MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

With such a diverse range of organizations operating at each level of the dairy chain, it is important to share experience and expertise to maintain a cohesive and resilient global dairy sector. There are a great number of highly productive collaborative initiatives across all areas of work, which play a crucial role in ensuring the sector is in the best position to address the global challenges it faces.

During IDF’s strategic refresh, we have identified Nutrition, Sustainability (environmental, economical and social), Food Safety and Quality, and Standards as strategic pillars for IDF. As further detailed below, IDF has appointed Dr Jaap Evers as Sector Leader for Standards to assist IDF’s working bodies in addressing this area. For the moment I will cover the Sector Leader position for the Food Safety and Quality area, in addition to my DG role. For Nutrition and Sustainability, we plan to collaborate with the Sector Leaders recently appointed by GDP; the details of collaboration are being worked out and will be submitted for approval by IDF’s National Committees. Let me emphasize that IDF’s governance structure will remain as it is, with key roles for the Board, SPCC, Standing Committees and other working bodies, ultimately governed by the General Assembly of National Committees. More extensive communications will be sent to our members and experts in the weeks to come.

I would like to express my appreciation for the development of bilateral collaboration between our National Committees. In this issue, we’ve highlighted the agreement signed between Germany and Russia on safety of milk and milk products as well as economic relations.

Dr Nico van Belzen
IDF Director General

WHO guideline on sugars intake for adults and children just released

IDF commented the draft version of the guideline in 2014. One crucial point was to request a clarification on what the definition of “sugars” covers. Consequently, IDF welcomes the mention on page 7 that there is no evidence that the consumption of sugars naturally present in milk have adverse effects. IDF is fully supportive of the fact that WHO excludes sugars naturally present in milk from the guideline in this report. IDF has prepared internal communication points available on the IDF intranet. The WHO guideline is available here.
IDF APPOINTS GLOBAL DAIRY SECTOR LEADER – STANDARDS

IDF is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jaap Evers as Global Dairy Sector Leader – Standards. This new role will commence as from 1 March 2015 on a 50% time basis.

The appointment of Sector Leaders is crucial for IDF to execute its new strategy. The Sector Leader – Standards role will be very challenging as it underpins all the other strategic pillars as well.

Jaap did his undergraduate studies in the Netherlands and started his career in 1984 as a research chemist. He immigrated to New Zealand in 1988 where he has held various senior roles related to standards development and regulatory advocacy in the dairy sector. Currently, he is Senior Regulatory Manager - Global Standards in Fonterra’s corporate regulatory team. He obtained a PhD in Food Technology from Massey University (NZ). He has developed, and made important contributions to, several IDF/ISO analytical standards, and has written several peer-reviewed publications.

Jaap possesses a broad and deep understanding of IDF. Besides serving as a technical expert at Standing Committee and Action Team level since 1992, he has had many governance roles within the Federation. He also has served as Secretary of the New Zealand National Committee since 2002.

Furthermore, Jaap has significant experience in representing IDF at intergovernmental organizations (IGOs). For many years he has been Head of Delegation for IDF to the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis & Sampling. Additionally, on behalf of IDF he has been at the forefront of interfacing with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including ISO, AOAC INTERNATIONAL and the IAM (an international forum of standards development organisations).

Jaap says he is both humbled and excited by the appointment. “In my new role of Sector Leader – Standards I am looking forward to working together with all stakeholders, both within IDF and external to IDF, to collectively help shape global regulatory frameworks and standards that are conducive to the on-going success of the dairy sector.”

IDF APPOINTS GLOBAL DAIRY SECTOR LEADER – FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY

In addition to his position as IDF Director General, Dr Nico van Belzen will take on the role of Sector Leader in Food Safety and Quality. Building on a background in molecular cell biology and biomedical research, Dr Van Belzen has worked for seventeen years in the food sector, including in senior R&D management positions in Campina and as Executive Director of ILSI Europe, which facilitates public-private collaboration to advance science for improving food safety and nutrition. He has on numerous occasions represented IDF, ILSI and the global livestock sector towards intergovernmental organizations such as FAO, WHO and OIE.
IDF GERMAN AND RUSSIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEES HAVE SIGNED A COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Udo Folgart, President of the German Dairy Association – IDF Germany, and Professor Arkadij Ponomarev, President of the Russian Dairy Association “Russian Dairy Union”, have signed a cooperation agreement between both national committees on 16 January 2015 on the occasion of the International Green Week.

In their areas of competence and within the respective legal framework of their countries, both national committees want to join forces, coordinate activities and make collaborative decisions, so that the conditions for stable economic relations are improved. The main emphasis is on the safety of milk and milk products during production and processing as well as on foreign economic relations between both countries.

43RD DAIRY INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

February 19-21, 2015, Science City, Kolkata (India)

This high profile event was an excellent opportunity to experience firsthand some of the challenges and opportunities facing the world’s biggest milk producer and to promote the important role that IDF plays on behalf of the sector.

Kolkata, India, hosted the 43rd Dairy Industry Conference, 19-21 February 2015. This prestigious conference organized by the Indian Dairy Association brought together 1400 participants representing all aspects of the Indian dairy chain including farmers, private and cooperative dairy companies, research organisations, the Indian Dairy Association, National Dairy Development Board, provincial and national government.

On this occasion, IDF President Dr Jeremy Hill delivered the Inauguration Address. He also opened the Trade Exhibition and participated in a Panel Discussion with leaders from the Indian dairy sector on how to make the sector more profitable.

India a key contributor

The Indian Dairy Sector has evolved rapidly in the recent years and has emerged as the largest producer of milk in the world. Dairying provides a means of livelihood to tens of millions of farmers in the country. The economic development of rural India is largely dependent on the success of the dairy sector. “Through events like these it is essential to emphasise the importance of dairy in providing safe sustainable nutrition and the critical role of the IDF in supporting the development of the sector.” commented Dr Hill.

“As a key member of the IDF community India plays an important role in supporting IDF progress towards its vision of helping to nourish the world with safe and sustainable dairy. The involvement of India ensures that the issues and perspectives of the worlds’ largest milk producer are incorporated in the consensus positions adopted by the IDF.”
Dairy an integral part of a sustainable diet

Under the theme ‘Dairying for Rural Prosperity’ in his keynote address Dr Hill highlighted the role of dairy in helping to meet the food security challenges. He also stressed the need to defend the nutritional attributes of the dairy products to ensure that they continue to be considered an integral, sustainable and safe part of the dietary patterns of all age groups. “We must have a more sophisticated understanding of the role that nutrition and diets play in health and wellness. This is a critical issue for the future of the world as we need not food security but nutritional security.”

Dr Hill also spoke about the critical role that IDF plays in helping the global dairy sector reach consensus on scientifically and technically related matters. He explained how IDF has helped to define the environment in which the dairy value chain operates. “In order to enhance the ability of IDF to support the dairy sector we have put increased focus on the areas of nutrition, food safety and sustainability.”

ENVIRONMENT

Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (LEAP)

The environmental impact of food production is of key interest to policymakers and consumers. To promote a science-based approach to developing metrics and methods to guide environmental performance benchmarking and monitoring, IDF experts collaborate with other livestock sectors, FAO and stakeholders in the LEAP project. Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) for Large Ruminants; Biodiversity; and Feed have helped to ensure that current work items have advanced according to schedule.

Draft guidelines developed by the LEAP Large Ruminants and Biodiversity TAGs are currently being reviewed by the LEAP Steering Committee, of which IDF is a member. As part of this comment period, IDF Standing Committee on Environment experts provided input on:

- Environmental Performance of Large Ruminant Supply Chains: Guidelines for quantification; and
- Principles for the assessment of livestock impacts on biodiversity.

Revised drafts of both documents will be launched at the LEAP Annual Meeting in Rome on 23 April, at which point the documents will be available for public review. Both sets of guidelines are expected to be

Related Links

For more information about LEAP, including past and future deliverables: http://www.fao.org/partnerships/leap/en/
released by the end of 2015. The feed guidelines, which underwent public review last year, are in the final editing stage and will be published online on 23 April.

**Revision of the IDF guide to standard life cycle assessment methodology**

It is critical to the global dairy sector that the IDF guidance on carbon footprinting is reviewed on an ongoing basis, and updated with the latest, most relevant science, while also considering practical aspects of implementation, as well as the impact that changes could have on reporting and consistency over time. During the last SCENV meeting in Paris, members discussed proposed revisions to IDF’s guide, “A common carbon footprint approach for the dairy sector: The IDF guide to standard life cycle assessment methodology”.

In addition to changes that had been approved in 2014 (i.e. expanded text on carbon sequestration, a minor change in the equation on allocation between milk and meat at dairy farm level), four other additions were also approved. These revisions had been identified by IDF experts participating in both the SCENV Action Team on LCA Development Monitoring and the Large Ruminants Technical Advisory Group of the FAO LEAP (Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance) partnership project in order to ensure alignment with LEAP’s guidance on the environmental performance of large ruminant supply chains (expected to be published by the end of this year):

- Decision tree for production units and co-products: guidance on how to distinguish production units at the farm level (e.g. mixed dairy and beef farm) or attribute generic farm inputs to different enterprises e.g. energy for drinking water;
- Additional text to improve the description of the IDF allocation method for milk and meat;
- Allocation method for manure: manure should be treated as a residue for allocation purposes, but the guidance will also account for situations where manure may be considered a co-product. This results in a clean separation of the system where all post-farm emissions from the use of manure are assigned to that use, while all on-farm management is assigned to the main product from the farm (milk, live animals, or both);
- Consequential LCA: expanded text on the limitation of the method proposed will explain that it should be used with care when evaluating reduction or mitigation strategies globally, because a mitigation strategy (e.g. increasing milk yield) that has a positive effect on milk production systems’ greenhouse gas emissions might have a negative effect elsewhere, for instance on beef production systems.

The revised IDF guide is expected to be published in April/May 2015. The revised guide and details about these and any future revisions will be available on the IDF website.

**ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Animal Health and Welfare is essential for the production of high quality milk and dairy products and the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the dairy sector. IDF’s Project Group on “Monitoring and IDF Input to OIE Animal Welfare Working Group and ISO Animal Welfare Working Group” has contributed comments on the most recent version of Draft Chapter 7.X. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code pertaining to Animal Welfare and Dairy Cattle Production Systems. This second major version of the draft chapter will be reviewed by the OIE Code Commission before being submitted for adoption by the 170 Member States of OIE during the next General Session on 25-29 of May.
The OIE draft chapter includes: Criteria (or measurables) for the welfare of dairy cattle; Provisions for good animal welfare regarding recommendations on system design and management including physical environment (e.g. thermal environment; lighting; air quality; flooring, bedding, resting surfaces and outdoor areas; location, construction and equipment); and Provisions for good animal welfare regarding recommendations on stockmanship and animal management (e.g. biosecurity and animal health, nutrition, space allowance; new born calves; rearing of replacement stock; milking management; painful husbandry procedures). Most of the recommendations are formulated according to outcome based (animal-level measures) objectives. IDF, thanks to its SCAHW Action Team on Animal Welfare, led by Luc Mirabito (FR), has been an active contributor to the OIE review process over the last two years.

IDF’s previous and ongoing active participation with relevant international bodies (e.g. OIE Animal Welfare Working Group in Paris on 2–4 June; ISO/TC 34/WG 16 meeting on Animal Welfare in Paris on 22 May) continues to ensure that the views and research of the global dairy sector are taken into account during the drafting and approval of important international guidance related to animal health and welfare.

FARM MANAGEMENT

IDF Dairy Farmers Forum

During the Standing Committee on Farm Management meeting in Paris, representatives discussed the programme of the IDF Dairy Farmers Forum, which will be held in conjunction with the IDF World Dairy Summit 2015 in Vilnius. The Forum has been developed as a platform for dairy farmers to discuss issues of interest to milk producers and to learn from each other; therefore active dairy farmers are the target audience. The programme has been structured to enable an open exchange of farmers’ experiences on issues affecting the dairy value chain, and organisers expect that this exchange will inform strategic discussions within IDF standing committees such as Farm Management, Animal Health and Welfare, Environment, and Dairy Policies and Economics, among others. Ultimately, the increased involvement of farmers in IDF standing committees will enrich discussions and decisions about the strategic direction of IDF regarding the sustainability of dairy farming across the value chain.

IDF Dairy Farmers Forum activities will take place on September 19-20. The programme includes a tour of farms, feed operations, and processing facilities on September 19, followed by a day-long forum on September 20, during which participants will take part in facilitated group discussions on three topics related to economics/income, animal welfare, and consumer confidence in milk. The Farmers Dinner will be held on September 22 and will include presentations by local farmers/industry representatives. The IDF Dairy Farmers Forum report will be presented on September 23 during the Dairy Farming Conference.

Registration to the IDF Dairy Farmers Forum will be available via the IDF WDS 2015 website as of April, 2015.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IDF WDS Secretariat by email at registration@idfwds2015.com.
FOOD ADDITIVES

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA) - Update on CCFA approach on alignment of dairy standards with the GSFA

The aim of the CCFA work is to harmonize Codex provisions for food additives by aligning the food additives sections from commodity standards to the Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA), the GSFA being the reference. It is important to note that the table of allowed functional classes will remain in the commodity standards.

The Action team will review the immense comparison work done before the meeting for the dairy standards before sharing it with the chair of the CCFA electronic Working Group (eWG), with the intent that dairy standards be picked up soon by the CCFA.

Descriptors & food additive provisions for Food Category 01.1.1 “Milk and buttermilk” as well as subcategories 01.1.2 “Dairy-based drinks, flavoured and/or fermented (e.g. chocolate milk, cocoa, eggnog, drinking yoghurt, whey-based drink”

The Standing Committee on Food Additives reviewed the latest version of the document proposing a new structure for the categorization of food additives used in liquid milk and buttermilk. One of the most important points is which term to be used for milk in order to avoid confusion with the Codex General Standard on the Use of Dairy Terms. The eWG proposes to use the term fluid milk on proposal from IDF.

IDF comments have been submitted and the final CCFA paper for discussion is now available.

RESIDUES AND CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

Codex Guidelines for Managing Food Emergency Situations in relation to International Trade (CCFICS)

This work was strengthened in CCFICS based on IDF’s new work proposal in 2011. The proposal has been on the CCFICS agenda as a discussion paper, and the main focus remains on the management of food safety emergencies. After discussion, the revised project document on the revision of the Principles and Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Safety Emergency Situations (CAC/GL 19-1995) will be submitted to the CAC for approval for new work in July 2015. So far, IDF proposals are included in the document and IDF will participate in this electronic Working Group in charge of drafting the standard. The Action team of SCRCC will continue monitoring the work.
Short communication on Aflatoxin M1

The aim of this work is a communication on current practices for controlling mycotoxins in the milk supply chain. The proposed target audience for the document is the primary sector and dairy chain. Whereas different levels of controls for aflatoxins are used around the world, they are generally considered a critical contaminant and a good indicator to measure the appropriateness of feed controls in the food supply chain.

MICROBIOLOGICAL HYGIENE

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

The Standing Committee on Microbiological Hygiene has identified several CCFH electronic working groups to be involved with, in particular:

- **CCFH Annexes to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-Moisture Foods**
  
  The Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-Moisture Foods is now completed and will be proposed for adoption to the commission in July 2015. The CCFH agreed to further work on Annexes to the Code of Hygienic Practice for low moisture foods: an Annex on Microbiological Criteria to provide examples for various food categories using the JEMRA report, and an Annex on guidance for the establishment of environmental monitoring programmes, proposed by IDF. Therefore Codex has asked IDF to support drafting.

- **Revision of General principles of Food Hygiene and HACCP**
  
  The need for revision was identified during a symposium by invitation only held in Finland. All 80 participants identified the same problem with the current approach and identified similar solutions. CCFH asked for clarification and development of a project proposal by an eWG. IDF will participate.

Article on Listeria

The aim of this publication is not to be a code of practice, but a commitment from the dairy industry. Authors have been identified for each of the 6 chapters, which will be drafted in the course of 2015. Following review by the SCMH and IDF National Committees, it will be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal.
STANDARDS OF IDENTITY AND LABELLING

- **Standardization of processed cheese:**
  It was decided that IDF would have a delegation taking part in the physical working group on Processed Cheese.

- **Standardization of whey permeate powder:**
  Codex requested IDF to assist with the compilation of data on the volume of production and trade of all types of whey permeate with information on the destination. This is a sign of recognition of IDF’s technical authority in the development of standards.

NUTRITION AND HEALTH

**Nutrition conference at the IDF World Dairy Summit 2015**

This conference will discuss the essential role dairy can have in contributing to nutrition security, as well as address the latest research on bioactive components in dairy and how these contribute to human nutrition and health. The conference will have a close link with the Dairy Science Technology conference.

**Dairy fats - Fats and Oils**

A sponsored symposium on “Regular Fat Dairy Foods in Nutrition and Health: The Latest Insights” will be organized in Berlin on 21st October 2015. This joint event will be organized at the 12th European Nutrition Conference.

Dietary guidance over the last 30 years has focused on dietary fat and saturated fat reduction to minimize the risk of metabolic diseases, especially the risk of heart disease. However, science is evolving and it appears that saturated fat may not be the major issue. Moreover emerging research points to the importance of the food source of saturated fat and of the matrix effect of foods. Some foods that contribute fat and saturated fat to the diet also contribute other essential nutrients and contain many different components. This is well illustrated with regular fat dairy foods which are nutrient-rich and which have a different impact on several chronic disease outcomes from those that would be predicted based solely on their saturated fat content.

As we consume foods, not individual nutrients, the food-rather than nutrient-focused approach should be considered in dietary guidance.
The programme in line with the above and information about this event will soon be published on the IDF Nutrition website. Stay tuned!

In preparation

Two factsheets are in the pipeline: one focused on saturated fatty acids and one on full fat dairy.

MARKETING

The Standing committee on Marketing had their second biannual meeting during the December business meetings in Paris.

The strategy House was presented to the meeting participants. The importance of consumer trends for IDF was highlighted. The group considered that the SC M should be involved in all three areas and not only that of Nutrition. An Action Team will be set up to define the role of SC M following the Strategy Review.

GDP work was also explained. Coordination between GDP and IDF is required to avoid duplication of work. Discussions were about commercial versus generic marketing.

Global market trends were presented to the group. Health was the driving factor in 80% markets followed by taste. Market trends worldwide for liquid milk, butter, cheese and yoghurt were examined. A long discussion followed the presentation and it was decided to use part of the results of the study as material for the next Marketing Conference at the IDF World Dairy Summit 2015 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

PHYSICAL WORKING GROUP (PWG) ON PROCESSED CHEESE

Brussels, Belgium, 20-22 January 2015

Recommendations included:

- A tighter scope of the Standard was suggested;
- The aim of the standard was reiterated: to provide harmonized international provisions to facilitate trade;
- The PWG recognized that given the wide range of processed cheese and processed cheese-like products or preparations being traded internationally, and the different designations assigned to these products, it would be difficult to cover all of these products under a general standard for processed cheese. Consequently, a list of products not covered by the standard was developed;
- It was also agreed that gelatine was not technologically justified for use in processed cheese and that modified starches would be described in the additive section.

The proposed draft standard will be circulated for comments at Codex step 3.

The PWG expressed its appreciation to IDF for its continuing support while acknowledging its past support over the many years this topic has been on the Codex agenda.
IDF EVENTS

7th IDF International Symposium on Sheep, Goat and other non-Cow Milk

23 - 25 March 2015
St. Raphael Resort, Limassol, Cyprus

Do not miss the 2 full Symposium days with 6 Keynote Speakers, 32 Oral Presentations and speakers from 12 different countries!
The tentative programme is now available. Click here to view or download.
Technical Tours to sheep/goat/donkey farms and specialty dairies are also on offer!
For regular updates and to register, please visit http://www.idfsheepandgoat.org

The next IDF/ISO Analytical Week will be held in the city of Namur, Belgium, from 13 to 17 April 2015.
The IDF/ISO Analytical Week comprises numerous business meetings driving forward the standardization of international IDF/ISO standards and other related items.
This year, the week will have a slightly different format and will be followed by a jointly organized expert congress on April 16-17, which will gather scientific researchers, technicians in dairy sector, and milk recording organization lab managers from all over the world. This symposium 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 will be disseminated during this conference.
The sessions will combine both invited contributions by experts in the field and free contributions. Also, a poster session will be held on 16th April. Finally, two satellite sessions will gather together experts from
the field to further explore the practical implications and the on-field utilization of the findings presented during the meeting.

The following topics will be addressed during the symposium:

- Advances in infrared analysis of milk
- Rapid analytical methods as phenotyping tools
- Advances in data interpretation and integration in management indicators
- Management indicator traits: contribution to animal breeding and benchmarking
- Prospects and future challenges in analytical procedures to qualify fine milk composition
- Future challenges: genomics contributing to advisory tools?

This symposium and poster sessions will provide an ideal opportunity to showcase innovative research. Visit www.namur2015.be for further details on the Analytical Week, symposium program and registration.

Early Registration and Abstract Submission for IDF World Dairy Summit 2015 is now open!

Early Registration fees are applied for those, who register until March 31, 2015 (except speakers). To view the participation fees, click here.

For more information on Registration procedure and to submit your Registration, click here. To submit your Abstract or view more information on Abstract Requirements and Abstract Submission procedure, click here.

Scientific Programme

The IDF WDS 2015 Scientific Programme is united under the topic of Closing the Nutritional Gap with Sustainable Dairy. The main focus is on the critical role that dairy must play in closing the gap in the availability of essential nutrients to the world’s population. Besides addressing these global challenges, the programme is intended to cover a wide spectrum of issues that will decide dairy sector’s modernisation, security and economic success in the future.

Technical Tours

Summit Organisers have planned a number of Technical Tours to the most advanced dairy facilities in Lithuania. For example, visiting the dairy farms, guests will get acquainted with newest robotic computerized dairy herd management systems. The biggest and most advanced dairy plants in Lithuania will also open their doors for Summit guests. They will also visit a research centre with the unique combination of
production and advanced analytical equipment, which not only enables simulation and optimization of industrial food production and storage processes, but also identifies and evaluates their critical aspects. Lithuania’s accredited central milk testing laboratory and the National Institute for Risk Assessment are also in the programme.

View more information on Technical Tours.

View the preliminary Programme Snapshot.

**IDF PUBLICATIONS**

The Special Issue 1401, “The importance of salt in the manufacture and ripening of cheese”, is now available in English, French and German.

To purchase a copy of this Special Issue, please visit the IDF catalogue.
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