



GUIDANCE QUESTIONS FOR GROUP INTERACTIONS ON GM FOOD LABELLING POLICY DECISION

PART 1 – CONSUMER WELFARE

	QUESTION	ANSWER	REASON
1.	Should foods derived from GMOs and GMO derived ingredients be labeled as GM? Why?		
2.	What will labelling achieve?		
3.	What principle will be used for labelling; <i>proof-based</i> or <i>process-based and why?</i>		
Proof-Based Principle			
4.	What element (DNA and/or Protein) is targeted for labelling? why?		
5.	What is the threshold level above which labelling is required for the element(s) selected? Why?		
6.	Based on the reason provided at #4, categorize the target element for labelling as a mandatory or voluntary requirement under LI 1541 and Codex Standard for labelling of prepackaged foods; bear in mind the underlying principles for the mandatory and voluntary labeling requirements?		

Process-Based Principle

7.	How far down the ingredient development chain should the <i>process</i> (or modern biotechnology or GM) be identified for labelling? This will relate to refined ingredients and ingredients that have no genetic material and novel proteins though obtained from GMOs.		
8.	What principle should be used to classify food products to be exempted from labelling? why?		

PART 2 – SOCIOECONOMICS

	QUESTION	ANSWER	REASON
9.	Should the labelling option be mandatory or voluntary? why?		
10.	How will the choice at #9 impact local cultivation and sale of GM varieties in the development pipeline such as Maruca resistant cowpea, and nitrogen efficient, water efficient and salt tolerant (NEWEST) rice.		
11.	How will small and medium scale manufacturing companies be impacted by choice at #9?		
12.	How will choice at #9 impact promotion of biotechnology as driver for our agricultural sector in line with our current science and technology		

	policy?		
13.	How can negative impact(s), if identified at #10-12 be mitigated or ameliorated?		
14.	What will be the impact on Ghanaian importers who source products from countries with labelling policies which are different to the current consideration on labeling?		
15.	What is the feasibility of implementation, and impact on traders at the local markets for the choice at #9?		
16.	On account of #9 - #15 is there an alternate option to promote outcome of #2 and drive the modern biotechnology component of Ghana's Science and Technology policy.		

REVIEW RESPONSES FOR PART 1 & 2 for accuracy, reproducibility, consistency and fairness of the propositions, and propose a labeling policy.

NOTE: For questions that require technical or specialized competence or additional information to answer, note your general view and refer for expert opinion to define the terms or limits where appropriate.

Kindly submit electronic version of this form to biosafety@fdaghana.gov.gh

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