Legislative Proposal Relating to Formula Products and Foods Intended for Infants and Young Children under the Age of 36 Months in Hong Kong

Traders' comments on some product categories

2nd Technical Meeting with Trade 6 March 2013





General comments

- In general, traders welcomed the Codex-based approach and supported the legislative proposals
- Nonetheless, traders concerned about the regulation of some product categories





Formula for special medical purposes (FSMP)

- Some traders suggested that FSMP should either be exempted from or be allowed to deviate from the nutritional composition requirement set for regular infant formula
- Some traders suggested exemption of nutrition labelling requirement for FSMP





Ready-to-feed (RTF) formula

 Some traders suggested exemption of nutrition labelling requirements for ready-to-feed (RTF) formula





Foods intended for infants and young children

- A trade association suggested exemption for nutrition labelling requirements should be granted to these foods by extension of Small Volume Exemption (SVE) Scheme
- Another trader suggested a total exemption for foods intended for infants and young children





Exemptions under the existing Nutrition Labelling Scheme for general prepackaged food





Small Volume Exemption (SVE)

- Under the existing Nutrition labelling Scheme for general prepackaged foods, products with annual sales volume of ≤30 000 units could be exempted under the Small Volume Exemption (SVE) Scheme (subject to certain conditions and approval of application)
- **Rationale:**
 - Upon request from trade
 - Made reference to small volume import or small business exemption practiced in the US
 - To exempt ethnic food, organic food, or niche food products that are mostly imported or manufactured in small volume
 - To cater for the staging of food fair and trade promotion events held usually for market testing purpose

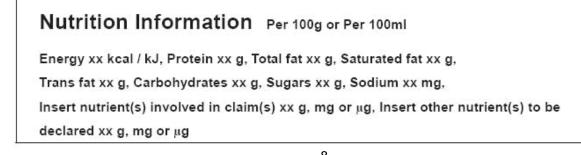




Other Exemptions

A total of 15 general exemption items, such as-

- Prepackaged food packed in a container which has a total surface area of less than 100cm²
- Spring water and mineral water
- Prepackaged foods which does not have any energy value or contain any contents of core nutrients
- On the other hand, instead of presenting nutrition information in tabular format, small package with total surface area of less than 200cm² can also use linear format





For comments and discussion



