Approved Resolution for Association for Consumer Rights AGM 2014

8. Labelling and Health Hazards

Submitted by Mary Mangion, Acting President Association for Consumer Rights

Justifications, reasons and current situations to be addressed

- Accurate and informative labelling is one of the most essential rights for consumers to make informed decisions when buying products.
- Addressing health hazards in cases of food products

Recommendations

- a. Enforcement measures should be in place to ensure that items/products on shelves in supermarkets and retail outlets are to be found in languages Maltese consumers can read and understand; we urge the Authorities to ensure labelling is in Maltese or English although text in other languages can be included for access by foreigners living in Malta, according to EU regulations
- b. In accordance with EU directives on consumer rights, it is also important that the size of the font is big enough to ensure that the information can be read by different sectors of society
- c. Enforcement measures should also be in place in cases of vendors, street hawkers and markets selling food and other commodities which do not contain information on ingredients
- d. Very often street vendors of fruit and vegetables and other foodstuffs have their wares displayed and uncovered in streets and roads resulting in traffic pollution of foodstuffs which can be a serious hazard to our health Law enforcement measures should address this health hazard