



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

April 30, 2024

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **512** s. 2024

**REITERATING THE PROHIBITION AGAINST UNNECESSARY
SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Division Information Officers
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is an Official Communication from Wilson L. Trajeco, PME, PhD, Regional Director, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), dated April 11, 2024, citing the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) Resolution No. 1363, s. 2020, a resolution directing the DENR to prepare and implement the banning of the use of unnecessary single-use plastics or Non-Environmentally Acceptable Products (NEAP) by National Government Agencies (NGAs), Local Government Units (LGUs) Offices and all other Government Controlled Offices.
2. In compliance with this directive, this Office, through the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), encourages all departmental offices to implement a ban on single-use plastics within the workplace and use re-usable items instead. The banning implementation shall be a prerequisite when selecting hotels and similar venues for official events and activities of this Office.
3. Additional details and information relative to the implementation of this Resolution are stipulated in the attached communication.
4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


EVELYN R. FETALVERO CESO IV
Regional Director

Enclosures: None

References: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

PROHIBITION SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

ESSD-SPPS-DRRM-TJCP



Address: Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte
Telephone No.: (053) 832-5738
Email Address: region8@deped.gov.ph
Website: region8.deped.gov.ph



11 APR 2024

DIR. EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV
Regional Director
Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Office VIII
Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
Regional Office No. VIII
DENR 8 Compound, Brgy. 2, Jones Extension, Tagbilaran City
Tel No: (053) 832-2319
Mobile: +639364704008 (Globe) / +639465333809 (Smart)
Email Address: emb8_records@emb.gov.ph

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORD SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII

APR 16 2024
4110

ISO 9001
QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

ISO 14001
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Signature: _____
Name: LOMILSON B. MENDOZA
Date: 15 APR 2024
Time: 11:32

RELEASED

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR IV

APR 15 2024
APR 16 2024

Signature _____
Signature _____

Subject: **PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF UNNECESSARY SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

Dear **Dir. Fetalvero**,

Environmental Greetings!

Section 2 of Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 states that it is the policy of the state to adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management system for solid waste avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization measures.

It is in this premise that the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) issued Resolution No. 1363, series of 2020 entitled *Resolution Directing the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to Prepare and Implement the Banning of the Use of Unnecessary Single-Use Plastics by National Government Agencies (NGAs), Local Government Units (LGUs) Offices and all other Government Controlled Offices.*

The following materials are considered unnecessary single-use plastics and are the subject of this policy, to wit:

1. Plastic disposable cups;
2. Plastic drinking straws;
3. Plastic coffee stirrers;
4. Plastic spoons;
5. Plastic forks;
6. Plastic knives; and
7. Plastic labo and thin-filmed sando bags.

Plastic drinking straws and plastic coffee stirrers are also declared as Non-Environmentally Acceptable Products (NEAP) pursuant to NSWMC Resolution No. 1428, series of 2021.

The use of these single-use plastics is rampant mainly due to the throwaway culture in which convenience is often prioritized over durability and consideration of long-term impacts. These plastics, made primarily from fossil fuel-based chemicals or petrochemicals, are used only once and disposed of in mere minutes. For this reason, the environmental group Greenpeace ranked the Philippines as the "third worst polluter of the world's oceans".

Left alone, plastics don't really break down; they just break up. Over time, sun and heat slowly turn plastics into smaller and smaller pieces until they eventually become what are known as microplastics. Exposure to microplastics is detrimental to human health because it causes hormonal imbalance, infertility, and even cancer.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
Regional Office No. VIII
DENR 8 Compound, Brgy. 2, Jones Extension, Taalqban City
Tel No: (053) 832-2319
Mobile: +639364704008 (Globe) / +639465333809 (Smart)
Email Address: cmb8_records@emb.gov.ph



In line with the foregoing, the undersigned is requesting the DepEd, being a member of the Regional Ecology Center (REC) Eastern Visayas and a partner in environmental protection, to contribute positive actions through the following:

- a. Banning the use of unnecessary single-use plastics in your premises; and
- b. Including such ban as a requirement in engaging the services of hotels and other similar facilities as the venue of your Office events and activities.

Instead, encourage the use of the following re-usable items:

1. Reusable drinking glasses or mugs;
2. Reusable straws;
3. Reusable spoons;
4. Reusable forks;
5. Reusable knives and plates;
6. Reusable food containers or reusable/washable plastic wares, especially when buying food; and
7. Eco-bags or reusable bags.

The undersigned is sincerely hoping for your positive response on this matter.

Thank you for your usual cooperation.

Respectfully,


WILSON L. TRAJECO, PME, PhD
Regional Director

