

Global List of Countries with Plastic and/or Styrofoam Bans

Africa

Benin	Benin reportedly banned plastic bags in November 2017
Botswana	Botswana introduced a levy on plastic bags that became effective in 2007. This led to many retailers charging a fee on plastic bags and consequently a reduction in plastic bag use.
Zimbabwe	Styrofoam pollution is a serious problem in Zimbabwe. The government is set to ban the ubiquitous material for use in food containers and to promote greener alternatives.
Cameroon	Cameroon outlawed disposable plastic in April 2014. There are problems considering black market activities
Chad	There is a plastic bag ban in N'Djamena
Eritrea	Eritrea banned plastic bags in 2005.
Ethiopia	Ethiopia has banned the production of certain types of plastic bags
Gabon	Gabon has had a plastic bag ban since 2010
Guinea-Bissau	Guinea-Bissau banned plastic bags in 2016, but the legislation has been poorly enforced
Kenya	Kenya tried to ban manufacture and import of plastic bags in the year 2007 and 2011 as a way to protect the environment. The 2007 and 2011 ban intended for plastics below 30 microns failed after manufacturers and retail outlets threatened to pass on the cost of using other materials to consumers. In 2017 the cabinet secretary of Environment and Natural resources, Prof Judy Wakhungu banned use, manufacture and importation of all plastic bags used for commercial and household packaging under Gazette notice number 2356. On 28 August 2017 Kenya began implementing a countrywide ban of single-use plastic bags. Primary packaging bags, hospital waste bags, and garbage bin liners having been exempted from the ban. The ban has been hailed to be amongst the most stringent in the world. This includes a decision to imprison anyone involved in the creation or import of plastic bags for upwards of four years or will be forced to pay a fine between \$19,000 and \$38,000. Kenya joins more than 40 other countries to ban plastic bags. The government has promised to ban disposable plastic items soon
Madagascar	Madagascar introduced a plastic bag ban in 2015.
Malawi	Malawi introduced a plastic bag ban in 2015
Mali	Mali has banned plastic bags
Mauritania	Mauritania banned the use, manufacture and import of plastic bags from January 2013 to protect the environment, livestock, and marine species

Morocco	Morocco passed a law in October 2015 banning the use of plastic bags nationwide. The law officially came into effect on 1 July 2016. Before the ban, Morocco was the 2nd largest consumer of plastic bags in Africa and the second in the world per capita after the United States.
Mozambique	Mozambique has had a plastic bag charge since 5 February 2016
Niger	Niger has a plastic bag ban in force
Rwanda	Rwanda prohibited shops from giving away plastic bags to their customers in 2004. In 2008, Rwanda completely banned plastic bags as part of its Vision 2020 plan for sustainability, though there is a lucrative black market for the now banned product. The Rwandan government gave tax breaks for companies to recycle instead of manufacture plastic bags and created a new market for environmentally friendly bags. The lack of plastic bags has made Rwandan cities such as Kigali cleaner.
Senegal	Senegal has banned plastic bags in April 2015
Somalia	Plastic bags were banned in the self-declared Republic of Somaliland on 1 March 2005 after a 120-day grace period that the government had given to the public to get rid of their stocks. The Ministry of Trade and Industries announced the cabinet decision in a decree titled: "Banning importation, production and use of plastic bags in the country". The bags had been nicknamed "the Hargeysa flower", as many of them ended up being blown around and getting stuck in trees and shrubs, posing a danger to livestock because the animals that feed on the leaves often ingest the bags accidentally. In 2015 the ban was repeated by Presidential Decree No. #JSL/M/XERM/249-3178/042015, again providing for a 120 days grace period to get rid of stocks. To ensure the implementation of the ban, the government constituted enforcement teams in 2016 to conduct special drives which launch probes into business stalls. At least 1000 men and women in uniform deployed into the main markets and shopping malls. The government announced fines against violators who continue selling plastic bags in the country
South Africa	Plastic bags were a major concern in South Africa before the bag levy was introduced in 2004. The bags were never banned, but a levy was introduced, payable by the plastic bag manufacturer. The thicker plastic bags are levied and although this move initially caused outrage with consumers and an initial decline in volumes, consumers use has continually increased to several billion plastic shopping bags every year.
Tunisia	Tunisia introduced a ban on plastic bag distribution in supermarkets starting from 1 March 2017. An agreement was signed between the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment and large supermarket chains in the country to enact the first phase of a process aiming to reduce the consumption of plastic bags. Tunisian activists are planning awareness campaigns to establish greener policies in the country.
Tanzania	The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar banned plastic bags in 2005. Tanzania introduced a nationwide ban on plastic bags in 2006

Uganda	<p>Heap of trash including plastic bags in Kampala, Uganda</p> <p>Uganda introduced legislation in 2007 to ban the sale of lightweight plastic bags under 30 mm thick and tax thicker bags at a punitive rate of 120%. Although the laws came into effect in September of that year, they have not been enforced and have failed to measurably reduce the use of plastic bags. The law is not well enforced.</p>

Asia

Bangladesh	<p>A strict ban was introduced in Bangladesh in 2002 after floods caused by littered plastic bags submerged two-thirds of the country in water between 1988 and 1998. Plastic bags remain a big problem for sewerage system and waterways.</p>
Bhutan	<p>Bhutan has banned plastic bags, but the legislation has not been very effective so far.</p>
Cambodia	<p>Cambodia plans to introduce a bag charge in 2020</p>
China	<p>A total plastic bag ban on ultra-thin plastic bags and a fee on plastic bags was introduced in China on 1 June 2008. This came into effect because of the problems with sewerage and general waste. One 2009 survey suggests that plastic bag use fell between 60 and 80% in Chinese supermarkets, and 40 billion fewer bags were used. However, first-hand accounts clearly indicate, the ban has seen limited success, and that the use of plastic bags remains prevalent. Street vendors and smaller stores, which make up a significant portion of retail in China, do not abide by the policy in part due to difficulties of enforcing the ban.</p>
Taiwan	<p>In January 2003, Taiwan banned the free distribution of lightweight plastic bags. The ban prevented the owners of department stores, shopping malls, hypermarkets, convenience stores, fast food restaurants and regular restaurants from providing free plastic bags to their customers. Many stores have replaced plastic with recycled paper boxes. In 2006, however, the administration decided to begin allowing free plastic bags to be offered by food service operators.</p>
Japan	<p>Legislation in Japan varies by region, from outright bans to none</p>
Hong Kong	<p>Hong Kong forbids retailers from giving plastic bags under a certain thickness and for free. A 50 cent plastic bag levy was implemented on 1 April 2015 across Hong Kong. The use of plastic bags dropped 90% after the introduction of the levy. Signs show that Hong Kong is phasing out the use of plastic bags at a dramatic rate.</p>

India

India	<p>In 2002, India banned the production of plastic bags below 20 μm in thickness to prevent plastic bags from clogging of the municipal drainage systems and to prevent the cows of India ingesting plastic bags as they confuse it for food. However, enforcement remains a problem.</p> <p>The MOEF has also passed regulation to ban all polythene bags less than 50 microns on 18 March 2016. Due to poor implementation of this regulation, regional authorities (states and municipal corporations), have had to implement their own regulation.</p> <p>In 2016, Sikkim, India's first fully organic state, banned the use of not only packaged drinking water bottles in any government meetings or functions but also food containers made from polystyrene foam all over the state.</p> <p>Himachal Pradesh was the first state to ban plastic bags less than 30 mm. The Karnataka state became first state to ban all forms of plastic carry bags, plastic banners, plastic buntings, flex, plastic flags, plastic plates, plastic cups, plastic spoons, cling films and plastic sheets for spreading on dining tables irrespective of thickness including the above items made of thermal and plastic which uses plastic micro beads. The state of Goa has banned bags up to 40 μm thick, while the city of Mumbai bans bags below a minimum thickness to 50 mm.</p>
Indonesia	<p>Starting in 2016, Environment Ministry enforced retailers in 23 cities across the archipelago (mini-market, hypermarket, and supermarket) to charge consumers for plastic bags between Rp.200 and Rp. 5,000 for each bag including degradable plastic bags. And money which came from tax are used by retailers as public funds for waste management alongside non-governmental organizations</p>
Israel	<p>Since January 2017, large retailers are required to charge consumers for plastic bags with handles, at NIS 0.10 for each bag. The tax revenues will be used to fund public waste-management programs. average use of plastic bags in Israel in 2014 was 275 per person per year. Four months after the law came into force, the number of disposable plastic bags distributed by retailers subject to the law had dropped by 80%.</p>
Malaysia	<p>A tax on plastic bags applies in Penang, while a similar tax in the state of Selangor applies only on Saturdays, since 2011</p>
Myanmar	<p>In 2009, plastic bag factories in Rangoon were ordered by local authorities to stop production by the end of November or face heavy punishment, as the Burmese government looked to ban plastic bags. Rangoon was thus following in the footsteps of central Burma's Mandalay and the new capital Naypyidaw, both of which had eliminated plastic bags.</p>
Nepal	<p>Nepal has banned plastic bags, but the legislation is poorly enforced</p>
Pakistan	<p>There are plastic bag bans in parts of Pakistan, but there is poor enforcement</p>
Philippines	<p>There is a plastic bag ban in Manila, but it is poorly enforced</p>

Europe

European Union	In November 2013, the European Commission published a proposal aiming to reduce the consumption of lightweight (thickness below 50 microns) plastic carrier bags. Under the proposal, EU member states can choose the most appropriate measures to discourage the use of plastic bags. On 16 April 2014 the European Parliament passed a directive to reduce plastic bag use by 50% by 2017 and 80% by 2019.
Austria	Austria has a voluntary agreement in place whereby retailers apply a charge to bags
Belgium	Belgium has plastic bag bans in place in Wallonia and Brussels, with bans set to also be introduced to Flanders
Bulgaria	Bulgaria has seen a significant reduction in use since applying a charge to plastic bags
Croatia	Croatia is planning on introducing a plastic bag charge in 2019
Cyprus	Cyprus introduced a bag charge on 1 January 2018, though shops were reportedly ignoring the new law. Shops will be penalized for handing out free bags after 1 July 2018.
Czech Republic	The Czech Republic has a plastic bag levy in place
Denmark	In 2003, Denmark introduced a tax on retailers giving out plastic bags. This encouraged stores to charge for plastic bags and pushed the use of reusable bags. It was thought that this saved about 66% of plastic and paper bags. In 2004, a similar law was passed by the <i>Insatiate</i> in Greenland, which applied a recycling tax on plastic bags. By 2014 Denmark had the lowest plastic bag use in Europe, with 4 bags per person per year, compared to 466 in Portugal, Poland and Slovakia.
Estonia	Estonia introduced a bag tax in July 2017
Finland	Finland applies a tax to plastic bags through a voluntary agreement
France	Following a National Assembly vote on 11 October 2014, France banned plastic carrier bags under 50 microns starting 1 July 2016. Produce bags are banned starting 1 January 2017. Re-usable or compostable bags are allowed
Georgia	Georgia has reportedly banned plastic bags, as of 2017
Germany	Germany imposes a fee on excess packaging through its Green Dot program, which included plastic bags. In addition, all stores in Germany that provide plastic bags must pay a recycling tax. An agreement was signed between trade representatives and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety in April 2016 to reduce plastic bags, excepting thin bags for fruit and vegetables, bags for deep-freeze products and long-term usable bags, resulting in many shops no longer offer such plastic bags free of cost since July 2016. Should the goal not be achieved, it is foreseen that a law may be passed banning shops from handing them out. The political background to this is a recent change to the European directive 94/62/EG that obliges the member states to reduce the yearly number of plastic bags per capita down to maximally 90 by end-2019 and to maximally 40 by end-2025, whereas Germany had been using 70 bags per capita so far.
Greece	A plastic bag charge was introduced on 1 January 2018. Bags cost 3 cents each, which will then increase to 7 cents on 1 January 2019
Hungary	Hungary has a voluntary agreement with retailers whereby they apply a charge to bags

Ireland	Ireland introduced a €0.15 tax in March 2002. Levied on consumers at the point of sale, this led to 90% of consumers using long-life bags within a year. The tax was increased to €0.22 in 2007. The revenue is put into an Environment Fund
Italy	In January 2011, Italy banned the distribution of lightweight plastic bags that are not from biodegradable sources
Latvia	Latvia will introduce a bag charge on 1 January 2019
Lithuania	Lithuania will introduce a bag charge on 31 December 2018
Luxembourg	Luxembourg applies a tax to plastic bags
Malta	Malta has had an eco-tax on plastic bags since 2009, but it is poorly enforced
Moldova	The Moldovan parliament has passed legislation banning plastic bags. It came into force for larger retailers in 2017, and is scheduled to come into force for medium sized retailers on 1 January 2018 and for small retailers in 2020
Netherlands	The Netherlands implemented a comprehensive ban on free plastic shopping bags on 1 January 2016. The ban has a small number of exemptions for unpacked food products which are exposed to possible contamination, such as fresh fruit. The target price for a plastic bag is €0.25
Norway	Norway has a voluntary agreement with retailers whereby they apply a charge to bags
Poland	It has been reported that Poland introduced a plastic bag charge at the beginning of 2018
Portugal	Portugal has implemented a plastic bag tax which led to a reduction in use of 90%. Although the Portuguese government was not proactive in their implementation of this plastic bag ban, some supermarkets in Portugal decided to implement a 2 cent of a euro fee on each plastic bag. In Madeira Island where supermarkets implemented this bag fee, there was a 64% reduction in plastic bag consumption
Romania	A law was introduced in 2006 (law 578/2006) - and was later modified in 2011 (law 1032/2011) – that puts a mandatory tax on non-biodegradable plastic bags. The modification in 2011 reduced the tax on plastic bags and was regarded by some as a step backwards from environmental protection
Serbia	Serbia has a tax on manufacturers and importers of plastic bags
Slovakia	Slovakia has an obligatory charge for certain types of plastic bags. The charge was introduced on 1 January 2018
Spain	Spain will introduce a plastic bag charge in 2018. Catalonia has had a bag charge since April 2017
Sweden	Sweden has a plastic bag levy in place
Switzerland	In 2016, the two largest chains of supermarkets in Switzerland, the Federation of Migros Cooperatives and Coop, announced that they will progressively stop to distribute free plastic bags (at the check-out). Both distributors announced that they will not make money with paid bags, but that profits from their sale will be invested in environmental projects. Migros previously tested the measure in the Canton of Vaud since 2013: they reduced the number of plastic bags distributed by ninety percent (and saved 100,000 francs per year). Migros will be the first to introduce the measure across the country, on 1 November 2016 (the bags will be made with recycled plastic and cost 0.05 Swiss francs each). Coop plans to introduce this in 2017
Turkey	Plastic bags are banned in some parts of Turkey and a levy was scheduled to be introduced nationally in January 2018.

United Kingdom

United Kingdom	The Climate Change Act 2008 served as the legislative framework for the regulation of plastic bags in the United Kingdom.
Wales	Wales introduced a legal minimum charge of 5 pence for almost all single use bags in October 2011. Paper and biodegradable bags are included in the charge as well as plastic bags, with only a few specific exemptions – such as for unpackaged food or medicine supplied on an NHS prescription. VAT raised from the charge is collected by the government. Retailers are asked to pass the rest of the proceeds on to charities. July 2012 statistics released by the Welsh Government suggested that carrier bag use in Wales had reduced 96% since the introduction of the charge.
Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland introduced a 5 pence levy on almost all single use bags on 8 April 2013. The levy will be extended to reusable carrier bags with a retail price of less than 20 pence from 19 January 2014 as data from several retailers indicate that reusable bag sales have increased by 800% since the introduction of the levy on single use bags. The proceeds of the levy (£4.17m in 2013/14) are paid to the Department of the Environment and used to fund local environmental projects and enforce the levy. Official statistics for the Northern Ireland levy show that the number of single use bags dispensed fell from around 300 million in 2012/13 to 84.5 million in 2013/14 – a reduction of 72%.
Scotland	A five pence minimum charge for single-use carrier bags came into force in Scotland on 20 October 2014. The proceeds of the charge can be used by the retailers as they see fit. VAT will be collected by the government on every bag sold, although retailers are encouraged to pledge to donate proceeds to "good causes". The charge is not exclusive to plastic bags and includes those which are biodegradable. Bags for unpackaged food, loose seeds, soil-contaminated goods, axes, knives or blades; drugs or medical appliances; small packaged uncooked fish, meat or poultry; aquatic animals; purchases made in aerodrome security restricted areas; or goods bought on board a ship, train, aircraft, coach or bus will be exempt from the charge.
England	England was the last country in the United Kingdom to adopt the 5 pence charge. Prior to the introduction of plastic bag regulations, various retailers participated in voluntary actions to reduce plastic bag consumption. England introduced a five pence minimum charge for single use plastic bags on 5 October 2015. It applies to retailers with more than 250 employees. Unlike the rest of the UK, the English charge does not apply to paper bags or bags made from other natural materials. As with the other nations, VAT raised on sales will be collected by the Government. Retailers can choose how the money raised from bag sales is used. The Government publishes information yearly on the scheme, encouraging retailers to donate the proceeds to charities. In the first 6 months, 640 million plastic bags were used in seven major supermarkets in England, raising £29.2 million for good causes. England reported to have distributed 0.6 billion single-use bags during the first half year of the charge. That is 7 billion bags fewer than the amount of bags that were distributed in 2014.

To promote the growth of new businesses in England, retailers with less than 250 employees are exempt from the charge. Opponents to the exemption of small retailers argued that this exemption would diminish the environmental impact of the charge. In response to this criticism, in January 2018 the UK government announced plans to extend the charge to all retailers.

North America

Antigua and Barbuda	<p>Minister of Health and the Environment Molwyn Joseph is encouraging all citizens of Antigua and Barbuda to embrace the Styrofoam Ban Initiative. He said July 1st, 2017 is a big day as on that day the first stage of the Styrofoam ban starts and the customs department will not allow certain Styrofoam food service products to be imported into Antigua and Barbuda.</p> <p>In this first stage, Styrofoam clamshell, hinge and hotdog containers and all other containers made of EPS (Expanded Polystyrene Styrofoam) to include bowls, plates, hot and cold beverage cups, lids and caps will be banned from entering the country.</p> <p>Other Styrofoam products not included in the 1st Stage list will be restricted from entry during the 2nd and 3rd Stages of the ban. There is a plastic bag ban in place in Antigua and Barbuda</p>
Bahamas	<p>The Bahamas government has announced a plan to ban plastic bags by 2020</p>
Canada	<p>In March 2007, the small town of Leaf Rapids, Manitoba, became the first community in North America to ban bags.^[130]</p> <p>The Toronto City Council voted on 6 June 2012, to ban plastic bags effective 1 January 2013, and to scrap the city's five-cent bag fee starting 1 July 2012.</p> <p>Industry groups have convinced city officials to include a grace period between 1 January 2013, and 30 June 2013, when no fines, only warnings, can be issued. The bag ban and five cent fee (six cents with HST) have both been overturned as of 28 November 2012 and it's up to individual retailers if they want to charge for plastic bags. Most stores, except for a few national retailers do not charge</p>
US Virgin Islands	<p>Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, has signed his proposal designed to reduce litter and protect marine life into law Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, according to a Government House announcement.</p> <p>Bill No. 31-0379 will restrict the use of plastic shopping bags in the territory beginning in 2017. Members of the 31st Legislature unanimously supported the governor's proposal Sept. 20. It was one of three solid waste management reform bills sent down to senators by the governor in February.</p> <p>The law requires businesses and organizations to use reusable bags or recyclable paper bags with the goal of eliminating plastic bags at point of sale checkouts. Plastic bags still will be allowed where no acceptable substitute exists, such as for wrapping prepared foods or meats. The plastic bag</p>

	regulations take effect Jan. 1, 2017. However, penalties will not be assessed until April 1, 2017, to allow retailers time to make the transition.
Barbados	When the Barbadian government declined to introduce legislation to reduce plastic bag use a "coalition of the willing" of retailers and NGOs banded together to implement a voluntary plastic bag charge. The retailers involved are responsible for 60-70% of single-use plastic bags handed out in Barbados. From June 1st, 2017, shoppers will have to bring their own bag or be prepared to pay BD\$ 0,20 to buy one when shopping at participating retailers.
Haiti	Haiti's government has announced a ban on importing, manufacturing and marketing them as of Oct. 1.
Guyana	Importation of Styrofoam will no longer be allowed in Guyana as of April 1. The country's Ministry of Finance is considering tax incentives for importers who are interested in bringing in alternatives. The Environmental Protection Agency is spearheading the prohibition. The Government has been arguing that Styrofoam, which is highly popular in the food business as containers, takes more than 500 years to biodegrade, and because of its lightweight nature can easily travel through gutters, storm drains, or in the wind, and reach the ocean. It has been a major problem since the new administration took office last year and started a city clean-up.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will implement a ban on the importation of Styrofoam Products, as of May 1st, this year. Gonsalves, who is also Minister of Finance, also announced the removal of Value Added Taxes on biodegradable packaging and food containers. "This measure is intended to lower the costs of these environmentally positive substitutes for plastics, including Styrofoam, and reduce the adverse effects that plastics have on our environment," he said.
Jamaica	Jamaica is a step closer to banning plastic bags and Styrofoam following the Senate's approval of a private member's motion that has raised some concerns from the Opposition, which said it supported the "spirit" of the proposal. Government Senator Matthew Samuda found a receptive Senate yesterday when he opened the debate on his motion, which called for State action to protect the environment from non-biodegradable solid waste.
Grenada	The Government of Grenada has pledged to table legislation banning the importation of Styrofoam and plastic as part of a proper waste management strategy. Members of the Grenada Hotel and Tourism Association (GHTA) have also adopted a policy of not using Styrofoam. a Styrofoam Bill which will ban the importation of Styrofoam as a first start, from that we will be

	<p>moving to plastic,” said Health Minister Nicholas Steele, adding that here will also be new legislation regarding fires and the recycling of products.</p>
Turks and Caicos	<p>Government Ministers and the new Governor, HE John Freeman approved a ban on the importation of plastic bags into Turks and Caicos and that ban begins on January 1, 2017. Store owners, from the decision taken at Cabinet will have three months to get rid of the plastic bags they do have because after April 1, 2017 there will also be a ban on the distribution of plastic bags. The policy will mean stores which package goods and more in plastics will have to find an alternative and government is considering a reduction in customs duties for these alternative carrier bags.</p>
Puerto Rico	<p>Puerto Rico's governor signed an executive order Friday banning the use of plastic bags across the U.S. territory, defying legislators who just days ago rejected a similar bill.</p> <p>The ban will take effect in mid-2016 and will be preceded by a six-month educational campaign, Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said.</p> <p>The announcement surprised many because 25 legislators in the island's House of Representatives recently voted against a measure calling for such a ban. Lawmakers had said they opposed the bill because it would charge people for the use of plastic bags amid an economic crisis.</p> <p>Garcia said grocery stores across Puerto Rico import tons of plastic bags a year, noting that one small supermarket chain alone annually imports bags that fit in six boxcars that are 42 feet (13 meters) long.</p>
Saint Lucia	<p>Saint Lucia has long grappled with the improper disposal of plastic litter. The indiscriminate disposal of plastics - from shopping bags and beverage bottles to Styrofoam containers - has created serious environmental issues. A Returnable Containers Bill was drafted a few years ago, but has not yet been brought to Parliament. While the Ministry of Sustainable Development remains optimistic that the bill will be finalized soon, it views the problem of plastic waste as severe enough to seek a solution prior to passing legislation.</p>
Dominica	<p>An announcement by government that it will move to ban the import and use of Styrofoam products in the New Year has been welcomed by the President of the Layou Enhancement Committee, Lazare Charles.</p> <p>Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit announced on 18 December 2015 that the government will engage several stakeholders to discuss placing a ban on Styrofoam cups and plates, and non-biodegradable plastic bags.</p> <p>“I think that it is a good move because we know the kind of effects that Styrofoam and plastics have on the environment and even on our health,” Charles told Dominica Vibes on Thursday 24 December 2015.</p> <p>“Moving in that direction where you have things that are more environmentally friendly, will serve us better and sustain our life more by giving us longevity,” Charles added.</p> <p>He commended the Prime Minister for taking the decision since the Layou Improvement Committee has already been advocating for the use of biodegradable disposables.</p>

<p>Saint Kitts and Nevis</p>	<p>a Government ban on the importation and the use of plastic and Styrofoam in an effort to protect the environment.</p> <p>During Tuesday’s Throne Speech at the opening of the Nevis Island Assembly, it was revealed that during the Concerned Citizens Movement five year term in office it will seek to implement a ban on plastics and foam goods.</p> <p>“This is a regional and global trend that is emerging and we have seen similar approaches in nearby Antigua and Barbuda. This effort will be done in consultation with stakeholders but is intended to ease the considerable environmental damage that plastic and Styrofoam causes to our island particularly our oceans,” Premier Mark Brantley said.</p>
<p>Sint Maarten</p>	<p>A petition has been developed by the Nature Foundation urging the St Maarten Government to effectively protect the health of St Maarteners by immediately taking action to prevent any further dump fires and to arrive at a sustainable solution for the dump and St Maarten’s waste management. Government should also take action to decrease garbage and waste input into the dump through significantly increasing recycling, ban disposable plastics and styrofoam’s, and to promote reusable products and recycling.</p>