

**Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

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**Minutes of a Technical Meeting with Trade on  
the Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information (Manufacturers' Subgroup)  
held on 3 December 2007 at 2:30 p.m.  
in Room 4549, 45<sup>th</sup> Floor, Queensway Government Offices**

**PRESENT:**

**Government Representatives**

Dr HO Yuk-yin	Consultant (Community Medicine), FEHD	(Chairman)
Ms Kay KWOK	Assistant Secretary, FHB	
Dr Anna WONG	Head (Risk Assessment Section), FEHD	
Dr Stephen CHUNG	Senior Chemist (Food Research laboratory), FEHD	
Mr LEUNG Sui-sum	Superintendent (Risk Assessment), FEHD	
Mr CHUNG Kwok-wah	Chief Health Inspector (Food Labelling), FEHD	
Ms Jacqueline FUNG	Scientific Officer (Risk Assessment), FEHD	(Note-taker)

**Trade Representatives**

Mr LEE Kwong-lam	Hong Kong Kowloon Chamber of Commerce
Ms Julie LAM	Arome Bakery (HK) Co. Ltd.
Mr Mike MAK	City Super Ltd.
Ms Grace YEE	City Super Ltd.
Ms CHAN Kit	Federation of Hong Kong Industries
Ms Anna THUNG	Federation of Hong Kong Industries
Mr LAM To-ling	Golden Resources Development International Ltd
Ms LING Pui-yee	Golden Resources Development International Ltd
Ms Katy LO	Home of Swallows Ltd
Ms Sarah YEUNG	Home of Swallows Ltd
Mr CHAN Chi Ming	Hop Hing Holdings Ltd.
Ms NG Pui-kay	Kee Wah Bakery
Ms Jessica CHUI	Kjeldsens & Co. (HK) Ltd
Ms Mona WONG	Lee Kum Kee International Holdings Ltd.

Mr Alan LAU	Master Kong (HK) Trading Co. Ltd.
Ms Abby WONG	Master Kong (HK) Trading Co. Ltd.
Mr LAM Tsz Mau	Nissin Foods Co., Ltd.
Ms TANG Yuen Man	Nissin Foods Co., Ltd.
Ms Athena LI	Organic Gardens International Ltd.
Mr WONG Kam-chuen	Swire Coca-cola HK Ltd.
Mr Samuel CHAN	The Garden Co., Ltd.
Mr LAW Chi-sang	The Garden Co., Ltd.
Ms Angela WONG	The Garden Co., Ltd.
Mr William CHAN	Winner Food Products Ltd.

### **Welcoming Remarks**

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the trade representatives.

### **Agenda Item 1**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

2. A minor amendment was suggested under the trade representatives list – To change “Ms LAM Tsz Mau to Mr LAM Tsz Mau”. Minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2007 were then confirmed without further amendments.

### **Agenda Item 2**

#### **Revised Proposal on the Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information**

3. Ms FUNG briefed the meeting on the revised proposal of the Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information. The Chairman stressed that the information presented was the most updated information, however, it might not be the final proposal put forward to LegCo. Members of the trade was welcomed to make last-minute suggestions. He remarked that taking into consideration the burden on the trade, the requirements in many areas had been lessened, such as unit of energy, basis of expressions, etc.

#### Format of Nutrition Labels

4. Several trade representatives asked whether there would be specific and detailed requirements on the format of nutrition labels. The Chairman said the information must be legible and the nutrition label must be located on a conspicuous place on the food package and presented in a tabular format. Font size and ruling would not be specified in the regulations.

#### Serving Size

5. A participant enquired about the definition of serving size. The Chairman told the meeting that serving sizes would not be defined under the regulation. However, they must be in reasonable amounts. He indicated that the trade might make reference to overseas NL regulations.

#### Individual Packs in a Pre-package Food

6. A trade representative asked whether nutrition label was required for each individual pack found inside a pre-packaged food. Mr CHUNG replied that same as general food labelling, nutrition label should be displayed on the outer package which the information could be read by consumers.

#### Nutrient Content Claim

7. A participant asked whether “Vitamin C XX gram” listed in bold letters on the package would be considered as a claim. The Chairman said even without any related “claim” words, the expression might be interpreted as a nutrient content claim.

### **Agenda Item 3**

#### **Proposed Exemption List**

8. Ms FUNG presented the principles for exemption from nutrition labelling and the latest proposed exemption list. She stressed that any prepackaged foods meeting one or more principles might not be necessarily granted with the exemptions; as other factors, such as overseas practices and consumer expectations, would be taken into consideration as well. The Chairman said that the exemption list tabled was subject to further refinement.

#### Pre-packaged Foods with Assorted Raw Ingredients (Item 12)

9. Several participants asked about the definition of “assorted”. The

Chairman said the pre-packaged foods must contain three or more different raw ingredients to meet the criteria of this exemption.

Same Premise / Immediate Vicinity Exemption (Item 14)

10. A participant asked whether repacking would be considered as one of the preparation process. The Chairman indicated that this exemption was for ready-to-eat food which went through a key preparation process, such as baking (e.g., bakery products) and roasting (e.g., bbq pork). Thus, simply cutting, washing, or repacking would not meet the criteria of food preparation under this exemption.

Pre-packaged Foods Sold to Manufacturers

11. A trade representative enquired about whether pre-packaged foods sold to manufacturers for food production would require nutrition labels. Mr CHUNG said manufacturers were not included in the definition of “ultimate consumers”, therefore, pre-packaged food sold to manufacturers would not be subject to food labelling regulations.

**Agenda Item 4**

**Any Other Business**

12. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.