

MOTION 4

for submission to the APEEE EEB3 General Meeting

of 3 February 2020

Possibility to offer a lunch menu adapted to food allergies and intolerances

The number of children with any type of food allergy or food intolerances has increased in the last years. Already in 2009 the number of children with food allergies reached the 8% of the population in Belgium¹ and the figure keeps increasing. Gluten, milk, nuts and egg are among the most frequent type of food allergies and intolerances.

Mainly due to the limited size of the kitchen premises and the impossibility to have a separate space in order to avoid cross-contamination in the preparation of the lunch, the canteen does not currently provide any alternative menu to those children with special food requirements. This increasing problem has an impact in all the sections and ages, being particularly visible and relevant in the case of the youngest ones. The youngest students do not want to feel different, they just want to feel that they belong to their group and to eat with their classmates. Therefore, this is also an aspect of inclusion.

Therefore, in accordance with Article 7(h) of the APEEE BXL III Statutes, the APEEE Board is requested to mandate the Working Group “Canteen” to study in detail and explore potential options concerning the offering of a lunch menu adapted to food allergies and intolerances. The Working Group should report to the APEEE Management Board and the next General Meeting in early 2021 on the following issues:

- Availability of options to offer alternative menus tailored to various food requirements for health reasons;
- Potential financial impact and ways to absorb it;
- Organisational requirements related to potential outsourcing of some menus.

Motion endorsed by:

Adán Castillo Díaz – Member of the APEEE Management Board

Kamila Kaukiel – Member of the APEEE Management Board

Jakub NICE – Member of the APEEE Management Board

¹ According to the Conseil Supérieur de la Santé :

[https://www.health.belgium.be/sites/default/files/uploads/fields/fpshealth_theme_file/17794533/Allergies%20et%20pseudoallergies%20alimentaires%20\(août%202009\)%20\(CSS%208513\).pdf](https://www.health.belgium.be/sites/default/files/uploads/fields/fpshealth_theme_file/17794533/Allergies%20et%20pseudoallergies%20alimentaires%20(août%202009)%20(CSS%208513).pdf)

See also the article by AFSCA, Agence fédérale pour la sécurité de la chaîne alimentaire
<http://www.afsca.be/professionnels/publications/presse/2019/2019-07-03.asp>