

Food and Food Standards (Food Labelling) (Amendment)
Regulations, 2019 (No. 2).

IT is hereby notified that the Minister of Health and Child Care has, in terms of section 27 of the Food and Food Standards Act [Chapter 15:04], made the following regulations:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the Food and Food Standards (Food Labelling) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (No. 2).

2. Section 5(1) of the Food and Food Standards (Food Labelling) Regulations, 2002, published in Statutory Instrument 265 of 2002 (hereinafter called the “principal regulations”) is amended as follows—

(a) by the insertion of a proviso in paragraph (g) as follows—

“Provided that no person shall change the dates of minimum durability on the label except with a written permission from the Secretary for Health.”;

(b) by the insertion of a proviso in paragraph (i) as follows—

“Provided the food or ingredient thereof contains at least one *per centum* (1%) Genetically Modified Components.”.

(c) by the insertion of the following paragraphs—

“(k) where artificial/non-nutritive sweeteners have been added, in the same font size as the product name, such phrase or word to indicate to consumers that the product contains sweeteners e.g. Diet Fruit Juice, Sugar-free Orange drink, Artificially Sweetened Cola etc:

Provided that, prior written permission has been granted by the Secretary for Health for use of such food additives. Products with aspartame must in addition to the above, shall be labelled “contains phenylalanine”. When such permission is granted, only artificial sweeteners on the list of permitted additives according to Statutory Instrument 136 of 2001, Sixth Schedule (Section 8) as well as others

permitted, and/or added to the list from time to time shall be used. Other conditions as in Statutory Instrument 136 of 2001, such as levels permitted for each food category must also be met. Applicants shall submit the label for approval by the Food Standards Advisory Board. No artificial/non-nutritive sweeteners shall be used in food particularly intended for children such as “freezits” and sweets;

- (l) where caffeine has been added to any energy and cola or any other soft drinks, the level of caffeine added, the level shall not exceed 150mg/kg or 150ppm;
- (m) the statements—
 - (i) contains gluten’ (where cereals containing gluten i.e wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or their hybridized strains and products of these have been used); or
 - (ii) contains crustacea and products; or
 - (iii) contains eggs and egg products; or
 - (iv) contains fish and fish products; or
 - (v) contains peanuts soya beans and products; or
 - (vi) contains milk and milk products; or
 - (vii) contains tree nuts and nuts products; or
 - (viii) contains sulphites (where concentrations exceeds of 10mg/kg) whenever the food contains in whole or part such respective foods or ingredients, as these foods cause hypersensitivity in some people and shall always be declared.”.

3. The principal regulations are amended in section 6 by the insertion of the following subsection—

“(3) Claims of micronutrient or nutrient fortification on any packaged food label are prohibited unless written permission has been granted by the Secretary for Health.”.

4. The Fourth Schedule of the principal regulations is amended by the deletion under Part A of the following—

“Sugars	Free	0.5g per 100g/or per 100ml”.
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5. The Fourth Schedule of the principal regulations is amended by the deletion of the whole of Part C and substitution of the following—

“PART C

NUTRIENT REFERENCE VALUES FOR USE FOR LABELLING
PURPOSE

Protein (g) 50
Vitamin A (µg) 800*
Vitamin D (µg) 5**
Vitamin C (mg) 100
Vitamin K (µg) 60
Thiamin (mg) 1.2
Riboflavin (mg) 1.2
Niacin (mg NE) 15**
Vitamin B6 (mg) 1.3
Folate (µg DFE) 400
Vitamin B12 (µg) 2.4
Pantothenate (mg) 5
Biotin (µg) 30
Calcium (mg) 1,000
Magnesium (mg) 300
Iron (mg) 14
Zinc (mg) 15
Iodine (µg) 150**
Copper Value to be established
Selenium (ug) 60
Mo (ug) 45
Mn (mg) 3.0

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Other

For the declaration of β -carotene (provitamin A) the following conversion factor should be used: 1 μg retinol = 6 μg β -carotene.

Conversion factors for niacin and folate equivalents

Vitamin Dietary equivalents

Niacin 1 mg niacin equivalents (NE) = 1 mg niacin

60 mg tryptophan

Folate 1 μg dietary folate equivalents (DFE) = 1 μg food folate

0.6 μg folic acid added to food or as supplement consumed with food

0.5 μg folic acid as supplement taken on an empty stomach

NRVs-NCD

Saturated fatty acids 20g

Sodium 2000 mg”