



IDF PRESS RELEASE

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DAIRY COMMITTED TO ITS GLOBAL NUTRITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

World political and agricultural leaders were told today that dairy is committed to playing a vital dual role in feeding the world with nutritious foods - and protecting the environment

Speaking at the International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit in Belfast, Dr Judith Bryans, President of the IDF, said the global dairy community is one billion people strong and is currently feeding 6 billion consumers.

She said that 20 dairy producing countries are now signed up to a global initiative called the Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam which makes a commitment to meeting the sustainable development goals set by the United Nations.

Dr Bryans said that dairy producing countries believe in creating a 'healthier planet', addressing inequality and lifting people out of poverty. *"We believe in dairy. We have a strong story to tell in terms of nutrition and also the progress we are making environmentally. No sector is perfect and there is always room for improvement but we have a vision, we have our goals and we will spare no effort in achieving them."*

Dr Bryans was addressing a World Leaders' Forum which included Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Food, Environment and Rural Affairs, Phil Hogan, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development and Dr Ren Wang assistant director general of UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation.

Mr Gove told the Summit that the UK Government is committed to supporting the dairy industry. He said that during Brexit negotiations, the UK Government wants to ensure that supply lines are solid, no barriers to trade are erected and labour can be accessed where it is needed. *"This will be at the forefront of our minds"*, said Mr Gove.

Commissioner Hogan said the issue of free movement of people was *"a difficult issue for the UK and for the EU for different reasons, and will require negotiations."* Mr Hogan told the Summit that EU agri exports continued to grow even though the sector was still adjusting to the post-quota environment. He said there is need for an ongoing commitment to sustainability 'from farm to fork'.

Dr Wang told the Summit that the commitment of the dairy sector to the UN's 2030 sustainability goals was welcome, and what is now needed is for national frameworks to be developed which set out objectives and performance indicators.

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More pictures available on request.

Contacts

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The International Dairy Federation

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) 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.

IDF World Dairy Summit 2017

The IDF World Dairy Summit is the foremost international conference event for all dairy sector leaders and stakeholders. The conference, "Making a Difference with Dairy", is running from Monday 30th October to Thursday 2nd November at the Belfast Waterfront, an award-winning venue in the city centre. For more information on the individual conference programmes, technical tours and social events, please visit: <http://www.idfws2017.com>.

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