

Question for written answer E-014438/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Louis Michel (ALDE)

Subject: Food waste: logo concerning 'best before' and 'use by' dates

Efforts to reduce food waste are an essential part of the circular economy.

Confusion among many consumers about the difference between 'best before' and 'use by' dates contributes to food waste. As a result, huge quantities of foodstuffs which are still fit for consumption are thrown away. Against that background, and in the context of consumer information campaigns, introducing throughout the Union a logo which specifies what the two dates actually mean and the implications for the quality or safety of the product in question if it is not consumed by either of the dates given could help to reduce food waste.

Will the Commission encourage the introduction of such a logo as part of the measures concerning a circular economy which it plans to put forward before the end of this year?