



HCC Civil Society Action Plan 2017-2021: Preventing Childhood Obesity in the Caribbean Webinar Series

WEBINAR 2 CONCEPT NOTE

Pushing and Pulling: The Caribbean Experience Moving Towards Front-Of-Package Nutrition Labels

BACKGROUND

The HCC is pleased to announce this webinar series in support of the Civil Society Action Plan 2017-2021: Preventing Childhood Obesity in the Caribbean which consists of webinars intended to build the capacity of civil society organisations (CSO's) and other key stakeholders advocating for and implementing childhood obesity prevention policies in the region. The series highlights policies that encourage the creation of healthier food environments including healthy school policies, front-of-package warning labels and taxation on sugar-sweetened beverages. It also aims to build advocacy capacity for the promotion of physical activity among children and adolescents through the creation of active communities and countries. The webinars will showcase the experiences and lessons learned from obesity prevention advocates and highlight good practices in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies aimed at reducing childhood obesity and overweight in the Caribbean.

The webinar series targets a number of stakeholder groups, foremost of which are HCC CSO member organisations, in order to build advocacy capacity in this area. Secondary target groups include regional policymakers and technical personnel across various ministries (including health, education, finance, trade etc.), members of academia, international partners, the general public including students and the private sector. The series runs on the University of the West Indies Open Campus (UWI OC) platform featuring regional and global expert speakers. Each webinar includes a question and answer session intended to encourage and inform community discussion.

WEBINAR 2

The **objective** of this webinar is to **build public and policymaker awareness and support for the introduction of mandatory front of package nutrition warning labels in the Caribbean.**

The webinar entitled – “**Pushing and Pulling: The Caribbean Experience Moving Towards Front-Of-Package Nutrition Labels**”, examines regional multistakeholder efforts, experiences and perspectives related to the promotion of a CARICOM front-of-package nutrition warning label that assists consumers in making informed decisions about the nutritional content of pre-packaged food and beverage items in their shopping carts. The CARICOM region is currently engaged in an extensive consultative process around the adoption of mandatory Front-Of-Package (FOP) nutrition labels proposed in the revision of the **CARICOM Regional Standard Labelling of Foods -Pre-Packaged Foods – Specification, CRS5:201X** currently under development by the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSOQ). This webinar explores provisions for FOP nutrition labelling described in the revision of the CARICOM Regional Standard, provides updates on the regional standards adoption process, considers the PAHO Nutrient Profile and its application as it relates to FOP labels, makes the case for the “High In” FOP warning label, illustrates global country experiences in the implementation of FOP warning labels, shares government and civil society experiences advocating for FOP nutrition labels, explores diverse stakeholder perspectives and practical implications of the proposed scheme including the impact on regional trade.

DATE AND AGENDA

Date: Friday, June 21st, 2019

Location: UWI OC Platform Blackboard Collaborate

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. E.S.T.

Agenda

ITEM	SPEAKERS	PRESENTATION TOPIC	TIME
1	Sir Trevor Hassell, HCC	Introduction	5 mins (10:00 – 10:05 a.m.)
2	Dr. Fabio Da Silva Gomes, PAHO	Front-Of-Package Labelling	10 mins (10:05 – 10:17 a.m.)
3	Fulgence St. Prix, CROSOQ	Front-Of-Package Labelling changes proposed in the revision of the CARICOM Regional Standard Labelling of Foods -Pre-Packaged Foods – Specification, CRS5:201X	10 mins (10:17-10:29 a.m.)
4	Dr. E. Arthur Phillips, MOHW, Barbados	Front-of-Package Labelling: The Barbados Ministry of Health Experience	7 mins (10:29 - 10:38 a.m.)
5	Luis Galicia, Ministry of Health Uruguay	Front-of-Package Labelling: The Uruguay Government Experience	15 mins (10:38 -10:56 a.m.)
6	Vonetta Nurse, HFJ	Front-of Package Labelling: The Jamaican civil society experience	7 mins (10:56 – 11:04 a.m.)
7	Nicole Foster, HCC	Implementing Front-Of-Package Warning Labels in CARICOM: Trade and other Practical Considerations	7 mins (11:04- 11:13)

8	Maisha Hutton, HCC	Front-Of-Package Labelling: The Way Forward for the HCC	2 mins (11:13 - 11:15 a.m.)
9	Moderator Sir Trevor Hassell, HCC	Moderated Q & A with Webinar Speakers and Closing Remarks	15 mins (11:15-11:30 a.m.)

PRESENTATION DETAILS

Item 1 – Introductions Sir Trevor Hassell, President HCC

Content overview - 5 minutes

The importance of nutrition labels as a tool to improve health.

What are nutrition labels? What are FOPNL and why are they needed? How do they aid in nutritional literacy? etc.,

Item 2 – Presentation by Dr. Fabio da Silva Gomes, Regional Advisor in Nutrition, PAHO

Presentation Content Overview: 10 mins; 10 -12 slides.

- Overview of the role of FOPL in increasing nutritional literacy and types of FOPL models ultimately making the case for the “High In” Model which is proposed in the CARICOM Regional Standard.
- A brief overview of the PAHO Nutrient Profile and its application as it relates to FOPL proposed in the CARICOM Regional Standard on Labelling of Foods.
- Snapshot of the global status of implementation of the “High In” model – including a closer look at Canada.
- Address common industry arguments.

Item 3 - Presentation by Fulgence St. Prix, CARICOM Regional Organisation For Standards & Quality (CROSQ) Technical Officer, Standards

Presentation Content Overview: 10 mins; 10-12 slides

- What are Standards? Why Standards? Standards vs Regulation? Global context – ie. CODEX and absence of global guidance/position from CODEX. The Regional and National process. CARICOM Standards and proposed changes related to Front-Of-Package Labelling in the revision of CARICOM Regional Standard Labelling of Foods -Pre-Packaged Foods – Specification, CRS5:201X developed by CROSQ
- An update on the standards revision process including: What is the current process including the role and function of the National Mirror Committees (consensus, voting of stakeholders etc.); Where are we in the process? What are the entry points for advocates? What are the next steps?

Item 4 – Presentation by Dr. E. Arthur Phillips, Senior Medical Officer of Health (Non-communicable diseases) Ag., Ministry of Health and Wellness, Barbados

Presentation Content Overview: 7 mins.; 7-10 slides

- Sharing the Barbados MOH experience in advocating for FOPL nationally.
- Endorsement of the “High In’ FOPL model proposed in the revision of the CARICOM Standard.

Item 5 – Presentation by Luis Galicia, Consultant NCD Programmatic Area, Ministry of Health Uruguay.

Presentation Content Overview: 15 mins; 15-17 slides

- The Uruguay experience with FOPL – Focus the process of implementing FOPL in Uruguay.
 - Including the regulatory process, regulatory objective, proposal development, consultation process, industry response, process of implementation.

Item 6 – Vonetta Nurse, Advocacy Officer, Heart Foundation of Jamaica (HFJ)

Presentation Content Overview: 7 mins; 7-10 slides

- Overview of HFJ's Jamaica's experience advocating for the adoption of FOPL in the proposed CARICOM Regional Standard so far.
- Consider industry interference in the process including some arguments presented industry thus far and how HFJ has countered / evidence available that counters said arguments

Item 7 – Nicole Foster, Lecturer in Law; Attorney-at-Law; HCC Policy Advisor

Presentation Content Overview: 7 mins; 7-10 slides

A consideration of the impact of FOP labelling on trade. Essentially addressing the industry argument that using the 'High In' FOP labelling model could negatively affect regional trade.

Item 8 – Maisha Hutton, Executive Director HCC

Presentation Content Overview: 2 mins

- Quick overview of how the HCC will be moving forward with FOPL advocacy.

Item 9 - Q&A Moderated by Sir Trevor Hassell, President HCC – followed by Wrap Up

- Moderated Q&A begins with representative from the Antigua & Barbuda Diabetes Association – Juanita James – briefly sharing what the local CROSQ process has been like (2 mins). This sharing will kick off the Q&A session.

Wrap up and summary

- Upcoming webinars – Focus on advocating for healthy school policies – including adoption of bans/ restrictions on the sale and marketing of SSBs in and around schools.