



# IDF PRESS RELEASE

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## **The Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) signed the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam on 19th October during the IDF World Dairy Summit.

The representatives of the one-billion person dairy community present at Rotterdam are committed to the sustainable development of the dairy sector to generate benefit for people and the planet. The declaration aims TO reiterate the integrated approach that the dairy sector takes to promote the sustainability of dairy systems, taking into consideration social, economic, health and environmental dimensions.

The annual Summit, a grand assembly of the dairy world was attended by around 1200 participants from 64 countries. The theme of the Rotterdam IDF World Dairy Summit was “Dare to Dairy”.

FAO Assistant Director General, Ren Wang, said, “The dairy sector has a key role to play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN 2030 Agenda. The goals integrate the three dimensions of Sustainability (economic, social and environmental) and call for commitment from all stakeholders”.

Jeremy Hill, President of IDF said, “I am confident that we will look back at this declaration as a landmark event in the history of dairy. We can be confident about the impact and importance of the dairy to the world. At the same time, we must also recognize that dairy is not perfect and there is considerable scope to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of all dairy systems, and with these improvements make an important contribution to the sustainability of our dairy chains, our dairy communities the nutrition of the population and ecology of the planet.”

The dairy sector has a key role to play in food security and poverty alleviation. Milk is a nutritious product essential for children and pregnant women. Hundreds of millions of poor people keep at least one dairy animal, which provide not only food, but capital and income, as well as fertilization and often animal traction for crops.

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## **International Dairy Federation**

The International Dairy Federation 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](http://www.fil-idf.org).

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