



**AFFIA**



## PRESS RELEASE

### International insect associations agree on establishing a collaborative roadmap to boost development of the insect protein sector

Brussels, 18 January 2019

In wake of the recently published [EAT-Lancet Commission](#) report setting targets for healthy diets and sustainable food production, the insect producers associations for SE Asia (**AFFIA**), Europe (**IPIFF**), North America (**NACIA**) and Australia (**IPAA**) are calling for ambitious policy and research strategies, to support the insect industry in effectively contributing to the achievement of these targets.

At a meeting held in Brussels earlier this week, the associations IPIFF, AFFIA, IPAA, NACIA also underlined the importance of a varied diet for consumers to satisfy their daily nutritional needs, as well as to build collaborations with other food and feed actors.

“Our strategy is articulated around two main objectives”, explained **Heinrich Katz, the IPIFF representative**: namely “to promote ambitious policy plans to support the development of our sector on one hand, and on the other hand, to build bridges with food and feed chain partners including emerging industries that are active in the development of new protein sources. For instance, IPIFF, through its pioneering collaborative actions with the algae and the yeast sectors.”

These ambitions will materialize with the production of a White Paper: “notably this White Paper will evaluate the positive externalities of our sector while

detailing the efforts required for our young industry to realize its full potential”, explained the **AFFIA President, Anne Deguerry**.

“To this end, we must take a realistic look into the achievements and commitments already made by insect producers, in areas such as technological development, food safety or animal welfare, and at the same time highlight areas where significant progress can still be made. Plus the increasing recognition on the accomplishing compatibility of insects to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) is a key positive driver for the sector” added the **AFFIA Chair**.

“This will only be possible via combined efforts by insect producers and their umbrella organizations as well as by major policy actors such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations and our respective national and regional governments. Cross-sectoral collaborations, with partners from the food and feed chain, including emerging industries (e.g. through joint research programmes) would also help to maximize the potential of our sector” explained the **IPAA President Olympia Yarger**.

According to **Cheryl Preyer, Secretary of NACIA**, “We have a very positive story to tell of how insect proteins can and should play an important part of the Food and Feed landscape, and we have only begun to scratch the surface. We look forward to joining with the international community to further communicate the advantages of insects in animal and human diets. This leads to increased awareness and invites broader acceptance.”

According to the associations, the White Paper should be unveiled during the second half of 2019: “while we need time to collect all evidence and documentation to draw up a comprehensive review, we will act as soon as possible in order to implement the recommendations contained in the White Paper”, concluded the **IPIFF representative Jonathan Koppert**.

For more information, please contact the Secretariats of the above associations:

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The International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed (IPIFF) is a non-profit organisation which represents the interests of the insect production sector towards EU policy makers, European stakeholders and citizens. Composed of more than 46 members, most of which are European insect producing companies, IPIFF promotes the use of insects and insect-derived products as top tier source of nutrients for human consumption and animal feed.