



## European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) event

### “May Contain/Contains – Food Allergens Labelling”

**Hosted by Mrs. Renate Sommer MEP**

- Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2012
- Time:** 18:00 – 20:30
- Venue:** European Parliament (EP) – József Antall (JAN) building, 6Q1 room – Brussels, Belgium
- Rationale:** The adoption of the new European Union (EU) Regulation on the provision of food information to consumers by the EP and the Council of the EU was welcome by EFA as a positive progress to enhance the protection of the health of people with allergies. Clear and understandable food information help consumers make better-informed choices and safe use of food, important for people with food allergy or intolerance or with special dietary requirements because some wrong choices may make them ill or even be threatening for their lives.
- ⇒ As a consequence, this event will focus on the mandatory labelling of allergens, underlining the crucial step forward (e.g.: compulsory information on allergens for non pre-packed food) and the room for improvement, and on the so-called “precautionary labelling”.

#### Agenda

18:00	Standing dinner offered by EFA
<b>Plenary session</b>	<b>Food allergy and the new EU Regulation on the provision of information to consumers</b>
18:30	Welcome and opening speech, <b>hosting MEP Renate Sommer, rapporteur of the Regulation</b>
18:35	Introduction, <b>Susanna Palkonen, EFA Executive Officer</b> → The importance of the new Regulation for people with allergies → The focus on the labelling of allergen and the “precautionary labelling”

18:40	What is food allergy and how common is it?, <b>Antonella Muraro, MD PhD, European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI)</b>
18:55	Living and challenging food allergy, <b>Djoeke Kunnen, patient testimony from Stichting Voedselallergie (Dutch Food Allergy Organisation)</b>
19:05	The new EU Regulation on the provision of food information to consumers and its differences compared to previous legislation, <b>Alexandra Nikolakopoulou, Unit E4, Nutrition, food composition and information, Directorate General Health and Consumers</b>
19:20	The role of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) as the risk assessor in the EU, <b>Silvia Valtueña Martínez, EFSA</b>
<b>Panels</b>	<b>What are the best practices?</b>
19:30	<b>Compulsory information on allergen for non pre-packed food</b>
	<p>→ The EU Member States Labelling working group as a valuable forum to exchange ideas and best practices on the national measures adopted by the Member States, <b>Stephen Puigh, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK</b></p> <p>→ Case-study: innovative ways to provide information, <b>Hanna Magdalena Spangenberg, Safe Label &amp; Clear Food, IT</b></p> <p>→ The project “Great, an Allergic Customer!” for restaurants and catering, <b>Marianne Jarl, Astma och Allergi Förbundet (Swedish Asthma and Allergy Association)</b></p>
19:50	<b>“Precautionary labelling”</b>
	<p>→ The Swedish food sector guidelines 2005, <b>Bo Nilsson, Swedish Food Federation</b></p> <p>→ The patient perspective: it is critical and a matter of life and death that in the short term, must be used only when all controls have been made and precautions taken, according to criteria publicly known; the objective in the long term is its abolition, <b>Roberta Savli, EFA EU Policy and Project Officer</b></p> <p>→ Special case-study on cross-contamination: the use of latex during the preparation of products and the risk of allergic reactions, <b>Giorgio Salerni, Federasma, IT</b></p>
20:10	<b>Questions and Answers session</b>

In collaboration with:



The European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) is a non-profit network of allergy, asthma and COPD patients organisations, representing 35 national associations in 22 countries and over 400,000 patients. EFA is dedicated to making Europe a place where people with allergies, asthma and COPD have the right to best quality of care and safe environment, live uncompromised lives and are actively involved in all decisions influencing their health.  
[www.efanet.org](http://www.efanet.org)