Any vehicle used for transportation of waste or any other means of conveyance shall be labeled in such a manner as may be prescribed.

(3) Anyone who transports waste without a license issued under this section commits an offence.

27. (1) Any owner or occupier of any premises where waste is generated and shall register or ensure that his or her tenants register for waste collection.

(2) An authorized officer shall have the power to revoke any approval of any vehicle if such vehicle does not meet the set operational guidelines.

(3) An owner, driver or operator of any other facility used for transporting solid waste that is likely to be blown, shall provide and maintain cover material enough to contain any possibility of the material being dropped or blown and deposited upon any street, road, highway or other public or open space.

(4) Any person who contravenes this section commits an offence under any of this Act shall be guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding three hundred thousand shillings or to an imprisonment not exceeding three years or both.

PART V—TREATMENT OF SOLID WASTE

28. (1) Any person who wishes to install and operate —

(a) an incinerator;

(b) a recycling facility;

(c) a composting facility;

shall make an application to the chief officer for a permit.

(2) The chief officer shall upon consideration of the applications and being satisfied that the capabilities of the incinerator for the intended incineration activity may grant the applicant the permit.

(3) A prescribed incineration fee which shall be subject to review from time to time shall be imposed on any applicant of an incineration permit.
(4) Any person, firm, hospital or any other facility which produce any solid waste that should be disposed by combustion as may be required by regulations in place shall ensure that such waste is disposed of as required.

(5) Anyone who contravenes any of these measures and requirements or fails to comply with a lawful direction issued by an authorized officer under this section commits an offence.

**PART VI—DISPOSAL OF WASTE**

29. (1) The County Government shall undertake disposal of solid waste either by controlled tipping, sanitary land filling, recycling, composting, incineration and any other disposal method that may be in place depending on the type, quality and quantity of the waste.

(2) No animal shall be allowed in such facility and any animal found thereof shall be dealt with in a manner that the County Government shall decide and any animal found in the facility shall be destroyed.

30. (1) Any person who enters, uses, causes, allows use or entry to the County Government waste disposal site without written permission from County Government shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) Any person who dumps waste or any other material in county’s waste disposal site outside the allowed hours will be guilty of an offence.

(3) No person may dispose of waste in the county’s final disposal facility or transfer station unless such person has paid the prescribed disposal fee in respect of such disposal.

(4) A person who contravenes subsection (3) commits an offence.

31. (1) No owner or occupier may keep or allow to be kept junk waste in public or private premises.

(2) Where any junk waste is abandoned in private premises, the authorized officer shall give notice to the owner or occupier of such premises and the owner or occupier shall cause such waste to be disposed shall be disposed of within seven days from the date of the notice and in such manner as may be directed by the authorized officer and such junk waste.
(3) Where any junk waste is found abandoned in any public place the authorized officer shall take immediate steps to remove such junk waste and dispose of it in such manner as they may deem fit after consulting the County Executive Committee Member.

(4) Where junk waste is not disposed in the manner envisaged in subsection (2) and within the period set out in that subsection the authorized officer with the approval of the Chief Officer shall dispose of such waste in such manner as may be determined.

(5) The County Government may hire the services of any person for the purposes of ensuring safe and environmentally friendly manner of disposal of junk waste.

PART VII—MISCELLANEOUS

32. A person commits an offence if they—

(a) hinder or obstruct an authorized in the exercise of his or her duties;

(b) refuse an authorized officer entry upon any land or into any premises, or motor vehicle which he is empowered to enter under act;

(c) impersonates an authorized officer;

(d) refuses an authorized officer access to records or documents of this Act;

(e) fails to state or wrongly state his or her name or address to an authorized in the cause of his or her duties;

(f) misleads or gives wrongly information to an authorized officer;

(g) fails, neglects or refuses to carry out an improvement order issued.

33. Any person who places, causes or permits to be placed in any waste container, any waste, substance or matter which has been exposed to infection or is contaminated or is infectious or which is in any way hazardous in nature commits an offence.

34. The County Government shall, through such means as it shall determine, promote facilitate and ensure public education on solid waste management in order to—
(a) enhance the levels of awareness and knowledge of all stakeholders on general and specific aspects of sound solid waste management;

(b) promote and sustain individuals' practical steps to ensure that waste is managed in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from the waste.

35. (1) Any person who contravenes any provision of this Act for which no penalty has been prescribed shall be guilty of an offence stated and upon conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand shillings or in default to imprisonment not exceeding two years or to both.

(2) Any person who dumps, cause, or allows waste disposal in any premises, land or any other place not approved for such disposal shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Any person who contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand shillings or in default to imprisonment not exceeding two years or both.

36. (1) Where an offence is committed under this Act by a body corporate, the body corporate and every director or officer of the corporate who did not exercise due diligence, efficiency and economy to ensure compliance with this Act shall be guilty of the offence.

(2) Where an offence is committed under this Act by a partnership, every partner or officer of the partnership who had knowledge of the commission of the offence and who did not exercise due diligence, efficiency and economy to ensure compliance with this Act commits an offence.

(3) A person shall be personally liable for an offence against this Act, whether committed by him or his or her own account or as an agent or servant of another person.

(4) An employer or principal shall be liable for an offence against this Act, unless the employer or principal proves that the offence was committed against his or her express or standing directions.

37. (1) The County Executive Committee Member may make Regulations generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.
(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Executive Committee may, with the approval of the Governor, make Regulations—

(a) regulating the management of various categories of waste from the generation thereof to recycling or disposal;

(b) regulating the use of plastic waste and the safe disposal thereof;

(c) providing for the standards applicable in the waste management generally;

(d) establishing mechanisms for participation of the private sector in solid waste management.
MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill seeks to put in place a legal framework for solid waste management in the Garissa County.

Various national legislation provide for solid waste management. These include the Local Government Act (repealed), The National Public Health Act, The National Physical Planning Act and the National Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act. The scattered nature of these legislations has posed challenges in combating the high and ever-increasing threats to the environmental health and integrity in the county.

PART I—Provide for the preliminary matters including the definition of terms used in the Bill.

PART II—Sets out the objects of the proposed Bill. This part has provisions on offences committed under this Bill. It also empowers the County Government to impose a waste management charge for purposes of meeting the costs waste management within the county. This part empowers the Executive Committee Members to establish guidelines and undertake activities to ensure, facilitate and promote recovery of materials through reduction, re-use, recycling and composting of waste by various actors in solid waste management.

PART III—Deals with collection of solid waste within the County. This part empowers the Executive Committee Members to establish by Regulations mechanisms for participation of the private sector in waste collection. The County Government is tasked with the responsibility of collection of solid waste from the streets or any other public place. To achieve this objective, the County Government is required to provide waste containers therefore this part also make provision for waste containers among them being the provisions for approval of such containers, their colour and coding, their placement and maintenance and their destruction.

PART IV—Deals with transportation of solid waste within the county and makes it mandatory for anyone who transports waste within the county to have a license.

PART V—Provide for treatment licenses. This is a license issued by the Chief Officer to anyone who wishes to install and operate an incinerator, a recycling facility, a composting facility.

PART VI—Deals with disposal of waste within the county. This part empowers the County Government to dispose solid waste by controlled tipping, sanitary land filling, recycling, composting, incineration and any other disposal method that may be in place.
PART VII—Contains the miscellaneous provisions including provisions on public education on matters touching on solid waste management and general penalties of offences committed under the Bill.

The enactment of this Bill will not occasion expenditure of public funds.

SULEIMAN ABDIWAHAB,
County Executive Committee Member responsible for matters relating to Environment.