



Reference: NEA-PHOPD-SIPD-CIRCULAR-INFO-053

3 January 2024

Public Toilet Stakeholders,

**CODE OF PRACTICE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (COPEH) 2021 – REQUIREMENT ON WASH HAND BASINS**

Please be reminded that the National Environment Agency (NEA) has updated the requirement on wash hand basins and taps under Section 2 of the [COPEH](#). The requirement on wash hand basins and taps have evolved over time due to operational considerations and feedback received.

2 For ease of reference, an extract of COPEH 2021 has been appended below. Do take note that **flat-bottomed wash hand basins should not be installed at public toilets**.

<b>COPEH 2020 [Obsolete]</b>	<b>COPEH 2021 [Current and effective from 1 March 2022]</b>
Wash-hand basins shall be installed such that there is sufficient gradient to allow dirt and debris to be effectively washed into the drain pipes.	Wash hand basins shall be installed such that there is sufficient gradient to allow dirt and debris to be effectively washed into the drain pipes. Flat-bottomed basins* should not be installed.

\*Refer to Annex for photo of flat bottom sink

3 Flat-bottomed wash hand basin may lead to poor cleanliness standards and maintenance due to the design of the wash hand basin which traps dirt and food remnants. Therefore, we encourage the adoption of well-designed sanitary fittings, which facilitates the cleaning and maintenance of the toilet and nudge good toilet behaviour from users at the same time.

4 We seek your continued cooperation in keeping public toilets clean. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Rachel Ng  
Covering Director  
Public Health Operational Policy Division  
National Environment Agency

NB: This is a computer-generated letter and no signature is required.

**Annex- Samples of flat bottom sinks which should NOT be installed**

