



**UNOFFICIAL ROOM DOCUMENT<sup>1</sup>**

**DIALOGUE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY  
SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE**

WTO PRESENTATION ON THE ANALYSIS ON THE DEFINITIONS OF  
SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS

*Pre-Plenary Meeting – 12 April 2024*

**DOCUMENT DE SÉANCE NON OFFICIEL<sup>1</sup>**

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\* In Original language only/En langue originale seulement/En el idioma original solamente.

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## WTO Dialogue on Plastic Pollution

### Analysis on the definitions of single-use plastic products

12 April 2024

#### SINGLE-USE PLASTIC DEFINITIONS IN TRADE-RELATED PLASTICS MEASURES



- Based on the Dialogue Survey and Report on Trade-related Plastic Measures (TrPMs)
- Analysis of definitions of single-use plastic products most often targeted in TrPMs
- Identify main criteria used to define single-use plastic products in the measures

#### Cooperation with WCO Secretariat

- 2 communication letters from the Dialogue to WCO
- WCO has begun discussing potential changes in the 2028 Harmonized System reform
- Requested the WTO Secretariat to provide further information on how Members identified single-use plastic products in their TrPMs



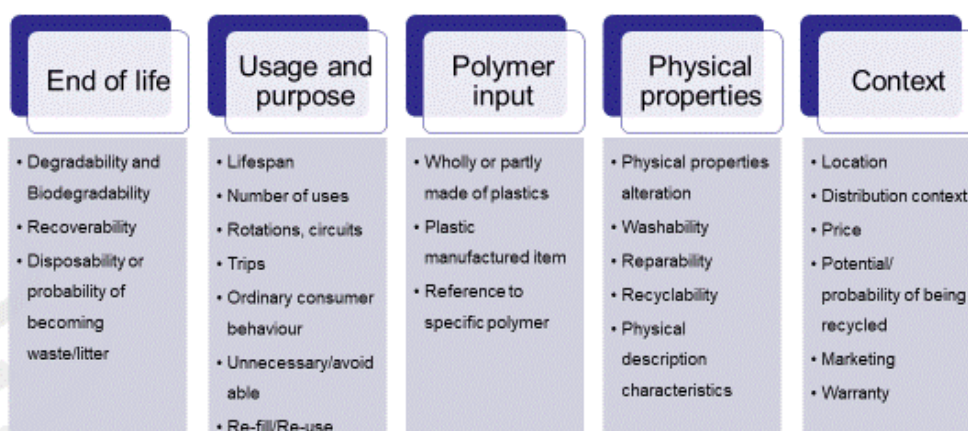
Single-use plastic products most often targeted (number of TrPMs used for the analysis of SUPs definitions)



	Number of TrPMs considered
Tableware	24
Food containers	23
Plastic straws	19
Cups	17
Cotton buds	11
Bottle	9
Beverage stirrers	9
Plastic lids	6
Film	5
Plastic balloon sticks	3
Sachets	1
Tobacco	1

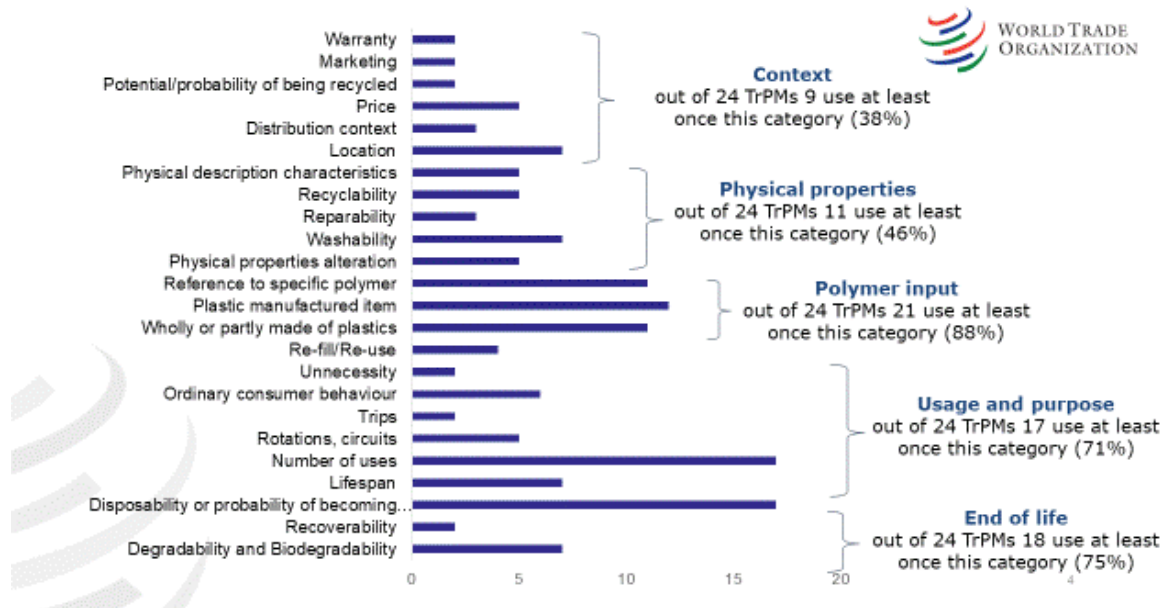
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Main criteria identified to define single-use plastic products in TrPMs

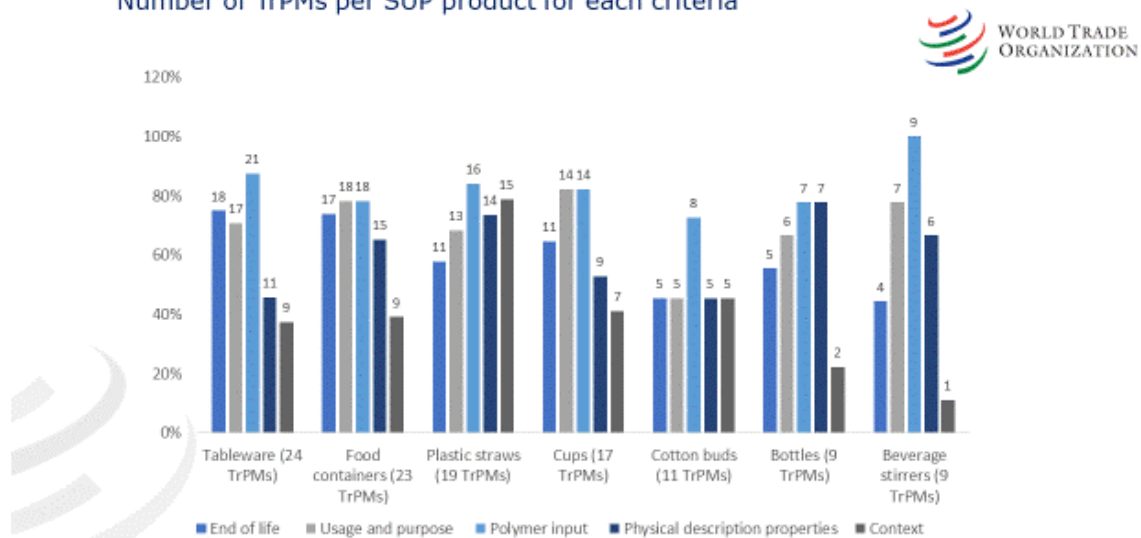


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## Criteria used in single-use plastic tableware definitions

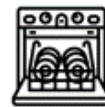


## Number of TrPMs per SUP product for each criteria



## Concrete examples

- Physical properties:
  - Washability/Physical properties alteration
    - Changes shape when submerged in water maintained at a temperature of between 82 °C and 86 °C for 15 minutes
    - Changes its physical properties after being run through an electrically operated household dishwasher 100 times
- Context:
  - Location
    - Single-use plastic tableware and cutlery are often used at food markets, parties, festivals, and other events such as community and sports group gatherings.
  - Price
    - The item is free or low-cost, or included in the purchase price of another item



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## Concrete examples

- Physical properties:
  - Physical description characteristics
    - Single-use plastic flexible straw means a single-use plastic straw that has a corrugated section that allows the straw to bend and maintain its position at various angles
- Single-use product can be assessed by considering the product's expected functional life whether it is intended and designed to be used several times before final disposal and whether consumers typically conceive, perceive and use it as a reusable product.
- Physical properties alteration
  - Must be able to withstand temperatures not less than 100 degrees Celsius and must not have abnormal characteristics that may be detrimental to use, such as distortion or wrinkles.



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