

Korea to host IDF 2018 World Dairy Summit

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The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) announced that Korea would host the International Dairy Federation (IDF) 2018 World Dairy Summit, which is called the Dairy Olympics in the global dairy industry. The IDF board named Korea as the host of IDF 2018 summit at the 101st IDF summit 2013 held in Yokohama, Japan, on October 28. Korea has made an achievement in being selected host of a world-renowned dairy event, only seven years after joining the organization in 2006.

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) which was established in 1903, is the only international organization in the field of dairy and milk processing with over 1,200 members from 54 countries around the world. The annual IDF World Dairy Summit consists of the general assembly and other events such as a conference. It is the world's largest dairy event, where research papers on milk processing are presented and discussed, discussions on international regulations and standardization take place, and the development direction and policies of the global dairy and milk processing industry is made.

The Korean government has been carrying out promotional activities to host the summit since 2012, and this year's general assembly made a unanimous decision in selecting South Korea as the host of IDF 2018. Korea has strived to host the summit; as part of such efforts, in May 2013, Lee Dong-phil, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, sent a letter to the IDF in support of South Korea's hosting the event.

The IDF 2018 will be held at Daejeon in Korea on October 2018 for a week and over 2,000 dairy experts from over 50 countries around the world will attend the event, which will make a huge contribution to stimulating the local economy in various fields, including accommodation, restaurant and tourism. The Korean government expects that hosting the IDF summit will become an opportunity to solidify the position of the Korean dairy industry in the world by presenting its value, and to take a leading role in the global dairy market. It is also expect this will even provide an opportunity for Korean dairy industry to make a leap forward by intensively promoting the superiority of our milk processing capabilities.

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