



IDF reiterates its commitment towards environmental protection

Brussels, 11 December 2009 - The International Dairy Federation will be represented at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen to reconfirm the commitment of the dairy sector to mitigate the world's Greenhouse Gas emissions.

The global dairy industry has a shared interest with governments and the global community to produce nutritious food for today and for future generations in a sustainable way. "We call upon a supportive regulatory policy environment that recognizes the important economic, social and environmental contributions of the dairy industry. We hope that participants will take decisions and provide a framework based on robust science to cut carbon emissions. " said Christian Robert, IDF Director General.

In the recent years, IDF has been particularly active to put environmental concerns at the top of its priorities, through scientific research and a close dialogue with various stakeholders worldwide.

The dairy sector has already made a strong contribution to combat climate change reflected in the history signing of a Global Dairy Agenda for Action during the World Dairy Summit in Berlin, Germany.

Signed by IDF and six organizations on behalf of the world's dairy associations and companies, the Global Dairy Agenda for Action is an industry pledge to reduce carbon emissions as part of its contribution to help address global warming. This pledge builds on past performance to address climate change.

In addition, IDF launched the sustainability web portal on www.dairy-sustainability-initiative.org as a tool for sharing information and best practices on environmentally focused initiatives. "This new IDF web portal will enable anyone in the dairy chain to look up and share best practice and information. It can be an extremely useful tool to improve environmental performance," said Christian Robert, IDF Director General.

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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.

- IDF is represented in 56 countries and membership is growing: IDF accounts for approximately 86% of the world's milk production at present.

- IDF aims to identify, elaborate and disseminate best practice at international level in order to guide the dairy sector and to harmonize members' work on a variety of issues along the dairy production chain including animal health and welfare, protection of the environment, nutrition, food safety and hygiene and food standards.