



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

GLOBAL
FORUM OF FOOD
AND
AGRICULTURE

Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2018

Shaping the future of livestock –
sustainably, responsibly, efficiently

Summary of Results



bmel.de



Contents

03	<i>On the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA)</i>
04	<i>Facts and figures about the GFFA</i>
05	<i>GFFA kick-off event</i>
08	<i>High Level Panel of the European Commission</i>
11	<i>High Level Panel of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)</i>
14	<i>Expert panels</i>
22	<i>Cooperation Market and Business Lounge</i>
26	<i>Young Farmers' Forum</i>
28	<i>Declaration of the young farmers at GFFA 2018</i>
30	<i>Senior Officials' Meeting</i>
32	<i>10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018</i>
37	<i>International Business Panel Discussion organised by GFFA Berlin e.V.</i>
40	<i>Final communiqué of the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018</i>
46	<i>Participant countries at the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018</i>

On the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA)



The GFFA is an international conference that focuses on crucial questions concerning the future of the global agri-food industry. This year, the GFFA was held during the International Green Week in Berlin for the 10th time. It gives representatives from the worlds of politics, business, science and civil society an opportunity to share ideas on topics of current agricultural policy within the context of food security. The Forum is organised and hosted by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in cooperation with the Berlin Senate, Messe Berlin GmbH and GFFA Berlin e.V.

Under the title “Shaping the future of livestock – sustainably, responsibly, efficiently”, approximately 2,300 visitors gathered at the GFFA in Berlin this year, including 69 agriculture ministers. Furthermore, representatives of young farmers from around the globe, six international organisations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the European Commission attended the Berlin Agriculture Ministers’ Conference to actively engage in the debate.

The various events discussed, among other things, the question of the importance of animal husbandry for food security and as an economic factor in rural areas and how such sustainable production should be struc-

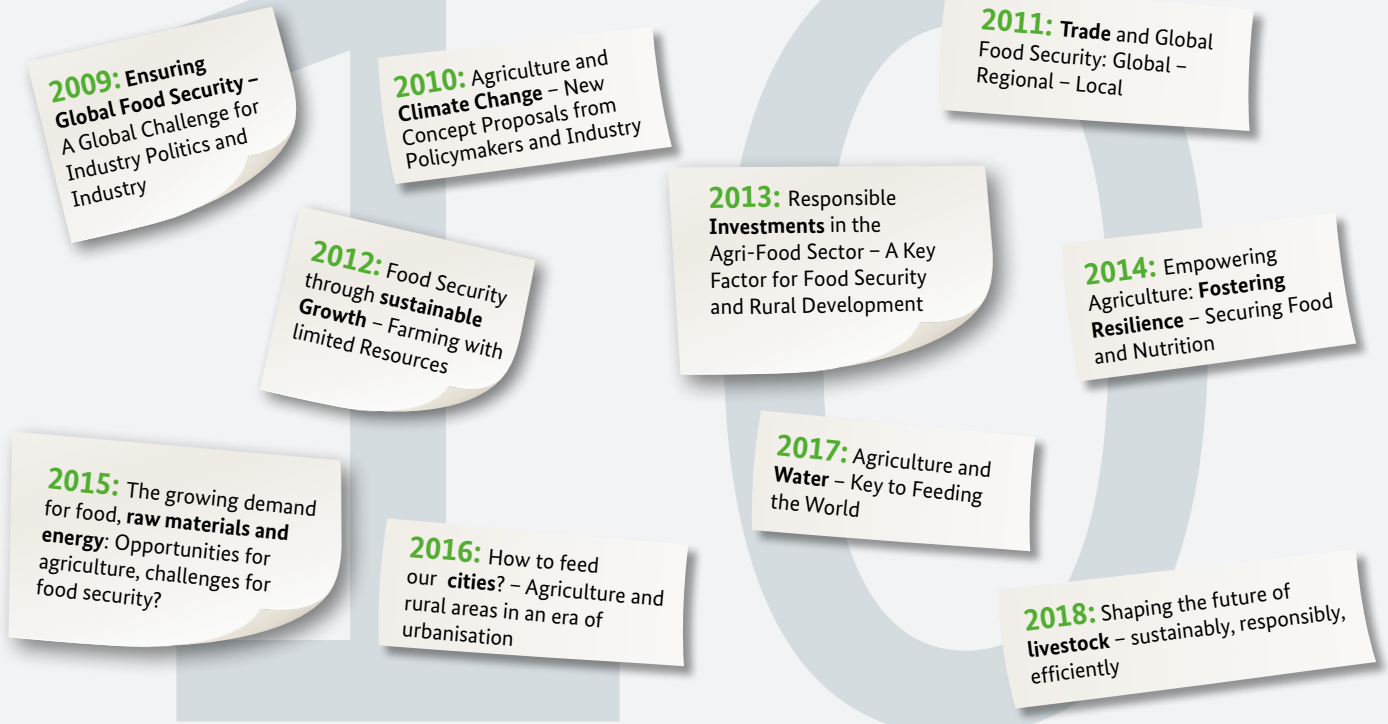
tured. The global market development, including dietary and consumer trends, plays an important role in this context. The multifaceted events organised under the umbrella of the GFFA 2018 provided fresh impetus for the future shaping and development of the subject area “agriculture and animal production” at international level.

This year’s GFFA thus once again offered one of the most important international platforms for dialogue on the topics of agriculture, food security and nutrition and, being the biggest agriculture ministers’ meeting in the world, it also remains the most significant driver of the international agricultural agenda.



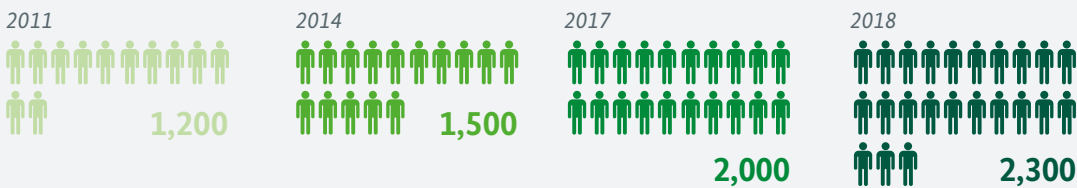
Facts and figures about the GFFA

Ten years, ten topics



Facts and figures on 10 years of GFFA

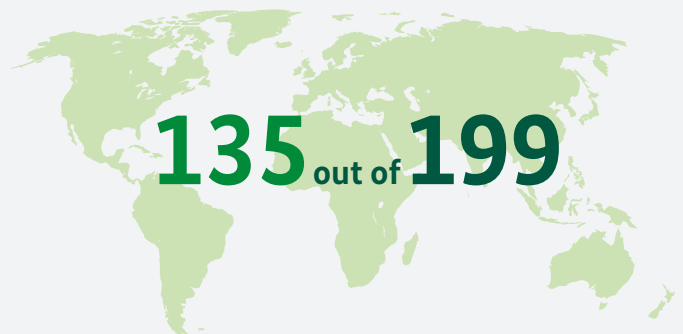
Number of participants



Number of Ministers and their deputies



Countries that have already participated in GFFA



Kick-off event

Around 2,000 participants from politics, business, academia and civil society discussed the subject of “Shaping the future of livestock – sustainably, responsibly, efficiently” at the 10th Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) held in Berlin from 18 to 20 January 2018.

The kick-off event, with around twenty items on the agenda, marked the beginning of the three-day conference on world food affairs. It outlined the manifold facets of this subject and gave an introduction to the issues that were discussed at the conference: the global food situation, livelihood security, environment, climate, animal health and animal welfare. The discussion of these subjects focused mainly on how to secure global food supplies given that the global population is due to rise to ten billion by 2050. The panel members from industry, academia, politics and civil society highlighted the fact that there could not be a universal solution, but that regional and cultural circumstances of individual countries and regions had to be factored in. They said the solutions should be as diverse as our world.

The Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Peter Bleser, opened the GFFA kick-off event. He pointed out that animal production involved many different stakeholders with many different expectations, but that there was practically no dialogue between them. He said the GFFA, as a platform for exchange, was therefore important in order to facilitate more communication and jointly discuss and deal



Opened the GFFA: Peter Bleser, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture

with the upcoming challenges. The opening address was followed by a welcome address given by Martina Gerlach, State Secretary of the Berlin Senate Department for Justice, Consumer Protection and Anti-discrimination. As a representative of the Senate of Berlin, a partner of the GFFA, she not only referred to the outstanding importance of animal production for people, but also to the responsibilities borne by the political sector to create the necessary framework and to support farmers.

Before the following panel discussion started, the Brazilian Agricultural Minister Blairo Maggi mentioned in his keynote address that only just over eight percent of the Brazilian land was used for agricultural purposes and that two thirds of the country was still covered in natural vegetation. Mr Maggi pointed out that Brazil was going to further adjust its agricultural sector to reduce CO₂ emissions and to thus meet its national commitments under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. In this context, Peter Bleser underlined that animal production secured the economic livelihood of approximately 1.3 billion people and that it needed to be harmonised both with the demands placed on environmental conservation, climate change mitigation and resource protection and with welfare-oriented husbandry, animal welfare and animal health. Jimmy Smith, Director-



Represented the Senate of Berlin as a partner of GFFA: Martina Gerlach, State Secretary of the Berlin Senate Department for Justice, Consumer Protection and Anti-discrimination



A specifically produced video clip introduced into the topic of the GFFA 2018



Gave an insight into the situation in Brazil: Blairo Maggi, Brazilian Agriculture Minister

General of ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute) explained that each region and each husbandry system required its own tailor-made approach in order to run the most efficient livestock system. He reiterated Mr Bleser's point by highlighting the outstanding significance of animal production as a basis of livelihood and its direct contribution to the eight Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Mr Smith pointed out that insurances covering the loss of animals could sustainably improve the livelihoods of livestock owners. Julius Lwegaba, who has been working for years as project leader in various projects and countries for Welthungerhilfe, said that politics could strongly influence the economic livelihood of pastoralists in times of climate change and natural disasters. He argued that governments that respected the lifestyle of pastoralists and supported an integrative approach could help improve

the livelihood of these pastoralists. Peter Giørtz-Carlsen, Executive Vice-President Europe of Arla Foods, a dairy cooperative, named three priority areas with regard to the future development of animal production, namely new technologies and innovations, knowledge transfer and global cooperation. He said that sustainability and efficiency in animal production had to be enhanced. In his view, sustainability was fundamental since it would determine future demand. Mr Giørtz-Carlsen was convinced that the cooperative model could be a key to success worldwide.

All panellists underlined the role of the political sector, which needed to get actively involved in order to support and to protect the farmers. They also said, however, that the differing conditions that prevailed in the different countries needed to be taken into account.



The conference room was fully packed with more than 500 interested guests



Conny Czymoch facilitated the panel discussion

The panellists pointed out that individual solutions were required because the future of animal production had to be tackled by taking individual measures. In their view, the necessary improvement in the efficiency of production and the necessary level of sustainability required, among other parties, from the consumers themselves were only possible if there was a global network of action.

They claimed that objectives and solutions could only be identified as part of an ongoing process and dialogue that gave due regard to individual circumstances. They said that the huge challenge facing the international community was the necessity to increase production in order to secure global food security for a rapidly growing population.



Anne Lehmann, an illustrator, created a visual representation of the whole kick-off event using a graphic recording



The panel members together with Anne Körkel, a farmer from Germany (third from right), Anne Schwagerl, a young farmer from the USA (fourth from left) and Dr. Till Wahnbaeck (third from left), Chairman of the Board of Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, whom the facilitator involved in the debate on various occasions.

High Level Panel of the European Commission



The Future of Livestock production

In times of climate change, a constantly growing world population and changing nutritional habits, livestock production faces huge challenges. It is imperative to manage the balancing act between the growing demand and the responsible stewardship of natural resources.

At the High Level Panel of the European Commission, high-ranking representatives of the EU and third countries discussed with international organisations and practitioners from around the globe the demands placed on sustainable livestock production and strategies for action to meet them. The debate was of particular importance against the backdrop of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – such as the fight against hunger and poverty and climate stewardship – since livestock production can directly help achieve the goals.

The panel members unanimously stated that big market potentials were emerging for the livestock sector. With

globally rising income, demand is expected to rise by 70 percent by 2050. Livestock husbandry guarantees high quality nutrients from animal proteins, which are indispensable for a balanced diet. Investment in research, innovation and resource-efficient technologies is needed to make food production more efficient and more sustainable. Modern husbandry systems must also meet the requirements of animal welfare and environmental protection. The EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, Phil Hogan, emphasised that animal husbandry had a major strategic importance for the development of rural areas.

He claimed that the livestock sector could be an important instrument in the fight against poverty, in particular in developing countries.

According to Dora Siliya, Agriculture Minister of Zambia, a rethinking in these regions was urgently required in order to fully benefit from the opportunities involved. It



Peter Baader (third from right) of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the EU Commission led the panel discussion



Phil Hogan, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development

was true, she said, that the sector already accounted for 40 percent of the gross domestic product in developing countries. She went on to say that in Zambia, however, commercial farming was non-existent. Ms Siliya further pointed out that, traditionally, livestock husbandry was a way of life rather than a business activity. She continued by saying that it would therefore be necessary to raise awareness for entrepreneurial opportunities offered by the sector among the population.

She argued that the dynamism of the sector was apparent especially when looking at New Zealand where there were about ten sheep per inhabitant. The Minister claimed that the market approach pursued by New Zealand to do without state aids increased the pressure on the enterprises to ensure a viable production. Whereas, in other places, 85 percent of animal products are consumed domestically, New Zealand exports 85 percent of its products abroad. The Agriculture Minister of New Zealand, Damien O'Connor, emphasised that this made an important contribution to global nutrition security while upholding trade-policy responsibilities.

Concerning the issue of how the requirements were to be best met by modern animal husbandry and how hunger in the poorest regions could be eradicated, the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Prof. Dr. José Graziano da Silva, presented a brochure entitled "Shaping the future of livestock". This brochure addresses in depth the question of how the livestock sector can be a mainstay for the livelihood of the poorest, how it can ensure nutrient availability and how it can reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions at the same time.



Jimmy Smith, Director General of ILRI

The panellists made it clear that the livestock sector contributed considerably to the greenhouse effect, since 14 to 15 percent of overall emissions were attributable to this sector. They claimed that there was a desperate need to increase productivity in order to reduce overall emissions. In their view, it was a major challenge to meet increasing global demand with fewer animals. Jimmy Smith, Director General of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), referred to the opportunities that this challenge entailed for the sector. He pointed out that livestock husbandry did have to only have a negative impact on the environment, but that the sector could also help improve the climate. Dora Siliya, who rejected the responsibility of developing countries for the greenhouse effect, asked for support by means of relevant best practice examples.



Dora Siliya, Minister of Agriculture of Zambia



Damien O'Connor, Agriculture Minister of New Zealand



Many questions from the audience enriched the debate

The panellists addressed several approaches: It was stressed by many that it was important to involve the farmers in the process to achieve the climate goals. According to Commissioner Hogan, support payments should be made conditional upon compliance with environmental objectives. He said available research findings suggested that a key component to combating climate change was the development of integrated systems. He further stated that a considerable percentage of food continued to be wasted. If less waste were produced, he said, this would help reduce emissions. He also stated that food edible for humans should not be used as animal feed. The idea of making use of opportunities for the sector to provide environmental services by using targeted breeding and nutrition to create “low carbon cattle” attracted special attention. The Commissioner said that better soil management could also contribute to CO₂-neutral agriculture.

He mentioned that a Research Alliance had been founded involving forty countries in order to achieve the climate goals. In his opinion, a multi-faceted and holistic approach needed to be pursued to solve the upcoming challenges. In this context, the panel members explicitly emphasised their resolve to cooperate with each other.

International cooperation also plays an important role in the control of health risks arising from animal diseases. As Federal Minister Schmidt said in his opening address, there was currently the danger of serious economic impacts due to a spread of African swine fever.

He argued that international cooperation played a major role in helping to prevent the spread of the disease, since there was a bigger risk of the spread of pathogens in a networked world. He said that Avian influenza and Ebola could be cited as examples in this context. He pointed out that, in addition, the rise in temperatures and rain-falls due to climate change encouraged the occurrence of diseases and the risk of disease transmission.

In the view of Jimmy Smith (ILRI), strategies to fight the spread of animal diseases needed to provide for detection and surveillance on the basis of better diagnostic options and include both vaccines and quick results from reference laboratories. He said that control measures often entailed high costs that could be avoided by making preventive investments. He went on to state that only through coordinated efforts could a system for the early detection of diseases be established efficiently.

The panel members said that the increased incidence of antimicrobial resistances caused by an excessive use of antibiotics was currently the biggest challenge in the field of animal health. Prof. Dr. Graziano da Silva urged that antibiotics should be used only as an ultima ratio and that access to antibiotics should be limited. Commissioner Hogan explained that European policymakers continued to devote great attention to this issue. He said the European Commission had in 2017 already started implementing an EU wide action plan to control antimicrobial resistances.

High Level Panel of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)



Animal Health and Animal Welfare: two cornerstones for the future of globally diversified livestock production

The High Level Panel of the OIE focused on the extent to which animal health and animal welfare can be keys to achieving a fair balance between efficiency gains and sustainability in livestock production. The farming sector has a responsibility to reconcile the multiple challenges of livestock production, in particular with animal health and animal welfare.

The panel was composed of distinguished international and national policymakers and government representatives. The panellists stated that, to improve animal health and animal welfare, it was necessary, in addition to having enhanced prevention and control of animal diseases and antimicrobial resistances, to establish and expand

corresponding capacities. They acknowledged animal health and animal welfare as two crucial centrepieces to pave the way for a worldwide change towards more sustainable, more responsible and more efficient models of livestock production. They claimed that international OIE standards should serve as key components for stronger and more resilient livestock production.

The head of the Panel and the Director General of the OIE, Dr. Monique Eloit, outlined in her keynote address that it was not possible to discuss agricultural economics, nutrition and food security without taking into account the livestock sector and especially the significance of animal health and animal protection – not only



The panel discussion was led by OIE Director General Monique Eloit (second from left)



OIE Director General Dr. Monique Eloit first discussed with Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety



because this could contain diseases, but also because this could help strengthen some of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She said that only if concerns of animal health and animal welfare were observed could these SDGs be achieved. She stated that, consequently, a holistic approach needed to be found.

Dr Eloit underlined that approximately one billion people in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia currently depended on livestock production to make a living and to protect themselves from the financial impact of disasters and crop failures.

She claimed that productivity was very low in some countries due to chronic or infectious diseases. She continued by saying that scientific publications had shown in this context that animal diseases destroyed an average of 20 percent of animal stocks in countries with low incomes. About 750 million livestock farmers are living on less than 2 US dollars a day. In her view, livestock production was a chance to lift the people out of poverty by increasing productivity in the livestock sector. In order to improve animal health and welfare, she claimed that, apart from strengthening prevention and control of animal diseases and antimicrobial resistance, the veterinary authorities also needed to establish the relevant capacities.



View of the audience at the OIE's High Level Panel

EU Health Commissioner Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis drew attention to the challenges that generally existed when it came to considering animal health and animal protection. In his view, this included in particular the development of international standards and their proper implementation. He stated that sustainability and efficiency goals could only be achieved in interaction with animal health and animal protection since otherwise the resources would be depleted in the near future. He went on to say that livestock products were needed to feed the world population in the period up until 2050, and that there must be a focus on producing these products sustainably. He further outlined that the consequences of food waste also needed to be taken into account.

The following debate was attended by: Dr. Javier Ernesto Suárez Hurtado, Executive Director General of the National Service for Agricultural Health and Food Safety in Bolivia; Dr. Christianne Brusckhe, Chief Veterinary Officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands; Dr. Christiane Wolff, consultant in the Agriculture and Commodities Division at the World Trade Organization (WTO); Maty Ba Diao, Regional PRAPS Coordinator (Regional project to support pastoralism in the Sahel Zone) from Burkina Faso; Dr. Martin Cooke, International Head of Corporate Engagement at the World Animal Protection Organization, and Ben Dellaert, Chairman of the International Egg Commission. During the debate the following four essential elements for animal health and animal welfare were identified as the worldwide basis for the management of livestock production:

1. It was stated that it was crucial for public decision-makers to commit to encouraging donors and financial institutions to support programmes aimed at improving animal health and welfare.
2. The panellists urged that every effort should be made to promote compliance with international standards relating to animal health and welfare, for trade purposes as well as for designing national strategies. They said that in order to ensure the best possible transparency of epidemiological information on the emergence of animal diseases, this information

needed to be immediately notified via the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). They further pointed out that to contribute to the proper implementation of global strategies for the control of animal diseases, a prudent use of veterinary medicinal products was essential. In addition, they felt that the respect for animals should be encouraged, as it was a positive component of sustainable production systems.

3. The panellists noted that the fulfilment of these commitments in practice required a coordinated approach between the respective international organisations – such as the Tripartite collaboration established between WHO, FAO and the OIE.
4. Lastly, the panellists strongly emphasised that the success of any action to assist the livestock sector could only be assured if the national veterinary authorities were supported in developing strategies to implement effective and efficient measure aimed at preventing, controlling and eradicating diseases. In their opinion, sufficient access to veterinary medical services and an improved management with respect to animal health and animal protection could lead to a worldwide increase in livestock production and productivity – in particular when considering the forecast of a global increase in demand for foodstuffs of animal origin.



Dr. Christiane Wolff,
World Trade Organization (WTO)



Gabriele Schlipf used a graphic recording to create a visual representation of the statements made at the High Level Panel

Expert Panels

Expert panel 1

SDGs and the future of livestock: What are the expectations of international and national civil society?

Organiser

- German Forum on Environment and Development
- Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service
- Heinrich Böll Foundation
- Misereor

Summary

The expert panel focused on the question of how the human Right to Food is linked with livestock farming. This issue was discussed on the basis of the livestock

report published by the FAO's Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the policy recommendations drawn up by the CFS. It was stated that the recognition and also the regulation by the CFS was essential for pastoral animal husbandry systems. Further items of the debate were, on the one hand, greenhouse gas emissions mainly caused by industrial livestock production and, on the other, the advantages of small-scale and nomadic livestock farming. The ecological implications of large-scale soy production on industrial livestock production were also discussed.

Expert panel 2

Forward-looking implementation of animal welfare laws

Organiser

- Thünen Institute of Farm Economics

Summary

During the expert panel discussion, the panel members reported on their experiences of implementing animal welfare laws. The debate addressed the keeping of laying hens in Switzerland, the effects of the abolition of crate

stalls for keeping pregnant sows in Great Britain and mandatory grazing of dairy cows in Sweden. It was concluded from the experience gained in these countries that a tightening of animal welfare legislation could be expected to lead to a drop in production if no support was given in respect of the higher costs involved for animal-friendly husbandry methods. It was claimed that measures to encourage investment could be used to achieve desired improvements regarding animal welfare.

Expert panel 3

Africa's livestock potential – traditional solutions for the future?

Organiser

- **The German-African Business Association**
- **German Agribusiness Alliance**
- **EZ Scouts**

Summary

The participants in the expert panel agreed that the largest challenges facing Africa were to meet the growing demand for animal products and to adapt to climate

change. They claimed that these challenges could be met by intensifying mechanisation, applying new site-adapted technologies and expanding infrastructure. In addition, they raised the idea of setting up government-owned farms as multipliers for imparting knowledge to the farmers. They also mentioned that livestock farming was a cultural rather than a professional issue in many African countries since there were no functioning markets. In their opinion it was therefore necessary to improve trade within Africa.

Expert panel 4

Food of Animal Origin 2030: Solutions to consumption-driven challenges

Organiser

- **Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland**
- **Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock**

Summary

During the expert panel discussion, various consumption-driven challenges were identified with regard to the globally growing demand for food of animal origin. It was

found that it was necessary to moderate demand and to enhance production and efficiency; it was also stated that both losses in production and excessive wastage on the part of the consumers had to be avoided. The panel identified some of the instruments needed to deal with these challenges, namely appropriate policies and standards to support sustainable livestock management that gave due consideration to the diversity of livestock production systems.

Expert panel 5

Feed for Life! Alternatives in the Feeding Sector

Organiser

→ **Leibniz Research Alliance “Sustainable Food Production and Healthy Nutrition”**

Summary

The participants in this expert panel explored what feasible solutions already existed as alternatives for the feed sector and what would be required in addition to that to reduce the use of resources in the production of animal protein. The discussion examined ethical, ecological, economic, organisational, political and legislative aspects

involved in feed production. Important issues included: How can nutrient flows be structured more efficiently? How can dietary patterns be changed? What kind of organisational and regulatory conditions are necessary?

One factor identified as being vital included the need for, political efficiency and dynamism, since many sustainable solutions, e.g. in aquaponics, required more support; another was the need for up-to-date business models to generate ecological and economic win-win-situations.

Impressions



Fully packed conference room during expert panel discussion 1 on SDGs and the Future of Livestock

Impressions



Maria Teresa Alvarez (right) of the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous People at expert panel 1 on SDGs and the Future of Livestock



View of the audience of expert panel 5 on Alternatives in the Feeding Sector



The panel members of expert panel 3 on Africa's Livestock Potential



Dr. Heinrich Binder (left) of the Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office at expert panel 2 on Animal Welfare Laws



Graphic Recording of expert panel 4 on Food of Animal Origin and Consumers' Wishes in 2030



The experts of expert panel 5 on Alternatives in the Feeding Sector

Expert panel 6

Sustainable Solutions for the Livestock Sector. The time is ripe!

Organiser

- **International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in partnership with: Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock and Livestock Global Alliance (GASL)**
- **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**
- **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) German Agency for International Cooperation**

Summary

The expert panel highlighted opportunities for the livestock sector to contribute to Agenda 2030. The focus of the debate was on the continued sharp rise in global demand for products of animal origin. It was claimed that small-scale farming had huge potential to increase production and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, the experts agreed that livestock products were an immensely important source of protein. They stated that food of animal origin played a large role in the healthy development of children.

Expert panel 7

Climate Protection – Efficiency – Animal Welfare: Challenges and Conflicting Aims regarding Sustainable Livestock Husbandry in the Context of Global Markets

Organiser

- **Leibniz Institute for Farm Animal Biology**
- **Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank (Agricultural Mortgage Bank)**

Summary

It was stated during the expert panel discussion that livestock husbandry accounted for approximately 50 percent of agricultural production value. It was said that, annually, livestock transformed more than five billion tonnes of primary materials and feed not eaten by humans into

milk, meat and eggs. The experts agreed that livestock husbandry was facing a number of challenges – challenges that related to its contribution to nutrition and food security, animal protection, biodiversity, resource efficiency and climate change. They claimed that, at the same time, there would be new opportunities and possibilities to improve both conventional and organic livestock husbandry. It was highlighted in the debate that consumption of foodstuffs needed to be reduced in certain regions. It was pointed out that the resources available worldwide were limited so that alternative nutrition sources needed to be explored.

Expert panel 8

How can livestock production contribute to global food security? Farms and industries of the future in Asia and Eastern Europe

Organiser

- German Agribusiness Alliance/AG Agrarwirtschaft
- German Livestock Association
- Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations
- German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV)

Summary

With the increase in global population and greater prosperity comes a worldwide rise in the consumption of animal source foods. It was made clear in the expert panel discussion that solutions to these challenges will deter-

mine the future of agricultural animal husbandry as one of the most significant economic factors in many regions of the world. The panellists said that the sustainable intensification of animal husbandry required a further development of regional animal production that was both resource-conserving and in line with the conditions on the ground. It was stated that regionally adapted, modern production technology was a key to success if sufficient resources were available. It was further said that using international agricultural expertise, technology and genetics was the foundation for developing animal husbandry into an efficient and sustainable industry.

Expert panel 9

Antimicrobial resistance in Europe and beyond

Organiser

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service
- German Forum on Environment and Development
- Germanwatch

Summary

People depend on having the option of taking medicines such as antibiotics to cure infections or diseases caused

by microorganisms. But what happens when these germs no longer react to antibiotics because they have become resistant?

This question was discussed by high-ranking international experts at the expert panel. The experts were in agreement that the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry for purposes other than therapeutic ones, e.g. as growth promoters, had to be banned. They maintained that, at the same time, this complex issue, which touches on a wide range of different sectors, called for a collective and practical solution.

Expert panel 10

International perspectives on more sustainable protein feed

Organiser

- Federal Office for Agriculture and Food
- Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture

Summary

The experts agreed that a more sustainable supply of protein feed in Europe was mainly to be achieved by developing various local protein concepts. Therefore,

some EU member states intend to enhance the cultivation and exploitation of indigenous legumes such as lupins, peas and soybeans, to preserve, among other things, soil fertility and agro-biodiversity. The panellists also agreed that further approaches on more sustainable soy production in non-European countries of origin were required. Stakeholders from Asia and Europe are currently working out a unified scheme for responsible soy purchasing from overseas.

Impressions



Dr. Shenggen Fan, Director General of IFPRI, during his keynote address at expert panel 8 on the contribution of livestock production to global food security

Impressions



The panel members of expert panel 9 on antimicrobial resistance in Europe and beyond



Ralf Strassemeyer, Managing Director of Masterrind GmbH, at expert panel 8 on the contribution of livestock production to global food security



View of the audience of expert panel 9 on antimicrobial resistance in Europe and beyond



Expert panel 7 on challenges and goal conflicts of sustainable livestock husbandry in the context of global markets



The panellists of expert panel 6 on sustainable solutions for the livestock sector



Dr. Csaba Gyuricza (left), Director General of the Centre for Agricultural Research and Innovation in Hungary, at expert panel 10 on international prospects for more sustainable protein feed

Cooperation Market and Business Lounge

The Cooperation Market and the Business Lounge offer a unique platform for networking during the GFFA. In 2018, associations, universities and non-governmental organisations once again seized this opportunity and presented their projects at the Cooperation Market.

On the GFFA's tenth anniversary, the Cooperation Market was reorganised so that the diverse mix of national and international exhibitors were present on all levels of the CityCube. This distributed approach received positive feedback from both exhibitors and visitors because it offered even more opportunities to enter into conversation.

The Cooperation Market was officially opened by the Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture, Peter Bleser. He thanked the exhibitors for their active participation and underlined the importance of joint dialogue and cooperation. Bleser urged them to engage in international exchange to design potential solutions for central challenges such as the rising demand for meat, milk and eggs. He said that the cooperation between politics and industry was a basic prerequisite for the further development of the farming sector. He stated that the exhibitors were important partners thanks to their know-how and the technologies they had at hand. He went on to say that the companies had good networks and realistic estimates on development opportunities and obstacles. Bleser also pointed out that the cooperatives and trade bodies were very helpful in generating capacity for the agri-food sector to improve its own organisation and thus in creating necessary institutions and structures.

After his opening address, Bleser went on a tour of the exhibitors and found out about the latest supplies and projects.



The visitors were able to meet and talk at the Business Lounge



Animated discussions on the sidelines of the Cooperation Market



Peter Bleser, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, during a tour of the Cooperation Market



Exchange of views at the Business Lounge



Peter Bleser officially opened the Cooperation Market where 29 exhibitors were represented

Exhibitors at the Cooperation Market of the GFFA 2018

ADT Projekt GmbH

AFC Agriculture and Finance Consultants GmbH

AgrarKontakte International e. V.

AHT GROUP AG

Arla Foods Amba

Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Bundesverband DEULA

BVVG Bodenverwertungs- und -verwaltungs GmbH

DEULA-Nienburg

German-Russian Agricultural Policy Dialogue/ Ekosem-Agrarprojekte GmbH

DLG International GmbH

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



View of the Business Lounge and part of the Cooperation Market

GFA Consulting Group GmbH

GRIMME Landmaschinenfabrik GmbH & Co. KG

HiProAqua Vertriebsgesellschaft UG (hb)

Nürtingen-Geislingen University (NGU)

IAK Agrar Consulting GmbH

ICON-INSTITUTE GmbH & Co. KG

IFCN Dairy Research Center

IFWexpo Heidelberg GmbH

LEMKEN GmbH & Co. KG

NETZ Ingenieurbüro GmbH und Versorgungstechnik GmbH

Rauch Landmaschinenfabrik GmbH

The Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South East Europe

RIELA Karl-Heinz Knoop e. K.

Federal Statistical Office

University of Hohenheim, Food Security Center

Young Farmers' Forum

For the second time, Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture, Christian Schmidt, invited young farmers from throughout the world to Berlin for a young farmers' forum at the GFFA. The young farmers used the forum for a constructive and intensive exchange of experience on this year's GFFA topic.

The focus of the meeting was to draw up a joint declaration by the young farmers that covered their positions and summarised their demands of policymakers. At the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference,

Sarah Crofoot from New Zealand and Denis Kabiito from Uganda gave an overview of the declaration and presented it to the attending ministers.

The 21 young farmers had been jointly selected by the German Farmers' Association and the World Farmers' Organisation. They gave the high-ranking policymakers food for thought and provided impetus regarding the issues that are of particular concern to the young generation of farmers. They thus seized the opportunity to feed their ideas into the political process.



Peter Bleser, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, went to talk to the young farmers and solicited their continued active involvement in the farming sector

In their declaration, the young farmers confirm the significance of livestock production for the farming sector and rural regions and claim that its cultural, economic and ecological value for the community as a whole is not to be underestimated. They call for a regulatory environment that does not restrict innovation but instead reinforces it. The young farmers furthermore emphasise in their declaration that intensified international co-operation is required to contain diseases and to ensure food safety and access to food. They also state that measures need to be taken to facilitate young farmers'

access to land, capital and work. In addition, the young farmers stress that they should be more closely involved in decision-making procedures in order to feed in their fresh ideas to help solve challenges.



The young farmers held two meetings, discussing in detail the future of livestock production

Declaration by the young farmers at GFFA 2018

We, the young farmers of the world, gathered in Berlin this week to discuss the subject of shaping the future of livestock: sustainably, responsibly, and efficiently.

A positive and constructive discussion on global challenges and opportunities, fuelled by the enormous diversity in our backgrounds and expertise, informed this statement.

Young farmers want to underline the importance of livestock production for agriculture and rural communities. The cultural, economic and environmental value

of livestock for global society cannot be underestimated. Livestock production provides high quality products, including safe, nutritious food. These can be produced from inputs that are not fit for direct human consumption.

The key challenges we are facing as young farmers are: to achieve economic stability, to reconnect citizens to our agricultural society, to adapt to and mitigate climate change, to deal with the spreading of untamed diseases and to further improve the management of our farms, in order to be able to produce livestock in a sustainable, responsible and efficient way, and feed a hungry planet.



Denis Kabiito from Uganda and Sarah Crofoot from New Zealand read out the Young Farmers' Declaration to 69 ministers at the Agriculture Ministers' Conference

To tackle these challenges we would like your attention, support and implementation in our countries on the following:

1. Invest in integrated research and development to improve the understanding of the present challenges in collaboration with the farming industry. A stronger and implemented collaboration between farmers, industry and researchers can ensure accessible, beneficial and applicable solutions.
2. Global strategies and decisions need to be based on facts and science.
3. Ensure a regulatory environment which is empowering and not restrictive to innovation.
4. Involve young farmers in the decision making process as we are connected, educated and innovative. We are willing to collaborate in order to find new and efficient solutions to the challenges facing us all.
5. Collaborate with us in delivering accurate and transparent information to consumers. By sharing our knowledge, values and role in society we can help consumers make informed decisions.
6. Implement frameworks to facilitate dialogue between farmers. Exchange of knowledge and data around the world can help in finding innovative solutions to our global challenges.
7. Generational renewal is a primary condition for the sustainability of livestock production. Immediate action needs to take place to improve the accessibility to land use, capital and labour for young farmers.
8. International cooperation is needed to address disease and epidemiological risks in livestock production, thereby ensuring food accessibility, safety and security.
9. Support strategies for farmers that ensure the efficient use of limited resources in our desire to produce more with less at a farm level.

We, young farmers of the world, are eager to work in collaboration with the governments, the public, the private industry, researchers and each other. Let's mobilize the talent and dedication of our generation to develop solutions to the challenges we face now and in the future.

We thank the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture for the invitation to take part in this special event. We appreciate the opportunity to engage in the discussion and urge you to keep involving young farmers and their representative organizations in the future.

Senior Officials' Meeting

The Senior Officials' Meeting took place shortly before the official opening of the GFFA. During this meeting, which is not open to the public, the final communiqué is finalised at higher working level in the lead-up to the Agriculture Ministers' Conference.

Impressions



Impressions



10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018

Ministers and their deputies from 69 states, and high-level representatives from the EU Commission and the international organisations FAO, OIE, IFPRI, ILRI and WTO, exchanged their views and agreed measures on how to shape livestock industry sustainably, responsibly and efficiently in the future.

Federal Agriculture Minister Christian Schmidt welcomed the guests from around the globe in the hall of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs. He pointed out that food and the agricultural sector were the key topics for the future in the 21st century. He stated that a global perspective needed to be developed, especially in order to achieve sustainable development goal 2 (“SDG2: End Hunger”) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. In his opinion, new approaches were imperative in the face of an almost fourfold increase in global meat production and an expected further rise in demand. The minister welcomed the fact that more and more people could afford dairy products, eggs and meat. However, he said that at the same time care had to be taken that the limits to growth were not exceeded in the production of food

of animal origin. He went on to say that the goal was to ensure that livestock farming was sustainable, that it was accepted by society and that it had good economic prospects.

In his welcome address as host, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Matthias Machnig, emphasised that the farming sector was a key economic factor. He stated that one of the essential tasks for the future was to find a balance between a sustainable and an efficient agricultural sector.

He went on to say that the final communiqué was going to be fed into international processes in collaboration with strong international partners to give impetus to a worldwide dialogue on livestock production.

Reports from the High Level Panels at the GFFA

The Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Dr. Monique Eloit, and the EU Commissioner for Agriculture, Phil Hogan, reported on the



The Agriculture Ministers' Conference took place in the hall of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs while the adjacent “Eichensaal” served as salle d'écoute.



The Board at the Agriculture Ministers' Conference headed by Federal Minister Christian Schmidt (4th from right)

outcomes of the panel discussions within the High Level Panels they had chaired the day before.

According to the Agriculture Commissioner, the EU believed the farming sector needed to become more efficient to be able to meet the growing demand for meat, milk and dairy products. He stated that this was necessary to be able to meet the increase in demand for products of animal origin, which the FAO expected to reach up to 70 percent. He said the farming sector had to shoulder its responsibilities more effectively.

He went on to state that livestock farming ensured work and income for about half a billion people in developing countries. He said that investments in livestock farming in these countries would therefore help create additional jobs and achieve the SDG. The Commissioner made it clear that greater attention and importance should be granted to the farming sector's contribution to global food security than ever before. He said the farming sector also had to work more sustainably because it placed a serious strain on the environment.

Director General Dr. Eloit reported for the OIE that the panellists had agreed to make every effort to promote



Federal Minister Christian Schmidt personally welcomed the young farmers at the Agriculture Ministers' Conference

compliance with international standards of animal health and to thus strengthen animal health and welfare. She further pointed out that, in implementing global strategies, it was essential to use veterinary medicinal products, especially antibiotics, prudently.

The panellists of the OIE High Level Panel emphasised that any measure taken in the livestock sector could only be successful if effectiveness and efficiency of the national veterinary authorities were enhanced. Eloit urged policy makers to encourage investors and financing institutions to support schemes aimed at improving the health and welfare of animals.

Young farmers as guests in Berlin

21 young farmers from throughout the world were invited to the GFFA to present the view of the young generation on the future challenges. Two of these young farmers reported on the inspiring and intensive discussions of the past days. They read out the declaration the young farmers had drawn up and presented it to Federal Minister Schmidt who received it on behalf of all attending ministers.



The Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2018



View of the room where the Breakout Session on the topic of Food Security was held

Results of the four Break-out-Sessions

In the four parallel discussion sessions, the so-called Break-out-Sessions, which are always held under with the Chatham House Rule, the ministers then discussed the practical implementation of the policy recommendations contained in the final communiqué. The following Break-out-Sessions were organised to reflect the thematic blocks of the final communiqué:

- Food security;
- Livelihood;
- Resources, climate and environment and
- Animal health and animal welfare.

Following the end of the Break-out-Sessions, the respective lead ministers reported on the debate to the plenary meeting.

Luis Miguel Etchevehere, Agriculture Minister of Argentina, reported, in respect of the issue of **food security**, that animal production was very important for economic and social development – not only of farmers, but of the population as a whole. It would therefore be necessary, he said, to increase investment, to provide impetus for development and research, to initiate new technologies and to intensify the knowledge transfer. He

went on to say that a key factor in the fight against food insecurity was to reduce food losses along the whole value added chain. He reported that the participants strongly emphasised the need to cooperate at international level in order to enable the transfer of expertise and technology to developing countries. He stated that international and regional organisations had positive experience and successes in this field.

The Breakout Session on the topic of **Livelihood** was led by Kgotla Autlwetse, Assistant Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security of Botswana. Mr Autlwetse reported that the participants agreed that climate change was without doubt the major challenge for the future. He stated that the efficient use of rural resources was a key factor for the development of mankind. He went on to say that the production of food also depended on reliable sources of supply for water. He also said that the position of small-scale farmers, women and minorities needed to be improved and their share of income needed to be increased, otherwise there was a risk that rural migration would intensify. He stated that, due to the risk posed to animal production by antimicrobial resistance, antibiotics should not be used as feed additives.

As head of the Breakout Session on **Resources, climate and environment**, Damien O'Connor, the New Zealand Agriculture Minister, referred to the fact that the general setting for the farming sector differed in the various

countries just as the respective challenges did. He stated that there was therefore no single measure that would be meaningful in all countries. He said that there were, however, measures that all countries could apply and were applying. He went on to say that what was needed were action plans at national level that built on the obligations undertaken under the Paris Agreement on climate change. He added that new technologies increased productivity and thus led to a win-win-situation for sustainability and development. He further stated that knowledge transfer was of major importance both for industrialised countries and developing countries. He said that scientific knowledge must not remain within scientific communities, but be made available to the farmers.

Agriculture State Secretary Bernard Lehmann from Switzerland headed the Breakout Session on the topic of **Animal Health and Animal Welfare**. He reported that, firstly, the expectations and needs of consumers needed to be considered more strongly. He stated that the indicating that measures had been taken for animal welfare had to pay off financially for producers. He said that, secondly, disease control needed to be a focus of attention. He stated that antimicrobial resistance had to be avoided. He went on to say that animal health and human health were interrelated and that it was therefore necessary to continue intensively with the one health approach. He said that it was important to have the rele-

vant data at hand in order to prevent diseases, and that the competences and capacities of veterinarian services and laboratories had to be enhanced. He further stated that research needed to be intensified and innovations to be implemented more swiftly.

Statements by the FAO, EU and WTO

In addition to the ministers who had travelled to Berlin from around the globe, a number of international organisations were also represented at the Agriculture Ministers' Conference; their high-level representatives made statements on the conference subject in the plenary meeting.

Prof. Dr. José Graziano da Silva, the Director General of the FAO, pointed out that livestock farming could make a major contribution to the eradication of hunger and poverty. He stated that half of the population living in the rural regions of developing countries were livestock keepers and pastoralists.

He said that these people needed to be given technical knowledge and they also required technologies. Da Silva went on to say that the impact of livestock farming on climate change and the environment was another important subject. He said that the clearing of woodlands in favour of expanding animal production had to be avoided. Da Silva stated that this could be ensured if



The audience in the salle d'écoute followed the Agriculture Ministers' Conference closely



Applause by the attending ministers after the adoption of the final communiqué



Along with Federal Minister Schmidt (3rd from left), EU Commissioners Andriukaitis (left) and Hogan (second from left), OIE Director General Dr. Eloit and FAO Director General Prof. Dr. da Silva (right) made statements at the press conference following the Agriculture Ministers' Conference

areas already opened up for feed production were used more intensively and the possibilities of better management of husbandry were enhanced.

The EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis, addressed the global challenge of the fight against animal diseases. He explained that the EU was most urgently calling for, among other things, the application of the regionalisation scheme, i.e. the separation of areas that are affected by infections from non-affected areas.

He went on to say that the animal welfare of livestock was of global importance and a key concern of EU citizens. He believed that ensuring high animal welfare standards could be an opportunity both for farmers to raise their income and for animal production to be viewed in a more positive light by society.

Alan Wolff, Deputy Director General of the WTO, explicitly appreciated the open and fair exchange among the ministers at the GFFA which meant that all those involved were able to learn a lot from one another. Wolff explained that some WTO member countries had a great interest in the subject of digital transformation. He stated that this topic was highly relevant for the farming sector, but that it had unfortunately not yet been given the necessary attention.

Subsequently, the attending Ministers of Agriculture adopted the final communiqué unanimously. Federal Minister Christian Schmidt called on all attending ministers to continue debating on the goals elaborated

during the Agriculture Ministers' Conference, and to continue efforts to implement them.

He presented the communiqué to Dr. Monique Eloit, Director General of the OIE, and Prof. Dr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the FAO, with the request to support the implementation of these goals.



Solemn moment: Federal Minister Schmidt hands over the final communiqué to Dr. Monique Eloit, Director General of the OIE, and Prof. Dr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the FAO

International Business Panel Discussion organised by GFFA Berlin e.V.

Benefits and costs of trade in agricultural products and food

The Business Panel is an international platform for debates between representatives from business, politics, civil society and science that address issues of agriculture and food production.

The panel discussion focused on agricultural trade at international, regional and local level, since it plays a central role for food security and food safety in the face of a constantly growing world population and climate change. Trade can help make effective production and distribution of food possible.

Joachim Rukwied, the President of the German Farmers' Association and founding member of GFFA Berlin e.V., officially opened the Business Panel. He referred to the relevance of agricultural trade by mentioning the example of the WTO negotiations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). He said fair and effective trade with a stable regulatory framework could help to

improve the global food situation. His speech was a call for free trade for the benefit of all people and against trade barriers. In this context, he underlined the significance of technological innovations that could contribute to sustained growth.

In his opening address, the German Agriculture Minister Christian Schmidt referred to the outcomes of the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference on the topic of sustainable animal production. The Federal Minister emphasised the importance of sustainable economic activity in livestock husbandry and agricultural trade. He claimed that a responsible use of antibiotics and an exchange with developing countries on fair agricultural trade on an equal footing were required in this context.

Panel discussion I: Food trade – where are we heading?

In his keynote address and his statements, Alan Wolff, Deputy Director General at the WTO, highlighted the advantages of an open world trading system for bet-



Numerous guests gathered in the hall of the Deutsche Telekom Building for the Business Panel



Joachim Rukwied, President of the German Farmers' Association and founding member of GFFA Berlin e. V., officially opened the International Business Panel



In his speech, Federal Agriculture Minister Christian Schmidt reported on the Agriculture Ministers' Conference that had finished shortly before

ter access to food and a higher quality of agricultural products. He said WTO rules and free-trade agreements played a key role on the way towards free global trade, but left room for further improvement especially with regard to agricultural trade. Trade barriers, he stated, were the wrong approach to food security.

The New Zealand Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor spoke in favour of unconditional free trade, since this involved many advantages for all stakeholders. He said trade was not the cause of the poverty of small-scale farmers. He stated that the poorest would also be able to benefit from fair trade if they were provided with some support.

Dr. Till Wahnbaeck, the CEO of Welthungerhilfe, underlined that he supported fair trade as long as it was also fair for developing countries. He mentioned that there were winners and losers in the free-trade system. He had an especially critical view of the production paradigm, which showed that two-thirds of people afflicted by hunger were smallholder farmers. He added that the distribution of foodstuffs was increasingly uneven due to free world trade. He said that a further aspect comprised the patterns of consumption in industrialised countries, which were currently not geared towards sustainability.

Dr. Christoph Beier, the Vice-Chair of the GIZ Management Board, saw room for improvement with respect to international agricultural trade in order to make it fair and just for the developing countries. Using examples, he underlined the big benefit for developing countries.

He stated that protectionism was no solution. He said that the basis for future progress was sustainable trade that reduced poverty while not causing environmental damage.

Bernd Naaf, the Head of Business Affairs and Communications at Bayer, endorsed the path towards free world trade. In his view, the challenges to be met consisted in improving transparency in the production process, improving food quality and food safety and dealing with growing protectionism. He said developing countries had to make a bigger contribution to national self-sufficiency while companies had to meet their responsibility for sustainable economic activity.

Panel discussion II: How can we improve the food supply chain?

In his keynote speech and his panel contributions, Dr. Cees Veerman, Former Minister for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands, emphasised that food supply was the central challenge of the future. He said that global trends, such as the growing world population, climate change, soil losses and social instability, made it more difficult to secure global food supply.

He stated that seasonal risks, unfair trade practices and insufficient access to finance were aggravating the situation for farmers. He went on to say that the rising quality of the products, good educational opportunities, efficient water management and functional farmers' associations could help improve food supply. He explained



The experts of the second panel debating how the food supply chain can be improved

that, in this context, farmers played a decisive role since there would be no food without them (“no farmers, no food”).

The Zambian Agriculture Minister Dora Siliya stated that there was not only no food without farmers, but also no future (“no farmer, no food, no future”). She said functional supply chains in the agricultural sector were the basis for making agriculture a profitable business. She emphasised, in this context, the importance of land tenure for small-scale farmers and investments in the agricultural sector, two issues that the Zambian Government was addressing.

Arancha González, Director General of the International Trade Commission (ITC) in Geneva, pointed out that 70 percent of food worldwide was produced by small-scale farmers. He continued by saying that there was an age problem as the young people no longer wanted to work in this sector because it was considered to be economically unattractive.

Dr. Theo de Jager, President of the World Farmers’ Organisation (WFO), expressed the view that agricultural value-added chains had to be made profitable so that they would become attractive again for the next generation. He said the current production methods applied by small-scale farmers were often not sufficiently profitable.

Francesco Tramontin, Director of Public Affairs at Mondelez International, was convinced that chocolate

production was attractive as a field of work even today. He said profitable cocoa cultivation and fair trade in chocolate were possible. But he claimed that this required a better exchange and dialogue between producers and consumers.

The organisers

GFFA Berlin e.V., an association of the German agri-food industry, organised the International Business Panel Discussion.

The founding members of the organisation are:

- Federation of German Food and Drink Industries (BVE)
- German Farmers’ Association (DBV)
- Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft (DLG) (German Agricultural Society)
- OA, Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations
- German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ)

With the establishment of the association, the sector underpinned its commitment to improve global food security and to protect our natural living environment sustainably.

Final communiqué of the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018

Shaping the future of livestock – sustainably, responsibly, efficiently



The group photo of the attending 69 Agriculture Ministers

Preamble

We, the Agriculture Ministers of 69 nations, have assembled here on 20 January 2018 for the 10th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference, held during the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA), to discuss how we can shape the future of global livestock production. We fully acknowledge our responsibility to enhance food security and nutrition, sustainably improve the efficiency and profitability of the food and agriculture sector, advance the right to adequate food and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular SDG 2, „End hun-

ger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”.

We believe that making livestock production and animal husbandry more sustainable, more responsible and more efficient worldwide will play a crucial role in meeting this responsibility.

We note that the demand for food of animal origin, in particular food derived from meat, milk and eggs, is projected to rise significantly in many regions of the world

due to the growing population, increasing purchasing power and changes in consumer behaviour. At the same time, consumers are increasingly calling for livestock production to be made more sustainable and more respectful of animal welfare.

We recognise that in many parts of our world diverse livestock systems play a major role in combating hunger and malnutrition as well as reducing poverty by securing the livelihoods of many people, in particular in rural areas, and constitute an important national economic factor, for instance through promoting investment and trade and providing jobs in rural areas.

We are aware that livestock production can have environmentally significant impacts on soil, water and air and contribute to climate change. We underline that livestock is also impacted by climate change.

We recognise the differences that exist regarding access to adequate food and nutrition, and the diversity of livestock systems and production methods worldwide. In addition, we are aware of religious and socio-cultural practices as they relate to livestock.

We underscore the importance of the diversity of animal genetic resources and their conservation, sustainable use and development for breeding, livestock husbandry and food security.

We underline the current and potential impact of innovations, especially those derived from digitalisation and bio-economy, on the evolution of livestock production systems worldwide.

We stress that livestock production worldwide will have to meet the growing demand efficiently and sustainably, and will have to improve farmers' profitability, with due attention to the social and environmental dimension of sustainability, thus also ensuring that this production is climate-friendly and respectful of animal welfare. We emphasise that access to land, water, knowledge, technology, innovations, finance and markets is a fundamental prerequisite for efficient and sustainable livestock production for all farmers. Insufficient access is a particular constraint for many smallholders and family farmers.

We are committed, in cooperation with farmers and stakeholders in the private sector, academia and civil society, to enhancing efforts to actively shape the future of livestock production.

With this declaration **we are providing** impetus and highlighting potential areas for political action and encourage the international bodies such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organisation (WHO), both individually and under their agreed tripartite collaboration, the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to integrate these areas into their strategies.

In this regard, we call for the implementation of the:

- 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular those relating to food security and nutrition;
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement (COP21, COP22, COP23), in particular National Determined Contributions (NDCs) related to mitigation actions for sustainable agriculture;
- Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realisation of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security;
- Policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) at its 43rd session on "Sustainable Agriculture Development for Food Security and Nutrition: What Roles for Livestock?";
- Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT);
- Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI principles);
- Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management drawn up by the Global Soil Partnership;

- OIE Global Animal Disease and Global Animal Welfare Strategy and the OIE's work of the OIE on animal health and welfare standards (Terrestrial Code);
- joint OIE and FAO programmes to eradicate the Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and foot-and-mouth disease; and the joint OIE, WHO and FAO programme on eradicating dog-mediated rabies;
- Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance led jointly by the WHO, the OIE and the FAO, the FAO's Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance and the OIE Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials;
- the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources of the FAO and the Interlaken Declaration;
- Codex Alimentarius' international food standards for protecting health and ensuring fair trade practices; and the
- WTO Agreements on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and on Technical Barriers to Trade.

Call for Action

We, the Agriculture Ministers assembled at the GFFA 2018, aim to safeguard the supply of, and access to, sufficient, safe, nutritious and affordable food from livestock production for the growing world population and to meet the economic, environmental and social challenges the livestock sector faces.

Ensuring food security and nutrition

The livestock sector needs to further enhance its contribution to global food security and nutrition in light of the fact that more than 815 million people are suffering from chronic hunger and even more from malnutrition in all its forms.

We aim:

1. **to meet the growing demand by developing policies that make the production of food of animal origin more efficient and sustainable by improved, locally adapted livestock feeding methods and livestock production systems, including integrated crop-livestock-forestry systems, and pasture and rangeland restoration;**
2. **to promote better dissemination and application of technologies and innovations, in particular regarding breeding, feeding and livestock husbandry;**
3. **to improve access to food of animal origin for low-income households, especially women, adolescents and children, given the particular essential contribution of food of animal origin in combating malnutrition in all its forms;**
4. **to give attention to ensuring the safety of food of animal origin in order to minimise the risk of foodborne diseases;**
5. **to expand research and knowledge creation and transfer in order to develop traditional and alternative sources of protein to feed both people and animals sustainably and safely, and thus improve access to protein of high nutritional value;**
6. **to contribute to improved consumer education and information regarding healthy and sustainable diets;**
7. **to reduce food losses and wastage within livestock production systems, in particular by making better use of human-inedible feed resources and by reducing animal losses through improved disease prevention and husbandry practices.**

Improving livelihoods

The livestock sector safeguards the livelihoods of around 1.3 billion people, of whom many are poor and vulnerable, constitutes food value chains, creates income and employment in many regions of the world and helps to develop rural areas.

We aim:

1. **to foster responsible public and private investment in the livestock sector to improve productivity, strengthen value and distribution chains and enhance access to local, regional and global markets;**
2. **to promote the application of VGGT as well as of the RAI;**
3. **to strengthen the position of farmers and workers along the value chains, and ensure that their working and living conditions comply with International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, are protected by domestic laws, and provide an adequate livelihood;**
4. **to reaffirm the importance of rule-based trading systems to support the efficient, sustainable and safe production and supply of food of animal origin and the need to remove discriminatory trade barriers and to continue the WTO reform process on agriculture trade;**
5. **to provide women and men with equal access to education and training in order to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge, technologies, including digitalisation, and practices;**
6. **to expand the legally secure access of all farmers, in particular smallholders, young farmers and women farmers, to land, other natural resources, financing and markets;**

7. **to promote youth initiatives, including education, training, rural advisory services and inclusive finance;**
8. **to ensure that minorities enjoy equal rights and that the rights of indigenous communities are protected.**

Conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and addressing climate change

The livestock sector uses large quantities of natural resources and accounts, according to the FAO, for 14.5% of all anthropogenic greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions globally. Improvements made in this sector could make a major contribution towards addressing climate change and protecting the environment, while also enhancing worldwide food security and ensuring the viability and profitability of the sector. The potential impacts of climate change to animal husbandry need to be addressed as well.

We aim:

1. **to promote sustainable and resource-efficient livestock production, including through innovations, integrated systems, agro-ecological methods and organic farming, inter alia by phasing out unsustainable policies and practices;**
2. **to maximise positive externalities and minimise environmentally harmful impacts caused to soil, water and air by animal production;**
3. **to reduce livestock's greenhouse-gas emissions by making livestock production systems more efficient, while also meeting animal health and animal welfare requirements; to minimise losses and waste of water, energy and nutrients, in particular by improving the integration of livestock into the circular bio-economy;**

4. to promote the adaptation of livestock production to the effects of climate change;
5. to support regionally adapted agricultural value chains, including feed production, with the aim both of ensuring that resources are used efficiently and sustainably and that ecosystems and biodiversity are protected;
6. to foster site-specific and traditional animal husbandry systems such as pastoral farming, insofar as these systems use ecosystems sustainably and secure food supply and livelihoods;
7. to conserve and use sustainably the diversity of breeds and other animal genetic resources;
8. to promote and support international research collaboration on reducing the intensity of GHG emissions from livestock production systems, including by pasture restoration and soil carbon sequestration;
9. to support capacity building and the sharing of best practice in these areas and regarding the accurate measurement of GHG emissions from livestock.

Improving animal health and animal welfare

With sufficient access to veterinary services and with improved management regarding animal health and animal welfare, global animal production could, according to the OIE, be increased by around 20%.

We aim:

1. to improve animal health and animal welfare by promoting good animal husbandry management practices, biosecurity and biosafety, innovations, technologies, practices and knowledge exchange;
2. to enable farmers to have access to veterinary services, veterinary consultation and effective veterinary medicinal products, to protect animals and humans against the outbreak and spread of animal diseases, especially zoonosis;
3. to combat the occurrence and spread of antimicrobial resistance, as laid down in the “One Health” approach, and to strive to restrict the use of antibiotics in veterinary medicine to therapeutic uses alone¹;
4. to strengthen governance of veterinary medicinal products, in particular to improve legislation to enable us to combat the production and distribution of counterfeit and substandard products;
5. to bring livestock breeding and husbandry further in line with consumers’ expectations;
6. to ensure that countries meet their obligation to immediately report outbreaks of animal diseases to the OIE and support the modernisation of the internet-based World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS+);
7. to strengthen international cooperation and especially to make national and cross-border control of animal diseases more effective, in particular on the ground using the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TAD) platform jointly established by FAO and OIE;
8. to support the National Veterinary Authorities in policy and strategy development in order to implement and enhance effective and efficient disease prevention, control and eradication measures.

¹ To be clear: This obligation relates to the respective item in the conclusions.

Conclusions

We, the Agriculture Ministers,

- **call for** concerted action by all relevant stakeholders to engage in shaping livestock development to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDG;
- **take** action to promote rules, standards and voluntary agreements at national, regional and international level in order to make the production of food of animal origin more sustainable, more responsible and more efficient;
- **underline** the importance of a balanced consumption of food of animal origin for a healthy diet, health protection and the efficient use of resources;
- **are determined** to intensify investment in research and development and to promote technologies, including digitalisation, veterinary medicinal products, including vaccines, genetics and breeding techniques, and the implementation of these technologies in practice;
- **will drive** the promotion and development of sustainable, resilient and climate change-adapted value chains and animal production systems that contribute to reducing emission intensity and increasing carbon sequestration; we therefore highlight the need to reinforce international research collaboration, knowledge transfer, cooperation and capacity building in this respect;
- **undertake** to give greater consideration to animal health and animal welfare in training programmes that are based on the International Standards on Animal Health and Animal Welfare developed by the OIE, and to expand international exchange of knowledge and experiences;
- invite FAO, OIE and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to collaboratively promote the international consultation on sustainable, responsible and efficient livestock production systems, and to develop good practices, based on integrated assessments, intergovernmental processes and multi-stakeholder consultations; we call upon them to identify knowledge gaps, to initiate respective research and to make knowledge available to farmers and the public; we encourage them to include other relevant actors such as the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), the Global Research Alliance (GRA) and the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL) and to report to the GFFA Ministers;
- **commit ourselves** to take measures to reduce the risks of diseases, to avoid the unnecessary use of antibiotics and to phase-out the use of antimicrobial substances for growth promotion in the absence of risk analysis in line with the Codex Alimentarius Commission recommended code of practice CAC/RCP 61-2005;
- **support** the OIE's efforts in its Programme to strengthen the efficiency and capacities of the veterinary services and
- **support** the OIE's global Animal Welfare Strategy and its implementation; in this regard we call upon the OIE and other stakeholders to continue to develop basic principles and basic requirements for animal welfare-friendly husbandry at international level.

We, the Agriculture Ministers, conclude that concrete action across all stakeholders and international cooperation is necessary in order to make livestock production and animal husbandry more sustainable, responsible and efficient. We are facing up to our responsibility to take action to promote and progress discussions on this subject in international fora.

Participating countries of the Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2018

Arabic Republic of Egypt

Republic of Albania

Republic of Equatorial Guinea

Republic of Argentina

Republic of Armenia

Republic of Azerbaijan

Republic of Belarus

Kingdom of Belgium

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Republic of Botswana

Federative Republic of Brazil

Republic of Bulgaria

Republic of Chile

People s Republic of China

Federal Republic of Germany

Republic of Estonia

Republic of Finland

French Republic

Gabonese Republic

Republic of Gambia

Georgia

Republic of Ghana

Republic of India

Republic of Iraq Japan

Republic of Cameroon

State of Qatar

Republic of Kosovo

Republic of Croatia

Kingdom of Lesotho

Principality of Liechtenstein

Republic of Lithuania

Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Republic of Malta

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



Republic of Moldova
Mongolia Montenegro Republic of Mozambique
Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
New Zealand
Kingdom of the Netherlands
Kingdom of Norway
Sultanate of Oman
Palestinian territories
Republic of Panama
Republic of Paraguay
Republic of Poland
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Zambia
Kingdom of Sweden
Swiss Confederation

Republic of Serbia
Republic of Sierra Leone
Republic of Zimbabwe
Slovak Republic
Republic of Slovenia
Federal Republic of Somalia
Kingdom of Spain
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Republic of the Sudan
Czech Republic
Republic of Tunisia
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine
Hungary
Republic of Uzbekistan

International organisations:

European Commission

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

International Livestock Research Institute ILRI)

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

PUBLISHER

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
Division 626
“Global Forum Food and Agriculture, G7 / G20,
Policies against Hunger”
Wilhelmstraße 54
10117 Berlin

AS OF

July 2018

LAYOUT

design.ideo, Büro für Gestaltung, Erfurt

TEXT

BMEL

PRINTING

BMEL

PHOTOS

BMEL/photothek.net/Thomas Köhler
BMEL/photothek.net/Thomas Trutschel
BMEL/photothek.net/Inga Kjer

**This publication is issued by the BMEL free of charge.
It may not be used by political parties or groups for electioneering
purposes.**