

Matters arising

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

4th Technical Meeting with Trade
(Laboratory Service Providers)

17 October 2013

Codex definitions of IF and FF

- **“Infant formula”** :
a breast-milk substitute specially manufactured to satisfy, by itself, the nutritional requirements of infants during the first months of life up to the introduction of appropriate complementary feeding

- **“Follow-up formula”** :
a food intended for use as a liquid part of the weaning diet for the infant from the 6th month on and for young children

Codex definitions of processed cereal-based food for infants and young children

- ❑ *Codex Standard for Processed Cereal-based Food for Infants and Young Children* covers processed cereal-based foods intended for feeding infants as a complementary food generally from the age of 6 months onwards, taking into account infant's individual nutritional requirements, and for feeding young children as part of a progressively diversified diet
- ❑ Process cereal-based foods are prepared primarily from one or more milled cereals, which constitute at least 25% of the final mixture on a dry weight basis
- ❑ Included 4 categories of products

Codex definitions of canned baby food

- *Codex Standard for Canned Baby Foods* (Codex Stan 73-1981):
 - **Baby foods** are foods intended primarily for use during the normal infant's weaning period and also for the progressive adaptation of infants and young children to ordinary food.
- Jurisdictions such as Australia, New Zealand and EU have classified products as “cereal-based food” or “non-cereal-based foods” with separated requirements established

Codex definition of FSMP (1)

- **“Formula for special medical purposes intended for infants”** means-
 - a substitute for human milk or infant formula that complies with Section 2, Description, of the Codex Standard for the Labelling of and Claims for Foods for Special Medical Purposes (Codex Stan 180-1991)* and
 - is specially manufactured to satisfy, by itself, the special nutritional requirements of infants with specific disorders, disease or medical conditions during the first months of life up to the introduction of appropriate complementary feeding.

Codex definition of FSMP (2)

* Section 2, Description, of the Codex Standard for the Labelling of and Claims for Foods for Special Medical Purposes (Codex Stan 180-1991)

□ **“Food for special medical purposes”** are a category of foods for special dietary uses which-

- are specially processed or formulated and presented for the dietary management of patients,
- may be used only under medical supervision,
- are intended for exclusive or partial feeding of patients
 - with limited or impaired capacity to take, digest, absorb or metabolize ordinary foodstuff or certain nutrients contained therein,
 - or who have other special medically-determined nutrient requirements, whose dietary management cannot be achieved only by modification of normal diet and/or other food for special dietary uses, or by a combination of the two



Codex general labelling requirement of FSMP

- ❑ The name of the product shall be "**Food for Special Medical Purposes**";
- ❑ A prominent statement "**USE UNDER MEDICAL SUPERVISION**" shall appear on the label in bold letters in an area separated from other written, printed, or graphic information;
- ❑ The statement "**For the dietary management of**" with the blank to be filled in with the specific disease(s), disorder(s) or medical condition(s) for which the product is intended, and for which it has been shown to be effective; and
- ❑ An additional prominent **warning statement** consisting of an explanatory statement shall appear on the label in bold letters in an area separated from other written, printed or graphic information if the food for special medical purpose poses a **health hazard** when consumed by individuals who do not have the disease(s), disorder(s) or medical condition(s) for which the food is intended.