

Asia-Pacific Society for
Cellular Agriculture

UPDATES ON ASIA PACIFIC REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

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APAC-SCA: WHAT, WHY & WHO

our society

Asia-Pacific Society for Cellular Agriculture (APAC-SCA) is the region's member association for cellular agriculture. Founded in 2022 by a group of trailblazing ventures invested in advancing cultivated meat and seafood (CMS), APAC-SCA was established to enable the ecosystem to meet the soaring protein demand; for better health, security, and sustainability.

Headquartered in Singapore, our team of industry experts is focused on establishing, implementing, and developing strategic frameworks to spur innovation in the Cellular Agriculture space within Asia Pacific.

our focus

Our focus is towards APAC and the cellular agriculture community here. We bring connectivity to the region and aim to liaise information to various of stakeholders in the sector. We're always seeking to expand our network, build partnerships, and partake in various of public events.

APAC-SCA: WHAT, WHY & WHO

our mission

The role of APAC-SCA is to engage with institutions, industry associates, regulatory bodies, policy experts, scientists, and consumers on the latest insights, developments, and resources of cultivated meat products across the APAC region.

our vision

APAC-SCA aspires to be the leading source and society for cellular agriculture across the APAC region for all stakeholders alike.

APAC-SCA MEMBERS

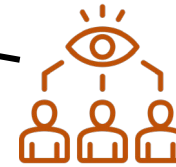


APAC-SCA Members focus on whole muscle beef steaks, chicken, pork, crustaceans & seafood, foie-gras, and other proprietary cultivated meat systems (culture media and scaffolding systems)

APAC-SCA KEY DRIVERS

ECOSYSTEM BUILDING

APAC-SCA facilitates connections and build bridges among industry leaders and academia, companies, non-profits, public, and governmental institution to build the the cell ag ecosystem in Asia to maximise cooperation among all players.



SHAPING PERCEPTION

APAC-SCA actively organise and participates in forums and events to promote the cultivated meat and seafood industry and develops advocacy tools (i.e., consumer studies) to shape the perception and awareness of cultivated meat and seafood among government entities and the general public.



COORDINATE APAC REGULATIONS

APAC-SCA represents the views and positions of industry across issues ranging from food safety, sustainability, to regulations and trade. We collaborate with regulators on building appropriate regulatory frameworks and standards for existing and new or novel foods (i.e., cultivated meats and seafood etc) as well as advise governments on the critical policy issues and how to work with industry.

APAC REGULATORY COORDINATION FORUM

objective

The coordination of regulatory efforts within APAC has the potential to build an effective cultivated food regulatory environment, minimising hurdles and bottlenecks.

desired outcomes

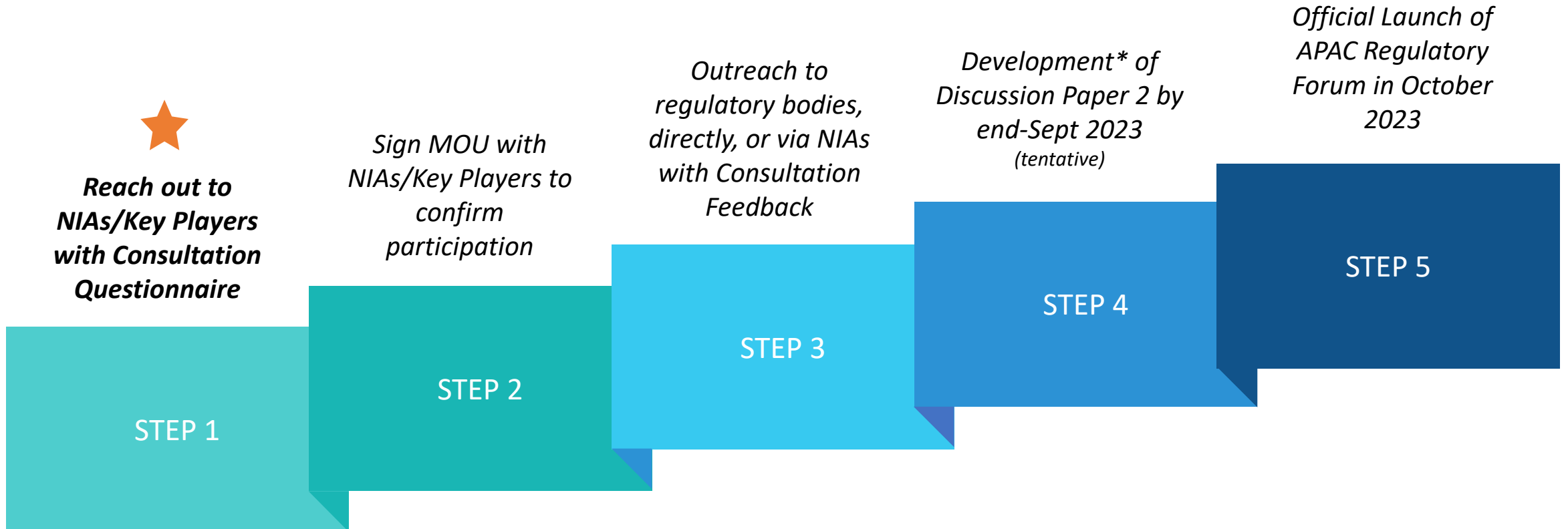
The forum shall provide a space for transparent, open discussions on various topics and view-points for partners across the Asia Pacific region and potentially the development of “fast lanes” for regulatory approval of companies already authorised for sale in another regional country.

participating countries

These includes participations from national industry associations, think tanks, companies, government agencies.



AUG-OCT 2023: OUTREACH TO NIAs & REGULATORY BODIES





AUSTRALIA REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

Application	Administrative assessment	Stage in standards development process	Commencement date – estimated at administrative assessment	Current date – once assessment commences	Completion date	Comments
A1269 - Cultured Quail as a novel food Applicant Vow Group Pty Ltd Description To permit Vow cultured Quail as a novel food Paid application	Application received 24 January 2023	Commence assessment i.e. clock start	Late February 2023	Late February 2023	21/02/2023	Stop Clock applied 15/05/2023 under S108 of the FSANZ Act. Current dates will be updated once stop clock ends.
	Administrative assessment completed.	1 st Call for submissions	Late August 2023	Mid June – Late July 2023		
	Decision to accept application: 16 February 2023	2 nd Call for submissions	Early December 2023	Early October – mid November 2023		
		Board to complete approval	Late February 2024	Early February 2024		
		Statutory due date (for approval)	Not known until assessment start	21/02/2024		
		Notification to Food Ministers' Meeting	Early March 2024	Mid February 2024		
		Anticipated gazettal if no review requested	Mid May 2024	Late April 2024		

1) Stop clock:

Stop Clock refers to a pause in all regulatory development till the applicant is able to provide additional details required by FSANZ.

The 1st call of public consultation lasting 4 weeks, is expected to be in late September (21st till the end of the month)

2) Regulatory work by CAA



CHINA REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

CHINA CELLULAR AGRICULTURE FORUM

The local industry association established an industry-led working group focused on the food safety of cultivated foods.

- In June 2023, the working group had submitted a **“Cell-Cultivated Meat Production and Safety Research Report”** to CFSA.
 - This report will serve as a point of reference in CFSA’s regulatory standards for cultivated foods.
 - No timeline has been announced on when CFSA is to develop regulatory standards.

CHINA NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY RISK ASSESMENT

Organised by CFSA in [May 2023](#), over 30 participants from various government and research agencies gathered to discuss the developments of food safety standards for novel foods.

- Presenting on a technical report, a CFSA representative highlighted the technical expertise available around the management of new raw materials and the safety assessment of cultivated foods, technology available for hazard identification, & research around the safety evaluation of toxins in raw materials.

[FAO](#) & CFSA is to hold a stakeholder roundtable meeting in Shanghai, on 6 November 2023 with a focus on regulatory compliance and food safety assessment of cultivated meat & precision fermentation.

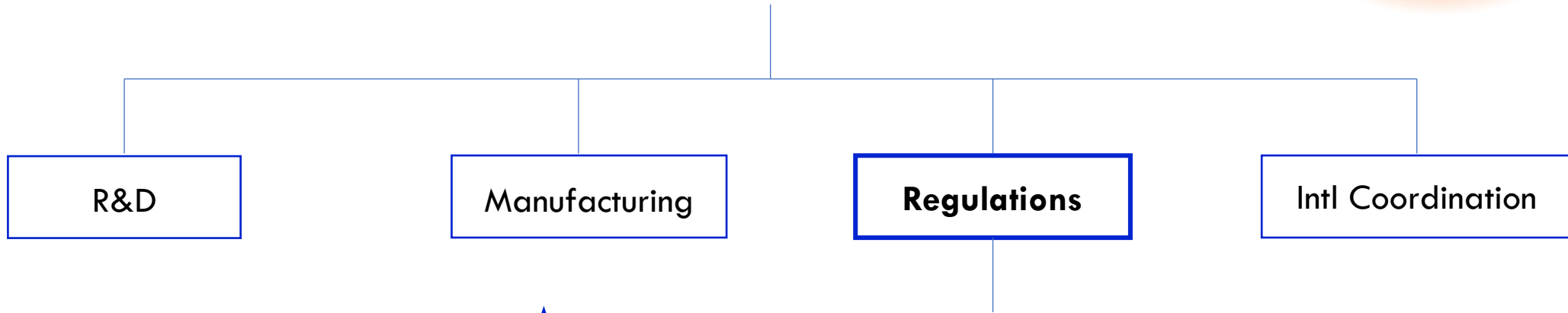


ISRAEL REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

Governmental Resolution to Promote Alternative Protein (drafted by the Israeli's Prime Minister Office)

Drafting Stage; could be release by Oct 2023

*no public consultation required



With the publication of this governmental resolution, it is anticipated that the Ministry of Health will subsequently **release a more comprehensive, competitive, and clear regulatory framework for novel food**, with a strong emphasis on advancing Alternative Proteins.

**First draft for public consultation might be shared by the end of this year.*



MALAYSIA REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MALAYSIA



regulatory update

- 28 May 2023: Cell AgriTech had a meeting with the Malaysia Ministry of Health (KKM) on the regulation of cultivated meat in Malaysia.
- 1 June 2023: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (Government Body for the Use of Malay Language) noted that the Cultivated Meat should be term “**Daging Kultur**” – Cell AgriTech will submit an application to register the term in Malay.

application submission

- Cell AgriTech will be submitting an application for the amendment of commodity standard under food regulations 1985 for cultivated food products by the end of August 2023.

timeline

- Once the amendment is submitted to KKM, it will go through a regulatory committee review (*NIBM sits on the committee), followed by a public consultation; potentially looking at an 18-month process.
- Since this is an amendment, KKM shared that this is a faster route for the recognition and approval of cultivated meat (non-novel food pathway).



BRIEF UPDATE ON THAILAND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

- *BIOTEC & Thai FDA Cultivated Meat
Risk Safety Assessment Guidelines Meeting*



SINGAPORE FOOD AGENCY

– UPDATED NOVEL FOOD FRAMEWORK

Requirements for the Safety Assessment of Novel Foods and Novel Food Ingredients

Updated 20 July 2023

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Key Revisions Include:

- Added reference publication by the US FDA to determine the approach taken for estimating consumption data & toxicity testing
- Added CODEX documents as a reference when using recombinant DNA microorganisms and animals
- Updated information with more details on application for novel food testing
 - Applies to companies not yet completed the safety assessment process
- Updated FAQ section for questions related to tasting/sensory events, manufacturing of novel foods in Singapore etc.

Access the [full version](#) here



SINGAPORE REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

Singapore Standards Development: Novel Food Pro Tem Committee

- *The Pro Tem Committee shall address 2 issues –*
 - *(1) Labelling and Terminology: discussions and developments related to labelling standards for novel food products (i.e., hybrid products etc.)*
 - *(2) Food Safety and Manufacturing: topics concerning food safety and manufacturing processes specific to novel food products*
- *APAC-SCA Chairs the Labelling and Terminology working group to develop relevant standards for novel foods (including cultivated foods)*
 - *Singapore Food Agency seats within the working group*



SOUTH KOREA REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

Recognition of Cell-Cultured Food as a Food Category

Aug 2022

An [amendment plan](#) was made to the Food Sanitation Act to include cell-cultured foods as a food ingredient with the regulation amendment.

May 2023

The law amendment is now effective in South Korea – cell-cultured meat has a legal ground to be considered as food → this does not confer regulatory approval for cell-cultured foods

Establishment of Cell-Cultured Food Safety Guideline

Nov 2019

MFDS commissioned an internal white paper on cell-cultured meat (not shared with public)

Dec 2020

An initial draft of the cell-cultured food safety guidelines was developed (not shared with public)

Apr 2022

MFDS seek to finalise and officiate the cell-cultured meat food safety guideline, but till date (Jul 2023), this has not been finalised/ shared with the public – still undertaking multiple rounds of revisions

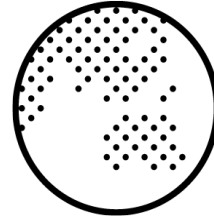
Jun 2023

MFDS commissioned an internal white paper on cell-cultured aquafood to understand any additional requirement for marine species. The establishment of regulatory frameworks for cell-cultured food was highlighted as priority in a recent announcement by MFDS



JAPAN REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT

- *By Megumi Avigail Yoshitomi, JACA*
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APAC-SCA

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THANK YOU

Have any questions or feedback?

Reach out to peter@apac-sca.org or calisa@apac-sca.org