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- Press Release -

AIPCE-CEP launches latest FinFish Study at meeting with Commissioner Vella

At a meeting with the new Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries in Brussels today, AIPCE-CEP representatives presented him with a copy of the latest Finfish Study, which has been published annually for more than 20 years.

The study provides a detailed analysis of the EU seafood market and the role which processors and traders play in providing safe, sustainable, convenient and affordable products to meet consumer demand.

In a wide ranging and positive discussion Commissioner Vella acknowledged that the processing and trading sectors had a vital role to play in furthering the EU's sustainable growth and competitiveness aims, in particular in terms of added value, innovation and employment.

As suppliers of nutritious and renewable protein products, fish processors had an important contribution to make to the wider Blue Growth and food security agendas.

The Commissioner agreed on the need for stable and predictable access to imported raw materials to sustain markets and ensure continuity of supply to EU consumers and on the need to improve resilience and traceability at all stages of production.

It was agreed that regular further meetings will be held to ensure that the sector's views are fully taken into account in future policy discussions in order to maximize its potential.

- Ends -



Left to right: Aurora Vicente (AIPCE-CEP Secretary General), Commissioner Vella, Guus Pastoor (AIPCE President), Andrew. Kuyk (AIPCE Vice-President), Pierre Commere (AIPCE Vice-President), Peter Bamberger (CEP President).

Notes for editors:

Latest FinFish Study can be found at [aipce-cep website](http://aipce-cep.org).

Some of the key findings of the Finfish study are as follows:

- Total market supply 14.2 million t up 1.7%
- Imported share slightly down to 63 % (8.9 million tonnes)
- Whitefish dependency unchanged at 89 % for wild capture species
- EU catches for whitefish species have increased marginally (+1 %) but quota utilisation continues to deteriorate
- Exports slip back by 5 %
- Tuna, salmon and cod are more or less equal in consumption at WFE of around 1.1 million tonnes each
- Supply for per capita consumption is up by 0.6 kg at WFE
- Competition is intensifying from other countries and regions

* All figures calculated at WFE (Whole Fish Equivalent).

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