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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



This last IDF Newsbrief in 2015 reports on meetings from intergovernmental organizations and other events IDF attended, lists the newly elected members of IDF governing bodies and reveals (in case you missed it) who won the 2015 IDF Prize of Excellence and the IMP's Yves Boutonnat Trophy.

Highlights from the IDF World Dairy Summit have been published in our daily [Summit Newsletters](#) so are not repeated here. However I would like to once more warmly thank our colleagues in Lithuania for their excellent hospitality during the 2015 IDF World Dairy Summit in Vilnius. They have put their country on the "IDF map" very well.

Looking forward to 2016, Ireland will host the combined [Concentrated and Dried Milks Symposium](#) and the [Cheese Science & Technology Symposium](#) in April. Denmark will organize the [IDF-ISO Analytical Week](#) in May/June which will include a symposium on fighting food fraud, discussing ongoing initiatives to trace materials and counteract fraudulent practices. France will welcome the [Mastitis Conference](#) in September. Finally, the [IDF World Dairy Summit](#) will be held in the Netherlands in October.

IDF's events in 2016 will strengthen the science base of the dairy sector and contribute to nourishing the world with safe and sustainable dairy. To quote Ambassador Gerda Verburg, who recently completed her 2013-2015 mandate as Chair of the UN Committee on World Food Security: "By 2050 we will have to sustainably feed an additional 2 billion people. Food security and nutrition for all through sustainable agriculture will only be achieved if all stakeholders jointly invest their resources and efforts to enable food producers, including dairy farmers, to play their role."

Dr Nico van Belzen  
IDF Director General

## **UN COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY ANNUAL MEETING 2015 (CFS42)**

IDF is a member of the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) of the Committee on World Food Security of the United Nations (CFS), and attended part of the CFS42 meeting. IDF spoke on behalf of the PSM at the bilateral meeting with the European countries, advocating investment in talent development in agriculture, especially for young farmers and researchers. Countries were invited to establish national plans for talent development and create incentives for the private sector to engage in talent development, especially as job rotation is much faster than in the past so staff training will not always provide a return to the company that invests in it. IDF also had a speaking slot in the plenary CFS42 session on water, highlighting key areas where policy recommendations could greatly improve water productivity, efficiency and re-use. To feed a growing global population sustainably we need to increase the 'water productivity' of agricultural production, that is, 'more crop per drop' and more liters of milk per liter of water. As an example of how the dairy sector is working on improving its impact on water resources, IDF mentioned the water footprinting guidance it is developing. This guide will provide transparency about the water profile of dairy products in order to enable quantitative monitoring and help identify hotspots for improvement, both for dairy farms and processors. It will use a life cycle assessment approach based on based on ISO and UNEP/SETAC standards and will collaborate with the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance (LEAP) partnership in which IDF is involved. Policy makers will be able to use this guidance at national and regional level for decision making related to water use in livestock production. IDF plans to publish the guidance later this year.

CFS42 was the last CFS event to be chaired by Her Excellency Gerda Verburg. Many CFS member countries and the FAO Director General warmly thanked her for her outstanding leadership of the CFS.



*H.E. Gerda Verburg (second from left) chairing CFS42*

## **EFSA CONFERENCE “SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FOOD SAFETY, TOGETHER”**

The second conference of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) brought together more than a thousand participants, including leading food safety and nutrition experts in Europe. In addition to reporting on progress in the wide range of food safety and nutrition areas covered by EFSA, the conference included novel developments in data accumulation and sharing.

The exponential increase in the amount of data being produced could lead to pessimism regarding our capacity to analyze these. However, new ways of data visualization are being developed which will help us make sense of huge data streams. Moreover, advances in artificial intelligence and computer learning such as IBM's Watson are expected to greatly expand the capacity to generate knowledge from raw data.

Several organizations including the European Commission have funded efforts to provide the full data sets underlying scientific publications and risk assessments. While welcoming such 'open data' initiatives, IDF's representative argued that quality control of (alternative) analyses of such data would be needed before they could be considered in risk management or policy making.

Predictive toxicology, i.e. the use of biotechnology tools and computer models to predict toxicity, is being promoted to reduce toxicity testing on laboratory animals as well as time and costs. The implications of this new paradigm for risk assessment and risk management are not yet completely clear. Understanding the

sources of uncertainty and incorporating the effects of toxicological thresholds will be essential for responsibly transitioning to new ways of describing and predicting toxicological risks.

In the area of nutrition, several talks focused on intestinal microbes. Human physiology and health can be profoundly affected by signaling molecules produced by gut microbiota, which heavily depend on diet. The composition of microbiota and their collective genome vary much wider in time and between individuals than the human genome does, and therefore can adapt more quickly to changing circumstances. Preliminary data indicate that



*Full (Chair) transparency in EFSA's conference*

microbiota 'signatures' may differ between responders and non-responders in nutritional studies, which could provide new insights in diet-health relationships.

## **WORLD FOOD DAY 2015**



*UN SG Ban Ki-moon at World Food Day 2015 celebration*

Featuring the theme “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”, the World Expo in Milan provided the ideal setting to celebrate World Food Day 2015 on 16th October. Speakers included the President and Minister of Economy and Finance of Italy as well as the Director General of FAO and the President of IFAD. United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon emphasized the need to invest in food production, noting that countries’ agriculture budgets are usually much lower than their military budgets. Subsequent panel sessions addressed the role that public finance and investments can play in mitigating risks in agriculture, such as investment in public goods, smallholder farmers and public investments in financing institutions serving SMEs.

## **FENS SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM REVEALS BENEFICIAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF REGULAR FAT DAIRY FOODS**

During the 12th FENS European Nutrition Conference held in Berlin, Germany in October 2015, a satellite symposium on “Regular Fat Dairy Foods in Nutrition and Health: The Latest insights” was organized by the European Milk Forum (EMF), Centre National Interprofessionnel de l'Economie Laitière (CNIEL), Dutch Dairy Organization (NZO), the Dairy Council (UK), Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC), Dairy Australia, National dairy Council (NDC), Global Dairy Platform (GDP) and the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

Dietary guidance over the last 30 years has focused on dietary fat and saturated fat reduction to minimize the risk of metabolic diseases, especially heart disease. However, science is evolving and it appears that saturated fat may not be the major issue, as was recently also confirmed by a WHO-commissioned research group. In addition, the results of a French cohort study, (Toulouse University Hospital, France) concluded

that “saturated fatty acids should not be associated with increased cardiovascular disease risk, but rather be considered as part of a balanced diet”.

Professor Benoit Lamarche (Laval University, Québec, Canada) argued that “limited dietary saturated fat intake in current guidelines is not justified by current evidence and recommendations need to be revisited”. Rather than being grouped, saturated fatty acids need to be considered individually; for instance, lauric, myristic and palmitic acids are considered atherogenic in case of excess.

Dr Ulrika Ericson (Lund University Diabetes Center, Sweden) addressed the relationship between dietary sources of saturated fatty acids and risk of type 2 diabetes (T2D), citing results from the Malmö Diet and Cancer cohort. High-fat dairy products were associated with decreased risk of T2D while low-fat dairy products were not. “This suggests that dairy fat, at least partly, explains observed protective associations between dairy intake and T2D” said Dr Ericson.

Professor Arne Astrup (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) claimed that “among specific types of dairy products, cheese seems to exert a cardio-protective effect despite high saturated fat content. Mechanistic research indicates that this health effect of cheese involves the food matrix, where the high calcium content plays an important role. Consequently, cheese should be recommended as an essential part of a heart-healthy diet”.

## **LEAP+ STAKEHOLDER MEETING AND 12TH LEAP STEERING COMMITTEE**

Current and prospective members of the LEAP Partnership met at FAO on 15 October to discuss the business case for future work (i.e. the proposed LEAP+). As part of this meeting, current members shared their experiences with the LEAP Partnership regarding their initial expectations relative to the work plan, governance and management, and to what extent LEAP has met these expectations. Delanie Kellon (IDF Technical Manager), Ying Wang (US – Chair of IDF SC on Environment) and Greg Thoma (US) highlighted the valuable role that LEAP has played in facilitating a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process that has operated efficiently, and has delivered important resources for the dairy sector, and the livestock sector in general (<http://www.fao.org/partnerships/leap/resources/resources/en/>). IDF also highlighted the need to ensure that the guidance developed thus far is shared broadly and put to good use, as well as the importance of engaging new partners to join LEAP in order to further strengthen the broad-based, multi-stakeholder partnership, both in terms of funding and expert input.

During the 12th Steering Committee meeting on 16 October, members discussed the proposed LEAP+ business case, specifically with respect to funding commitments and priority project activities. During this discussion, IDF reiterated the need for more governments to join the partnership, and to ensure that the valuable deliverables already produced continue to be disseminated, road tested, and put to practical use before dedicating resources to new work items. While not in a position to contributing funding to LEAP+ in 2016, IDF will contribute feedback to the prioritization of LEAP+ work items after consulting standing committee members. Once the LEAP+ work program is approved, IDF will evaluate its future role in the Partnership in the context of its own work program prioritization and strategic planning processes.



## THE IDF PRIZE OF EXCELLENCE 2015 IS AWARDED TO CLAUS HEGGUM (DK), AND MICHAEL HICKEY (IE)



*Claus Heggum receiving the IDF Prize of Excellence*

Mr Claus Heggum has been awarded the IDF Prize of Excellence for his expertise and contributions in many international fora (WTO, WHO, CODEX, OIE, ISO) where he has represented the Federation. Claus has led and driven numerous IDF activities targeting Codex, including IDF input and advice to the Codex Commission on Milk and Milk Products and the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene.

He has actively presented and defended IDF viewpoints resulting in IDF being recognized by Codex members as a reliable source of expertise and advice.

Mr Michael Hickey has been awarded the Prize of Excellence for providing leadership to the Scientific Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC), the steering wheel of the organization; which ultimately determines the relevance of output. He has chaired the SPCC in a challenging period for IDF and has been an inspiring Chair in the process of redefining the IDF Strategy.

This award is a mark of recognition and appreciation for outstanding work and involvement in the IDF Programme of Work in accordance with the following five concepts: speed, worldwide visibility, impact, focus and transparency (SWIFT).

Claus Heggum and Michael Hickey are worthy recipients of the IDF Prize of Excellence 2015. Join us in congratulating them for their major contributions to the work programme of the International Dairy Federation!



*Michael Hickey Receiving the IDF Prize of Excellence*

## IMP TROPHY

This year, the mid-year meeting of the International Milk Promotion (IMP) group was held in Denmark, celebrating IMP's 50th anniversary. The three finalists for the Yves Boutonnat Trophy 2015 were:



*Laurent Damiens presenting the IMP trophy to Christine Leighton*

- Canada: Get Enough Campaign;
- France: How to Move from Nutrition to Enjoyment;
- South Africa: Consumer Education Program of Milk South Africa.

The winner of IMP trophy is Christine Leighton, "Consumer Education Program of Milk South Africa."

## IDF EVENTS

A green banner for the IDF Parallel Symposia. On the left is the IDF logo. To its right, the text reads 'IDF Parallel Symposia 11-13 April 2016, Dublin, Ireland'. Below this, two bullet points list the topics: 'Dairy Products Concentration & Drying' and 'Cheese Science & Technology'. At the bottom of the banner, the website 'www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com' is displayed in white text on a dark green background.

**IDF Parallel Symposia**  
**11-13 April 2016, Dublin, Ireland**

- Dairy Products Concentration & Drying
- Cheese Science & Technology

[www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com](http://www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com)

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) through its Irish National Committee is hosting two major symposia which will run for the first time as a double-billed event in Dublin, Ireland during 11 -13 April 2016. The **Concentrated and Dried Milks Symposium** is a sequel to the 5th International Symposium on Spray Dried Dairy Products held in St-Malo, France in

June 2012. The **Cheese Science & Technology Symposium** follows on from the previous event held in 2012 in Madison (WI), USA.

These IDF symposia will demonstrate how the multidisciplinary nature of dairy science and technology can drive development of innovative and sustainable dairy products and ingredients to meet growing needs in different markets. Such innovation extends beyond nutritional profiling to also include how ingredients may be adapted to impart biological functionality in food formulations into which they are incorporated.

The opening will feature a keynote presentation by Kevin Lane (Chief Executive, Ornu) on the role of innovation in dairy to meet long term global market and nutritional needs. The session will also feature keynote addresses by leading academics to mark the celebration by publishing house Elsevier of the 25th anniversary of its peer-reviewed 'International Dairy Journal'.

The alignment of the two symposia is relevant because cheese manufacture is the powerhouse for whey generation – a supply line that is crucial to meet the ever-growing demand for dried whey protein ingredients and nutritional formulations. The topic of infant milk formula is important internationally and also specifically to Ireland where considerable volumes of IMF product and related ingredients are manufactured. Dr. Erik Konings (Nestlé) will address ISO/IDF cooperation in the drafting of standards for submission to Codex. A speaker representing AOAC International's Stakeholder Panel on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN) will discuss developments of interest to IMF companies and their ingredient suppliers. Several speakers are lined up to talk on the technological and processing aspects of IMF, e.g. Dr. Mark Fenelon (Teagasc Food Research) will explore ingredient innovation and sustainable process development for next generation infant formula.

With one registration fee payment, participants will have the option of moving freely between the parallel-run 3-day symposia, which will provide an ideal opportunity for all engaged in dairy processing to refresh on latest underpinning scientific and technological developments.

Early Bird registration is now open at [www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com](http://www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com)

**SAVE THE DATE - IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2016 – Copenhagen, Denmark, May 30 - June 3**  
**Symposium on Fighting food fraud: the ongoing initiatives to trace materials and counteract fraudulent practices**

The banner features a background of green grass on the left and a glass of white milk on the right. The text 'IDF / ISO Analytical Week 2016' is written in large white letters, with 'May 30 – June 3' below it. At the bottom left is a small image of the Axelborg building. To its right is the text 'Axelborg, Copenhagen' and the website 'www.copenhagen2016.dk'. On the right side of the banner are the logos for the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

The IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2016 will take place at the Axelborg venue in the heart of Copenhagen, just opposite Tivoli.

This annual event, under the aegis of the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the International Organization Standardization (ISO) subcommittee on milk and milk products, will be hosted by the Danish Dairy Board with the support of the Danish National Committee of IDF.

During the week, Project Groups and Standing Committees will progress their work, leading to the publication of ISO/IDF international standards and accompanying material. These meetings are only open to IDF and ISO experts.

On 1st June 2016, within the framework of the Analytical Week, A symposium on “*Fighting food fraud: the ongoing initiatives to trace materials and counteract fraudulent practices*” will be open to all.

Although traceability was originally implemented to ensure food safety, recent food fraud incidents have invoked the application of effective traceability tools. Food fraud is a complex challenge that cannot be handled by a single company or organization. This half-day Symposium will look at new developments in tracing and tracking approaches and at the cross-industry teamwork that is already in progress in the fight against the growing threat to our supply chain.

Guest speakers will bring you up to date with a range of initiatives from developments in tracing authentic foods to Europol’s fight against food fraud. While the problem of food fraud will probably never completely disappear, there are clear opportunities to improve defenses through shared knowledge and cross-industry cooperation.

The programme will soon be available at [www.copenhagen2016.dk](http://www.copenhagen2016.dk)





France will host the 6th IDF Mastitis Conference in Nantes from 7-9 September 2016, which will be the perfect place to learn more about the latest findings on mastitis, prevention and treatments as well as national plans implemented all over the world in different farming systems.

More information will be available at [www.idfmastitis2016.com](http://www.idfmastitis2016.com)



The IDF World Dairy Summit 2016 entitled 'Dare to Dairy' will be held on 16-19 October 2016 at De Doelen in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Located in the heart of the dynamic city of Rotterdam, this stylish building is an ideal venue for the congress. The IDF World Dairy Summit 2016 aims to make a difference by facilitating dialogue with stakeholders of the global dairy sector, including views from outside, on how dairy can sustainably contribute to feeding 9 billion people.

Online registration will be available from April 2016 at [www.idfwds2016.com](http://www.idfwds2016.com)

## **IDF PUBLICATIONS**

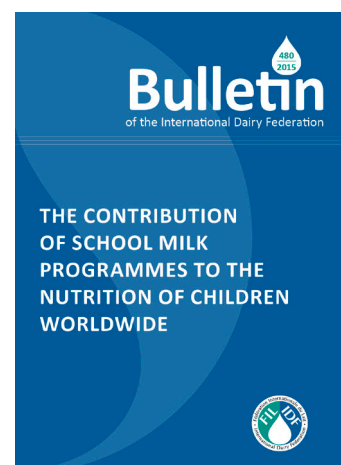
[Bulletin of the IDF No. 480/2015 - The contribution of school milk programmes to the nutrition of children worldwide](#)

This survey provides the most up to date information on school milk programmes and how these have developed since 1998.

Conducted jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Dairy Federation, with the support of Tetra Laval, this survey is the largest of its kind in many years. It provides an in-depth look at school milk programmes in the Americas, Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe.

The fifty-seven countries who participated to the survey supplied a large amount of information on consumption, programme structure, nutrition, promotion, packaging, market value, administration and distribution.

Some highlights of the survey include:

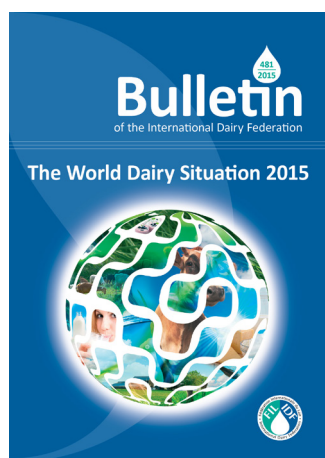




- A total of 139,977,649 children benefit from school milk, with around 57% of those receiving it at least 5 days per week.
- In 58% of the programmes, children were provided with free milk. In 27% of the programmes, children were provided with subsidised milk
- For 77% of the respondents, school milk programmes were seen as a special market.
- The most common serving size for school milk is 200ml or less
- When asked whether milk was consumed more or less compared with other drinks, 48% of respondents said that milk was consumed a lot or less than other drinks.

A free copy of the Bulletin is available from the IDF Website.

## The World Dairy Situation 2015 is now available!



This comprehensive publication is a reference document to further understanding of macro dairy demand and supply trends, and the wide range of policy and economic factors that influence them.

Some highlights:

The year 2014 was characterized by the start of a market turnaround. Total milk production was estimated at around 802 million tonnes, a significant increase of 3.3% compared to 2013. Abundant milk deliveries led to further output of most dairy categories, especially milk powders and butter. World dairy trade developed accordingly, showing solid increase on the whole and representing nearly 9% of global milk production. This did not prevent dairy markets plummeting almost continuously until 2015. On average farmgate milk prices reached record highs in 2014 before a serious downward trend. Mergers and acquisitions are still intensifying and becoming increasingly global. International projections expect a population of 9 billion inhabitants in 2050, and thus an increased need for food in the coming decades. In 2014, global per capita dairy consumption was estimated at 110.7 kg. According to the OECD and FAO, it should increase by 13.7% by 2023. Consumption should increase all the more in developing countries.

The World Dairy Situation 2015 (IDF Bulletin N° 481/2015) is available for purchase in electronic form from the IDF Catalogue at [www.fil-idf.org](http://www.fil-idf.org)

## IDF FACTSHEET

### IDF Country Reports

Members of the IDF Standing Committee on Dairy Policies and Economics (SC DPE) from 14 countries submitted country reports covering the six months leading up to September 2015.

This fact sheet highlights the main findings from the review of the country reports as presented at the SC DPE meeting held in Vilnius, Lithuania on 18th September, 2015.

The fact sheet is available free-of-cost from the IDF website.

## **CHANGES IN IDF'S GOVERNING BODIES**

Elections for the IDF Board of Directors and Science and Programme Coordinating Committee (SPCC) were held at the 103rd General Assembly in Vilnius, Lithuania on 20th September 2015.

For the Board, the mandates of Michael Hickey (IE; Chair of SPCC), Cary Frye (US; GA Delegate), Luc Morelon (FR; GA Delegate), Thierry Philardeau (CH; Dairy sector Delegate - Processing), Ines Coldewey (DE; National Secretary Delegate) ended. They were replaced by Jean-Marc Delort (CH; Chair of SPCC), Judith Bryans (GB; GA Delegate), Clay Hough (US; Dairy sector Delegate - Processing), Thierry Geslain (FR; National Secretary Delegate). Due to a last-minute withdrawal, one post was not filled and will be kept vacant for one year.

As for the Programme Coordinating Committee (SPCC), in addition to the mandate of the Chair of the SPCC (see above), the mandates of Jean-Marc Delort (CH; Dairy Sector – processing), Bob Yonkers (US; Economics and Marketing), Andrzej Babuchowski (PL; Hygiene and Safety), Brian Lindsay (GB; Environment), Helen Dornom (AU; Farm Management) came to an end and were replaced by Erik Konings (CH; Dairy Sector – processing), Laurent Damiens (FR; Economics and Marketing), Claus Heggum (DK; Hygiene and Safety), Piercristiano Brazzale (IT; Environment) and Ron Maynard (CA; Farm Management)

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