As we come to the end of the year, we naturally reflect on the months past, but we also look ahead to what is to come. Scheduled in the first week of December, the IDF business meetings allowed us to congratulate members and experts on their achievements in 2014, as well as discuss how we can develop the IDF Work Programme in the New Year to continue to help nourish the world with safe and sustainable dairy.

IDF’s network leverages expertise from a wide range of fields, and it is always a pleasure to recognize the significant contributions made to the global dairy sector each year. During the IDF business meetings the winners of the IDF Award, the IDF Prize of Excellence and the Yves Boutonnat IMP Trophy were announced, and I would like to again congratulate them on their achievements.

Many IDF Standing Committees met during the business meeting week; we will report on their discussions in the next issue of the IDF Newsbrief. I’d like to again warmly thank FIL France and CNIEL for their excellent hospitality in the Maison du Lait in Paris.

I’d like to take the opportunity to wish you, your families and colleagues relaxing holidays and all the best for 2015.

Dr Nico van Belzen
IDF Director General
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FAO/WHO SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION (ICN2)

The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) was a high-level intergovernmental meeting that focused global attention on addressing malnutrition in all its forms. Organized by FAO and WHO from 19-21 November 2014 at the FAO Headquarters in Rome (IT), the conference brought together over 2200 participants, including high level representatives from more than 170 governments who endorsed the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the ICN2 Framework for Action, thereby committing to establishing national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition.

IDF Contribution

IDF contributed to ICN2 and its preparatory meetings through the Private Sector Steering Committee. The livestock consortium led by IDF also included the International Meat Secretariat, International Poultry Council, International Egg Commission, and the International Feed Industry Federation. The contributions made underlined the importance of diverse diets, including milk, dairy and other animal source foods.

The Chair of IDF’s Standing Committee on Nutrition and Health, Dr. Stefanie Oude Elferink (NL), spoke in the ICN2 side event on addressing overweight and obesity.

IDF’s Director General Dr. Nico van Belzen chaired the Private Sector meeting on 18th November. Featuring keynote speakers FAO Director-General Dr. José Graziano da Silva and WHO Assistant Director-General Dr. Oleg Chestnov, the event was an excellent opportunity for the private sector to share with the FAO and WHO leadership its commitment to address malnutrition and its interest to increase collaboration through public-private partnerships.

Addressing high-level government delegates from 170 countries in the ICN2 plenary meeting, Dr. Nico van Belzen pointed out that livestock products are important for food and nutrition security, as livestock can convert materials that are inedible to humans, such as grass and leaves, into high-quality, nutrient-rich foods. He concluded by reiterating the commitment of the livestock sector to help nourish the growing world population “Nutrient-rich livestock products are important for preventing all forms of malnutrition. The livestock sector is committed to constructively contribute to the Framework for Action through public-private partnerships”.

IDF will be ready to contribute to the implementation of ICN2 on behalf of the dairy sector.
THE IDF AWARD 2014 GOES TO PROFESSOR MOHAMED EL-HOSSIENY ABD EL-SALAM

The 2014 IDF Award was presented to Professor Emeritus Mohamed El-Hossieny Abd El-Salam, Dairy Department, National Research Centre of Cairo.

With a career in the dairy sector spanning fifty six years, Prof. Abd El-Salam has contributed significantly to the development of the dairy industry on both a national and international level. He held positions of responsibility and developed relevant research tasks covering a large area of dairy chemistry and technology.

During his career, he has built close relations with several dairy research institutes. He was also involved in several international research collaborations.

In addition to his outstanding knowledge and experience in the field of dairy science and technology, he has devoted a great deal of time to passing on his expertise by publishing five books on fermented milk, nutritive value of milk and milk products, human milk, ultrafiltration and milk proteins and book chapters on brined cheeses. He also, served as editorial secretary of a dairy science journal.

He has also an impressive list of scientific publications, of which at least 90 are of high international impact to dairying.

The IDF Award recognizes remarkable contributions to progress in dairying worldwide and is attributed on the basis of submissions by IDF National Committees.

Join us in congratulating Prof. Emeritus Abd El-Salam for his outstanding expertise and contributions to dairy education and industry!

THE IDF PRIZE OF EXCELLENCE 2014 IS AWARDED TO DR DAVE BARBANO (US), RICHARD JOHNSON (NZ), DR SILVIA ORLANDINI (IT), GEORGE PSATHAS (CY) AND JUAN ROMERO (US)

The group of experts has been awarded the Prize of Excellence for their work on the Kjeldahl method used worldwide in the dairy industry for over a century as a reference method to measure the protein content of milk and milk products.

There was a problem though: the method had been collaboratively studied for liquid bovine whole milk only. Given the pivotal role of the Kjeldahl method in national and international trade, IDF always recognized the need to validate the method for products other than liquid bovine whole milk. Unfortunately, for several decades there was no momentum to conduct such a huge task.

The IDF Prize of Excellence recipients have broken the stalemate and have
successfully conducted validation work to modify and validate the method so that it applies to modern dairy products.

One of the major benefits of international adoption of the revised method is that it will result in greater harmonization of protein analysis across the world thereby minimizing the risk of trade disputes resulting from differences in analytical test results.

This work was carried out jointly with ISO. IDF and ISO collaboration on analytical standards development ensures a robust scientific process and delivers analytical solutions for the global dairy sector. Collaborations with other standardization organizations further enhance the international acceptance of such methods and also protect the reputation of dairy as a safe source of nutrition.

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.

Dr Barbano, Mr Johnson, Dr Orlandini, Mr Psathas and Mr Romero are worthy recipients of the IDF Prize of Excellence 2014. Join us in congratulating them for their major contribution to the work programme of the International Dairy Federation!

**YVES BOUTONNAT IMP TROPHY AWARD 2014 AWARDED TO DAIRY AUSTRALIA**

International Milk Promotion group (IMP) is a group involving organizations in generic marketing and communication and is a permanent action team of IDF through the Standing Committee of Marketing. Today IMP has 18 organizations as members. Their main strategic interests are exchanging information about marketing developments in the dairy business, identifying market trends and new consumer behavior and sharing experience about communication, marketing and promotional strategies, methods and activities to add value to dairy and stimulate growth in the dairy sector.

At the annual mid-year meeting of IMP, the members bring case studies for presentation and discussion. Every member can bring one or more entries to the Yves Boutonnat IMP Trophy Award. The cases have to be presented at the meeting following specific rules, and all members present at the meeting vote for the best presentation illustrating best practices, based upon a predefined voting system.

From the results of this voting, three finalists are allowed to present their case at the marketing conference of the annual World Dairy Summit of IDF.

This year IMP mid-year meeting was held in Corsica, France. Seven countries with different entries took part in the competition, and the selected finalists were:

**From Dairy Australia: “Shifting the image of Australian Dairy”**
From European Milk Forum: “A new way to communicate the benefits of dairy in Europe”
From Dairy Council of California: “Dairy Advocacy: Building a corp to advance our products”
The winner of the Yves Boutonnat IMP Trophy Award for 2014 is Dairy Australia: “Shifting the image of Australian Dairy”

42ND SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING (CCFL)
Rome, Italy, 21-24 November 2014

IDF attended the Codex Committee on Food Labelling in Rome, Italy from 21 to 24 November 2014. As a Codex Observer Organisation, IDF is actively following a range of items of importance to the dairy sector discussed within this Committee among which date marking. During the discussions, IDF intervened to support the need to differentiate a date mark for quality and safety purposes. IDF will continue to monitor the developments.

IDF Members can access the Observers Report on the IDF Intranet.

36TH SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES (CCNFSDU)
Bali, Indonesia, 24-28 November 2014

IDF attended the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses, Bali from 24 to 28 November 2014. Items of key importance to the global dairy sector include:

- **ICN2**: At the Codex Committee on nutrition and foods for special dietary uses (CCNFSDU), held the week after ICN2, the representative of WHO quoted recommendation 15 of the FFA, which refers to the need of exploring regulatory and voluntary instruments to promote healthy diets. This statement was supported by member delegations and reiterated a few times during the meetings. Given our observer status at Codex, IDF will be in a position to monitor this closely.

- **“Free” of trans fatty acids (TFAs)**: IDF welcomed the decision to postpone discussions till next session pending WHO NUGAG review and the development of an analytical method for trans fatty acids - IDF/ISO have been working on a method for fatty acids, including TFAs for the past years, which is expected in 2015.

- **Follow-up formula**: The Committee agreed to continue work on the revision of this standard. Next step will be a revision of the compositional requirements of the current standard 6 to 36 months with a point of differentiation at 12 months.

- **Ready-to-use foods**: The Committee agreed to request UNICEF to prepare a revised draft project.

IDF Members can access the Observers Report on the IDF Intranet.
18TH SESSION OF THE FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA (CCASIA)

IDF participated in the 18th Session of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA), which was held on 5-9 November 2012 in Tokyo, Japan.

A key outcome of the discussions was the conclusion that ‘milk’ should not be used in descriptions of non-fermented soybean products, in order to avoid misleading consumers. Therefore, the references to ‘Soybean milk’ in section 2 of the draft regional standard were changed to ‘soybean beverages’. The draft regional standard will be forwarded to CAC 38 for adoption at step 8, noting that food additive and labelling provisions would be endorsed by CCFA and CCFL respectively.

Another highlight relates to the nitrogen-to-protein conversion factor. The Committee agreed to retain the conversion factor of 5.71 for the determination of protein content for soybean. This decision was welcomed by IDF which has been a strong advocate for scientifically correct nitrogen-to-protein conversion factors when available for a specific commodity, such as 6.38 for milk and milk products.

IDF Members can access the Observers Report on the IDF Intranet.

IDF EVENTS

The scientific programme will be unveiled before 25th December!
Check out from the events website at www.idfsheepandgoat.org

The website, www.namur2015.be, is now available.
Important milestones: the online registration will be available in January 2015; deadline for the submission of abstracts is January 30, 2015.
The symposium on 15-16 April 2014 entitled ‘From milk analysis to advisory tools’ will cover many aspects: from the latest progress in rapid analytical methods to determine milk composition to the development of systems for data interpretation and integration. Results obtained through the European project OptiMIR (www.optimir.eu) will be disseminated. A poster session will be held on 16th April. For more details, please visit www.namur2015.be.
Save the date!

The IDF Dairy Science & Technology Symposia 2016 will take place in Dublin, Ireland, 11-13th April 2016.

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) through its Irish National Committee brings together two events: “Dairy products Concentration and Drying” and “Cheese Science and Technology”.

The alignment of these two symposia is timely since cheese manufacture is also the powerhouse for whey generation – a supply line that is crucial to meet the ever-growing demand for dried nutritional ingredients and formulations. Kicking off on Day 1 with a plenary session that includes an Opening Ceremony and global overview, participants will have the option of moving freely between the parallel-run symposia.

These 3-day parallel symposia are an ideal opportunity for all engaged in dairy processing to discuss the latest scientific and technological developments.

The website is available at http://www.idfingredientsandcheese2016.com
The World Dairy Situation 2014 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. Read our promotional teaser to find out what the Report covers this year!

Some key facts in this year’s issue:

- Milk production broke records, mainly due to weather conditions at the beginning of 2013: it amounted to 782 million tonnes in 2013, an increase of 1.3% in comparison with 2012, and is estimated at around 805 000 tonnes in 2014.

- Global demand for dairy products is continuing to grow, to 109.6 kg in 2013, underpinned by increasing levels of dairy consumption within emerging markets. Urbanization, increased incomes, and changes to social demographics have been key trends in these markets driving strong demand for nutritious foods, and in particular protein.

- Price volatility will remain an issue for industry and policy makers to grapple with.

- Policy positions in areas such as market access, domestic industry reform, food safety and sustainability continue to influence the overall global dairy supply and demand picture.

The World Dairy Situation 2014 is available for purchase in electronic form from the IDF Catalogue at www.fil-idf.org

Bulletin of the IDF No. 477/2014 – Determination of hen’s egg white lysozyme in milk and cheese: Interlaboratory collaborative study

This article presents the results of an international collaborative study conducted to validate previous technical specifications for the measurement of lysozyme in cheese. The work proposes minor modifications to the method, which will be published as an international standard (ISO 27105 | IDF 216) for the determination of hen’s egg white lysozyme in milk and milk products by HPLC.

The method is suitable for measuring low levels of hen’s egg white lysozyme with a quantification limit of 10 mg/kg. The repeatability is 8.4% (95% CI: 6.7–9.3%) and the reproducibility 34.7% (95% CI: 20.8–59.0%).

To purchase a copy of the Bulletin, please visit the IDF catalogue.

NEW GUIDELINES TO HARMONIZE STUDIES ON HEAT RESISTANCE OF BACTERIA

Using a common methodology to measure heat resistance of bacteria is crucial to compare the results of different studies. The International Dairy Federation (IDF) has produced a set of guidelines and considerations in the International Journal of Food Microbiology* that will serve as a valuable resource for researchers studying heat resistance.

Even while these guidelines are not compulsory, their implementation would contribute to an improved comparability of published results on heat resistance and to a better reliability of the mathematical quantitative risk assessment models that will be developed in the future. These recommendations will also help to get a better understanding of the variety of factors that need to be considered in heat resistance studies, according to Dr Kieran Jordan and Choreh Farrokh, two experts at the IDF involved in the scientific paper’s development.

A more harmonized testing approach

This paper contains a review of the literature relevant towards establishing such a harmonized protocol, identifies critical issues for establishing internationally agreed protocols, and provides a harmonized framework for reporting and interpretation of heat inactivation studies of potentially pathogenic bacteria.

*Guidelines for experimental design protocol and validation procedure for the measurement of heat resistance of microorganisms in milk


These guidelines can be downloaded freely on the IDF website.

IDF FACTSHEETS

The Role of Dairy in Sustainable Nutrition

Good health depends on good nutrition. Good nutrition, in turn, depends on agriculture to provide the foods for a balanced diet that meets our needs for energy and essential nutrients like protein, vitamins and minerals. To achieve this goal, stakeholders from agriculture, industry, academia and government will have to collaborate to identify practical, sustainable interventions to safeguard the health and well-being of our global population – now and in the future.

A summary and full version of this factsheet is available from the IDF nutrition website.

The role of Dairy in Optimal and Under Nutrition - The First 1000 Days

The critical window for adequate child growth and cognitive development is between conception and 24 months of age and hence many recent international nutrition initiatives focus on optimising nutrition in the “first 1000 days”. Milk and dairy products as nutrient dense sources of macro and micronutrients play a key role in healthy human nutrition and development throughout life, especially in childhood.

A summary and full version of this factsheet is available from the IDF nutrition website.
Factsheet about IDF

A factsheet on IDF, providing an overview of its role in the global dairy sector, is also available from the IDF website.

Please feel free to use these messages when promoting the work of IDF!

⚠️ CHANGES IN IDF

Board of Directors

In the IDF General Assembly on 5th December 2014, Marcel Denieul (FR) was re-elected and Tova Avrech (IL) and Jorgen Hald Christensen (DK) were elected as members of the IDF Board of Directors. We thank the outgoing Board members Amrita Patel (IN) and Ida Berg Hauge (NO) for their thoughtful contributions to IDF’s governance.

Science and Programme Coordinating Committee (SPCC)

In the IDF General Assembly on 5th December 2014, Harrie van den Bijgaart (NL), Mary Anne Burkman (US), Eric Grande (FR), Chris James (UK) and Phil Kelly (IE) were elected as members of the SPCC. We thank the outgoing SPCC members Judith Bryans (UK), Jaap Evers (NZ), Roger Hall (NZ) and Paul Paquin (CA) for having shared their expertise to help manage IDF’s work programme.

National Committees

Recently, new National Committee Secretaries were appointed in four countries.

Canada: Olivier Beaulieu-Charbonneau replaces Pierre Doyle
China: Jingquan Fang replaces Meiyan Yu
Latvia: Erna Galvanovska replaces Diana Ruska
Netherlands: Jurgen Jansen replaces Adriaan Krijger

We thank the outgoing Secretaries for their contributions and welcome the incoming colleagues.

IDF Head Office

Joerg Seifert and Rebecca French have left IDF in November 2014. We thank them for their many contributions to our work and wish them all the best for the future.
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