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**PRESS RELEASE**

## Management change EIT Food

EIT Food has announced today that Mrs Margaret Bath will step down from her role as CEO due to changes in her personal circumstances. To ensure continuity of leadership and to secure an effective intermediate process, Mr Filip Fontaine will join EIT Food full-time in the role of interim CEO as of June 01 2018. EIT Food will initiate a search for a permanent CEO. Margaret Bath will work closely with Filip Fontaine from her base in the USA to make the handover process as smooth as possible.

Jan Delcour, ad-interim Chairman of the Supervisory Board said: “On behalf of the entire Supervisory Board, I would like to express our gratitude to Margaret for her work for EIT Food. Her strong commitment to the strategy and objectives of EIT Food, its team and partners has shaped the organisation for further growth and success. To continue to benefit from her knowledge and expertise, the Supervisory Board will propose to the General Assembly in September that Margaret will stay involved with the further development of EIT Food in the role of independent member of the Supervisory Board.”

Margaret Bath said: “The transformation of the food system is a goal I am very passionate about and I believe we can only achieve this if universities, business and government work together. I see EIT-Food as the catalyst with which to transform the way in which we produce, distribute and consume our food, working with the consumer as change agents. Unfortunately I am no longer able to contribute to the great work of EIT Food in the capacity of CEO, but I look forward to following the continued success of EIT Food in the future and supporting in any way that I can. EIT Food has a very strong and committed employee base as well as a great combination of industry, university and research partners to ensure that the mission of food system transformation occurs across Europe.”



Jan Delcour added: “The Supervisory Board takes great pleasure in welcoming Filip Fontaine as the interim CEO. His valuable experience in food and passion for the agri-food sector will be a great asset for the further development of EIT Food.”

Filip Fontaine graduated as an agricultural engineer at the KU Leuven, Belgium. He started his professional career at the Belgian Farmers Union, and then moved on to the cooperative bank CERA. He next became the CEO of an auction in fruit and vegetables. In the following 15 years, he was involved in several mergers which resulted in the creation of BelOrta, a European player in fruit and vegetables. In addition, he has also executed several consulting missions in China and India. He supports a start-up on social learning and is a board member in several companies, including B3F, EFC and Aucxis.

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## Background information

### EIT Food

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Food is a pan-European consortium that focuses on entrepreneurship and innovation in the food sector. The members of the EIT Food community are world-class players in the international food domain: over 50 partners from leading businesses, research centres and universities across 13 countries. EIT Food is structured around five regional innovation hubs, each covering several EIT Food partners and partner countries.

EIT Food’s vision is to put Europe at the centre of a global revolution in food innovation and production, and its value in society. EIT Food will engage consumers in the change process, improve nutrition and make the food system more resource-efficient, secure, transparent and trusted.

You can follow EIT Food via our website [www.eitfood.eu](http://www.eitfood.eu) or via social media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#)

