

Proposed Regulation of Genetically Modified Food

基因改造食物的規管建議

12-3-2013

Purpose

- To brief Members on: -
 - Genetically modified (GM) food labelling system
 - Mandatory pre-market safety assessment scheme (PMSAS) for GM foods

目的

- 向委員簡述
 - 基因改造食物標籤制度
 - 針對基因改造食物的強制性銷售前安全評估計劃

What is GM Food?

- Biotechnology to modify the genetic make-up of an organism
 - Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- Any food which is, or is derived from, these GMOs is called “GM food”
- Most commonly planted GM crops: soyabean and corn

甚麼是基因改造食物?

- 利用現代生物科技改造了生物的遺傳物質
 - 基因改造生物
- 基因改造食物是指任何食物，本身是或衍生自基因改造生物
- 最常種植的基因改造農作物：大豆和粟米

Existing Regulatory Control

現時法例的規管

- Stipulated in the Public Health and Municipal Service Ordinance (Cap. 132), section 54
 - All food for sale must be fit for human consumption
 - Equally apply to GM and conventional food
- 《公眾衛生及市政條例》(第132章)第54條訂明
 - 所有供出售的食物必須適宜供人食用
 - 同樣適用於基因改造和常規食物

GM Food Labelling System (I)

- Labelling policy and system based on own situation of the country or place
- Regulatory Impact Assessment in 2002
 - Significant cost implications to the small and medium enterprises
 - Lack of international consensus

基因改造食物標籤制度(I)

- 各國和地區會根據本身情況而訂立標籤政策和制度
- 2002年的規管影響評估
 - 對中小型企業有重大的成本影響
 - 國際間未有共識

GM Food Labelling System (II)

基因改造食物標籤制度(II)

- “Guidelines on Voluntary Labelling of Genetically Modified Food” issued in 2006 by CFS
- Effectiveness evaluation study on the voluntary labelling scheme reported in 2008
 - Low level of use of GM material
 - No pressing need for mandatory labelling
 - Continue its efforts in promoting the voluntary labelling regime
- 食安中心於2006年發出《基因改造食物自願標籤指引》
- 在2008年的自願標籤制度成效評估顯示
 - 含有基因改造物質的食物只佔少數
 - 並無迫切需要推行強制性標籤制度
 - 繼續致力推廣自願性標籤制度

GM Food Labelling System (III)

基因改造食物標籤制度(III)

- In 2011, Codex stated that governments are free to decide on whether to label foods derived from modern biotechnology, including foods containing GM organisms
- Labelling should be carried out in conformity with the Codex's texts
- 食品法典委員會在2011年表示，各國政府可以自由決定是否標籤現代生物科技衍生的食物，包括含有基因改造生物的食品
- 標籤應符合食品法典委員會通過的文本

Enhancing Food Safety Control over GM Food (I)

加強對基因改造食 物安全的控制(I)

- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), GM foods currently traded on the international market have passed risk assessments and are not likely to be harmful to human health
- Will the situation be changed in the future ?
- 世界衛生組織指出，目前在國際市場上出售的基因改造食物已通過風險評估，不大可能對人類健康帶有害
- 未來情況會否改變？

Enhancing Food Safety Control over GM Food (II)

加強對基因改造食物安全的控制(II)

- Codex: Recommended to set up a regulatory framework for safety assessment of GM food; formulated different sets of guidance on the risk assessment
- PMSAS
 - Assess the risk of a GM food in comparison with its conventional counterpart
- 食品法典委員會：建議就基因改造食物設立規管架構，並制定各種風險評估指引
- 銷售前安全評估計劃
 - 把基因改造食物與其傳統品種比較從而評估其風險

Proposed PMSAS in Hong Kong (I)

香港擬推行的銷售前安全評估計劃 (I)

- Apply to GM food which consists of, or is derived from, GM microorganisms, plants and animals
- Would be submitted by biotechnology companies rather than the general food trade; minimal impact to trade
- Simplified process - provided that principles and approach similar to those of Codex are adopted
- 適用於本身是或衍生自基因改造微生物、植物或動物的基因改造食物
- 由研發基因改造生物的生物科技公司提出，而非一般食物業；對業界影響不大
- 簡化程序-如採用的原則和方法與食品法典委員會標準相若

Proposed PMSAS in Hong Kong (II)

香港擬推行的銷售前 安全評估計劃 (II)

- CFS would also devise suitable transitional arrangement for GM food that is already on the market at the time when the new PMSAS comes into operation
- GM foods that have not been approved for food use by other food safety authorities will take a longer evaluation period
- 在新的銷售前安全評估計劃生效前，食安中心會對市面上現有的基因改造食物制定適當的過渡安排
- 未獲其他食物安全規管當局核准可於食物內使用的基因改造食物評估時間會較長

Proposed PMSAS in Hong Kong (III)

香港擬推行的銷售前 安全評估計劃 (III)

- CFS will draw up a list of approved GM food and upload the list on its homepage for public and trade's reference
- Food manufacturers and importers are responsible for ensuring that their products contain only approved GM foods
- 食安中心會制定一份獲准基因改造食物的名單，並上載於中心網頁，供市民和業界參考
- 食品生產商及進口商須確保其產品只含有獲准的基因改造食物

Proposed PMSAS in Hong Kong (IV)

香港擬推行的銷售前 安全評估計劃 (IV)

- With the PMSAS in place:

- The transgenic information and certified reference materials for the GM plants concerned will be made available to CFS
- The Government Laboratory will be better equipped to further develop its capacity in testing GM-related products and enforce the law

- 銷售前安全評估制度一經落實：

- 食安中心能夠掌握有關基因改造植物的轉基因資料及有證標準物質
- 有助加強政府化驗所檢測基因改造產品的能力及執法能力

Advice sought

徵詢意見

- Members are invited to note the latest development in relation to GM food labelling and comment on the proposal to introduce a mandatory PMSAS
- The Administration intends to launch a public consultation on the issue in the second half of this year
- 請委員備悉基因改造食物標籤事宜的最新發展，並就擬議的銷售前安全評估計劃提出意見
- 當局擬於下半年就此事諮詢公眾的意見



~ 謝謝 ~
Thank you