

# LAW UPDATE

Published: 6 May 2021

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## BAN OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC IN THE MALDIVES

<i>Law:</i>	18 <sup>th</sup> Amendment to Maldives Export Import Act	<i>Citation no.:</i>	<b>29/2020</b>
<i>Type:</i>	Primary legislation	<i>Publication date:</i>	22 December 2020
<i>Publication:</i>	Maldivian Government Gazette	<i>Repealed law:</i>	s. 12 of 17 <sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Export Import Act
<i>Authority:</i>	<b>Maldives Customs Service</b>	<i>Keywords:</i>	Plastic ban, import, export
<i>Effective date:</i>	<b>22 December 2020</b>	<i>Topics:</i>	Single-use plastic

### AMENDMENTS TO S. 7 OF THE EXPORT IMPORT ACT

- It is prohibited to import to the Maldives, plastic products that has been declared as single-use plastic by the President of Maldives. The President has the discretion to declare single-use plastic to be banned in phases as per s.7(l) of the Act.
- Pursuant to the Presidential Decree no. 2020/8, dated 30 December 2020, the President has declared a list of goods classified as single-use plastic prohibited to be imported to the Maldives, with effect from the date(s) specified in the declaration.

### LIST OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PROHIBITED TO BE IMPORTED TO THE MALDIVES

#	Chapter	Product Name	Effective Date of Prohibition
1	39	Plastic drinking straw	01 June 2021
2	39	Single-use plastic-based plates, cutleries and stirrers	01 June 2021
3	39	Styrofoam lunch box	01 June 2021
4	39	Plastic shopping bags that are smaller than 30x30 cm (including oxo-degradable and synthetic polymer based biodegradable plastics)	01 June 2021
5	20	Imported sweet areca nuts in plastic wrapping	01 June 2021

6	39	Single-use plastic cups below 250 ml	01 June 2021
7	56	Cotton buds with plastic stems	01 June 2021
8	34/33	Shampoo and soap bottles in plastic packaging that are 50 ml and below	01 June 2021
9	22/20	All imported beverages in P.E.T bottles below 500 ml (water, carbonated and non-carbonated drinks)	01 June 2021
10	39	Plastic shopping bags below 50-micron thickness (including oxo-degradable and synthetic polymer based biodegradable plastics)	01 December 2022
11	34/33	Shampoo and soap bottles in plastic packaging ranging from 50 ml to 200 ml	01 December 2022
12	22	All imported water that is 01 litre and below packed in P.E.T packaging	01 December 2023

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