

## COMMUNIQUÉ

### **Environment Protection (Control of Single Use Plastic Products) Regulations 2020**

The public is hereby informed that, under the above Regulations, the moratorium in respect of the banning of the following specific non-biodegradable single use plastic products used by the local food manufacturers **has been exceptionally extended up to 14 January 2026**:

- (i) **plastic cups and plastic bowls** used solely for the packaging of dairy products (yoghurt, ice cream and butter), dessert, margarine and hot-filled packaged products (jelly and flan); and
- (ii) **plastic trays** used solely for the Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) of fresh, cooked or pre-cooked food products such as meat, burger, seafood and cheese.

Consequently, the above named non-biodegradable single use plastic products shall be banned as from **15 January 2026**.

Concerned local food manufacturers are required to apply for the renewal of their authorisation letter from this Ministry by **14 March 2025 at latest**. In the meantime, the validity of authorisation letters issued by this Ministry as from 2023 are being extended up to **14 March 2025**. Beyond this date, the existing authorisation letters **will not be valid**. The application form may be accessed from the website of this Ministry at <https://environment.govmu.org/Pages/Plastic-Management-Division.aspx>.

The above moratorium does not apply to the following: -

- (i) non-biodegradable single use plastic cups: jam and beverages (tea, coffee, mousse noire, chocolate);
- (ii) non-biodegradable single use plastic bowls: confectionery (candy, sweets, marshmallow, dragée), condiments (chilli, ketchup, soy sauce), pickles (cornichon, olive, chilli, achard, mazavarou); and
- (iii) non-biodegradable single use plastic trays for MAP: pastry, salted fish, dried and fresh fruits.

#### **NOTE:**

During this 1-year moratorium period:

- (i) local food manufacturers (including those who have partly shifted to non-plastic alternatives, for example for packaging of ice cream and yoghurt), are **strongly encouraged** to sustain their efforts to shift to non-plastic alternatives for packaging of their products; and
- (ii) this Ministry will set up a Multi-Stakeholder Technical Committee which will closely monitor the progress of local food manufacturers to transition to non-plastic alternatives. The Committee will also come up with recommendations to accelerate the shift, including measures based on the Polluter Pays Principle.