



IDF PRESS RELEASE

Santiago, 27th September 2017

CHILE SIGNS ROTTERDAM DECLARATION TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY IN THE DAIRY SECTOR

Consortio Lechero - dairy chain articulator in Chile - together with the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO Chile and the International Dairy Federation - IDF -, signed this important international agreement whose main goal is to meet the UN Objectives of Sustainable Development by 2030 and make the dairy sector one of the leaders of the country's growth.

The State of Chile formally adhered today to the Rotterdam Declaration - an international agreement signed between the IDF and FAO in October 2016 - which recognizes the contribution of milk and dairy to the nutrition of people, the rural economy, employability and the permanence of families in the fields.

Through this signing, the country and the dairy sector in particular, commit to economic, social and environmentally sustainable development, fulfilling the UN objectives of sustainable development by 2030. In this way, Chile becomes the first country in Latin America to adhere to this important agreement.

According to Robert Cussen, President of Consortio Lechero, who promoted this adhesion, *"this milestone remarks a new direction for an important sector of the Chilean economy. We have the obligation and the mission to become protagonists of our future."* The ceremony was held at FAO's Headquarters in Santiago and was led by Agriculture Minister Carlos Furche; the Deputy Regional Representative and FAO Representative in Chile, Eve Crowley; the director general of the International Dairy Federation (IDF), Nico Van Belzen and the Chairman of Consortio Lechero, Robert Cussen.

Cussen also highlighted the relevance of this initiative for the work they have been developing alongside the entire dairy chain. *"Our agenda has been strongly focused on developing the first Sustainability Strategy for the dairy sector. The points that were agreed in Rotterdam are valid for our country. Through this adhesion, Chile tells the world that we believe that dairy is a relevant economic and food sector piece and will continue growing, but in a sustainable way"* he stated.

Cussen also stated that Chile will participate in a Bid for the organization of the World Dairy Summit for 2021, a world-class event where more than 1,000 representatives of the dairy sector participate from all around the world.

Minister of Agriculture, Carlos Furche mentioned that *"What we are looking with this agreement is to achieve -through good practices- a commitment in sustainable development for the dairy sector and show up the advantages of the consumption of dairy products and sub products. Chile is the first country in Latin America to sign this voluntary agreement, being coherent with the Government Policies done by President Bachelet. We are interested in promoting the benefits of milk consumption in the population, especially for the most needed. This agreement will turn to be a benchmark for the dairy market, and support an economic activity that is very important for our country"*.

"The importance of sustainability in the growth of the dairy sector is crucial, both for competitiveness and for the benefit of consumers," said Nico Van Belzen, Director General of IDF. *"Health, Economy, Agriculture, Labor and Technology are together in an integrative approach to meet the United Nations Goals for Sustainable Development 2030, and we appreciate the Chilean application for the IDF World Dairy Summit "*, stated the IDF Director General.

Eve Crowley, Deputy Regional Representative and FAO Representative in Chile, mentioned that *"Chile and its dairy sector now joins the global efforts to make a contribution to the construction of more sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems, contributing to food security, decent employment, clean production and economic support in rural areas"*.

The national dairy sector in figures

- The Chilean dairy sector represents approximately 5,000 families of milk producers, a dozen dairy companies, and more than a hundred dairies.
- Together, generates about 160,000 direct jobs.
- The sector generates a GDP of more than USD \$ 800 million.
- In Chile, more than 80% of milk is produced in pastures through a grazing system, which allows to develop a milk with special characteristics.
- In Chile, 146.5 liters of dairy per capita are consumed annually, representing only 400 cc per day (two portions), a figure that is below the recommendation of FAO and the Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology (INTA) , of three daily portions.
- Consumption since childhood of three servings of dairy a day provides 1,200 to 1,300 mg of calcium daily, necessary to prevent osteoporosis in adulthood (according to INTA).

---ENDS---

Media contact

For further information, please contact IDF Communications, 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.

Declaration of Rotterdam

The Rotterdam Declaration was signed on 19 October 2016 and was part of the World Dairy Summit organized by IDF in the Netherlands. In this agreement, IDF and FAO commit their efforts to ensure that the global dairy sector supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and that sectoral work considers the social, economic, health and environmental dimensions.

Consorcio Lechero

Consorcio Lechero is the articulator of the Chilean dairy chain, is composed of organizations of producers and processors, research centers, companies that supply inputs and sectoral services, and aims to manage and develop programs enhancing the competitiveness of the national dairy chain, managing the common demands of the dairy chain as a whole, linking the sector with its environment and promoting sustainability.

International Dairy Federation

70/B Boulevard Auguste Reyers
1030 Brussels - Belgium
info@fil-idf.org
www.fil-idf.org

[Unsubscribe](#)
[About us](#)

Copyright © 2017 FIL-IDF, All rights reserved.