

~ Visits and Meetings ~

(1) The Consumer Liaison Group (CLG) convened its eighth discussion meeting in the evening of 27 February 2015 at the Communication Resource Unit (CRU) of Centre for Food Safety (CFS). The meeting was under the theme of “Proposed Regulation on the Nutrition and Health Claims on Formula Products and Foods for Infant and Young Children” and aimed to explore members’ opinion on the proposed regulation. Main points of the discussion were as follows:

Members’ opinion on enhancing the regulation of Formula Products and Foods for Infant and Young Children:

Most of the members agreed to enhance the regulation on formula products and foods for infant and young children. Some members viewed that the regulation on formula products should be more stringent, while the regulation on food for infant and young children could be more flexible. However, the legislative requirement must be very clear. Moreover, some members stated that the advertisement on formula product was not sufficiently controlled now, and hope the new legislation could

also control it. Some members opined that the new legislation should also cover formula product for elderly people.

Members’ views on regulating different claims:

Some members opined that the new legislation should list out those permitted claims and the manufacturers should provide scientific evidence to support claims. Other members suggested that manufacturers should substantiate the effect of ingredients added in the formula. Since the local situation may be different, some members hoped that manufacturers could conduct local clinical study to substantiate claims.

Members’ opinion on the grace period:

Some members opined that a 1-year grace period is enough, while other suggested a grace period of 1.5-year for traders to make the necessary arrangement.

Members’ opinion on advertisement of formula products:

A minority of members suggested that the consumer could make their choice based on their own judgment. However, the majority of members did not agree and some even suggested banning the advertisement for infant formula and foods. All members

agreed that breastfeeding should be encouraged and promoted by providing more facilities.

(2) The CLG convened its ninth discussion meeting in the evening of 24 & 28 July 2015 at the CRU of CFS. The meeting was under the theme of “Opinion on activities used to promote food safety and the reduction of salt and sugar in food”. The main points of the discussion were as follows:

Members’ impression on the CFS past activities: Majority of members was mostly impressed by the CLG meetings and activities. Other activities members could remember included Food Safety Day and video competition. Some members were impressed by other promotional activities, such as Facebook page, advertisement and pamphlets.

Factors influencing members to join CFS activities: Most members agreed that time and venue were important factors for them to consider participating the activity. Some members expressed that their participation was limited by the quota of people. Some members suggested that long-time CLG members should have

priority in joining the activity, while other strongly disagreed and stressed that all members should have an equal chance.

Members’ opinions on type of promotional activities: The majority of members opined that different types of activity should be organised for different target groups, especially primary students. Some members suggested organising activity in response to hot issues. Some members viewed that slogan for food safety should be added to the promotional materials and souvenir.

Members’ opinions on how CFS disseminates activity information: Most of the members opined that posting was the most reliable method and facilitated record keeping. Some members viewed that Facebook page was a good channel, while other felt there were too many information in the Facebook page and difficult to follow. Some members suggested using other channels, such as Whatsapp and Weibo, but many members worried about the privacy problem in using these channels and opposed the suggestion.

[Kong's Action on Salt and Sugar Reduction ~](#)

Food Safety Day 2015 was held on 26 June 2015. The theme of this year's Food Safety Day was "Hong Kong's Action on Salt and Sugar Reduction". The event aimed to raise public awareness about the importance of reducing dietary salt and sugar intake and encourage the public to develop a healthy eating habit with less salt and sugar. This year, the CFS organised the Salt and Sugar Reduction & Nutrition Labelling Video Competition on the same day. Details of the event and competition results have been uploaded in webpage below:

http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew_act/whatsnew_act_Food_Safety_Day_2015.html

[~ World Health Day 2015: Food Safety ~](#)

Every year, the World Health Organization (WHO) selects a priority area of global public health concern as the theme for World Health Day, which falls on 7 April, the birthday of the WHO. The theme for World Health Day 2015 was "Food Safety". WHO hoped to catalyse collective government and public action to put

measures in place that would improve safety of food from farms, factories, street vendors, and kitchens.

To promote the World Health Day 2015, the CFS organised different activities and established webpage for the event (http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew_fst/whatsnew_fst_World_Health_Day_2015.html). The WHO produced a short video on "Five Keys to Food Safety", including Choose Wisely, Keep Clean, Separate Raw and Cooked Food, Cook Thoroughly and Safe Temperature. The video was available at the following website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TV7ZH18Fcrg>



[~ Member Recruitment of the Consumer Liaison Group ~](#)

Everybody needs safe and nutritious food.



Would you like to give advice to enhance food safety and reduce salt and sugar in food? There is a chance now! Please join the CLG and help us to better understand the public opinion. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is now recruiting the 5th term members of the CLG, members of the public aged 15 or above are welcome to join. If you have any enquiries, please contact us at 2867 5147. Details of the recruitment are available at:

http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/committee/committee_clg_recruitment.html