

立法會
Legislative Council

Ref : CB2/SS/7/03

LC Paper No. CB(2) 2740/03-04
(These minutes have been seen by
the Administration)

**Subcommittee on
Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling)
(Amendment) Regulation 2004**

**Minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 31 May 2004 at 8:30 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present :** Dr Hon LO Wing-lok, JP (Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Yung-kan
Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP
Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung
- Public officers attending :** Ms Vivian KO
Acting Deputy Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food
(Food and Environmental Hygiene)
- Dr Y Y HO
Acting Deputy Director (Food and Public Health)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
- Dr Thomas CHUNG
Assistant Director (Food Surveillance and Control)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
- Ms Carmen CHU
Senior Government Counsel
- Clerk in attendance :** Mrs Constance LI
Chief Council Secretary (2)5

Staff in attendance : Miss Kitty CHENG
Assistant Legal Adviser 5

Miss Lolita SHEK
Senior Council Secretary (2)7

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I Election of Chairman

Dr LO Wing-lok was elected Chairman of the Subcommittee.

II Meeting with the Administration

[Legislative Council (LegCo) Brief on the Regulation, LC Paper Nos. LS77/03-04, CB(2) 2548/03-04(01) to (03) & 2549/03-04(01)]

2. The Subcommittee deliberated (Index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
3. Members noted the summary of views received by the Administration during the consultation exercise on the proposed amendments in 2000 [Appendix I to LC Paper No. CB(2)2548/03-04(01)], and the concerns raised in the three submissions recently received from representatives of the retail trade [Annex to LC Paper LS77/03-04]. Some members expressed concern that other countries/places might not have implemented mandatory food labelling requirements based on CODEX standards and guidelines, similar to those proposed in the Amendment Regulation, and this would create practical difficulties for the retail trade to comply with the new labelling requirements.
4. Some other members expressed support for the requirement to provide additional information, especially that on allergens, to consumers in food labels. These members requested the Administration to provide information on whether the trade would be able to comply with the requirements in the Amendment Regulation.
5. The Subcommittee considered it necessary to strike a balance between the interests of all the parties concerned, including the consumers and the retail trade.
6. The Administration referred members to the information provided in the LegCo Brief on the Regulation, and elaborated on the consultation findings and practices in other countries. It also undertook to provide the following information as requested by members –
 - (a) the difficulties and concerns raised in those submissions objecting to the proposed amendments;
 - (b) whether the Administration had discussed the proposed amendments

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with the trade, and the Administration's response to the views and concerns raised by the trade;

- (c) countries/places (e.g. Hong Kong's trading partners) which had/had not implemented mandatory food labelling requirements based on CODEX standards and guidelines, similar to those proposed in the Amendment Regulation;
- (d) types and brands of alcoholic drinks which would be affected by the Regulation; and
- (e) clinical examples of allergies caused by allergens in food due to absence of information on the allergens in food labels.

II. Any other business

7. Members agreed to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 3 June 2004 from 11 am to 1 pm to receive views from representatives of the affected trades, medical associations and the Consumer Council, and to meet with the Administration.

8. Members also agreed that the Subcommittee Chairman should move a motion to extend the scrutiny period of the Regulation to 7 July 2004, to allow more time for the Subcommittee to scrutinize the Regulation and to report to the House Committee.

9. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:15 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
11 June 2004

**Subcommittee on
Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling)
(Amendment) Regulation 2004
Meeting on Monday, 31 May 2004 at 8:30 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action Required
0001-0110	Mr Fred LI Dr LO Wing-lok	Election of Chairman	
0111-0229	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Proposal to extend the scrutiny period of the Regulation	
0230-1005	Chairman Administration	Briefing on the Amendment Regulation	
1006-1834	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW Administration	Views received by the Administration during the consultation exercise in 2000 [Appendix I to LC Paper No. CB(2)2548/03-04(01)] Difficulties and concerns raised by the retail trade on the implementation of the labelling requirements proposed in the Amendment Regulation [Annex to LC Paper LS77/03-04]	Admin to provide additional information as per paragraph 6(a) and (b) of the minutes
1835-2104	Administration Mrs Selina CHOW	Implementation of mandatory food labelling requirements based on CODEX standards and guidelines, similar to those proposed in the Amendment Regulation, in other countries/places	Admin to provide additional information as per paragraph 6(c) of the minutes
2105-3042	Chairman Mr Tommy CHEUNG Administration	Invitation of representatives of the affected trades to give views on the Amendment Regulation Labelling requirements proposed in the Amendment Regulation on alcoholic drinks, and the types and brands of	Admin to provide additional information as per paragraph 6(d) of the minutes

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action Required
		alcoholic drinks affected by the Regulation	
3043-3252	Chairman Mr Tommy CHEUNG Mrs Selina CHOW Dr TANG Siu-tong	Date of next meeting to receive views from representatives of the affected trades and interested parties on the Amendment Regulation	
3253-3451	Administration Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Implementation of mandatory food labelling requirements based on CODEX standards and guidelines, similar to those proposed in the Amendment Regulation, in other countries/places	
3452-3916	Chairman Dr TANG Siu-tong Administration	The pre-packaged food products which would be affected by the proposed labelling requirements	
3917-4430	Mr Michael MAK Administration	Difficulties which would be encountered by the affected trades in complying with the proposed labelling requirements Cases of allergies caused by allergens in food due to absence of information on allergens in food labels	Admin to provide additional information as per paragraph 6(e) of the minutes
4431-4824	Mr WONG Yung-kan Administration	Implementation of mandatory food labelling requirements based on CODEX standards and guidelines, similar to those proposed in the Amendment Regulation, in other countries/places	
4825-010757	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW Administration Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Reasons for not conducting a Regulatory Impact Assessment on the Amendment Regulation Difficulties which would be encountered by the affected trades in complying with the	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action Required
		proposed labelling requirements	
010758-011428	Chairman Mr Fred LI Administration	Justifications for implementing the proposed labelling requirements to provide more information to consumers to safeguard their health The pre-packaged food products which would be affected by the proposed labelling requirements	
011429-011649	Dr TANG Siu-tong Administration	Difficulties which would be encountered by the affected trades in complying with the proposed labelling requirements	
011650-012513	Mr Michael MAK Administration	Mechanism to ensure compliance with the labelling requirements in the Amendment Regulation after its implementation	
012514-014129	Mr WONG Yung-kan Administration Mrs Selina CHOW	Difficulties and concerns raised by the retail trade on the implementation of the labelling requirements proposed in the Amendment Regulation	
014130-014524	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW Mr Tommy CHEUNG Mr Fred LI	Date of next meeting Deputations to be invited to give views on the Amendment Regulation	