



# FIA CHINA WORKING GROUP MEETING

09 April 2021



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# COMPETITION LAW CAUTION

“

**All meetings of Food Industry Asia (FIA), including this one, shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant competition and antitrust laws. Members shall not enter into any discussion, activity or conduct that may infringe any applicable law.**

By way of example, participants shall not discuss, communicate or exchange any commercially sensitive information, including non-public information relating to prices, marketing and advertising strategy, costs and revenues, trading terms and conditions with third parties, including purchasing strategy, terms of supply, trade programmes or distribution strategy.

This applies not only to discussions in formal meetings but also to informal discussions before, during and after meetings. Should the meeting discuss matters that fall outside of FIA's legal remit or contravene its competition law policy, the Chairman will close the meeting.

”

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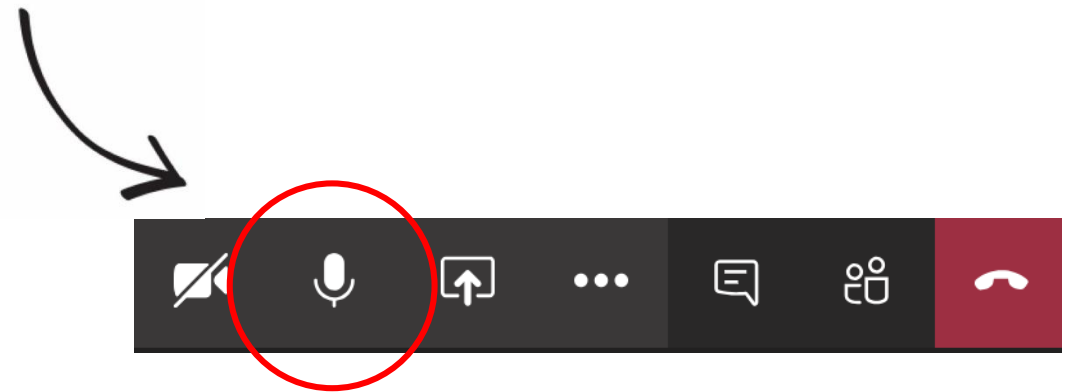
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# HOUSEKEEPING RULES

To minimise interruptions during this meeting, please **mute your mic** when not speaking.

When speaking, kindly **identify yourself and your organisation.**

This meeting will be **recorded.**



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# APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING-05 FEBRUARY 2021

**Action 1:** The Secretariat to prepare communication and engagement plan for Reformulation Study. (**Completed**)

**Action 2:** The Secretariat will follow up with CFIC on the potential collaboration on the nutrition labelling study. (**ongoing**)

**Update:** The nutrition labelling study has been put on hold by CFIC. While the launch of dietary guidelines will be happening in May 2021, CFIC will prioritise the efforts in promoting revised dietary guidelines. (**to be discussed under agenda 7 & 8**)

**Action 3:** COVID-19 Issue paper: The Secretariat to revise the issue paper by incorporating the concerns received and reach out to the relevant stakeholders in China to advocate on the issue. (**Completed**)

**Action 4:** The Secretariat will send out meeting invites for China Working Group's call in Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2021. (**Completed**)

**Action 5:** Secretariat will circulate a survey form with members to identify the working priorities and plan for the China Squad from 2021 to 2023. (**Completed**)

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# 中国 WTO/TBT 国家通报咨询中心答复 – 已采纳

## 2.4.4 总糖及添加糖

**FIA:**总糖指的是所有在食物里的单糖和双糖。

添加糖包括在食品加工过程中添加到食品中的糖（如蔗糖、葡萄糖和果糖），包装为甜味剂的食品，糖浆和蜂蜜中的糖，以及浓缩果汁或蔬菜汁中的糖。它们不包括在牛奶，水果和蔬菜中发现的天然糖。

**WTO/TBT:** 最新修订版中糖的定义将改为：

指来自于所有食品来源、可测定获得的游离单糖、双糖之和，包括葡萄糖、果糖、半乳糖、蔗糖、麦芽糖、乳糖等，不包括糖醇。

## 4.0 强制标示内容

**FIA:** 4.5 预包装食品中能量和营养成分的含量应以每100 克（g）和（或）每100 毫升（mL）可食部中的具体数值来标示，或以每份可食部中的具体数值来标示，每份食品的质量或体积可参考附录E。

**WTO/TBT:** 最新修订版中4.5 将改为：

预包装食品中能量和营养成分的含量应以每100克（g）、每100毫升（mL）和（或）每份可食部中的具体数值来标示；以每份可食部中的具体数值标示时，应在同一版面标明出每份食品的质量或体积。

附录：

- 对于无能量的含量声称方式修改为“无能量或无卡或无卡路里”。
- 增加营养成分功能声称标准用语：维生素C有助于维持免疫系统的正常生理功能。
- 取消汤料的推荐份量。市场上汤料的产品种类繁多，比如有些汤料包括蔬菜等食材重达上百克有些则不包括，而且各种汤料的使用方法也是五花八门，有些蔬菜汤料就是一包就是一次冲调使用的量，有些是直接供一人食用有些则是供几人分食，因此推荐的份量没有意义也没有执行的可行性。

## 6.4 营养成分的标示和表达方式

**FIA:** 6.4 营养成分含量标示值的确定，可以依据采用现行有效的国家标准方法测定获得，也可根据配方原料组成间接利用《中国食物成分表》计算获得。判定营养成分表标示值的准确性时，应考虑确定标示值的方法。

**WTO/TBT:** 最新修订版中6.4 将改为：6.4 营养成分含量标示值的确定，可以依据采用现行有效的国家标准方法测定获得，也可根据配方原料组成利用《中国食物成分表》及其他来源可信的数据计算获得。判定营养成分表标示值的准确性时，应考虑确定标示值的方法。

## 7 豁免强制标示营养标签的预包装食品

**FIA:** 在“7 豁免强制标示营养标签的预包装食品”章节中的“散装食品或现制现售食品”修改为“散装食品、以计量方式销售的带包装食品或现制现售食品”。

**WTO/TBT:** 最新修订版中在“7 豁免强制标示营养标签的预包装食品”章节中的“散装食品或现制现售食品”修改为“通过计量方式销售的预包装食品”。

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# COVID-19: ISSUE PAPER ON SAFETY OF IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS IN CHINA

## KEY MESSAGES FROM ISSUE PAPER

### Industry

While there is no evidence to support that COVID-19 can be contracted through food/food packaging, FIA recognises that there is a need for food industry (food manufacturers, restaurants, etc.) to adhere to the relevant standard operating procedure/work plan/protocols/guidelines set by the central and local authorities, as well as recommendations prepared by relevant international bodies. ([WHO & FAO Guidance for food business](#))

### Consumers

While food safety remains as a shared responsibility among government, industry as well as consumers. Consumers are advised to

- Follow the [WHO 5-Keys to Safer Food](#) in food handling at home.
- Obtain and share news from trustworthy sources, including official government websites, conference held by government authority, experts to avoid misunderstanding and spread of fake news.

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### Support recommendations by the international health and food safety organisation

As of now, there is no evidence COVID-19 can be contracted through food/food packaging. ([WHO, August 2020](#), [FAO](#), [CDC, December 2020](#))

- On 31 January 2021, Li Ning, the Deputy Director at the China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment shared that food samples tested positive for coronavirus doesn't mean they could lead to infectious, as the tests targeted the fragments of viral nucleic acids, and positive results could come from viruses that are alive or dead. No cases have been reported of consumers being infected with the coronavirus through purchasing or processing foods.

### Competent Authority

Competent authorities are encouraged to follow the interim guidance ([COVID-19 and Food Safety: Guidance for competent authorities responsible for national food safety control systems](#)) released by WHO on the recommendations to minimise serious disruption to national food safety programmes.

# COVID-19: ISSUE PAPER ON SAFETY OF IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS IN CHINA

## MAIN CHANGES

### Challenges faced by industry, including

- Unclear and impractical requirements
  - No further clarity regarding the recognised testing protocol, including testing method, timing, location
- Inconsistent/duplicated local requirements
  - Different and duplicative requirements raised by local/provincial/city authorities across China.
- Overly-stringent customer requirements.
  - Stricter requirements raised from customers in addition to authority.

### Respective solutions

Further suggestions under competent authority

- While unclear practices are requested, FIA suggests the authority to refer to the existing issued guidelines by the other local/regional/international authority.
- While different requirements have been requested by different authorities, FIA supports a more detailed and consistent implementation guidelines should be issued by the central government to prevent misalignment or mis-interpretation by the local authorities/business community.
- In response to the duplicate works of inspection and disinfection across different cities, FIA supports the concept of mutual recognition among the authorities in different cities to be considered in minimising the potential cost and risks associated with food safety.

# COVID-19: ISSUE PAPER ON SAFETY OF IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS IN CHINA

## Updates & Next Steps

- Members are able to use the material for engagement with relevant stakeholders.
- **EU Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EUCCI):** The EUCCI has been actively working on the issue and has been reaching out to the central and local authorities to raise similar concerns from the industry, however, not much changes have been observed after that. The EUCCI also welcomes FIA's support in this issue by providing a regional / international perspective.
- **CNFIA:** Not much activities rolled out by CNFIA.
- The Secretariat will share the finalised issue paper with EUCCI to discuss potential collaboration forward to address the concerns mentioned. Meanwhile, the Secretariat will continue to reach out to the other stakeholders in China (e.g. GACC, local industry partners) to socialise the issue paper.

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# CHINA REFORMULATION STUDY- KEY CONCLUSIONS

Consumers who had a better understanding of the nutrition concepts were willing to improve their dietary habits

Consumers recognise the importance of reducing the consumption of fat, salt and sugar in the diets. however, the awareness has not sufficiently translated to practice

Majority claimed to look at nutrition information on food product, with more than two-thirds looking at nutrition labels regularly

The lack of knowledge among consumers on the presence of “invisible salt” in food presents an opportunity for education campaigns focused on hidden salt in food

Home kitchens were identified as a key factor to influence healthier diets but its importance has been underestimated by consumers

Product familiarity, absence of additives, taste, nutrition information and the introduction of new, healthy products feature in the top four drivers of product choice

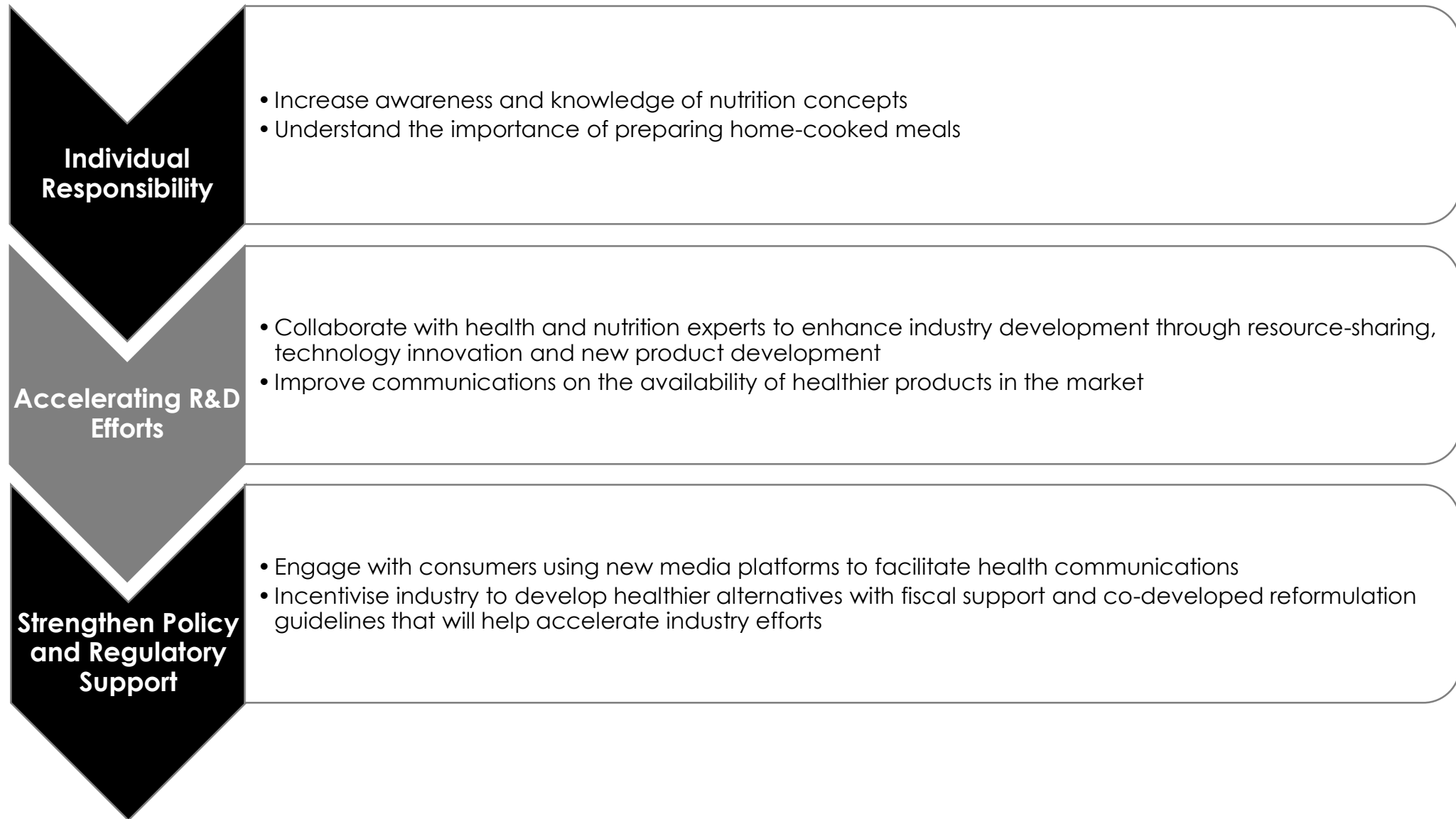
Poor market response to reformulated products is a key factor for food companies to employ a gradual approach to reduce fat, salt, sugar content in its products

Most companies noted that increased policy support from the government through fiscal incentives would nudge companies to carry out more R&D associated with reformulation.

While companies are delivering on healthier products, H&N experts believe that companies can accelerate its efforts with improved communications and engagement



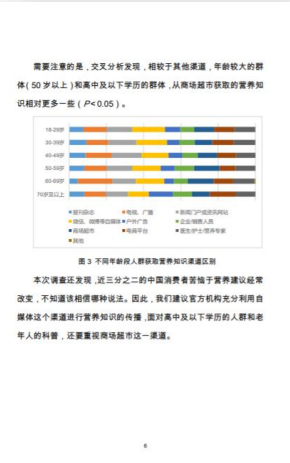
# CHINA REFORMULATION STUDY- KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



# COLLABORATION WITH CFIC: REFORMULATION STUDY

**Current status:** Reformulation report in English has been finalised and shared with CFIC.

	Activities	Timeline
Report Development	Design of Report	April, 2021
Report Launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FIA launching email</li> <li>Joint op-ed with CFIC on China's reformulation outlook</li> <li>JCM meeting in May (21 May 2021): Sharing of the report findings with FIA Members</li> </ul>	May, 2021
Stakeholders Engagement in China (Regulators & Academia, Industry)	<p>Webinar on report findings with regulators, key H&amp;N experts in China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report findings presented by CFIC, regional comparisons presented by FIA</li> <li>Insights of local regulators on reformulation plan in achieving goals set by Healthy China 2030, sharing from industry around the industry efforts on reformulation.</li> <li>Panel discussion with industry, key experts, regulators on the reformulation roadmap for China                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To strengthen consumer awareness/knowledge to improve food choices (nutrition labels, "three-reductions", home kitchens).</li> <li>Advocating for new policy support measures – Tax incentives/ R&amp;D grants and sharing best practices from other markets in Asia (e.g. SG/MY) &amp; technical support</li> <li>CNFIA: Reformulation guidelines</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	May – July, 2021
Local members support	Preparation of materials for members on the ground to share with the stakeholders during their local engagement	May – December, 2021



## 中国十大城市食品健康发展研究报告

### 3. 六成的消费者认为自己对“平衡膳食宝塔”概念很了解

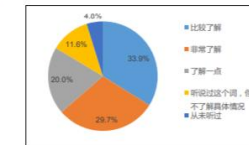
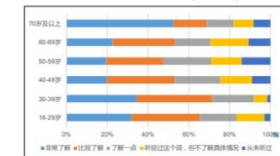


图 4 中国居民平衡膳食宝塔认知状况

63.6%的消费者认为自己对“平衡膳食宝塔”很了解（比较了解和非常了解）。交叉分析发现，女性比男性认知率高（ $P < 0.05$ ）；从年龄看，认知率最高的是 30-39 岁的中年人（ $P < 0.05$ ）；高中及以上学历对“平衡膳食宝塔”概念的认知率也较高（ $P < 0.05$ ）。



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# SURVEY WITH MEMBERS

Activities	Short Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2022)	Long Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2023)
<b>Health &amp; Wellness</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To keep members updated on the latest news/standards/regulations development related to Health &amp; Wellness aspects and contribute FIA recommendations when opportunities arise. Focus items from 2021-2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>China Nutrition Society: Chinese Dietary Guidelines (To be <b>launched</b> by May 2021), FOP Nutrition Labelling Industry Standard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal sharing with FIA members about the new Chinese Dietary Guidelines and its' similarities and differences as compared to the Dietary Guidelines for the key countries in Asia</li> <li>Inputs to support CNS in optimising the drafting of voluntary FOP Labelling standards when opportunity arises.</li> </ul> </li> <li>China National Food Industry Association: Reformulation Guidelines (To be launched by end of 2021)</li> <li>Draft Revised GB28050 National Food Safety Standard for General Rules of Nutrition Labelling of Prepackaged Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports FIA members regarding the implementation of revised GB28050. Sharing from the local law firm regarding the actual implementation, practice requested by revised GB28050, as well as the impact of revised GB28050</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Engagement and advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement with regulators and industry on reformulation topic <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share the China Reformulation Study and discuss follow up action based on the outcomes of China Reformulation Study</li> <li>Share industry reformulation efforts with regulators</li> <li>Support the development of reformulation guidelines established by CNFIA</li> </ol> </li> <li>Strengthen FIA Industry position <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the existing position papers related to Health &amp; Wellness</li> <li>Develop new position papers for other aspects, such as responsible marketing</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consumer: To guide consumers on the understanding towards various Health and Wellness aspects in supporting the China's ambition on Healthy China. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To strengthen consumer knowledge to improve food choices, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding towards nutrition labelling (e.g. invisible salt)</li> <li>Nudges towards the acceptance for reformulation</li> <li>Importance of home kitchens</li> <li>2021 Dietary Guidelines</li> <li>Three reduction</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Industry: To assist on the implementation of Reformulation Guidelines launched by CNFIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training workshop with industry, SMEs</li> <li>Roadmap for reformulation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Regulator: Advocating for new policy support measures (e.g. Tax incentives/ R&amp;D grants)</li> </ol>

# SURVEY WITH MEMBERS

Topics	Short Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2022)	Long Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2023)
<b>Smart Regulation &amp; Safe Food</b>	<p>1. To keep members updated on the latest news/standards/regulations development and contribute FIA recommendations when opportunities arise. Focus items from 2021-2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Revised GB7718 National Food Safety Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods</li> <li>• Draft Supervision and Management Measures of Food Labelling               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Supports FIA members regarding the implementation of revised measures. Sharing from the local law firm on the revised measures and its implementation</li> <li>◦ To promote harmonisation and coordination among different authorities to avoid misalignment between standards/measures (e.g. food labelling requirements)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• COVID-19: Measures regarding to the import of food products to China               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ To socialise the FIA position on COVID-19: Safety of Imported Foods Into China with relevant authorities and monitor the requirements for both in-country and regional level</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>2. Strategic Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulators roundtable 2021</li> </ul>	<p>To establish smart regulation engagement strategy for China in supporting the Opinions on Deepening Reform and Strengthening Food Safety which aim to build trust for food safety. Some of the components to be considered from the Opinions document, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Act of Strictness               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Setting rigorous standards</li> <li>◦ Implementing strict supervision</li> <li>◦ Applying severe sanctions</li> <li>◦ Adhering to strict accountability measures</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Social co-governance on food safety</li> <li>• Education and communication on food safety</li> </ul> <p>The smart regulation engagement strategy should cover recommendations to authority and roles &amp; responsibilities of industry could play in achieving the goal set under the Opinions on Deepening Reform and Strengthening Food Safety.</p>

# SURVEY WITH MEMBERS

Topics	Short Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2022)	Long Term Goal and Working Priorities (2021-2023)
<b>Sustainability</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To keep members updated on the latest news/standards/regulations development related to packaging &amp; sustainability aspects and to contribute FIA recommendations when opportunities arise.</li> <li>2. To conduct scientific and technological evaluation of rPET (<u>To be discussed</u>)</li> <li>3. FIA should act as the knowledge sharing partner to share with the regulators &amp; policy makers on the globe regulation framework and management system on rPET, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing of model standards for Food-Grade Recycled PET through industry-subject matters KOLs session by end of April, 2021.</li> <li>• Another sharing session for industry-regulators will likely be in July, 2021.</li> </ul> <p>The Model Standards consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptance criteria for Food-Grade Recycled PET Resin</li> <li>• Mechanical Recycling of PET into Food-Grade Recycled PET</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>To work collaboratively with the local partners in supporting the permitted use of rPET in China, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection and Quarantine Technology Center, Guangdong</li> <li>• Local Sustainable Packaging Working Group which jointly initiated by the Expert Committee of Food Contact Material of the China Food Industry Association and International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) Focal point in China,</li> </ul>

# SURVEY WITH MEMBERS

Topics	Suggestions
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• China GMO Regulation Improvement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Improve GMO Regulation</li></ul></li><li>• Infant formula registration<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Promote the scientific nature of infant registration management</li></ul></li></ul>

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# FIA REORGANISATION-PROGRESS UPDATE

2021

**JAN**

Proposed new structure

**FEBRUARY TO MARCH**

Collected members feedback on new structure and brainstorm solutions to address concerns and questions raised by members

**20 APRIL**

Briefing session with FIA members to sign off the new structure. Agenda of the session will include

- Feedback received from members on new structure and respective solution
- Finalised FIA structure and way of working
- Q&A session
- Next steps & sign off new structure

**END APRIL**

Identifying co-leads and members for Clusters and Squads.

**MAY-JUNE**

Formal launch of new structure during the JCM (will be changed to JCS) and agenda setting/workplan preparation with the Clusters and Squad

# IMPLICATIONS TO CHINA WORKING GROUP

## IMPLICATIONS

- Renaming of “China Working Group” to “**China Squad**”.
- The operation of the China Squads will be similar as its previous way of working.
- The China Squad should set up a **2-Year Strategy and Goal Plan** to be more targeted and strategic in driving the agenda forward as well as providing advices & supports to the Secretariat team.
- The **Co-Leads** of China Squad will get involved in the discussions at the relevant **Clusters** to enhance knowledge sharing and regional coordination.
- **Work in Progress:** restructuring to be formalized by April 2021.



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**THANK YOU**

