

# ISDI Press Statement

ISDI supports World Food Safety Day and calls on all stakeholders to come together for food safety

Brussels, 7 June 2021

Safe and nutritious food plays an essential role in providing for the health and wellbeing of people around the world, as well as supporting communities by driving economic development and alleviating poverty. This is especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The special dietary foods industries are proud to provide people with the essential safe and nutritious foods they need to live, grow and thrive, as well as support the Sustainable Development Goals of zero hunger, good health and wellbeing through building partnerships for food safety. The quality and safety of food products is, and remains, an absolute priority for our industry.

During the current public health crisis, we have put all necessary measures in place to ensure that our foods for special dietary use, such as infant formulas and foods for special medical purposes (FSMPs), are available to provide for the specific nutritional requirements of those that need them most. Furthermore, FSMPs and other nutrition interventions can be a lifeline for COVID-19 patients, providing the essential nutrients they need to recover and thrive.

Since 1973, ISDI has supported the work of Codex Alimentarius to establish science-based food standards, guidelines and codes of practice that ensure food safety and quality. As an international organisation, we are committed to continue working with regulators, policy-makers and other stakeholders to improve the health and wellbeing of current and future generations, and enhance food security.

Our members around the world work together with national authorities to ensure safe and nutritious foods are available for people with special dietary needs, providing support in regulating food safety along the entire food chain and ensuring international standards are met or even surpassed. Our industry goes further in supporting food security by using sustainably managed and renewable resources, more efficient operations, waste management and environmentally-friendly packaging. Moreover, ISDI members form partnerships for sustainable food production and encourage their partners to adopt best practices.

We welcome the third World Food Safety Day as an opportunity to recognise the

people who help keep our food safe and celebrate the role of safe and nutritious food in providing for the health and wellbeing of people around the world.

**About ISDI:**

ISDI is the leading international expert association on special dietary foods, including foods specifically designed for infants and young children. ISDI members are national and international associations that are active in this sector from more than 20 countries over 6 continents. Our members manufacture and market foods that are formulated, in accordance with applicable Codex Alimentarius standards, to meet the compositional criteria, quality requirement and nutritional needs of infants and young children.

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