



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



22 December 2011

FDA MEMORANDUM
No. ~~2011-028~~ 2011-028

**TO: ALL MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS
AND WHOLESALERS OF PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS IMPORTED
INTO AND DISTRIBUTED IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Subject: Safety of Soy Sauce in the Philippines: CODEX Limit on 3 MCPD

Following Food and Drug Administration Circular (FDA) No. 2010-008 re Adoption of the CODEX Standards on Food Contaminants in Processed Food, this Office is reiterating and reminding concerned regulated establishments (importers, local manufacturers/processors, distributors, repackers and retailers) handling soy sauce that the CODEX Standard on safety for 3-MCPD or 3-monochloro-1,2-propanediol, a by-product of the acid hydrolysis process of vegetable protein (HVP) is 0.4 ppm (maximum).

The transitory standard of 1 ppm following Memorandum Circular No. 04 s. 2002 is no longer acceptable starting 30 June 2012. Product owners of soy sauce, as well as soy sauce manufacturers and distributors/importers are hereby advised to comply with FDA No. 2010-008.

Soy sauce products manufactured starting 30 June 2012 shall fully comply with the CODEX standard of safety (maximum of 0.4 ppm). While soy sauce produced prior to 30 June 2012 and compliant to a maximum of 1 ppm shall be allowed to remain in the market until 30 June 2012. This transitory provision is only applicable to the soy sauce products compliant to the safety standard (maximum of 1 ppm), of duly licensed establishment and with corresponding product registration.

Furthermore, all soy sauce products that are compliant to 1 ppm but are not up to date with their respective license to operate and/or product registration are given until 31 January 2012 to be in the market. Any soy sauce products with no valid LTO and/or CPR will no longer be allowed to be in the trade effective 1 February 2012.

Any non-compliant products will be subject to voluntary product recall and shall be immediately taken off the shelves.

Very truly yours,


SUZETTE H. LAZO, MD, FPSECP
Acting Director IV