Addressing NTMs in the RCEP Region

• **Takeaway 1: (Low-hanging fruit)** Establish mechanisms to effectively identify and eliminate/address NTBs/NTMs
  – clear criteria on identification and removal of NTBs with mechanisms in place for regular reviews

• **Takeaway 2: (Most significant challenge)** Harmonise standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures in alignment with international practices and develop MRAs.
  – Priority: Labelling (nutrition labelling) and Product Registration (within the pre-market approval process)

• **Takeaway 3:** Simplify/eliminate unnecessary elements and duplication in customs and certification procedures
  – Adopting best practices (e.g. advance rulings, rational/liberal set of origin criteria, self-certification system on Rules of Origin, e-certificate of origin, etc.)

• **Takeaway 4:** Institutionalisation of regular dialogues/consultations/interactions between government and business sector to discuss RCEP initiatives/issues