CURRENT STATUS OF NUTRITION LABELING AND HEALTH CLAIMS IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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INTRODUCTION

- Brunei import over 90% of its' food supplies

- 10% local food production – meat & meat products, fish & fish products and other delicacies

- Food Legislation
  - The Public Health (Food) Act, (Chapter 182)
  - The Public Health (Food) Regulations, (R1 Chapter 182)
  - The Fisheries Act (Chapter 61)
  - Fisheries (Fish) Processing Establishment Regulations (R1 Chapter 61)
FOOD CONTROL AGENCIES IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
• Department of Health Services
• Department of Scientific Services

MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES
• Department of Agriculture
• Department of Fisheries
• Brunei Industrial Development Authority

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
• Municipal Boards
• District Offices
FOOD LEGISLATION
Nutrition Labeling & Nutrition/Health Claims

The Public Health (FOOD) Regulations (R1 Chapter 182)
Note: available at MOH website: www.moh.gov.bn

Enforced on:
1st January 2001
13 (1) ‘No label shall contain any nutrition claim unless it also includes a nutrition information panel in the form specified in the Fourth Schedule or in such other similar form as may approved by the Director, specifying the energy value, the amounts of Protein, carbohydrates, fat and the amount of any other nutrients for which a nutrition claim is made in respect of the food.'
FOURTH SCHEDULE
NUTRITION INFORMATION PANEL

NUTRITION INFORMATION

Servings per package  (here insert no. of servings)

Serving Size:  (here insert the serving size)

per serving* or  per 100g (or 100ml)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>kcal, KJ or both</th>
<th>kcal, KJ or both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbohydrate</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(here insert other nutrients for which Nutrition claims are made or any Other nutrients to be declared)**
“nutrition claim” means a representation that suggests or implies that a food has a nutritive property whether general or specific and whether expressed affirmatively or negatively and includes reference to:

- a. Energy
- b. Salt, sodium or potassium;
- c. Amino acids, carbohydrate, cholesterol, fat, fatty acids, fibre, protein, starch or sugars; or
- d. Any other nutrients,

but does not include a statement of ingredients or a declaration/claim relating to vitamin or mineral
Regulation 16 (1)-(7)

- Claims as to the presence of vitamins and minerals
Regulation 16 (1) – Claim on presence of vitamins or minerals

Examples: “Contains Calcium”, “Added with Vitamin C”

The vitamins and minerals content per reference quantity of the product is ≥ 1/6 of the daily allowance as laid down in Table I of Regulation 16 (2)
Regulation 16 (2) – Claim that product is a rich source of vitamins/minerals

Examples: ‘High in Folate’, “Rich in Vitamin C”
“Enriched in Vitamin D”
“Fortified with Iron”

The vitamins and minerals content per reference quantity of the product is ≥ 50% of the daily allowance as laid down in Table I of Regulation 16 (2)
PROHIBITED CLAIMS

• False or misleading statement, word, brand, picture or mark

• Claims of therapeutic action or words of similar meaning declaration

• Claims which could be interpreted as advice of a medical nature from any person

• Claims that a food can prevent, alleviate or cure any disease condition affecting the human body

• Claims that health or an improved physical condition can be achieved
CHALLENGES & FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Challenges:
- Heavy reliance on imported foods
- Laboratory capacity
- Human resource – limited number
- Enforcement

Future Directions:
✓ To review regulations
✓ Human resource
✓ To strengthen enforcement