

CLARIFICATION OF PLASTIC BAN

This is clarification to inquiries on the packaging plastic materials used by industries and other wrappings.

According to the gazette notice No. 2334 of 14th March 2017, all plastic carrier bags regardless of their thickness or color used as secondary packages are banned with effect from 28th August 2017. However flat plastic bags used for industrial primary packaging are exempt so long as they meet the following criteria

1. They are used for industrial primary packaging at the source of the product and it is not available on sale at the counter or given freely outside the industrial setting”
2. The bags must be clearly labeled (Printed) the name of the industry and product packaged. Clearance required to be sought from NEMA.

Clarification is hereby also made that the ban has not affected the following plastic materials;

1. Plastic sheets used for construction, greenhouses, covering, etc
2. Cling Film/ Stretch Films used for wrappings
3. Bopp Self Adhesive Tapes

However, since the ban is intended to reduce the plastic pollution, the Authority requires the responsible persons for plastic materials exempted to avoid where necessary or take due diligence to segregate and direct all used plastics materials to recycling facilities and NOT DUMPED together with general waste.

Robert Orina