



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

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The International Dairy Federation (IDF) was honored to receive an invitation to attend the intergovernmental organizations panel at the 40th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It provided an excellent opportunity to explain IDF's role in establishing dairy-related food standards to the Codex delegates.

IDF has served as an essential technical advisor to Codex since Codex was established, providing technical support on all aspects related to milk and dairy products as well as their use as ingredients in other foods. IDF strongly supports the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products, which originated from an international IDF Committee of Experts.

IDF also contributes to the work of several horizontal Codex Committees, engaging Codex across more than a dozen Committees on many topics such as food hygiene, additives, labeling and methods of analysis.

IDF is committed to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2016, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and IDF signed the 'Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam'. This Declaration serves as a framework for the contributions of the dairy sector to the achievement of key SDGs such as ending poverty and hunger, while promoting responsible consumption and production to protect the environment.

IDF commits significant resources to Codex activities because Codex is an internationally recognized, independent, science-based and highly effective organization that has a key role to play in protecting the health of consumers and facilitating international food trade.

IDF also took the opportunity to advocate science-based decision making, which usually provides the best public health outcomes.

*Dr. Nico van Belzen,  
IDF Director General*

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Find in this issue the outcome of the 40<sup>th</sup> Codex Alimentarius Commission as well as an update of the meetings of the IDF Science and Programme Coordination Committee and of the IDF Standing Committee on Nutrition and Health. IDF was present at the International Milk Promotion and Global Dairy Platform marketing meetings in Oslo and at NutrEvent in Lille. IDF and ICAR are continuing their collaboration on a reference system for somatic cell counting. Since our last Newsbrief, seven more countries have endorsed the Dairy Declaration.

We share the latest information about the programme of the **IDF World Dairy Summit 2017 in Belfast**, and are finalizing the symposium **The Role of Dairy in Sustainable Diets**, 1-2 February 2018 in Seville. IDF is co-organizing the 3rd Food Structure and Functionality Forum Symposium – from Molecules to Functionality in Quebec, Canada in 2018.

We invite you to consult the latest IDF publications on **Global Marketing Trends, Understanding Changes in Global Dairy Consumption**, and the **IDF Guide on Biodiversity for the Dairy Sector**.

## **PROGRESS ON THE WORK OF THE IDF STANDING COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HEALTH**

The committee discussed a review paper on *MicroRNAs, Dairy and Human Health* which is currently being drafted. The review paper will provide IDF's members with the latest evidence on the putative role of microRNAs in health and disease and the likelihood of absorption of microRNAs from food into the human body. The review paper is expected to be finalized by the end of the summer.

A highlight of the agenda was a compilation of the recommendations for milk and milk products consumption from dietary guidelines worldwide. The information was collected from the FAO database on dietary guidelines. SCNH members are currently reviewing the data collected for their respective countries before considering whether additional work is needed.

The next meeting of this Standing Committee will be held in Belfast, UK in October 2017.



*Meeting of the IDF Standing Committee on Nutrition and Health*

## **NATIONAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE DAIRY DECLARATION OF ROTTERDAM**

During the last months, seven countries have signed a document demonstrating the commitment of their dairy sector to the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam, bringing the total signatories to over a dozen. Zimbabwe, The Netherlands, Denmark, France, Poland, Ireland and Canada are spreading the word about the principles of the Dairy Declaration and working towards meeting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.



*IDF Zimbabwe endorsed the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam during World Milk Day 2017 on 1<sup>st</sup> June.*



*In a signing ceremony as part of a meeting on 'sustainable food choices', held in The Hague, on 12 June, representatives of the Dutch Dairy Association (NZO), the Dutch Federation of Agriculture and Horticulture (LTO Nederland), the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Wageningen University & Research endorsed the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam.*



*At the recent Teagasc Dairy Open day in Moorepark on 4<sup>th</sup> July, Kevin Lane, Ornuia and Zoe Kavanagh, National Dairy Council (seated) and others signed for endorsement of the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam. Back row: from (L to R) Dr Mark Fenelon, Head of Food Programme, Teagasc; Dr Phil Kelly, Teagasc; Mick Houlihan, Bord Bia; Michael Creed, Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine; Dr Noel Cawley, Chairman Teagasc; Michael Hickey, Teddy Cashman, Chairman NDC and Professor Gerry Boyle, Director Teagasc.*



*On 20<sup>th</sup> June, CNIEL hosted the International Dairy Federation (IDF) to sign the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam and confirm the sustainability commitments of the French dairy sector. L to R: Thierry Geslain (CNIEL), Judith Bryans (signed on behalf of IDF), Thierry Roquefeuil (signed on behalf of CNIEL), Caroline Le Poulthier (CNIEL).*



*On behalf of the Danish dairy industry and the International Dairy Federation, respectively, Jørgen Hald Christensen and Judith Bryans signed the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 during the mid-year IDF Business meetings in Brussels.*



*The Dairy Processors Association Of Canada, IDF Canada, and the Dairy Farmers of Canada endorsed the Rotterdam Declaration at the DFC annual meeting in Edmonton on 18<sup>th</sup> July.*

## **MICROBIOTA SESSION AT NUTREVENT**

Each of us hosts trillions of bacteria and other microorganisms in our gut, collectively called human microbiota. Outnumbering the human cells in our body by a factor of ten, our microbiota play a fundamental role in our wellbeing. For instance, gut microorganisms enable us to utilize normally indigestible carbohydrates, synthesize vitamins and stimulate our immune system. They prevent colonization by pathogens by competing for attachment sites and for essential nutrients.

The food we eat nourishes not only us but also our gut microbiota. Probiotics and prebiotics aim to improve our health by influencing our minute guests. However, it is difficult to understand the role of microbiota in human health and disease because of the tremendous complexity of the interplay between the human body and its associated microbes. An update on current research was provided at NutrEvent 2017 in the session “Recent progress in the identification and validation of biomarkers in microbiota”, which was chaired by IDF’s Director General Dr Nico van Belzen.

Professor Karine Clément (Institute of Cardiometabolism and Nutrition, FR) explained that high-throughput sequencing and analytical technology have facilitated in-depth studies of the gut microbiota, bacterial metabolites, and their association with cardiometabolic diseases. Patients with such diseases frequently exhibit enrichment or depletion of certain bacterial groups in their gut compared to healthy individuals. For instance, the bacterial metabolite trimethylamine N-oxide (TMAO) is associated with poor outcomes in patients with cardiovascular disease and might represent a useful biomarker for diagnosis and during treatment.

Dr Daria Kashtanova (Clinical Research Center for Gerontology, RU) said that once established, 60-70% of the adult microbiota composition remains stable throughout life, but 30-40% can be altered by changes in the diet and other factors such as physical activity, bacterial infections, antimicrobial agents or surgical treatment.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the interaction between our bodies and our microbiota is quite sophisticated, and holds great promise for maintaining and improving health.

## **IDF/ICAR PROJECT ON A REFERENCE SYSTEM FOR SOMATIC CELL COUNTING**

IDF and ICAR are collaborating on a joint project which intends to set up an international reference system for somatic cell counting (SCC) in raw milk, and have recently produced a [video](#) to illustrate the project.

### [The need for worldwide equivalence of analytical results](#)

Global markets with expanding streams of exported/imported goods require equivalence of analytical results. Traceable analytical results are key in free and fair trade.

However, in some cases worldwide equivalence of analytical results cannot be safeguarded due to lack of certified reference materials and reference methods. Sophisticated large-scale reference systems can serve as an alternative where traditional calibration schemes are lacking precision and effectiveness.

A joint IDF/ICAR Action Team is currently working on obtaining a representative and stable reference material for SCC, as well as a calculation model for determining assigned values based on measurements in multiple laboratories. The project will create a laboratory database with a competence scoring system. The expected outcome is a reference system that is complementary to the ‘traditional’ way of calibrating routine methods. This will promote the acceptance and mutual confidence in somatic cell count data, thereby helping free and fair trade.

## **ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MILK PROMOTION GROUP OF IDF AND THE GLOBAL DAIRY PLATFORM**

It is an exciting time for marketers. The traditional 'ad man' is yielding territory to the 'math lady' who can make sense of the 'big data' generated by the surge in use of social media. The internet has also boosted the importance of 'affinity groups', people who associate themselves around a shared interest or common goal, thereby creating new market segments that need a dedicated approach. These and other hot topics were discussed at the annual gathering of the International Milk Promotion Group of the IDF Standing Committee on Marketing and the Global Dairy Platform, this year kindly hosted in Oslo by the IDF National Committee of Norway.

The French marketing team from CNIEL presented their pilot project on the *Sporting Tribes* affinity group. Three affinity groups were chosen: runners, cyclists, and yoga participants. These groups made 43 million queries per month, and 16.5 million group members are reachable by social media tools such as YouTube and Facebook. Resources needed to implement the program were both external (Google search, Facebook, YouTube) and internal (community manager, dietician, digital manager, media manager and survey manager). The pilot project *Sporting Tribes* was successful as a containment strategy to convey positive dairy messages, to occupy media space, and to create a barrier against negative influences.

Participants in the Oslo meeting discussed two major issues that require urgent attention from dairy marketers. The first is the use of milk and dairy-related terminology by non-dairy foods and beverages ('fake milks'), which is also being addressed by IDF. The second is the use of 'absence claims' to promote dairy products, which may generate a short time benefit for the company using them, but risk damaging the entire dairy market in the medium and long term.

## **40<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

IDF was invited to take part in the panel for International Governmental Organizations (IGO) at the fortieth Codex Alimentarius Commission Session. Acknowledging IDF's contribution and role as stakeholder, the Codex Secretariat invited IDF to present our views on successful partnership alongside OIE, UNECE and WTO amongst others.

IDF Director General Dr Nico van Belzen highlighted the Federation's continuous engagement in Codex as technical advisor on standards for milk and milk products, as well as IDF's contributions to the work of several 'horizontal' Codex Committees. IDF supports the science-based consultative Codex process and is looking forward to constructively advance topics that are important to the dairy sector and have an impact across the whole food sector.

The Commission also held a panel with non-governmental organizations (NGO) to enhance their collaboration with Codex. IDF collaborates with some of these organizations, such as AOAC International and USP, as an essential way towards improving standard setting and achieving Sustainable Development Goal 17, "partnership for the goals".

The Commission adopted a new standard for dairy permeate powders. Meeting the demand for whey permeate in food and feed markets is expected to be a major challenge for the future, underlining the need for global harmonization of fair trade practices through the new international standard.

IDF welcomes the decision of the Codex Commission to discontinue the work on developing a standard on processed cheese. Despite decades of work by IDF and others on drafting a standard for processed cheese, divergent use of the product worldwide obstructed the compromise on compositional specificities.

Two electronic working groups were established to address antimicrobial resistance and develop a proposed draft revision of the *Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005)* as well as draft guidance on integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance.

The CAC was held from 17-22 July in Geneva, Switzerland. The IDF delegation included Eric Grande (FR)- Chair of the FSSG, John Allan (US)- Deputy-Chair of the SCSIL and Laurence Rycken (IDF).



*IDF Director General Dr Nico van Belzen addressing the Codex delegates*

## **IDF SCIENCE & PROGRAMME COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

The IDF Science and Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC) reviewed the progress on the work programme 2017. This year 12 proposals were adopted and work has started on all of them. The new work items will lead to two Bulletins or other IDF publication, eight IDF/ISO standards (new and revisions) and two other outputs (internet hub, input to microbiology committee of ISO).

The SPCC reviewed the priority items for 2017/2018. IDF continues working on the differentiation of the Nitrogen Conversion Factor for milk products in Codex Standards and will support dairy protein by preparing a white paper. On antimicrobial resistance (AMR), IDF will support dairy stakeholders in using adequate antimicrobial practices and will contribute to the new Codex work on AMR.

Concerning the IDF guide to good animal welfare practices in dairy production 2.0, the IDF Action Team will update the document with OIE and ISO standards and input from IDF member countries. IDF and ICAR will collaborate on the inclusion of applicable recordings and animal welfare measurements in the Guide.



*The SPCC met on 12th June 2017 in Brussels.*

## **IDF NATIONAL COMMITTEES MEETING**

The IDF National Committee Secretaries (NCs) heard an update on IDF communication activities, various internal matters and IDF's participation in the multi-stakeholder LEAP (Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance) Partnership, an initiative committed to improving the environmental performance of livestock supply chains.



*The IDF National Committee Secretaries met on 14th June 2017 in Brussels.*

## **NEPAL JOINS THE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION**

Ten Nepalese dairy organizations have joined forces to form the IDF National Committee of Nepal: the National Dairy Development Board, the Department of Livestock Services, the Dairy Development Corporation, the Central Dairy Co-operative Association Nepal, the Nepal Dairy Association, the Dairy Industries Association, the Dairy Farmers Association, the Central Livestock Co-operation Nepal, the National Commercial Dairy and Livestock Farmers Association and the National Dairy Federation Nepal.

The President of the IDF National Committee of Nepal is Mr. Kailash Prasad Dhungel (Executive Director NDDB Nepal) and the Secretary is Mr. Ajay Pokhrel (Research Officer NDDB Nepal).

IDF warmly welcomes Nepal as an Associate Member and looks forward to our collaboration.



**राष्ट्रिय दुग्ध विकास बोर्ड**  
**(National Dairy Development Board)**  
(नेपाल सरकारद्वारा राष्ट्रिय दुग्ध विकास बोर्ड ऐन, २०४८ अन्तर्गत स्थापित)



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हरिहरभवन, ललितपुर, नेपाल ।  
Harihar Bhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal  
Dr Nico van Belzen  
Director General  
International Dairy Federation  
Boulevard A Reyers, 70  
1030 Brussels,  
BELGIUM

Date: June 22, 2017

Dear Dr Van Belzen,

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF IDF

## UPCOMING IDF EVENTS

### **IDF World Dairy Summit 2017** **Belfast, 29th October – 3rd November**

Join us in Belfast for the IDF World Dairy Summit 2017!

With less than three months to go, we are working hard behind the scenes on making this year's Summit one of the best yet. The Summit theme for 2017 is 'Making a Difference with Dairy'. Opening on Monday 30th October with the World Dairy Political/Agricultural Leaders Forum, this brand new Forum will provide a platform for the political and agricultural leaders that will shape the sector's operating environment. This will be followed by the World Dairy Leaders Forum which will see senior company leaders discuss their vision for the sector's future. The IDF will then showcase its work in the IDF Forum in the afternoon.

From Tuesday to Thursday we shift focus to our parallel conference streams, each session exploring various topics from Policy and Economics on Tuesday, to Emerging Topics on Thursday. The parallel conferences will include panel discussions with recognised sector leaders and delegates will be given ample opportunity to participate, contribute and shape the debate. While the Summit will officially close on Thursday, we have been very fortunate to work with some really engaging and interesting local operators and have a series of Technical Tours for you to attend on Friday – places for these are in high demand so we would urge you to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Of course, no Summit would be complete without a diverse and entertaining social programme. The Welcome Reception will take place in the multi-award winning Titanic Belfast on Sunday 29th October and the highlight in the evening crown, the Gala Dinner, will take place on Thursday 2nd November in the Belfast Waterfront.

For more booking, information and latest news please visit: <http://idfwds2017.com/>

Belfast is ready to welcome you with open arms!



### The Role of Dairy in Sustainable Diets 2018

The dairy sector plays a key role in ensuring food security, nutrition and sustainability for present and future generations. The International Dairy Federation (IDF) is bringing together the global dairy community to focus on “*The role of dairy in sustainable diets*” in Seville, Spain on 1-2 February 2018. The event will discuss the public perception of dairy, health benefits of dairy, public health nutrition, sustainable diets, mitigation of environmental and socioeconomic impact and adaptation to climate change.

The event is expected to attract at least 200 high-level representatives from dairy companies and other important stakeholders from all over the world. It will be an excellent opportunity to meet these dairy leaders and discuss the future of dairy.

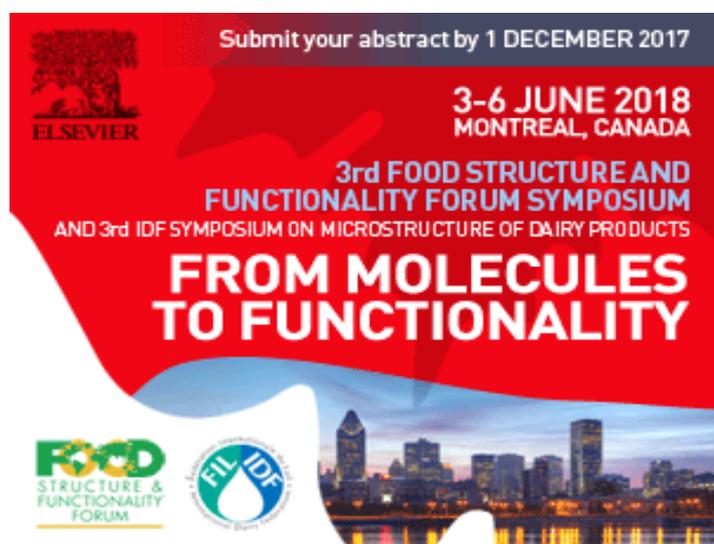
The great city of Sevilla provides a magnificent backdrop to the conference. Its splendid architecture has been declared world heritage. Sevilla features important cultural and artistic legacy as well as gastronomic delights. Its excellent air and rail systems connect to a multitude of national and international destinations.



### IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2018



### 3rd FIL-IDF Symposium on Microstructure of Dairy Products 2018



Join us for the [3rd Food Structure and Functionality Forum Symposium—from Molecules to Functionality](#) jointly organized by IDF and Elsevier. This event will take place in Montreal, Canada from 3-6 June 2018.

The conference will highlight the latest research in food structure, including the impact of dairy structures on digestibility and nutrient release in the gastrointestinal tract. The conference will bring together experts in food engineering, food science, food technology and nutrition.

We invite you to submit your oral and poster abstracts on the conference topics listed on the website. For submission please use the [online abstract system](#), (deadline 1 December 2017).

## IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2019, 21-25 June, Prague, Czech Republic



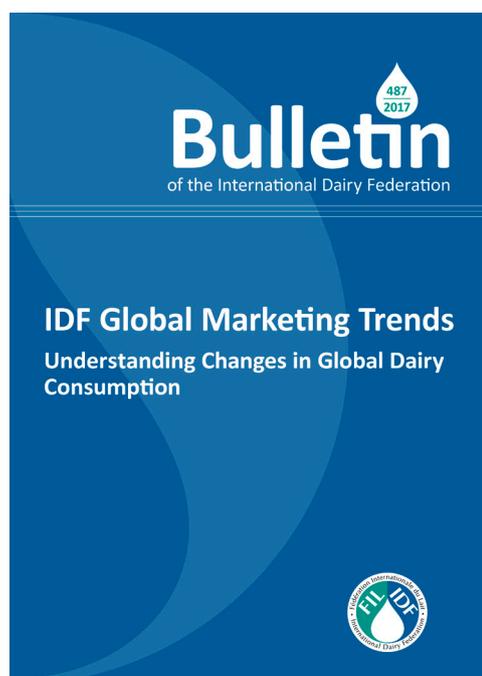
The Czech Moravian Breeders' Corporation will host the IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2019 between 21 and 25 June 2019. This week is the occasion for dairy scientists and professionals in the field of methods of analysis to meet and exchange on latest technical and technological findings, and to contribute to the progress of the IDF programme of work, and of publications of IDF/ISO international standards.

The IDF/ISO Analytical Week will also be held in conjunction with the ICAR Conference between 17 and 21 June 2019.

As there are many experts being involved in both IDF/ISO and ICAR working groups, this will offer the chance to save time and travel costs for them. Both overlapping events offer a great possibility for fruitful exchange and stimulating discussions.

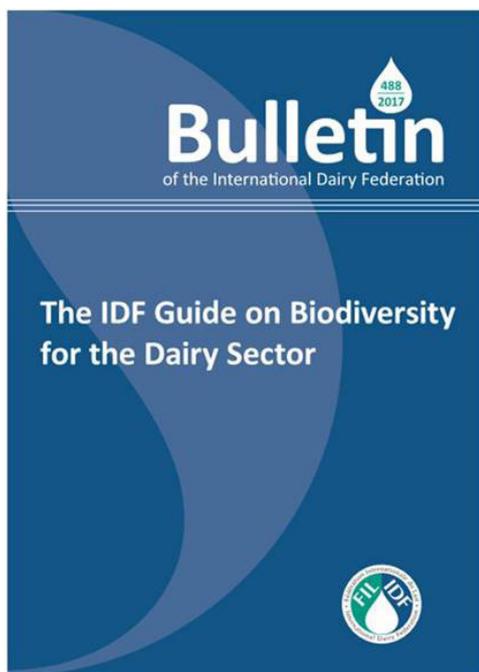
## IDF PUBLICATIONS

### Bulletin of the IDF N° 487/ 2017: IDF Global Marketing Trends, Understanding Changes in Global Dairy Consumption



Based on in-depth research conducted by IDF national experts, this study is intended to supplement the existing World Dairy Situation report by shedding light on global food consumption trends, with a particular focus on dairy products by geographic region. In addition to exploring dairy consumption trends, the report identifies key consumption drivers and barriers. The study looks at the major dairy product categories, and the various factors influencing consumption: demographics, economy, dairy sector dynamism, changes in consumption habits, and consumer expectations. Also featured are anti-milk and anti-fat messages, and cattle-breeding debates across the globe. This data analysis provides the necessary elements for future strategy guidelines for all dairy product segments.

**Bulletin of the IDF N° 488/ 2017: The IDF Guide on Biodiversity for the Dairy Sector**



These guidelines aim at providing principles for identifying biodiversity indicators that can be used to measure progress and assist technical advisors of dairy industry stakeholders in improving biodiversity management.

Keywords: *biodiversity, ecosystem, dairy impacts, dairy farm*

**IDF Executive Summary of IDF Country Reports April 2017**



Members of the IDF Standing Committee on Dairy Policies and Economics (SCDPE) from 11 countries submitted country reports covering the six months leading up to April 2017. This [fact sheet](#) highlights the main findings from the review of the country reports as prepared by Peter Dawson (UK) and presented to the Committee at the SCDPE meeting held in Tel Aviv 26th April 2017.

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