



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE 2 OF THE EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) IMPORT CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL ELECTRONIC SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) is established under the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, CAP 387 as the principal Government agency responsible for the supervision and coordination of environmental management matters in Kenya and the implementation of all environmental policies.

The Government of Kenya, through the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, gazetted the Sustainable Waste Management (Extended Producer Responsibility) Regulations, 2024 on 4th November 2024. The Regulations promote environmentally sound management of products and packaging throughout their life cycle by obligating producers (entities that introduce goods, products and packaging into the Country through authorized means such as manufacturing, importation, brand ownership etc.) to take responsibility for the entire life cycle management of their products and packaging including post-consumer phase and/or end of life in line with the polluter pays principle.

In furtherance of the implementation of the Regulations and to enhance efficiency in trade facilitation and environmental compliance, NEMA embraced a phased onboarding of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Import Certificate requirement onto the National Electronic Single Window System, managed by the Kenya Trade Network Agency (KenTrade).

The first phase took effect on 14th March 2026 and it covered stand-alone items in categories 3, 4 and 5 of the first schedule of the EPR Regulations. The essence of onboarding this requirement on NESWS was intended to streamline import processes, enhance regulatory coordination, and improve the ease of doing business by enabling importers to apply for and obtain the required EPR Import Certificate through a single electronic platform integrated with other border regulatory agencies.

Since coming into effect of this requirement: All importers of products listed in the First Schedule of the Sustainable Waste Management (Extended Producer Responsibility) Regulations, 2024 have been required to obtain an EPR Import Certificate from NEMA through the single window system prior to importation.

Importers have been required to register as producers under the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

Under Phase 2, the EPR Import Certificate requirement will be moved from the current pre-clearance stage to the customs clearance/declaration stage to facilitate ease of implementation.

Go-live date: Phase 2 will take effect at 00:00 hours on 30th October 2026.

Scheduled system downtime: The EPR Import Certificate service will be unavailable on 29 October 2026 from 17:00 hours to 23:59 hours to facilitate the system transition.

Required action: Importers and their clearing agents are advised to complete all pending pre-clearance applications before the scheduled transition.

For further information on the EPR Regulations and compliance requirements, visit www.nema.go.ke or email info@nema.go.ke.

The Authority remains committed to ensuring a clean, healthy and sustainably managed environment for a prosperous nation.

Dated: 3rd September, 2026

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