

[Legal Notice No. 54]

## ENVIRONMENT (SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN) REGULATIONS 2023

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## ENVIRONMENT ACT 1998

(No. 8 of 1998)

## ENVIRONMENT (SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN) REGULATIONS 2023

I, Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu, Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, under section 55 of the *Environment Act 1998*, make the following Regulations:

### 1 Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the *Environment (Single Use Plastic Ban) Regulations 2023*.

### 2 Commencement

- (1) Regulation 4(1) commences on 1 September 2023.
- (2) The remaining provisions to commence 6 months on and from 1 September 2023.

### 3 Definitions

In these Regulations:

“*person*” includes any public body, company or association, and any body of persons corporate or unincorporated;

“*plastic shopping bag*” is any of the following;

- (a) designed for the use in trade and commerce; and
- (b) plastic carrier bags whether light weight or heavy weight; and
- (c) made in whole or in part, of polyethylene, composed primarily of

thermoplastic synthetic polymeric material; and

- (d) which is provided at the point of sale and incidental to the purchase of other goods; and
- (e) used for delivery of goods; and
- (f) whether biodegradable or non-biodegradable;

“*plastic cutlery*” includes single use takeaway cups, spoons, forks and knives designed for single-use, however excluding those used for smoothies or bubble tea;

“*Polyethylene Terephthalate (“PET”) water bottle*” means,

- (a) drinking water contained in PET bottle less than 1.5 Litre in volume; and
- (b) designed for use in trade and commerce; and
- (c) made in whole or in part, of plastic, and made of plastic resin; and
- (d) designed for one time use; and
- (e) which is provided by retail outlet to a customer at the point of sale;

“*single-use plastic products*” means the following:

- (a) plastic shopping bags;
- (b) plastic straws;
- (c) plastic cup, plastic plate and plastic cutlery;
- (d) polystyrofoam takeaway containers, plates, cups;
- (e) polyethylene terephthalate water bottle that contain less than 1.5 litres;

#### **4 Importation, manufacturing and distribution, supply and sell of single use plastic products**

- (1) No person shall import single-use plastic products.
- (2) No person shall manufacture or distribute to any person single-use plastic products.
- (3) No person shall sell or supply to retail outlets single-use plastic products.
- (4) A person contravening (1), (2), or (3) commits an offence.

Maximum penalty: for a natural person, 50 000 penalty units or 2 years imprisonment or both.

for a body corporate, 100 000 penalty units or 3 ears imprisonment or both.

#### **5 Enforcement**

Provisions of this Regulations shall be enforced by:

- (1) Environment Officers pursuant to the *Environment Act 1998* (section 5);
- (2) Customs Officers pursuant to the *Customs and Excise Act* (Cap. 121) (section 2);
- (3) Police Officers of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force pursuant to the *Police Act 2023* (section 3);
- (4) Enforcement Officers under the *Honiara City Act 1999* (section 37);
- (5) Authorised Officers of the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority, pursuant to the *Solomon Islands Maritime Authority Act 2018* (section 47);
- (6) Servants and agents in the Solomon Islands Ports Authority pursuant to the *Ports Act* (Cap. 161) (section 16).

Made in Honiara this first-day of September 2023.

**HON. STANLEY FESTUS SOFU**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, DISASTER  
MANAGEMENT AND METEOROLOGY

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