



## Global Dairy Associations Call on G20 Leaders to Support the WTO

**(Washington, D.C. – November 28, 2018)** *The International Dairy Foods Association, the National Milk Producers Federation and the U.S. Dairy Export Council joined their global counterparts in issuing the following statement. The dairy groups urged the G20 ministers meeting this week in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to prioritize maintaining, reforming and reinvigorating the World Trade Organization (WTO), which is the multilateral rules-based trading system.*

*The dairy groups called on the ministers to reject trade distorting actions, such as imposing unscientific, overly burdensome or trade-distorting nontariff regulations; unilaterally raising tariffs in ways that are not WTO-compliant; or providing WTO illegal export subsidies. They said these actions undermine the functioning of value chains and lead to trade diversion, more volatile commodity prices and a less efficient allocation of resources with higher costs.*

### Joint media statement

Dairy Associations representing the majority of global trade in dairy products are calling on G20 Ministers to prioritise maintaining, reforming and reinvigorating the multilateral rules-based trading system.

We have come together as representatives of the dairy industries in Argentina (Centro de la Industria Lechera); Australia (Australian Dairy Industry Council); the European Union (European Dairy Association and Eucolait); New Zealand (Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand); the United States (International Dairy Foods Association, National Milk Producers Federation and U.S. Dairy Export Council) and Uruguay (Camara de la Industria Lactea del Uruguay) because of the collective importance we place on there being a rules-based multilateral system which is respected and adhered to.

We strongly agree with the G20 Trade Ministers statement of September 2018, that international trade is an important engine of growth, productivity, innovation, job creation and development. The multilateral trading system has supported trade and contributed to unprecedented improvement in standards of living around the globe over the last 60 years. Since Agriculture was brought under the WTO framework, by the 1995 Uruguay Round agreement, dairy trade has nearly doubled, as regional and global food chains have expanded to provide high quality dairy products to an increasing number of consumers at affordable prices.

We also agree with G20 Trade Ministers that Agro-Food Global Value Chains are one of the most important means to achieve a sustainable food future. It is therefore important that all WTO members respect their WTO commitments and work collectively to strengthen and advance the WTO frameworks.

Our organisations collectively call on G20 leaders to reject trade distorting actions, such as imposing unscientific, overly burdensome or trade-distorting nontariff regulations; unilaterally raising tariffs in ways that are not WTO-compliant; or providing WTO illegal export subsidies. These actions undermine the functioning of value chains, lead to trade diversion, more volatile commodity prices and lead to a less efficient allocation of resources with higher costs.



CÁMARA DE LA INDUSTRIA LÁCTEA DEL URUGUAY



We urge G20 members to intensify efforts to establish a roadmap for the WTO that cements its important role into the future.

We recognise that the WTO needs to continue to adapt to changing global economic and trading circumstances to address current concerns, maintain its relevance and lay the basis for future, sustainable growth in trade, including for dairy. We consider the changes needed include:

- reform of the dispute settlement system;
- improving transparency and timeliness of subsidy notifications;
- clarifying the procedures for administering tariff quotas to markedly improve fill rates; and
- additional improvements to address trade-distorting practices.

The multilateral trading system is too important to our sectors, and to achieving a sustainable food future, to be left to one side. We call upon G20 leaders to put their collective leadership behind evolving and strengthening the WTO multilateral trading structure and architecture, including its dispute settlement system.

Miguel Paulón  
Presidente  
Centro de la Industria Lechera (CIL – Argentina)

Terry Richardson  
Chair  
Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC)

Alexander Anton  
Secretary General  
European Dairy Association (EDA)

Jukka Likitalo  
Secretary General  
European Association of Dairy Trade (Eucolait)

Malcolm Bailey  
Chairman  
Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ)

Michael Dykes, D.V.M.  
President and CEO  
International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA)



CÁMARA DE LA INDUSTRIA LÁCTEA DEL URUGUAY



Ruben Nunez  
Presidente  
Camara de la Industria Lactea del Uruguay (CILU)

Jim Mulhern  
President & CEO  
National Milk Producers Federation

Matt McKnight  
Chief Operating Officer  
U.S. Dairy Export Council

**For media inquiries please contact:**

Organization	Contact Person
Australian Dairy Industry Council	Peter Myers <a href="mailto:Peter.Myers@dairyaustralia.com.au">Peter.Myers@dairyaustralia.com.au</a> +61 3 9694 3817
Camara De La Industria Lactea Del Uruguay	Ruben Nunez <a href="mailto:rnunez@Conaprole.com.uy">rnunez@Conaprole.com.uy</a>
Centro De La Industrial Lechera (Argentina)	Osvaldo Cappellini <a href="mailto:OCAPPELLINI@mastellone.com.ar">OCAPPELLINI@mastellone.com.ar</a> +54 237 485-9000
Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ)	Kimberly Crewther <a href="mailto:Kimberly.crewther@dcanz.com">Kimberly.crewther@dcanz.com</a> +64 27 838 6356
European Dairy Association (EDA)	Alexander Anton <a href="mailto:AANTON@euromilk.org">AANTON@euromilk.org</a>
European Association of Dairy Trade (Eucolait)	Jukka Likitalo <a href="mailto:jukka.likitalo@eucolait.eu">jukka.likitalo@eucolait.eu</a> +3222374372
International Dairy Foods Association	Marti Hogan <a href="mailto:mhogan@idfa.org">mhogan@idfa.org</a> +1-202-220-3535
National Milk Producers Federation	Alan Bjerga <a href="mailto:abjerga@nmpf.org">abjerga@nmpf.org</a> +1-202-469-2372
US Dairy Export Council	Luke Waring <a href="mailto:lwarig@usdec.org">lwarig@usdec.org</a> +1 703-528-3049