Good Regulatory Practice - Regulatory Simplification: Development of Food Standards

Submitted by: Food Standards Australia New Zealand
GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICE

REGULATORY SIMPLIFICATION: DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD STANDARDS

Dr Trevor Webb
Food Standards Australia New Zealand

OVERVIEW

• Food regulatory system

• Standards setting process

• Good regulatory practice in food standards setting
FOOD REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Standards setting
FSANZ

Policy
Forum on Food Regulation

Implementation
NZ MPI
Aust States & Territories

THE FOOD STANDARDS CODE

Chapter 1: General Food Standards
- Labelling requirements
- Substances added to foods
- Maximum residue limits
- GM foods

Chapter 2: Food Product Standards
- Compositional requirements for specific foods

Chapter 3: Food Safety Standards (AUS)
- Food safety requirements for food handlers
  - Australia only

Chapter 4: Primary Production Standards (AUS)
- Standards for agricultural commodities
  - Australia only
Objectives for food regulatory measures:

- Protection of public health and safety
- Provision of adequate information … to enable consumers to make informed choices
- Prevention of misleading or deceptive conduct

Our food measures should also:

- Based on risk analysis using best available scientific evidence
- Promote consistency in domestic and international standards
- Efficient and internationally competitive food industry
- Promotion of fair trading in food
- Written policy guidelines
RISK ANALYSIS

EVIDENCE

- Risk assessment
  - toxicology
  - microbiology
  - nutrition
  - dietary modelling
  - etc
EVIDENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Understand</th>
<th>Believable</th>
<th>Relevant</th>
<th>Trust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4% 3% 6% 25% 65%</td>
<td>1% 3% 12% 31% 53%</td>
<td>58% 11% 11% 8% 12%</td>
<td>2% 4% 17% 36% 42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not at all | Very

NOT SUITABLE AS A COMPLETE MILK FOOD FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF TWO YEARS

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION
GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICE IN FOOD STANDARDS SETTING

- Have regard
  - Whether costs … outweigh the direct and indirect benefits to the community, Government or industry…
  - Whether other measures … would be more cost-effective

GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICE IN FOOD STANDARDS SETTING

- principles for best-practice regulation
- guidance for undertaking regulatory impact assessment
- preparation of Regulatory Impact Statement
GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICE

1. Establish a case for action
2. Assess range of options
3. Impact analysis (may include CBA)
4. Select option that delivers greatest net benefit for community

REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT

- RIS required unless minor changes
- non-regulatory options considered
- publication
- external compliance review
- annual reporting
IMPORT MRL GUIDELINES

- APEC FSCF publication developed by member economies
- Steering group
- 2 independent expert workshops facilitated by Australia

Dimethomorph-grapes
IMPORT MRL GUIDELINE

- Facilitates the processing of import MRL requests
- Demonstrates a process that could be followed to assess and align import MRLs
- Uses science based risk assessment approaches to ensure public health and safety

CONCLUSION

- Key elements of GRP in food standards
  - Risk analysis
  - Evidence
  - Regulation impact assessment
  - Stakeholder consultation and engagement