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**DRAFT FOR  
PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

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**Draft Zambian Standard**

**PLASTIC CARRIER BAGS AND FLAT BAGS - Specification**

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<p>This draft is for Public comment only and should, therefore not be used or referred to as a Zambian Standard.</p>
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**ZAMBIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS**

## **DATE OF PUBLICATION**

This Zambian Standard has been published under the authority of the Bureau on .....

## **ZAMBIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS**

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## **CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS**

A Zambian Standard does not purport to include all necessary provisions of a contract. Users of Zambian Standards are responsible for their correct application.

## **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE**

The preparation of this Zambian Standard has been under taken by the Plastic Carrier Bags and Flat Bags Technical Working Group constituted by the Environmental Council of Zambia, in collaboration with the Zambia Bureau of Standards and stakeholders drawn from the following organizations;

Acton Plastics  
Environmental Council of Zambia (Secretariat)  
Games Stores Limited  
Habib Industries Limited  
Lusaka City Council – Waste Management Unit  
Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry  
Ministry of Finance and National Planning  
Ministry of Tourism, Environment & Natural Resources  
Plastex Packaging  
Polythene Products  
Shoprite  
Spar Limited  
University of Zambia (Chairing)  
Zambia Bureau of Standards  
Zambia Revenue Authority

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## **FOREWORD**

Having a clean and healthy environment is in the interest of all persons in Zambia. The failure to use plastics responsibly means that the parties involved in the plastics value chain – manufacturers, importers, distributors, retailers, and consumers are denying Zambians their right to a clean environment.

Plastics are essential elements of industrialization and socio-economic development of a country. This is due to linkage of the use of plastics to the other sectors of the economy be it manufacturing, trade, transport, agriculture or social activities. Globally, best practices in business aim at ensuring that the packaging for their products complies with the waste management policies in target markets. In addition, these businesses ensure that their corporate goals fulfill the triple bottom line by meeting the financial, social and environmental goals.

However, plastics products pose disposal concerns. Discarded plastic products and packaging make up a growing portion of municipal and solid waste. Because of its resistance to degradation, improper plastic disposal can have a particularly serious effect in the environment, leading to clogged sewers and the constant outbreak of various diseases. Burnt chlorinated plastics are the main sources of the most toxic gases known as furans and dioxins.

All of us agree that there is need to address environmental issues, including plastic waste, in a sustainable manner. It is further indisputable that the collection and disposal of plastic bags is a growing problem in Zambia and that the impacts of the plastic waste menace cannot be ignored any further.

It is against this background that this standard on Plastic Carrier Bags and Flat Bags has been developed.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) wishes to acknowledge the valuable material, expertise and financial contributions rendered by Environmental Council of Zambia (ECZ). ZABS would also like to acknowledge the invaluable guidance and assistance derived from publications of the following organizations:

VC 8087: 2003 *Compulsory specification for Plastics Carrier bags and Flat bags*, a publication of the South African Bureau of Standards.

*Environment Protection (Plastic Carry Bags) Regulations 2004* under the Environment Protection Act 2002, a publication of the South African Government

*The Environmental Management (Prohibiting of Manufacturing, Importation, Selling, Buying and use of Plastics Bags) Regulations 2006* under the Environmental Management Act, 2004, a publication of the Tanzania Government.

BOS 186:2006 *Standard for Plastic for Plastic Carrier Bags and Flat Bags Specification*, a publication of the Botswana Government.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH A STANDARD DOES NOT OF ITSELF CONFER IMMUNITY FROM LEGAL OBLIGATIONS.**

## **ZAMBIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS**

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### **DRAFT ZAMBIAN STANDARD**

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#### **PLASTIC CARRIER BAGS AND FLAT BAGS - Specification**

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#### **1. SCOPE**

- 1.1** This draft Zambian standard specifies requirements for carrier bags and flat bags that are made from thermoplastic materials.
- 1.2** This standard covers plastic carrier bags and flat bags, both domestically produced and imported, for use within Zambia.
- 1.3** This standard covers the thickness, materials used and printing requirements of these bags.
- 1.4** This standard does not cover barrier bags of thickness of less than 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

#### **2. NORMATIVE REFERENCE**

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this standard. All standards are subject to revision and, since any reference to a standard is deemed to be a reference to the latest edition of that standard, parties to agreements based on this standard are encouraged to take steps to ensure the use of the most recent edition of the standards indicated below.

ZS ISO 4591, Plastics - Film and sheeting - Determination of average thickness of a sample, and average thickness and yield of a roll, by gravimetric techniques (gravimetric thickness).

ASTM D 3826 – Standard practice for determining degradation end point in degradable polyethylene and polypropylene using tensile test.

ASTM D 5208 – Standard practice for operating fluorescent ultraviolet (UV) and condensation apparatus for exposure of photodegradable plastics.

ASTM D 5510 – Standard practice for heating ageing of oxidatively degradable plastics

### 3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this draft standard, following definitions apply:

- 3.1 **Barrier bag** - Thin or flimsy bag, used to separate incompatible products at the final point of sale, for health, hygiene or transport purposes
- 3.2 **Carrier bag** - Bag constructed with handles, and with or without gussets
- 3.3 **Commercial distribution** - practice of making plastic bags directly or indirectly available for packaging or carrying of goods
- 3.4 **Degradable plastic** – A plastic film containing a controlled percentage of an appropriate non-toxic and non-tinting additive, which will enable the plastic film to totally degrade, within a period of 12-24 months, when exposed to aerobic or anaerobic conditions, including when disposed in a landfill or other regulated disposal sites.
- 3.5 **Flat bag** - Bag constructed without handles, and with or without gussets
- 3.6 **Packets** –Lowest unit of sale or distribution by the manufacturer to the retailer.
- 3.7 **Plastic film** - continuous, thin, non-woven membraneous skin, or layer of flexible material, made of thermoplastic materials
- 3.8 **Primary packaging** - packaging that is in direct contact with the product, and the purpose of which is to contain the product during transport, or handling to, the point of distribution or use
- 3.9 **Trade** - the sale of plastic bags to any person including, but not limited to, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of goods, for use in Zambia.

### 4. REQUIREMENTS

#### 4.1 Construction and materials

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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