



23 November 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please be advised that, effective **1 January 2012, the Government of Maldives will implement a new 6.0% TOURISM GOODS & SERVICE TAX (T-GST)** on all accommodations and all goods and service purchased while at the resorts/safari boats, including, but not limited to the following:

- Accommodation
- Transfer to and from the resort
- Food & beverage, Spa Services and Products, Boutique Products, Sporting Activities, Diving Activities, Laundry, Telephone Charges, Excursions, and other extra service.

This **6.0% TOURISM GOODS & SERVICE TAX (T-GST) applies to all guests arriving on or after 1 January 2012.** regardless of their booking date. For in house guests whose stays include January 1, 2012 or later, the T-GST tax will apply for that portion of the stay occurring in 2012.

Please note that this is a Government imposed tax which we are required to collect and remit for all bookings, including existing bookings which have not yet travelled. You will be billed the 6.0% T-GST tax for the stays of all guests arriving on or after January 1, 2012 regardless of booking date or, for guests in house on January 1, 2012, the portion of their stay that occurs in 2012.

Therefore, we recommend that you contact all travel agents/customers with confirmed reservations arriving on or after January 1, 2012 or that will be in house on January 1, 2012 to advise them of this new additional T-GST tax and adjust the tax portion of the account related to their booking. We also suggest that, in order to avoid guest dissatisfaction, you advise your guests that the new T-GST tax will also apply to other paid services at the resort.