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## **Upcoming TAFS Open Meeting: Risks and opportunities for a sustainable dairy chain**

September 2-3, 2015; Swiss Pavilion at Expo Milano

Participation fee for non-members of TAFS: 490.- EUR

### **A look ahead: the next ten years for the dairy value chain**

What lies ahead for the dairy value chain? At its upcoming Open Meeting, the TAFS Forum on Trust in Animals & Food Safety will gather its membership joined by selected external invitees in order to explore risks and opportunities for a sustainable dairy chain 2015-2025. Experts from within and outside TAFS will systematically analyse and structure driving forces and uncertainties affecting physical (e.g., farm land, veterinary drugs, clean water) and non-physical (e.g., farm economics, consumer trust) components of the dairy system. The future scenarios resulting from this exercise will enable participants at the meeting to identify and assess both: risks that may threaten the functioning of the dairy chain and opportunities for mitigation and innovation. The group of participants coming from diverse parts of the value chain will work together under safe-house rules in a carefully designed and facilitated participatory process. This Open Meeting provides a unique opportunity to discover business-relevant insights within the dairy value chain.

### **Outcome of the TAFS Open Meeting**

Attendants will learn about risks affecting the dairy chain and how they interact in the dairy system. They will be triggered to reflect – individually and collectively - how these risks may affect their areas of responsibility, be it in the public or private domain. They will also discuss opportunities to take protective steps to mitigate the identified risks. The two-day Open Meeting is highly interactive and builds on the contribution of all participants. As part of the experience, participants will have the opportunity to network with dairy chain stakeholders to which they have otherwise limited access. TAFS is supported in the event design and facilitation by Prospex, the company specialized in participatory foresight.

### **Why does TAFS focus this event on the dairy value chain?**

The TAFS forum usually holds two members' meetings per year where members exchange their insights into the latest developments of animal health and food safety. The very first TAFS event, 11 years ago was a conference about BSE in response to the urgent need for an exchange of information between different groups of stakeholders including regulatory agencies, academia, industry and consumers. Since the inception of the TAFS Forum, its members have practiced a habit of open, constructive exchange that delivers key insights to all involved. At this year's Open Meeting, the TAFS Forum will apply participatory scenario planning to address with a unique blend of participants the future of a key value chain in transition: the dairy value chain.

### **About TAFS**

The TAFS forum is an independent, Swiss-based forum, with international membership, dedicated to studying, reporting and making recommendations on controversial and emerging issues relating to the safety of food derived from animals. Our activities include scanning the horizon for new risks, assessing the level of risks for the food industry, and recommending risk management.

We bring together scientists, industry, regulators and consumers in the TAFS forum to facilitate the understanding of these issues by policy-makers, politicians, the scientific community, journalists and members of the public.

Ultimately, we aim at contributing to justified consumer trust in food safety.

### **Stay informed**

If you are interested to participate in the 2015 TAFS Forum Open Meeting on the Dairy Value Chain, please contact the TAFS Forum at earliest convenience: Email [ulrich.sperling@tafsforum.org](mailto:ulrich.sperling@tafsforum.org) or telephone +41-31-5442502. In order to receive information on TAFS Forum activities, you can subscribe to the TAFS new at <http://tafsforum.org/news>.