



IDF TAKES A SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENT TOWARDS TACKLING GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

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Brussels, 15 May 2009- Christian Robert, Director General of IDF, presented an outline of the global dairy agenda for action to contribute to the mitigation solutions to Climate Change at the occasion of the FAO symposium on "Mitigation of green house gas emissions from animal production, a policy agenda", Asuncion, Paraguay, 6-8 May 2009.

"The dairy sector has a shared interest in combating climate change and in addressing the most pressing challenge presented by consumer demand and regulation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout the supply chain. Around the world, our responsible sector focuses on providing consumers with the nutritious dairy products they want, in a way that is economically viable, environmentally sound and socially responsible." stressed Christian Robert, IDF Director General in his address.

This FAO Symposium provided experts and policy makers the opportunity to debate issues affecting the meat and dairy industries. Recognizing the important nutritional, economic and social positive contribution of the dairy industry in the world, the FAO symposium aimed at identifying the priority activities to implement in order to reduce the green house gas emissions and to start concerted global action programs. The IDF is already actively involved in such programs.

"The IDF has developed and delivered work programs in the environmental area and has effective mechanisms in place to share the outcomes throughout the membership, which accounts for 86% of the world dairy production. The IDF is ideally placed to bring real consensus and change through the world's dairy producing nations" said Christian Robert.

At the end of the symposium, a draft statement on recommendations for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from animal production was written by the FAO. IDF welcomes this statement and considers it sets the right level of ambition providing a strong stimulus towards achieving a sustainable environment.

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Note to editors:

- The International Dairy Federation is the pre-eminent source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders in the dairy chain.
- Growing IDF membership accounts for about **86%** of the world's total milk production.
- IDF produced several publications aiming at improving environmental performance
 - * Guide for Dairy Managers on Wastage Prevention in Dairy Plants (Bulletin of the IDF n°382/2003)
 - * Energy Use in Dairy Processing (the Bulletin of IDF n° 401/2005) - available free of charge on the IDF website
 - * Guide on LCA Towards Sustainability in the Dairy Chain (Bulletin of the IDF n°398/2005) - available free of charge on the IDF website
 - * Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions at Farm and Manufacturing Level (the Bulletin of IDF n°422/2007) - available free of charge on the IDF website