

INSTRUCTIONS FOR IMPORTERS OF EXEMPTED PLASTIC BAGS

Application for Registration

- 1) All importers of exempted plastic bags have to register with the Director of Environment as per the **attached Registration Form**.
 - 2) The biodegradable and compostable plastic bags should have to comply with the provisions of the Regulations regarding:
 - (i) conformity to the Standards as **attached** or any other acceptable to the Mauritius Standards Bureau and
 - (ii) particulars to be displayed on the bags.
- The Mauritius Standard Bureau has advised to opt for the following applicable standards MS ISO 17088, BS EN 13432, EN 14995, ASTM D 64 00 as **highlighted** at Attached Third Schedule

The importer of biodegradable and compostable plastic bags should hold a clearance from the Director of Environment for each consignment

Application for Clearance

- 3) For the purpose of obtaining a clearance, importers should:
- a. Make an application to the Director of Environment one month prior to the shipment of the consignment. The application must clearly mention the full description of the goods namely:-
 - Name of importer
 - Address
 - Telephone & Fax Numbers, E-mail address
 - Country of Importation
 - Type and size of bags being imported;
 - Quantity of each type of bags to be imported;
 - Standard complied with as per the Certificate of conformity/Test Report
 - Indicate any specificity to physically identify the bags by Customs Officer (E.g. packet size or container)
 - b. Submit two sets of original certificate of conformity or a certified true copy of the original certificate of conformity indicating:-
 - Clear description of items to be imported, and
 - The appropriate standard complied with as specified in the Third Schedule of the regulations
 - c. The certificate of conformity should be issued by a body (preferably from the list of accredited laboratories) and which should be easily verified by the Mauritius Standards Bureau.
 - d. The validity of the certificate shall not be more than 2 years
 - e. Five sets of sample of the item must be produced as evidence at the time of submission of the request for verification purposes
 - The particulars should be conspicuously displayed on the sample;
 - As specified in the regulations, the particulars mean:-
 - (a) the name and contact address of the importer;

- (b) the country of origin;
- (c) the batch no and the production date;
- (d) the standard complied with.

- 4) The Director may issue a clearance, on terms and conditions as determined.
- 5) The importer should inform the Ministry on the expected date of the consignment
- 6) Samples from the consignment would be taken in presence of the importer and the concerned authority for testing at the expense of the importer
- 7) This Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management reserves the right to :
 - (i) take samples of the biodegradable and compostable plastic bags at least twice a year for testing at the expense of the importer;
 - (ii) request for any additional information.

Note for Importers of biodegradable and compostable plastic bags:

- A minimum of seven working days are required for the processing of requests depending on the number of test reports submitted
- The Certificate of conformity/Test Report will not be accepted where the data or any other information is not clear
- It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that the appropriate and relevant document are provided to the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management for submission to the Mauritius Standard Bureau
- An Application fee of Rs 800 will be charged for verification of the Certificate of conformity/Test report per sample as per the policy of the Mauritius Standard Bureau
- Payment by cash/cheque shall be made in favour of the Mauritius Standard Bureau

Our Contact details:

The Regulations are available on: www.environment.govmu.org.

Specific information on the standards could be sought by Mauritius Standards Bureau accessible on <http://msb.intnet.mu>

All applicants are requested to forward their filled Registration Forms/ applications for Clearance for biodegradable and compostable plastic bags with **ALL necessary details** by:

1. Email: menv@govmu.org
2. Fax: 212 9407
3. Registered post to the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management, 5th Floor, Ken Lee Tower, Cnr. St George & Barracks Streets, Port Louis.
4. Hand delivery at the Registry of the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management, 5th Floor, Ken Lee Tower, Cnr. St George & Barracks Streets, Port Louis.

SCHEDULE
[Regulation 7]

SECOND SCHEDULE
[Regulation 5(2)]

REGISTRATION FORM FOR MANUFACTURERS OR IMPORTERS OF BAGS SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST
SCHEDULE

Name of applicant

Address

Office phone number

Mobile number

Fax number

Email address

Name of contact person of applicant.....

Please fill in as appropriate

1. Business Registration number of manufacturer
(1) Date of issue and Reference number of PER Approval (Copy to be attached)
(2) Date of issue and Reference number of Development Permit or Building and Land Use Permit (copy to be attached)
(3) Recent copy of trade fee receipt (copy to be attached)
(4) Type of bag to be manufactured

<p>2. Business Registration number of Importer</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Type of bag to be imported</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

<p>I apply to be registered as –</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> manufacturer of exempted plastic bags and/or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> importer of exempted plastic bags.</p> <p>Please tick as appropriate</p>

I hereby confirm that I have taken cognizance of the Environment Protection (Banning of Plastic Bags) Regulations 2015 and I undertake to comply with the terms and conditions therein.

.....
Date

.....
Signature of applicant

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Registration number

Issued on

Reference Date

SECOND SCHEDULE

[Regulation 8]

THIRD SCHEDULE

[Regulations 2, 5A and 5F]

Type of plastic bags	Applicable standards
Biodegradable plastic bag	ASTM D5338-15 ASTM D5988-12 ASTM D6340-98 ASTM D6954-04 EN 13432 EN 14046 EN 14047 EN 14048 ISO 14851- ISO 14852- ISO 14855-1 ISO 14855-2 ISO 15985 ISO 17556
Compostable plastic bag	ASTM D6400-12 EN 13432 EN 14045 EN 14995 ISO 16929 ISO 17088 ISO 20200