

## APPENDIX B – The Survey Questionnaire

### APEC Survey on Packaging and Labelling Requirements for Pre-packaged Food Products

#### Background

The APEC Survey on Packaging and Labelling Requirements for Pre-packaged Food Products conducted in 2015 provided information on the specific laws and regulations of responding economies which vary in terms of requirements across the region. It may be noted that the respondents have diverse requirements of the information to be indicated in the labels of pre-packaged food products such as the mandatory information on labels, display format, required information on principal display panel, usage of numbers and letters for statements of net quantity (minimum height requirements of letters/numbers) and expression of units of measurements and symbols as well as use of translations for selected information into required (domestic) languages and use of removable labels, among others.

This survey aims to update this information to ensure that information provided to stakeholders, in particular the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) which have limited resources to navigate regulatory requirements, are relevant. The survey also aims to elaborate on some questions and gather information on some requirements which were not captured by the 2015 survey.

To aid the completion of the survey questionnaire by the regulatory bodies of members' economies, below are important terms and reference materials:

#### Definition of Terms<sup>1</sup>

**Food** means any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for human consumption, and includes drinks, chewing gums and any substance which has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of "food" but does not include cosmetics or tobacco or substances, used only as drugs.

**Label** means any tag, brand, mark, pictorial or descriptive matter, written, printed, stenciled, marked, embossed, impressed on, or attached to, a container of food.

**Labelling** includes any written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the food or displayed near the food, including that for the purpose of promoting its sale or disposal.

**Pre-packaged** means packaged or made up in advance in a container labeled and ready for sale to the consumers and for catering purposes.

Other terms can be found in CODEX STAN 1-1985 (Rev.1-1191).

For reference, please access the 2015 Survey results on the APEC Publications (<https://www.apec.org/Publications/2016/04/APEC-Survey-on-Packaging-and-Labelling-Requirements-for-Pre-packaged-Food-Products>)

#### General Information:

Name:

Position:

Ministry:

Economy:

#### Labelling Requirements

1. Are there existing laws/regulations in your economy on labelling requirements for pre-packaged food products?
  - YES
  - NO

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<sup>1</sup> **CODEX STAN 1-1985 (Rev. 1-1991)** – Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods

If YES, please specify relevant laws/regulations and provide links

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If answer is YES to question No.1, please specify the relevant agencies that are regulating said laws/regulations.

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2. Which of the following information are required to be placed on the package (label or otherwise) of pre-packaged products in your economy? **Please tick relevant information.**

- Product Name/Name of Food
- Brand Name
- Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details
- Country of Origin
- Measurement Marking of Quantity/Volume Content
  - Net Content
  - Drained Weight
- Quantitative Ingredient Declaration (QUID)
- Unique Global Product Identification
- Lot Identification
- Shelf Life/Date Marking ("**Please specify format**")
  - Date of Manufacture \_\_\_\_\_
  - Date of Packaging \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sell by Date \_\_\_\_\_
  - Use by Date (Expiry/Expiration Date) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Date of Minimum Durability (Best Before Date) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Consume Before Date (Recommended last Consumption Date) \_\_\_\_\_
  - All of the above \_\_\_\_\_
  - Others (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use/Direction for Use
- Complete List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods
- Nutrition Labelling
  - Nutrient Declaration
    - Listing of Nutrients
      - Energy (Calories)
      - Total Proteins
      - Total Carbohydrates
      - Available Carbohydrates
      - Sugar

- Dietary Fibers
- Total Fats
- Saturated fats
  - Trans fats
- Cholesterol
- Sodium
- Vitamins
- Minerals
- Other nutrients \_\_\_\_\_ (considered to be relevant for maintaining good

nutritional status in national legislation/national dietary guidelines)

- Supplementary Nutrition Information/Supplement Facts/Nutrition Facts/Nutrition Information/Nutritive Value

- Allergen information/caution
- Consumer complaint desk contact information
- Other requirements (please specify). This may include labelling for religious, environmental, animal welfare and human rights issues as well as specific country requirements on fortification, organic, GMO labelling).

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3. Of the information above which are placed on the principal display panel of the products?

- Product Name/Name of Food
- Brand Name
- Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details
- Country of Origin
- Measurement Marking of Quantity/Volume Content
- Quantitative Ingredient Declaration (QUID)
- Unique Global Product Identification
- Lot Identification
- Shelf Life/Date Marking
- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use/Direction for Use
- Complete List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods
- Nutrition Labelling
- Supplementary Nutrition Information/Supplement Facts/Nutrition Facts/Nutrition Information/Nutritive Value
- Allergen information/caution
- Consumer complaint desk contact information
- Others (please specify)

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Please indicate if information is or not required on principal display panel of certain food commodities. *For some countries, measurement marking does not have to be on the principal display but is required for all other products.*

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4. Is there any additional labelling information for sweetened beverages in powder form?

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5. Are health claims or therapeutic claims allowed to be put in the label of food/dietary supplement?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify details below:

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6. Are there existing laws/regulations in your economy on labelling requirements for gene editing?

- YES
- NO
- Under review

If YES, please specify the requirements as well as how to ensure the enforcement, especially traceability requirements.

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7. Is there a specification on the use of photographs and graphic representations?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements

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Please provide links for additional information

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8. What information can be put voluntarily on the label if it meets certain criteria? Please cite three (3) examples below:

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9. Is there a specification on the minimum height requirements of numbers and letters for labelling information in relation to the area of principal display panel?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements

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Please provide links for additional information

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10. Is there a required typeface style or size for food label?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements

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Please provide links for additional information

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11. Is there a specification on the expression of units of measurements and symbols?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements

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Please provide links for additional information

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12. What languages does your economy require/permit to be used for information on the label?

- Bahasa Indonesia
- Chinese
- English
- Filipino
- French
- Japanese
- Korean
- Malay
- Spanish
- Russian
- Thai
- Vietnamese
- Others (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

13. Does your economy allow other languages to be included on the food label, in addition to the language required?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide additional information

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Please also provide links for reference

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14. What are the mandatory product labels information that need to be in acceptable/required language/s?

- Product Name/Name of Food
- Brand Name
- Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details
- Country of Origin
- Measurement Marking of Quantity/Volume Content
- Quantitative Ingredient Declaration (QUID)
- Unique Global Product Identification
- Lot Identification
- Shelf Life/Date Marking
- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use/Direction for Use
- Complete List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods

- Nutrition Labelling
- Supplementary Nutrition Information/Supplement Facts/Nutrition Facts/Nutrition Information/Nutritive Value
- Allergen information/caution
- Consumer complaint desk contact information
- Others (please specify)

15. Does your economy require complete translation of the product label into the acceptable/required languages?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide additional information

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Please also provide links for reference

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If NO, please clarify

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Please also provide links for reference

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16. Are stickers and other similar removable labels acceptable or allowed, including any specific circumstances where stickers are allowed?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide additional information

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Please also provide links for reference

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If NO, please clarify

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Please also provide links for reference

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17. Are digital labelling technologies such as smart labels, QR codes, and RFID tags covered in economy's labelling rules/requirements?

- YES
- NO

If Yes, what information may be declared using digital labelling technologies, and under what circumstances?

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If No, please describe whether and how your economy is considering legal or regulatory changes to accommodate digital labelling technologies.

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18. Are there existing laws/regulations in your economy on requirements for food information available on the product information page regarding pre-packaged foods to be offered via-e-commerce.

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify relevant laws/regulations and provide links

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**Packaging Requirements**

19. Are there existing laws/regulations in your economy on packaging/food contact materials for pre-packaged food products?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify relevant laws/regulations and provide links

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20. Does your economy permit the use of recycled materials in food packaging?

- YES
- NO



If YES, please specify relevant laws/regulations and provide links

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If YES, what are required tests to verify safety? Please specify below

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If NO, why?

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Are there any concerns that arise from the usage of recycled materials? What are these concerns and the ways to address them?

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21. What are some representative examples of technological/state-of the art advancements on food packaging being applied by businesses in your economy? Cite an example.

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22. What are some examples of green/sustainable/eco-friendly food packaging being applied by businesses in your economy? Please provide details, if any,

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23. Do you have facilities/technologies to conduct tests on the effectivity of new packaging materials in terms of protecting and preserving the products during storage and transportation?

If Yes, please specify these kinds of facilities/technologies

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#### **Assistance to Business**

24. Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify these kinds of materials.

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Does your economy provide these materials in English?

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Please also provide links which the business can access

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25. What are the assistance being provided by your economy to business for them to be able to comply with your requirements?

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