WELCOME LETTER

Dear Friends,

International Probiotics Association (IPA) is very pleased to support Functional Foods for Wellness Summit 2027, which will take place on January 20th and 21st, 2027 in Bangkok.

The summit will bring together top experts, scholars, associations, industry organizations, and business representatives from various countries and regions in the world. It focuses on Consumer Trends and Marketing, Policies and Market Access, Gut Health and Probiotic Innovation, Technological Innovation and Product Development, as well as Weight Management, Women's Health and Healthy Ageing sectors.

The International Probiotics Association (IPA) is a global non-profit organization that brings together stakeholders from across the biotics ecosystem, including academia, researchers, healthcare professionals, industry, regulators, and consumers. As the recognized **Global Voice of Pre-, Pro-, and Post-Biotics™,** IPA is dedicated to advancing the safe, effective, and efficacious use of these products worldwide. IPA holds **NGO** observer status at the **Codex Alimentarius Commission**, participates as an observer within **the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**, and actively collaborates with regulators and policymakers to support global regulatory harmonization and scientific advancement.

IPA's membership comprises nearly 140 organizations across more than 35 countries, representing the full value chain of the global biotics sector. In 2023, the IPA Board of Directors approved a strategic expansion of the Association's scope beyond probiotics to include the complementary categories of prebiotics, synbiotics, and postbiotics, while also broadening its focus to key population segments such as infants and companion animals. Building on IPA's successful model in the probiotics sector, the Association is developing the governance, scientific, regulatory, and educational infrastructure needed to support these emerging categories and markets, further strengthening its role as the leading global authority for the biotics industry.

We look forward to meeting you at the summit and wish you all enjoy the two-day event!

Sincerely,

George Paraskevakos

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