

Invitation letter

20th of February 2013

18:00 – 20:30

Indoor Air Quality and its Effects on Health: a Presentation of the Guidelines for Health-Based Ventilation in Europe HealthVent Project

Hosted by **Mrs. Catherine Stihler MEP**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The 2013 European Year of Air and the expected revision of the ambient air legislation mark an appropriate moment to stress the importance of indoor air quality (IAQ) and place it into the heart of the energy efficiency strategy. In 2010, the project Health-Based Ventilation Guidelines for Europe (HealthVent) was granted a project grant under the Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health 2008-2013 with the objective of developing health-based ventilation guidelines for non-industrial buildings in Europe taking into consideration energy efficiency.

Europeans spend most of their time in indoor environments and a poor quality of indoor air is responsible for 2 million disability adjusted life years (DALYs) in the 27 Member States of the European Union (EU) conjointly every year.¹ To present the results of the project, the HealthVent consortium is organising an event at the European Parliament in Brussels. It will be held on *Wednesday, the 20th of February 2013* and is kindly hosted by *Mrs. Catherine Stihler Member of the European Parliament (MEP)*. It will focus on:

- *Presentation of the health-based ventilation guidelines*
- *The impact of health-based ventilation guidelines on clean air and energy policies*

Speakers will be high-end researchers, policy-makers, representatives of patients' organisations and other interested stakeholders.

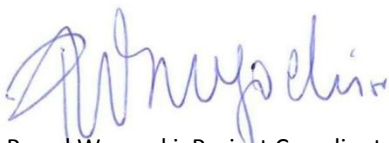
Location:	European Parliament – Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, 3H1 room – Brussels
Date:	Wednesday the 20th of February 2013 from 18:00 to 20:30
Participants:	MEPs, researchers, EU officials, representatives of patients' organisations and other interested stakeholders

Please find enclosed the draft agenda of the event. I would kindly ask you to confirm your participation to info@efanet.org, stating whether you will attend the standing dinner. *Reserve your place as soon as possible as there are limited places and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis bearing in mind all stakeholders should be represented.*

Yours sincerely,



Breda Flood, EFA President



Pawel Wargocki, Project Coordinator

¹ Final activity report of the EnVIE project, *Co-ordination Action on Indoor Air Quality and Health Effects*, available at: <http://cordis.europa.eu/documents/documentlibrary/126459681EN6.pdf> (consulted on the 28th of September 2012).

Agenda

18:00	Reception offered by HealthVent consortium
Plenary session	Setting the scene: the need for health-based guidelines for IAQ in Europe
18:30	Welcome and opening speech, hosting MEP Catherine Stihler
18:35	HealthVent and IAQ under the Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health, Jacques Remacle, Executive Agency for Health and Consumers
18:45	Principles of health-based ventilation guidelines, Pawel Wargocki, Technical University of Denmark
19:00	Health evidence supporting guidelines for Europe, Paolo Carrer, University of Milan
19:15	Holistic approach and application strategies, Eduardo de Oliveira Fernandes, University of Porto
19:30	Patients' perspective on the need for IAQ, Marie-Louise Luther, European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations
Panels	What are the impacts of the health-based ventilation guidelines?
19:40	The impact of health-based ventilation guidelines on policies related to <u>clean air</u>
<p>→ Discussions led by Otto Hänninen, Finnish National Institute for Health and Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stylios Kephelopoulos, Joint Research Centre - Michal Krzyzanowski, former World Health Organisation - Anne Stauffer, Health and Environment Alliance <p>Q&A session</p>	
20:00	The impact of health-based ventilation guidelines on policies related to <u>energy</u>
<p>→ Discussions led by Francis Allard, University of La Rochelle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victor Leal, University of Porto - Servando Alvarez, University of Seville <p>Q&A session</p>	
20:20	Outlook into the future
20:30	Closing remarks by MEP