The Opening Ceremony

The World Dairy Summit was opened in style, with delegates treated a musical tour of the United Kingdom, and Mike Johnston of the local organising committee officially opening the Summit.

**President of the IDF Dr Judith Bryans** welcomed delegates to this year’s Summit, speaking of the pivotal role the international dairy sector can play in ensuring both healthy people, and a healthy planet, through providing nutritious dairy products and environmental stewardship. The dairy sector has a key role to play in delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, a role which it takes seriously.

Dr Bryans told delegates how the IDF would be a driving force behind continual improvement in the sector. Dairy producing countries are striving to address inequality and lift people out of poverty. Dr Bryans said: “We believe in dairy.
We have a strong story to tell in terms of nutrition and also the progress we are making environmentally. No sector is perfect and there is always room for improvement but we have a vision, we have our goals and we will spare no effort in achieving them."

The World Political and Agricultural Leaders Forum

In an unprecedented line up of speakers, the Political Leaders Forum featured speakers as follows; UK Secretary of State for the Department of the Environment, Farming, and Rural Affairs Michael Gove MP, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development Phil Hogan, Dr Ren Wang assistant director general of UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation and Thomas Lee Bauer of the World Bank Group.

Secretary of State Michael Gove told the Summit that the UK Government is committed to supporting the dairy industry and that during Brexit negotiations, the UK Government wanted to ensure that supply lines are solid, no barriers to trade are erected and labour can be accessed where it is needed. "This will be at the forefront of our minds", said Mr Gove. He added that whilst in a new phase of history, this certainly did not mean “turning our backs on our friends and neighbours"
and would not mean lower environmental or animal welfare standards. The Secretary of State concluded by adding that creativity and innovation go hand in hand, and are fundamental to ensuring a vibrant farming sector.

EU Commissioner Phil Hogan spoke of the importance of dairy in feeding a growing population, and of the strong tradition for global trade in the sector. Commissioner Hogan called the issue of free movement of people "a difficult issue for the UK and for the EU for different reasons, and will require negotiations." Mr Hogan told the Summit that EU agri exports continued to grow even though the sector was still adjusting to the post-quota environment. He said there is need for an ongoing commitment to sustainability 'from farm to fork' in response to consumer demand. He also added that research and innovation has a vital role to play in the dairy industry, and that the transferral of research into practice would be very important.

Takashi Hiranaka of the Japanese Embassy gave an overview of the current dairy market in Japan, outlining the paradox of falling production and rising consumption that the country was seeing. Hiranaka detailed reasons for the decline in farming in Japan, with a many farms lacking any successor to take over farming operations, and others citing a lack of confidence in the future of the sector and others citing debt as reasons for closure. Despite these challenges the Japanese market is buoyant, with demand for dairy products on the long term rise the market is one of stability, with a positive future outlook.

Dr Ren Wang from the FAO told the Summit that the commitment of the dairy sector to the UN’s 2030 sustainability goals was welcome, and what is now needed is for national frameworks to be developed which set out objectives and performance indicators. Dr Wang spoke of a ‘time of challenges’, with the global population expected to rise to 9.7 billion people and the issues which would arise from this. Dr Wang praised the
Dairy Declaration, saying that it had shifted the focus of debate towards that of enhancing the contribution of the sector to sustainable development.

Thomas Lee Bauer of the World Bank Group finished the session, outlining challenges and opportunities that currently characterise the Dairy Farming sector. He also outlined the areas in which the dairy sector needed to ensure its credentials were strong; food safety, protecting ‘pure’ dairy products and also entering emerging markets.

World Dairy Leaders Forum

The World Dairy Leaders Forum saw speakers from the UK, China, Japan and Australia underline the importance of communicating effectively with consumers who are looking for reassurance on the integrity and quality of dairy foods at a time when anti-dairy activism is on the rise. Leaders at the forum issued a call for the industry to unite and embrace enthusiastically the challenge of securing consumer confidence.

Paul Vernon, Chief Executive of Glambia Cheese and Chairman of
Dairy UK, spoke of how the dairy sector had changed over the past 30 years, as had the way we communicate with consumers. Dairy is a superfood, and this message needs to be heard loud and clear by consumers, who are under a constant barrage of misleading and ill-informed messages about dairy.

Tomas Pietrangeli, Managing Director of Arla UK added that "At a time when there is a need around the world for more nutritious food, dairy should be a critical part of the solution. However, the myths and scare stories that are being presented about dairy does give the industry a potential crisis and in the UK and Europe we could be facing an existential threat from anti-dairy campaigning.

"We have a bright future, we have the ammunition and we need to play to our strengths. Changing the visual image of milk and focusing on young women is essential in establishing the message that one of the greatest sources of foods is still relevant and part of modern day life."

"It's time to get behind the goodness and time to debunk the anti-dairy myths and unsubstantiated claims."

Zheng Jianqiu, Executive President of Yili Dairy, China, said: "The burgeoning Chinese dairy industry is working very hard to develop solidarity across the supply chain and with consumers. Our vision is to be the most trusted supplier of nutritious dairy foods. It is important that dairy's voice is heard by the whole of society."

Kazoo Kawamura, President of Meiji, Japan: "It is vital that the industry fully explore the new methods of communicating with suppliers, consumers and customers going forward. The need for greater global cooperation and planning is of paramount importance to avoid potential future crises."

Barry Irvin, Executive Chairman of Bega Cheese focused on ensuring
that transparency and honesty was the cornerstone of all communications with stakeholders. Mr Irvin outlined how research and technological change will change the sector, with big data changing the way decisions are taken. These research and technological breakthroughs will help us deliver sustainability. For the consumer, authenticity and provenance are increasingly important and therefore it is vital the industry reacts accordingly.

**Dr Judith Bryans** concluded the session by adding: "The message from across the global sector is quite clear - the industry must be committed to highlighting the nutritional benefits of dairy and confronting the many myths that are peddled by the anti-dairy lobby. It is a major challenge but one that dairy will rise to."

### Making a Difference with Dairy

The global dairy industry must address the risk of protein becoming the 'next frontier' in the debate on nutrition, delegates at the Making a Difference with Dairy forum heard today.
Speaking at the forum Dr Jaap Evers, IDF Leader Global Standards, said “Dairy protein is a natural, high quality protein. It is imperative that we get the message to consumers that it is an integral part of a sustainable diet. We do not want to reach a stage where consumers are given the message that from an environmental perspective there is 'green' i.e. good protein and 'red' i.e. bad protein and that dairy is somehow a 'red' protein.

"There is a wealth of scientific research that should strengthen dairy’s role as an integral element of healthy consumers' diets. The IDF will soon undertake a new research project on protein."

Mary Anne Burkman, the internationally renowned nutrition expert, said "The validity of science underpinning the nutritional value of dairy has never been more comprehensive and compelling. The challenge is to get consumers and health authorities to recognise this."

Dr Nico van Belzen, IDF Director General, said: “The IDF remains committed to playing its part in delivering high quality science that addresses many topics including nutrition, food safety and animal welfare. Another element of IDF's forthcoming work is the development on guidelines focused on the optimal use of antimicrobial agents."
The challenges and opportunities facing the dairy industry over Brexit was at the forefront of discussion at the Policy and Economics Forum at the Summit today. Speaking in the Forum today, **Tomas Pietrangeli, UK Managing Director of Arla Foods**, said the industry was facing 'the biggest seismic change in the political and financial landscape in our lifetime'.

He said: "The end of free trade is a major risk. In order to protect the health of the dairy industry in the UK we need to have tariff-free and barrier free trading conditions. We are a business and an industry that make a significant contribution to the dairy industry and the wider UK economy."

An independent economic impact assessment of Arla's UK business had shown that the company generated £6 billion GVA to the UK and direct and indirect jobs totalled nearly 120,000. Mr Pietrangeli called on the UK Government to publish its future plans for agriculture in the UK through a
parliamentary bill "at the earliest opportunity early next year", adding that any delay would be detrimental to the industry.

Mr Pietrangeli highlighted the need for access to non UK labour, citing the fact that 56% of farms had employed non-UK nationals in the last five years, 41% of processing business had employed non-UK nationals and 60-80% of third party logistics business had employed non-UK nationals.

He added: "The UK government's narrative has been bit more upbeat in this area recently but we need to see the detail."

Mr Pietrangeli said it was calling on the UK government to deliver a transitional period until 2022, no import/export tariffs, protection of a world leading regulatory framework on food standards, food safety and animal welfare and investment in new entrants and next generation farmers.

He said: "Don't disregard dairy. There will be opportunities from Brexit but we need time to adapt. We need assurance and we need our voice to be heard."

Dr David Walker, New Zealand's Ambassador to the WTO, told the Summit that New Zealand had been negotiating free trade deals since 1983 and also worked through the WTO. He said New Zealand hoped to make progress on a deal with the EU and in the event of the UK leaving the EU, a deal could be arranged between New Zealand and the UK.

Dr Michael Dykes, President and CEO of the International Dairy Foods Association, told the Summit that in the United States 'significant uncertainty' persisted over trade arrangements. He said that a proactive trade policy is essential for the US.

However discussion in the conference today did look beyond the Brexit concerns of the UK to the wider opportunities and challenges that the
international markets had to offer. Yoshinori Suzuki of J-Milk outlined the dairy market in Japan, explaining how many Japanese consumers self-classified as lactose intolerant and the challenges this brought. However cheese sales in this market were strong despite this.

The conference also heard from Michael Hanley of Lakeland Dairies, a farmer owned coop based in both the North and the South of Ireland. Despite having concerns about the impact of Brexit and the border between the north and south of Ireland, Hanley was optimistic about the future of dairy trade, citing that despite being in ‘interesting times’ there were still plenty of opportunities. Key markets cited as growth opportunities were China, with a large consumer market willing to pay a premium for Irish products he said ‘the opportunities are endless’.

Closing the conference was Monica Ganley of Quanterra outlining the potential of the South American markets, as the fourth largest dairy producing region in the world. With mergers and acquisitions in the region growing at pace the South American market is gaining strength and moving towards becoming a global market player. Improving economic conditions as well as political systems with less corruption all open the doors to opportunities in the South American markets.

**Nutrition Forum**
The nutritional benefits of dairy for both young consumers and the elderly were discussed at today’s nutrition conference. Experts at the conference detailed how vital sources of iodine are, and that they are of particular concern to pregnant women. Most populations get iodine from a number of sources, but milk and dairy foods are the largest source in the UK diet. Milk produced in the UK is a richer source of iodine than is milk in most other countries.

Speaking at the conference today Professor Margaret Rayman, Professor of Nutritional Medicine at the University of Surrey, said that mild-to-moderate iodine deficiency is present amongst many pregnant women in the UK. She said: “This is of considerable concern as iodine is required for the synthesis of the thyroid hormones that are crucial for brain and psychomotor development of the baby.”

Dr Kirsty Pourshahidi, Research Fellow, NICHE, Ulster University, also spoke during the session about the important role milk and dairy products can make to vitamin D intakes.

Dr David Luyt, Consultant Paediatrician, Children’s Allergy Service, Leicester Royal Infirmary and Honorary Senior Lecturer, University of Leicester, also spoke during the session about the advances being made to manage cow’s milk protein allergy.

The importance of the nutritional role dairy products play in older age were
also discussed, with Dr Constance Gayet-Boyet, Nutrition and Health Researcher from Centre National Interprofessionnal de l'Economie Laitiere in France, presenting research which showed that those who consume high levels of milk were 28% less likely to be effected by cognitive decline, associated with Dementia of Alzheimer's Disease. Dairy play's an important role in preventing cognitive decline by helping consumers reduce metabolic risk factors, and providing key nutrients to the brain.

**Dr Sandra Luliano from the department of medicine of the University of Melbourne Australia**, presented research to the conference on bone health and the associated benefits increased dairy in the diets of elderly consumers can have in potentially minimising fractures and bone decline.

**Marketing Forum**

The marketing conference today looked at the range of challenges and opportunities marketers in the industry face, sharing knowledge and best practice.

A key subject for discussion was promoting dairy in the face of the ‘negative noise’ of anti-dairy groups. **Donald Moore of the Global Dairy Platform** shared his success with World Milk Day 017 in creating a positive story for
dairy, emphasising the need for the sector to control to social conversations taking place about dairy. Reena Mistry of Edelman Research UK provided delegates with best practice on engaging with dairy detractors and the key to successful engagement. Dairy marketers must be prepared to ‘fight the war, not the battle’ looking to the long term trends in opinion and focus on what they can do well.

Later sessions looked at the role dairy can play as a vital source of recovery nutrients for athletes and the dairy industry must communicate this more effectively with sports professionals and consumers alike.

Dr Sharon Madigan, Head of Performance Nutrition at Sport Ireland Institute, told delegates that whilst every athlete requires different nutritional guidance, a good nutritional strategy before, during and after training can profoundly affect sports performance.

She said: “Milk and dairy foods can actually kill three birds in one stone when it comes to athlete nutrition – it assists in refuelling energy stores, it promotes rehydration to get the fluid balance right, and also helps to repair lean muscle mass. Research has shown that water or commercially available sports drinks aren’t as effective as milk in promoting muscle recovery.

“The protein and carbohydrates found in milk and dairy provides a good balance of micronutrients, vitamins, minerals and probiotics, all of which work together to provide an excellent nutrition source for athletes.

“Ultimately, a poor diet can make or break an elite athlete. Incorporating milk and dairy into a training diet is one way of cutting out the sticky plaster approach of supplements and help to build a strong base to confront nutrition from the bottom up.”

The session also included a panel discussion with Olympians Jonathan
Bell, Irish field hockey player who competed at the 2016 Summer Olympics and Natalya Coyle, an Irish athlete who competed at the 2012 Summer Olympics and 2016 Summer Olympics.

Food Safety Conference

In today’s Food Safety conference delegates heard how scientific breakthroughs and recent innovations in technology combined with collaboration, is allowing the global dairy industry to implement a range of targeted and non-targeted approaches to enhance food safety at all stages of the dairy supply chain, with cutting edge technology.

Speaking at the conference this morning Professor Chris Elliott OBE, from Queen’s University, Belfast, told delegates that deliberate contamination of the food system must be tackled head on. He said: “We need to think about prevention in food adulteration, and testing is a big part of that. We have developed a range of methods, from the laboratory to field tests, to drive the integrity programme forward and restore trust and confidence in the supply chain.”
Dr Steve Holroyd from Fonterra also spoke during the session offered a New Zealand perspective on food safety and outlined the need for global collaboration. Dr Holroyd said: “Food authenticity is absolutely essential, we must protect our products and more importantly consumers. Instead of tackling the problem on a local or country level, we need to be dealing with this together on a global scale and that’s why collaboration is essential.”

During the session Paul Brereton from Fera (UK) and Professor Yujun Jiang, Northeast Agricultural University (China) offered regional perspectives on the issue. Paul Brereton added: “Within Europe were looking at big data solutions that will anticipate food fraud risks, detecting potential problems before they become big issues for the industry.”

Animal Health and Welfare Conference

There is a growing need for greater transparency in the results of animal welfare schemes across the global dairy sector, delegates of the Animal Health and Welfare Conference heard today.
Dr Jennifer Walker, Director, Dairy Stewardship, of Dean Foods Company, a leading manufacturer of dairy produce in the United States, told the summit that guidelines produced in many schemes do not include sufficiently specific outcomes that can be audited. Dr Walker told the Summit: "There is a need for standardised industry acceptance of what animal welfare standards should look like. Measurable outcomes that can be audited are an essential part of this process."

Dr Walker said consumers want to feel good about issues such as animal welfare but the priority should be 'what is good for the cow'. Customers of dairy companies such as retailers, restaurants and coffee shops are increasingly demanding information and transparency on animal welfare standards.

Other areas of discussion in today’s conference were the resounding successes of Scandinavian 1st Generation Programmes to eradicate BVD, focussed on a bottom-up, collaborative approach to animal health. Delegates also heard from speaker Dr Jolanda Jensen, who presented RESET the mindset; a social science based approach to changing behaviour and ultimately improving communication between farmers and Vets to improve animal health outcomes.
Delegates at the Dairy Science and Technology Conference today examined the workings and techniques involved with the dairy matrix. Looking at how individual components work together at a molecular level, with milk more than just a competent of individual nutrients.

Delegates also heard from Professor John Lucey about the specific features of proteins within the dairy matrix and the opportunities they open for future product developments. Delegates also heard how technological innovations in processing techniques are effecting the dairy matrix and can be coupled with high nutritional value.

Other areas of discussion were around retailer demands for longer shelf life of UHT products and how innovations in the industry are helping to deliver this; a look at how key nutrients from dairy products like milk are absorbed in the digestive process and its effect on the microbiome of the gut; finished with a look at how dairy technology is being used to create exciting new products for consumers.
Delegates at the sustainability conference today heard from experts from across the globe about the latest sustainability issues and innovations.

A key topic of conversation throughout the conference was the need to change perceptions over definitions of sustainability, and the need to include measures which monitor the social and economic factors associated with production. There were also discussions around measurement, and the need for standardisation across different national definitions of sustainable development.

Experts also presented on the need to improve the environmental efficiency of manufacturing technologies and processing and sustainability down the supply chain.
Delegates at the Farm Management conference today heard how the rapid development of technology and major advances in so-called ‘big data’ will have significant effects on the dairy industry.

Dairy is at the forefront of adopting new and dynamic technology that will improve efficiency while ensuring delivery of nutritious, safe and sustainable foods to a growing world population.

**Eddie Daly, Account Manager at Alltech InTouch** identified eight innovative technologies – including drones, sensors, 3D printing and blockchain – that combined with the advances in big data could positively disrupt the dairy industry. Mr Daly said: “Big data and new technologies are becoming increasingly important and affordable and are on the brink of revolutionising the feeding of dairy cows around the world. Adopting the latest technology and getting the most out of big data will ensure operational consistency and drive increased efficiency and productivity.”

Other key areas of farm management such as the recruitment and retention of staff, along with attracting young people into the industry were discussed,
with delegates guided on key recruitment and staff engagement strategies to use in their businesses.

AMR Conference

The AMR conference heard from a range of speakers on the subject of resistance, what others were doing and also heard from leaders in the field about overcoming the challenges in this area.

Dr Shabbir Simjee, Global regulatory and technical advisor for Elanco gave an overview of the issue of antibiotic resistance. Dr Simjee outlined how overuse has led to resistance and multi drug resistance; how vets should be prescribing in a more responsible way; how we need more work into the discovery of new antibiotics and how important joined up, global action plans were in tackling the issue.

The conference delegates then heard from Professor Nigel Gibbens, UK Chief Veterinary Officer on the UK’s five year strategy to tackle AMR, and how important it is for multiple disciplines to come together both nationally and locally to tackle AMR.
Professor Ulf Magnusson, Professor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Science followed from this, stating that only 50% of antibiotics are used correctly worldwide. To correct this there must be a medically sound and rational approach to dispensing, and trust in competent, independent and accessible animal health services.

Emerging Issues Conference

This conference focussed on the exciting future of food processing, and what that could mean for the dairy industry. One such technological development is the use of 3D printing in the food industry, specifically using cheese.

The conference heard from Professor Alan Kelly on the potential for 3D printing techniques to be adapted to 3D print cheese. Professor Kelly took delegates through his work to date in this area, and their results; detailing
the technological issues with manipulating cheese and the effects it has on protein networks.

The potential for 3D printing of foodstuffs has caught public imagination, as well as those within the dairy industry. With uses for vulnerable groups like the elderly of those with problems masticating cited as key potential winners from this technology. It also has potentially wider applications for consumers, allowing a new era of totally customisable dairy products.

**BIJLAGE:**

OVERZICHT VAN IDF PERSBERICHTEN ROND DE IDF WORLD DAIRY SUMMIT IN BELFAST
DAIRY COMMITTED TO ITS GLOBAL NUTRITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

World political and agricultural leaders were told today that dairy is committed to playing a vital dual role in feeding the world with nutritious foods - and protecting the environment.

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit in Belfast, Dr Judith Bryans, President of the IDF, said the global dairy community is one billion people strong and is currently feeding 6 billion consumers.

She said that 20 dairy producing countries are now signed up to a global initiative called the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam which makes a commitment to meeting the sustainable development goals set by the United Nations.

Dr Bryans said that dairy producing countries believe in creating a 'healthier planet', addressing inequality and lifting people out of poverty. "We believe in dairy. We have a strong story to tell in terms of nutrition and also the progress we are making environmentally. No sector is perfect and there is always room for improvement but we have a vision, we have our goals and we will spare no effort in achieving them."

Dr Bryans was addressing a World Leaders’ Forum which included Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Food, Environment and Rural Affairs, Phil Hogan, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development and Dr Ren Wang assistant director general of UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation.

Mr Gove told the Summit that the UK Government is committed to supporting the dairy industry. He said that during Brexit negotiations, the UK Government wants to ensure that supply lines are solid, no barriers to trade are erected and labour can be accessed where it is needed. “This will be at the forefront of our minds”, said Mr Gove.

Commissioner Hogan said the issue of free movement of people was "a difficult issue for the UK and for the EU for different reasons, and will require negotiations." Mr Hogan told the Summit that EU agri exports continued to grow even though the sector was still adjusting to the post-quota environment. He said there is need for an ongoing commitment to sustainability 'from farm to fork'.
Dr Wang told the Summit that the commitment of the dairy sector to the UN’s 2030 sustainability goals was welcome, and what is now needed is for national frameworks to be developed which set out objectives and performance indicators.

ENDS

More pictures available on request.

Contacts

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The International Dairy Federation

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) is the leading source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders of the dairy chain. IDF engages all stakeholders in productive activities and research projects to further current knowledge and science on a wide range of issues. Today, dairy is one of the most vibrant and strategic sectors, with a major impact on national economies, public health and the environment. Through its working bodies, events and work programme, IDF provides a common platform, systems and processes for the global dairy sector to come together to reach consensus. Given its consensus-building capacity, IDF represents the global voice of dairy towards stakeholders and intergovernmental organisations. For more information, please visit www.fil-idf.org.

IDF World Dairy Summit 2017

The IDF World Dairy Summit is the foremost international conference event for all dairy sector leaders and stakeholders. The conference, “Making a Difference with Dairy”, is running from Monday 30th October to Thursday 2nd November at the Belfast Waterfront, an award-winning venue in the city centre. For more information on the individual conference programmes, technical tours and social events, please visit http://www.idfwds2017.com.
GLOBAL DAIRY LEADERS CALL FOR UNITED APPROACH ON CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

World dairy leader issued a call for the industry to united and embrace enthusiastically the challenge of securing consumer confidence

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit in Belfast, industry leaders from the UK, China, Japan and Australia underlined the importance of communicating effectively with consumers who are looking for reassurance on the integrity and quality of dairy foods at a time anti-dairy activism is on the rise.

Paul Vernon, chief executive of Gambia Cheese and chairman of Dairy UK, the UK industry trade association, said: "The world and the dairy sector has changed massively over the past 30 years and the way we are communicating with consumers has changed too. Dairy is a superfood and we need to ensure that message is heard loud and clear by consumers who are under a constant barrage of misleading and ill-informed messages about dairy."

Tomas Pietrangeli, managing director of Arla UK: "At a time when there is a need around the world for more nutritious food, dairy should be a critical part of the solution. However, the myths and scare stories that are being presented about dairy does give the industry a potential crisis and in the UK and Europe we could be facing an existential threat from anti-dairy campaigning.

"We have a bright future, we have the ammunition and we need to play to our strengths. Changing the visual image of milk and focusing on young women is essential in establishing the message that one of the greatest sources of foods is still relevant and part of modern day life."
“It’s time to get behind the goodness and time to debunk the anti-dairy myths and unsubstantiated claims.”

Zheng Jianqiu, executive president of Yili Dairy, China, said: “The burgeoning Chinese dairy industry is working very hard to develop solidarity across the supply chain and with consumers. Our vision is to be the most trusted supplier of nutritious dairy foods. It is important that dairy’s voice is heard by the whole of society.”

Kazuo Kawamura, president of Meiji, Japan: “It is vital that the industry fully explores the new methods of communicating with suppliers, consumers and customers going forward. The need for greater global cooperation and planning is of paramount importance to avoid potential future crises.”

Barry Irvin, executive chairman of Bega Cheese focused on ensuring that transparency and honesty was the cornerstone of all communications with stakeholders.

Dr Judith Bryans, president of the International Dairy Federation, said: “The message from across the global sector is quite clear - the industry must be committed to highlighting the nutritional benefits of dairy and confronting the many myths that are peddled by the anti-dairy lobby. It is a major challenge but one that dairy can rise to.”
EUROPEAN AND US SECTORS MILK LEAD PRODUCTION RECOVERY

The European and US dairy markets are leading international recovery in milk markets, the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit was told today.

The IDF launched the World Dairy Situation Report 2017 at the Summit in Belfast. The report will be available tomorrow (Tuesday 31st October) from: https://www.fil-idf.org/.

Véronique Pilet, editor in chief of the IDF report and Head of Economics at French Dairy Inter-branch Organisation CNIEL, said: "The global dairy market remains uncertain and the only thing that we can say for sure is the volatility which is a result of supply and demand issues is here to stay.

"Dynamism in the European and US markets is leading recovery and production prospects over the next few months remain good. Butter prices are at an all-time high, however skimmed milk powder prices are still eroding."

Ms Pilet said that recovery this year had followed a year when both global production of dairy and consumption were stagnant and in some areas showed a slight decrease. She said contributing factors to this could be the Russian ban on importing dairy products from the EU, decreasing purchasing power in oil producing countries and the economic situation in some South American countries.

New Zealand remains the world's largest exporter of dairy with a 29% share of the market, closely followed by the EU at 28% and the US at 24%.

Overall production of milk rose by 0.9% in 2016 compared with growth rates of 2.0% and more in recent years.

"Historical lows are giving way to a period of recovery", said Ms Pilet. “And we are now seeing a stronger demand for dairy in 2017."
DAIRY MUST CONFRONT THE RISK OF PROTEIN BECOMING NEXT FRONTIER IN NUTRITION DEBATE

The global dairy industry must address the risk of protein becoming the 'next frontier' in the debate on nutrition

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit in Belfast, Dr Jaap Evers, IDF Leader Global Standards, said: "Dairy protein is a natural, high quality protein. It is imperative that we get the message to consumers that it is an integral part of a sustainable diet. We do not want to reach a stage where consumers are given the message that from an environmental perspective there is 'green' i.e. good protein and 'red' i.e. bad protein and that dairy is somehow a 'red' protein.

“There is a wealth of scientific research that should strengthen dairy’s role as an integral element of healthy consumers' diets. The IDF will soon undertake a new research project on protein."

Mary Anne Burkman, the internationally renowned nutrition expert, said: "The validity of science underpinning the nutritional value of dairy has never been more comprehensive and compelling. The challenge is to get consumers and health authorities to recognise this."

Dr Nico van Belzen, IDF Director General, said: "The IDF remains committed to playing its part in delivering high quality science that addresses many topics including nutrition, food safety and animal welfare. Another element of IDF’s forthcoming work is the development on guidelines focused on the optimal use of antimicrobial agents."
MILK AND DAIRY PLAYS KEY ROLE IN INFANT AND CHILD NUTRITION

Milk and dairy foods are a vital source of iodine which is a nutrient of particular concern to pregnant women, experts were told at the International Dairy Federation's (IDF) World Dairy Summit today.

Most populations get iodine from a number of sources, but milk and dairy foods are the largest source in the UK diet. Milk produced in the UK is a richer source of iodine than is milk in most other countries.

Speaking at the IDF World Dairy Summit in Belfast today, Professor Margaret Rayman, Professor of Nutritional Medicine at the University of Surrey, said that mild-to-moderate iodine deficiency is present amongst many pregnant women in the UK.

She said: “This is of considerable concern as iodine is required for the synthesis of the thyroid hormones that are crucial for brain and psychomotor development of the baby.”

The biggest sources of iodine in the diet are milk, yogurt and goat’s cheese.

Professor Rayman, added: “Milk-alternative drinks tend to have very low levels of iodine. Pregnant women in particular need to be careful when switching to milk-alternatives to ensure they’re not missing out on key nutrients that they would otherwise get from cow’s milk.”

Dr Kirsty Pourshahidi, Research Fellow, NICHE, Ulster University, also spoke during the session about the important role milk and dairy products can make to vitamin D intakes.

Dr Judith Bryans, President of the IDF and Chief Executive of Dairy UK: “Iodine is an important micronutrient that is often overlooked by consumers. It is vital that the dairy industry fills the knowledge gap and continues to educates consumers about the nutritional benefits of dairy foods.”

Dr David Luyt, Consultant Paediatrician, Children’s Allergy Service, Leicester Royal Infirmary and Honorary Senior Lecturer, University of Leicester, also spoke during the session about the advances being made to manage cow’s milk protein allergy.
BREXIT CHALLENGES HIGHLIGHTED AT IDF WORLD DAIRY SUMMIT

The challenges and opportunities facing the dairy industry over Brexit were highlighted at the International Dairy Federation’s (IDF) World Dairy Summit today.

Speaking at the IDF Summit in Belfast, Tomas Pietrangeli, UK managing director of Arla Foods, said the industry was facing 'the biggest seismic change in the political and financial landscape in our lifetime'.

He said: "The end of free trade is a major risk. In order to protect the health of the dairy industry in the UK we need to have tariff-free and barrier free trading conditions. We are a business and an industry that make a significant contribution to the dairy industry and the wider UK economy."

An independent economic impact assessment of Arla's UK business had shown that the company generated £6 billion GVA to the UK and direct and indirect jobs totalled nearly 120,000.

Mr Pietrangeli called on the UK Government to publish its future plans for agriculture in the UK through a parliamentary bill "at the earliest opportunity early next year", adding that any delay would be detrimental to the industry.

He said: "We need to have the best possible trading conditions with the EU. We need to get Brexit right. Trade with the EU is the most important market for UK dairy businesses and UK dairy should be recognised as a key player in Brexit negotiations. We do not want to see a situation where dairy businesses come under pressure because of restrictions on trading conditions."

Mr Pietrangeli highlighted the need for access to non UK labour, citing the fact that 56% of farms had employed non-UK nationals in the last five years, 41% of processing business had employed non- UK nationals and 60-80% of third party logistics business had employed non-UK nationals.

He added: "The UK government's narrative has been bit more upbeat in this area recently but we need to see the detail."

Mr Pietrangeli said it was calling on the UK government to deliver a transitional period until 2022, no import/export tariffs, protection of a world leading regulatory framework
on food standards, food safety and animal welfare and investment in new entrants and next generation farmers.

He said: "Don't disregard dairy. There will be opportunities from Brexit but we need time to adapt. We need assurance and we need our voice to be heard."

Dr David Walker, New Zealand's ambassador to the World Trade Organisation, told the Summit that New Zealand had been agreeing free trade deals since 1983 and also worked through the WTO. He said New Zealand hoped to make progress on a deal with the EU and in the event of the UK leaving the EU, a deal could be arranged between New Zealand and the UK.

Dr Michael Dykes, President and CEO of the International Dairy Foods Association, told the Summit that in the United States 'significant uncertainty' persisted over trade arrangements. He said that a proactive trade policy is essential for the US.
DAIRY HIGHLIGHTED AS KEY FOOD FOR SPORTS NUTRITION

Milk and dairy foods provide a vital source of recovery promoting nutrients for athletes and the dairy industry must communicate this more effectively with sports professionals and consumers.

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit 2017, Dr Sharon Madigan, Head of Performance Nutrition at Sport Ireland Institute, told delegates that whilst every athlete requires different nutritional guidance, a good nutritional strategy before, during and after training can profoundly affect sports performance.

She said: “Milk and dairy foods can actually kill three birds in one stone when it comes to athlete nutrition – it assists in refuelling energy stores, it promotes rehydration to get the fluid balance right, and also helps to repair lean muscle mass. Research has shown that water or commercially available sports drinks aren’t as effective as milk in promoting muscle recovery.

“People are often afraid of calories but energy balance is key. We need to look at the whole food, as opposed to single nutrients, to properly understand its effect on our bodies. The protein and carbohydrates found in milk and dairy provides a good balance of micronutrients, vitamins, minerals and probiotics, all of which work together to provide an excellent nutrition source for athletes.

“Ultimately, a poor diet can make or break an elite athlete. Incorporating milk and dairy into a training diet is one way of cutting out the sticky plaster approach of supplements and help to build a strong base to confront nutrition from the bottom up.”

The session also included a panel discussion with Olympians Jonathan Bell, Irish field hockey player who competed at the 2016 Summer Olympics and Natalya Coyle, an Irish athlete who competed at the 2012 Summer Olympics and 2016 Summer Olympics.

Jonathan, added: “Cost is often a factor that many athletes need to be mindful of. Milk and dairy foods are a cost effective and accessible food for athletes like me to incorporate into a successful nutrition regime.”
DAIRY SECTOR CONTINUES TO GROW EMERGING MARKET FOOTPRINT

Dairy industry leaders today highlighted the continued impressive growth of the dairy sector in emerging markets across the world.

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit in Belfast, industry leaders provided a clear indication that the future for dairy is bright in emerging markets, particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The economic dynamism of East Asia continues to present an enormous growth opportunity for the global dairy sector.

Michael Hanley, Group Chief Executive, Lakeland Dairies – which operate both sides of the Irish border – said: "A substantial proportion of our revenues are generated from exports with over 200 of our products being exported to over 80 countries. A host of opportunities exist for dairy businesses in global emerging markets."

"By 2050, three out of four people will either live in Africa or Asia. It is vital for dairy businesses in developed markets to invest time and resources in building a presence to ensure dairy remains an integral part of consumers’ diets in these markets."

The South American dairy industry has its own special characteristics and opportunities for growth.

Monica Ganley, Principal of Quarterra, the strategic agricultural advisory firm, said: "The long-held view of the South American dairy sector is that it is full of potential and always will be. This in my view is wrong. Lucrative opportunities exist for dairy companies in this vibrant and rapidly developing market."

"Recent cross-border M&A activity and consolidation of the industry in the region indicates that the future is bright. Politically and economically, I believe that South America is a tipping point and that the recent high growth in the dairy sector is the beginning of an exciting journey for the industry."

Dr Judith Bryans, President of the IDF and Chief Executive of Dairy UK, said: "Asia, Africa and Latin America represent some of the most upcoming markets for dairy produce and we as an industry must endeavour to provide nutritious and sustainable dairy foods across those core markets."
TRANSPARENCY IS A VITAL TOOL FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

There is a growing need for greater transparency in the results of animal welfare schemes across the global dairy sector, the IDF World Dairy Summit heard today.

Dr Jennifer Walker, Director, Dairy Stewardship, of Dean Foods Company, a leading manufacturer of dairy produce in the United States, told the summit that guidelines produced in many schemes do not include sufficiently specific outcomes that can be audited.

Dr Walker told the Summit: "There is a need for standardised industry acceptance of what animal welfare standards should look like. Measurable outcomes that can be audited are an essential part of this process."

Dr Walker said consumers want to feel good about issues such as animal welfare but the priority should be 'what is good for the cow'. Customers of dairy companies such as retailers, restaurants and coffee shops are increasingly demanding information and transparency on animal welfare standards.

Luc Mirabito, team leader for the International Dairy Federation’s guide to good animal welfare practices in dairy production and expert in the World Organisation for Animal’s (OIE) former Animal Welfare Working Group, said: "It is vital that the dairy industry evidences that farmers are doing their utmost to ensure high standards of animal welfare. The practical use of an animal welfare management system in a farm environment is a powerful tool to demonstrate good animal husbandry practices. To help achieve this objective, OIE standards and general principles can be used as a relevant and valuable starting point.

"On a global scale, the vision is to reach a world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability."
DAIRY INDUSTRY PUSHING FORWARD TO COMMERCIALISE SCIENCE AND DRIVE INNOVATION

The dairy industry is at the vanguard of commercialising research and development initiatives that will drive innovation, delegates at the International Dairy Federation were told today.

In a session chaired by Dr Jeremy Hill, Chief Science and Technology Officer of Fonterra, experts in the field of research and development in the dairy sector provided insight into how scientific breakthroughs will drive innovation and help define the industry’s vision for the future.

Dr Margrethe Jonkman, Corporate Director of Research and Development at FrieslandCampina, said: “Innovation is fundamental to the ongoing success of our industry and ensuring that dairy remains relevant in the long term. The current focus on sustainability must continue if the sector is to reduce its environmental footprint. More than ever, it is vitally important that innovation adds value not only to the producer but also to the consumer.”

Dr Alexander Tolkach, Vice-President of Cheese Applications at Saputo Inc., told the audience: “Sustainability will remain an essential consideration in the drive to commercialise science in the dairy industry. The significant investment underway globally in research and development across the value chain should produce a range of positive technological, food safety and nutritional outcomes.

Michio Ikeda, General Manager at the Food and Research Institute at Japanese dairy producer Morinaga Milk, said: “Science is the key to providing a growing global population with protein-rich and sustainable dairy foods. In the Japanese dairy market, companies are investing heavily in research and development to take advantage of the growing consumer shift from taste to functionality.”
Belfast, 3rd November 2017

BIG DATA AND NEW TECHNOLOGY MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO DAIRY

The rapid development of technology and major advances in so-called 'big data' will have significant effects on the dairy industry, delegates at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit were told today.

Dairy is at the forefront of adopting new and dynamic technology that will improve efficiency while ensuring delivery of nutritious, safe and sustainable foods to a growing world population.

The seminar identified eight innovative technologies – including drones, sensors, 3D printing and blockchain – that combined with the advances in big data could positively disrupt the dairy industry.

Delegates heard how big data and new technologies are becoming increasingly important and affordable and are on the brink of revolutionising the feeding of dairy cows around the world. Also under discussion was how the adoption of the latest technology and getting the most out of big data would ensure operational consistency and drive increased efficiency and productivity.

The seminar affirmed that new technology and the use of big data must add value across the dairy supply chain, especially at farm level and that on a practical level, the technology must be intuitive and allow the farmer to make better management decisions.

The next revolution in dairy farming will see a shift from reactive to predictive management practices that will allow farmers to allocate resources more efficiently and operate in a more sustainable manner.

Dr Judith Bryans, President of the International Dairy Federation and Chief Executive of Dairy UK, said: “This is a very exciting time for the dairy industry. The speed of technological advances is rapidly changing the farming landscape and we as a sector are committed to embracing the opportunities that this progress presents. Dairy’s role in feeding a growing global population with nutritious and sustainable foods has never been more important and the creative application of new technologies will guarantee that dairy continues to make a difference for future generations.”
GLOBAL DAIRY CHAMPIONS HONOURED BY
INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION

Four dairy champions have been honoured for their leadership, commitment and dedication to the industry at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit 2017

The much-coveted IDF awards were announced during the Gala dinner held at the Belfast Waterfront, which saw representatives from across the global dairy industry come together to celebrate a successful IDF World Dairy Summit.

Winners include representatives from Norway, the US, New Zealand and Australia.

The Norwegian Dairy Council was the first winner of the evening, receiving the International Milk Promotion Group (IMP) Yves Boutonnat Trophy Award for their successful marketing campaign “One nutrient, hundred communication possibilities”. This followed a competitive application process, which saw a series of organisations present their respective marketing campaigns.

The second winner was internationally renowned nutrition expert Mary Anne Burkman from The Dairy Council of California who was awarded with The IDF Volunteer Recognition Award for her skill in translating scientific language into practical information. Mary Anne is recognised as a pioneer in bringing the nutrition and sustainability fields together and has played a key role in drafting essential resource papers for the IDF.

Keith Johnston, principal research technologist at Fonterra, was awarded with The IDF Prize of Excellence 2017 for his outstanding contribution to the work of the IDF. His expertise work within various IDF Standing Committees has resulted in the final adoption of a new and updated set of Codex cheese standards.

The IDF Award 2017 was awarded to Dr Robin Condron, former manager in animal health and welfare at Dairy Australia. For over 15 years Robin has been an active contributor to the IDF and has provided strategic advice to the industry in Australia and internationally in the technical areas of food safety, animal health and welfare.

Dr Judith Bryans, president of the IDF, said: “All of the evening’s winners are dairy champions who work tirelessly to promote our great industry all over the world.

“Working with members all over the world, the IDF aims to facilitate dialogue with stakeholders of the global dairy sector, and all of our award winners have helped the IDF do just that.

“Whether it’s being creative, offering high-level strategic and technical advice, or helping the IDF to communicate more effectively with the wider dairy industry, each
of these winners has played a key role in ensuring the interests of the industry remain centre stage. Their commitment to the global industry is unwavering and is deeply appreciated.”

Notes to Editors
More pictures available on request.

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The International Dairy Federation
The International Dairy Federation (IDF) is the leading source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders of the dairy chain. IDF engages all stakeholders in productive activities and research projects to further current knowledge and science on a wide range of issues. Today, dairy is one of the most vibrant and strategic sectors, with a major impact on national economies, public health and the environment. Through its working bodies, events and work programme, IDF provides a common platform, systems and processes for the global dairy sector to come together to reach consensus. Given its consensus-building capacity, IDF represents the global voice of dairy towards stakeholders and intergovernmental organisations. For more information, please visit www.fil-idf.org, communications@fil-idf.org

IDF World Dairy Summit 2017
The IDF World Dairy Summit is the foremost international conference event for all dairy sector leaders and stakeholders. The conference, “Making a Difference with Dairy”, is running from Monday 30th October to Thursday 2nd November at the Belfast Waterfront, an award-winning venue in the city centre. For more information on the individual conference programmes, technical tours and social events, please visit: http://www.idfwds2017.com.