NFFOODS Spectrum
perspectives on food technologies & business
ASIA

dsm-firmenich Strengthens HMO Offering in Asia with New Regulatory Approvals

06 March 2026 | News

The company continues its regulatory success in Asiaâ??s early life nutrition market with approval of four new HMOs in Malaysia and Thailand, alongside commercial authorisation of its 3â??-SL ingredient in China

The company continues its regulatory success in Asiaâ??s early life nutrition market with approval of four new HMOs in Malaysia and Thailand, alongside commercial authorisation of its 3â??-SL ingredient in China

dsm-firmenich, innovators in nutrition, health, and beauty, announces the successful expansion of its human milk oligosaccharide (HMO) portfolio in China, Malaysia, and Thailand. Its 3â??-sialyllactose (3â??-SL) sodium salt ingredient has been approved for use in early life nutrition in the markets, alongside the authorisation of 2â??-fucosyllactose/difucosyllactose (2FL/DFL), lacto-N-tetraose (LNT), and 6â??-sialyllactose (6â??-SL) sodium salt in Malaysia and Thailand. Among the first companies to secure access for these HMOs in these countries, dsm-firmenich continues to lead the expansion of HMO solutions across key growth markets.

The Chinese National Health Commission (NHC) approved the use of 3â??-SL, commercially known as GLYCARE 3SL 9001, as a nutrition fortifier for inclusion in infant formula, formula for older infants and young children, formulated milk powders for children, and foods for special medical purposes for infants. The decision followed comprehensive technical reviews by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) and the China National Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA). In Malaysia, the Ministry of Health (MOH) also approved 3â??-SL sodium salt, as well as 2FL/DFL (GLYCARE 2FL/DFL 8001), LNT (GLYCARE LNT 8001), and 6â??-SL sodium salt (GLYCARE 6SL 9001) as optional ingredients in infant formula, follow-on formula, and formulated milk powder for children. The same four HMO products were also approved by the Thailand Food

and Drug Administration for use in infant formula, follow-up formula for infants and young children, powdered milk substitutes, and milk-based beverages.

Together, these milestone achievements build on dsm-firmenichâ??s previous approvals for 2â??-fucosyllactose (2â??-FL) and lacto-N-neotetraose (LNnT) in China and Malaysia. This means that HMOs from all three major structural classesâ??fucosylated, sialylated, and neutral coreâ??are now available in these markets and can be used in combination with other approved HMOs, offering manufacturers enhanced flexibility to create differentiated HMO blends tailored to local nutritional needs. Emerging scientific evidence indicates that combining HMOs with different structures may help bring the gut microbiota composition of non-breastfed infants closer to that of breastfed infants and support a broader range of health benefits.