



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Food and feed safety, innovation
Director

Brussels,
SANTE/E1/ [REDACTED] (2021)232853

Dear [REDACTED],

Subject: Market Advisory Council advice on Nutri-Score labelling of fish products

Thank you for your message of 10 December 2020 on the above-mentioned subject addressed to Ms Vitcheva, Director-General of DG MARE. As Director responsible for food information within DG SANTE, I have been asked to reply on her behalf.

I have taken good note of the Nutri-Score advice elaborated by the Market Advisory Council, as stakeholder-led organisation providing the Commission and Member States with recommendations on matters relevant for the EU market of fishery and aquaculture products. I have taken note of the recommendations, including the concrete suggestions for changing the algorithm of the Nutri-Score front-of-pack scheme, which would ensure better alignment with public health recommendations regarding omega-3 fatty acids. I would like to thank the Market Advisory Council for the constructive advice and recommendations.

As regards labelling of nutrition information on the front-of-pack, no harmonised front-of-pack nutrition label has currently been established at EU-level, but the EU legislation provides for that under certain conditions Member States can recommend, or food business operators can use, front-of-pack nutrition labelling. In this context, France, Belgium and Germany have adopted the Nutri-Score scheme and Luxembourg should adopt it as soon as the notification process to the Commission is closed. Spain and the Netherlands have announced the future adoption of the Nutri-Score label. Therefore, we suggest sharing your recommendations also with the responsible ministries of these Member States.

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The Farm to Fork Strategy announces that the Commission will prepare, by the end of 2022, a proposal for harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and preparatory work is ongoing.

The Commission will soon launch an impact assessment of the different policy options that will be considered. As a first step, the Commission published an inception impact assessment on 23 December 2020, which is open for public feedback until 3 February 2021¹. I would like to invite you to contribute to this consultation process.

During this year, stakeholders will have further opportunities to contribute to the process towards the Commission proposal for harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling.

I would like to thank you again for the Market Advisory Council recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Sabine Jülicher

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12749-Revision-of-food-information-to-consumers>