**No more plastic bags in our woods and seas**

**Original Script Date:** April 28, 2015

**Script Version:** 1

**Locations:** European Parliament, Strasbourg; Faxford, Ireland

**Dates Shot:** April 28, 2015; June 10-11-12, 2013

**Sound:** natural with English speech

**Duration:**  03:39

**Source:** S&D group

**Restriction:** none

**Intro**

*Strasbourg, 28th of April.* Today the European Parliament backed new legislation to curb the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags in the European Union.

**Shotlist**

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (APRIL 28, 2015) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

1. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN STRASBOURG (EXTERIOR)
2. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF THE VOTE ON PLASTIC BAGS
3. MATTHIAS GROOTE (S&D MEP, DE) SAYING (ENGLISH SPEECH):

“Today we adopted a legislation pushing for a reduction target: we want a 90% reduction of plastic bags.”

1. CUTAWAY: MATTHIAS GROOTE TALKING TO A JOURNALIST
2. MATTHIAS GROOTE (S&D MEP, DE) SAYING (ENGLISH SPEECH):

“There will be alternatives in the supermarkets such as taxation of these plastic bags.”

1. CUTAWAY: MATTHIAS GROOTE TALKING TO A JOURNALIST
2. MATTHIAS GROOTE (S&D MEP, DE) SAYING (ENGLISH SPEECH):

 “There is more plastic than plankton in the oceans worldwide. Plastic waste is a massive problem: In the end of the day, fishes and animals eating this plastic end up on our table. So this is not only an environmental problem, this is also health problem.”

1. CUTAWAY: MATTHIAS GROOTE TALKING TO A JOURNALIST

FAXFORD, IRELAND (JUNE 10-11-12, 2013) (TV LINK EUROPE- ACCESS ALL)

1. CUTAWAY: KARIN DUBSKY EXPLAINING THE PROBLEMS THAT CAUSE PLATIC BAGS
2. KARIN DUBSKY (COASTWATCH EUROPE) SAYING (ENGLISH):

“The Irish population ahs changed its behavior in many ways. With the plastic bag tax, initially, there was a lot of suspicion that there wouldn’t, and within months, people were really buying into it. It became the in thing to have your bag with you and people are proud of it. ”

1. CUTAWAY: KARIN DUBSKY AND COLLEAGUES WALKING ON THE BEACH
2. KARIN DUBSKY (COASTWATCH EUROPE) SAYING (ENGLISH):

“In 2000, the average was around 19 plastic bags per 500 meters. It’s now 2! Very good compared to Mediterranean countries where it has remained high because there is no tax. ”

5. CUTAWAY: KARIN DUBSKY AND COLLEAGUES WALKING ON THE BEACH

PLACE UNKNOWN (TV LINK EUROPE- ACCESS ALL)

1. ANIMATION ABOUT PLASTIC BAGS
2. VOICE OVER SAYING:

« Approximately 100 billion plastic bags are used in the EU every year. That is over 190.000 bags per minute. On average every EU citizen uses around 200 bags per year. Only 6.6% of plastic bags are recycled in the EU. 50% of them go to landfill and over 8% of them end up as litter every year. Once discarded into the environment, plastic bags can last for over 100 years, mostly in their fragmented form as plastic litter. Millions of tons of plastic litter end up in the seas every year. This is not without harmful consequences. At least 267 marine species are known to get entangled in plastic debris or to ingest it. 95 % of Northern Fulmars found on beaches in the North East Atlantic have 35 pieces of plastic in their stomach. "Plastic litter affects the whole food chain shouldn’t we be doing something to stop it?"

**Story**

*Strasbourg, 28th of April.* Today the European Parliament backed new legislation to curb the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags in the European Union.

The new legislation will oblige member states to either adopt measures ensuring that the annual consumption level does not exceed, on average, 90 lightweight plastic carrier bags per person by the end of 2019, and not more than 40 bags per person by 2025; or alternatively, to ensure that they are not given for free at stores and sales points by the end of 2017.

**This video package includes:**

- Natural soundbites (English) with **S&D MEP and spokesperson on health and environment, Matthias Groote**

- Extracts of the plenary vote

- Natural sounbites (English) with **Karin Dubsky – Coastwatch Europe** (Faxford, Ireland)

- Animation video on plastic bags consumption (TVlink Europe)

- Stock shots on plastic bags and pollution at sea