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Worldwide Dairy Industry to Sign Global Declaration on Climate Change

“Global Dairy Agenda for Action” will reinforce the Triple Bottom Line

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BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, 21 September 2009 – On 24 September, the dairy industry will make history signing a *Global Dairy Agenda for Action* during the World Dairy Summit in Berlin, Germany.

Signed by seven organisations on behalf of the world’s dairy associations and companies, the *Global Dairy Agenda for Action* is an industry pledge to reduce carbon emissions as part of its contribution to help address global warming. This pledge builds on past performance to address climate change.

The global dairy industry has a shared interest with governments and the global community to produce nutritious food for today and for future generations in a sustainable way.

The declaration also seeks the support of policy makers to provide a supportive regulatory policy environment that recognises the important economic, social and environmental contributions of the dairy industry.

“This *Agenda for Action* represents an unprecedented level of cooperation across national borders and along the dairy supply chain. The global dairy community and its partners have pooled resources, knowledge and projects to achieve a more sustainable future,” said Povl Krogsgaard, Deputy Managing Director, Arla Foods on behalf of Global Dairy Platform.

“From production of feed for dairy cows to processing, packaging and distribution of milk, many elements contribute to the dairy industry’s commitment to reducing Greenhouse Gases (GHG)” said Richard Doyle, President of the International Dairy Federation.

“It makes good sense to reduce GHG emissions - it saves money and improves efficiency in production. This initiative encourages and shares new and innovative technologies and practices for including energy efficiencies on our farms, by food manufacturers and in our warehouses.”

In order to facilitate the industry's efforts to reduce GHG and promote the long term sustainable supply of milk and dairy products, the *Global Dairy Agenda for Action* is a five point commit to:

1. Promote the development of a standard methodology framework for assessing the carbon footprint of milk and dairy products based on robust science;
2. Promote adoption of world's best practices within the global dairy sector and actions that:
 - a. lead to the reduction of global GHG from dairy production on a per unit of production basis,
 - b. promote the use of technologies and methods that improve the processing and distribution efficiency of dairy products,
 - c. optimise economic, environmental and social outcomes for global dairy stakeholders,
 - d. recognise different levels of development and local conditions,
 - e. build on existing frameworks and knowledge, including for scientific advancement and technology transfer,
 - f. promote decision making based on robust science, and
 - g. Complement initiatives in other areas of sustainability.
3. Advance the establishment of tools to facilitate measurement and monitoring of emissions both on-farm and in dairy manufacturing;
4. Promote improved farmer understanding of agricultural emissions and opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on farm; and,
5. Support sharing information and aligning research efforts to develop cost effective mitigation technologies for both on farm and manufacturing applications

The declaration is being signed by Eastern and Southern African Dairy Association (ESADA); European Dairy Association (EDA); Pan-American Dairy Federation (FEPALE); Global Dairy Platform (GDP); International Dairy Federation (IDF); International Federation of Agriculture Producers (IFAP); Sustainable Agricultural Initiative Platform (SAI Platform).

Dairy Industry participants have already begun action in areas like emissions reduction, energy efficiency, transportation efficiency, reduction in loss of milk and milk products, resource efficiency and life cycle analysis and management. These individual activities are not specifically defined in the declaration, but they continue to be major initiatives for the dairy industry throughout the world.

The *Global Dairy Agenda for Action* is intended as a living document and committed to reporting progress on a regular and transparent basis. The first such report will occur 24 months from the date of signing, 24 September, and biannually thereafter.