

## 2024 - a pivotal year for Europe and European dairy!



We have set up our EDA agenda 2024 to voice our demands to the European decision makers - with our **Dairy Policy Conference** on 10 April 2024 in Brussels focussing on the EP elections and our **EDA Annual Convention** on 14 to 15 November in Rome to outline our EDA Strategy 2030.

*I am looking forward to driving our dairy agenda in Brussels!*



**Giuseppe Ambrosi**  
EDA President

We will see a complete reshuffle of the European institutions in 2024 – next to national and important regional elections in some member states the people of Europe are called to vote for the **European Parliament elections in June 2024**.

The executive arm of our Union, the European Commission, will start on a new basis in autumn 2024.

We, the European *lactosphère*, we are prepared for the discussions on 'EU – Next Generation' with the renewed institutions : on the **CAP27**, on the future **EU Trade Strategy**, on the functioning of our **Single Market**; on the sustainability transition, on the integration of the Ukraine dairy sector and on a **competitive strategic autonomy approach** for the European agri-food policies.

*EDA welcomes the Belgian EU Presidency!  
Read the EDA Dairy Focus on the Presidency [here](#)*



## India: extension new health certificate step in the right direction

EDA welcomes the Indian extension of the entering into force of the Indian Integrated Veterinary Health Certificate for the import of Milk and Milk Products. The new date, 30 June 2024, offers us the chance to continue our dialogue with all relevant stakeholders.

Our main focus at EDA is to prevent also an uneven interpretation and implementation in EU member states, with the risk of some countries not being able to sign the veterinary certificate. Full recognition from

India of EU legislation for microbiological hygiene, veterinary drugs to ensure animal health, chemical contaminants, and mycotoxins would solve most of our problems.

*Alexander Anton, secretary general of EDA, speaking at the SIAL in India*

## EU- UK: New customs and SPS requirements

The UK government has provided businesses with an extensive package to prepare them for a new approach to importing goods to Great Britain under the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM). The introduction of health certification on imports from the EU of medium risk is one of the first relevant changes, and it enters into force on 31 January 2024. The UK's communication assets include, among others, a composite products decision tree, a health certificates guide, and an import notifications guide. Additionally, Defra keeps running sector-specific monthly online training sessions to prepare traders for the new Sanitary and Phytosanitary import controls within the new BTOM. We, as EDA, will keep members updated on progress throughout the implementation period.

## EDA participates in the workshop with DG AGRI/REA on the annual working programme for 2024

In November 2024, the EU Commission published implementing decision on the adoption of the work programme for 2024. The main objective being to support the competitiveness of the agricultural sector in the EU by financing information provision and promotion measures concerning agricultural products implemented in the internal market and in third countries.

The calls for proposals for the upcoming 2024 campaigns will open from 18 January to 14 May 2024 and will be run by the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Copa-Cogeca organised on 10 January a workshop with **DG AGRI** and **REA** aimed at providing an in-depth overview of the programs outlined in the work programme, shedding light on the application process and eligibility criteria.

The EU Commission took the opportunity to invite all interested parties to apply to the upcoming call for proposals considering that recent years have witnessed a certain decline in the number of participants. As a result, a number of allocated monetary resources have remained unused. It presented a good occasion to engage in conversation with the Commission and fellow agricultural stakeholders and to explore the requisites of promotion programs and their forthcoming developments. Decreasing bureaucratic procedures and allowing operation with a record of high successful campaigns to continue to run were points raised by the stakeholders.

## be EDA Dairy Focus on EU Belgium

belgium24.eu

To mark the occasion of Belgium taking over the rotating Presidency of the EU Council on 1 January, we are happy to present the EDA Dairy Focus on Belgium, where we will have a full look at what the presidency means for the EU dairy sector. EDA extends a warm welcome to Belgium for assuming the Presidency.

As a founding member of the European Economic Community in 1958, Belgium is set to lead the EU Presidency for the thirteenth time this year. Belgium's history demonstrates an unparalleled ability, drawn from its national experience, to broker constructive and forward-looking compromises at the EU level. Included in this feature are insights from **Lien Calleweart**, Director of **BCZ-CBL**, providing an overview of the expectations from the Belgian Dairy Association of the Presidency, along with essential facts and figures about the Belgian dairy sector.

We also have the honor to have Belgian Deputy Prime Minister **David Clarinval** outline his priorities for the EU Agriculture Council. The future of the **Common Agricultural Policy** post-2027

- **Strategic autonomy**, Belgium is keen to work on strategic autonomy in the field of agriculture and food sovereignty and to analyse solutions to growing global food insecurity caused by economic crises, conflicts and climate change. The informal meeting of ministers on the theme of strategic food autonomy will be held from **7 to 9 April** in Limburg.
- **Encouraging innovation**, in particular with the introduction of new genomic techniques or digital technologies:
- **Animal health**. The Belgian Presidency will continue to work on the introduction of preventive measures such as biosecurity and vaccination in animal production. Antimicrobial resistance will also be a priority.

- Finally, Belgium wants to put on the table the transition of our **food production system towards greater sustainability**. The costs associated with this transition must be spread across the entire value chain, not just the farmers and the Presidency will therefore seek to strengthen the position of farmers in the value chain.

These priorities will be discussed during the Agriculture Council meetings taking place on: **23 January, 26 February, 26 March, 29 to 30 April, 27 May, 24 to 25 June.**

*The dairy industry is linked to innovation. The sector is constantly evolving and many innovations have been introduced in recent years, such as the considerable reduction in the added sugar content in its products.*



**David Clarinval**  
Belgian Deputy Prime Minister



*BCZ-CBL looks forward to further strengthen – together with EDA- the dialogues with both Belgian and European institutions in the upcoming months!*

**Lien Calleweart**  
Director, CBZ-CBL

## What's your preferred dairy

*For the special occasions I would go for a slice of **Majore-ro**, a goatmilk cheese from Fuerteventura in the Canary Islands for its delicate yet intense flavour. In everyday life, I cannot go to bed until I have a nice portion of yoghurt (ideally flavoured with natural vanilla).*

**Carazo Jimenez**  
Acting Director  
"International". Head of  
Unit "The Americas" Euro-  
pean Commission





Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Brussels

## EDA Dairy Policy Conference

Focus on the European Elections 2024

Confirmed Speakers: Wolfgang Bartscher, Director-General, DG AGRI, Albert De Groot, CEO, Vreugdenhil Dairy Foods

 [www.euromilk.org/eda](http://www.euromilk.org/eda)

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## EDA Annual Convention 2024



Rome, Italy

13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> November  
2024

Hosted by

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