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

**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.1-1991).

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?
   o YES
   o NO

1 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
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

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).

___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

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)
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.

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

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:

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.

7. Is there a specification on the use of photographs and graphic representations?
- YES
- NO
If YES, please specify the requirements

Please provide links for additional information
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?
   o YES
   o NO
   If YES, please specify the requirements

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

Please provide links for additional information

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

10. Is there a required typeface style or size for food label?
    o YES
    o NO
    If YES, please specify the requirements

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___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

Please provide links for additional information

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

11. Is there a specification on the expression of units of measurements and symbols?
    o YES
    o NO
    If YES, please specify the requirements

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___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

Please provide links for additional information

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________
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?
  o YES
  o NO
  If YES, please provide additional information
  ___________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________
  Please also provide links for reference
  ___________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________

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
15. Does your economy require complete translation of the product label into the acceptable/required languages?
   o YES
   o NO
   If YES, please provide additional information
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   Please also provide links for reference
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   If NO, please clarify
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   Please also provide links for reference
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________

16. Are stickers and other similar removable labels acceptable or allowed, including any specific circumstances where stickers are allowed?
   o YES
   o NO
   If YES, please provide additional information
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   Please also provide links for reference
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   If NO, please clarify
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?

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

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

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

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.

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

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

_______________________________________________________________________

Assistance to Business

24. Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements?
   o YES
   o NO
If YES, please specify these kinds of materials.

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___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

Does your economy provide these materials in English?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

Please also provide links which the business can access
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

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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___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________