

S.I. 31 of 2019

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT

(Act 18 of 2016)

Environment Protection (Restriction on the manufacturing, importation, distribution and sale of Plastic Straws) Regulations, 2019

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 80(1) of the Environment Protection Act, 2016 the Minister responsible for Environment makes the following Regulations —

1. These regulations may be cited as the Environment Protection (Restriction on the manufacturing, importation, distribution and sale of Plastic Straws) Regulations, 2019 and shall come into operation on 1st June, 2019.

Citation and commencement

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

Interpretation

“Certificate of Conformity” means a document, tag, label, or nameplate, provided on delivery to the buyer that attests the products composition;

“Ministry” means the Ministry responsible for environment;

“non-plastic straw” means a straw that is made of non-plastic materials including paper, sugar cane, wood, bamboo or any other material that may be approved by the Minister;

“plastic” means material which contains as an essential ingredient a high polymer such as

polyethylene terephthalate, high density polyethylene, vinyl, low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene resins, multi-materials like acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, polyphenylene oxide, polycarbonate, polybutylene terephthalate;

“validation” means the confirmation issued by the environment Ministry to the effect that the specified requirements for a specific intended use or application have been fulfilled.

3.(1) The manufacturing, importation, distribution and sale of plastic straws for use within the Republic of Seychelles are prohibited.

(2) Subregulation (1) shall not apply to the plastic straws which form part of pre-packaged beverages or any other pre-packaged products.

4.(1) The Ministry responsible for Finance and Trade, subject to the approval of the Ministry responsible for Environment, shall issue import permits for non-plastic straws.

(2) Subject to subregulation (1), upon submitting an import permit application, the importer shall submit a certificate of conformity.

(3) Subject to subregulation (2) an application to import shall be granted if the certificate of conformity is validated by the Ministry.

5. Any person who contravenes these regulations shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding SCR20,000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Prohibition
of plastic
straws

Issue of import
permits

Offences

6. Where a consignment of plastic straws has been imported in breach of these regulations, the consignment shall be dealt with in accordance with section 246(1)(b) or 247(1) of the Customs Management Act, 2011 (Act 22 of 2011).

Import in
breach of
regulation

MADE this 30th day of May, 2019.

WALLACE COSGROW
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT,
ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE