The economic power of European dairy at a glance

- More than 12,000 production sites across Europe
- More than 300,000 direct jobs on milk processing sites
- World dairy leaders - 5 of the top 10 global dairy companies are European

**Balanced & Successful**
- Coexistence of cooperative model and private ownership
- Around 50% of milk collected in Europe by coops

**Positive EU trade balance**
- The European milk processing industry brings more than 10 billion € to the overall EU trade balance

**Partnering**
- Around 700,000 dairy farms across Europe

**A rich and tasty cultural heritage**
- Of more than 300 registered cheeses and dairy products

**European recommendations of dairy consumption is 3 servings**
- (for adults)
- 1 serving:
  - 200 ml of milk
  - 125 grams of yoghurt
  - 20-30 grams of cheese

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Foreword

“2015 A New Start for EU Dairy” – we chose this leitmotiv at the beginning of 2015 in the perspective of the quota regime ending on 31 March 2015 while at the same time linking our sector to the new overall direction of the EU Commission.

We expected 2015 to be a challenging year.

Whereas at the beginning of 2015, we were still hoping to invest some time and energy in a fruitful dialogue over a vision paper on the future of the European agriculture and the EU dairy sector, we soon had to concentrate most of our efforts on the discussions of immediate measures to sustain the markets.

EDA demonstrated its strengths in a tough environment.

Clear positions of our industry at European level

The 2015 market and policy development provided us with a solid basis for some difficult and very sensitive discussions within the milk and dairy processing industry. And: we managed to give an EDA response to all the questions that were tabled in that difficult year 2015.

All over Europe and across all types of dairy companies, cooperatives and privately owned dairies, world dairy leaders and SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises), we came to clear positions within our industry at European level.

Clear positioning of our industry at European level

We were able to share our position and to make the voice of the European dairy industry heard in Brussels and beyond: EDA is represented in the presidium of DG AGRI’s Civil Dialogue Group Milk (CDG MILK), we have been appointed a member of the ‘High Level Forum for a Better Functioning Food Supply Chain’ and we continue our membership in the economic board of the Milk Market Observatory (MMO) - we underpinned EDA’s position as the acknowledged and trusted voice of our industry in Brussels.

Our EDA Dairy Policy Conference on 18 March 2015 in Brussels was an impressive event - more than 150 participants and an outstanding series of speakers, including MEP Jim Nicholson (ECR, UK), who discussed with us the implementation of the 2014 Dairy Package.

The 2015 edition of our annual convention and the EDA World Dairy Forum 2015 on 16 October 2015 in Edinburgh (UK) was a true ‘lactospheric’ get-together with over 200 dairy leaders and experts from dairies operating worldwide and at regional level.

With our ‘SME Dairy Roundtable’ in the European Parliament we underlined the role our industry plays as the economic backbone of rural Europe and we showcased that the dairy industry is also a driving force in innovation and quality.

In 2015 we also established our Scientific Advisory Board ‘Dairy, Nutrition and Health’ and we held our ‘MEP Assistants’ Roundtable’ in the European Parliament to continue the discussion on the role of our products in a healthy diet and to increase the awareness of the specificities of milk and dairy.

One of the specificities of our industry is the dynamics of our sector. Especially in very difficult market conditions, this dynamics needs a positive and supportive regulatory environment to fully deploy its force. We are convinced that EDA is very well placed to help to create and shape these supportive environments in all relevant policy fields – this is part of our ‘European Dairy Ambition 2016’.

We expect 2016 to become a challenging year.

Connect to the world of dairy!
EDA dairy leadership

Today, EDA is more than ever living its mission:

Connect to the world of dairy

We provide an essential network for our members and the European ‘lactosphère’ in Brussels and beyond. Linking the dairy sector and the Brussels’ world of the EU institutions, facilitating the exchange & dialogue with the institutions and within the dairy chain, and last but not least, building trustworthy relationships are key missions of our federation. Our two flagship events in 2015, the EDA Dairy Policy Conference on 18 March 2015 (‘Dairy Policy for the 21st Century’) and our Annual Convention on 15 & 16 October 2015 in Edinburgh (‘2015 – A New Start for EU Dairy’) highlighted our role and underlined our standing as THE European Dairy Association.
Contacts at all levels and exchange with all the actors of our sector are of utmost importance for the European dairy industry.

In a multitude of smaller settings and meetings in Brussels and across dairy Europe we strengthened our network and shared our ideas and positions.

We are very thankful to our members and especially to our EDA President Michel Nalet and his fellow EDA Presidium & Board members for their commitment to EDA and to our mission.
EDA president Michel Nalet has elaborated in a number of high level events the policy approach of our sector, for instance as a key note speaker at the ‘Agricultural Markets Outlook 2015 - 2025’ conference – the flagship event of DG AGRI in 2015, at the ‘Augustów Dairy Cooperatives Conference’ or at the ‘Annual CLAL conference’, to name a few.

On 01 April 2015 Michel Nalet gave a “mark the date” speech in front of highest level civil servants of the EU Commission, outlining the guiding principles for the future of the dairy industry, our whole sector and the European agricultural policy.

Alexander Anton, Secretary General
- “Social dialogue - sectorial cooperation at EU level”, Dairynet.eu International Conference, Frankfurt (DE), 08 January 2015
- “EDA et la lactosphère européenne en 2015”, Bernussou study tour, Brussels (BE), 14 Jan 2015
- “The EU dairy in 2015”, Lower Saxony Representation, Brussels (BE), 26 Jan 2015
- “La Laiterie France en Europe”, Sodiaal, Conseil d’Administration, Brussels (BE), 26 March 2015
- “Export opportunities for the EU dairy”, EMB General Assembly 2015, Brussels (BE), 01 April 2015
- “European School Milk Scheme”, MEP Roundtable, Brussels (BE), 27 May 2015
- “The dynamics of SME dairies in Europe”, SME Roundtable, Brussels (BE), 24 June 2015
- “Dairy situation after the milk quota”, IFE study tour, Brussels (BE), 01 July 2015
- “European Milk Markets”, Eurama Toulouse study tour, Brussels (BE), 15 September 2015
- “EU dairy today and future dynamics”, Solvay Bicarz-Day, Bollate (IT), 25 September 2015
- “European Dairy Dynamics after the Milk Quota”, IDB Dairy Conference, Jerusalem (IL), 24 November 2015
- “Le développement du secteur laitier en Europe”, AOP Grand Ouest, Brussels (BE), 14 December 2015

Bénédicte Masure, Deputy Secretary General
- “The importance of agricultural trade for the future development of agriculture and agro economy in the EU in the context of global food security”, European Economic and Social Committee, Section for agriculture, 5 May 2015, Brussels (BE)
- “Accords Commerciaux Trans-Atlantique”, Chambre Agriculture de Normandie, Caen (FR), 24 September 2015
- “TTIP from both sides”, European Parliament, 20 October 2015, Brussels (BE)
- “Latest developments in dairy policies”, CEFS, 26 November 2015, Brussels (BE)

Hélène Simonin, Director
- “The PEF pilot for dairy and possible communication tools”, IDF WDS, Vilnius (LT), 25 September 2015
- “The Dairy PEF pilot and possible outlook from the experience”, EU COM conference, Brussels (BE), 4 October 2015
- “Product formulation on nutrients - The Dairy Story”, EDA Roundtable with NL Presidency, Brussels (BE), 14 December 2015
End of milk quota and weak dairy market

A milestone of liberalisation of the European milk market was reached with the end of the quota-system in 2015. Simultaneously the global dairy market showed weakness. After several years of strong growth the international trade in dairy products decreased and prices dropped world-wide. However, the EU could increase the exports of dairy products and improve its market share, supported by a weak Euro. Nevertheless with further increases of milk deliveries the market was oversupplied and for the first time since 2009 we saw skimmed milk powder purchases within the intervention scheme.

Framework conditions:

- At March 31st 2015 the milk quota system in the European Union phased out after 31 years of application.
- The Russian import-stop for dairy and other food products imposed in August 2014 was extended up to August 2016 and in force the whole year 2015. To help the markets, the European Commission opened the intervention for skimmed milk powder and butter for the whole year. The private-storage-scheme for butter and skimmed milk powder, introduced in September 2014, was extended until the end of 2015. In September 2015 a private-storage scheme for 100,000 tons of cheese and a second storage scheme for skimmed milk powder were introduced, as part of a 500 Mill. EUR aid-package (‘Hogan package’) for dairy and livestock-farmers.
- Intervention and Private-Storage-Schemes continue from 1st January 2016.

Milk deliveries reached a new record

In 2015, EU-milk deliveries increased further and reached a new all-time record. According to ZMB-estimations milk intake in 2015 in EU-28 increased by 2.3 Mill. tons to 151.1 Mill. tons. Compared with the extraordinary year 2014 the growth decelerated substantially from 4.9 % to 1.5 %, but was still higher than the average increase in the years before 2014. In the first quarter of 2015 milk deliveries have been curbed down by the threat of high super levies for quota-over-shots in different member states. In fact, the penalty-payments in the final quota-year had been the highest ever. Twelve member states exceeded their quotas in total by 2.9 mill. tons and had to pay 818 Mill. EUR. Nevertheless the aggregated quotas of member states in total were not fully used with an undershot of 3.3 Mill. tons.

The output has been mixed throughout the year. After reductions in the first months of the years it returned to growth with the beginning of the quota-free era. The biggest growth-rates have been observed in the last quarter of 2015, supported by an unusual mild winter and a modest recovery of milk prices in several member states. The farmers in the individual member states reacted in different ways to the ‘new freedom’. Double-digit growth-rates have been observed in Ireland and the Netherlands. During the first months after the end of quotas production increases in Denmark, Belgium, Austria, United Kingdom and Germany gained speed. Growth was registered in the most eastern-european member-states, too – except for the Baltic states, Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia. No clear direction was apparent in the most southern-European countries and in France. The lower milk prices had no depressing short-term effect on milk production until the end of 2015. The modest growth of dairy herds started in the years before stagnated. Feed costs had been lower than in the record year 2013. Costs of energy decreased and quota-costs disappeared.
The milk deliveries rose in the majority of member states in the first 10 months of the year, but decreased in several countries including the two biggest milk producers Germany and France. Regarding volumes the biggest expansion has been observed in Ireland, the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom.

More milk exported again
While global trade in dairy products declined for the first time since 2008 the EU-export of dairy-products calculated in milk equivalents expanded again and reached the highest level in the recent decades. However, the soar of exports was not sufficient to avoid an increase of stocks. We observed a certain shift in international demand from cheese to butter and milk-powder. The exports of cheese did decrease for the second year in a row, while exports of milk powder and butter increased. The loss of the Russian cheese market could not be fully compensated by higher exports to other countries, mainly the USA, Japan, South-Korea and Mexico. Sales of liquid dairy products of third countries continued to grow. On the other site the imports of dairy products from third countries decreased, especially import of butter and cheese. The butter import fell to a historically low level.

Supplies to the world market from other important regions decreased, mainly from New Zealand, the USA and Argentina. As a consequence the EU gained market share in international trade, supported by a weak Euro. Nevertheless the competition was intensified due to lower demand from major importers like Russia and China. The consequence was the further decline of world-market-prices for dairy commodities and weak returns for export.

More dairy products produced
Processing all the milk delivered from farmers was a challenge for the European dairies once more. While demand for products of the white range like liquid milk and fermented products stagnated the additional milk was channeled into milk powder, butter and cheese. A further expansion of cheese production was necessary to process all raw material despite the a lack of demand. Production of butter and skimmed milk powder increased while the output of whole milk powder decreased following reduced international demand.

Weak cheese market
In 2015, the cheese market was marked by increasing production, reduced export opportunities and strong competition. The international trade in cheese suffered from lower demand from Russia, which was traditionally the biggest outlet world-wide. Russia’s total cheese import decreased by 40 % in the first 10 months of 2015 compared with 2013. This means a reduction in volume by 200,000 tons and a decrease of global cheese trade despite of higher imports of USA, Japan, South-Korea and many other countries. At the same time Oceania increased its cheese-exports again due to the lower demand for whole milk powder from China. As consequence the competition on the cheese market inside and outside the EU was intense. An increase of consumption in the EU could not avoid strong decreases of prices to historical low levels. Prices declined first and to the biggest extend for semi-hard cheeses, but price reductions for other types of cheese followed.

Butter most stable market segment
Also in 2015, the butter market was more stable than other segments of the dairy market. The development of butter did not follow the long-term forecasts that expected an oversupply of the international butter market. In contrary, there is a butter shortage in some regions of the world including North America. There are several reasons behind the strength of the butter market in Europe. The fat content of delivered milk decreased in the recent years. More fat is used to produce cheese and fresh dairy products, while skimmed products lose market share in most member states. The health-image of butter improved and spreads with a high share of milk fat are becoming more popular. The EU-butter production increased in 2015 to a certain extend. At the same time exports to the world-market reached their highest level since 2007, despite of the loss of the important Russian market. Butter imports into the EU had

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<th>European Union : Balance Sheet of Cow Milk</th>
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1) Provisional or forecast. Source: ZMB. Updated january 2016.
been the lowest for decades. Butter prices decreased compared with 2014, but to a lower extend than the prices of other dairy commodities. Prices remained well above the intervention level.

**International demand for whole milk powder decreased**

For the first time since 2007, the international market for whole milk powder shrunk in 2015 after several years of continuous strong growth. China, the biggest market in the world, reduced its imports by more than half. New Zealand as biggest exporter had to look for new outlets. Prices had to crash under these circumstances. The EU was in a position to keep its exports close to the levels of 2014, but had to reduce stocks in the first half of the year and reduced production. While demand from internal market was stable, prices decreased sharply.

**Stocks of skimmed milk powder built-up**

The market of skimmed milk powder was oversupplied in 2015. Production increased further, but compared with 2014 with reduced speed. Export to third countries grew further. Nevertheless stocks built-up and influenced the price development. For the first time since 2009 we saw a buy in into intervention. More than 32,000 tons went into public storage up to mid of December, the biggest volumes in Belgium and Lithuania. Additionally the private storage schemes had been used. Prices were volatile in 2015 with two peaks in February and September as reaction on stronger, but only short term signals from international markets. In general prices had been influenced by a over sufficient supply situation and sales of products out of stocks. International trade in skimmed milk powder increased further in contrary to other dairy commodities and the EU remained the biggest supplier in the world ahead of USA and New Zealand.

**Milk prices declined**

The producer milk prices declined in all EU member states and in most regions in the world following the declining path of the valorisations. Prices remained however substantially higher than back in 2009 when the intervention scheme was also used. Nevertheless farmers reacted with public protest measures in several member states over summertime. Retailers in some countries tried to arrange “political prices”, mainly for liquid milk, which contributed to a certain, but not general stabilisation of producer prices in the last months of the year 2015.

**Outlook**

In January 2016, there are signs that the difficult market situation will continue in the first months of 2016. Due to the reduction of production in the first months of 2015, an increase in milk deliveries at the beginning of 2016 on a year-on-year basis is likely. Shortages of processing capacities could become an important issue. Processing capacities could become more important for channeling the milk in dairies than market opportunities. A further increase of exports will be crucial for balancing the market. A decrease of supply from the southern hemisphere is likely in the first half of the year due to an actual strong ‘El-Nino’ event and low producer prices. Such a development would strengthen the position of the EU. On the other hand there are uncertainties how international demand will develop regarding lower economic growth in important countries and reduced purchasing power due to low prices for oil and other raw materials.

Monika Wohlfarth,
ZMB GmbH
The word of the TEC Chairman

“We expected a challenging year 2015 and that is what we had. However, we remain positive for the future even if more time will be needed to come back to a balanced market situation. We prepared for the post quota era but still stakeholders need experience to adapt to the new circumstances. Since 2007, the EU dairy market is closely linked to the world market. This has resulted in much more price fluctuations than ever before. Price volatility is now a characteristic of our dairy markets that we have to deal with. That is why EDA is engaging in dialogues with all parties, both with the dairy chain and with the European institutions. Also, EDA is more than ever supporting the effort of the Commission to open new markets via free trade agreements or solving market access issues.”

Jan Maarten Vrij
International Dairy Affairs NZO
Chairman of the EDA TEC Committee

EU Dairy Policies

2015 - The End of the Quota Regime and final ‘super-levy’

The year 2015 witnessed the end of the quota regime, in place since 1984. EDA marked this step in the process of market orientation of the dairy sector on 1 April by organising a discussion dinner with high-level officials from the Commission and EDA members.

For the 2014/2015 season, 12 EU member states will have to pay a superlevy totalling €818 million. National milk delivery quotas were exceeded by 2.938 million tonnes. The breakdown by country of the superlevy payments is as follows: Belgium, €21.8 million (2.2% excess); Denmark, €24.25 million (1.8%); Germany, €309.01 million (3.7%); Estonia, €2.23 million (1.2%); Ireland, €71.19 million (4.4%); Spain, €10.44 million (0.6%); Italy, €30.535 million (1%); Cyprus, €1.47 million (3.4%); Luxembourg, €5.33 million (6.6%); Netherlands, €135.26 million (4.1%); Austria, €44.61 million (5.5%); Poland, €161.51 million (5.8%).

Additionally, Belgium and the Netherlands exceeded their direct sales quotas by 1.6% and 2.6% respectively, resulting in additional superlevies of €147,000 and €554,000.

The Commission offered to Members States before end March 2015 the option of deferring the payment of the super levy fines over 3 years, free of interest. A few Member States, including Ireland and Denmark, have set up structures for farmers to pay their fines in several instalments.
Implementation of Dairy Package

Following the publication of the first report on the implementation of the dairy Package in 2014, MEP Jim Nicholson (ECR, UK) drafted an own initiative report on its implementation. During the EDA policy conference in March 2015, MEP Jim Nicholson gave a preview of his report to the participants from the EU dairy industry and supply chain partners.

His report, published in April, was broadly welcomed by EDA and its members. However, 482 amendments were submitted before the vote in European Parliament Committee for Agriculture (COMAGRI). EDA shared its voting recommendations with MEPs which were all followed expect for one recommendation. Following the finalisation of the own initiative report and the final vote in the plenary, the CAP TF drafted its final analysis of the report. This analysis was sent to the European Parliament COMAGRI along with an EDA appreciation of the Commission package published at the same time (see below).

The Commission has proposed in the Commission package to advance the publication of the second report of the implementation of the dairy package. The report is expected to be published at the end of the Dutch Presidency (June 2016). It will be drafted by the Commission with the help of LEI Wageningen University and the Joint Research Centre’s Institute for Prospective Technological Studies. The Commission is asking for input from Member States and EDA is preparing a position paper to be released by the end of March 2016.

Commission Package and Market Management

With the continuous downfall of prices in 2015, more and more pressure was put on the Commission to help the dairy sector. With the continuation of the Russian ban, farmers took to the streets in several countries over the summer of 2015. Agriculture Ministers were prompted to organise an exceptional Council meeting early September to discuss the difficult challenges in the milk and pig sectors.

EDA prepared for this meeting by communicating its recommendations for the sector through a letter to the President of the EU Agriculture Council, Luxembourg Minister Fernand Etgen and his colleagues and a press release. We focused on three priorities: market orientation, increased market access and internal policy coherence. The letter also emphasised on the need for European coordinated action avoiding a re-nationalisation of agriculture policies.

In a tense atmosphere, with more than 5,000 farmers demonstrating in the streets of Brussels, the Commission announced a €500 million comprehensive package for agriculture (so-called ‘Hogan-package’). The main measures of this package were directed at the farmers with the allocation of national envelops for targeted aid and advancing direct and some rural development payments.

For the dairy sector, the Commission developed an enhanced private storage scheme for skimmed milk powder (PSA for SMP) and reopened the PSA for Cheese under new conditions.

For SMP, operators are now given the option for storing for a period of 365 days, separate from the initial scheme with a storage period of up to 210 days. Under this option, the aid is:
- 8.86 EUR per tonne of storage for fixed storage costs,
- 0.36 EUR per tonne per day of contractual storage
And where the contractual quantity can be removed after a minimum storage period of 270 days in that case, the aid amounts are reduced by 10%.

Regarding the cheese PSA, all cheeses (except those which are not suitable for further storage) can benefit from this aid. The aid is
- 15.57 EUR per tonne of storage for fixed storage costs,
- 0.40 EUR per tonne per day of contractual storage.
for the contractual storage period of between 60 and 210 days. By 15 January 2016, any unused quantities by one Member State will be allocated to other members states which applied for extra quantities.
The other private storage schemes, activated in September 2014, have continued to be implemented. Public intervention, open since 1 March 2015, was used first in the third week of July for SMP. The figures until 31st January 2016 are as such:

- **Intervention – SMP:**
  - Week 25 – 31 Jan: 5,749 t.
  - EU 28 Cumul 2015, since 1st March 2015: 40,280 t.

- **PSA SMP:**
  - Article 4(1)a of Reg. (EU) No 948/2014 - storage period less than 210 days
    - Week 25 – 31 Jan: 879 t.
    - EU 28 Cumul 2016, since 1st January 2016: 2,329 t.
  - Article 4(1)b of Reg. (EU) No 948/2014 - storage period of 365 days
    - Week 25 – 31 Jan: 1,323 t.
    - EU 28 Cumul 2015, since 19th October 2015: 9,183 t.
    - EU 28 Cumul 2016, since 1st January 2016: 4,974 t.

  **TOTAL quantity offered into private storage (All storage periods)**
  - EU 28 Cumul 2015, since 19th October 2015: 52,062 t.

- **PSA Butter:**
  - Week 25 – 31 Jan: 3,949 t.
  - EU 28 Cumul 2016, since 1st January 2016: 13,976 t.

- **PSA Cheese:**
  - Quantities for which applications for aid have been submitted (Tons)
    - Week 25 – 31 Jan: 1,445 t.
    - EU 28 Cumul 2015-2016, since 19th October 2015: 31,877 t.

Also included in the Commission package was the proposal to advance the second report on the implementation of the Dairy Package to 2016, to increase the promotion programmes’ budget, to open new markets and to start negotiating new free trade agreements in order to address market imbalance (see below for these topics).

Finally the Commission has started to establish an ‘agriculture markets task force’. Agriculture experts, distinct from the Commission that elaborate their ideas and proposals on improving negotiating power of the primary producers and on futures markets by end of 2016. Former Dutch Agriculture Minister Cees Veermann was appointed chair of the task force. Dr David Dobbin (chair of DairyUK) which has been EDA’s official candidate for the Task Force and the eminent expert on the Dairy Sector, Andrzej Babuchowski (former senior official, Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Poland) were both appointed as part of the task force. The inaugural meeting took place on 13 January 2016 to discuss work organisation. Our EDA CAP TF will work in 2016 to feed in the European dairy industry’s position to this task force. EDA has already shared with the Commission its position on futures, clarifying that this scheme will not be the solution to extreme price volatility and that it is up to individual operators to use these instruments as part of their strategy.

**Milk Market Observatory (MMO)**

Officially launched on 16 April 2014, we congratulated DG Agriculture for the first anniversary of the Milk Market Observatory (MMO) in 2015. Meant to provide a maximum of information to all stakeholders to enable them to take responsible decisions in terms of production and commercial strategy, it provides regular updates on EU prices, world quotations, EU and World Production & trade as well as feed and energy cost.

The Economic Board of the MMO (of which EDA is a member) was originally supposed to meet four times a year. However, given the difficult market situation all over 2015, the MMO Board met eight times last year. As per the mandate assigned by the Commission to EDA, we are presenting at each meeting the estimated stock situation for butter, SMP and cheese.

Along the year, we shared with the EU Commission our appreciation of the MMO and the underlying approach: the milk market data analysis from the EU Commission has become substantially more relevant and
“The Milk Market Observatory of DG AGRI has become over the last year a valuable tool for the improved market intelligence for all chain partners. We will continue to support this initiative and we trust the MMO will stay focused on its objective: market observation”.

Gérard Calbrix, Director Economic Affairs ATLA Chair of the EDA MMO Task Force

The forum is set up and managed by the civil servants of the EU Commission in a way that allows in depth market focussed discussions and a high level exchange based on robust and factual market data.

School Milk Scheme (SMS)

The latest proposal of the European Commission (30 January 2014) was the merger into a School Food Scheme of the School Milk Scheme with the School Fruit Scheme. The current schemes operate individually within different legal and financial frameworks though they have the same aim to respond to the problems of declining fruit, vegetable and milk consumption and rising obesity and to teach children how to develop healthy eating habits.

However, in their work program 2015, the European Commission decided to postpone any decision regarding the merger of the two schemes. Nevertheless, the work on the new scheme continued in the European Parliament and in the Council. The discussion that took place within the COMAGRI on 21-22 January 2015 demonstrated a strong support from MEPs towards the unification of the two schemes. Furthermore, the proposal of the rapporteur on this subject, MEP Marc Tarabella (S&D, Belgium), to extend the scheme for other dairy products than plain milk, as plain yoghurt and cheese, was endorsed by the majority of the COMAGRI members.

On 2 March 2015 EDA took part in a joint meeting on the School Fruit and Vegetables Scheme and the School Milk Scheme organised by the European Commission, with representatives of Member States and stakeholders from the Civil Society Dialogue groups. This meeting aimed at assessing the functioning of the two programmes. The participants agreed that these two programmes have been and are still relevant for agriculture and public health, as the children still consume too much unhealthy food. According to most of the Member States and stakeholders, these programmes fully comply with the principle of subsidiarity, recognising that problems need common/EU action while agreeing that participation should remain voluntary and EU frameworks should not interfere with national programs. All of the participants agreed that the School schemes comply with the principle of proportionality, as the Member States have enough flexibility.

The European Parliament’s (EP) Agriculture Committee (COMAGRI) adopted their report on 14 April 2015. The report has been voted in the plenary session on Wednesday 27th May 2015.

Mid November 2015, the trialogue on SMS has been temporarily suspended due to disagreement between the Parliament, the Council and the Commission regarding the legal basis. The legal basis points refer to the competence for defining budget, transfer of funds between the fruits and vegetables, and dairy programs and repartition of the aid.

EDA intervened at the level of the First Vice-President of the EU Commission, Mr Franz Timmermans.

The trialogue agreement reached on the proposal for the school milk, fruit and vegetable schemes received majority support from EU agriculture ministers on Monday 14 December, under the leadership of Luxembourg Minister of Agriculture, Mr Fernand Etgen.

The outcome was very much welcomed by EDA, particularly regarding the flexibility given to the Member States concerning the choice of dairy products they could offer to children: starting from plain milk (Commission’s proposal), extended to plain yogurts and cheese (COMAGRI’s report), the list now includes flavoured dairy products as well.

EDA secretary general Alexander Anton met with two shadow rapporteurs, MEP Ulrike Müller (ALDE, Germany) and MEP Albert Dess (EPP, Germany), and MEP (honouree member) Dr Ingo Friedrich on 27 May to discuss the School Milk Scheme.
At every stage of the process, EDA shaped the discussion also via press releases and statements focusing on the need for the maintenance of the current eligible dairy product portfolio in the name of the nutritional benefits for children in the EU. EDA advocated for the best possible options in enabling dairy products to be an attractive, healthy and nutritious snack for our youth today and tomorrow.

The Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) met on Wednesday 16 December revealing the individual national envelopes, with a total €100 million envelope for the milk sector.

Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan acknowledged positively the agreement, reminding that the school milk, fruit and vegetables schemes were part of the comprehensive package of measures to support European farmers.

The trilogue agreements on School Food Schemes adopted in COMAGRI on 11 January 2016 should be voted in the European Parliament Plenary in March or April before approval at first reading from the Council. Further to this ratification, the Commission will work on implementing and delegated acts.

Plain milk remains the core product of the School Milk Scheme even though other products like cheese and yogurts are now eligible subject to the approval of national health authorities. 100 M€ will be divided amongst EU Member states that will individually decide the amount of subsidy for some products. While waiting for the new scheme to enter into force in 2017, Member States should communicate their new strategy under the current scheme by July 2016.

Promotion

The new regulation on information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries has been formally adopted on 22 December 2014. The scheme is effective since 1 January 2015 and establishes an increased budget – from €61.5 million in 2013 to €200 million in 2020. The EU financial contribution is instituted as it follows:
- 70% of the eligible expenditure for simple programmes on the internal market;
- 80% of the eligible expenditure for multi programmes on the internal market and all programmes in third countries;
- And 85% of the eligible expenditure in case of crises.

On 13 October 2015, the Commission adopted the annual work programme for 2016 establishing the priorities of the new promotion policy for 2016. Under EU co-financing, €111 million will be allocated for the selected projects. Dairy and pig meat promotion will have a separated allocation, €30 million from the €111 million, helping “address market imbalances, and to create new market opportunities”. A new budget for multi-programmes (at least two proposing organisations from at least two Member States or one or more European organisations) is now accessible with a budget of €14 Million.

EU Commissioner Phil Hogan announced in October 2015 his “diplomatic offensive” to open new market opportunities for high quality European products. EDA vice chair Attilio Zanetti and EDA chair Michel Nalet will accompany EU Commissioner Hogan on his ‘mission’ to visit Mexico and Colombia in February 2016.

High Level Forum for a Better Functioning Food Supply Chain

By Decision (2015/C 179/03) of 1 June 2015 the Commission has set up the High Level Forum (HLF) for a Better Functioning Food Supply Chain. The task of this group of experts is to assist the Commission with the development of industrial policy in the agro-food sector and of related policy measures which contribute to a better functioning food supply chain. This HLF is the successor of the High Level Forum created in 2009 that published its final report on 14 October 2014.

The High Level Forum will be chaired by EU Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska (Internal Market & industry). EU Commissioner Phil Hogan and EU Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis (SANTE) have flagged up their interest to engage with this forum.

Unfair Trade Practices (UTPs)

Unfair Trading Practices are high on EU Commissioner Phil Hogan’s agenda. He indeed underlined several times during 2015 that more measures are needed to tackle unfair trading practices (UTPs) along the food supply chain. Phil Hogan’s main concern is that farmers are not getting the right prices from the retailers.
connect to the world of dairy

Bilateral Trade Issues and Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Negotiations

The EDA Trade TF has been shaping our EDA positions on Bilateral Trade Issues and Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations. With constant contact and exchange with the relevant services of the European Commission, we helped to secure the interests of our sector.

Both Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström and Commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan have been active in the matter of safeguarding and improving EU exports of agriculture products.

On the one side, Commissioner Malmström has released a new trade and investment strategy for the European Union, entitled “Trade for All: Towards a more responsible trade and investment policy”. This new strategy reflects the EU Commission’s Trade Policy for the next five years. On the other side, Commissioner Phil Hogan has announced with the so-called “Hogan package” of September 2015 that he will underpin this trade strategy with a “diplomatic offensive” for opening new markets and starting new free trade agreements in order to address market imbalance in the agriculture sector. EU Commissioner Phil Hogan has announced in 2015 several missions to third countries to promote EU agriculture. So far, a mission to Mexico and Columbia is scheduled for February 2016, a mission to China and Japan in April 2016. EDA vice chair Attilio Zanetti and EDA chair Michel Nalet have flagged up their readiness to support EU Commissioner Hogan for his Mexico and Columbia mission and beyond.

End of January 2016, two reports on unfair trade practices were launched simultaneously:

- the 2nd report on the Supply Chain Initiative that mainly showed that the SCI creates the conditions for a better functioning supply chain, has more participants registered while acknowledging its disappointment of not having the major farming organisation on board
- the Commission report on unfair B2B practices that mainly concludes that it does not see the added value of a specific harmonised regulatory approach at EU level at this stage.

As regards voluntary initiatives, the Commission concludes that the SCI has reached part of its objective but that it could still be improved. The High Level Forum for a Better Functioning Food Supply Chain will be the ideal place to further discuss this initiative. Confidentiality and penalties are two of the core issues to address.

The European Commission said that it would reassess, before the end of its mandate (2019), the possible need for EU action in addressing UTPs. EDA will of course contribute to the debate.

Growing world demand for dairy is a unique opportunity for the EU dairy. We strongly support the “diplomatic offensive” of EU Commissioner Phil Hogan to open up new markets for our products.”

Wim Kloosterboer,

Corporate Manager Trade & Dairy Affairs at FrieslandCampina

Chair of the EDA Trade Task Force
Bilateral and regional agreements on the dairy horizon

To evaluate the trade opportunities that could benefit the EU dairy industry, it is important to have a holistic view of the trade pattern worldwide. To contribute to this exercise, EDA shares with its members its biannual scoreboard of trade negotiations between third countries. The Commission and Council need to make an impact assessment of these negotiations to understand the underlying interests worldwide. This request has been pushed forward several times by EDA.

In October 2015, the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) was brought to the next level in Atlanta. The twelve partnering countries including dairy giants like the US, New Zealand and Canada signed an agreement in principle and one can imagine that dairy plays an important role within the TPP talks.

The US clearly defined their dairy objectives regarding the TPP outcome: up to 10% market access to the neighbouring Canadian market – even if the US would only get half of it, this would completely change the dairy world in Canada, including its supply management regime.

In the meantime, the US – EU trade talks (TTIP – Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) continue despite the latest dairy turbulence, when the US did put in place special agricultural safeguard measures (an additional punitive duty on imported butter and cream) without any consultation or pre-notice. Not only in the light of ongoing trade negotiations, but also in the light of today’s butter markets in the US, it is also very hard to see any reason for such a safeguard measure. No progress was reported from the meetings of EU Commissioner Phil Hogan and EU Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis with US secretary of State Tom Vilsack in December 2015.

One of the most advanced agreements, the CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) between the European Union and Canada is waiting for ratification at various parliamentary levels – and a few details still need to be concluded (see below).

Below is an exhaustive list of countries where progress has been made in EU trade negotiations or trade issues during 2015.

ASEAN
Free Trade Agreement negotiations have taken place in a bilateral format with countries of ASEAN since December 2009. In its Trade Communication “Trade for all”, the Commission intention is to use bilateral agreements between the EU and ASEAN members to restart negotiations for an EU FTA with ASEAN.

For Singapore, the negotiations talks have been finalised in 2013 but it still needs to be approved formally by the European Commission and ratified by the European Parliament. The Commission has requested a European Court of Justice Opinion on the EU competence to sign and ratify the FTA.

Negotiations with Vietnam have been officially concluded in 2015. Vietnam is an important market for the EU Dairy sector, valued more than €82 million in 2014. A legal check will be implemented in early 2016 and its entry into force is expected in 2018.

Negotiations with Malaysia and Thailand are still at a standstill respectively since 2013 and 2014. The Commission has announced its intention to start FTA negotiations with the Philippines and with Indonesia. EDA works on the assessment of the potential of these FTAs and on the potential interest of the dairy sector for these two markets.

Canada
2015 have not shown any progression for the EU-Canada Free Trade Agreement (CETA). The text is still under legal scrubbing for both parties. Commissioner Cecilia Malmström, in the “Trade for All”-strategy, announced that the text will be presented to the European Parliament and to the Council in 2016. EU Cheese export to Canada valued up to €121 million.

China
Following the two consultations on its revised Food Safety Law, the Chinese Authorities have published the final version on 24 April 2015 for implementation on 1 October 2015. The ban on Original Equipment Manufacturers, strongly opposed by EDA, was deleted from the final text. Since the implementation of the new law, EDA has been active in communicating the EU Dairy industry’s comments on the Food Safety Law and its draft implementing rules. In January 2016, we have sent our concise comments to the EU Commission.

China is also updating its standards based on international standards. Updates for products such as infant formula, cheese, lactose, sodium caseinates and food for special medical purpose have been submitted for international comments. EDA have been following closely this process and given the European dairy industry’s input at every stage of the consultation.
As regards to free trade discussions, EDA has pushed the Commission to invest time and energy in opening up the Chinese markets for European dairy products. EU Commissioner Phil Hogan’s mission to China in April 2016 is greatly appreciated.

With the Commission’s intention to pursue negotiations with Oceanian countries (see below), EDA has insisted on a level-playing field on the world market and opening negotiations with China is an important step in that direction.

Central and Latin America
Ecuador is currently undertaking internal procedures for the approval to join the free trade agreement between the EU and the Andean countries, Colombia and Peru. The implementation of this free trade agreement is expected to take place in 2016.

Implemented since 2000, the EU and Mexico have decided to modernise their free trade agreement with a focus on trade facilitation and liberalisation of tariffs. A public consultation was launched over Summer 2015 to which EDA responded confirming the need for tariffs liberalisation and tackling non-tariff barriers. The Commission is finalising the Impact Assessment in order to draft the negotiating directives for the Council’s approval. Subject to the Council’s decision, negotiations may start in 2016. In 2014, EU exports about €55 million worth of dairy products. Furthermore, Commissioner Malmström has announced that the Commission is also assessing the possibility of the modernisation of the association agreement with Chile.

Regarding Mercosur, both parties have exchanged initial market access offers in October 2015 with Mercosur committing to an offer providing 87% coverage of their tariffs. The EU considers this offer as not ambitious enough compared to what Mercosur had guaranteed at the re-launch of the negotiation in 2010. The Mercosur offer should cover at least 89% of tariffs according to the Commission. Moreover, the Commission considered that the information of staging was not satisfactory.

Iceland
In September, the European Commission and Iceland announced the conclusion of two agreements on the further liberalisation of trade in agricultural products and foodstuffs and one on the protection of Geographical Indications (GIs). Iceland have committed with these agreements to increase the duty-free access to 91.3% of EU basic agricultural products in terms of trade value and that the 1,150 agricultural products and foodstuffs protected in the EU will have the same level of protection in Iceland.

Japan
Early 2015, EDA communicated to the Commission its position on the EU-Japan negotiations recommending that it should concluded swiftly in order to have the most beneficial deal for the EU and Japanese dairy sector. There is a growing demand for dairy imports in Japan as a result of declining domestic production. Over the past decades, the growing participation of ‘Oceania’ in the Japanese market has been to the detriment of EU dairy exports. In 2013, out of the main dairy exporters to Japan, New Zealand had a market share of 75% for Butter, 39% for Cheese and 33% for Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP). Comparatively, the EU represented 11% (Butter), 18% (Cheese) and 13% (SMP). The 14th Round of negotiations took place on the week of 30th November.

The negotiations have reached a mature stage in all sectors and markets access offers have been exchanged. In light of Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations and finalisation (see below), Japan is willing to conclude trade agreement with a certain degree of liberalisation. The Commission has made clear that the TPP will be used as reference but not as a template for the EU-Japan Negotiations. The Commission intended to arrive to the conclusion of the negotiations before end 2015, however as Japan was not forthcoming and its priority was now the TPP agreement, this target was not met.

The lead of the negotiations on the Japanese side is the Ministry for Foreign affairs. It needs to juggle between the interests of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (offensive interests) and the Ministry for Agriculture (defensive interests). The Commission has now set the target of 2016 offering patience and understanding to their counterpart but this patience might run out in 2016 if progress is not made.
Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine
Both Georgia and Moldova have been in the process of implementing the Association Agreement, including the DCFTA. For Ukraine, the provisional implementation of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) was postponed until 31st December 2015 due to concerns raised by Russia regarding DCFTA’s effects on its national market. The EU, Ukraine and Russia have met 13 times since to address these concerns. EU-Ukraine Association Agreement/DCFTA will be provisionally applied as of 1 January 2016.

‘Oceania’ and Trans-Pacific Partnership
In its new trade strategy, the Commission announced its intention to start FTA discussions with Australia and New Zealand. At an early stage, EDA has underlined the sensitivities of the agricultural sector in this context with the cabinets of EU Commissioner Phil Hogan and EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström. These sensitivities have been taken on board of the new trade strategy.

Today, EDA is pushing for the EU to be on a level-playing field with its global trade partners and competitors. The EU must prioritise negotiations with third countries which are important markets for the EU agriculture such as ASEAN, Japan and China. When initiating its impact assessment on a FTA, we formally asked the Commission to keep Australia and New Zealand separate as both have important markets with very different interests.

In October 2015, the 12 partners of the Trans-Pacific Partnership have come to a political agreement ending the negotiations for a Pacific region FTA. The texts have been released publically and need to go through legal scrubbing and internal approval from each national authority before its implementation. As regards to tariffs liberalisation, tariff schedules have been negotiated bilaterally and each partner have a certain level of tariff liberalisation towards other individual partners.

United States of America
New Market Access offers have been exchanged at the last round of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations in October. Sensitive lines have not been tabled yet as the Commission prefers to keep it for the end game. Regarding Grade A equivalence, the inspection missions ended in all three candidate countries, Ireland, Netherlands and France. The inspection reports from the US Food & Drugs Administration are still pending. For the other EU Member States, the Commission requested them to show their interest on Grade A equivalence before the end of 2015, in order for the US FDA to proceed to additional inspections.

Two final implementing rules have been published under the Food Safety Modernisation Act (FSMA):
• Foreign Supplier Verification Programs which requires importers to perform certain risk-based activities to verify that food imported into the United States has been produced in a manner that meets applicable US safety standards.
• Accredited Third-Party Certification Final Rule establishing a voluntary program for the accreditation of third-party certification bodies, also known as auditors, to conduct food safety audits and issue certifications of foreign facilities and the foods for humans and animals they produce.

EDA is following closely the implementation of these rules and already flagged up to the Commission its concerns of having private organisations acquiring the responsibility of official controls. The US FDA has visited Brussels early December to discuss these rules with the Commission. The latter will further raise these points in TTIP negotiating meetings.

In October, the US imposed a special safeguard duty on certain imports of butter and fresh or sour cream. This was an automatic implementation of the trigger mechanism effective from 5th October to 31st December. EDA communicated to the US authorities that while it recognised that the US is entitled, under the GATT commitments, to trigger this measure the manner it was imposed, without prior consultation or warning, is objectionable. EDA found the measure surprising, especially given that the imported quantities are low compared to the increasing US butter market. This measure gave the wrong political signal at a time when the EU and the US are negotiating a free trade agreement and it did not reflect the spirit in which EDA would like to see the US and EU relationship to develop.

There was no positive echo from the high level talks in December 2015 between the EU and the USA.

WTO - Doha Development Agenda (DDA)
The 10th WTO Ministerial Conference took place in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015. As far as Agriculture is concerned, the main outcome for the European Dairy sector is on Export Competition.

“WTO members — especially developing countries — have consistently demanded action on this issue due to the enormous distorting potential of these subsidies for domestic production and trade,” WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo declared. “Today’s decision tackles the issue once and for all.” he concluded on 19 December.
Export refunds: developed Members shall immediately eliminate their remaining scheduled export subsidy entitlements as of the date of adoption of this Decision; developing country Members shall eliminate their export subsidy entitlements by the end of 2018.

Export Credits, Export Credit Guarantees or Insurance Programmes are subject to a Maximum repayment term (max. 18 months) and self-financing conditions.

State Trading Enterprises: Members shall ensure that agricultural exporting state trading enterprises do not operate in a manner that circumvents any other disciplines contained in this Decision.

The other agricultural decisions relate to public stockholding for food security purposes, a special safeguard mechanism for developing countries and measures related to cotton.

Ahead of the Ministerial Conference, EDA had sent a letter to the EU negotiators asking them to ensure the full parallelism between the phasing out of export refunds and disciplines in using export credits or food aid as well as in the functioning of State trading enterprises.

Bénédicte Masure
Deputy Secretary General

Flora Dewar
Trade & Economics Officer

CAP post-2020 - A European policy on rurality, natural resources and food

With the end of the dairy quotas, 2015 was a year turned towards the future. While only been implemented at the beginning of 2014, the European Common Agriculture Policy was in the focus of many discussions on its evolution after 2020. The internal reflections within DG AGRI started already back in 2014, in 2015 Members of the European Parliament organised several roundtables on the CAP post-2020 covering a broad range of subjects such as environment or farm economics and social sustainability. Further discussions have been initiated as the second report of the implementation of the Dairy Package has been brought forward. Proposals emitted from this report could very possibly be extended to other sectors under the CAP post-2020, similarly to the Dairy Package in the 2013 CAP. Discussions are expected to be rather difficult as many stakeholders think that the CAP budget from 2020 will be decreased compared to the previous CAPs.

EDA chair Michel Nalet outlined ideas for the future direction of the CAP in a high level speech at our ‘mark the date’ event on 01 April 2015. “A European policy on rurality, natural resources and food would help to streamline the different policies that touch the vital area of agriculture and food, and to build a more coherent approach”.

With his thoughts, EDA chair Michel Nalet initiated the internal discussions within our EDA Board and our EDA Committees. In January 2016, EDA held a brainstorming session on the CAP post-2020 from a dairy perspective and has committed to come up with ideas that will help to shape the policy for the future of the sector.
The word of the FEP Chair

‘Regulatory affairs’ and the topics covered by the FEP desk are of crucial importance for the dairy business. If we do not get the FEP dossiers right, if we do not shape a positive or at least a workable legislative environment for our industry, we will not stay the leading industry at global level in the future.

Over the past twelve months dairy was very much in the focus of the Brussels decision makers and the general public. The public discussions concentrated on the milk price and its short term fluctuations. As important these economic questions are, every regulatory problem translates ultimately into higher costs for the whole dairy chain and hence into a less competitive sector.

The dairy community is faced with pre-competitive challenges, where we need to develop a common approach and to find the right answers to the societal questions raised around animal agriculture, dairy and our products.

In our sustainability working group we share best practices and develop new approaches for our sector to balance every day better the growing need for dairy at global level and the limited resources we have. Our claims & labelling work focusses on responding to the citizens wish to be better informed about our products, their production process and their added value.

In our hygiene and additives & contaminants working groups we assure the first basis of our industry: safe products, and also evaluate the legislative and technical framework for dairy processing.

With the establishment of our ‘Scientific Advisory Board Dairy Nutrition and Health’ we brought in 2015 our capacity and commitment to propel the ‘goodies of milk and dairy’ to the next level. Milk and dairy is an essential part of a healthy diet.

That is why I use this opportunity to thank all the colleagues from associations and companies that support our FEP work and also the EDA secretariat, especially Hélène Simonin and Kinga Adamaszwili for their energy and commitment.

I invite you to discover on the following pages our work in progress and our success stories in 2015 and early 2016 – to the benefit of the whole dairy sector and those we serve with our products.

Jørgen Hald Christensen
FEP Chairman
Direktør Mejeriforeningen
Communication on dairy positives for nutrition, health and its role for the environment

Dairy is good for you: The dairy industry is very proud of its products – naturally rich in nutrients, with an important role for human (and animal) health and nutrition, and a relevant role in European environment, landscapes and the rural development. It is our role as EDA to communicate on these positives and on different initiatives of the European institutions, using latest science and knowledge in its messages.

In 2015 / 2016 we further developed our outreach strategy and invested in its implementation: different factsheets and question& answer documents published on EDA’s website and widely shared via our Newsletter¹, our Twitter (@EDA_dairy) and in several smaller meetings and bigger conferences.

Communication is about messages and outreach, but also about timing. We managed at several occasions to have our EDA publications available in advance of relevant Commission reports or legislative initiatives – and hence we did set the framework for the discussions to come.

In 2015, the list of FEP publications includes our factsheet ‘facts and myths on mandatory origin labelling’, an EDA statement on ‘circular economy’, a ‘question& answers on trans-fatty-acids (TFAs)’, a new joint statement with Specialised Nutrition Europe (SNE) on young child formula, and EDA statements both on animal welfare and raw milk dairy products as well as EDA positions on organic legislation and sugars (for all see special chapters below).

Our communication activities are relevant: the European environment in Brussels and beyond does not only read our publications, but perceives our communication in the way we want it to be perceived: as an invitation for further in depth discussion on the subject, as a clear sign of our commitment to be part of a constructive and inclusive dialogue.

This approach pays off: in meetings, public sessions and other settings, we have had many times the opportunity to highlight and explain our positions and ideas.

This also includes our exchange at the European Parliament, centred on nutrition & health (see below), two public sessions on social and ethical sustainability at our Annual Convention in Edinburgh (see sustainability section in this report), and many other conferences and bilateral meetings.

For the pdf version of this report, we are happy to share the links to our factsheets section on the website
- Nutrition & health
- Sustainability
- Other factsheets

Highlighting the importance of dairy for human health at all ages

Highlighting the positive role of dairy for Health and Nutrition

The field of ‘dairy nutrition and health’ will become only more important in the future public attention and policy making in terms of highlighting the unique goodness of milk. The strategic objective is to have EDA pro-actively supporting the benefits of milk and dairy at Brussels level and beyond.

“Health topics will become even more important for our industry and much can be achieved by an efficient cross-industry body when it comes to the essential role of dairy in a healthy diet.”

Dr Judith Bryans BSc PhD RNutr, Chief Executive Dairy UK
Chair of the EDA Scientific Advisory Board
Dairy Nutrition & Health

¹ http://eda.euromilk.org/publications/dairy-flash
For that reason EDA’s health & nutrition work was anchored at highest level within our association. The strategic dimension will continue to be fully substantiated with existing science and then put into practice and communication.

**Scientific Advisory Board Dairy Nutrition & Health (SAB DNH)**

For the scientific backing of all health and nutrition communication and activities of EDA a fast, reactive platform of scientific experts with a dairy background has been established. EDA hosted in 2015 its kick-off meeting for reflection, where we also had the opportunity to exchange with DG SANTE.

The work of our EDA Scientific Advisory Board continues in small groups on specific topics, e.g. on trans-fatty acids, where we were in a position to use the most recent science for EDA’s latest question and answers document (see section TFA). Another example is the scientific backing for the importance of milk and different dairy products early in life for health in youth and with positive effects during the whole life – this was an important basis for continuing to allow flavoured milks and cheeses in the European School Milk Scheme. Science also evolves quickly when it comes to the increasingly evident positive effect of saturated fats from dairy sources for human health. It shows once more the overall importance of dairy as a whole food as part of a healthy diet.

**MEP assistants roundtable ‘Dairy, Nutrition & Health’**

The idea of the MEP Assistant Roundtable ‘Dairy, Nutrition & Health’ event series is to have an open discussion with the staff of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on dairy topics relevant to the ongoing work of the European Parliament.

In 2015 we were very grateful to continue our fruitful cooperation with MEP Norbert Lins (EPP, Germany) and his team. MEP Norbert Lins is not only a Member of the Environment, Food Safety and Public Health (ENVI) Committee of the European Parliament, but he also is an active substitute member of the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture (AGRI) and he follows all dairy topics very closely.

Following the success of the first edition of MEP Assistant Roundtable in 2014, a second event has been organised on 4 May 2015 in the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels. In our 2015 edition, while focussing on nutrition and health topics, we also discussed a wide variety of other dairy relevant subjects, like the European agricultural policy or food safety.

Hélène Simonin, Director for Food, Environment & Health at EDA, presented the history of dairy policy reforms in the EU, including the high costs of milk quota which finally ended in 2015. In the second session Hélène Simonin explained the difference between hazard and risk and raised the attention to the new trends in risk communication, including risk “tweet-ification” and influence of media on the perception of food safety by the consumers.

Dr Carole Lowis, Scientific Coordinator at the European Milk Forum (EMF) presented the pan-European initiative “Milk Nutritious by Nature” aiming at promoting nutritional richness and health benefits of milk and dairy in Europe, with a special focus on Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Northern Ireland/UK, the Netherlands and Norway. This science-based European information campaign on the nutrient richness of milk and dairy is composed of various activities such as a web-based information platform, newsletters and a series of scientific symposia.

The Roundtable participants welcomed the informal atmosphere of the event and appreciated the unique opportunity to extend their knowledge of milk and dairy products. We do appreciate the commitment of MEP Norbert Lins and his team to continue this Roundtable discussions also in 2016 in order to engage further in the dialogue with the European Parliament.

**Clarifying science**

A certain ‘tweetification’ of science can be perceived – simple messages get credible by their spread on social media. The positive is that the general population seems to increase its reflection on health and environment, and – hopefully – tries to further dive into scientific understanding. Unfortunately often also the scientific basis for the messages may not be fully conclusive, sometimes downright incorrect. In this cases, EDA and its Scientific Advisory Board can clarify the messages with relation to milk and dairy and reframe the wider frame of studies or non-scientific publications.
Trans-fatty acids (TFAs)

Trans-fatty acids originate from two sources: natural in ruminants products (milk and meat) or industrially produced by processing of oils (in snacks, spreads or similar, depending on the formulation). Even if TFAs in certain amounts can have negative health effects, TFA intake from dairy does not get anywhere close to levels where any health effect could be envisaged. Furthermore, science is evolving and starting to show different effects on health depending on the source of TFAs.

The EU Commission was mandated by the Food Information Regulation (Reg. 1169/2011) - on request of the European Parliament at the time - to draft a report looking at options to reduce TFA intake of the population. The EU Commission has published this report in December 2015, basing itself on an assessment by EFSA dating back to 2009 and also looking at legal measures taken in other countries, e.g. the U.S. The EU Commission text mentions the difference between industrial and ruminant TFA (iTFA vs rTFA), but does not differentiate with regards to intake or health effects on the population. It does propose the option of legal limits as best options, and then aligns to the U.S. approach: rTFA cannot technically be part of such measure as occurring naturally. EDA has published a ‘question and answers’ document in advance of the report, including the latest science, that EFSA had not taken into account for its opinion in 2009. The EU Commission report mentions the need to review the EFSA opinion if a measure would be taken that includes all types of TFA; currently it focuses its attention on iTFA and certain groups of the population. EDA chair Michel Nalet together with Dr Judith Bryans (CEO of DairyUK) discussed all aspects of the TFA topic with Dr Vytenis Andriukaitis, the EU Commissioner in charge, in early 2015. The TFA issue is an excellent example to showcase that bringing forward latest science to decision makers in due time can help to frame possible legislative measures.

Natural and added sugars

Milk contains natural sugar – it is named lactose. Some dairy products (e.g. flavoured yoghurts) contain in addition some added sugars. Currently there is quite some pressure by health organisations, like the WHO, to reduce the added sugars in food with the claimed aim to help to reduce obesity.

It is relevant in this context to see the value added overall nutrition of a product, as e.g. fermented milks with fruit preparations bring in a whole lot of essential vitamins and minerals, and not only the caloric intake. In a balanced diet dairy products have an important beneficial effect, as advised by all dietary recommendations. This is also valid for dairy products with added sugars which can help boosting the population’s vitamin, mineral and protein intake where the recommendations are not fulfilled. A number of studies show that yoghurt consumption, including flavoured ones, has a neutral or beneficial effect on weight status, and in addition consumption of flavoured milk has been linked to better overall diet quality without any adverse impact on weight.

In early 2015, we have issued our EDA position paper on sugars: in this paper, we clarify that not focusing on a single nutrient, but on the natural matrix in a food is the appropriate way forward. We highlighted the differences between natural versus added sugars and focus on the importance to look at the overall intake and the role of dairy for a healthy diet.

In early 2016 EDA has also clarified its position on the ‘Sugar annex’ of the EU framework for single nutrients, requesting to allow for policy options to take into account the positive role of whole food matrices as dairy and latest science on foods instead of continuing the known pathway of focusing on single nutrients – where the public health effects still remain to be proven by science.

Assuring the sustainable production all along the dairy chain

Our PEF (Product Environmental Footprint) project: Establishing rules for Product Environmental Footprint of dairy products for a wider environmental assessment

The Paris climate summit in November / December 2015 showed the important decision that can be taken on a methodology of assessing carbon footprint of processes and products, as energy or automobiles. This policy approach is based on a very single – even if very important – aspect of the environmental impact of a production and consumption process. In contrary the product environmental footprint bases itself on 15 impact categories, climate being one of them, but also water or energy use, fertiliser use on the soil or on the oceans, land use change. In addition to the 15 some others can be chosen, e.g. biodiversity was in the dairy pilot.

Future legislative proposals / legislation may well take into account the overall environmental footprint of foodstuffs, once the methodology is established and ripe for use, including the relevant databases on effects it is based on. Similar assessments are already in place as condition for production and communication in other sectors (automotive industry, electronic industry, etc.).

EDA and several partners of the dairy industry and beyond have seized the opportunity to shape the methodology for the assessment
of this ‘product environmental footprint (PEF)’ for dairy products and hence adapt those as much as possible to the reality of todays’ milk processing. EDA coordinates this pilot project in the context of the EU Commission PEF framework; it includes major support of numerous dairy companies (incl. a SME and one non-EU dairy company), a retailer, scientific and governmental bodies (e.g. IDF, the French ministry of the Environment), plus new members from packaging industry.

The drafting of the methodology is at its final stage. We are very proud that the screening reports and draft PEFCR (PEF category rules for dairy products environmental footprint) were adopted in the Steering Committee by the EU Commission, the Member States and stakeholders on 1st October 2015 with a very positive vote. The 3-year project has passed the mid-term conference of the EU Commission in November 2015. The Dairy pilot was presented and web-streamed from there; the presentation and discussion is now available on Youtube. Also at other opportunities the Dairy PEF project was presented and well received by a truly global audience; European activities are followed closely by international partners, as these rules will influence all footprinting of the future as the reference method.

We are grateful, that six dairy companies conduct currently the required ‘supporting studies’, testing the methodology on real products. The next step will be to conduct communication tests to see what set of information needs to be transported to improve the environmental footprint, and to pass one last public consultation and final adoption of the rules.

**Climate change**

The dairy impact on climate change was much exaggerated in an FAO report of 2006 (“livestock’s long shadow”) – later reports show smaller impact than stated at the beginning. EDA and the European (and global) dairy industry have been working on continuously reducing the dairy sectors impact. EDA is a proud founding member of the Global Dairy agenda for action and of the Dairy Sustainability Framework (DSF) that reflects these global efforts of the dairy sector.

In the preparation of the COP21 (Paris Climate conference November / December 2015) and following EU commitments the EU Commission consulted on the impact of agriculture and land use (land use, land use change & forestry (‘LULUCF’)) on climate change. The consultation was answered by EDA, especially clarifying the particular importance the food production for the EU and the world, and proposing output-related indicators, as well as putting forward the positive link of dairy products to nutrition/ nutrient security and for landscape and rural areas.

EDA also engaged discussion with the EU Commission on the position of food production in a possible future framework. The EU Commission two-day conference on LULUCF was a platform to further exchange with the relevant EU Commission services and other sectors on land use, agriculture and food production in the context of climate change.

EDA has also circulated an internal survey on activities of dairy companies and associations to further improve on climate related matters. The answers were very valuable to give input to OECD’s economic committee reflecting on climate change, and to prepare our EDA statement.

**Climate change and nutrition**

Most recent science puts the carbon footprint - so the impact on climate change of a food product - in relation to the nutrition it gives, to assure the changes made to the diet can help improving both health and climate. EDA has drafted a factsheet resuming three studies showing a positive link of dairy role for nutrition/ healthy diet and sustainable production/ carbon footprint of dairy. More and more scientific studies look at the link of climate impact and dietary changes; these will be included in later version of the factsheet. In the public many misunderstandings and misconceptions exist – and EDA is most interested in bringing some light on the newest science to better understand the complexity and links of both the human body and its dietary needs and the climate impact of different parts of agriculture.

**The European energy framework and the Emission trading scheme (ETS)**

The current Emission trading scheme (ETS), attributing CO₂ emission rights to the industry, is valid until 2019; the future framework is already in discussion.

The exception for some energy intensive dairy categories from todays’ ETS and until 2019 saves the dairy sector a serious amount of money, that else would have been paid for carbon allowances. This is due to the recognition of possible risk of ‘carbon leakage’ – meaning the production could easily be shifted to non-EU countries if the additional burden would render the production less competitive in the EU.

For the framework for post-2020 the EU Commission has lifted up a new “Energy Union” to one major priority. The new EU Commission work programme includes an overhaul of several proposals on climate and energy policy and will tackle the ETS in that framework. In preparations of the EU Commission legislative proposal two stakeholder consultations had been launched. The latest is also looking at the cross-cutting coherence of the framework.

In spring 2015 EDA has gathered and aligned our members input and responded to the second EU Commission consultation on ETS. On 15 July 2015, the EU Commission has published its ‘energy and climate summer package’ including a legislative proposal for revision of the ETS scheme: There the Commission proposes for 2020 to 2030...
major industrial sectors (around 50 instead of the current 180) can continue to be considered at risk of carbon leakage, but the categories are broadened and the conditions for eligibility for this category have been tightened. The list will be drafted in delegated acts by end of 2019.

EDA has responded in September 2015 to an informal EU Commission consultation on this legislative proposal and is now preparing its input into the legislative procedure and assessment of the dairy products.

Food wastage
Food wastage is a topic that is closely linked to our sustainability efforts. It is important to assure that both the loss of food during the production chain, as well as the waste of food at the final end of the chain, mainly at consumer’s level, are reduced as much as possible. Improved re-use of materials, edible or non-edible, will now be one of the focus points of the new framework of the new Circular economy package (see below).

We published EDA factsheets to speak about the positive actions taken by our industry – a one-pager for general interest and a more elaborated and detailed paper. Also a FDE brochure on food waste includes and names the dairy industry as example of reduction of food wastage along different parts of the chain several times. These EDA factsheets are also linked in the EDA paper on circular economy, as both initiatives are inherently linked.

Water footprint and re-use
Water is a very important resource for the dairy sector, and the sector strives to further improve its efficient use and re-use. EDA follows closely the drafting of the global dairy guideline on water footprint, as it will serve also as a basis for the European dairy industry. EDA also stimulates the exchange on water actions in the Member States.

An EU Commission consultation on water re-use ended in November 2014 - EDA has put forward a public answer with ideas for improving legislative difficulties without compromising on food safety. The summary report of the consultation published in spring 2015 sees room for changes in EU legislation and additional EU guidance. The reflections are ongoing in the EDA expert groups on hygiene and on sustainability to put forward a clear proposal for the dairy industry and a fitting framework.

Strategy on sustainable protein sources, including soy, for feeding dairy cows
Soy and other protein sources for feeding cows are important for good results in raw milk production, but the EU production of these feed resources is limited. The dairy industry is very interested in achieving fully sustainable sourcing from the EU and also via import.

There is a wish of EDA members to find a joint strategic approach to sustainable soy supply for dairy cows, for present use and in reflection of possibly increased needs in line with the growing milk
Food, Environment and Health in 2015/16

Demand globally, EDA prepared a factsheet, showing the overall interest of the dairy industry in sustainable soy and other protein sources and highlighting positive approaches already taken by EDA members.

Animal health & welfare
The dairy industry offers a broad variety of nutritious and healthy products. Healthy and well-kept animals are a pre-condition for our success. The cows, sheep, goats and buffaloes are therefore in the centre of the attention when it comes to assure our milk base. Animal welfare is integral part of the short- and long-term sustainability of the industry. To underline the continuous commitment of the EU dairy sector, we published our ‘EDA animal welfare statement’ in 2015.

In the remit of the Commission’s animal welfare strategy EFSA gathered stakeholder input to clarify the definition of ‘small-scale farms’. In a further step EFSA might be asked to evaluate animal welfare based on these size criteria. The proposed definition covers farms with up to 75 animals - thus this definition covers by far the majority of European milk-giving animals. EDA was involved in the process, giving feedback to the consultation.

The Industry Emission Directive (IED) and the revision of the BREF (Best available technique REFerence documents)
Bref (Best available technique reference) documents are developed by EU authorities to benchmark industrial processes in a first phase. The overall framework and the detailed documents for the ‘food, drink and dairy’ sectors are currently in revision, as the previous version is dating back to 2006 and needs to be adapted to the current production technologies. In a second step, from 2018 on, the developed best standards will become the basis for required standards in EU production.

BATs (best available techniques) are included in those reference documents, that highlight special techniques capable of helping to reduce the different emissions from industrial production sites as well as possible, e.g. water, air, energy etc.

A specific EDA Task Force has done a tremendous work on this dossier: EDA helped to shape the questionnaire for the dairy part, to adapt it to the reality of today’s diverse dairy products and production sites. Then dairy plants were chosen, often in coordination with the national authorities, to fill in the very detailed questionnaire. In line with the overall importance of dairy in the EU food and drink sector, dairy sites are by far the most numerous in the whole food and drink industry.

The following steps are to provide overall sectoral information for the introduction and descriptive part for the sector and name possible BATs (best available techniques - that could be minimum requirement for future installations). The responsible Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the EU Commission in Sevilla will bring out its draft report in the second half of 2016 and finalise it in further exchanges with the sectors concerned.

For the overall success and the reality proof of this exercise it will be of utmost importance that the diversity of the dairy sector is well represented, as reference techniques need to be different for the very diverse dairy products, geographical conditions and production structures in the dairy sector.

National Emission Ceilings (NEC) and the dairy sector
The ceilings of emissions (esp. methane and ammonia) in the EU Member States will have an influence on animal food production by possibly reducing animal husbandry in the future, and thus cutting the dairy industry from its raw material supply. This is of concern to the dairy industry despite the importance of reducing emissions in general (see efforts undertaken, e.g. in the BREF, above). It remains very important to realise the special need for nutrition security in Europe and globally and the relevance of emissions in relation to their outcome.

The methane target would in addition be better addressed in the upcoming EU climate framework (see also climate and PEF sections for this report).

On the discussed revision of the NEC Directive the European Parliament ENVI Committee voted on the draft report written by MEP Julie Girling (ECR, UK) “Reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants” on 15 July 2015, deciding to keep the methane reduction target for 2030 as proposed by the Commission, increasing the overall reduction target for ammonia in 2030 and putting a binding target in 2025. The outcome thus goes in the opposite direction of the opinions adopted in Commission AGRI (deleting methane and ammonia targets for 2030) and Commission ITRE (deleting methane target for 2030). The diverse views were taken on board in the European Parliament
plenary vote on 28 October 2015: The European Parliament voted plenary vote includes the methane target, but excludes livestock from it – this is very positive, as the European Parliament recognised that livestock cannot really reduce these emissions, and thus it would have been an unavoidable burden to the sector.

EDA had shared our position and sent letters to MEPs to underline the importance of the deletion of the methane target, both on committee and later on plenary level.

The European Council agreed end of December on its position for the proposed National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive. The European Parliament had pushed for ceilings on ammonia and methane, amongst others; the methane target was meant to spare the livestock sector. The Council has deleted this methane target completely and reduced the one on ammonia. Trilogues now allow to find a joint position between the various views of the institutions.

Of course, these proposals focus on farm level, but the EU dairy industry supports the effort of the dairy farmers, our partners in the dairy sector, to hinder the restriction of future animal production in Europe.

**Dairy denominations and specific information on dairy production ways**

**Protection of dairy terms**
The European legislation (‘Single CMO’, Regulation 1308/2013) protects not only the terms “milk” and “milk products”, but also a list of 16 ‘dairy terms’ like ‘cheese’, ‘butter’ or ‘kephir’ at all stages of marketing. These terms are reserved exclusively for dairy products. This decision of the European legislator is based on the particular composition and the unique role of milk and dairy – a milk or a dairy product (cheese, cream, butter, yoghurt, etc.) can only be based on the liquid extracted from a mammal, an animal giving milk.

EDA and its members, we are all very conscious of the importance of protecting these terms against misuse to assure consumers always get what is described in a product. And we are active to assure that these terms are rightly used in any commercial context. In high level meetings with civil servants of the relevant EU Commission services as well as in a meeting with EU Commissioner Phil Hogan, EDA underlined the high importance of this protection.

**Organic legislation**
The dairy sector was one of the first food sectors that has acknowledged organic products as an interesting market opportunity. Within todays’ organic product portfolio milk and dairy play an important role in Europe and beyond. The current European organic legislation (Regulation (EC) 834/2007) has allowed to seize these market opportunities and to make ‘organic EU dairy’ a success story around the globe. The European organic legislation is an example for other similar pieces of legislation around the globe. Dairy production certified as EU organic encompasses around 4% of EU production; a small but in certain regions most important market.

The then EU Commissioner in charge, proposed to review the organic legislation back in 2014: a proposal was issued that included less workable rules for organic production and organic products. The new EU Commission placed this legislative proposal on hold with the idea to withdraw the proposal if no agreement was found within the first half of 2015. Still, the discussions on this legislative proposal continue - in January 2016 the proposal is in final stage of 1st first reading in the European Parliament and Council with trilogues ongoing.

A total of 5-6 trilogues are planned in 2016, for finalisation of negotiations in spring. The most controversial issues were kept for last, namely the re-classification of organic products, the imports issue and the official controls. A controversial European Parliament amendment allowing organic to be enriched (e.g. with vitamin E) was not supported by the Council. The European Parliament had also wanted to restrict the sourcing of feed for cows to the region of production, but the Council did not support this either. The two institutions also differed in their opinion around frequency of controls, with the European Parliament requesting a higher control frequency. Once an agreement is found it will be important to gain a sufficient long transition period (i.e. 3 years) before the implementation of the law, to allow all parts of the organic dairy chain to adapt.

Thanks to the input of our EDA members, we were able to table our detailed EDA position on the proposed revision and shared and discussed the dairy point of view at multiple occasions with relevant MEPs and Council representatives.
Assuring a fitting legislative framework

Fitness check of the General Food legislation (‘Refit’ exercise)

For the European Commission under its president Jean-Claude Juncker an assessment of the European legislation is a priority. The goal is to see if the European legislation is aligned with the overarching objective of the Union: “jobs, growth & investment”.

This is done in the so-called ‘fitness check’ of legislation, assessing if the legislation is ‘fit’ for its intended purpose.

The General Food legislation (Reg. 178/2002) is the basis of today’s EU food law and provides a high level of EU harmonisation across all 28 Member States. For this reason, this legislation was chosen to undergo the ‘fitness check’ as example of harmonised legislation.

A consultancy was commissioned to conduct a study, based on a questionnaire, hearings and individual interviews. Two special fundamental principles of the General Food law (Reg. 178/2002), traceability and responsibility of food business operators, were assessed in case studies. EDA gave input during an individual interview. Overall it seems the general food law is well functioning, and fully implemented in the dairy industry since 20 years; thus the industry would prefer legislative stability and no change. In the contrary the secondary legislation on food is not always fully adequate and adapted to realities, and sometime inconsistencies between pieces of legislation exist (between different regulations inside the food law, or between food and other, e.g. environmental laws).

The report on this study is expected to be published by the European Commission in spring 2016.

The EU Commission has already announced the next steps within the REFIT exercise and intends to conduct further ‘fitness tests’ for other pieces of our food law environment, namely certain aspects of the Claims Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006.

This exercise will probably start in the second half of 2016 and EDA already discussed the potential benefits of a reopening of the so-called Claims Regulation with the relevant services of the Commission.

New technologies / Novel Foods

The EU Commission had issued back in December 2013 two proposals to revise the Novel Foods Regulation (previously 258/1997, now 2015/2283) and to add separate legislation on cloning and food from cloned animals that were previously covered in the Novel Food Regulation under ‘new breeding techniques’.

The work on the texts for cloning had been on hold at the European Parliament, but has been taken up again in 2015. Meanwhile the revision of the Novel Foods Regulation has been concluded and the final new text was published in the Official Journal in December 2015. Until the future Regulation on cloning and foods from clones have been finalised the new text on Novel food includes this technology as well.

Origin labelling

Voluntary indications of origin can add value to the dairy sector – thus they are being used where it is feasible and relevant for the consumer. A compulsory origin labelling for dairy products would firstly have no added value for the consumer (‘milk from the EU’ or ‘made in Europe’) and secondly increase the overall costs for the milk processing industry at all stages: milk collection, milk storage and milk processing. A compulsory scheme would most probably also lead to increased losses of valuable dairy products (‘food waste’).

This has been recognised by the EU Commission in its report on possible mandatory origin labelling for milk and milk in dairy products as issued in May 2015. In the Food Information to Consumers Regulation 1169/2011 all institutions requested the EU Commission to draft such report. The main work done by the competent services of DG Agri was based on a preliminary study by an external consultancy. The final EU Commission report was adopted and published on 20 May 2015. This report highlights the diversity of the dairy sector and the high burden and costs encountered in case of mandatory Origin Labelling for many regions and products; while highlighting some interest in the indication by consumers the report questions the willingness to pay for such additional information. Thus the EU Commission suggests keeping the current system of voluntary indications and does not accompany the report with any legislative proposal.

EDA had prepared a document clarifying “myths and facts on origin labelling” that was published in spring 2015 on our website, and linked to in an EDA PR once the EU Commission report had been issued.

The discussions on the EU Commission report have taken place in two different committees of the European Parliament and in the according Council settings. These are looking also at another EU Commission report on origin labelling of other single-ingredient and similar foods.

Our EDA factsheet on origin labelling has been echoed widely by different media and helped to clarify misconceptions and the specificities of the dairy sector.

EDA had prepared a document clarifying “myths and facts on origin labelling” that was published in spring 2015 on our website, and linked to in an EDA PR once the EU Commission report had been issued.
The European dairy industry has no major interest in the cloning technology, but does not see an advantage in banning any new science a priori and by principle – the assessment of any new technology needs to be done in detail and align to evolving knowledge.

The Commission proposal of April 2015 for renationalisation or the decision on ‘use’ of GMOs in the Member States was discussed within the dairy industry and within the European umbrella organisation FoodDrinkEurope. Whilst willing to represent different situations and interest of citizens in the various Member States there is also a concern on the safeguard of the internal market and the trade implications such measure could have. The European Parliament plenary in October voted a resolution to reject the Commission proposal, asking the Commission to table a new one. Since the competent Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis has already confirmed he would continue supporting this proposal and not withdraw it.

**Ensuring and managing food safety**

**Revision of official controls, including inspection fees**

The legislation on controls from public authorities is also open for revision and the proposal contains major changes. Special attention is needed on special topics of relevance for the dairy industry, as control by veterinarians, inspections fees or second samples. The European Parliament had already finalised its first reading positioning in April 2014; in December 2015 the Council has as well found a compromise on all critical topics, especially the inspection fees. The proposed text of the Council reverts back to the existing regulation with predefined levels of fees for animal products only, whereas the Commission proposed both flat rate on MS level or a calculation of real costs for all food producing businesses.

The trilogues between the institutions have started in January 2016 and will last at least until spring; the topic of inspections fees will certainly be the most critical part to be solved, if an agreement is to be found.

**Multiple identification marking**

The Commission consulted stakeholders on possibly enlarging the multiple identification marking to other sectors. EDA’s response to the consultation was very clear: The dairy sector wants to keep this important possibility.

**Risk assessment guidelines for STEC (Shiga Toxine Escherichia Coli)**

The Commission proposed guidelines following several crises (e.g. in sprouts) with stEC/vTEC to classify foods quickly as “very high risk” in case of food safety crisis.

“Food hygiene are the conditions and measures necessary to ensure the safety of food from production to consumption. We are proud of the unrivalled high standards we have in the EU dairy sector.”

Nelly Delfaut, Chargée de mission. Regulatory and Scientific Affairs ATLA Chair of the EDA Hygiene Working Group

The concern of EDA is that the guidance may be (mis-)read as general classification for products and that many dairy products, esp. all raw milk products, would then errantly fall under such a new classification.

EDA experts have prepared an EDA answer to a Commission questionnaire that will be basis for discussion of Commission with MS; it is now finalised. After discussion with EDA the Commission guidance has been further clarified that its scope is not for a monitoring approach, but only for case of a first finding of STEC, but the fear of EDA members that it could be misread or misused remains. The most recent draft of the Commission is even more restrictive than before, but EFSA is now involved in the discussions.

**EFSA reflection on raw drinking milk**

The recent EFSA opinion on raw liquid milk, as used for drinking, highlights a risk for human safety if it is drank without preliminary heat treatment. This opinion has no impact on the dairy industry, as the dairy products are all further processed and different assessment applies. To clarify this difference an EDA statement on raw milk products has been published on the EDA website. It underlines the importance of differentiating between raw drinking milk and raw milk products.

**Animal by-products (ABP)**

Food materials not intended as food anymore fall under two regulations (a main regulation of 2009 and an implementing regulation of 2011). Animal by-products are typically by-products of dairy production that can be sold to feed companies, or other non-food uses or parts of the process that cannot be used, as washing water with milk residues. Certain changes introduced with the latest version of the text are a big burden to the dairy industry. EDA intends to alleviate these parts of the text where the assumption is that of an existing foot-and mouth –disease status, as was most prevalent when the text was written nearly 10 years back. This does not
correspond to the current risk status for animal health, nor to the options to re-use dairy non-food materials for e.g. feeding purposes.

A draft revised proposal of the Commission with some small opening on sludges for feed use has been published. A small expert group at EDA sent a letter to the Commission to further (re-)assess the situation for dairy sludges. In the current framework additional science would need to be assessed by EFSA to allow for a reevaluation of the animal health status and thus potential use of sludges from the dairy industry.

**Antibiotic residues and resistance**

The relevant EDA group gathers recent information and shares its knowledge on antibiotic residues and the European action plan on antimicrobial resistance. For the dairy industry the importance of milk without antibiotic residues cannot be highlighted enough: each milk load is tested to assure it is free of residues and only milk with the right results is used in production process. Technologically antibiotic residues would hinder any processing of the milk, as it inhibits the dairy cultures (bacteria for yoghurts or enzymes for cheese) to function properly.

The Dutch presidency in the 1st half of 2016 has declared the topic of antimicrobial resistance which is based on both human and animal health uses, as one of its priorities. The EU Commission stakeholder consultation to better understand the use of antimicrobials in animals and the functioning of national antimicrobial resistance action plans was answered by EDA in January 2016.

EDA is engaged with the EU Commission to see possible ways to change this dossier for adapting it to the current dairy use.

**Dairy food production processes**

**The carry-over principle**

The carry-over principle in the additives legislation is not new, but the first EU-harmonised framework of the 2008 Food Improvement package (FIAB, incl. additives, enzymes, and flavouring regulations) asks for new coordination between the different sets of legislation. The idea is that a food improvement agent used in one ingredient may be present, thus ‘carried over’, to a composed food, but not be present in a level higher than allowed in each ingredient. The EU Commission has drafted a guidance document on the ‘carry-over principle’ in 2015. In due time, EDA did put forward our comments. The guidance is nearly finalised at Commission level and may be published soon.

**Dairy input to establishing the future Enzymes’ Union List**

Enzymes are essential processing aids for food and dairy production; the probably most prominent example being the rennet for cheese making. The new authorisation procedure for enzymes at European level needs to be closely followed to assure that we can continue using the enzymes currently used in the future. Most enzymes manufacturers seem to have put forward the necessary applications for authorisations of their enzymes towards EFSA. Dairies in Europe have cross-checked to assure that the applications also cover the relevant dairy uses of enzymes. So far, we detected one case, where an application may not include all types of uses of a relevant enzyme.

EDA is engaged with the EU Commission to see possible ways to change this dossier for adapting it to the current dairy use.

**The new Union list of Flavourings**

FoodDrinkEurope, the EU food umbrella federation, published a food industry guidance on flavourings to help industries and competent authorities to have a clear and common view on the new legislation. In the rewriting of the new regulation (Regulation (EC) 1334/2008) the dairy industry sees a risk of not being able to continue to use certain flavourings for dairy products, due to glitch in the categorisation of foods in the flavouring regulation – as the categorisation has been taken over from the additives legislation, dairy products are contained in more than just the dairy category (also in flavoured drinks, fats, coatings (for whipped cream) and desserts).

**Biocides used in dairy production, as QACs (quaternary ammonium compounds), chlorates, perchlorates and others**

Biocides are used in dairy for hygienic reasons, to assure the manufacture of dairy products is clean and free of unwished
microbial cultures. Due to a strange legal opinion of the EU Commission the residues of biocides would be treated as ‘pesticide residues’ on EU level. This means that only extremely low residues would be allowed, and this without any special assessment on food safety or human health.

The EU Commission asked EFSA to evaluate chlorates residues; the EFSA opinion on chlorates has been published. It shows clearly the impact of drinking water as main contributor to chlorate intake in the population. Currently the residue limits allowed in drinking water are far higher than in foods, so the divergence still needs to be addressed by the EU COM.

Information gathering within the dairy industry is ongoing to provide detailed information to the EU Commission for its assessment.

Speaking via our products – labelling of dairy products

Health and Nutrition Claims
The Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation (EC) 1924/2006 frames the possibilities to speak on pack or to consumers of the positive aspects of dairy products; the EFSA evaluations have reduced these options to very few uses possible.

EDA prepared an overview of the status of existing health claims those relevant to the dairy sector. This is intended to provide greater clarity on the current health claim situation in the EU. The Commission Refit exercise (see above) will scrutinise the functioning of the Claims regulation in the second half of 2016 and could prepare the ground for a possible revision.

Food Information to Consumers
The Regulation on Food Information to Consumers (EU) No 1169/2011 has entered into force in December 2014 and is now the one harmonised legislation on consumer information. It gathers all labelling requirements on food products.

Some points for clarification on interpretation and implementation persist. Major reports to follow are the ones of origin labelling and TFAs (for both see relevant sections above).

Revision of the Commission allergen labelling guidance
The Commission Guidance document on the allergen labelling has been subject to the public consultation between November 2014 and January 2015. The old guidance needed to be updated taking into account to the new labelling requirements introduced by the Food Information Regulation.

EDA is closely following discussions between the Commission and Member States. Our dairy-specific comments have been submitted directly to the Commission in November 2015.

Revision of the QUID guidelines
The Quantitative Ingredients Declaration (QUID) for food labelling is applicable to foods where the ingredient is included in the name of the food (e.g. strawberry yoghurt). QUID requires to indicate the quantity of the ingredient appearing in the name of the food.

The EU Commission QUID Guidelines date back to 1998 and the previous labelling Directive. In 2014 the EU Commission has started the process of updating the Guidelines according to the new labelling requirements introduced by the Food Information to Consumers Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011.

The EU Commission has consulted Member States and food business operators on the revision of the QUID guidelines. EDA has closely followed and contributed to the consultation. The QUID Guidelines document has been discussed several times by the EU Commission and member states and is expected to be finalised soon.

Implementation of the new EU Tolerances and Rounding Rules
Following long discussions and the final publication of the Commission Guidance document on Tolerances and Rounding rules for labelling purposes in December 2012, a technical workshop was organised in October 2014 jointly by the food and food supplements industry associations. The workshop aimed at raising awareness of the Commission and MS representatives on the practical difficulties faced by the industry with implementation of the tolerances guidelines.

Speaking on pack to consumers:
Claims and Food information labels

“Labelling issues are more than regulatory questions – it is about our communication to and with the consumer and our relation with the citizen”

Eric Grande, Directive des Affaires Réglementaires
Regulatory Affairs Director
Groupe Lactalis
Chair of the EDA Claims & Labelling Working Group

Annual Report 2015/16
prior to December 2014 when the new rules became applicable (along with the new EU labelling Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011). The technical workshop concluded that the Commission needs more data from the industry and MS control authorities in order to re-open the discussions on the Guidance document. In 2015 FDE launched a monitoring exercise to identify issues raised by the food industry at the level of implementation of the Guidance and official controls by the MS authorities. The dairy sector remains concerned that the current version of the EU Guidance does not realistically reflect the specificities of the dairy products.

**Foods for special groups, including Young child formula (YCF)/ Growing-up milk (GUM)**

Young child formulae or ‘growing-up milks’ when based on dairy are special products for children of lower age, from 12 to 36 months of age. YCF are an important dairy category in several MS, but are not specifically regulated on European level; the revision of the Foods for Special Groups (‘FSG’) legislation gives a good basis to now include them.

In autumn 2014 the Commission and stakeholders agreed on a joint preferred option for a new category for YCF inside the follow-on formulae category. This would ensure a clear regulatory framework for this category, which is in line with the EDA positioning. The new Commission now questions this approach and puts up question if a legislative proposal is needed. The report was to be published in summer 2015, but has not been issued yet; whereby the policy direction and the safeguarding of this product category remains unclear.

EDA has raised this issue to the attention of the national members as well as the European Commission.

EDA also remains in close contact with other industry associations involved in this discussion, including the IDF and the special dietary industries associations at the EU and global level. The revised draft Codex Standard for Follow-Up Formula takes into account higher NCF for milk-based formula and by that acknowledging high quality of milk protein. The Codex Standard will be further considered in 2016.

**Traffic lights and other categorisation of foods into ‘good’ or ‘bad’**

A national scheme in the UK pushes for labelling of nutrients on the front of the package and with traffic light colors; that is different from the demands of the Food Information Regulation. This can have an influence on the whole European market once installed nationally in parallel to a harmonised European law. As the dairy industry wishes more a positive approach to diets and no traffic light forbidding certain foods - at the same time categorising them into ‘bad’ or ‘good’ foods - it has raised its concerns on such scheme in a formal EDA complaint to the Commission end 2014. The new Commission is currently not supportive of continuing the infringement procedure against the UK.

EDA and SNE are lobbying to keep the legislative framework, and do not support guidelines only (see two public statements on EDA’s website).

The Commission has already brought out drafts of other special foods groups, e.g. sports foods or total diet replacement where the protein of dairy can be of high value.

**CODEX Alimentarius on Follow-Up Formula & NCF**

The dairy sector has been active for years in establishing an optimal regulatory environment for the calculation and declaration of milk/dairy protein content at the EU and global level. The Codex Standard for Follow-Up Formula is currently being reviewed, including the issue of the Nitrogen Conversion Factor (NCF). The last discussion took place at the CCNFSFU meeting in November 2015.

The dairy industry supported a clear distinction between NCF conversion factor for different sources of protein in order to protect the higher quality of milk proteins (i.e. by acknowledging NCF of 6.38 for milk-based formula in the Codex Standard, as opposed to NCF of 5.71 for soy-based formula).

EDA has raised this issue to the attention of the national members as well as the European Commission.

In autumn 2016 the European Commission and stakeholders agreed on a joint preferred option for a new category for YCF inside the follow-on formulae category. The dairy sector remains concerned that the current version of the EU Guidance does not realistically reflect the specificities of the dairy products.
EDA Members

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**National Delegations**

**Austria**

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<td><a href="http://www.cromilk.hr">www.cromilk.hr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mrs Rašeljka Maras - President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CroMilk, Zadarska 80/V, Zagreb</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Czech Republic</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech &amp; Moravian Dairy Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>V Olšinách 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZ - 100 00 Prague 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potravinářská komora České republiky (Federation of the Food and Drink Industries of the Czech Republic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Počernická 96/272 - CZ 108 03 Prague 10 - Malešice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Jan Teplý</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madeřa s.s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudoltorská 246/83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZ - 37050 České Budějovice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Denmark</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majerforeningen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish Dairy Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Frederiks Allé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK - 8000 Aarhus C - <a href="http://www.majer.dk">www.majer.dk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estonia</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Estonian Dairy Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Vilmsi 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE - 10147 Tallinn - <a href="http://www.piimalit.ee">www.piimalit.ee</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Maito Solovjov - CEO Valio Estonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c/o Estonian Dairy Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Vilmsi 53</td>
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<tr>
<td>EE – 10147 Tallinn</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Finland</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finnish Milk Processors and Dairy Products Wholesalers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meijerijt 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI-00039 VALIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finnish Food &amp; Drink Industries Federation,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 115, Pasilankatu 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI - 00241 HELSINKI - <a href="http://www.att.fi">www.att.fi</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Ritta Brandt - VP Corporate External Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valio International Ops.</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI - 00039 Valio</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>France</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATLA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maison du Lait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42, rue de Châteaudun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F - 75314 Paris Cedex 09 - <a href="http://www.atlaasso.fr">www.atlaasso.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Olivier Picot - President</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATLA - Maison du Lait</td>
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<tr>
<td>42, rue de Châteaudun</td>
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<tr>
<td>F - 75314 - Paris Cedex 09</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Germany</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>MIV (Milchindustrie-Verband)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jägerstraße 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D - 10117 Berlin</td>
</tr>
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<td><a href="http://www.milchindustrie.de">www.milchindustrie.de</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>DRV (Deutscher Raiffeisenverband)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pariser Platz 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D - 10117 Berlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Josef Schwager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DMK Deutsches Milchkontor GmbH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flughafenallee 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D - 28199 Bremen</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Greece</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SEVGAP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hellenic Association of Milk &amp; Dairy Products Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21, Agias Sofias Str.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GR - 154 51 Neo Psychiko - Athens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christos Apostolopoulou - President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellenic Association of Milk and Dairy Products Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>340, Kifissias Avenue 154 51, Ntò Psychiko</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Annual Report 2015/16**

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### National Delegations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>IDIA (Irish Dairy Industries Association)</td>
<td>84-86 Lower Baggot Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confederation House</td>
<td>IRL - Dublin 3 - <a href="http://www.ibec.ie">www.ibec.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>ASSOLATTE</td>
<td>Via Adige 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>l - 20135 Milano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.assolatte.it">www.assolatte.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Latvian Dairy Committee</td>
<td>Bauskas iela Nr.180, LV1004 Riga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>A.L.L. Association Laïtière Luxembourgeoise</td>
<td>7 rue Alcide de Gasperi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BP 1304</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>L - 1013 Luxembourg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>NZO (Nederlandse Zuivel Organisatie)</td>
<td>Benoordenhoutseweg 46, NL – 2596 BC Den Haag</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.nzo.nl">www.nzo.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>ZPPM (Zwalgaz Polskich Przetwórców Mleka)</td>
<td>ul. Zota 98, budynek Lumen, pietro 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>PL - 00-130 Warszawa - <a href="http://www.zppm.pl">www.zppm.pl</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>KZSM (Krajowy Zwiótek Spółdzielni Mleczarskich)</td>
<td>National Union of Dairy Co-operatives</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>FENALAC - Federación Nacional das Cooperativas de Produtores de Leite</td>
<td>Rua Alexandre Herculano, 351, 1º</td>
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<tr>
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<td>P – 4000-055 Porto - <a href="http://www.fenalac.pt">www.fenalac.pt</a></td>
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<td>Serbia</td>
<td>SERBIA (Associate Member)</td>
<td>Nacionalna Asocijacija Prenađiva Mleka</td>
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<td>Orisiceva 9</td>
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<td>SI – 1000 Ljubljana - <a href="http://www.slovenskomleko.com">www.slovenskomleko.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>FENIL - Federacion Nacional de Industrias Lacteas</td>
<td>Avila 10 – 1, lqzpla</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E - 2800 Madrid</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.fenil.org">www.fenil.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Federation of Swedish Farmers,</td>
<td>SE - 105 33 Stockholm</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.lrf.se">www.lrf.se</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Dairy UK</td>
<td>210 High Holborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UK - London WC1V 7EP - <a href="http://www.dairyuk.org">www.dairyuk.org</a></td>
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</tbody>
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### Board Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Mr Conor Mulvihill - IDIA director</td>
<td>Confederation House</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>84-86 Lower Baggot Street</td>
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<td>IRL - Dublin 3 - <a href="http://www.ibec.ie">www.ibec.ie</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Mr Attilio Zanetti - Managing Director</td>
<td>Zanetti spa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Via Madonnina 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>l - 24040 Lallo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Mr Janis Šmits - Chairman of the Board</td>
<td>Latvian Dairy Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Bauskas iela Nr.180, LV1004 Riga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Mr Claude Steinmetz - Directeur</td>
<td>Luxlait Association Agricole</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>L – 7501 Mersch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Mr Werner Buck - Corporate Director Public &amp; Quality Affairs</td>
<td>P.O. 1551</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NL 3800 BN Amersfoort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Mr Marek Murawski - Manager Quality &amp; Technology</td>
<td>KZSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Mr Fernando Cardoso - Secretary General</td>
<td>ANIL - Associação Nacional Dos Industriais</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rua de Santa Teresa 2 - C2</td>
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<td>P - 4050 Porto - <a href="http://www.anilact.pt">www.anilact.pt</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Mr Tomaz Žnidarić - Ljubljanske Melke</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.slovenskomleko.com">www.slovenskomleko.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Mr Antoni Bandrés - Danone</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.izbamleka.pl">www.izbamleka.pl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Mr Jonas Carlberg - Head of Milk Policy Division</td>
<td>Federation of Swedish Farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SE - 105 33 Stockholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Ms Judith Bryans - Chief Executive</td>
<td>Dairy UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>210 High Holborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>UK - London WC1V 7EP - <a href="http://www.dairyuk.org">www.dairyuk.org</a></td>
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It is with great pleasure that EDA, the European Dairy Association, ASSIFONTE and the Association of French Milk Processors (ATLA) invite you to join the European Dairy Ambition at the EDA/ASSIFONTE Annual Convention 2016 in Nice, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea from 1st to 3rd December 2016.

Our EDA Annual Convention will not only provide you with enriching presentations from high level speakers and give you an update on key dairy subjects, but also offer you an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues from the European and global "lactosphère."

Join us in Nice and Connect to the world of dairy!

www.eda2016.eu