

Position Statement on Sustainable Packaging

At the heart of its purpose the Shoprite Group aspires to be Africa's most affordable, accessible, innovative, and responsible retailer, by being relentless in its efforts to keep its business efficient and sustain its price leadership. By keeping the customer first in everything it does, it acknowledges the growing awareness and interest in packaging, particularly the use of plastic packaging, whether single use or not. The Group recognises the environmental degradation caused by packaging, be it on land or in marine environments, and its potential to become an environmental crisis if not addressed in a coordinated and collaborative manner.

The Shoprite Group acknowledges the usefulness of packaging, being a primary and key protector of its contents. In the case of food, plastic packaging maintains critical food safety and hygiene levels, helps in the preservation of food, and ultimately in the reduction of food waste¹. However, the company does not support the current linear *make-use-dispose* approach for packaging, but rather a more sustainable circular approach, incorporating all aspects of the value chain.

To this end, the Shoprite Group's commitments to Sustainable Packaging includes the following:

1. Adopting a *Design-for-Sustainability* approach to packaging based on life-cycle thinking and innovations, particularly for our own brands. Including correct and non-confusing reusable, recyclable, or compostable labelling.
2. Embracing the *Circular Economy* concept, even in our own operations, which supports extended producer responsibility of packaging, including in-store recycling of certain waste streams.
3. Setting commitments and targets to use sustainable packaging, especially for our own brands and in-store formats (e.g., carrier bags, fresh food packaging, etc.), including:
 - a. 100% of packaging to be reusable or recyclable or compostable by 2025
 - b. 30% average recycled content across all packaging by 2025
4. Collaborating and partnering with key stakeholders including regulators, suppliers and other organisations who are equally concerned about this issue
5. Supporting local community recycling initiatives
6. Sharing and promoting Sustainable Packaging information with employees, customers, suppliers, and investors by reporting and being transparent on our efforts and performance.

¹ See the Shoprite Position Statement on Food Losses and Food Waste