

# 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 (Laboratory Service Providers)  
15 March 2013

# General comments

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- 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)

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- 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

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

# Foods intended for infants and young children

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- 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

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# Exemptions under the existing Nutrition Labelling Scheme for general prepackaged food

# Small Volume Exemption (SVE)

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- Under the existing Nutrition Labelling Scheme for general prepackaged foods, products with annual sales volume of  $\leq 30\,000$  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 100cm<sup>2</sup>
  - 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 200cm<sup>2</sup> can also use linear format

**Nutrition Information** Per 100g or Per 100ml

Energy xx kcal / kJ, Protein xx g, Total fat xx g, Saturated fat xx g,

Trans fat xx g, Carbohydrates xx g, Sugars xx g, Sodium xx mg,

Insert nutrient(s) involved in claim(s) xx g, mg or µg, Insert other nutrient(s) to be declared xx g, mg or µg



# For comments and discussion

