Executive Council Resolution No. (124) of 2023

Regulating the

Use of Single-use Products in the Emirate of Dubai[1]

We, Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council,

After perusal of:

Federal Law No. (12) of 2018 Concerning Integrated Waste Management and its Implementing Bylaw;

Federal Law No. (15) of 2020 Concerning Consumer Protection and its Implementing Bylaw;

Ministerial Resolution No. (380) of 2023 Regulating the Use of Single-use Products in the UAE Markets;

Law No. (13) of 2011 Regulating the Conduct of Economic Activities in the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments;

Law No. (1) of 2016 Concerning the Financial Regulations of the Government of Dubai, its Implementing Bylaw, and their amendments;

Law No. (5) of 2021 Concerning the Dubai International Financial Centre;

Law No. (20) of 2021 Establishing the Department of Economy and Tourism in the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (26) of 2023 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Decree No. (22) of 2009 Concerning Special Development Zones in the Emirate of Dubai;

The Order of 1961 Establishing the Dubai Municipality;

The Order Concerning Compliance with Public Health and Safety and Environment Protection in the Emirate of Dubai, issued on 21 January 2004;

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[1] *Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.*

Local Order No. (61) of 1991 Concerning Environment Protection Systems in the Emirate of Dubai;

Local Order No. (11) of 2003 Concerning Public Health and Community Safety in the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments;

Executive Council Resolution No. (52) of 2022 Concerning Reduction of the Use of Single-use Bags; and

The legislation establishing and regulating free zones in the Emirate of Dubai,

Do hereby issue this Resolution.

Definitions
Article (1)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Resolution, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

UAE:	The United Arab Emirates.
Emirate:	The Emirate of Dubai.
Competent Entity:	A Government entity in charge of licensing Economic Activities in the Emirate. This includes the Department of Economy and Tourism and the authorities supervising Special Development Zones and free zones, such as the Dubai International Financial Centre.
Director General:	The director general of a Competent Entity or any other officer holding a similar position.
Consumer:	A natural or legal person who obtains a Commodity from a Vendor to meet his needs or the needs of others.
Vendor:	A natural or legal person who is licensed by a Competent Entity and who sells Commodities to Consumers. This includes, without limitation, traditional and online retail stores, restaurants, pharmacies, and establishments engaged in the delivery of Commodities.

Commodity:	A natural material or an industrial, agricultural, or animal product traded by a Vendor.
Single-use Product:	Products designed for one-time use and subsequent disposal or recycling, regardless of the material from which they are manufactured. These include Single-use Plastic Products, Single-use Non-plastic Products, such as food delivery packaging, fruit and vegetable packaging, and thick plastic bags to plastic packaging, packaging materials made partially or wholly from Plastic Material, including those used in food packaging, plastic bottles, snack wrappers, cigarette butts, wet wipes, balloons, and balloon sticks.
Plastic Material:	Various polymer compounds resulting from polymerisation reactions, which can be shaped using extrusion devices or moulded into different forms or varying thickness films. They can also be drawn into threads used as fibres. These polymer compounds include, but are not limited to, High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE), Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE), Polypropylene (PP), Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET), Polystyrene (PS), and Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC).
Single-use Bag:	A biodegradable or other plastic bag, a paper bag, or a bag made of plant fibre whose thickness is less than fifty-seven (57) micrometres and which is used to carry and transport Commodities.
Single-use Plastic Products:	These are products manufactured partially or entirely from Plastic Materials and are designed for one-time use and subsequent disposal or recycling. They include Single-use Plastic Bags, food delivery packaging, plastic fruit and vegetable packaging, plastic containers, stirring sticks, single-use table covers, cups, and food containers made of Styrofoam. Additionally, they include straws, cotton buds, single-use plastic plates, plastic food containers, single-use plastic tableware (such as spoons, forks, knives,

	chopsticks), and single-use plastic beverage cups and lids.
Single-use Non-plastic Products:	Any product made from materials other than Plastic Materials, and designed for single-time use and subsequent disposal or recycling. This includes Single-use Bags.
Reusable Products:	Products designed for repeated and varied use for the same purpose or other purposes.
Trading:	This includes selling or displaying, with the intention of sale or distribution free of charge.
Styrofoam:	Non-porous polystyrene foam manufactured as insulation boards for buildings, walls, ceilings, and foundations, functioning as a thermal insulator and moisture barrier; utilised in containers and cups; and serving as cushioning material in packaging.

Objectives of this Resolution
Article (2)

This Resolution aims to:

1. protect the local natural environment and biological and animal wealth;
2. encourage community members to adopt sustainable and environmentally friendly practices;
3. promote the culture of utilising recyclable materials, underscoring its significance in achieving sustainable development;
4. stimulate the private sector and the local market to provide Reusable Products, in line with the principles of circular economy aimed at reusing materials and products sustainably in the local economy; and
5. regulate the consumption or recycling of Single-use Products, Single-use Materials, and Single-use Plastic Products.

Scope of Application
Article (3)

This Resolution applies to the Single-use Products Traded or used by all Vendors and Consumers in the Emirate, including in Special Development Zones and free zones, such as the Dubai International Financial Centre.

Functions of the Dubai Municipality
Article (4)

For the purposes of this Resolution, the Dubai Municipality will, in coordination with the Competent Entities, have the duties and powers to:

1. organise awareness campaigns aimed at educating and encouraging community members to minimise the use of Plastic Materials and Single-use Products;

2. encourage Vendors to support the projects, initiatives, and programmes aimed at minimising the use of Plastic Materials and Single-use Products and to provide Reusable Products; and

3. exercise any other duties or powers related to the achievement of the objectives of this Resolution, as assigned to it by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Prohibition of Single-use Products
Article (5)

Pursuant to this Resolution, the import and Trading of Single-use Products are prohibited as follows:

a. Plastic bags: effective from 1 January 2024

b. Non-plastic Single-use Products, including Single-use Bags: effective from 1 June 2024

c. Single-use Plastic Products: effective from 1 January 2025. These include:

    1. single-use plastic stirring sticks;

    2. single-use table covers;

    3. Styrofoam cups and food containers;

4. single-use plastic straws; and

5. single-use plastic cotton buds.

d. Single-use Plastic Products: effective from 1 January 2026. These include:

1. single-use plastic plates;

2. single-use plastic food containers;

3. single-use plastic tableware; and

4. single-use plastic beverage cups and lids.

Exemptions
Article (6)

a. The following products are exempted from the prohibition stipulated in Article (5) of this Resolution:

I. Single-use Plastic Bags, including:

1. Thin plastic bag rolls used for packaging meat, fish, vegetables, fruits, grains, and bread; and

2. garbage bags.

II. Products intended for export or re-export outside of the UAE, including:

1. single-use plastic shopping bags;

2. single-use shopping bags; and

3. single-use plastic consumer products.

b. Trading of the products referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article in the UAE markets is hereby prohibited. These products must be clearly marked for export or re-export outside the UAE.

Consumption Reduction
Article (7)

All Competent Entities, concerned authorities, and Consumers must develop and implement the following procedures and practices:

1. reduce the production and consumption of Sing-use Products; and

2. adopt practices and promote initiatives that contribute to increasing reliance on the use of Reusable Products.

Obligations of Vendors
Article (8)

A Vendor must actively participate in the projects, initiatives, or programmes aimed at minimising the use of Plastic Materials and Single-use Products; and provide at reasonable prices alternative Reusable Products, as determined by the Competent Entities in this respect.

Administrative Penalties and Fines
Article (9)

a. Without prejudice to any stricter penalty stipulated in any other legislation, a Person who violates the provisions of Article (5) of this Resolution will be punished by a fine of two hundred dirhams (AED 200.00).

b. Upon repetition of the same violation within one (1) year from the date of the previous violation, the amount of the fine referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article will be doubled. A doubled fine must not exceed two thousand dirhams (AED 2,000.00).

c. The fines collected pursuant to this Resolution will be paid to the Public Treasury of the Government of Dubai.

Law Enforcement
Article (10)

a. The employees of a Competent Entity nominated pursuant to a resolution of its Director General will have the capacity of law enforcement officers to record the acts committed in breach of the provisions of this Resolution. For this purpose, they may issue the necessary violation reports; and, where necessary, seek the assistance of police personnel.

b. For the purpose of verifying the thickness of Single-use Bags and the materials of which they are made, a law enforcement officer may request a Vendor to provide him with the identification tag of the bags he offers to Consumers when purchasing Commodities.

Grievances
Article (11)

Any affected party submit a written grievance to the Director General against any decision, procedure, or administrative penalty taken against him under this Resolution within ten (10) working days of being notified of the contested decision, procedure, or administrative penalty. The grievance will be determined, within ten (10) working days from the date of its submission, by a committee formed by the Director General for this purpose, and the decision on the grievance will be final.

Repeals
Article (12)

Any provision in any other resolution is hereby repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Resolution.

Commencement and Publication
Article (13)

This Resolution comes into force on 1 January 2024, and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Crown Prince of Dubai

Chairman of the Executive Council

Issued in Dubai on 30 December 2023

Corresponding to 17 Jumada al-Thaniyah 1445 A.H.