REPORT ON

REGULATION OF FOOD FORTIFICATION IN VIETNAM

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Prepared for

Food Fortification Initiative
Iodine Global Network
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**A – OVERVIEW OF FOOD SAFETY AND CONTROL SYSTEM IN VIETNAM**

Food in Vietnam is regulated by the Law on Food Safety (“LoFS”) and the Law on the Quality of Products and Goods (“LoQPG”). LoFS provides requirements on hygienic and safety criteria for all kinds of food, while LoQPG regulates the food quality responsibilities of food manufacturers, traders and importers (i.e. establishments). The Ministry of Health (“MOH”) is the coordinating and leading regulator on food regulation.1

General regulations on food safety comprise:
- Decree 382 - guiding Law on Food Safety;
- Regulations on the announcement of conformity;
- Regulations on general food safety conditions for food manufacturers and traders;
- Regulations on food safety certification;
- Regulations on labelling and advertising of food claims.

The list of related regulations is provided in the Appendix II of this Report.

1. **DEFINITION OF FOOD**

*Food* is defined as a product consumed by humans in fresh or raw, preliminarily processed, processed or preserved form. Food excludes cosmetics, cigarettes and other substances used as pharmaceuticals.3

LoFS also categorizes food into classes such as functional food, genetically modified food, irradiated food, micronutrient-fortified food, prepackaged food, food contaminants, food additive, fresh/raw food, and street food.

Micronutrient-fortified food (so-called *fortified food*) means food supplemented with vitamins, minerals, and trace elements in order to prevent or remedy the harm caused by the deficiency of these substances, to promote health of the community or a particular group in the community.4

*Micronutrients* refer to vitamins, minerals or other nutrients essential for growth, development and maintenance of a human body.5

There is no regulation that provides a definition of processed food, processed foods made with fortified ingredients, or food vehicles (for fortification). For the purpose of this report, *food vehicles* shall be understood as raw ingredient (i.e. salt, wheat flour, and vegetable oil) that, with added vitamins and minerals at defined levels becomes fortified food. *A processed food made with fortified ingredients* is a food made with a fortified ingredient as one of its inputs or raw materials. However, there is no regulation on processed food made with fortified ingredients, so the report shall have limited reference to this kind of food.

2. **FOOD QUALITY STANDARDS**

All foods in Viet Nam must conform to certain hygiene and safety standards. Currently, announcements of food conformity in Vietnam can be made on the basis of one of the following: (i) compliance with the national technical regulation (“NTR”), (ii) Vietnam

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1 Article 62 of LoFS and Article 70.2(a) of LoQPG.
2 Decree 38/2012/ND-CP of the Government dated 25 April 2012, providing guidance on some articles of the Law on Food Safety (“Decree 38”).
3 Article 2.20 of LoFS.
4 Article 2.22 of LoFS.
5 Article 3.1 of Decree 09/2016/ND-CP of the Government dated 28 January 2016, regulating the fortification of micronutrients into food (“Decree 09”).
national standard (“VNS”) or (iii) another quality standard announced by the manufacturer.

An NTR is defined as a regulation on the limits of technical characteristics and management requirements which products, goods, services, processes, the environment and other objects in socio-economic activities must comply with in order to ensure safety, hygiene and human health; to protect animals, plants and the environment; to safeguard national interests and security, consumer interests and other essential requirements. An NTR shall be promulgated by competent ministries, which comprises the different ministries that issue the NTR(s) within their scope of management.6 In case of food, an NTR shall be issued by the MOH after being assessed by Ministry of Science and Technology (“MOST”). When NTRs exist, it is mandatory that the food trader, manufacturer, or importer must use the NTR as a basis for applying for a Certification of Announcement of Conformity. If the application is found satisfactory, the relevant authority will issue an Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR Conformity.

VNS is proposed by a competent ministry and then assessed and issued by MOST. In contrast to NTR, the application of VNS is based on voluntary compliance. VNS are optional regulations that food manufacturers, traders and importers may use if there is no NTR for a specific food product. If food manufacturers choose not to use the VNS, they may instead use the food safety regulations or Codex’s standards7 to apply for an Announcement of Conformity until an applicable NTR is promulgated.8 This procedure of public notification is known as Announcement of Food Safety Regulations (“FSR”) Conformity. In terms of documentation, Certification of Announcement of FSR Conformity for the relevant food is granted to the food trader, manufacturer or importer.

The sequence and procedure to register conformity announcement is set out in section C.3.1 of this Report.

3. FOOD SAFETY CONDITIONS

There are two kinds of food safety requirements: one set that applies to food and another that applies to the process of manufacturing, trading, exporting, and importing of food.

Food in general must meet the specifications set by relevant regulations (NTRs, food safety regulations), meet limits placed on pathogenic microorganisms, residues of plant protection chemicals (pesticides) or veterinary chemicals, heavy metals, contaminants and other substances in food that may cause harm to human health and life. Depending on each type of food, specific kinds of food must comply with regulations on (i) use of food additives and processing methods in food production and trading; (ii) food packaging and labeling; and (iii) food preservation.9

In reference to fortified food, LoFS requires the raw materials to be safe and retain their inherent properties. The raw materials must not interact with each other to create products harmful to human life and health. Micronutrients must be added in quantity that does not risk negative effects to human life and health and the micronutrients must be on an approved list of MOH.10 Currently, there are fifteen micronutrients that may be added to

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6 Article 3.2 of the Law on Standards and Technical Regulation (“LoSTR”).
7 Article 3.2 Circular 19/2012/TT-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 09 November 2012, guiding Announcement Process of NTRs Conformity and Food Safety Regulation Conformity (“Circular 19”).
8 Article 3.2 of Decree 38.
9 Article 10 of LoFS.
10 Article 13 of LoFS.
foods under Circular 44\textsuperscript{11} of MOH, and only four of them are mandated for addition to specific food vehicles under the framework of Decree 09.

Prior to importing a food, importers must register a Certification of NTR/FSR Conformity Announcement\textsuperscript{12} for that food with the MOH; importers and traders must also have a Notice on Satisfaction of Import Requirements\textsuperscript{13} for each imported lot of food products. This notice is issued by the inspection agency under the relevant line ministry.\textsuperscript{14} Additional requirements that are relevant to imported fortified foods\textsuperscript{15} include the issuance of Free Sale (“CFS”) and Health Certificate (“HC”), which are regulated in Circular 52 of the MOH.

Food safety conditions applicable to exported food are stated in Article 41 of LoFS. Accordingly, exported food must satisfy general food safety regulations of Vietnam and comply with food safety regulations of the destination country and relevant international trade treaties. Depending on the requirements of the destination country, exported food must have a CFS, HC, Certificate of Exportation (CE),\textsuperscript{16} and/or Certificate of Origin (CO)\textsuperscript{17} issued by Vietnam authorities. Pursuant to Circular 52, the MOH has authority to issue CFS,\textsuperscript{18} HC and CE. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (“MARD”) and Ministry of Industry and Trade (“MOIT”) also have the authority to issue CFS for food products under their management (as stated in Decision 10\textsuperscript{19} and Appendix II and III of Joint Circular 13). The MOIT and Vietnam Custom are the competent authorities to grant various types of CO based on the request from Vietnam exporters.\textsuperscript{20}

General standards on hygiene and safety that are applicable to manufacturers and food traders are regulated in Circular 15\textsuperscript{21} of MOH. This Circular details requirements on manufacturing, storage and sale facilities, food processing equipment, training and health certificate of owner and employees who directly processing food and/or carry on food businesses. In terms of fortified food, the MOH introduced Circular 16\textsuperscript{22} to provide specific conditions on manufacturing and trading of fortified food. However, provisions concerning fortified food in Circular 16 do not add new requirements but repeat what are mentioned in Article 10 and 13 of LoFS and Article 1 to 4 of Circular 15 – that is Circular 16 treats fortified food the same manner as other foods in terms of licensing and permit requirements.

\textsuperscript{11} Circular 44/2015/TB-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 30 November 2015, providing “List of micronutrient fortifying into foods” (“Circular 44”).

\textsuperscript{12} Article 38.1(a) of LoFS.

\textsuperscript{13} In term of products under authority of MOH, procedure to grant this notice is ruled by Circular 52/2015/TB-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 21 December 2015, regulating state inspection of imported food safety, and applications and procedures for grant of certificate of export to exported foods under the management of the Ministry of Health (“Circular 52”). Agencies of MOIT and MARD shall respectively apply Circular 28/2013/TB-BCT of Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 6 November 2013, on regulating the state inspection of imported food safety under the management of MOIT (“Circular 28”) and Circular 34/2014/BNNPTNT of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development dated 31 October 2014, guiding the quality inspection of imported salt (“Circular 34”).

\textsuperscript{14} Article 38.1(b) of LoFS.

\textsuperscript{15} Certification of Exportation.

\textsuperscript{16} Certificate of Origin.

\textsuperscript{17} MOH issues CFS for food products under its management (Appendix I of Joint Circular 13/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT by Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 9 April 2014, allocation of tasks and cooperation among regulatory agencies on food safety management (“Joint Circular 13”)).

\textsuperscript{18} Decision 10/2010/QD-Ttg of the Prime Ministry dated 10 February 2010, certificates of fee sale for exports and imports (“Decision 10”).

\textsuperscript{19} Decree 19/2006/ND-CP of the Government dated 20 February 2006, detailing the provisions of the commercial law on goods origin (“Decree 19”).

\textsuperscript{20} Circular 15/2012/TB-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 12 September 2012, on general condition to ensure food safety for food production and business facilities (“Circular 15”).

\textsuperscript{21} Circular 16/2012/TB-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 22 October 2012, on food safety conditions applicable to manufacturing and trading food, equipment, and materials for wrapping and storing food under the management of the Ministry of Health (“Circular 16”).
If manufacturers and traders of food meet the said requirements in Circular 15 and Circular 16, they will be granted a Certification on Food Safety Satisfaction (for the establishment and facility of the manufacturer or the trader) as regulated in Circular 26 of MOH. Content of this procedure is provided in Section C.3.2 of this Report.

4. LABELING AND ADVERTISEMENT

Requirements on labeling of processed food and food additives circulated for use in Vietnam are provided in Joint Circular 34. Food labelling includes compulsory and non-compulsory information.

Food labels must show the following: product name; composition; product quantity; date of manufacture; shelf-life and preservation instructions; usage instruction; name and address of manufacturer and trader, individuals taking responsibility for the product; country of origin; number of Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR/FSR Conformity; and recommendations and warnings on food safety.

If the food is a “functional food”, the label must also have the phrase “thuc pham chuc nang” (functional food) and should not recommend substituting curative medicines. The phrase “phu gia thuc pham” (food additives) and information on the scope of use, dosage, and usage instructions must be shown. For irradiated food, the phrase “thuc pham da qua chieu xa” (irradiated food) must be written and the phrase “thuc pham bien dot gen” (genetically modified food) must be added for certain kinds of genetically modified food.

Article 43 of LoFS requires advertised food content to be certified by the competent authority before publishing. The manufacturer, trader or advertising service provider must submit an application dossier to MOH or MOIT to register advertisement content. Details of these procedures are mentioned in Section C.3.3 of this Report.

5. INSPECTION AND RECALL

According to Article 67 of the LoFS, food safety inspection activities focuses on the following matters:

(i) Compliance with technical standards and food safety regulations applicable to the food manufacturer or trader;
(ii) Compliance with announcement of conformity for the food;
(iii) Advertising content and labeling of food;
(iv) Activities related to certification and registration of announcement of conformity and food safety testing.

If the result of inspection process shows any non-compliant activity or performance, an inspector is entitled to fine or impose penalty according to Decree 178 on food safety conditions and Decree 80 on product quality. The maximum amount of administrative fine is seven times the value of food products in violation, determined by the relevant authority. The authority to conduct food safety inspection activities are shared between

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24 Article 5.1 of Joint Circular 34.
25 Article 44.2 of LoFS.
26 Decree 178/2013/ND-CP of the Government dated 14 November 2013 on penalties for administrative violations in food safety ("Decree 178").
27 Decree 80/2013/ND-CP of the Government dated 19/7/2013 on penalties for administrative violations in product standards, measurement, and quality ("Decree 80").
three ministries and allocation of authority is mainly based on the list of products managed by each ministry (provided in the Appendices of Joint Circular 13).

Product recalls can be conducted on a voluntary basis by manufacturers/traders or as sanctioned penalties. Food products must be recalled under the following conditions:\(^28\):

(i) Foods which are still marketed after their shelf life;
(ii) Foods not conforming with relevant technical regulations;
(iii) Foods developed using new technology without obtaining a circulation permit;
(iv) Foods which are contaminated during preservation, transportation or trading;
(v) Foods which contain substances banned from use or in which contain contaminants in excess of the allowable limits; and
(vi) Imported foods that have been identified by a competent authority of the exporting country, another country, or an international organization that such foods contain contaminants harmful to human health and life.

Non-compliant producers and traders must publish information on recalled products, recall and dispose of unsafe foods within the time limit decided by a corresponding agency, and pay all recall and disposal expenses. After the prescribed time limit, food producers and traders that fail to recall foods will be forced to make the recall and subject to serious penalties if there is a failure to comply.\(^29\)

**B – FOOD FORTIFICATION DECREES**

Decree 09 issued on 28 January 2016 imposes mandatory requirements for food fortification. Decree 09 is short, with 10 articles and four pages, and is an attempt of the Government to improve public health and standardize governance on food fortification.

Decree 09 sets out briefly the roles of the MOH, MARD and MOIT and other local authorities to implement this compulsory food fortification program and reinforces current technical standards and food safety conditions.

1. **KEY CONTENTS**

1.1 **Applicable Products**

Compulsory micronutrients under Decree 09 are iodine, iron, zinc, and vitamin A, for the addition to three food vehicles: wheat flour, oil, and salt. Iodine is to be added to salt, iron and zinc added to wheat flour, and vitamin A added to vegetable oil. The addition of compulsory micronutrients applies to the mandatory food items including:

(a) salt used directly as a food and in commercial food processing
(b) wheat flour used in food processing (including at the household) and
(c) vegetable oil, containing soybean, palm, rapeseed or peanut oil, except for vegetable oil used in commercial food processing.

The Decree requires both micronutrients and fortified foods to satisfy NTRs and comply with regulations on food safety.\(^30\) In other words, it requires all salt, wheat flour and vegetable oil to be fortified and comply with NTRs whereas previously the NTRs for fortified salt, wheat flour and vegetable oil were only applicable if the food was fortified.

Currently, the MOH has issued six NTRs related to micronutrients, but an NTR for Vitamin A has yet to be issued. For the micronutrients with an NTR, the manufacturer, trader and importer is required to apply for a certificate of Announcement of NTR Conformity. In case

\(^{28}\) Article 55.1 of LoFS.
\(^{29}\) Article 55.2 of LoFS.
\(^{30}\) Article 5.2 and 6.2 of Decree 09.
of Vitamin A, an Announcement of FSR Conformity is made until a relevant NTR is issued (according to explanation on Section A.2 of this Report).

Table 1: Existing NTRs for Micronutrients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>NTR Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zinc</td>
<td>QCVN 3-1:2010/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folic acid</td>
<td>QCVN 3-2:2010/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>QCVN 3-3:2010/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>QCVN 3-4:2010/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnesium</td>
<td>QCVN 3-5:2011/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iodine</td>
<td>QCVN 3-6:2011/BYT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of fortified food, two NTRs have been proclaimed by the MOH - QCVN 9-1:2011/BYT for iodised salt and QCVN 9-2: 2011/BYT for fortified wheat flour and vegetable oil. According to Article 6.2 of Decree 09, all salt, all wheat flour and vegetable oil (excluding oil in commercial food processing) must be fortified and therefore must meet its NTR. In other words, food grade salt must be fortified and meet QCVN 9-1:2011/BYT, and vegetable oil used in the home and all wheat flour must be fortified and comply with QCVN 9-2: 2011/BYT. Prior to Decree 09, as noted above, salt, wheat flour and vegetable oil only needed to meet these NTRs if the foods were fortified. Prior to Decree 09, non-fortified salt, wheat flour and vegetable oil could meet existing VNS or other standards.

Under Decree 09, the MOH accepts declarations of conformity and issues certificates of conformity with the regulations on food safety for imported fortified food31. The local departments of health receive declarations of conformity and issue certificates of conformity with the regulations on food safety in regards to manufactured fortified food in its local jurisdiction32. From the above regulations, we understand that the fortified food is required to be registered or certified for its announcement of NTR/FSR conformity with the MOH (for imported fortified food) or local department of health (for domestically manufactured fortified food). According to Decree 09 the fortification of salt is compulsory from 15 March 201733, while the fortification of wheat flour and vegetable oil is compulsory from 15 March 2018. This means that after the said period, it is compulsory to announce conformity for iodised salt/fortified vegetable oil/fortified vegetable oil according to NTR (if available) or FSR.

Table 2: Existing NTRs for fortified foods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fortified food</th>
<th>NTR Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iodised salt</td>
<td>QCVN 9-1:2011/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortified vegetable oil</td>
<td>QCVN 9-2: 2011/BYT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortified wheat flour</td>
<td>QCVN 9-2: 2011/BYT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is noted that Decree 09 does not set any requirements for technical standards or food safety conditions for the food vehicle (as opposed to the fortified food). There are no NTRs for the relevant food vehicles (i.e. salt, wheat flour, and vegetable oil), but manufacturers, traders or importers may voluntarily rely on relevant VNS of salt, wheat flour, and vegetable oil to apply for a Certificate of Announcement of FSR Conformity.

Table 3: Existing VNSs for food vehicles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food vehicle</th>
<th>VNS Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>TCVN 9639: 201334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>TCVN 9638: 201335</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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31 Article 7.1(b) of Decree 09.
32 Article 8.2 of Decree 09.
33 Article 10.2(a) of Decree 09
34 Refined salt use for food processing, medical, and industrial purpose.
Based on Article 9.1 of Decree 09, it can be interpreted that imported micronutrients and imported fortified food are also applicable products under the mandate of Decree 09.

Decree 09 does not apply to fortification of foods that are exported.\(^{38}\)

Non-commercial salt producers at the household level are not required to iodize salt during production.\(^{39}\)

### 1.2 Enforcement Schedule

Mandatory fortified salt will start on 15 March 2017, while fortification of wheat flour and vegetable oil will commence on 15 March 2018.

Unfortified salt, wheat flour, or oil are permitted to be traded after the mandatory start dates if the food products were manufactured, marketed, or imported before the effective date of Decree 09.

### 2. RESPONSIBLE MINISTRIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

#### 2.1 Ministry of Health

The MOH plays a critical role in the implementation and enforcement of Decree 09. The MOH’s responsibilities are set out below:

(i) Implementing food safety requirements for micronutrients during production, trading and importation.

(ii) Proclaiming NTRs for micronutrients and fortified foods.

(iii) Assessing and accepting Announcement of NTR/FSR Conformity\(^{40}\) for domestically produced/imported micronutrients and imported fortified food (including wheat flour and oil).

(iv) Issuing Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction to establishments and facilities of micronutrient manufacturers and traders.

(v) Approving the advertised content of micronutrients (domestic produced or imported) and imported fortified food.

(vi) Organising the inspection procedure and monitoring compliance of micronutrient manufacturer and traders; unannounced inspecting and checking of manufacturers, traders and importers of fortified food under management of other ministries.\(^{41}\)

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35 Unrefined sodium chloride made by evaporation method and can be used as raw material to produce refined salt or for industrial salt.

36 Industrial salt (used as raw material for industrial use)

37 Food grade salt.

38 Article 2, point 2 of Decree 09/2016

39 Article 2, point 2 of Decree 09/2016

40 See section A.2 of this Report.

41 Article 26.3 of Decree 38 provides circumstances that MOH shall undertake unannounced inspection, such as (i) under direction of the Prime Minister or the Head of the central interdisciplinary steering committee on hygiene and food safety, (ii) upon detection of violations of food, food additives, food processing supporting substances, tools, packaging materials, food containers that may cause serious effects to the health of...
(vii) Chairing and organising the implementation of food fortification regulations.
(viii) Providing accurate and scientific information on the role and effect of fortified food.
(ix) Educating and disseminating policies and regulations on food fortification and harmfulness of the insufficient consumption of fortified food.

The Vietnam Food Administration ("VFA") assists the MOH in implementing all the matters listed above.\(^4\) It is noted that Decision 4062 (ruling function, responsibility, and authority of Vietnam Food Administration) was promulgated before Decree 09, but it is still currently used as the basis to allocate authority between MOH’s agencies even for fortified food. The authority levels may differ when implementing regulations are introduced to guide Decree 09.

2.2 Ministry of Industry and Trade

Article 7.2(a) of Decree 09 provides that the authority of the MOIT is limited to ensuring the food safety (of the process/establishment) of production, trading and importation of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil under its management. Meanwhile, according to the list of products within authority of the MOIT stated in Appendix II of Joint Circular 13, food safety management (standards of the food) of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil are controlled by the MOH. In addition, the MOIT has authority to manage domestically produced, imported and exported wheat flour and vegetable oil (unfortified).

The MOIT’s responsibilities are below.
(i) Providing approval on food content advertising for fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil.
(ii) Granting Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction to manufacturers and traders of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil.
(iii) Organising food safety regulation compliance inspections of manufacturers and traders of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil against the food safety regulation.

The Department of Science and Technology is in charge of items (i) and (ii) in most cases. The Department of Market Management implements item (iii).\(^4\)

2.3 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The MARD controls the food safety process of production, trading and importing of fortified (and non-fortified) salt that is domestically produced, imported, and exported.

The MARD’s responsibilities are below.
(i) Providing approval on food content advertising for fortified salt,
(ii) Granting Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction applicable to establishment and facility of the manufacturer and trader of fortified salt, and consumers; (iii) when there is a difference in the conclusions of the inspection of the ministries managing branches; and (iv) at the request of the ministries managing branches, sectors.

\(^4\) Decision 4062/QĐ-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 22 October 2012, ruling function, responsibility, and authority of Vietnam Food Administration ("Decision 4062").

\(^4\) Presentation of Dr. Nguyen Phu Cuong, Director of the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Trade in the disseminating seminar held on 22 and 23 June 2016 in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, provided to Asia Counsel by FFI via email.
(iii) Organizing food safety regulation compliance inspections of manufacturers and traders of fortified salt.

2.4 Local Authorities

The local People’s Committee implements food safety management with the assistance of the local departments of health, industry and trade, and agriculture and rural development. The local People’s Committee may issue particular regulations and/or local technical standards for food products within its geographical jurisdiction. However, as of this report, we are not aware any local technical standards for micronutrients, food vehicles (salt, wheat flour, vegetable oil) or other fortified foods.

The local Department of Health accepts Announcements of NTR/FSR Conformity for fortified food manufactured within its geographical jurisdiction.

The local Department of Industry and Trade provides Approval on Food Advertisement Content and issues Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction for the establishment or facility of the manufacturer of fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil in its locality.

The local Department of Agriculture and Rural Development provides Approval on Food Advertisement Content and issues Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction for manufacturer of fortified salt processed in its locality.

If the manufacturer or trader operates in multiple jurisdictions then at national-level the respective MOIT, MOH or MARD (rather than the local departments) will be responsible for the issuance of relevant registrations or certifications.

C – IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT IN PRACTICE

1 IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

Decree 09 creates a platform for food fortification and delegates relevant ministries to design its own system to implement food fortification policy in practice.

Regarding micronutrients, the MOH issued Circular 44\(^{45}\) regulating food safety management of micronutrients in December of 2015. This Circular introduces the list of micronutrients which may be added to food and sets out the requirements for Announcements of NTR/FSR Conformity, labelling, and Certification on Food Safety Satisfaction applicable to the establishment and facility of the micronutrient manufacturers and traders. Micronutrients must be issued an Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR/FSR Announcement before circulating those micronutrients in the market.

In terms of food safety requirements for food vehicles, the MOIT issued: (i) Circular 40\(^{46}\) regulating the issuance of Approval of Food Advertising Claims; (ii) Circular 58\(^{47}\) providing guidance on the issuance and revocation of Certification on Food Safety Satisfaction; and

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\(^{44}\) Article 65.1 of Law on Food Safety.

\(^{45}\) Circular 44/2015/TT-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 30 November 2015, providing “List of micronutrient fortifying into foods” (“Circular 44”).

\(^{46}\) Circular 40/2012/TT-BCT of the Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 21 December 2012, regulating the issuance of Approval on Food Advertisement Content (“Circular 40”).

\(^{47}\) Circular 58/2014/TT-BCT of the Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 22 December 2014, regulating the issuance and revocation of Certification of Food Safety Establishment under the management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (“Circular 58”).
(iii) Circular 59\(^{48}\) regulating food safety conditions applicable to processing, and selling in vegetable oil.

MARD has issued Circular 75\(^{49}\) to guide Approval of Food Advertising Claims and issued Circular 45\(^{50}\), which guides inspection procedures, and issuance of Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction of the establishment and facilities of producers and traders of agricultural products (including salt).

For fortified food, there is no separate and specific regulation guiding food safety conditions and/or issuance of required certifications such as the case for micronutrients under Circular 44. For that reason, food safety management of fortified food will not differ from that of general food and will be regulated under the following regulations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4: Existing regulations for general food safety management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General conditions of food safety satisfaction for food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manufacturing and trading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Particular food safety requirements for food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manufacturing and trading (including fortified food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification on Food Safety Satisfaction for the establishment and facility of the food manufacturer and trader (including fortified food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcement on NTR/FSR Conformity (does not mention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fortified food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 \hspace{1cm} ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS

To ensure compliance with food safety requirements, the relevant authorities have the authority to inspect and examine food safety practices, food manufacturer, trader and importer facilities. The relevant authorities may impose penalties for the failure to follow regulatory requirements.

Enforcement regulations on food fortification are covered generally under the food safety legislation. They are set out in the table below.

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\(^{48}\) Circular 59/2014/TT-BCT of the Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 22 December 2014, regulating food safety conditions applicable to process of manufacture and doing business of vegetable oil ("Circular 59").

\(^{49}\) Circular 75/2011/TT-BNNPTNT of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development dated 31 October 2011, providing the registration and certification of foods advertisement contents under the management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

\(^{50}\) Circular 45/2014/TT-BNNPTNT of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development dated 03 December 2014, regulating the inspection of agricultural material and inspection procedure of and the issuance of Certificate on Food Safety Satisfaction for agro-forestry-fishery products ("Circular 45").

\(^{51}\) Circular 26/2012/TT-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 30 November 2012, stipulating on issuance of Certificate of Food Safety Qualification applicable to manufacturing and trading of functional food, fortified food, food additives, food processing enhancers; natural mineral water, bottled drinks; tools, materials packing, containing foods under management of the Ministry of Health ("Circular 26").

\(^{52}\) Joint Circular 20/2013/TTLT BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Ministry of Industry and Trade dated 1 August 2013, stipulating conditions and procedures for appointing food testing facilities serving the state management ("Joint Circular 20").

\(^{53}\) Decree 89/2006/ND-CP of the Government dated 30 August 2006, regulating on goods label ("Decree 89").

**Table 5: Existing regulations for food safety enforcement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The overarching law that gives the authorities to conduct inspection and impose penalties.</th>
<th>Inspection Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This circular sets out the cooperation between three ministries during the inspection/examination process</td>
<td>Joint Circular 13 – Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This law allocates authority between three ministries</td>
<td>Law on Food Safety – Chapter 10, Part 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This decree implements the Law on Food Safety in relation to importation and export of foods</td>
<td>Decree 38 – Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This decree is the primary regulation that sets out the penalties, sanctions and fines for violation of food safety</td>
<td>Decree 178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This decree sets out the penalties, sanctions and fines for violation of product standards, measurement, and quality</td>
<td>Decree 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This circular sets out the inspection requirement on food safety inspection in food production and trading under the management of the MOH</td>
<td>Circular 4855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspection requirement of imported wheat flour</td>
<td>Circular 2856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspection of agricultural material/agricultural products</td>
<td>Circular 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This decree provides Post-certification Inspection applied for certificates of food safety satisfaction issued by MOIT under it management.</td>
<td>Circular 58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.1 Inspection and examination

State inspection usually applies to all foods, food materials, food additives, processing of inputs, tools, materials for packaging, and food containers imported into Vietnam. The MOH makes general examinations of food, while MOIT and MARD conduct inspection activities over food under their delegated authority. In case of joint inspection on food safety, the MOH shall be the coordinator and has authority to conduct ad-hoc inspections and examinations of the process of producing, trading, and importing micronutrients as well as of fortified (and non-fortified) foods under management of other ministries.

The inspector has authority to apply administrative sanctions stipulated in Decree 178 and Decree 80.

Examination can be understood as post-checking after issuance of certification on food safety (standards) or examination on satisfaction of food safety conditions (in establishments). During the examination process, if the inspector discovers any non-compliant issues, they are entitled to process a report, and transfer the results to line inspectors to apply sanctions if necessary.57

### 2.2 Sanction of common non-compliant activities

Violations on provisions relating to fortification of micronutrients into food may result in a fine of between VND 3,000,000 and 10,000,000 (est. 150-500 USD).58

Violations on general conditions of food safety may result in a fine of up to VND 20,000,000 (est. 1,000 USD).59

55 Circular 48/2015/TT-BYT of Ministry of Health dated 01 December 2015, regulating food safety inspection in food production and trading under the management of the Ministry of Health (“Circular 48”).

56 Circular 28/2013/TT-BCT on regulating the state inspection of imported food safety under the management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (“Circular 28”).

57 Article 31.2 of Decree 178.

58 Article 8 of Decree 178.
Violations of Announcements of NTR/FSR Conformity in manufacturing or trading of food, food materials, food additives, food processing enhancers, equipment, packaging, food containers that are required to announce NTR/FSR conformity may incur fines of between VND 10,000,000 and VND 15,000,000 (est. 500–750 USD) for individual and between VND 20,000,000 to VND 40,000,000 (est. 1,000-2,000 USD) for organizations.60

Violations relating to Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction (for establishments and facilities of the manufacturer or the trader) may incur a fine of between VND 1,000,000 and 25,000,000 (est. 50-1,250 USD) depending on the severity of the breach.61

Violations relating to food safety conditions of imported food may incur a fine up to VND 40,000,000 (est. 2,000 USD).62

Violation of product labelling may incur a fine up to VND 10,000,000 (est. 500 USD) depending on the value of the products subject to the violation.63

Violation of compulsory information on label may be imposed a fine up to VND 30,000,000 (est. 1,500 USD) dependent on the value of the products subject to the violation.64

2.3 Cooperation mechanism among corresponding ministries

Joint Circular 13 provides principles for allocating tasks between the three ministries on food safety management with an emphasis on the role of the MOH. The principles are:

(i) Each product, each manufacturing facility, or trading facility is under the management of only one agency.

(ii) If a facility manufactures multiple types of foods that are under the management of two or more agencies, one of which is the MOH, the MOH will be the responsible authority.

(iii) If a facility manufactures multiple types of foods that are under the management of both MARD and MOIT, the MARD will be the responsible authority.

(iv) Facilities that sell multiple types of foods that are under the management of two or more agencies (including markets and supermarkets), the MOIT will be the responsible authority, except for wholesale markets for agricultural products, which are under the authority of MARD.

(v) The MOH shall manage the manufacturers of food containers and packaging, except for integrated containers and packages that are particularly used for food products under the management of MARD and MOIT.

(vi) The MOH shall take charge and cooperate with the other parties in settling any governance issue that arises, or send a report to the Prime Minister if necessary.

3 KEY LICENSING PROCEDURES RELATING TO FOOD FORTIFICATION

3.1 Announcements of NTR/FSR Conformity

3.1.1 Authority65

59 Article 13 of Decree 178.
60 Article 26.3(a) and 4.3 of Decree 178.
61 Article 24 of Decree 178.
62 Article 25 of Decree 178.
63 Article 25 of Decree 80.
64 Article 26 of Decree 80.
65 Article 7 of Circular 19. It is noted that authority of VFA/local department of health related to micronutrient and fortified food are implied from the content of Decree 09 and Decision 4062 on function of VFA. The original content of Circular 19 does not mention conformity announcement of micronutrient and fortified food
The VFA is in charge of (i) domestically produced micronutrients; (ii) imported micronutrients; and (iii) imported fortified foods.

The local departments of health control locally produced micronutrients and fortified foods.

An organisation that produces the same products in a number of provincial jurisdictions in Vietnam may register its product announcements with the VFA or at the sub-department of VFA located in the province that the organisation’s head office is also located.66

### 3.1.2 NTR Conformity

Micronutrient manufacturers, traders or importers are required to apply for Announcements of NTR Conformity before circulating the food product on the market.67 For domestically produced fortified food, NTR/FSR conformity must be announced to the local department of health where such fortified food is produced before circulating in the market.68 However, for imported fortified food it is compulsory to announce NTR/FSR conformity before importing into Vietnam.69

The application dossier for Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR Conformity is as follows:70

- a) A written announcement of NTR conformity, based on the results of a self-assessment by the organizations/individuals producing and trading the food or certification by an authorized testing organization (this is in a standard form).
- b) A detailed product information (this is in a standard form).
- c) A certificate of conformity certified by third party71 (notarized copy or copy with the original for comparison).
- d) A certificate of conformity with standards of HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent in the case the producer has a quality management system certified as complying with standards of HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent (the notarized copy or copy with the original for comparison).

Sequence:

Step 1 - Assessment of conformity (i) self-assessment and examination at appointed testing lab/recognized independent testing lab/accepted testing lab or (ii) through an organization certifying the regulation conformity appointed by the MOH.

Step 2 - Registration of conformity announcement. Organizations/individuals announcing product shall make and submit dossier to VFA or local department of health.

Step 3 - Issuance of Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR Conformity

Timeline: Seven working days from date of submission.72

### 3.1.3 FSR Conformity

Whenever there is no NTR for a particular product, manufacturers, traders or importers must announce conformity to other food safety regulations eg VNS, Codex standard, until an NTR for that product is issued.73 In other words, if there is an NTR for a specific product then it is mandatory to announce NTR conformity over FSR conformity. However, if there is no

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66 Article 7.4 of Circular 19.
67 Article 3.1 of Circular 44.
68 Article 8.2 of Decree 09.
69 Article 38.1(a) of LoFS.
70 Article 5 of Decree 38.
71 Third party means appointed testing lab/recognized independent testing lab/accepted testing lab or organization certifying the regulation conformity appointed by the Ministry of Health mentioned in Step 2 of this section.
72 Article 4.3 of Decree 38.
73 Article 3.2 of Decree 38.
NTR but then manufacturers, traders, or importers must announce conformity for FSR for a specific product or food products in general. If there is no FSR that can be generally applied then the manufacturer, trader or importer is encouraged to find similar standards.

The application dossier for imported micronutrients/fortified foods without NTRs are below.\textsuperscript{74}

a) Written announcement of FSR conformity (this is in a standard form).

b) Detailed product information (this is in a standard form).

c) CFS or HC or equivalent certificate issued by competent state authorities of the country of origin which shows that the contents are safe for consumer health and in accordance with food law of that country (original or notarized copy or consular legalized).

d) Product testing results within 12 months, including the criteria of major quality, safety criteria granted by the following entities: laboratories appointed by a competent state agency or independent laboratories to be accredited (original or notarized copy); or laboratories of the originating countries recognized by a competent agency in Vietnam (original or certified copy or consular legalized).

e) Periodic monitoring plan (self-certified).

f) Product label for circulation in the country of origin and auxiliary label in Vietnamese (self-certified).

g) Samples of complete products to compare when filing dossier.

h) Business registration certificate with the food business line or legal entity certificate for organization/individual importing food (self-certified copy).

i) Certification on food safety satisfaction in case it is compulsory for such origination/individual to have (self-certified copy).

j) Certificate of conformity with standards of HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent in the case the producing organizations and individuals have a quality management system certified as complying with standards of HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent (the notarized copy or copy with the original for comparison).

k) Information, scientific data to prove the effect of each component constituting function announced (self-certified copy).

The application dossier for domestically produced micronutrients/fortified food without NTRs is below.\textsuperscript{76}

a) The documents from (a) to (k) above.

b) Report on effective testing on effect of food products for new products firstly put into circulation on the market (notarized copy or copy with the original for comparison).

c) Quality control plan to be developed and applied in prescribed form (self-certified).

d) Periodic monitoring plan (self-certified).

Sequence:

Step 1- Assessment of conformity: examination at appointed testing lab/recognized independent testing lab/accepted testing lab. Content of examination is based on criteria on food safety as prescribed by law on food safety. In case Vietnam does not have the FSR, then regulations of Codex will apply.

Step 2- Registration of conformity announcement. Organizations/individuals announcing product shall make and submit dossier to VFA or local department of health.

Step 3- Issuance of Certification on Announcement of FSR Conformity.

\textsuperscript{74} This content is implied as wordings of Circular 19 does not mention about micronutrients but Article 3.1 of Circular 44 refers conformity announcement of micronutrient applied provisions of Circular 19.

\textsuperscript{75} Article 6.3 of Decree 38.

\textsuperscript{76} Article 6.4 of Decree 38.
Timeline: 30 working days from the submission date.\(^{77}\)

### 3.1.4 Validity of Certification on Announcement on NTR Conformity and FSR Conformity\(^{78}\)

If a trader or manufacturer has one of the following advanced quality management system certificates: HACCP, ISO 22000, or equivalent, the certification is valid for 5 years.

If the trader or manufacturer does not have any of the quality management certificates mentioned above, the certification is valid for 3 years.

### 3.1.5 Re-registration\(^{79}\)

At the end of the validity of a certification described above, the applicant must apply to renew the certification. The application dossier to renew the certification is below.

a) Application for re-issuance of receipt of written publication of regulation conformity and written certification of publication of conformity with food safety regulations (standard form certified by the organization or individual).

b) Latest receipt of written publication of regulation conformity or written certification of publication of conformity with food safety regulations (copy).

c) Results of periodic tests of products made by the accredited laboratories to be appointed by a competent state agency (a notarized copy or copy with the original for comparison):
   - Annual testing results for the facilities having one of the certificates of advanced quality management system: GMP, HACCP, ISO 22000, or equivalent.
   - Six monthly testing results for the facilities having no the certificates mentioned above.

d) Certificate of conformity with standards of HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent in the case the organizations or individuals have the quality management system certified as complying with HACCP or ISO 22000 or equivalent (copy notarized or copy with the original for comparison).

Timeline: Seven working days from the date of receiving the renewal request.

### 3.2 Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction

Certification of food safety satisfaction applies to the establishments and facilities of the food manufacturer or trader. Under Decree 09, the certification of food safety satisfaction for fortified wheat flour and vegetable oil manufacturers and traders is under the responsibility of MOIT\(^{80}\) and for fortified salt manufacturers and traders is under the responsibility of MARD\(^{81}\) and for micronutrients manufacturers and traders is under responsibility of MOH\(^{82}\). The process and procedure to obtain such certification of food safety satisfaction for (i) fortified wheat flour and vegetable oil manufacturers and traders and (ii) fortified salt manufacturers are provided under Circular 58 and Circular 45 and respectively.

For the process and procedure to obtain the certification of food safety satisfaction for micronutrients manufacturers and traders, Circular 26 may apply as micronutrients are now under management of MOH even though Circular 26 does not include micronutrients. However, this is subject to the confirmation from MOH.

#### 3.2.1 Authority

\(^{77}\) Article 4.5 of Decree 38.

\(^{78}\) Article 8.1 of Decree 38.

\(^{79}\) Article 8.3 of Decree 38.

\(^{80}\) Article 7.2(b) of Decree 09.

\(^{81}\) Article 7.3(b) of Decree 09.

\(^{82}\) Article 7.1(b) of Decree 09.
The VFA has authority to issue Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction to the facilities and establishments of food manufacturers and traders, including fortified food other than fortified wheat flour, fortified vegetable oil, fortified salt, except for small-scale facilities, which is the responsibility of sub-departments of the VFA in the provincial level jurisdiction. According to Article 7.1(b) of Decree 09, VFA has the authority to grant the Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction for micronutrient manufacturers and traders.

### 3.2.2 Application Dossier

The dossier applying for the certificate is set below and includes the following documents:

- **a)** Completed application in standard form.
- **b)** Business registration certificate where the applicant has the registered food business line (self-certified).
- **c)** Written explanation of material facilities, equipment, and tools to ensure food safety condition (self-certified), includes:
  - Drawing of basic design diagram of establishment and the surrounding areas;
  - Diagram of food manufacturing process or process of product preservation, distribution and written explanation of material facilities, equipment and tools of establishment.
- **d)** Written confirmation of training knowledge on food safety of the owner of the establishment and of persons directly producing or trading foods
  - For establishments having less than 30 persons: submit copies of written confirmation (self-certified);
  - For establishments having 30 persons or more: submit list of trained persons (self-certified).
- **e)** Written confirmation of health satisfaction of the owner of the establishment and of persons directly producing or trading foods; the result of stool culture test of persons directly producing foods, that is reported as negative for pathogens causing intestinal diseases (cholera, dysentery, bacillus and typhoid) which applies to regions having development of diarrhea epidemics under announcement of the MOH
  - For establishments having less than 30 persons: To submit copies of written confirmations (self-certified);
  - For establishments having 30 persons or more: To submit the list of results of health examination, stool culture test of the owner of establishment and of persons directly producing, trading foods (self-certified).

### 3.2.3 Sequence

There are three steps to obtain the certification of food safety satisfaction.

**Step 1:** Consideration and appraisal of application dossier

- **a)** within five working days after receiving a complete application, the responsible agency receiving the application dossier must appraise and consider the validity of the application and notify the applicant in writing if the application is inadequate.
- **b)** If after 60 days, from the day of receiving the notice of invalid application, the applicant fails to reply or supplement the application as requested by the responsible agency, the responsible agency will cancel the application.

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83 Article 4 of Circular 26.
84 Article 3 of Circular 26.
85 Article 5 of Circular 26.
Step 2: Appraisal of the Facility/Establishment

a) Once the responsible agency accepts the application, the agency must conduct an appraisal of the facility or the establishment within 10 working days.
b) The responsible agency must form an appraisal delegation of between five to nine persons or three to five persons for small-scale facilities to conduct the appraisal. Two thirds of the members of the appraisal delegation must have a background in food safety. The responsible agency may appoint experts to be part of the appraisal delegation. The head of the appraisal delegation is responsible for the result of appraisal of the facility/establishment of the applicant.

c) Content of appraisal at establishments:
comparing the consistency of information in application dossier and original dossier filed at establishments; appraising the condition on food safety at the establishment as prescribed and reflecting into a written minute.

Step 3: Grant of Certification

a) If the applicant satisfies the appraisal delegation, then the applicant is issued a Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction for the relevant facility or establishment.
b) If the applicant does not meet the criteria of the appraisal delegation, the responsible authority will issue a list of demands that must be satisfied by the applicant within 60 days. Once the applicant satisfies the demand, the appraisal delegation will conduct another assessment of the facility or establishment.
c) If the applicant does not satisfy the conditions, then the applicant is prohibited from carrying any food business from the facility or establishment.

3.2.4 Validity of Certification[^86]

A Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction is valid for three years. At least 6 months before the expiration date of a Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction, if the food producer or trader wishes to continue their production or trading activities, they must submit an application for the re-grant of a Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction. The process to obtain a renewal is the same as obtaining a new certificate.

3.3 Approval on Food Advertising Claims

3.3.1 Authority

The VFA is responsible for issuing confirmation of advertising claims for functional foods, domestically produced fortified foods (other than fortified salt, wheat flour and vegetable oil), milk and nutrition products for babies[^87], imported micronutrients, and imported fortified foods[^88].

MOIT is responsible for issuing confirmation of advertising claims for wheat flour and vegetable oil[^89]. Although Circular 40 does not specifically state that the fortified versions of wheat flour and vegetable oil fall under its domain, Circular 40 is an applicable document because fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil were supplemented as products under management of MOIT[^90].

MARD is responsible for issuing confirmation of advertising claims for fortified salt according to Circular 75.

3.3.2 Procedure of MOH

Condition to approve advertising claims

[^86]: Article 37 of Law on Food Safety.
[^87]: Article 12.1(b) of Circular 09 Circular 09/2015/TT-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 25 May 2015 on confirmation of advertised contents for special products, goods, and services under MOH’s management (“Circular 09”).
[^88]: Article 7.1(b) of Decree 09
[^89]: Article 7.2(b) of Decree 09
[^90]: Verbally confirmed by MOIT to Asia Counsel
The regulation of advertising claims for fortified food under the management of MOH does not differ from the procedure for any other food. Hence, advertising claims of fortified foods must follow the general procedures that apply to food generally, as stated in Article 4 and 7 of Circular 09 of MOH. The process to obtain the approval under Circular 09 is as follows:

a) Advertising claims must conform to legal regulations on advertising and does not contain a prohibited act as set out in Article 8 of the Law on Advertising.

b) Voice, wording and pictures used in an advertisement must be concise, plain speaking and conform to regulations laid down in Article 18 of the Law on Advertising. The smallest size of the font used in advertisement content must be large enough to be read in a normal condition and is not smaller than the size proportional to the size of VnTime font or the 12-point size of Times New Roman font printed on the A4-size paper.

c) Food or food additive products endorsed by the FSR Conformity or Certificate of Announcement of NTR issued by the competent regulatory authorities.

d) Advertising claims must conform to regulations set out in Article 5 of the Decree No.181/2013/ND-CP and the followings:
   - As for advertising claims other than those that have been already announced, legal documents, scientific studies that support these contents must be submitted while reference sources must be specified in the mockup or script of an advertisement; as for products with special use and storage, these must be presented in an advertisement;
   - An advertisement displayed on signboards, signs, banners, racks, shelves, or in the form of texts running at the bottom of the screen in a television program, imprinted on other items, or objects in the air, under the water, or movable objects, shall not be required to contain all information about how to use the product, effects, storage but shall be required to be consistent with the contents regulated by declaration of conformity or declaration of compliance with food safety regulations;
   - Do not advertise food products in the form of an article composed by a doctor, pharmacist, medical staff, intended treatment use should be stated;
   - Prohibit using images, costumes, names or addresses of organizations, healthcare establishments, doctors, pharmacists, medical staff and testimonials of patients to serve the purpose of advertising food products.
   - All necessary documents must be submitted.

e) Applicants for approval on advertisement contents are those who sign their names on Acknowledgement Letter on the receipt of Announcement of NTR Conformity or Certification on Announcement of FSR/NTR Conformity, or be the proxy of the owner of the said acknowledgement letter/certification.

Application Dossier\(^\text{91}\)

To obtain a certification of advertisement of food content, the following must be submitted to the MOH:

a) Application for confirmation of advertising claims.

b) business registration certificate or license for establishment of a representative office of foreign trader.

c) power of attorney (if any).


e) Detailed product information certified by a competent authority.

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\(^{91}\) Article 13 and 16 of Circular 09 of MOH.
f) Sample product labels certified by a competent health authority;
g) Sample advertisement.
h) Documents for reference, justification, and authentication of information in advertised contents.

Timeline: 10 working days after receipt of an application.\textsuperscript{92}

Validity of Approval for Food Advertising Claims depends on: (i) validity of Acknowledgement Letter on the receipt of Announcement of NTR/FSR Conformity; (ii) Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction for establishment; (iii) the change of ingredients or useful effects; (iv) the suspension of free circulation; and (v) whether a recall occurs.\textsuperscript{93}

3.3.3 Procedure of the MOIT\textsuperscript{94}

Circular 40 describes the dossier application process for Certificate of Advertising Claims for foods under of MOIT (including fortified wheat flour and fortified vegetable oil). The process described below is MOIT’s procedures for the foods under the management of MOIT.

The Department of Science and Technology of MOIT shall receive applications, carry out examinations, notify results, and issue Certificate of Advertising Claims to imported and exported food products.\textsuperscript{95}

Provincial Departments of Industry and Trade shall receive applications, carry out examinations, notify results, and issue Certificate of Advertising Claims to foods sold in Vietnam by the local applicants that have been issued with Certificates on Food Safety Satisfaction by Department of Industry and Trade.\textsuperscript{96}

Conditions to approve advertising claims\textsuperscript{97}

a) The dossier of application is completed and valid.
b) Food products are not in the list of products banned from advertising as prescribed by current law.
c) Food products satisfy the regulations on food safety conditions, or products of a producer/country of which the fulfillment of food safety requirements is certified by competent authorities of Vietnam as prescribed by current law.
d) The advertisement contents must be accurate and consistent with the quality. Food safety must be ensured as announced and registered.
e) an application for the Certificate of Food Advertising Claims is used for one advertisement for one food product.
f) An advertisement may be used on multiple advertising media (on mass media, on packages, fliers, posters, magazines, books, etc.).

Application Dossier\textsuperscript{98}

To obtain a Certificate of Food Advertising Claims, the following must be submitted to the MOIT:

a) Written request for a Certificate of Food Advertising Claim (standard form).
b) Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction (certified true copy).
c) Business registration certificate of the applicant (certified true copy).

\textsuperscript{92} Article 20.3 of Circular 09 of MOH.
\textsuperscript{93} Article 23.3 of Circular 09 of MOH.
\textsuperscript{94} Article 8 of Circular 40 of MOIT.
\textsuperscript{95} Article 13.1 of Circular 40 of MOIT.
\textsuperscript{96} Article 13.2 of Circular 40 of MOIT.
\textsuperscript{97} Article 3 and 4 of Circular 40 of MOIT.
\textsuperscript{98} Article 8.1 of Circular 40 of MOIT.
d) **Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR/FSR conformity** (certified true copy).

e) Scientific documents proving the characteristics and uses of the product consistent with the registered advertisement contents.

f) Draft of the advertisement (video clips, images, reports, articles, etc.).

g) Advertising contract or letter of authorization if the applicant is an advertising service provider.

**Timeline:** 15 working days after receipt of an application.\(^99\)

Validity of **Certificate of Food Advertising Claims** depends on (i) the validity period of the **Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction** issued by a competent authority (applicable to Vietnamese producers); and (ii) the document certifying the fulfillment of food safety conditions issued to a producer that export foods to Vietnam by a Vietnamese competent authority.\(^100\)

### 3.3.4 Procedure of the MARD

Circular 75 describes the application process for **Certificate of Food Advertising Claims** for foods under the mandate of MARD (including fortified salt).

The National Agro-Forestry-Fisheries Quality Assurance Department of MARD (“**NAFIQAD**”) shall receive applications, carry out examinations, notify results, and issue Approval on Advertisement Contents for imported and exported food products.\(^101\)

Local NAFIQAD shall receive applications, carry out examinations, notify results, and issue **Certificates of Food Advertising Claims** for food sold in Vietnam by applicants that have been issued **Certificates on Food Safety Satisfaction** by the local NAFIQAD.\(^102\)

The condition to approve advertising content\(^103\) are below:

- a) The application dossier is completed and valid.
- b) Food products satisfy regulations on food safety conditions and the producer or the country of origin has been certified by the competent Vietnamese authority as having satisfied food safety standards.
- c) The advertising contents must be accurate and consistent with food quality. Food safety must be consistent with what has been announced and registered.

To obtain a **Certificate of Food Advertising Claims**, the following must be submitted to MARD\(^104\):

- a) Written request for a **Certificate of Food Advertising Claim** (standard form).
- b) **Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction** (certified true copy).
- c) Business registration certificate of the applicant (certified true copy).
- d) **Acknowledgement Letter on the Receipt of Announcement of NTR/FSR conformity** (certified true copy).
- e) Scientific documents proving the characteristics and uses of the product consistent with the registered advertisement contents.
- f) Draft of the advertisement (video clips, images, reports, articles, etc.).
- g) Advertising contract or letter of authorization if the applicant is an advertising service provider.

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\(^{99}\) Article 9.2 of Circular 40 of MOIT.

\(^{100}\) Article 9.3 of Circular 40 of MOIT.

\(^{101}\) Article 5 of Circular 75 of MARD.

\(^{102}\) Article 5 of Circular 75 of MARD.

\(^{103}\) Article 4 of Circular 75 of MARD.

\(^{104}\) Article 8 of Circular 75 of MARD.
Timeline: 20 working days after receipt of an application.\textsuperscript{105}

Validity of the \textit{Certificate of Food Advertising Claims} depends on (i) the validity period of the \textit{Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction} issued by a competent authority (applicable to Vietnamese producers); and (ii) the document certifying the fulfillment of food safety conditions issued to a producer that export foods to Vietnam by a Vietnamese competent authority.\textsuperscript{106}

\section*{D – Gaps in Implementation and Enforcement}

There are several regulation gaps identified.

There is no specific regulation that describes the
1.) MOH procedure to issue \textit{Certificates of Food Safety Satisfaction} for the establishments or facilities of manufacturers or traders importing micronutrients;
2.) Procedure to grant \textit{Certificates of Food Advertising Claims} for fortified salt (MARD), and imported micronutrients (MOH).

In terms of inspection guidelines,
1.) MARD is planning to amend Circular 34, which provides guidelines for the inspection of imported salt to include iodized salt and introduce a new regulation to guide production of iodized salt.
2.) MOIT lacks inspection guidelines for oil and wheat flour. The MOIT, on the other hand, has not announced plans or a timeline to amend its regulations or defined which specific regulations it will amend. MOIT has about one year to review and amend at least four circulars that could apply to wheat flour and oil.

The VFA has less than one year to introduce a revised NTR for salt iodization before the official implementation of mandatory iodization of salt. VFA announced in June 2016 that it plans to develop or revise NTRs for (i) fortified wheat flour, (ii) fortified vegetable oil, and (ii) vitamin A as a micronutrient.\textsuperscript{107}

Currently there is no requirement to label a food as “fortified” on wheat flour, oil, and salt packages, nor is there any requirement to identify fortified ingredients on the labels of processed foods.

In term of enforcement methods, the current sanctions for fortification noncompliance may not be adequate incentives for food manufacturers and traders to comply. Decree 178 has only introduced two provisions dealing with the violation of food fortification and the maximum amount of penalty is VND 10,000,000 (est. 500 USD) for individual and VND 20,000,000 (est. 1,000 USD) for organizations.

\section*{E – Recommendations}

\subsection*{1. Issuance of NTRs}

The MOH is the agency to issue all NTRs applicable to micronutrients and fortified food. We understand that the MOH is under the process of introducing more NTRs to provide technical specifications for the food vehicles identified for mandatory fortification. However, the MOH should be publicly set out a timeline in advance of when the NTRs will be introduced so that manufacturers, traders and importers of fortified foods have a reasonable lead time to plan.
2. INTRODUCE IMPLEMENTATION REGULATIONS FOR DECREE 09

The MOH should begin the process of preparing the implementation of Decree 09 as a joint circular with the MOIT and MARD to clarify responsibilities between the ministries. For example, there needs to be clarification on who has responsibility for domestically produced fortified salt/vegetable oil/wheat flour and who will be in charge of other voluntarily fortified food not mentioned in Decree 09.

Furthermore, there should be an official guidance (instead of verbal confirmation) from relevant authorities (i.e. MOH, MOIT and MARD) on procedures to issue Certification of Food Safety Satisfaction and Approval on Food Advertising Claims for the establishment and facilities of the manufacturer and trader for micronutrients and fortified salt and fortified vegetable oil and fortified wheat flour.

3. ENFORCEMENT

The consequences of a breach of food safety regulations appear to be light. The majority of the fines have a maximum amount of about 1,000 USD. The Government should introduce tougher penalties for any breach of the mandatory requirement on fortification of salt, vegetable oil and wheat flour.

Provisions of Joint Circular 13 needs further instructions on the frequency of inspection/examination activities for each corresponding agency.

4. FOOD ADVERTISING CLAIMS

Fortified food should be required to include labeling language, such as “fortified with x” or “enriched with x” to ensure transparency to consumers. Processed foods made with fortified ingredients should be required to include labelling language, such as “made with fortified salt/wheat flour”

5. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Given that under Decree 09 MOIT and MARD have new regulatory responsibilities, once the regulations implementing Decree 09 have been finalized, the MOIT and MARD should organise training of provincial level officials on food fortification regulations and the enforcement process. Wider public education should be given to food manufacturers and traders of the new mandatory requirements.

9 September 2016
Asia Counsel Vietnam Law Company Limited
## Appendix I – CHECKLIST OF CERTIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificates</th>
<th>Micronutrient compounds</th>
<th>Salt</th>
<th>Wheat flour</th>
<th>Vegetable Oil</th>
<th>Other fortified foods</th>
<th>(Imported) Fortified food</th>
<th>Exported Fortified Food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement Letter on the receipt of Announcement of NTR Conformity (for food)</td>
<td>C VFA</td>
<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C VFA</td>
<td>O</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Announcement of FSR Conformity (for food)</td>
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<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>VFA/Local DOH</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C VFA</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Food Safety Satisfaction (for establishment)</td>
<td>C VFA/VFA/Circular 26</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 45</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 58</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 58 &amp; 59</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 26</td>
<td>C VFA</td>
<td>No regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of Food Advertising Claims (for labelling)</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 09</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 75</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 40</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 40</td>
<td>C VFA/Circular 09</td>
<td>C VFA</td>
<td>No regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notice on Satisfaction of Import Requirements</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
<td>C Applied to imported food in general</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Certificate of food</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Free Sale</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification of Exportation</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C  Compulsory (this certificate is required prior to circulating food products in the marketplace)
O  Optional
N/A Not Applicable

## Appendix II – LIST OF REGULATIONS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Regulations</th>
<th>Issued Date</th>
<th>Issued Bodies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law on Food Safety No. 55/2010/QH12</td>
<td>17 June 2010</td>
<td>National Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decree 178/2013/ND-CP regulating sanction of administrative violations on food safety</td>
<td>14 November 2013</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decree 63/2012/ND-CP regulating functions, responsibilities, authority and organizational structure of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>31 August 2012</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decree 38/2012/ND-CP guiding Law on Food Safety</td>
<td>25 April 2012</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decree 07/2012/ND-CP on regulating the agencies to implement the specialized inspection and specialized inspection operation</td>
<td>9 February 2012</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Circular No. 20/2013/TTLT BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT stipulating conditions and procedures for appointing food testing facilities serving the state management</td>
<td>1 August 2013</td>
<td>MOH, MARD, and MOIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Circular 13/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT on allocation of tasks and cooperation among regulatory agencies in food safety management</td>
<td>9 April 2014</td>
<td>MOH, MARD, and MOIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 48/2015/TT-BYT regulating food safety inspection in food production and trading under the management of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>1 December 2015</td>
<td>MOH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 09/2015/TT-BYT on stipulating the approval for contents of advertisements for special products, commodities and services under the authority of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>25 May 2015</td>
<td>MOH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 43/2014/TT-BYT regulating the management of functional foods</td>
<td>24 November 2014</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 30/2012/TT-BYT on regulating food safety conditions for food service business and street food business establishments</td>
<td>5 December 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 27/2012/TT-BYT on guiding the management of food additives</td>
<td>30 November 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 14/2011/TT-BYT on general guidance on food sampling to serve the inspection and examination of food safety, hygiene and quality</td>
<td>1 April 2011</td>
<td>MOH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 09/2015/TT-BYT on confirmation of advertised contents for special</td>
<td>25 May 2015</td>
<td>MOH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Regulations</td>
<td>Issued Date</td>
<td>Issued Bodies</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>products, goods, and services under MoH’s management</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 40/2012/TT-BCT on the issuance of Approval on Food Advertising Claims</td>
<td>21 December 2012</td>
<td>MOIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 59/2014/TT-BCT regulating food safety conditions for vegetable oil production and trading establishments</td>
<td>22 December 2014</td>
<td>MOIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 58/2014/TT-BCT regulating on issuance and revocation of certificate of food safety under the management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade</td>
<td>22 December 2014</td>
<td>MOIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 45/2014/TT-BNNPTNT regulating the inspection of agricultural material and inspection procedure of and the issuance of Certificate on Food Safety Satisfaction for agro-forestry-fishe</td>
<td>3 December 2014</td>
<td>MARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 44/2011/TT-BNNPTNT supplementing the list of potentially unsafe products and commodities under the management of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
<td>20 June 2011</td>
<td>MARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consolidated Document 22/VBHN-BNNPTNT on regulating the Certificate of Free Sale of imported and exported product and commodity under the management of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
<td>20 July 2015</td>
<td>MARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 34/2014/BNNPTNT on guiding the quality inspection of imported salt</td>
<td>31 October 2014</td>
<td>MARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 75/2011/TT-BNNPTNT of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development dated 31 October 2011, providing the registration and certification of foods advertisement contents under the management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
<td>31 October 2011</td>
<td>MARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 05/2014/TT-TTCP on regulating the organization, operation and working relationship of inspectorate and the orders and procedures to conduct an inspection</td>
<td>16 October 2014</td>
<td>Government Inspectorate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 103/2015/TT-BTC (Appendix I on list of Vietnamese imported and exported goods)</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>MOF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 103/2015/TT-BTC (Appendix II on six general rules explaining the classification of goods according to the List of Vietnam’s imports and</td>
<td>1 July 2015</td>
<td>MOF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of Regulations</td>
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<td>Exports based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) of World Customs Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IMPORTED/EXPORTED FOOD</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision 10/2010/QD-Ttg on certificates of fee sale for exports and imports</td>
<td>10 February 2010</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 52/2015/Tt-BYT regulating state inspection of imported food safety, and applications and procedures for grant of certificate of export to exported foods under the management of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>21 December 2015</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 28/2013/Tt-Bct on regulating the state inspection of imported food safety under the management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade</td>
<td>6 November 2013</td>
<td>MOIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular 12/2015/Tt-BNNPTNN providing guidance on food safety inspection of goods originating from imported plants</td>
<td>16 March 2015</td>
<td>MARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision 805/QD-BYT regulating procedures stipulated in Circular 52/2015/Tt-BYT on state inspection for food safety of imported foods and dossiers and procedures on issuance of certificate of exported goods under the management of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>9 March 2016</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FOOD FORTIFICATION REGULATIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Decree 09/2016/ND-CP on micronutrient fortification to foods</td>
<td>28 January 2016</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decree 163/2005/ND-CP on production and supply of iodized salt for human consumption</td>
<td>29 December 2005</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decree 89/2006/ND-CP regulating on goods label</td>
<td>30 August 2006</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 44/2015/Tt-BYT issuing “List of added micronutrient in foods”</td>
<td>30 November 2015</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 19/2012/Tt-BYT guiding Announcement Process of NTR/FSR Conformity</td>
<td>9 November 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 26/2012/Tt-BYT stipulating on issuance of Certificate of Food Safety Qualification applicable to manufacturing and trading of functional food, fortified food, food additives, food processing enhancers; natural mineral water, bottled drinks; tools, materials packing, containing foods under management of the Ministry of Health</td>
<td>30 November 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 16/2012/Tt-BYT on food safety conditions applicable to manufacturing and trading food, equipment, and materials for wrapping</td>
<td>22 October 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of Regulations</td>
<td>Issued Date</td>
<td>Issued Bodies</td>
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<td>and storing food under the management of the Ministry of Health</td>
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<td>Circular 15/2012/TT-BYT on general condition to ensure food safety for food production and business facilities</td>
<td>12 September 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Circular 34/2014/TTLT-BYT-BNNPTNT-BCT guiding on goods labelling for foods, food additives, and supporting substances for packaged food</td>
<td>27 October 2014</td>
<td>MOH, MARD, and MOIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision 852/QD-BYT on issuance of plan on implementation of Decree 09/2016/ND-CP of the Government dated 28 January 2016 on micronutrient fortification to foods</td>
<td>15 March 2016</td>
<td>MOH, MARD, and MOIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision 4062/QD-BYT of the Ministry of Health, ruling function, responsibility, and authority of Vietnam Food Administration.</td>
<td>22 October 2012</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<td><strong>NATIONAL TECHNICAL REGULATION</strong></td>
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<td>QCVN 9-2:2011/BYT on micronutrient fortified food</td>
<td>30 May 2011</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 18/2011/TT-BYT on issuing national technical regulation of food fortification with micronutrient</td>
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<td>QCVN 9-1:2011/BYT on food grade iodized salt</td>
<td>13 January 2011</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<td>Circular 04/2011/TT-BYT on national technical regulation of food fortification with micronutrient</td>
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<td>QCVN 3-6:2011/BYT on substance may be used for iodine fortification in food</td>
<td>13 January 2011</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<td>QCVN 3-5:2011/BYT on substance may be used for magnesium fortification in food</td>
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<td>Circular 03/2011/TT-BYT on national technical regulation on substances for micronutrient fortification to foods</td>
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<td>QCVN 8-1:2011/BYT (national technical standards for pollution limit fungal toxins in food) and QCVN 8-2:2011/BYT (National Technical Regulations for limits of heavy metal contamination in food)</td>
<td>13 January 2011</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<td>Circular 02/2011/TT-BYT on national technical regulation on the safety limits of chemical contamination in food</td>
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<td>QCVN 3-3:2010/BYT on substance may be added for iron fortification in</td>
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<td>MOH</td>
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<td>Name of Regulations</td>
<td>Issued Date</td>
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<td>food</td>
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<td>Circular 16/2010/TT-BYT on national technical regulation on substances may be added for iron fortification in food</td>
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<td>QCVN 3-2:2010/BYT on Folic acid for food fortification</td>
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<td>Circular 15/2010/TT-BYT on national technical regulation on Folic acid for food fortification</td>
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<td>QCVN 3-1:2010/BYT on substance may be added for zinc fortification in food</td>
<td>20 May 2010</td>
<td>MOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular 14/2010/TT-BYT on issuing national technical regulation on substances used to add zinc to foods</td>
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<td><strong>NATIONAL STANDARDS</strong></td>
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<td>Law 68/2006/QH11 on standards and technical regulations</td>
<td>29 June 2006</td>
<td>National Assembly</td>
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<td>TCVN 4359: 2008 on Wheat flour</td>
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<td>TCVN 7597: 2013 on Vegetable oils</td>
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<td>TCVN 9638: 2013 on Unrefined sodium chloride</td>
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<td>TCVN 9639: 2013 on Refined sodium chloride</td>
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