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Message of the Director General

Message from the Director General



I'm pleased to report that IDF has recently joined forces with FAO for [a new partnership](#), which aims at improving how the environmental impacts of the livestock industry are measured and assessed. This FAO-led partnership is a necessary first step in improving the sustainability of this important food production sector.

Currently, many different methods are being used to measure and assess the environmental impacts of animal husbandry, making it difficult to compare results and set priorities for the continuous improvement of environmental performance along supply chains.

FAO and governmental, private-sector, and nongovernmental partners will work together on a number of fronts to strengthen the science of environmental benchmarking of livestock supply chains.

I take this opportunity to refer to the pioneering work of IDF regarding the [LCA methodology on carbon footprint](#) to enable effective management and reduction of GHG emissions within the dairy sector. The launch of the FAO project is very timely and opportune as IDF has just initiated a revision of the common carbon footprint approach for dairy. The FAO project and the update of the carbon footprint LCA methodology present important synergies and will run in parallel which will be beneficial for the outcomes of both.

IDF is committed to providing nutritious dairy products to a growing population in a way that is environmentally sound, socially responsible and economically viable. I'm convinced that common and robust indicators and guidelines for environmental assessments will lead to shared understanding of environmental impacts and better policymaking.

[Nico van Belzen, PhD](#)

Stanislav Jas, Environment & Sustainability Officer, and Caroline Leroux, Communications Specialist, will be leaving IDF this summer. We wish them all the best for the future and hope our paths will cross again.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Science and Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC)

Science and Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC) - Brussels, 26 May 2012

Matters referred from the Board to SPCC

SPCC will review and revise the following IDF guidance documents:

- Code of Practice for the Preparation, Submission and Presentation of IDF Input to Codex
- Instructions to Authors
- Notes of Guidance for Members of Standing Committees and Task Forces in IDF

SPCC will also assist the Board in the process of developing a medium/long term global strategy for IDF.

IDF role in issue management

The IDF HO will present material including Q&A, information sheets etc. for two issue management examples.

Planned stakeholder surveys

Upcoming survey will address the IDF working areas of dairy science & technology, with SCDST input, and food standards, under FSSG lead.

Profiling of IDF experts for IDF working bodies

The proposed annual systematic review of SC membership by NCs will be initiated via IDF Circular Letter to be issued at the time when the next edition of the IDF Programme of Work is released

Proposed publication agreement between Elsevier and IDF

The SPCC noted comments of the SCDST and agreed with the overall direction taken while it raised several questions and comments that will be followed-up by the IDF DG prior to referral to the Board.

IDF World Dairy Summit Cape Town / ZA, November 2012

- It was agreed that SPCC should have more influence on the programme planning process for future IDF WDSs. IDF SCs will review the status of conference programmes for the IDF WDS Yokohama 2013 at their meetings in Cape Town.
- Meeting of SC Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Board, SPCC and staff on 2 November 2012: The meeting agreed to use the format of last year's meeting. A draft agenda will be proposed by the President and SPCC Chair.
- IDF SWIFT session on Monday, 5 November 2012: SPCC will finalize the overall concept and programme within the next couple of months.

Updates on selected key priority projects of different working areas

The meeting reviewed progress on items of key importance to the global dairy sector on the IDF work programme and agreed on actions with regard to the following projects:

- FAO Multi-Stakeholder Partnership on "Benchmarking and monitoring the environmental performance of livestock supply chains": will be centrally coordinated from IDF Head Office
- FAO Global Action in Support of Sustainable Livestock Development: the nature and degree of IDF involvement needs to be carefully assessed.
- IDF Nutrition Fund & up-date on SCNH CLA review project: Based on the status of the IDF Nutrition Fund the meeting agreed to refer the issue of funding the page fees for peer-reviewed publication of the CLA article to the Board.
- SCNH work item on "Dairy and Children's Diet": The SPCC agreed that the paper should only be published following endorsement of SCNH, as is usual practice in IDF.

Next physical meeting: Cape Town / ZA on Friday, 2 November 2012.



Standing Committee on Environment (SCENV)

Revision of the IDF guide to standard lifecycle assessment methodology for the dairy sector – a common carbon footprint approach for dairy

In line with its mandate, the IDF Action Team on LCA development monitoring has now initiated a revision of the IDF guide to standard lifecycle assessment methodology for the dairy sector – a common carbon footprint approach for dairy” (IDF Bulletin n° 445/2010). The Team agreed that the time was right to evaluate the fast evolving developments, in this rapidly growing area of science.

The initial work timeline will involve an identification and review process before a meeting of the Action Team taking place at the World Dairy Summit in Cape Town on 4 November 2012. The work will also be supported by the feedback from a survey that will shortly be available to the IDF Membership and its partners within the dairy sector. Experts not currently involved in the IDF Action Team work are kindly invited to contribute and can manifest their interest to the IDF Head Office staff (Ms. Apolina Fos).

The aim is to release the updated LCA guide at the World Dairy Summit in Yokohama in autumn 2013.

In order to create synergies, the work of updating the guide will be made in coordination with IDF Action Teams working on water footprint and biodiversity, as well as with experts contributing to the IDF involvement in the recently launched FAO multi-stakeholder partnership on the environmental benchmarking of livestock supply chains (see the editorial from IDF Director General).

With this move, IDF wants to ensure that it remains at the edge of latest developments while fulfilling its mission to provide the dairy sector globally with a range of tools that enable the industry to fully appreciate the environmental impact of milk production and processing, and to use the assessment as a basis for improvement by identifying and quantifying appropriate actions.

Standing Committee on Animal Health

Standing Committee on Animal Health (SCAH) - Amerfoort, NL, 18-20 June 2012

Current key issues with regard to animal health and animal welfare in IDF member countries

- Spread of Schmallenberg virus,
- Government policies and set objectives with regard to the reduction of use of antimicrobials in the livestock industries,
- Spread of “chronic botulism”,
- Anti-dairy campaigns relating to animal welfare conditions in the dairy sector.

Possibility of SCAH work to be published in peer-review journals

The committee will consider the possibility to propose future work for peer-review publication in recognized scientific journals. The main goal of IDF SCAH work, however, should remain serving the IDF community.

SCAH Work programme

- Antimicrobial Resistance in Mastitis Pathogens : The IDF fact sheet on antimicrobial resistance was confirmed to be correct as is and does not need any revision at this stage,
- Guidelines for the use and interpretation of bovine somatic cell counts in the dairy industry (Worldwide Use of Somatic Cell Count): The updated document will be circulated once more, using tight deadlines for reaction, within the action team before it will be brought back to the SCAH for final confirmation.
- Collection of data on industry milk quality and hygiene statistics: The AT leader will revise the draft and then consult with the AT and ensuing revision prior to consultation with the entire committee.
- Planning of next IDF International Mastitis Conference (most likely in early July 2015): The event shall be formalized between IDF UK and IDF HO Brussels in due course and then be added to the official IDF calendar of events.
- Progress in national programmes for surveillance and control of Johne's disease/Paratuberculosis Forum : The meeting agreed that, following the request from the meeting organizers, IDF should publish the proceedings of the most recent 3rd Para TB Forum in Sydney (AU) after review and endorsement of the Chair and Deputy Chair.
- Literature review for an overview of the affects of mastitis on the welfare of dairy cattle: the meeting considered the possibility to publish the up-coming article in a peer-review journal.
- IDF Animal Health Newsletter: A list of topics and deadline for submission of articles have been established. The final version will be published prior to the IDF WDS 2012.
- Guidelines on use of sensors for animal health and productivity: The work result will be a glossary intended to be used as a guidance document. A draft will be circulated for AT member comment in due course.

Proposed new work

- IDF Guide to Good Animal Health in the Dairy Sector (subsidiary guide to IDF/FAO Guide to Good Dairy Farming Practice) : A NWI proposal was submitted by Australia. The meeting agreed that it shall be circulated for SCAH with the draft minutes for comment and endorsement with a deadline of two weeks, prior to moving forward to SPCC and ultimately to IDF NCs for voting.
- Consideration of Animal Health and Animal Welfare conference at IDF WDS Yokohama/JP, 28 October to 1 November 2013: The committee expressed its willingness to contribute actively to the programme if so accepted by the Japanese Organizing Committee.
- Mapping of disease hazard for the dairy industry (both producers and processing industry) : It was agreed that IDF should not duplicate the work of other organizations, e.g. OIE. The scope of the proposal should be refined to production diseases for highest relevance to the dairy industry. It could be considered to deal with this issue as an internal committee item. A revised NWI proposal is expected for discussion at the next meeting.

Next physical meeting

Cape Town / ZA on Sunday, 4 November 2012

RELATIONS WITH EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

IDF supports new ISO/AOAC agreement for joint development and approval of common standards products

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A cooperation agreement was signed in June between the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and AOAC INTERNATIONAL. The new partnership allows for the joint development and approval of common standards.

Both AOAC and ISO are already internationally recognized and respected, and the collaboration will reinforce the global reputation of both organizations. Under the new agreement, ISO and AOAC can participate in each other's work to jointly develop and approve standards. Initial priorities will focus on cooperation in the areas of milk and milk products and infant formula and adult nutritionals. Hence, this will also involve collaboration with the International Dairy Federation (IDF) through the existing agreement between ISO and IDF relating to their joint programme of work on methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products.

The agreement covers the work of the AOAC Stakeholder Panel on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN) which is addressing international regulatory needs related to nutrient labeling. The infant formula industry came to AOAC to help solve issues with science-based solutions through consensus of international experts.

Codex Alimentarius Commission

The 35th CAC was held from 2-7 July and attended by over 600 delegates. The IDF delegation consisted of Roger Hall (Chair of FSSG and delegation leader), Nico van Belzen (IDF Director General), Michael Hickey (Chair of SPCC) and Joerg Seifert (IDF Technical Director).

Summary of dairy related outcomes:

- Processed draft standard for processed cheese: The Commission agreed to discontinue work on the development of a standard for processed cheese and requested the Codex Secretariat to prepare a Circular Letter asking Members to identify the gaps in the safety and quality provisions of Codex texts that would justify new work on processed cheese and describe the scope of any new work to be considered to address such gaps.
- Maximum level for Melamine in liquid infant formula (ready to consume) was adopted at Step 8 as proposed by Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF). The Maximum Residue Level (MRL) is set at 0.15ppm and the footnote allowing for presence of melamine above 0.15ppm when it can be proven it is from a legitimate source such as migration from food contact material has been removed.
- Revision of the Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997) concerning a new definition for “non-addition claim”, conditions for free of salt claims, amendments to the section on comparative claims and conditions for non-addition of sugar claims were adopted at Step 5/8
- Revision of the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985) concerning provisions for mandatory nutrition labelling were adopted at Step 5/8
- Methods of analysis in Codex Standards at different steps were adopted – including correcting the Milk Solids Non Fat (MSNF) method in the Blend of sweetened condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat standard, and in the Reduced-fat blend of sweetened condensed milk and vegetable Fat standard.
- Draft Nutrient Reference values (NRVs) were adopted at Step 5 for further discussion by Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) in light of the outcome of the WHO work on sodium and saturated fatty acids.
- Draft revision of the Guidelines on Formulated Supplementary Foods for Older Infants and Young Children (CAC/GL 8 – 1991) was adopted at Step 5.
- Revision of the Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997) concerning non-addition of sodium salts was adopted at Step 5.
- New work was approved for maximum levels of lead on a range of products including milks and secondary milk products, and infant formula.

IDF PUBLICATIONS

IDF Publications

Bulletin of the month

IDF Bulletin n°454/2012 “Air Emissions from Dairy Processing and Energy Plants”

This Bulletin presents an overview of definitions, sources, legal requirements, and technical solutions for air emission control in dairy processing and control of dust emissions from energy supply plants in dairy production.

This publication highlights that, while the dairy industry contributes to dust emissions, it is not a significant source in global terms. The report also demonstrates the capacity of technological solutions such as cyclones, wet filters and tubular filters to reduce these emissions from power drying plants.

Furthermore, the report shows that the choice of fuel/energy source can have a significant influence on dust/particulate emission from energy supply plants and illustrates the different influences resulting from such choices.

Available free of charge on the [IDF Website](#)

Joint IDF/ISO standards

ISO/TS 22113|IDF/RM 204

This Technical Specification specifies a routine method for determining the titratable acidity of milk fat.

The method is applicable to milk fat obtained from:

- a) raw milk;
- b) heat-treated milk;
- c) milk reconstituted from milk powder;
- d) cream with any fat content, provided the product is diluted so as to obtain a mass fraction of between 4 % and 6 % fat.

The method is not applicable to fermented milk or milk that has undergone bacterial or enzymatic damage.

IDF EVENTS

Methods of Analysis & Sampling conference at the IDF World Dairy Summit: Adding value through cost-effective testing

Traditionally, the laboratory was the place where testing was done by specifically trained analysts. However, ongoing developments in analytical technology challenge the status quo. What will be a common testing scenario in the dairy sector in, say, 10 years time? What testing will be done at the farm, in the milk truck and in the laboratory? What skills will be required to perform such testing? And how much will it cost? These are the kind of questions that drive analytical developments both within the laboratory and in the field.

This conference will focus on analytical strategies that add or create value for the dairy chain through cost-effective testing. Depending on the particular situation or circumstances, this may involve significant investment and use of advanced analytical methodology or, alternatively, low-cost and simple methodology that may not even require a sophisticated lab infrastructure and/or highly trained personnel.

The Scientific Organizing Committee plans to select the best three posters that are submitted for this conference based on originality of science, robustness of the science, amount of work done and poster layout. The main authors of these posters will be allowed to speak on their subject for 5 minutes at the end of the conference and a prize will be awarded for the best poster presentation.

Program

IDF/ISO Joint Analytical Programme of Work Dr. Jaap Evers, Chair: IDF/ISO MSSG

Raw milk testing scenarios – Central vs on the spot Dr. Christian Baumgartner, Director: MPR Bayern, Germany

Reducing costs through global calibrations Dr. Steve Holroyd, Fonterra Research Centre, New Zealand

Technology Tools: Innovative methods to meet the evolving demands of the dairy industry today and tomorrow! Jacqueline M. Page, President: Page & Pederson Int. Ltd, USA

Cost-effective screening for residues and contaminants Dr. Robert S. Salter, Vice-President: Charm Sciences Inc., USA

Safeguarding the integrity of milk and milk products Dr. Harrie van den Bijgaart, QLIP, Netherlands



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