



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION (IDF)¹

ACTIVITIES OF IDF RELEVANT TO CODEX

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) wishes to thank the Codex Alimentarius Commission for the opportunity to provide this update on IDF activities relevant to Codex.

Since 1903, IDF has been setting standards to ensure the safety of milk and dairy products and to facilitate their trade. IDF's member countries represent the entire dairy chain, including farmers, processors, traders, input providers and academia. In several countries, the government is also involved in the IDF National Committee. IDF's member countries cover approximately 75% of global milk production and 85% of trade in milk and dairy products.

IDF commits significant resources to Codex activities because Codex is an internationally recognized, independent, strongly supported, science-based and highly effective organization that has a key role to play in protecting the health of consumers and facilitating international food trade.

IDF Strategy 2019-2021

IDF has defined four strategic focus areas: standard setting, dairy safety and quality, nutrition and sustainability. Thus, there is considerable synergy with the mandate of Codex.

Standard setting covers different areas of work in IDF: analytical standards, food standards, as well as standards related to animal health and welfare, environment and nutrition.

IDF deems it critical to be pro-actively involved in the standard-setting space as standards affect the degree of free flow of food around the globe. IDF is recognized by a wide range of international organizations as the voice for the global dairy sector on standards. For these reasons, IDF continues to commit significant resources to ensure a science-based approach to standard setting.

Working with Codex remains one of IDF's ten strategic goals for the period 2019-2021, particularly in:

- Active engagement in **regional and international Codex standards for dairy products, dairy-based ingredients and infant formula**
- Active engagement in Codex horizontal work applicable to dairy products, dairy-based ingredients and infant formula
- Introduction of relevant new standards and timely amendments to Codex endorsed ISO/IDF analytical standards
- IDF representation at relevant Codex meetings

¹ Document prepared by and under the responsibility of the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

IDF interactions with Codex

IDF has served as an essential technical advisor to Codex since Codex was established, providing technical support on all aspects related to milk and dairy products as well as their use in other foods, such as the new Codex standard on Dairy Permeate Powders. IDF has always strongly supported the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products, which originated from an IDF Committee of Experts. IDF was officially named by CAC “technical advisor” of the CCMMP mid 90’s in order to prepare all the technical materials (including draft standards) during the revision of all the corpus of standards by the CCMMP from 1994 until 2010.

Currently over 30 specific Codex Standards regarding milk and milk products exist and over 50 guidelines and codes of practice affect the way these products are manufactured and traded.

IDF also contributes to the work of several horizontal Codex committees, engaging Codex across more than a dozen committees on many topics. IDF representatives have attended, commented on, or otherwise contributed to, the following Codex groups:

- CAC (IDF has attended all Codex Alimentarius Commission meetings for decades)
- CCCF (Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food), guidelines for risk analysis of chemicals inadvertently present in food at low levels
- CCEURO (FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Europe),
- CCFA (Codex Committee on Food Additives), e.g. the alignment of food additives provisions from dairy Codex standards with the GSFA (General Standard for Food Additives)
- CCFH (Codex Committee on Food Hygiene), e.g. the Revision of the Codex General Principles of Food Hygiene and the HACCP annex
- CCFICS (Codex Committee on Food Import and Export and Certification Systems), e.g. food authenticity
- CCFL (Codex Committee on Food Labeling), e.g. the draft Revision of the General Standard for Labeling of Prepackaged Food: Date Marking
- CCMAS (Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling), e.g. the Updates of references to methods of analysis and sampling in Codex STAN 234
- CCMMP (Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products), all work of this Committee
- CCNEA (FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for the Near East), e.g. the Draft Regional standard for Doogh
- CCNFSDU (Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses), e.g. the revision of the Standard for Follow-up Formula
- CCRVDF (Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods)
- TFAMR (Codex Task Force on AMR).

Examples of current work relevant to Codex

- Revision and consolidation of several standardized methods for fat analysis in dairy methods
- IDF, ISO and AOAC are collaborating in developing standardized methods for infant formula
- Development of a joint IDF/ISO standard for the determination of ash for Dairy Permeate Powders

Recent IDF publications relevant to the work of Codex include:

- Bulletin of the IDF N° 486/ 2017: The IDF Guide to Water Footprint Methodology for the Dairy Sector <https://store.fil-idf.org/product/bulletin-idf-n-486-2017-idf-guide-water-footprint-methodology-dairy-sector/>
- ISO/TS 19046-1 | IDF/RM 233-1:2017 – Cheese – Determination of propionic acid level by chromatography – Part 1: Method by gas chromatography.
- ISO/TS 19046-2 | IDF/RM 233-2:2017 – Cheese – Determination of propionic acid level by chromatography – Part 2: Method by ion exchange chromatography.
- ISO 9233-1 | IDF 140-1: 2018 – Cheese, Cheese rind and processed cheese – Determination of natamycin content – Part 1: Molecular absorption spectrometric method for cheese rind
- ISO 9233-2 | IDF 140-2: 2018 – Cheese, cheese rind and processed cheese – Determination of natamycin content – Part 2: High-performance liquid chromatographic method for cheese, cheese rind and processed cheese

Relationship of IDF with other key intergovernmental organizations

IDF has been in official relations with the **Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** since 1952. FAO and IDF have jointly published several guidance documents, such as the *FAO/IDF Guide on Good Dairy Farming Practice* which is available for free in seven languages (https://store.fil-idf.org/?s=guide+to+good+dairy+farming+practice&post_type=product). Currently, FAO has assigned observers in the IDF Standing Committee (SC) on Animal Health and Welfare, the SC Environment, the SC Dairy Policy and Economics and the IDF Task Force Antimicrobial Resistance.

IDF is committed to help achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** defined by the United Nations. In 2016, FAO and IDF signed the “Dairy Declaration of Rotterdam”. The Declaration serves as a framework for the contributions of the dairy sector to the achievement of key SDGs such as ending poverty (SDG1) and hunger (SDG2) while promoting responsible consumption and production (SDG12) to protect the environment (SDG13, SDG14, SDG15). Investments in innovation and infrastructure (SDG9) will be essential to achieve environmental sustainability as well as decent work and economic growth (SDG8).

IDF is in official relations with the **World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)** and participates as stakeholder in the work of the **UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS)**.

IDF and the **International Organization for Standardization (ISO)** formally collaborate since 1963 on standardization of methods and analysis and sampling for milk and milk products. More than 180 joint ISO/IDF standards have been published thus far.