



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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

APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background

One of the APEC priorities for 2015 is “Mainstreaming Small and Medium Enterprises into Global and Regional Markets.” Among its sub-themes are 1) Promoting Inclusive Growth through Sustainable and Resilient SMEs; 2) Advancing Modernization and Standards and Conformance of SMEs and 3) Removing Barriers to SME Trade including Entry to Markets.

These priorities accentuate the relevance of strengthening cross-fora collaboration within APEC particularly on working hand in hand in addressing SME issues for them to fully capitalize on the tariff liberalization happening in the Asia Pacific and the world. They also provide a platform to continue discussion of top barriers to SME trade in the region identified in 2011 including problems navigating differing legal, regulatory, and technical requirements. Varying requirements are particularly challenging for SMEs to meet given the challenges in obtaining information and demonstrating conformance in a reliable and accurate manner.

The Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC), as the main body that coordinates standards and conformance initiatives in APEC which includes issues relevant to the implementation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures (SPS) is in a vantage point to support the SME Working Group (SMEWG) initiatives to increase competitiveness of SMEs in Asia Pacific.

To better understand the issues of SMEs as well as to forge a close collaboration with SMEWG with a view to addressing issues related to standards and conformance, the Philippines proposed inter-sessionally in 2015 a SCSC Workplan in Support of SCSC-SMEWG Collaboration that contains activities that can mainstream SMEs issues in the SCSC agenda and vice versa. Among the activities identified are information sharing on packaging and labelling requirements, standards and conformance education materials and possible collaboration in organizing capacity building initiatives.

Available literature has shown that while there is a significant reduction of tariffs over the years, non-tariff measures (NTMs) have notably been on the rise. This is evident in the increasing number of specific trade concerns (STCs) brought to the WTO TBT Committee for discussion. Majority of the STCs involved labelling requirements, particularly food labelling, as well as conformity assessment requirements.

While it is true that international standards exist such as those from CODEX Alimentarius Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, regulations on food labeling still varied among economies which may lead to difficulties to the business sector particularly to SMEs.

Consistent with the objectives of the SCSC which is to ensure greater transparency of technical barriers to trade as well as explore means for access of this information and to further the Boracay Action Agenda (BAA) to Globalize Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), the

Philippines has proposed a self-funded survey on packaging and labelling requirements for pre-packaged food products. Results of the survey can be further explored for a possible future project in support of the BAA. The proposal was co-sponsored by Japan, Indonesia and Mexico.

Why focus on pre-packaged food products? The choice is aligned with the SMEWG identified sectors (agriculture, electronics, food processing, handicrafts and automotive) that are most critical to APEC economies in terms of economic growth and sustainable development¹. Noting that horizontal approach on marking and labelling may be too wide as a topic, narrowing it down to pre-packaged food products provides an instrument for capturing more detailed information.

Additionally, economies that are implementing food labelling requirements have cited particular objectives in the execution of these requirements. Food labelling provides consumers with information on the product (content, shelf life, traceability), facilitates sound choice between similar products, provides a fair playing field to competitors in the food industry, facilitates commerce through standardization of information and ensures consumer safety and health.

Mandatory and voluntary food labelling are the two known types of food labelling requirements. Mandatory labelling requirements are generally related to consumer health and safety including food identification (name of the food); batch code (identifying the batch of the food); the address and contact phone number of the supplier (for recall purposes); a list of ingredients; allergen warnings (where allergens are present); use by date (if relevant); storage and preparation instructions (if relevant) and nutrition information panel. These contents need to be placed on the food labels specified by law/ regulations.

These may vary across the region depending on the regulations by member economies. For instance, some economies may require place of origin others may not. Voluntary food labelling requirements meanwhile are labelling schemes managed by various private or public organisations (such as groups of producers, retailers, NGOs, public authorities) to provide information to consumers about certain aspects of the food they buy or its production method. This is often in the form of a logo and / or a statement on the product that tells the consumer the food meets the standard of that scheme, e.g., the food is produced in a certain geographic region, is organically produced, is good for the heart or has been produced in accordance to additional requirements relating to animal welfare. Food labelling schemes do not cover nutritional values, lists of ingredients; use by dates and should be distinguished from mandatory information about the place of production on certain products.²

B. Project Objectives

The following objectives are being envisioned for the project:

¹ Agriculture, electronics, food processing, handicrafts, automotive are sectors identified by SME Working Group (2013).

²http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumer_evidence/market_studies/food_labelling/docs/final_report_food_labelling_scheme_full_en.pdf

- To stock-take the labelling and packaging requirements of Member Economies, particularly in the sectors of food processing and agriculture. This survey will focus on pre-packaged food products and follow-up surveys can then include other products.
- To increase transparency in support of finding convergences in the work of SCSC and SMEWG and the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI).
- To further the Ministers' instruction set forth in the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs.

C. Report

This report presents the results of the survey responded by fourteen (14) Member Economies.



1. Australia (AUS)
2. Chile (CHL)
3. Hong Kong, China (HKC)
4. Japan (JPN)
5. Malaysia (MAS)
6. Mexico (MEX)
7. New Zealand (NZ)
8. Peru (PE)
9. The Philippines (PH)
10. Singapore (SIN)
11. Chinese Taipei (CT)
12. The United States (US)
13. Thailand (THA)
14. Viet Nam (VN)

D. Methodology

The Survey was designed to gather basic information on the requirements that need to be complied by relevant stakeholders when it comes to packaging and labelling requirements for pre-packaged food products in member economies. The questions were designed to be both close and open ended to be able to solicit the new information.

It was distributed through the Member Economies' contact points in the SCSC. SCSC members were advised to closely coordinate with the competent authorities as the project overseer will only accept one response from each economy. The Member Economies were given the option of completing the survey online or via submission of soft copy.

The Survey is comprised of questions that are categorized as follows: (1) Economy Information; (2) Questions on Domestic Laws/Regulations; (3) Questions on the mandatory labeling requirements and its display format; (4) Questions on the Acceptable Languages; (5) Question on the acceptance of removable labels and (6) Questions on members' information dissemination and capacity building efforts to facilitate business compliance. Copy of survey questions are provided in Appendix B.

The SCSC members were asked to complete the survey in three (3) weeks' time after its release. As many were not able to meet the deadline, the survey was opened until 15 September 2015.

The preliminary results as of 29 August 2015 was presented to the Food Safety Cooperation Forum- Partnership Training Institute Network (FSCF-PTIN) Steering Committee Meeting on 25 August 2015 and during SCSC 2 2015 held in Cebu, Philippines.

Taking off from the suggestions made during the FSCF-PTIN Steering Committee Meeting, the project overseer has requested SCSC members to further review their submission to ensure consistency. Also, a preliminary report was circulated to SCSC for their comments and endorsement.

II. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

A. Respondents

Fourteen economies - representing Asia (Australia, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Japan, The Philippines, New Zealand, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and Viet Nam) and the Americas (Chile, Mexico, Peru and The United States) responded to the survey. The List of Respondents from Member Economies is attached as Appendix A.

B. Responses from APEC Member Economies

Questions on Domestic Laws/Regulations and its mandatory requirements

This section provides an overview on the laws/regulations that govern the mandatory requirements for packaging and labelling specifications in APEC member economies.

Are there existing laws/regulations in your economy on packaging and labelling requirements for pre-packaged food products?

—————> **ALL RESPONDENTS ANSWERED YES**

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

Designed as a lead-in query for specific laws/regulations and implementing agencies, all respondents answered that they have specific laws/regulations pertaining to packaging and labeling requirements for pre-packaged food products.

—————> **ALL RESPONDENTS HAVE SPECIFIC LAWS/REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN IMPLEMENTATION OF PACKAGING AND LABELLING REQUIREMENTS**

Eight (8)³ respondents have reported that only one agency in their economy implements the relevant regulations while six (6)⁴ shared that two or more agencies have shared responsibilities in effecting these regulations. Two⁵ economies shared that provincial / local agencies are involved in implementing the regulations.

All respondents have indicated web links to relevant laws and regulations except for the regulation shared by Viet Nam⁶. Table 1 provides information on the 14 member economies' responses on above questions.

Table 1 - Information on Laws/Regulations, Relevant Links and Implementing Agencies

Economy	Implementing Agency	Law/ Regulation	URL
Australia	1. National Measurement Institute	National Trade Measurement Regulations 2009 (Cth) in particular Part 4 of the Regulations specify requirements in relation to the quantity statement of pre-packaged goods. There are also requirements in relation to the accuracy of the quantity statement.	https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2015C00010
	2. Australian State Territory governments 3. Department of Agriculture (Imported food) 4. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) administers and maintains the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code	The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. This instrument is a standard under the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991 (Cth). Labelling requirements that apply to all foods (unless specifically exempt) are contained in Part 1.2 – Labelling and Other Information Requirements. Other labelling requirements that apply to specific foods are located in Chapter 2 – Food Standards. The labelling requirements for irradiated food and food produced using gene technology are located in Part 1.5 – Food Requiring Pre-market Clearance	https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Search/Australia%20New%20Zealand%20Food%20Standards ; https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Search/Australia%20New%20Zealand%20Food%20Standards
Chile	Ministry of Health	Supreme Decree N° 977, of 1996, Food Health Regulation, and its amendments Decree N°13 which modified Decree N°977- This will enter into force on June 2016	http://www.leychile.cl/Navegar?idNorma=71271 http://web.minsal.cl/sites/default/files/decreto_etiquetado_alimentos_2015.pdf
Hong Kong, China	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, HKSAR Government	Chapter 132W Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations	http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/42F9D064EB7F23F7482575EE0042C3C4?OpenDocument&bt=
Japan	Consumer Affairs Agency	Food Labeling Act	http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?id=2454&vm=04&re=01&new=1

³ Chile, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, The Philippines, Singapore and Chinese Taipei

⁴ Australia, New Zealand, Peru, Thailand, The United States and Viet Nam

⁵ Thailand and Viet Nam

⁶National Standard TCVN 7087 labeling of pre-packaged foods

Economy	Implementing Agency	Law/ Regulation	URL
Malaysia	Food Safety and Quality Programme Ministry of Health	Food Act 1983 Food Regulations 1985	http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/perundangan2/food-regulations-1985
Mexico	Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Health	NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010 General Specifications of Labeling for Food and Non-alcoholic Pre-packed Beverages- Commercial and Sanitary Information	http://www.economia-noms.gob.mx/
New Zealand	1. Ministry for Primary Industries 2. Ministry of Consumer Affairs (for weights and measures)	Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code	http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/Pages/default.aspx
		Food Act 2014	http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2014/0032/latest/DLM2995811.html?search=ta_act_F_ac%40ainf%40anif_an%40bn%40rn_25_a&p=4
		Weights and Measures Act 1987	http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1987/0015/latest/DLM102242.html?search=ta_act_W_ac%40ainf%40anif_an%40bn%40rn_25_a&p=3
Peru	1. General Directorate of Environmental Health (Ministry of Health) 2. National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property	Regulation on Surveillance and Sanitary Control of Food and Beverage.	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/DS007_98.pdf
		Code and Consumer Protection	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/Ley_29571.pdf
		Law providing flour fortification with micronutrients	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/Ley%2028314.pdf
		Modify and incorporate some articles of the Regulation on Surveillance and Sanitary Control of Food and Beverage, approved by Supreme Decree No. 007-98-SA	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/DS_4_2014_SA.pdf
		Law regulating the marketing, consumption and advertising of alcoholic beverages	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/Ley%2028681.pdf
		Approve the regulation establishing technical parameters on food and non-alcoholic beverages processed concerning the content of sugar, sodium and saturated fat	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/NormasLegales/Normas/DS_007-2015-SA.pdf
	3. National Institute of Quality - INACAL. INACAL was created in 2015 with the Law N°	Peruvian metrological standard NMP 001:2014 Labeling requirement for prepackaged products (EQV R.I. OIML R 79:1997)	http://www.inacal.gob.pe/inacal/files/metrologia/normas-metrologicas-peruanas/Listado_Normas_Metrologicas_2016-01-05.pdf

Economy	Implementing Agency	Law/ Regulation	URL
	30224. The Metrology Direction of INACAL is responsible of the Legal Metrology		
The Philippines	Philippines Food and Drug Administration	Administrative Order 2014-0030 Revised Rules and Regulation Governing the Labeling of Prepackaged Food Products Further Amending certain Provisions of Administrative Order NO. 88-B s. 1984 or the "Rules and Regulation Governing the Labeling of Prepackaged Food Products"	http://www.fda.gov.ph/issuances-2/food-laws-and-regulations-pertaining-to-all-regulated-food-products-and-supplements/food-administrative-order/194724-revised-rules-and-regulation-governing-the-labeling-of-prepackaged-food-products-further-amending-certain-provisions-of-administrative-order-no-88-b-s-1984
Singapore	Agri-food and Veterinary Authority	Regulation 5 under Food Regulations Additional requirements Date marking Nutrition Information Panel Warning Stat	http://www.ava.gov.sg/legislation
Chinese Taipei	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare	Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation -Article 22	http://consumer.fda.gov.tw/Law/Detail.aspx?nodeID=518&lang=1&lawid=292
		The Notification of Ministry of Public Health (No.367) B.E. 2557 (2014) Re: Labeling of Prepackaged Foods	http://iodinethailand.fda.moph.go.th/food_54/law/data/announ_moph/V.English/No.%20367%20Labeling%20of%20Prepackaged%20Foods%20edit%2010-2-15.pdf
Thailand	1.Food and Drug Administration 2.Provincial Public Health Offices	Nutrition Labeling and Education Act: amended the FD&C Act to require most foods to bear nutrition labeling and requires food labels that bear nutrient content claims and certain health messages to comply with specific requirements	http://www.fda.gov/ICECI/Inspections/InspectionGuides/ucm074948.htm
The United States⁷	Both the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have jurisdiction over the labeling of foods. In general terms, USDA regulates the labeling of most meat, poultry, catfish	Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act	http://www.fda.gov/regulatoryinformation/legislation/federalfooddrugandcosmeticactfdact/
		Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act	http://www.fda.gov/food/guidanceregulation/guidancedocumentsregulatoryinformation/allergens/

⁷The responses in this document represent FDA labelling requirements only.

Economy	Implementing Agency	Law/ Regulation	URL
	and egg products, while FDA regulates the labeling of most other foods, including game meats, seafood and shell eggs. In addition, both the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) and FDA regulate the labeling of alcoholic beverages. TTB is responsible for the promulgation and enforcement of regulations with respect to the labeling of distilled spirits, certain wines, and malt beverages. FDA regulates most aspects of the labeling of non-malt beverage beers and wines with less than 7% alcohol by volume.	Nutrition Labeling and Education Act: amended the FD&C Act to require most foods to bear nutrition labeling and requires food labels that bear nutrient content claims and certain health messages to comply with specific requirements	ucm106187.htm. http://www.fda.gov/ICECI/Inspections/InspectionGuides/ucm074948.htm
Viet Nam	Ministry of Health; Ministry of Industry and Trade; Ministry of Science and Technology; The ministries, ministerial-level agencies, Government agencies; People's Committees of provinces and central municipalities.	Joint Circular 34/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT guidelines for Labeling of food products, parts and quality food assistance available packaging; National Standard TCVN 7087 labeling of pre-packaged foods	http://www.moit.gov.vn/Images/FileVanBan/_TTLT34-2014-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCTeng.pdf No link.

Questions on mandatory labelling requirements and its display format

Which of the following information are required to be placed in the label for pre-packaged food products in your economy?

The question seeks to gather information on the mandatory label requirements of Member Economies. Interestingly, only three out of the forty plus elements in the survey are being required across the fourteen responding economies and these are as follows:

- Product Name
- Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details
- Quantity/Volume Content⁸

Responses on different information required to be indicated in the labels varied across the responding economies. The summary information on the responses is shown in Table 2- Mandatory Information on Labels.

⁸ Under quantity/volume content, two elements are requested be imparted whether it required net content or drained weight.

Table 2 – Mandatory Information on Labels

LEGEND: YES NO

Information Requested	AUS	CHL	HKC	JPN	MY	MEX	NZ	PE	PH	SIN	CT	THA	US	VN
Product Name														
Brand Name														
Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details			The pre-packaged food should be legibly labelled with the full name and full address of the manufacturer or packer, or otherwise in accordance with the requirements as stipulated in the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W)											
Place of Origin														
Quantity/Volume Content			Net Weight/ Net Volume/ Net Count											
• Net Content														
• Drained Weight														
Unique Global Product Identification Number														
Lot Identification Number														
Shelf life/Date Marking (format requested)			either "use by 此日期或之前食用" or "best before 此日期前最佳" (in both English and Chinese)											
• Date Manufactured		DD/Month 2 no or 3 first word)/YY												
• Date of Packaging		DD/Month 2 no or 3 first word)/YY								DD/MM/YY				
• Sell by Date										DD/MM/YY				

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• Use by Date (Expiry Date)		DD/Month 2 no or 3 first word)/YY			i. EXPIRY DATE or EXP DATE (here insert the date, expressed in day, month and year or in month and year);					Day month Year, where month is in words	DD/MM/YY			
		ii. USE BY (here insert the date, expressed in day, month and year or in month and year)"; or												

Table 2 - Mandatory Information on Labels

LEGEND: YES NO

Information Requested	AUS	CHL	HKC	JPN	MY	MEX	NZ	PE	PH	SIN	CT	THA	US	VN
• Date of Minimum Durability (Best Before Date)					"BEST BEFORE or BEST BEF (here insert the date, expressed in day, month and year or in month and year)"					DD/MM/YY		DD/MM/YY YY		
• Consume Before		DD/Month 2 no or 3 first word)/YY			CONSUME BY or CONSBY (here insert the date, expressed in day, month and year or in month and year)"									
• Any of the above							Various depending on shelf life							
• Others (please specify)	Refer below ¹			Used Date	by or				Expiration/ expiry/use by/consume			Food serial		

				Date of Minimum Durability					before/recommended last consumption date, day month year where month is in words			number		
Storage Instructions	Refer below ^{2,3}													
Instruction for Use	Refer below ^{2,3}													

Table 2 - Mandatory Information on Labels

LEGEND: YES NO

Information Requested	AUS	CHL	HKC	JPN	MY	MEX	NZ	PE	PH	SIN	CT	THA	US	VN
List of Ingredients														
Irradiated foods														
Nutrition Labelling	Refer below ⁴													
• Nutrient Declaration														
o Listing of Nutrients														
o Energy														
o Proteins														
o Carbohydrates														
▪ Total Sugar														
o Dietary Fibers														
o Fats (saturated fats, trans fats)														
o Cholesterol			Yes, if there is nutrition claim in relation to any type of fat.											
o Sodium														

○ Vitamins														
○ Minerals														
• Supplementary Nutrition Information														
Allergen Information														
Consumer Complaint Desk														
Other requirements (labeling)	Refer below ⁱ			Refer below ⁱⁱ	Refer below ^v	Refer below ⁱⁱⁱ	Refer below ⁱ		Refer below ^{iv}	Refer below ^v				Refer below ^{vi}
• Religious														
• Environmental														
• Animal welfare														
• Fortification														
• Organic														
• GMO														

¹ Date Marking (Australia)

Certain foods are exempt from date marking: (1) foods where the best-before date of the food is two years or more; (2) an individual portion of ice cream or ice confection; or (3) a food in a small package, except where the food should be consumed before a certain date because of health or safety reasons

^{2,3}**Instruction for use (Australia)** - Some exemptions from storage instructions and instructions for use apply if a food is not required to bear a label.

⁴**Nutritional Labelling (Australia)** - Please note that only energy, protein, carbohydrates, total sugars, total fat, saturated fat and sodium must be declared in the Nutrition Information Panel (NIP) on Australian and New Zealand food labels. Dietary fibre, trans fat, polyunsaturated fat, monounsaturated fat, cholesterol, vitamins and minerals must be declared in the NIP only when a claim about the nutrient is made elsewhere on the label. Biologically active substances must also be declared in the NIP when a claim about them is made elsewhere on the label.

⁵Other requirements

ⁱ Australia and New Zealand

- Genetically modified (GM) foods and ingredients must be labelled with the words ‘genetically modified’ in conjunction with the name of the food or food ingredient if novel DNA and/or novel protein from an approved GM variety is present in the final food, or if the GM food has altered characteristics (Standard 1.5.2 – Food Produced using Gene Technology).
- All foods (unless exempt) must declare the percentage of its characterising ingredients and components (Standard 1.2.10 – Characterising Ingredients and Components of Food)

ⁱⁱ Japan

- Organic (When plant products and processed foods of plant origin are labelled as organic, they shall be certified under Japanese organic regulation.)

- All kinds of agricultural products and their processed foods including all GMO are required to notify "GMO" or may contain "GMO" mandatorily, and "non-GMO" voluntarily.

iii Other requirements (Mexico)

- Statement on religious ritual or preparation of a food (eg Halal, Kosher)

iv Other requirements (Philippines)

1. Food Fortification - Food Fortification Act RA 8976 requires fortification of staple food product like wheat flour, rice, cooking oil and sugar and the Salt Iodization Law requires salt to be iodized.
2. Halal and Organic claims should be certified before they are allowed to be declared

v Other requirements (Malaysia)

1. Food contains beef or pork or its derivatives, or lard.

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation 11, (1)(c)	If the food contains beef or pork, or its derivatives, or lard, a statement as to the presence in that food of such beef or pork, or its derivatives, or lard, in the form— "CONTAINS (state whether beef or pork, or its derivatives, or lard, as the case may be)" or in any other words to this effect

2. Animal / Vegetable source of fat/oil

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation 11(1)(f)	Where the food contains edible fat or edible oil or both, a statement as to the presence in that food of such edible fat or edible oil or both, together with the common name of the animal or vegetable, as the case may be, from which such fat or oil is derived;

3. Source of food or ingredient of animal origin

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation11(3)	For the purposes of paragraphs (1)(e) and (g), where the ingredients of the food, or the food additives added to such food, are derived from animal, the common name of such animal shall also be stated on the label of that food: Provided that it shall not be necessary to indicate the name of the animal from which the ingredient or food additive is derived if it can be inferred from the appropriate designation of such ingredient of food additive.

4. GMO

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation 11(7)	Food and food ingredients obtained through modern biotechnology shall be labelled as follows: (a) in the case of food and food ingredients that are composed of or contains genetically modified organisms, the words “genetically modified (name of the ingredient)” shall appear on the label; (b) in the case of food and food ingredients that are produced from, but does not contain genetically modified organisms, the words “produced from genetically modified (name of the ingredient)” shall appear on the label; (c) for the purpose of paragraphs (a) and (b), in the case of single-Ingredient foods, the information shall appear on the principal display panel in close proximity with the name of the food and shall be in not less than 10 point lettering; (d) for the purpose of paragraphs (a) and (b), in the case multi- ingredient foods, the information shall appear in the list of ingredients immediately following the ingredients; and (e) for the purpose of paragraph (d) the statement “contains genetically modified ingredient” shall be stated on the principal display panel in close proximity with the name of the food and shall be in not less than 10 point lettering

5. Organic

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation 18(7)	No label which describes any food shall include the word “organic”, “biological”, “ecological”, “biodynamic” or any other words of the same significance unless the food conforms to the requirements specified in the Malaysian Standard MS 1529: The Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods.

6. Requirement on fortification

Regulation	Requirement
Regulation 18B	Nutrition Labelling
Regulation 18C	Nutrient Content Claim
Regulation 18D	Nutrient Comparative Claims
Regulation 18E	Nutrient Function Claim

7. Nutritional Labelling – Please note that nutrition labelling is only mandatory for certain food. Only energy, protein, carbohydrates and fat must be declared in the Nutrition Information Panel (NIP). Declaration of total sugars in the NIP is mandatory for ready-to-drink beverages only. Trans fatty acid, polyunsaturated fatty acid, monounsaturated fatty acid, saturated fatty acid, vitamins and minerals must be declared in the NIP only when a claim about the nutrient is made. Dietary fibre, cholesterol and sodium is optional to be declared in the NIP.

^{vi} Other requirements (Viet Nam)

Goods or components of irradiated goods, technical applied GMO generated in international treaties to which Viet Nam is a member.

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

Nine⁹ out of 14 economies shared that two or more information are required to be placed in the principal display panel while six¹⁰ respondents shared that they do not require any of the information cited in this questionnaire.

The common information required to be placed in the principal display panel is product name. Table 3 lists the information being required by respondents on the principal display panel.

Table 3 – Required Information on Principal Display Panel

Information	Member Economies										
	AUS	CHL	HKC	JPN	MY	MEX	PE	NZ	CT	THA	VN
Product Name	Refer below*		Refer below**								
Brand Name											
Name of Manufacturer											
Place of Origin											
Quantity											
Nutritional Labelling											
Shelf-life											
Storage Instructions											
Instructions for use											
List of Ingredients											
Allergen Information											

*The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code does not provide requirements that related specifically to the principal display panel (PDP); rather they apply to all labels.

**The Hong Kong Regulation, Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap.132W), does not provide requirements that related specifically to the principal display panel (PDP); rather they apply to all labels.

LEGEND: YES NO

On minimum height requirements of numbers and letters and expression of units of measurements:

- *Is there a specification on the minimum height requirements of numbers and letters for statements of net quantity in relation to the area of principal display panel? If YES. Please specify the requirements or provide links.*
- *Is there a specification on the expression of units of measurements and symbols? If YES, please specify the requirements or provide links.*

The respondents were asked on the specific regulation that requires compliance to certain specifications. Two-thirds¹¹ of the respondents or nine (9) economies require compliance to

⁹ Australia, Chile, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Viet Nam

¹⁰ Malaysia, Peru, The Philippines, Singapore and The United States

specifications on the Minimum Height Requirements for Numbers and Letters for Statements of Net Quantity that were set while Chile, Hong Kong, China, New Zealand, Peru and the Philippines do not implement such requirements. Table 4 provides the information shared by the respondents on rules and regulations on said requirements.

Table 4 - Rules and Regulations on the Usage of Numbers and Letters for Statements of Net Quantity and Expression of Units of Measurements and Symbols

Economies	Questions			
	Is there a specification on the Minimum Height Requirements of Numbers and Letters for Statements of Net Quantity		Is there a specification on Expression of Units of Measurements and Symbols	
	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable
Australia	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please see regulations 4.10 to 4.12 of the National Trade Measurement Regulations 2009. In the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code there is a general requirement for food labels to be legible 	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code requires values for mandatory declarations in the nutrition information panel to be expressed in specified units and to no more than three significant figures.
Chile	NO		YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net contents must expressed in the metric system other international system, with the symbol of the unity of the whole word, Shall not accompany the values of net contents any terms of ambiguous meaning. In addition to declaration of net contents in packaged food in a liquid medium, it shall be indicated in the metric system other international system, the drained weight of food.
Hong Kong, China	NO	http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_nifl/files/Trade_Guidelines_on_Preparation_of_Legible_FL_e.pdf	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/1FCB26A2D9143FF2482575EE0036D664/\$FILE/CA_P_68_e_b5.pdf http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/0FD76B1A9CD212EA482575EE004D9B41/\$FILE/CAP_214_e_b5.pdf
Japan	YES	http://www.caa.go.jp/foods/pdf/150320_kijyun.pdf	YES	http://www.caa.go.jp/foods/pdf/150320_kijyun.pdf
Malaysia	YES	http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/perundangan2./food-regulations-1985	NO	
Mexico	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOM-030-SCFI-2006 Informacion comercial-Declaracion de cantidad en la etiqueta-Especificaciones http://www.economia-noms.gob.mx 	YES	Established section 3.1.7 NOM-051-SCFI/SSAI-2010
New Zealand	NO		YES	Metric units must be used, except in the case of imports from economies that used imperial units.
Peru	YES	The Annex B "Type size of letters and numerals for statements of net quantity on consumer packages", of the NMP	YES	The Annex A "Units of measurement and symbols", of the NMP 001:2014, shows the specifications: is Mandatory

¹¹ Australia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, The United States and Viet Nam

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

Economies	Questions			
	Is there a specification on the Minimum Height Requirements of Numbers and Letters for Statements of Net Quantity		Is there a specification on Expression of Units of Measurements and Symbols	
	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable
		001:2014, shows the specifications: is only Informative		
The Philippines	NO		YES	Metric system of Measurement or SI (International System of Units)
Singapore	YES	Net quantity is required to be declared in letters no less than 1.5mm in height. However, the Food Regulations do not specify where the net quantity statement should be placed on the product label.	YES	Under the Weights and Measures Act, the units of measurement shall be in metric units. (http://statutes.agc.gov.sg/aol/search/display/view.w3p;ident=a89b3826-039c-43fb-8251-0895e413e533;query=Status%3Acurinforce%20Type%3Aact,sl%20Content%3A%22weights%22%22)
Chinese Taipei	YES	The length and width of the characters marked on the labels shall not be less than two millimeters. (According to article 18 of Enforcement Rules of the Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation, http://consumer.fda.gov.tw/Law/Detail.aspx?nodeID=518&lang=1)	YES	Metric system
Thailand	YES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not less than 1mm if space of label not more than 100 cm², except for label having total space less than 35 cm², presentation of composition can be made on packages instead; Not less than 1.5 mm if space of label more than 100 cm² to 250 cm² Not less than 2 mm if space of label more than 250 cm². 	YES	Metric Unit
The United States	YES	http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/labellingNutrition/ucm064877.htm . See question 5.	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/labellingNutrition/ucm064877.htm. See questions 1 and 3.
Viet Nam	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Circular 34/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT guidelines for Labeling of food products, parts and quality food assistance available packaging; National Standard TCVN 7087 labeling of prepackaged foods 	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Circular 34/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT guidelines for Labeling of food products, parts and quality food assistance available packaging; National Standard TCVN 7087 labeling of prepackaged foods

Questions on Acceptable Languages

- *What languages does your economy require to be used for information on the label?*
- *What are the mandatory product labels information that need to be in acceptable language/s?*
- *Does your economy require complete change of the product label into the acceptable languages? If YES, please provide additional information or provide links.*

These questions are incorporated in the survey to see if economies have some flexibility on the use of languages in the labelling requirements. Acceptable languages for required labels are listed in Table 5.

Table 5 – Acceptable Language/s for Required Labels for Pre-packaged Food Products

Economies	Required Language	Other Acceptable Language/s	Mandatory Product Labels Information that need to be in Acceptable Language	Mandatory requirement of changing product labels into acceptable language
Australia	English		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity/Volume Content Shelf life/Date Marking Storage Instructions Instructions for Use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional labelling Allergen Information/caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. • The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code requires that label information must be provided in English, although it does not prohibit the display of this information in another language provided the English version is provided. See Standard 1.2.9 – Legibility Requirements.
Chile	Spanish		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity/Volume Content Shelf life/Date Marking Storage Instructions Instructions for Use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional labelling Allergen Information/caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. • The information on the label shall be in Spanish, and may be circumstantially repeated in another language. Stickers are allowed.
Hong Kong, China	Chinese, English	Chinese, English or Bilingual	Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity/Volume Content Shelf life/Date Marking Storage Instructions Instructions for Use List of Ingredients Nutritional labelling Allergen Information/caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. • Information should be marked in either English or Chinese language or in both languages on the label of prepackaged food: • (If Chinese and English languages are used in labelling, the food name, the ingredient list and nutrition label of the prepackaged food shall be labelled in both languages.
Japan	Japanese		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity / Volume Content Shelf life / Date Marking Storage Instructions List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional Labelling Allergen Information / caution	No
Malaysia	Malay, English	Any translation	Product Name Name of Manufacturer Name of Importer Place of Origin Net weight Date Marking List of ingredients Nutritional Labelling Allergen information Storage Instructions Instructions for Use	Yes Malaysia Food Regulations 1985 requires for imported product to bear mandatory information on label either in Malay or English and may include other languages.
Mexico	Spanish			No.
New Zealand	English		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity/Volume Content Lot Identification Number Shelf life/Date Marking	No.

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Economies	Required Language	Other Acceptable Language/s	Mandatory Product Labels Information that need to be in Acceptable Language	Mandatory requirement of changing product labels into acceptable language
			Storage Instructions Instructions for Use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional labelling Allergen I	
Chinese Taipei	Chinese		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity Shelf-life List of Ingredients Nutritional Labelling	No.
Peru	Spanish		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Quantity Lot Identification Number Shelf Life List of Ingredients	No.
The Philippines	English, Filipino	Filipino or English or combination. Any foreign language but always with corresponding English translation	Product Name Brand Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity Lot Identification Number Shelf life Storage instructions Instructions for use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods	Yes. All information in foreign language should have a corresponding English translation.
Singapore	English		Product Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity Shelf life Instructions for use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional labelling Allergen information	No
Thailand	Thai		Product Name Brand Name Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Quantity Shelf life Storage instructions Instructions for use List of Ingredients Irradiated foods Nutritional Labelling Allergen Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. • Except when labeling of food not sold directly to consumer or re-packers or food preparation persons or vendors shall have at least particulars detail of name of foods, nutritional labeling, allergen information
The United States	English			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. • Only required statements must be in English. See 21 CFR 101.15(c)(2) (http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm064872.htm#) • If a foreign language is used anywhere on the label, all required label statements must appear both in English and in the foreign

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Economies	Required Language	Other Acceptable Language/s	Mandatory Product Labels Information that need to be in Acceptable Language	Mandatory requirement of changing product labels into acceptable language
				language. 21 CFR 101.15(c)(2)(http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm064904.htm);
Viet Nam	Vietnamese	The following content may be presented in the original language with Latin letters: International name or scientific name together with a chemical formula, the formula of chemicals: international names or scientific names of ingredients	Name of Manufacturer Place of Origin Shelf-life	No.

Question on the acceptance of removable labels

Are stickers and other similar removable labels acceptable or allowed?

The inquiry aims to gather information on the extent of the use of removable labels in the regulations of the APEC Member Economies. It is noted that all respondents allow use of stickers or similar removable labels for their pre-packaged food products. Links and/or specific regulations cited are listed in Table 6.

Table 6 - Laws/Regulations on the Use of Removable Labels or Stickers

Economies	Laws/Regulations and other relevant information
Australia	Stickers or removable labels are not prohibited by the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. However, it is prohibited to alter, remove, erase, obliterate or obscure food packaging.
Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 109, Supreme Decree N° 977, established that neither overprints nor modifications of the information contained in the original label will be allowed, unless written authorization from the health authority is obtained, with the following exception 1) Imported products that are labeled in another language or do not comply with the requirements of the present rules regarding labeling; (Included in Decree N°13) Products using overprint or modification of the information on the label as provided herein by Article 120 bis, including the nutritional information adjustment that must be declared or eliminating information incompatible with
Hong Kong, China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade Guidelines on Preparation of Legible Food Label http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_nifl/files/Trade_Guidelines_on_Preparation_of_Legible_FL_e.pdf Technical Guidance Notes on Nutrition Labelling and Nutrition Claims http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/food_leg/files/nl_technical_guidance_e.pdf Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap.132W) http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/42F9D064EB7F23F7482575EE0042C3C4/\$FILE/CAP_132W_e_b5.pdf
Japan	http://www.caa.go.jp/foods/pdf/150320_kijyun.pdf
Economies	Laws/Regulations and other relevant information
Malaysia	Under Regulation 12 (5), Food Regulation 1985, every label to be borne on a package shall be legibly and durably marked either on the materials of the package or on the material firmly or permanently attached to package.
Mexico	-
New Zealand	Stickers can be applied at the time of import which convey the minimum labelling information indicated in Q8
Chinese Taipei	http://consumer.fda.gov.tw/Law/Detail.aspx?nodeID=518&lawid=298 (Chinese only)
Peru	-

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The Philippines	As temporary remedial labelling only for 6 months especially for English/Filipino translation of imported products whose label are in foreign language
Singapore	Traders can incorporate the mandatory labelling requirements in English using sticker labels. The original labelling information in foreign language do not need to be removed but it should not contradict those declared in English.
Thailand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stickers are allowed only for imported food and shall provide information on label as required under the Notification No. 367. 2. Such stickers shall be attached on the imported products before placing on the market. Such stickers shall be attached on the imported products before placing on the market.
The United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm064904.htm Can the Nutrition Facts label be printed on a sticker and affixed to a package? Answer: Yes, as long as the sticker adheres to the product under the intended storage conditions. Some companies use generic cartons or bags and affix product specific labeling. Is it permissible to use stickers to make changes in labeling? Answer: Correcting label mistakes in any manner is acceptable if the final label is correct and complies with all regulations at the time of retail sale.
Viet Nam	-

Questions on members' information dissemination and capacity building efforts to facilitate business compliance

- Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements? If YES, please provide the links that business can access.*
- What are the assistance being provided by your economy to your business for them to be able to comply with your requirements?*

The question aims to map information on the assistance being provided by Members for business to be able to comply with requirements set forth in the regulations. Most of the respondents have websites containing information on the requirements. Table 7 provides overviews on the types of assistance being extended by the respondents to businesses.

Table 7 – Assistance provided by Member Economies to Businesses to ensure Compliance to Requirements

Economies	Questions			
	Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements?		What are the assistance being provided by your economy to business for them to be able to comply with your requirements?	
	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable
Australia	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See NMI website in relation to general information on pre-packaged goods, in particular the Guide to the Sale of Pre-packaged Goods. The FSANZ website contains material and links to information on how to comply with food regulations. Individual Australian State and Territory enforcement authorities, and the New Zealand government, also provide their own material to assist business to comply with food regulations. 	YES	<p>NMI Brochures are published online and in hard copy. These brochures are distributed to businesses to educate them and make them aware of the requirements. NMI's trade measurement inspectors also educate traders when they do site visits. Businesses who are not familiar with the requirements can also contact the National Trade Measurement hotline to get further information.</p> <p>As stated above, FSANZ does not enforce or provide advice on compliance with the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. These activities are the responsibility of the Australian State and Territory governments, the Australian Department of Agriculture (imported food), and the New</p>

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

Economies	Questions			
	Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements?		What are the assistance being provided by your economy to business for them to be able to comply with your requirements?	
	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable
				<p>Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries. Businesses therefore need to contact these government agencies about how to comply with food labelling requirements. Businesses are encouraged to seek advice from a food compliance consultant or legal counsel to ensure compliance with relevant food legislation.</p> <p>FSANZ operates a Code Inquiry service that addresses requests for information about the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code itself. This service can be accessed from the following link: http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/Pages/contact.aspx. This link also provides further information on the User Guides mentioned in question 11, as well as where food complaints can be directed. The FSANZ website also has the contact details of the agencies in Australia and New Zealand that enforce the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code at http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/about/foodenforcementcontacts/pages/default.aspx.</p>
Chile	NO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an expedited procedure available for importing food - http://asdigital.minsal.cl/asdigital/ • There are 15 representations of the sanitary authority along all regions in Chile able to assist to interested person.
Hong Kong, China	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/programme/programme_nifl/files/Trade_Guidelines_on_Preparation_of_Legible_FL_e.pdf • http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/food_leg/files/nl_technical_guidance_e.pdf • http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/42F9D064EB7F23F7482575EE0042C3C4?OpenDocument&bt=0 	YES	http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/committee/Notes_and_Presentation_Materials_50th_Meeting_2015.html
Japan	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.caa.go.jp/foods/pdf/150320_kijyun.pdf • http://www.maff.go.jp/e/jas/specific/organic.html 	YES	Public relations and Q&A on website.
Malaysia	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/component/k2/item/136 • http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/component/k2/item/136 	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/component/k2/item/470 • http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v4/index.php/component/k2/item/470
Mexico	NO	-	-	-
New Zealand	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/userguide/Pages/default.aspx • http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/ • http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/ 	-	-
Peru	YES	http://www.digesa.minsa.gob.pe/material_educativo/Infografia_tupa_29.asp		The Ministry of Health conducts briefings twice a month
The	YES	http://www.fda.gov/ph/issuances-2/food-	YES	Conduct seminars and workshops.

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

Economies	Questions			
	Does your economy have available materials to guide business on how to comply with your requirements?		What are the assistance being provided by your economy to business for them to be able to comply with your requirements?	
	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable	Yes/No	Additional Information, if applicable
Philippines		laws-and-regulations-pertaining-to-all-regulated-food-products-and-supplements/food-administrative-order		
Singapore	YES	The following references are made available to guide businesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guide to Food Labelling and Advertisement http://www.ava.gov.sg/docs/default-source/tools-and-resources/resources-for-businesses/aguidetofoodlabellingandadvertisementsversionjuly2 (Please note that this URL is subjected to change due to updates http://www.ava.gov.sg/ (http://www.ava.gov.sg/explore-by-sections/food/labelling-packaging-information/labelling-guidelines-for-food-importers-manufacturers) 	YES	In addition to the guidance materials, there is a domestic course conducted by our tertiary institution, which aims to help traders comply with the legal requirements for labelling. This is a 2-day course titled "Follow Good Food Labelling Practices"
Chinese Taipei	YES	http://www.fda.gov.tw/tc/index.aspx	YES	Regulations information, Q&A and hotline
Thailand	NO		YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public relations and Q&A on website Conference Arrangement to relevant stakeholders Consultation by e-mail and phone in office hours
The United States	YES	http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm2006828.htm	YES	Inquiries can be submitted to 888-SAFEFOOD or cfsan.force.com/Inquiry page and information is available at http://www.fda.gov/Food/ucm387153.htm
Viet Nam	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.moh.gov.vn https://www.moit.gov.vn https://www.most.gov.vn 	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Web portal so organizations and individuals can look up the relevant documents Develop and promulgate documents guiding the implementation of these regulations

III. KEY FINDINGS and WAY FORWARD

KEY FINDINGS

Below are key findings based on the responses gathered from Member Economies:

Laws/Regulations

All respondents surveyed have specific laws/regulations that provide them mandate to implement requirements for packaging and labelling requirements.

Information on labels and other requirements

- Respondents have diverse requirements of the information to be indicated in the labels of pre-packaged food products.

- Most respondents required translation of selected information into required (domestic) languages, while, other economies allowed use of the domestic language and English.
- All respondents allow use of stickers or removable materials but different processes are in place to implement the use of such materials

Guides/Assistance for Business

All respondents have websites that are accessible by its relevant stakeholders. Information available includes:

- Laws/regulations
- Guides/Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)/Questions & Answers (Q&As)
- Contact Points to placed queries/Hotlines

Most respondents have also instituted capacity building programs (workshops, seminars, courses, briefings) for business to ensure their compliance to requirements.

WAY FORWARD

Noting the significant information gathered in this survey, the following proposed next steps are being offered for Member Economies consideration:

Increase transparency

- Share results of the survey through the APEC website
- If possible, post the web-links to specific regulations and relevant agencies contact information in the Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC) webpage and its continuous updating to ensure predictability/consistency of information
- In the future, continue populating the information covering other product categories/sectors

Continue Collaboration

SCSC to collaborate with Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG) in sharing information gathered in the Survey as well as in identifying other areas for possible future work such as organization of conferences/seminars focused on the area of packaging and labelling requirements.

APPENDIX A: List of Respondents from APEC Economies

No.	Economy	Name ¹²	Position	Ministry
1.	Australia	Roselle Mailvaganam	Senior Policy Officer	National Measurement Institute
		Lisa Tengdahl	International Liaison Officer	Food Standards Australia New Zealand
2.	Chile	Jose Manuel Campos	SCSC Representative	Foreign Affairs
3.	Hong Kong, China	LEUNG Kam-hong	Senior Health Inspector (Food Labelling) 2	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
4.	Japan	APEC Division (Focal point)	APEC Division (Focal point)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
5.	Malaysia	Puan NorranibtEksan	Deputy Director of Food Safety and Quality Programme	Ministry of Health
6.	Mexico	Sofía Pacheco Niño de Rivera	Deputy Director of International Standardization	Ministry of Economy
7.	New Zealand	Greg Zemke-Smith	Principal Adviser International Standards	Ministry for Primary Industries
8.	Philippines	Pilar Marilyn Pagayunan	FDRO IV	Center for Food Regulation and Research (CFRR) Philippines Food and Drug Administration
9.	Peru	Ms Leonor PICON	Specialist on food safety	Ministry of Health
10.	Singapore	Neo Mui Lee	Senior Manager	Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore Ministry of National Development
11.	Chinese Taipei	Yen-Jung CHUEH	Associate Specialist	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare
12.	Thailand	TipvonParinyasiri	Director, Bureau of Food	Public Health
13.	The United States	Kelly McCormick	International Policy Analyst	U.S. Food and Drug Administration
14.	Viet Nam	STAMEQ	--	MOST

¹² Some economies have not submitted names that have responded to the survey.

APPENDIX B: The Survey Questionnaire

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

General Information

Background

Technical Regulations (TBT Measures) are another hurdle for exporters. While there is a significant reduction of tariffs over the years, non-tariff measures (NTMs) have notably been on the rise. This is evident in the increasing number of specific trade concerns (STCs) brought to the WTO TBT Committee for discussion. Majority of the STCs involved labelling requirements, particularly food labelling, as well as conformity assessment requirements.

Packaging and labelling requirements being implemented by APEC Member Economies are among the TBT measures that businesses, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs), need to comply with order to participate in cross-border trade. The information gathered will enable APEC to target capacity building initiatives for SMEs compliance to these requirements.

Objectives

- It is the aim of this initiative to stock-take the labelling and packaging requirements of Member Economies, particularly in the sectors of food processing and agriculture. This survey will focus on pre-packaged food products and follow-up surveys can then include other products.
- The results of the survey will be shared by the Philippines in support of finding convergences in the work of SCSC and SMEWG as well as the initiative of CTI in improving transparency vis-à-vis trade requirements within APEC.
- To further the Ministers' instruction set forth in the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs in May 2015.

Definition of Terms¹³

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.

¹³ CODEX STAN 1-1985

General Information:

Name:

Position:

Ministry:

Economy:

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

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

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

3. Which of the following information are required to be placed in the label for pre-packaged food 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
- Place of Origin
- Quantity/Volume Content
 - Net Content
 - Drained Weight
- Unique Global Product Identification number
- Lot Identification Number
- Shelf Life/Date Marking ("**Please specify format**")
 - Date of Manufacture _____
 - Date of Packaging _____
 - Sell by Date _____
 - Used by Date (Expiry Date) _____
 - Date of Minimum Durability (Best Before Date) _____
 - Consume Before _____
 - Any of the above _____
 - Others (please specify) _____
- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use
- List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods
- Nutritional Labelling
 - Nutrient Declaration
 - Listing of Nutrients
 - Energy
 - Proteins

- Carbohydrates
- Total Sugar
- Dietary Fibers
- Fats (saturated fats, trans fats)
- Cholesterol
- Sodium
- Vitamins
- Minerals
- Supplementary Nutrition Information
- Allergen information/caution
- Consumer complaint desk address
- Other requirements (please specify). This may include labelling for religious, environmental, animal welfare and human rights issues as well as specific economy requirements on fortification, organic, GMO labelling).

4. 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
- Place of Origin
- Quantity/Volume Content
- Unique Global Product Identification number
- Lot Identification Number
- Shelf Life/Date Marking
- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use
- List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods
- Nutritional Labelling
- Allergen information/caution
- Consumer complaint desk address

5. Is there a specification on the minimum height requirements of numbers and letters for statements of net quantity in relation to the area of principal display panel?*

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements or provide links

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

- YES
- NO

If YES, please specify the requirements or provide links

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

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

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

- Product Name/Name of Food
- Brand Name
- Name of Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor/Importer/Exporter/Vendor/Trader, Address and Contact Details
- Place of Origin
- Quantity/Volume Content
- Unique Global Product Identification number
- Lot Identification Number
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- Storage Instructions
- Instructions for use
- List of ingredients
- Irradiated foods
- Nutritional Labelling
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9. Does your economy require complete change of the product label into the acceptable languages?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide additional information or provide links.

10. Are stickers and other similar removable labels acceptable or allowed?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide additional information or provide links.

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

- YES
- NO

If YES, please provide the links that business can access.

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