



SECURING A MORE PROFITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR THE DAIRY SECTOR

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Berlin (DE), 22 September, 2009 - Under the IDF World Dairy Summit theme 'United Dairy World', key players focused on the current crisis and how the dairy industry could unite in contributing to a more successful and profitable industry for the future.

State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Gert Lindemann sat among IDF President, Richard Doyle, Udo Folgart, President of the German Dairy Federation and Karl-Heinz Engel, President of the German Dairy Industry Association.

Though the tough economic situation appeared to be the theme, focus was firmly on the positive aspects and all speakers remained optimistic that the dairy industry would recover.

Gert Linderman commented on the huge number of participants and how it demonstrated the relevance of the congress in such difficult times. He spoke about the need to face these challenges together and about the long perspectives and indicators that already exist, revealing that there will be an increase in population and higher incomes among others, in addition to the enhancement of milk production.

'Overcoming the current economic situation requires active exploration of partnership opportunities, pooling available resources and mobilizing efforts' declared Richard Doyle within his speech. He proceeded to outline the various important initiatives that lie at the top of the dairy sector agenda.

Ugo Folgart reiterated the IDF President's sentiment by appealing to dairy producers and announcing for cooperation as it exists today to be expanded and developed further. 'The entire dairy industry is facing enormous challenges in 2009 and together with our dairies, we must position ourselves on the market and take advantage of the opportunities that a growing market for milk offers,' he stated.

Recent improvements in the global economic situation have occurred with some countries already reporting an increased demand.

'We are assuming that the increase in demand on the global market will soon be larger than the increase in global production' Engel stated optimistically, 'volatility and liberalised markets carry risks but also offer opportunities.'

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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.
- The IDF World Dairy Summit 2009 under the theme "United Dairy World 2009" takes place in Berlin, Germany, 20-24 September 2009. Environment, energy sources and technological innovation with regard to milk supply and dairy processing will be key elements addressed at the IDF World Dairy Summit 2009. More information can be found at www.wds2009.com