



Ref.: FEHD/CRU 17/157/7 (2010)

17 June 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment: Requirements for Nutrition Labelling and Nutrition Claim) Regulation 2008 End of Grace Period

I am writing to inform you that the grace period of the captioned Amendment Regulation will end on <u>30 June 2010</u>.

The Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment: Requirements for Nutrition Labelling and Nutrition Claim) Regulation 2008 was enacted by Legislative Council on 28 May 2008 and will take effect on 1 July 2010. This has introduced a new Nutrition Labelling Scheme which requires prepackaged food to include in its labels nutrition information of energy and at least seven specified nutrients (protein, total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, carbohydrates, sugars and sodium) in prescribed format and defines the standard conditions for nutrition claims to be made on the labels.

Exemption from nutrition labelling requirements has also been specified in the Regulation. These include products with practical difficulty in providing the labels like those with very small packages of total surface area of less than 100 sq cm, foods which contain insignificant amount (nearly zero) of energy and specified nutrients (e.g. distilled water), as well as raw meat, fresh fruits and vegetables without any addition of ingredient. For formula and food intended to be consumed by children under the age of 36 months and other food for special dietary uses that are not covered by the Regulation, the trade is recommended to take reference from international guidelines in providing information of energy and nutrient contents on the labels for consumers' and health professionals' reference.

In addition, prepackaged foods with annual sales volume not exceeding 30000 units and are not associated with any nutrition claims may apply for exemption from the nutrition labelling requirement. Please contact Small Volume Exemption Office at 3583 3653 for enquiries. For other enquiries including registration of nutrition labelling workshop, please contact Ms CHAN at 2867 5147 or visit www.nutritionlabel.gov.hk.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

(Ms CHUNG Sau-wai) for Controller, Centre for Food Safety