

Summary of “the Report of the Study Group for Improving the System of Food for Special Dietary Uses (FOSDU)”

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< Summary >

The “Food for Special Dietary Uses (FOSDU)” system regulates foods that are approved or permitted to carry claims that the foods are appropriate for specific purposes (*e.g.*, development, health promotion or recovery) in specific subpopulations (*e.g.*, infants/young children, pregnant women or patients). FOSDU’s basic structure is formulated under the Nutrition Improvement Law and was maintained even after the law was replaced in 2002 by the Health Promotion Law. However, to respond to the changing conditions surrounding FOSDU, a study group was established in November 2007 to discuss the future of FOSDU. The report of this study group published in July 2008 made several recommendations regarding the roll of FOSDU in meeting emerging needs, reviewed the scope of FOSDU (the target food categories) and the FOSDU evaluation system, addressed appropriate information sharing among the target populations, *etc.* Based on these recommendations, a review of the FOSDU system is scheduled to be completed by April 2009.