

Foreign Policy 2023-2028

Policy 1: Enhance bilateral and multilateral engagements to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity

Strategy 1.1. Consolidate the Maldives bilateral partnerships with key regional and global partners

1.1.a. Identify areas of focus in diplomacy for key regional and global partners.

1.1.b. Establish political consultations with key regional and global partners.

1.1.c. Increase high level bilateral visits - both incoming and outgoing.

1.1.d. Enhance implementation of bilateral agreements through greater coordination.

Strategy 1.2. Expand the Maldives diplomatic outreach, diplomatic network and diplomatic presence

1.2.a. Establish new missions abroad focusing on Africa, South America and Australia regions.

1.2.b. Establish and enhance diplomatic relations including appointing Ambassadors, non-resident Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls.

1.2.c. Attract more resident Missions to be established in the Maldives.

1.2.d. Increase frequency of high-level exchanges on areas of interest to the Maldives such as climate change, Indian ocean security etc.

1.2.e. Deepen the bonds of friendship and cooperation with International Civil Society Organisations and International Foreign Policy think tanks.

Strategy 1.3. Maximise leverage of Maldives participation in the multilateral arena

1.3.a. Enhance Maldives participation in and engagement with the United Nations

1.3.b. Enhance Maldives participation in and engagement with the Commonwealth

1.3.c. Enhance Maldives participation in and engagement with the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)

1.3.d. Enhance Maldives participation in and engagement with other international organizations including Non-Aligned Movement, Group of 77 and China, and Shanghai Cooperation Organization

1.3.e. Appointing new Permanent Representatives to the International Organizations

1.3.f. Increase space for Maldives participation in, and strive to shape outcomes in favour of Maldives positions in the multilateral arena

1.3.g. Identify and increase accession to key international conventions in line with national priorities

1.3.h. Identify potential alliances, organisations and groupings for Maldives to join

Strategy 1.4. Increase engagement with international human rights mechanisms to strengthen human rights nationally

1.4.a. Leverage support for Maldives positions in the Human Rights Council

1.4.b. Increase participations in international forums and build linkages with international civil society organisations and other institutions that promote human rights principles, democracy and good governance

Strategy 1.5. Promote and protect the maritime boundary of the Maldives

1.5.a. Expedite the process required to finalise the claim for continental shelf limits as submitted to the UN on 26 July 2010 in accordance with Article 76 (8) of the UNCLOS

1.5.b. Promote cooperation with neighbouring countries and other stakeholders on maritime security through diplomacy and technical assistance

1.5.c. Facilitate assistance towards the review of ITLOS case no.28

Strategy 1.6. Increase support for international efforts on promoting and maintaining regional and global peace, security, and stability
1.6.a. Strengthen cooperation with strategic partners and neighbouring countries and international organisations in combatting terrorism, cybercrimes, violent extremism, radicalisation, drug trafficking, and human trafficking
1.6.b. Increase the number of training and capacity building opportunities from relevant institutions in different countries and international organisations.
Strategy 1.7. Establish a leading role on climate diplomacy and advocacy on the international front.
1.7.a. Formulate and implement a strategy on conducting climate diplomacy
1.7.b. Increase Maldives representation at international climate change related forums
1.7.c. Host a high-level international conference on climate change or Small Island Developing States
1.7.d. Seek new funding/assistance for climate action through climate diplomacy
Strategy 1.8. Strengthen outreach and consolidated relations with the Islamic World
1.8.a. Enhancing Maldives participation in and engagement with OIC and related organizations and associations (IsDB, WDO, COMCEC, COMSTECH)
1.8.b. Contribute proactively to the issues that concern the Islamic world aimed at promoting the true Islamic values of respect and tolerance
1.8.c. Establish partnerships for higher education with universities in Islamic countries that align with principles of tolerance
Policy 2: Develop and implement a Maldives-centric Indian Ocean Strategy to ensure peace and security in the Indian Ocean region
Strategy 2.1. Strengthen the Maldives engagement with South Asian countries
2.1.a. Increase Maldives participation in promoting peace and security initiatives in Indian Ocean through SAARC and other forums.
2.1.b. Create opportunities for greater trade and investment between Maldives and SAARC countries.
Strategy 2.2. Promote deeper ties between Maldives and countries in the Indian Ocean Region
2.2.a. Enhance Maldives participation in and engagement with the Indian Association Rim Association (IORA).
2.2.b. Promote Maldives' national interests through IORA, Indian Ocean Conference, Colombo Security Conclave and other organisations.
2.2.c. Host an international conference that fosters regional cooperation on topics including blue economy, peace and security and fisheries/tourism.
Policy 3: Strengthen Economic, Trade and Cultural diplomacy
Strategy 3.1. Increase trade, tourism and Investment promotion opportunities through Maldivian Missions
3.1.a. Review and reorient Maldives Honorary Consul network for promoting investment, trade, tourism and educational opportunities (in addition to consular support)
3.1.b. Conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements for investment protection and promotion and to facilitate trade, especially export of local products.

3.1.c. Promote investment opportunities in the Maldives and facilitate Maldivian commercial interest abroad through investor forums (both online and on-site) and by exploring marketing opportunities for local products.
3.1.d. Establish trade desks at all missions abroad: As globalization reshapes our geopolitical and economic landscape, there's a rising significance placed on commercial diplomacy. To meet these demands, it is proposed that each mission establish a specialized trade desk led by a designated individual such as a commercial counsellor, commercial attaché, or trade representative.
3.1.e. Strengthen aid mobilisation and coordination through the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) Chaired by PO and the Aid Management and Coordination Committee (AMCC) Chaired by Minister of Foreign Affairs, established by the President.
3.1.f. Mobilize concessional financing for national development priorities of the Maldives
3.1 g. Facilitate technical cooperation opportunities required for the strengthening of State Institutions, Civil Society Organisations and Community Based Organisations in the country.
Strategy 3.2. Strengthen focus of foreign service towards promoting Maldivian exports and Maldivian culture
3.2.a. Conclude bilateral agreements for broader connectivity and promoting Maldivian exports
3.2.b. Establish Maldives Cultural Centres under Maldives missions abroad to promote Maldives Arts, Culture and Heritage.
Policy 4: Provide efficient and quality consular services to Maldivians
Strategy 4.1. Strengthen consular services for Maldivians
4.1.a. Establish an online portal for consular services
4.1.b. Facilitate more opportunities to obtain visas in the Maldives
4.1 c. Utilise services of Honorary Consuls for consular services.
Strategy 4.2. Cultivate closer links with Maldivian communities abroad
4.2.a. Engage with Maldivian communities to promote Maldivian values, culture and heritage abroad
4.2.b. Establish a Consular Trust Fund or an Emergency Response Budget for assisting Maldivians
Policy 5: Enhance and strengthen the foreign service
Strategy 5.1: Enhancing the FOSIM to encourage young aspirants and widening the country's diplomatic footprint.
5.1 a. Strengthen the Foreign Service Institute of Maldives (FOSIM)
5.1 b. Developing Human Resource capacity of Foreign Service
Strategy 5.2: Strengthen the administrative, coordination and monitoring mechanism in the foreign service
5.2.a. Develop a mechanism for regular dialogue between Missions and Headquarters
5.2.b. Develop an integrated management system to interlink missions, FOSIM and Headquarters (ICT)
5.2.c. Strengthen the monitoring mechanism of foreign engagement by the entire Government machinery.

5.2.d. Enhance physical space for the Ministry and establish new facilities such as Auditorium, Library and Diplomatic Archive.

5.2.e. Procure vehicles to cater to the needs of MoFA

Strategy 5.3: Establish buildings for Maldives Missions

5.3.a. Developing the allocated land plots for Maldives Missions abroad

5.3.b. Secure own lands and buildings to move away from renting office space

Policy 6: Strengthen public relations of the Ministry

Strategy 6.1 : Strengthen the media function of the Ministry

6.1 a. Upgrade the media unit with necessary equipment

6.1 b. Recruit technical personnel for the unit

6.1.c. Disseminate information in sustainable and consistent manner

6.1.d. Establish a spokesperson function in the Ministry