

## INFORMATION SHEET

### **New obligations for single-use plastic products and fishing gear from 2022 according to the Packaging Ordinance (VVO)**

The amendment to the Austrian Packaging Ordinance (VVO) has come into force. Manufacturers of certain single-use plastic products and fishing gear that contain plastic are obliged to participate in a collection and recycling system and have to submit an additional report.

#### **Affected single-use plastic products (§ 18a)**

1. Wet wipes
2. Balloons
3. Tobacco products
4. Fishing gear containing plastic

From 2023, the following **reports** must be submitted retrospectively for 2022 (§ 21a):

1. Beverage cup: report the total mass and
  - a. Entirely made from plastic: report by piece
  - b. Partly made from plastic: report by piece
2. Food containers: reporting of the total mass and
  - a. Entirely made from plastic: report by piece
  - b. Partly made from plastic: report by piece
3. Packets and wrappers made of flexible material: report by mass
4. Beverage containers segmented into:
  - a. PET beverage bottles: report by mass
  - b. Other beverage bottles: report by mass
  - c. Other beverage containers: report by mass
5. Wet wipes: report by mass
6. Balloons: report by mass
7. Tobacco products: Reporting by bulk
8. Fishing gear: report by mass

The data for the reporting year must be reported no later than March 15 of the following calendar year.

## **Definitions**

**Wet wipes:** soaked wipes for hygiene purposes or domestic premises (Annex 6 point 2.2)

**Balloons,** excluding balloons for industrial or other commercial uses and applications that are not sold to consumers (Annex 6 point 2.2.)

**Tobacco products,** with filters and filters marketed for use in combination with tobacco products (Annex 6 point 2.3)

**Fishing gear** means any gear or piece of equipment used in fisheries or aquaculture to locate, capture or raise marine biological resources or, while floating on the sea surface, to attract and capture or raise such marine biological resources ( §3 Z27). Only maritime fishing gear that is put into circulation in Austria is affected.

**Beverage cups,** including lids and covers (Annex 6 point 2. 1)

**Food containers:** i.e. receptacles such as boxes (with or without a cover) used to contain food which

- a. is intended for immediate consumption, either on-the-spot or as take-away,
- b. is typically consumed out of the packaging, and
- c. is ready to be consumed without further preparation such as cooking, boiling or heating, including food containers used for fast food or other meal ready for immediate consumption (Annex 6 point 2. 1)

**Packets and wrappers made of flexible material:** with food content intended for immediate consumption from the packet or wrapper without any further preparation (Annex 6 point 2. 1.).

**Beverage containers:** with a capacity of up to three liters, i.e. receptacles used to contain liquid, such as beverage bottles, including their caps and lids, and composite beverage packaging, including their caps, lids and covers.

Exceptions: Beverage containers made of glass or metal including their caps or lids made from plastic. Beverage containers intended for and used for liquid food for special medical purposes, food for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes and daily rations for weight control nutrition (Annex 6 point 1 b).

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