

IDF WORLD DAIRY SUMMIT 2017

Belfast

29 October to 3 November



The Daily Summit

October 2017

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Welcome to Belfast!

Welcome to the IDF World Dairy Summit 2017 here at the Waterfront Conference Centre, in the beautiful city of Belfast. The Daily Summit is your guide to the latest news, announcements and events from around the conference.

Here's a round up of today's events:

Latest from the Summit

The Opening Ceremony



The World Dairy Summit was opened in style this morning, with delegates treated a musical tour of the United Kingdom, and Mike Johnston of the local organising committee officially opening the Summit.

President of the IDF Dr Judith Bryans welcomed delegates to this year's Summit, speaking of the pivotal role the international dairy sector can play in ensuring both healthy people, and a healthy planet, through providing nutritious dairy products and environmental stewardship. The dairy sector has a key role to play in delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, a role which it takes seriously.

Dr Bryans told delegates how the IDF would be a driving force behind continual improvement in the sector. Dairy producing countries are striving to address inequality and lift people out of poverty. Dr Bryans said: "We believe in dairy. We have a strong story to tell in terms of nutrition and also the progress we are making environmentally. No sector is perfect and there is always room for improvement but we have a vision, we have our goals and we will spare no effort in achieving them."

The World Political and Agricultural Leaders Forum



In an unprecedented line up of speakers, the Political Leaders Forum featured speakers as follows; UK Secretary of State for the Department of the Environment, Farming, and Rural Affairs Michael Gove MP, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development Phil Hogan, Dr Ren Wang assistant director general of UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation and Thomas Lee Bauer of the World Bank Group.

Secretary of State Michael Gove told the Summit that the UK Government is committed to supporting the dairy industry and that during Brexit negotiations, the UK Government wanted to ensure that supply lines are solid, no barriers to trade are erected and labour can be accessed where it is needed. "This will be at the forefront of our minds", said Mr Gove. He added that whilst in a new phase of history, this certainly did not mean "turning our backs on our friends and neighbours" and would not mean lower environmental or animal welfare standards. The Secretary of State concluded by adding that creativity and innovation go hand in hand, and are fundamental to ensuring a vibrant farming sector.

Commissioner Phil Hogan spoke of the importance of dairy in feeding a growing population, and of the strong tradition for global trade in the sector. Commissioner Hogan called the issue of free movement of people "a difficult issue for the UK and for the EU for different reasons, and will require negotiations." Mr Hogan told the Summit that EU agri exports continued to grow even though the sector was still adjusting to the post-quota environment. He said there is need for an ongoing commitment to sustainability 'from farm to fork' in response to consumer demand. He also added that research and innovation has a vital role to play in the dairy industry, and that the transferral of research into practice would be very important.

Takashi Hiranaka of the Japanese Embassy gave an overview of the current dairy market in Japan, outlining the paradox of falling production and rising consumption that the country was seeing. Hiranaka detailed reasons for the decline in farming in Japan, with many farms lacking any successor to take over farming operations, and others citing a lack of confidence in the future of the sector and others citing debt as reasons for closure. Despite these challenges the Japanese market is buoyant, with demand for dairy products on the long term rise the market is one of stability, with a positive future outlook.

Dr Ren Wang from the FAO told the Summit that the commitment of the dairy sector to the UN's 2030 sustainability goals was welcome, and what is now needed is for national frameworks to be developed which set out objectives and performance indicators. Dr Wang spoke of a 'time of challenges', with the global population expected to rise to 9.7 billion people and the issues which would arise from this. Dr Wang praised the Dairy Declaration, saying that it had shifted the focus of debate towards that of enhancing the contribution of the sector to sustainable development.

Thomas Lee Bauer of the World Bank Group finished the session, outlining challenges and opportunities that currently characterise the Dairy Farming sector. He also outlined the areas in which the dairy sector needed to ensure its credentials were strong; food safety, protecting 'pure' dairy products and also entering emerging markets.

World Dairy Leaders Forum



The World Dairy Leaders Forum saw speakers from the UK, China, Japan and Australia underline the importance of communicating effectively with consumers who are looking for reassurance on the integrity and quality of dairy foods at a time when anti-dairy activism is on the rise. Leaders at the forum issued a call for the industry to unite and embrace enthusiastically the challenge of securing consumer confidence.

Paul Vernon, Chief Executive of Glambia Cheese and Chairman of Dairy UK, spoke of how the dairy sector had changed over the past 30 years, as had the way we communicate with consumers. Dairy is a superfood, and this message needs to be heard loud and clear by consumers, who are under a constant barrage of misleading and ill-informed messages about dairy.

Tomas Pietrangeli, Managing Director of Arla UK added that "At a time when there is a need around the world for more nutritious food, dairy should be a critical part of the solution. However, the myths and scare stories that are being presented about dairy does give the industry a potential crisis and in the UK and Europe we could be facing an existential threat from anti-dairy campaigning.

"We have a bright future, we have the ammunition and we need to play to our strengths. Changing the visual image of milk and focusing on young women is essential in establishing the message that one of the greatest sources of foods is still relevant and part of modern day life."

"It's time to get behind the goodness and time to debunk the anti-dairy myths and unsubstantiated claims."

Zheng Jianqiu, Executive President of Yili Dairy, China, said: "The burgeoning Chinese dairy industry is working very hard to develop solidarity across the supply chain and with consumers. Our vision is to be the most trusted supplier of nutritious dairy foods. It is important that dairy's voice is heard by the whole of society."

Kazuo Kawamura, President of Meiji, Japan: "It is vital that the industry fully explore the new methods of communicating with suppliers, consumers and customers going forward. The need for greater global cooperation and planning is of paramount importance to avoid potential future crises."

Barry Irvin, Executive Chairman of Bega Cheese focused on ensuring that transparency and honesty was the cornerstone of all communications with stakeholders. Mr Irvin outlined how research and technological change will change the sector, with big data changing the way decisions are taken. These research and technological breakthroughs will help us deliver sustainability. For the consumer, authenticity and provenance are increasingly important and therefore it is vital the industry reacts accordingly.

Dr Judith Bryans concluded the session by adding: "The message from across the global sector is quite clear - the industry must be committed to highlighting the nutritional benefits of dairy and confronting the many myths that are peddled by the anti-dairy lobby. It is a major challenge but one that dairy will rise to."

Making a Difference with Dairy



The global dairy industry must address the risk of protein becoming the 'next frontier' in the debate on nutrition, delegates at the Making a Difference with Dairy forum heard today.

Speaking at the forum Dr Jaap Evers, IDF Leader Global Standards, said "Dairy protein is a natural, high quality protein. It is imperative that we get the message to consumers that it is an integral part of a sustainable diet. We do not want to reach a stage where consumers are given the message that from an environmental perspective there is 'green' i.e. good protein and 'red' i.e. bad protein and that dairy is somehow a 'red' protein.

"There is a wealth of scientific research that should strengthen dairy's role as an integral element of healthy consumers' diets. The IDF will soon undertake a new research project on protein."

Mary Anne Burkman, the internationally renowned nutrition expert, said "The validity of science underpinning the nutritional value of dairy has never been more comprehensive and compelling. The challenge is to get consumers and health authorities to recognise this."

Dr Nico van Belzen, IDF Director General, said: "The IDF remains committed to playing its part in delivering high quality science that addresses many topics including nutrition, food safety and animal welfare. Another element of IDF's forthcoming work is the development on guidelines focused on the optimal use of antimicrobial agents."

Summit Snaps

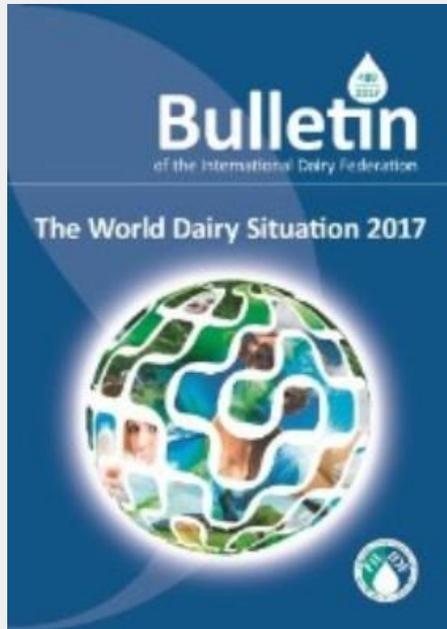


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Featured Publication

The IDF World Dairy Situation Report 2017



This report contains a wealth of information about the international dairy sector — including data tables, graphs, Country Reports and analyses for more than fifty dairy-producing countries from all five continents. Several aspects of the dairy industry are covered: from milk production and processing, to trade, pricing and consumption.

This annual publication is produced by the International Dairy Federation (IDF) as part of its mission to represent and support the dairy industry globally. [Click here for more](#)

IDF Events



IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2018 - Dublin, IE, 23rd to 27th April

The Irish National Committee of the IDF will host the week of business meetings where IDF and ISO members progress the joint work programme of ISO/IDF international standards and accompanying protocols.

[Click here for more information](#)



3rd FOOD STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONALITY FORUM SYMPOSIUM

& 3rd IDF SYMPOSIUM ON MICROSTRUCTURE OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

3-6 JUNE 2018
MONTREAL, CANADA



3rd Food Structure and Functionality Forum Symposium and 3rd IDF Symposium on Microstructure of Dairy Products
3 - 6 June 2018, Hyatt Regency Montréal, Montréal, Quebec, Canada

The Food Structure and Functionality Forum (FSFF) and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) are pleased to announce the 3rd Food Structure and Functionality Forum Symposium and the 3rd IDF Symposium on Microstructure of Dairy Products, to be held in Montréal, Canada from 3-6 June 2018.

[Click here](#) for more information

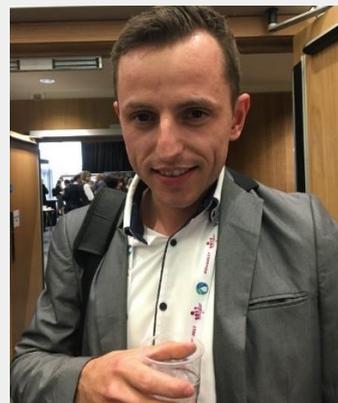
Meet the Delegates



Lilia Maria Beltran Barrientos (Mexico)

Centro De Investigacion en Alimentacion Y Desarrollo

"I like the conference App and the fact the Summit has gone paperless this year! I'm also looking forward to the food safety and nutrition conferences this week- the Summit is a great opportunity for learning as well as networking"



Jeroen Hospers (The Netherlands)
Frieslandcampina

"This is my first time at the World Dairy Summit; I'm here with a poster to present. The Summit is great; it's an excellent chance to find out about the latest data and developments as well as meet new people"