



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA**

Seventeenth session

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 22 – 26 November 2010

NUTRITIONAL ISSUES WITHIN THE REGION

(Replies to CL 2010/14-ASIA, part B of Indonesia, Philippines and Singapore)

Nutritional issues within the country or region such as: obesity, nutritional profiles, and any public health-oriented actions taken including the use of nutritional labelling and claims.

INDONESIA

Nutritional Issues : Underweight, Stunting, Wasting, Iron Deficiency Anemia (IDA), Vitamin A Deficiency (VAD), Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD), low coverage of exclusive breastfeeding, early breastfeeding initiation, NCD such as hypertension, obesity and diabetic.

Public health-oriented action: fortification, National Food and Nutrition Action Plan, School Feeding, Multi Micro nutrition Fortification and Balance Diet, Regulation on nutrition labelling and nutrition and health claims, and Regulation on exclusive breastfeeding.

PHILIPPINES

1) Nutritional Issues:

- Persistence of Micronutrient Malnutrition Problem: Iron Deficiency Anemia (IDA), Vitamin A Deficiency (VAD) and Iodine Deficiency Disorders – a survey on incidence has been carried out by the Department of Science and Technology – Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST-FNRI) and the Department of Health – National Center for Disease Prevention and Control (DOH-NCDPC)
- Increasing obesity
- Rising cases of degenerative diseases (coronary heart diseases, hypertension, diabetes, etc.) due to unhealthy lifestyle.

2) Public health-oriented actions

- A “Good for You” seal is proposed at food outlets, restaurants, etc. to encourage these outlets to offer nutritionally balanced food items in their menu. This proposal was made by the DOST-FNRI together with the Nutritionist-Dietician Association of the Philippines.
- Nutrition labelling is in some product labels but is not yet mandatory as it is difficult for SMEs to comply and substantiate label claims.
- Mandatory fortification of staple food (flour, rice, oil, sugar and salt) is required in the industry but there is difficulty of monitoring their compliance.

SINGAPORE

The Health Promotion Board (HPB) runs programmes aimed at improving the health of Singaporeans. These programmes include Nutrition Programme, Osteoporosis Education Programme and Workplace Health Promotion Programme. AVA works closely with HPB on programmes that are food related.

Details of HPB's programmes are available at the following website:

http://www.hpb.gov.sg/hpb/default.asp?pg_id=976

Singapore has in place legislation and guidelines for nutrition labelling and use of nutrition and health claims.