Childhood Obesity Prevention

Facilitating Healthier Lifestyle Through Standardization

Presenter: Stephen Farquharson
Technical Officer – Accreditation and Conformity Assessment

April 23, 2018
Background

CROSQ mandate applies
- Trade Facilitation
- Health and safety
- Environment

CROSQ experience on NCD Activities
- The development and implementation of the CRS on Labelling of Tobacco Products
- The development and implementation of the CRS Labelling of Pre-packages Food
LESSONS LEARNT: DEVELOPMENT

1. **Principles of standards development** - transparency, openness, consensus, and relevance - not well understood by all Stakeholders

2. **No NTC some Member States (MS)** - not all stakeholders would have been able to participate as a grouping in one setting

3. **Balanced representation** - various stakeholder groupings absent

4. **Inconsistent representation** - Not all MS participated through the entire five stages of the process - the participation of all MS is critical to the standards development process

5. **Conflicts of Interest** – conflicting opinions of Gov’t, Health Officials and Trade Officials

6. **Industry opposition** – Industry attempt to stymie/delay the production of the standard using subject areas professionals - lawyers, scientists, lobbyists etc

7. **Full compliance of COTED decision is needed by all MS for regional effectiveness**
CURRENT PLANS/STATUS: STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT (CRS 5)

➢ **CROSQ Council approved** the revision of the CRS 5 to include FOP
➢ **Suriname to host RPT for** the revision of CRS 5
➢ **Team being constituted to start in June.**

➢ **Support for Standards Processes** - UWI Cave Hill backing the FOP

➢ **Careful attention to formulation of RPT and NTCs by MS** – being constituted
  • Balanced representation
  • Competent representation
  • NMCs in all MS

➢ **Advisory Committee in place** - PAHO, CARPHA, HCC, UWI, OTN

➢ **Participation** - All MS encouraged to participate in the standards development process

➢ **Process Time** - Fast track process being use - Expected approval at May 2019 COTED

➢ **Approach** - Public consultations twinned with public awareness campaign and focus group discussions to reduce unnecessary and boisterous arguments
Regional Project Team (RPT) - SUR

Draft standard

Technical review (PAHO nutrition and legal teams)

Technical Advisory Group (TAG) (PAHO, UWI, CARPHA, OTN, HCC)

National Mirror Committee (NMC)

NMC comments on draft

RPT meeting - review comments

Public consultation on the draft

Consultations supported by TAG experts

Meeting of RPT to review comments

TAG to help review public consultation comments, with support from a consultant

Virtual voting by the Bureaus of Standard

TMC review and submits draft

CROSQ Council

COTED
CURRENT PLANS/STATUS: STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

➢ **CROSQ Council approves Standards** – The development of the Nutritional Labelling standards
  ➢ Jamaica to host the Nutritional labelling

➢ **Process** – Normal standards development process to be being constituted
  • Balanced representation
  • Competent representation
  • NMCs in all MS
  • Based on CODEX guideline and PAHO/WHO nutrient profile.

➢ **Advisory Committee in place** - PAHO, CARPHA, HCC, UWI, OTN

➢ **Participation** - All MS encouraged to participate in the standards development process

➢ **Process Time** - Expected normal 2 yr completion and approval at the May 2020 COTED

➢ **Approach** - Public consultations twinned with public awareness campaign and focus group discussions to reduce unnecessary and boisterous arguments
5 Success Factors

1. Technical Requirements
   - Standards
   - Technical Regulations

2. Conformity Assessment (CA) + Accreditation
   - Testing, Inspection and Certification services
   - measure of competency
   ***Need to resource the accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABS)

3. Competent Authority

4. Enforcement (administrative and judicial)

5. Awareness and Promotions
   - Marketing, communication, Education (formal and informal), training
CROSQ’s Strategy on Reducing NCDs

- **Harmonising relevant standards and QI policy framework:**
  - CRS 26:2012 CARICOM Regional Standard - Labelling of Tobacco Products
  - CSR5:2010 Labelling of Pre-Packaged Food – being revised to include FOP labelling with stricter labelling measures for NCD agents
  - Advertising of tobacco products - to facilitate regulating the marketing of tobacco products (however subtle) to children

- **Regional Quality Policy (approved by COTED)** – set in motion the guiding principles of a robust QI to inspect, measure, test, standardize, accredit and/or regulate industry players through a solid monitoring framework.

- **Provide a platform for promoting the regional QI institutions and their activities thereby raising awareness and supporting effective policy implementation**

- **Support MS through capacity building projects including training, equipment and appropriate guidelines implementing screening programmes and interventions for hazardous and harmful use of NCD agents**
Thank You!

Stephen Farquharson
Technical Officer – Accreditation and Conformity Assessment

CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards & Quality
2nd Floor Baobab Tower
Warrens, St. Michael
BARBADOS

+1-246-622-7670/85