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- Press Release -

Finfish Study 2015 – Recovery with further growth potential

Published today, the 2015 AIPCE-CEP Finfish Study provides key insights into recent developments in the EU seafood market. It is the latest in a highly regarded series of studies going back more than 20 years and giving an authoritative industry perspective on actual performance and future trends.

Main findings include:

- Increase in total market supply to 14.4 million tonnes (up 1.7%)
- Tuna, salmon and cod lead the way, up to around 1.3 million tonnes each
- Per capita consumption is returning to historical levels (up 0.1kg in whole fish equivalent)
- Imports remain stable at 63% share of total supply but still account for 89% of consumption of wild capture whitefish species
- EU whitefish catches (+1%) and quota utilisation show modest growth
- Exports are up 8%, reflecting strengthening global demand

Policy conclusions:

- ✓ The recovery of consumption and emerging growth trend are vital for economic prospects in supporting jobs and earnings across the whole industry. Nothing must be done to disrupt this or to inhibit further development opportunities.
- ✓ The EU primary processing industry's appetite for investing is growing in line with the expansion of resources in fisheries both within the EU and in neighbouring regions which is helping to generate confidence that long-term management plans are beginning to pay off.

- ✓ Analysis of EU landings and quota utilisation confirms that imports remain essential to meeting and expanding demand, from which all parts of the EU industry, including the catching sector, can benefit. Policy makers need to recognise this and avoid decisions which risk damaging longer term prospects.

- ✓ In particular, future import arrangements under the Autonomous Tariff Quota (ATQ) system need to provide sufficient and secure access to competitively priced raw materials to generate the innovation and investment required to support growth.

- Ends -

Notes for editors:

Latest FinFish Study can be found at [aipce-cep website](#).

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

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