GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY SCIENCE SOCIETY

REVIEW OF KEY AGENDA ITEMS

The 46th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL46) 27 September – 1 October, 7 October 2021

> MENA Codex Colloquium 12-14 September 2021

Prof. Samuel Godefroy, Ph.D. | Full Professor, Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Policies, Université Laval, Canada

Overview

Agenda Items of Interest

Draft Guidelines for Labelling of Non-retail Containers – beyond Step 5

Proposed draft guidelines on Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labelling

Proposed draft guidance on Allergen Precautionary Labelling





Agenda Item 6

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Item 6: Draft Guidelines on Front of Pack Labelling

- □Work began at CCFL44.
- EWG chaired by Costa Rica, co-chaired by New Zealand.
- Currently at Step 3 of the Codex Procedure.
- Physical WG to consider comments received



Context

Rapidly changing Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling landscape.

Several countries are adopting new approaches / strategies.

Issues of multiple systems creating confusion and impediments to trade.



Considerations / Comments Received

Guidelines offer consistent guidance to adopt supplementary nutrition information on the Front of Pack as a "tool" to facilitate understanding of nutritional value of food and facilitate consumer choice.

Set of Principles for the establishment of these systems.

Comments received concern:

- Scope.
- Principles of format.
- Principles of development...

Principles would allow the verification in terms of the alignment of currently applied programs with existing guidance.



Discussion Points

EWG Member Countries from the region:

- Egypt
- Kuwait
- Saudi Arabia

Importance of this item for the MENA region.

Repercussions on national programs of FOPNL – Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling – being applied to the region.



Agenda Item 8

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Agenda Item 8: Food Allergen Labelling

- New work initiated at CCFL45 to review provisions related to allergen labelling with the intent to develop guidance on precautionary allergen labelling.
- EWG chaired by Australia, co-chaired by the UK and the US.
- □Scientific advice requested on:
 - Priority Allergens List of food and ingredients.
 - Issue of high processing and removal of protein labelling implications.
- CCFH requested advice on Allergen Thresholds.
- □Questions as to whether these areas of work review of allergen labelling requirements and the development of guidance on precautionary labelling should be progressing in tandem or independently.



Considerations

PAL – Precautionary Allergen Labelling – is based on risk assessment findings:

- Quantitative risk assessments.
- PAL application in relation with use of statements when allergen findings are above a certain level / threshold.
- □ Presentation of PAL location, format still to be drafted.



