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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



Evolution is often viewed as an arms race between organisms, particularly predators and prey and pathogens and hosts. Antimicrobial substances arose in evolution millions of years before humans discovered and started to use them. Likewise, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) developed long before it began to adversely affect humans. However, under and overuse of antimicrobial agents has increased antimicrobial resistance in pathogens. Prudent use of antimicrobial agents in humans and animals is essential to safeguard their health and welfare, as well as the production of food from animal sources. FAO, WHO and OIE are jointly addressing AMR within the 'One Health' concept. The Codex Alimentarius Commission recently agreed to establish an intergovernmental task force on AMR. IDF has provided guidelines for prudent use of antimicrobial agents and detection of their residues in milk, and is continuing to monitor antimicrobial resistance in mastitis pathogens. Currently IDF is creating a task force dedicated to AMR, ensuring that the dairy sector will remain on top of this important topic. Using input from the task force, IDF will be able to provide well-founded scientific advice on prevention of AMR in the dairy sector to intergovernmental organizations.

Dr Nico van Belzen  
IDF Director General

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In this issue you will find updates about the work of IDF that supports high quality milk and nutritious, safe, and sustainable dairy products.

In the area of **standards**:

- experts initiated twelve new projects as a result of the IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2016
- we identified new topics for publications in IDF bulletins and fact sheets, as well as four joint IDF/ISO standards
- experts gave an encouraging picture of the work of the dairy sector to combat food fraud, and highlighted the importance of mobilizing our expertise in this area
- Codex Committee on Food Labelling progressed on the Labelling provision for soybean products.

In the area of **food safety and quality**:

- fourteen countries discussed their management plans at the 5th IDF Paratuberculosis Forum
- IDF has published a new factsheet to help you manage aflatoxins in dairy products
- IDF is creating a new Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance.

In the area of **sustainability**:

- the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals boost the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
- the value of trees and silvopastoral systems for sustainable livestock have been acknowledged
- the importance of sustainable agricultural development for nutrition and food safety, and the role of livestock is highlighted in the CFS Livestock report.

In the area of **nutrition**:

- IDF's work at the 39th Codex Alimentarius Commission contributed to the progress in standards and methods of analysis
- IDF has published an open letter concerning the WHO guidance document on ending the inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children.

## THE IDF/ISO ANALYTICAL WEEK 2016 – PROGRESS IN STANDARDIZATION

The IDF/ISO work programme is making real progress thanks to the 170 experts from 26 countries who agreed on:

- 12 new projects, including new IDF/ISO standards for methods of analysis and standard revisions
- topics for new IDF bulletins and fact sheets
- projects in collaboration with the U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) and AOAC

The Analytical Week featured a symposium on ‘Defending the authenticity of the food chain through collaboration’. Opening the symposium, Claus Heggum, chief consultant at the Danish Agricultural and Food Council said: “The 2008 melamine scandal was a wake-up call for the global dairy sector. Those type of threats need to be tackled in a systematic way.”

Food fraud keeps evolving as technologies improve, the food chain becomes more complex and international trade increases. IDF is determined to remain vigilant. We need a holistic approach to the tracking of adulterants. It is not enough to look for one single adulterant (like melamine) but we need to be able to track a number of components with one single measurement. Experts presented a range of initiatives, including new tracking and tracing approaches and the new European Food Fraud Network.

IDF and its members will remain on the forefront to ensure the authenticity and wholesomeness of milk and milk products.

The [Analytical Week](#) was organized by the Danish Council for Agriculture and Food, last May in Copenhagen, Denmark.



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*Participants of the IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2016 at the National Museum of Denmark*

## CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING PROGRESSES ON NEW INTERNATIONAL LABEL STANDARDS

At its 43rd session in Ottawa, Canada, the CCFL endorsed the labelling provision for soybean products of the Codex Regional Standards of Asia. The regional standard will require the labelling of the product as *soybean beverage*. The term *soybean milk*, the use of which has been contested by IDF, will only be allowed when permitted by regulations in the country of sale.

The proposed labelling revisions for pre-packaged foods will advance to step 5. The terms used on manufacture and packaging labels such as *best before date* or *best quality before date*, and, when needed for safety, *use-by date* and *expiration date* will be standardized.

The Committee is now considering the need to develop labelling requirements for non-retail food, for packages of bulk ingredients and shipments of food. However, revisions for consumer preference claims, such as *halal*, remain out of the Committee's scope of work.

More information about global practices for the front packaging of the product is needed before considering if an international standard for front labeling is necessary. Currently, there are no international standards for any label on the front of the package. A discussion paper will be prepared with an inventory of the different country regulations and the voluntary use by the industry of front-of-package labels.

[Read the meeting report here.](#)



*Ms. Lyzette Lamondin, of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, who chaired the Session. Cary Frye (US – Head of IDF delegation), Luisa Candido (UK), and Pamela Harrod (CA) represented IDF. Also, IDF experts from the delegations of Germany, Switzerland, and India were present.*

## 5TH PARATB FORUM: EXPERTS SHARE MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCES

Paratuberculosis (Johne's disease) experts from 14 countries engaged in a frank discussion about methods used to mitigate incidence, progress in meeting program objectives, and lessons learnt. The participating national and regional Johne's Disease program managers discussed the management plans in 11 countries. Proceedings from the Forum will be published as an IDF Bulletin.

The ParaTB Forum is an ongoing IDF initiative. The first Forum was held in Shanghai in 2006 and reported in IDF Bulletin 410, followed by Minneapolis in 2009 (IDF Bulletin 441), Sydney in 2012 (IDF Bulletin 460) and Parma in 2014 (IDF Bulletin 475).

The 5th ParaTB Forum was convened in conjunction with the 13th International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis in Nantes, France in June 2016. The meeting was hosted by Christine Fourichon from

Oniris (INRA, FR), co-convener of the International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis, and chaired by Robin Condron of Dairy Australia.



*L-R: Robin Condron (AU) (Forum chair), Christine Fourichon (Forum host), Jamie Jonker (US), Réjean Bouchard (CA)*

## SC DPE MEETING

The Standing Committee on Dairy Policies and Economics discussed the latest Country Reports, which have been published as an [IDF factsheet](#). Other topics were the 2016 edition of the World Dairy Situation Report and the Global Marketing Trends survey, the latter being a new joint project with the SC on Marketing. A session dedicated to the future of dairy, with a focus on Asian markets, was also held.

The group visited Agropur Cooperative at their new Headquarters and Research and Development Centre in Saint-Hubert, Québec, as well as a dairy farm.

Held in April in Montréal, Canada, the SCDPE meeting preceded the annual US Workshop for Dairy Economists and Policy Analysts held in Buffalo.



*SCDPE attendees*

## 🔵 IDF PARALLEL SYMPOSIA ON CHEESE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ON CONCENTRATION AND DRYING TECHNOLOGIES OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

The latest developments in dairying were discussed at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) conference in Dublin.

Dr. Noel Cawley, Chairman of the IDF National Committee of Ireland and Chairman of the Teagasc Authority greeted the 600 international dairy scientists, technologists, food formulators and process engineers, from academia and industry who attended the event. “There have been significant changes in technological innovation in the sector in recent years and I am looking forward to learning of the new scientific developments taking place across the world”.

Speaking at the conference, Kevin Lane, Ornu CEO said: “The ability to innovate and adapt to market needs are key to developing global opportunities for dairy and I am confident that the IDF Symposia will sow the seeds for many dairy innovations in the future”.

Véronique Pilet, CNIEL (FR), presented an ‘Overview of global markets for dried products and cheese, including recent restructuring and investment trends’.



*Dr Noel Cawley, Chairman, IDF National Committee, Ireland, and Chairman Teagasc, with Kevin Lane, CEO of Ornu, at the IDF Dairy Science & Technology Symposia 2016 which took place in Dublin from 11th to the 13th April. Photo: John T Ohle Photography*

Among the highlights at this year’s conference were:

- novel developments for two-in-one use of sweet whey to improve the biomass production and spray drying viability of probiotics - INRA (FR)
- a new process for the production of permeate powders without spray-drier - INRA (FR)
- sustainability improvements at processing level and energy saving initiatives
- a special feature on ‘Infant Milk Formula and Adult Nutritionals’ addressed regulation, analytical methods and opportunities for novel ingredients and processes
- innovation in infant milk formula processing
- adaptation of cow’s milk to bring it even closer in composition to human breast milk
- use of simulated gastric digestion of cheese and the potential for even greater health benefits arising from its consumption
- recent advances in cheese flavour engineering and characterization
- use of molecular diagnostic tools to investigate microbial-related cheese quality defects

The [IDF event](#) was one of the biggest international Dairy Science & Technology meetings in decades, with more than 600 attendees from 32 countries, over 90 speakers, 160 posters and 17 trade exhibits.

## SDGs INVIGORATE THE GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have energized the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL), a multi-stakeholder collaboration where the International Dairy Federation (IDF) represents the dairy sector. The stakeholders prioritized the seventeen SDGs most relevant to them in a ‘pizza game’ in which the SDGs are represented by pizza slices during the 6th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting organized by the GASL in Panama in June 2016. The private sector cluster, in which IDF participates, prepared the ‘omnivore pizza’ with ingredients SDGs 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12 and 17 (see picture).

The role of the dairy sector in SDG 2 (zero hunger) is obvious. Milk-producing livestock is able to convert material inedible to humans, such as grass, leaves and crop residues, to easily digestible food. This helps poor smallholder farmers survive periods of low crop yields due (e.g) to droughts. Dairy also supports SDG1 (eliminate poverty).

The contribution of the dairy sector to SDG 3 (good health and well-being) stems from its nutritional composition. In contrast to e.g. grains and beans that are intended to produce new plants, milk is one of the very few foods that have evolved to be consumed. Evolution has shaped milk to have exceptional nutritional value. It provides easily digestible protein, essential amino acids and a range of valuable micronutrients.

The environmental sustainability of the dairy sector relates to SDGs 6 (clean water) and 12 (responsible consumption and production). Recent progress includes the ‘ZerEau’ factory in Mexico, that uses water extracted from milk for cleaning and other processing steps. The Water Accord from New Zealand limits the access of cattle to natural waterways, minimizing pollution of surface water. A large variety of projects

aim to minimize greenhouse gas production and maximize biodiversity on dairy farms. The importance of these and other technological advances is captured in SDG9 (innovation and infrastructure).

SDG8 (decent jobs and growth) relates to socioeconomic aspects that are essential to achieve sustainability.

According an African saying “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together”. To achieve a sustainable future we’ll need to be ‘going far’, thus SDG 17 (partnerships) will be essential.



The seventeen SDGs prioritized by the private sector participants in the Panama meeting

## THE VALUE OF TREES FOR DAIRYING



*There is no waste in nature: butterflies feeding on cow manure on a dairy farm in Panama.*

Silvopasture (*silva* is Latin for forest) is the practice of combining forestry and grazing of domesticated animals in a mutually beneficial way. It can be used for both dairy and meat production.

Silvopasture can enhance soil protection and increase long-term income due to the simultaneous production of trees and grazing animals. Fruits can provide fodder during the dry season, water runoff is reduced by trees and livestock can use the shade to reduce heat stress. Biodiversity is improved, which besides being a goal in itself can also enhance animal welfare when insect-eating birds decimate flies, mosquitoes and ticks. The trees capture carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Some trees can also fix nitrogen which improves soil quality. Livestock produces manure which is of benefit to the trees.

It remains to be seen whether combining trees and meadows would benefit dairying in all climates and farming systems. The Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock, in which IDF participates, will continue to provide a forum to investigate the value of silvopastoral systems for livestock.

## IDF/GDP EVENT HIGHLIGHTS THE LAUNCH OF THE CFS LIVESTOCK REPORT

The day before the CFS Livestock report (see picture) was launched, IDF and the Global Dairy Platform (GDP) co-funded an [event on livestock](#). Many Rome-based member state representatives of FAO, CFS (UN Committee on World Food Security) and IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) attended the event.

The dairy sector was well represented. Kasper Thormod Nielsen (Arla Foods) moderated the roundtable discussions. Hanne Søndergaard (Arla Foods) spoke on behalf of GDP about public-private partnerships, and Brian Lindsay explained the Dairy Sustainability Framework. On behalf of IDF, Laurence Rycken explained the Dairy Nutrition Initiative and Nico van Belzen presented examples of protecting surface water near farms and conserving process water in factories.

The [Livestock report of the High Level Panel of Experts of the CFS](#) that was launched on 1st July demonstrates the importance of livestock for nutrition and food security. IDF has been involved in this report since its genesis and has commented on the scope and draft text.





On behalf of the livestock sector, Nico van Belzen (IDF) thanked the CFS for producing the report and noted the key follow up items identified by the private sector: investing in livestock research, increasing productivity and efficiency, caring for animals, minimizing waste, encouraging healthy diets and adding value.

Further negotiations between the CFS member states will condense the report to recommendations which are to be adopted in October 2016. IDF and GDP will remain involved during the negotiation phase on behalf of the dairy sector.

## **IDF REPRESENTS THE DAIRY SECTOR AT THE 39TH CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

The 39th Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) adopted three topics (at their respective Codex procedural steps) where IDF has been instrumental as technical adviser. These are the draft standard on dairy permeate; five IDF/ISO/AOAC methods of analysis for infant formula and formulas for special medical purposes intended for infants; and the revision of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) food category 01.1 “Milk and Dairy Based Drinks”. The progress realized in standards and methods of analysis will ultimately benefit consumer protection and trade.

The Commission decided to re-initiate work on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through an Intergovernmental Task Force hosted by the Republic of Korea. The delegations at the CAC acknowledged that AMR is a serious public health threat, which required urgent attention through a multisectorial approach. IDF’s newly set up Task Force on AMR will monitor the work done in Codex and engage when needed.

Regarding the developments of the general standard of processed cheese, it was decided to defer the discussions until next year. IDF will coordinate its strategy in preparation of the next CAC through its Action Team and Standing Committee on Standards of Identity and Labelling.

FAO and WHO are seeking ways to ensure there is consistency between their policies, strategies and guidelines and Codex work. WHO noted that the reference to Codex and the use of its standards and guidelines were facing challenges in discussions at the World Health Assembly, for example regarding the WHO guidance on ending inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children. This guidance has ambiguous recommendations, which could prevent the promotion of some nutrient-rich foods such as milk and dairy products to young children. IDF will closely monitor these developments to ensure that the thorough, consensus-based Codex processes continue to take place.

More detailed information on the outcomes from the 39th CAC can be found in the IDF Observer’s report soon available on the IDF intranet.

## UPCOMING IDF EVENTS

### **IDF Mastitis Conference 2016 September 7-9, Nantes, France**

The 2016 edition of the IDF Mastitis Conference will convene experts from around the world to discuss the latest findings on mastitis prevention and treatment, and share experiences from national programs being implemented around the world. The complete scientific and technical program is now available at <http://www.idfmastitis2016.com/en/program-overview/>.

To register, please visit <http://www.idfmastitis2016.com/en/shop/>.

### **IDF World Dairy Summit 2016, 16-21 October, Rotterdam, Netherlands**

Themed “**Dare to Dairy**”, the 2016 IDF World Dairy Summit will showcase both the dairy sector in the Netherlands as well as the Dutch tradition of dialogue between stakeholders from diverse backgrounds. In addition to dairy experts from all over the world, invited speakers will include representatives from outside the dairy sector discussing sustainability, animal welfare and the role of dairy in nutrition. Registration is open at <http://www.idfwds2016.com/>

### **IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2017, 8-12 May, Madison (WI), United States of America**

The IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2017 will be organized by the IDF National Committee of the US in Madison, Wisconsin. The week will include IDF/ISO business meetings, an exhibition of analytical manufacturers, a symposium and technical tour to Covance. More details will soon be available on the website:

[www.madison2017.com](http://www.madison2017.com)



## IDF PUBLICATIONS

### **IDF Fact Sheet on Field Guidelines for the assessment and management of aflatoxins in dairy products across the supply chain**

IDF's Standing Committee on Residues and Chemical Contaminants has released a [fact sheet](#) on aflatoxins. The aim of this document is to share current practices for controlling mycotoxins in the milk supply chain. While different levels of controls for aflatoxins are used around the world, aflatoxins are generally considered a critical contaminant and a good indicator to measure the appropriateness of feed controls in the food supply chain.

## IDF Fact Sheet on Saturated Fatty Acids and Cardiovascular Disease

IDF Standing Committee on Nutrition and Health developed a [fact sheet](#) on saturated fatty acids in relation to cardiovascular disease (CVD). In Western countries CVD remains a leading cause of death and saturated fatty acids (SFA) have played a key role in hypotheses relating diet to CVD risk. At present there is no clear relationship between SFA intake and CVD incidence. The fact sheet highlights the importance of discriminating between food sources of SFA, the type of SFA, and their matrix effects. Recent research showcases the positive role of some dietary SFA, which raise blood levels of less dense LDL particles (that are not strongly associated with CVD risk) and not the small dense LDL particles (which are mostly associated with CVD risk). Another striking point is that the role of saturated fat in health is dependent on the source and type of saturated fat consumed rather than on the total amount. Interestingly, SFAs from dairy products are associated with lower CVD risk while SFA from some other food groups are associated with higher risk.

## IDF open letter regarding the WHO guidance document on ending the inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children

At the 69th World Health Assembly, a WHO guidance on ending inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children was welcomed with appreciation by Member States. The interpretation of the guidance is somewhat ambiguous, and could prevent the promotion of nutrient-rich foods such as milk, yoghurt and cheese to this age group. IDF released an [open letter](#) to help in the understanding and implementation of the suggested recommendations by national governments.

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