

# Aquaculture Advisory Council 2024

## Achievements 2025



The Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) advises the European Commission (EC) and EU Member States on matters related to aquaculture and plays a **key role in supporting the implementation of** the European Commission's **Strategic Guidelines for the development of sustainable aquaculture.**

The European Commission places particular value on our recommendations, as they reflect a **balanced approach** that brings together the interests of the **EU aquaculture sector** and **NGOs.**

In our 9<sup>th</sup> year of activity, the AAC published 22 consensus-based recommendations and achieved tangible progress across a wide range of topics, including:

### Vision for Aquaculture 2040

Our recommendation on a [Vision for Aquaculture 2040](#) sets out a shared long-term perspective for the development of EU aquaculture. Supported by both sector representatives and NGOs, the recommendation reaffirms the **need to reform the EU's aquaculture policy.**

### Economic sustainability of EU aquaculture



Following a [joint recommendation](#) by the AAC and the Market Advisory Council (MAC), the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries included, for the first time, a **chapter on economic sustainability indicators** for the EU aquaculture sector in its 2024 aquaculture economic report. This represents an important step towards a **more comprehensive assessment** of the sustainability of EU aquaculture.

## Animal welfare for aquatic animals

The establishment of the EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare for Aquatic Animals (**EURCAW-Aqua**) followed our recommendation, and we are actively **involved** in the Centre's **Reflection Board**. In parallel, we contributed to the first ever EU **Code of Good Practices on Fish Welfare and Fish Welfare Indicators**.



## EU aquaculture communication campaign

2025 marked the launch of the coordinated EU-wide communication campaign on EU aquaculture. Through our active participation in the European Commission's taskforce, we helped ensure that **EU producers** are **placed at the centre** of the campaign and we welcomed the campaign slogan, **"We work for you with passion"**.

## First AAC public dissemination webinar

We organised our first public dissemination webinar to introduce the European Commission's **Guidance Document on good husbandry practices** in aquaculture. This initiative highlights our role as a **key interface** between the **European Commission** and the **aquaculture community**. We have decided to organise such webinars on an annual basis on relevant topics, and we invite you to join our upcoming webinar on **fish welfare in March 2026**.

**Stay tuned via our website or apply for membership if you wish to have an impact on EU aquaculture policy.**