



Press Release

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Subject: Action, Excellence and Legacy Celebrated at the 57th FEAP Annual General Meeting in Stockholm

Stockholm, May 27th, 2023 – The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) held its 57th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Stockholm on May 22-23, gathering aquaculture professionals, national associations, policymakers, and experts from across Europe. The event focused on key issues affecting the sector while celebrating innovation, leadership, and sustainability in European fish farming.

FEAP's actions were presented, including its active contribution to the development of the **European Ocean Pact**, a strategic initiative by the European Commission aimed at ensuring healthy, resilient, and productive oceans. FEAP advocates for a strong integration of sustainable fish farming within the Pact, emphasizing the sector's vital role in providing nutritious food, supporting coastal economies, and reducing pressure on wild fish stocks. Through policy engagement and evidence-based contributions, FEAP promotes fish farming as a solution-based industry, calling for greater recognition of its environmental, social, and economic benefits, and aligning its importance on food production and sovereignty objectives. By aligning aquaculture with the Pact's goals, FEAP seeks to position the sector as a cornerstone of a responsible and forward-looking European ocean policy.

FEAP's initial input on the **Vision 2040 for Aquaculture and Fisheries** was discussed. In this context, FEAP envisions a future where, by 2040, European fish farming is competitive, impactful, environmentally sustainable, and socially accepted, making it an attractive career path for future generations. The European Commissioner's document should also recognize that, despite ambitious policy objectives, EU aquaculture production has remained largely stagnant since 2000.

Another priority discussed was the progress made on a **European Common Management Plan** proposal. Facing the heavy losses and damages to fish farms and wild fish populations, and in the objective of finding sustainable ways to limit predation and secure food production and livelihoods, FEAP, EFFAC (The FAD European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Committee) and the European Anglers Alliance (EAA) are leading on a series of efforts paving the way to a better management of this critical situation affecting fish farmers all over Europe. Highlight was made on the EFFAC-EAA-EAA joint survey on damage and losses figures caused by cormorants and other