PROPOSED CONTENTS OF THE DRAFT GUIDE ON LABELLING SCHEME ON NUTRITION LABELLING

To assist the trade in understanding the local regulations on nutrition labelling/nutrient-related claims and in formulating nutrition labels for the Hong Kong market, the Administration plans to issue a Guide on Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information¹. The Guide will consist of four main parts, namely background, nutrition labelling, nutrient-related claims, and appendixes. Proposed details of each part are as follows: -

Background

• Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information in Hong Kong

Nutrition Labelling

- Definitions
- Coverage and exemptions
- Information on nutrition label
 - → Energy and core nutrients
 - → Nutrient content expressions
 - → Rounding rules
 - → Recommended formats for nutrition labels (including examples of standard and simplified formats)
- Indirect analysis²
- Tolerance limits on nutrition information

Nutrient-related Claims

- Types of nutrient-related claims
- Table of conditions for nutrition content claims

¹ The Guide on Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information is not intended to be a legal document, i.e., it is not legally binding.

² Direct analysis will be covered in another set of guidelines which will focus on nutrient test methods.

Appendixes

- Codex Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling
- Nutrient Reference Values (NRVs) for Hong Kong

VIEWS SOUGHT

2. Representatives from the trade and laboratory services providers are invited to comment on draft content of the Guide on Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information.

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department June 2005