



# IDF PRESS RELEASE

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## GUIDANCE ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE FROM THE DAIRY SECTOR - a new factsheet released by IDF

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) has released a [new factsheet - \*Guidance on antimicrobial resistance from the dairy sector\*](#) providing a global dairy position on AMR and giving recommendations for the prudent use of AMR to dairy farmers, veterinary services, food processing companies, pharmaceutical companies and regulators.

Antimicrobials are medicines used to treat infections, particularly those caused by bacteria, to maintain human and animal health. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is the ability of a microbe to survive or grow during antimicrobial treatment. AMR can be naturally present in some microorganisms or it can be acquired via mutations, or from other microbes.

New AMR mechanisms are emerging and spreading globally, threatening our ability to treat common infectious diseases, resulting in prolonged illness, disability, and death of humans and animals. The misuse and overuse of antimicrobials is accelerating this process. AMR is not constrained by geographic borders or species. Resistant bacteria arising either in humans, animals or the environment may spread from one to the other, and from one country to another. Limiting the development of AMR requires the implementation of global strategies by public health, veterinary and environmental authorities in all countries of the world.

IDF encourages good animal health and welfare to minimize the need for antimicrobial use. IDF promotes prudent and responsible use of antimicrobial agents within the global dairy industry to ensure that they continue to be effective and useful for curing diseases in animals.

*“The dairy sector reiterates the importance of the prudent and responsible use of antimicrobials. The IDF supports the development of National Action Plans harmonized with the global strategies of the World Organization for Animal Health, World Health Organization and Food and Agriculture Organization’s Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance. These initiatives complement the many animal health, animal welfare and food safety practices that the dairy sector has in place to*

*deliver safe and secure dairy products to global consumers.” explained Dr Nico van Belzen, Director General of IDF.*

This factsheet complements the already existing [IDF Guide to Prudent Use of Antimicrobials Agents in Dairy Production\\*](#).

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\* IDF Guide to Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Dairy Production. 2013 [This publication is available free of charge from the IDF Website.](#)



Download IDF Factsheet

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**Media contact**

For further information, please contact IDF Communications, [communications@fil-idf.org](mailto:communications@fil-idf.org)

**International Dairy Federation**

The International Dairy Federation is the leading source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders of the dairy chain since 1903. 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).

**International Dairy Federation**

70/B Boulevard Auguste Reyers  
1030 Brussels - Belgium  
[info@fil-idf.org](mailto:info@fil-idf.org)  
[www.fil-idf.org](http://www.fil-idf.org)

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