

FACTSHEET ON MANDATORY PACKAGING REPORTING

- Under the mandatory packaging reporting framework, producers of packaging and packaged products will be required to collect data on the types and amounts of packaging they place on the market, draw up plans for reducing the amount of packaging that will end up as waste for disposal, and report the packaging data and plans to the NEA on an annual basis.
- For a start, the mandatory packaging reporting requirements will apply to brand owners, manufacturers, importers of packaging and packaged goods, as well as supermarkets with an annual turnover of more than \$10 million. These businesses will need to register with NEA when the reporting framework comes into effect in 2020, and submit their first report in 2021.
- Mandatory packaging reporting is the first step towards more sustainable packaging waste management. This will lay the foundation of an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework for managing packaging waste, which NEA is currently studying and targeting to have in place by 2025.

Background

1 At the Opening Ceremony of the Clean Environment Leaders' Summit 2018 on 10 July 2018, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, announced that mandatory packaging reporting will be implemented in 2020, which is earlier than the 2021 timeline announced in 2017.

2 Packaging waste, including plastics, makes up about one-third of domestic waste disposed of in Singapore. It is therefore one of the key waste streams to focus on for more sustainable waste management, to help Singapore achieve its goal of towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation.

Mandatory Packaging Reporting Framework

3 Under the mandatory packaging reporting framework, producers of packaging and packaged products, such as brand owners, manufacturers, importers and retailers, will be required to submit annual reports to NEA on the types and amounts of packaging that they put on the Singapore market, and their 3R plans for packaging (i.e. plans to reduce, reuse and/or recycle packaging waste). (Refer to **Annex A** for information on the packaging covered under the framework and **Annex B** for the types of packaging that companies will need to include in their reports.)

4 The requirements will apply, for a start, to brand owners, manufacturers, importers of packaging and packaged goods, as well as supermarkets with an annual turnover of more than \$10 million. These companies will need to register with NEA when the reporting framework comes into effect in 2020, and submit their first reports to NEA in 2021.

5 Mandatory packaging reporting is aimed at raising greater awareness among companies on the benefits of packaging waste reduction and to spur companies to take action to reduce the amount of packaging used and packaging waste disposed of. It will also lay the foundation for an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework for managing packaging waste, including plastics, which NEA is currently studying and targeting to have in place by 2025.

6 The framework has been refined based on the feedback received from the series of consultations that the National Environment Agency (NEA) had conducted with the industries and stakeholders between September and November 2018. Moving forward, NEA will work with relevant parties to explore ways to support companies in reducing packaging waste to achieve both business cost savings and environmental benefits.

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Packaging Coverage

Packaging refers to all products made of any materials of any nature to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery and/or presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods. Common types of packaging materials include glass, metal, paper and plastic. Packaging covered under the mandatory packaging reporting include:

Primary packaging	Service packaging	Secondary packaging	Tertiary packaging
Packaging conceived to constitute a sales unit to the final user/consumer	Packaging which is filled at the point-of-sales	Packaging conceived to constitute a grouping of a certain number of sales units, whether it is sold as such to the final user/consumer or whether it serves only as a means to replenish the shelves at the point-of-sales	Packaging conceived to facilitate handling and transport of a number of sales units or grouped packaging in order to prevent physical handling and transport damage
<p>Examples: glass bottles for drinks, paper milk cartons, plastic bottles for household cleaning agents</p> 	<p>Examples: carrier bags, takeaway containers, cups</p> 	<p>Example: Paperboard used to bundle-pack beverage bottles</p> 	<p>Examples: carton box, pallet</p> 

With references made to the European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Ownership of Packaging

The table below summarises which types of companies are required to report the different types of packaging covered under the reporting framework.

Types of packaging	Types of companies required to report
Packaging of packaged products manufactured and placed on Singapore market	Product manufacturer registered in Singapore This applies to locally manufactured products without brands as well.
Packaging of packaged products imported and placed on Singapore market	Brand owner registered in Singapore This applies to products that brand owners bring in directly or through contracted importer(s).
	Product importer registered in Singapore This applies to situations where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The brand owner is not registered in Singapore • The imported goods are not contracted by Singapore-registered brand owners • The product has no brand
Packaging placed in Singapore (generally not as packaged products) such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrier bags • Containers • Packaging filled at point-of-sales • Secondary packaging • Tertiary packaging 	Owner/licensee of trademark* found on packaging <i>*If there are two or more trademarks on the packaging, the company that is responsible for the content within/on the packaging shall be the obligated party to report; for carrier bags, the company that introduces the packaging to consumers shall be the obligated party to report.</i> Both commercial users* and packaging producers** This applies to situations where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner/licensee of trademark is not registered in Singapore • The packaging has no trademark <i>*Commercial users refer to companies that use packaging for commercial purposes (e.g. handling / transportation / presentation of goods for sales and/or services, facilitation of sale transactions).</i> <i>**Packaging producers refer to brand owners, manufacturers and/or importers of the packaging.</i>