



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of EATIP

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Biology Faculty of the University of Barcelona

31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

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## Agenda

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|-------|--|---|
| 09:30 | <b>“Driving Innovation”</b><br><b>Welcome presentation &amp; Introduction</b>  | <b>Mr. Gustavo Larrazábal</b> - Chairman of EATIP   |
| 09.45 | <b>“Integrating aquaculture within European policies”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Common Fisheries Policy</li> <li>• The Bioeconomy (BecoTeps)</li> <li>• The Maritime Policy (Marcom+)</li> </ul> <b>“The International Dimension of EATIP”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relative to the Mediterranean (AquaMed)</li> <li>• Relative to Asia (AqAsem09)</li> </ul> | Presented by EATIP representatives  |
| 10.30 | <b>“A Vision for the future of European aquaculture”</b><br><b>“Aquainnova” – Progress report</b>  | <b>Mr. Courtney Hough</b> – Project Coordinator<br><b>Mr. Alistair Lane</b> – RTD survey<br><b>Me. Francesca Margiotta</b> – Web developments |
| 11:30 | <b>A summary of the proposals of EATIP Thematic Areas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specificities of each Thematic Area</li> <li>• Key Goals of the Thematic Areas</li> </ul>   | <b>Thematic Area Chairpersons/Facilitators</b><br><b>Moderator: Me. Lara Barazi-Yeroulanos</b>  |
| 14:30 | <b>Presentation of the draft Vision Document and Strategic Research Agenda of EATIP</b>  |   |
| 15:00 | <b>Discussion &amp; debate</b>   |   |
| 16:00 | <b>3rd Annual General Meeting of EATIP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary’s Report</li> <li>• Approval of EATIP accounts for 2010</li> <li>• Presentation of EATIP budget 2011</li> <li>• Any other business</li> </ul>  | <b>Mr. Gustavo Larrazábal</b> - Chairman  |
| 17:00 | <b>Final Discussion and Closing</b>  |   |

## Introduction

The EATIP Chairman welcomed all representatives of the EATIP Member organisations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the EATIP and made an introductory presentation that covered a wide range of different issues affecting the development of European aquaculture.

## Driving innovation

Presented by Gustavo Larrazábal – Chairman

Last year's conclusions were

- The point of view of an aquaculture producer needs to be heard
- The real challenge for EU aquaculture is to achieve innovative and economic growth

But to be able to grow

- We have to be competitive
- We have to be profitable
- We need a “level playing field”

So, what has happened since...? Strong strategic & political changes have occurred in Europe

- **« Europe 2020 »**
  - for smart, sustainable & inclusive growth
  - which includes the following policies
    - « Innovation Union »
    - « Resource-efficient Europe »
    - « Industrial policy for globalisation era »
- **Common Fisheries Policy Review**
  - Aquaculture will be more important
  - Separate chapter and specific issues to be addressed
- There is clear recognition – in the Council, the Commission and the Parliament - that Europe needs to develop a strong, sustainable industrial base so as to be able to compete
  - Where competitiveness and a level-playing field essential

Therefore, 2 of last year's demands have advanced and real problems to achieving growth have been recognized.

I am happy to report a lot of progress in EATIP's work

1. 'Aquainnova', our flagship project was launched
2. There have been 16 internal meetings, concerning the Board, the Operating Council but primarily the Thematic Areas

3. Presentation of EATIP, its objectives and its work, has been made in 10 important international conferences
4. EATIP representatives have contributed to consultation on European policy/strategy

These achievements provide confirmation that EATIP is an important player in the 'aquaculture' world.

So as to present EATIP correctly, the 'image' of EATIP has been re-designed and a new web-site was launched that incorporates all of EATIP's work & products at [www.eatip.eu](http://www.eatip.eu). As well as being a public site, it also serves to provide a meeting point for the work of the Thematic Areas and has tools for collaboration and consultation. I am therefore pleased to report that EATIP is both functional and recognized.

In EATIP's 'Work in Progress', our core priority is the preparation of EATIP's new Vision and SRIA. There have been major advances this year and, while some may think it has been a bit slow, we are respecting good governance principles and have involved as many expert people as is possible in the creation of the detailed documents of each EATIP Thematic Area. Deadlines are now very short for EATIP's open consultation period but our experts agree on the core content and we are now in agreement to move forward.

The Operating Council and the Board are very focused and have had constructive and productive meetings during the year. Thus, there is light at the end of the tunnel!

My final remarks are that we can all see that

- Our platform is up and running
- Very encouraging developments have been made
- We have clearer objectives and our focus is improving
- EATIP's Products are ready to make an impact during 2011
- This means that we are close to progressing towards the next step – realizing innovation for the European aquaculture sector

*The question was raised as to why the website was only in English. The Secretary reported that inadequate resources were available for 'human' translation but that a range of toolbars can be used on browsers (e.g. Google Chrome) which can provide reasonable, instant translation for viewers.*

## **Integrating aquaculture within European policies**

EATIP representatives made 3 presentations on how aquaculture is being viewed and/or promoted within different European policies that affect its development.

The Secretary reviewed aquaculture's position within the Common Fisheries Policy, which is seen as aquaculture's 'home', since this includes the Common Organisation of Markets (for fisheries and aquaculture products and the European Fisheries Fund – which is the tool that provides financial support for both the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

There will be a new CFP in 2013 and indications are that there is recognition of structural failings and recent discussions indicate strong changes coming. There is a strong influence of Europe 2020, where there is an evident compromise to be made on growth vs. vessel scrapping/activity cessation as functional elements of the CFP. Aquaculture appears as a strong 'pillar' of the CFP now.

New policy options are required and will probably include some of the following issues:

1. Fisheries: Need healthy, sustainable stocks – Discards issue must be resolved
2. Consumers have their own demands, and the conditions of product supply must move from being supply-driven to adapting to market-driven conditions
3. Multi-stakeholder involvement (in decision making) vs. Brussels micro-management
4. Public budgets will target innovation and sustainability

In respect of the position of aquaculture in the CFP, it is seen as 'A good positive story' (Commissioner Damanaki) and is integrated within CFP, COM and EFF

Market instruments (in the COM) have to be geared to balancing supply/demand and be capable of 'adding value' to the products. This could involve a EU certification/labelling approach (level playing field).

Key words in all such discussions are «Innovation – 'Greening' – Diversification – Promotion/Communication»

There is also a clear need to share best practices, enhance networking and assure a higher level of cooperation between the professionals and scientists. In discussions on how to ensure that real innovation can be assured, focal points are how to achieve effective technology transfer and put in place efficient support mechanisms. As has been said, 'Innovation is needed for fundamental change'

However, all such European policies are now strongly influence by 'Europe 2020' which is focusing on growth and development.

Growing attention is also being given to the 'Bioeconomy' or the 'Bio-based Economy', most particularly in the research and innovation financing perspectives of DG Research. EATIP has participated in the BECOTEPS project, with 8 other European Technology platforms (ETPs).

The goal was to prepare a White Paper on the European Bioeconomy in 2030 – scope, contribution and needs – and was subtitled 'Delivering sustainable growth by addressing the Grand Societal Challenges'

The focus was on the role and potential contributions of the different components of the Bioeconomy, covering

- Food, health, fibre, industrial products and energy
- Agriculture, forestry, land and aquatic animals

The key messages of the White Paper were that there was an urgent need for

1. Investment in relevant research areas
2. Multi-disciplinary programmes to promote innovation
3. Assure that knowledge → commercialisation
4. Promote entrepreneurship within Bioeconomy
5. A skilled workforce (2ry/3ry education)
6. Streamlined innovation-friendly regulatory framework, balancing risks/benefits
7. Communication – embedded in R&D – promoting public appreciation

The actions proposed, were

1. Demonstrate clear support for innovation
2. Enabling framework conditions for boosting entrepreneurship
3. High quality standards (for consumer confidence)
4. Open and balanced assessment of risks/benefits
5. Assure attraction of young people/professionals to a career in the Bioeconomy
6. Integrated governance for the Bioeconomy 'web' (i.e. all sectors involved in the Bioeconomy)
7. Transparent, open and clear communication with society

A copy of the Becoteps White Paper was distributed to all attendees of the meeting. It can also be downloaded from the [Becoteps](#) page of the EATIP Website.

In addition, there is also the European Maritime Policy that looks at use of the marine and coastal areas; within this context, EATIP is participating within a project called 'Marcom+', which was described by Mr. Torgeir Edvardsen.

Marcom+ stands for '**Towards an Integrated Marine and Maritime Science and Technology Community**', which responds to the European Commission proposin support of a new governance model for Marine/Maritime research that should take the form of a "Forum" and will advise the EC on policy making bringing together a partnership sustainable over the long term, involving existing networks and key partners.

*The details of the presentation are annexed as The 'MARCOM+' initiative.*

## The International Dimension of EATIP

EATIP's activities are primarily focused on Europe but cannot ignore the international dimension, given that many companies, organisations and institutions function and cooperate internationally, even globally. Within the scope of EATIP operations, the current position is the following:

- For the Mediterranean area
  - Seen as a special geographic case – EATIP is a participant in the 'Aquamed' project (European) that is coordinated by IFREMER.
- For Asia
  - Which is the largest global producer/exporter – 'AqAsem09' is a FP7 project, coordinated by the University of Ghent, and where EATIP is a partner for European industrial interests.
- For Africa
  - The focus for attention is food security (FAO) and aquaculture development – the '[Sarnissa](#)' project (which finished recently) has established a very active network and EATIP members are encouraged to participate in this, where they have a genuine interest in 2-way cooperation with Africa.
- Latin America
  - Strong development in several countries – looking at options to create mirror interests to EATIP

*Details on the situation of the Aquamed and AqAsem09 projects are annexed.*

## A Vision for the future of European aquaculture

This session concentrated on the progress of developing the Vision and Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda of EATIP, based on the work of the individual Thematic Areas during the last year.

### Aquainnova

The European FP7 Project 'Aquainnova' is EATIP's flagship project, which is providing strong assistance to assuring that the work of each individual Thematic Area can be achieved in the most efficient and consistent manner. Nonetheless, 'Aquainnova' has additional objectives which are:

1. Create an operational framework, based on best governance practices, for dialogue between
  - a. The aquaculture industry (value chain),
  - b. The research community and
  - c. The policy makers
2. Exploit the potential for innovation and technological development in the European aquaculture value chain
3. Actively promote the exploitation, dissemination and communication of Community aquaculture RTD

4. Improve how RTD & innovation knowledge is
  - a. managed,
  - b. disseminated and
  - c. transferred

The core components of 'Aquainnova' are the following

1. Vision/SRIA s of the Thematic Areas
  - a. Structure for comparison
  - b. Preparation for consultation
2. RTD survey
  - a. Overview of current position
  - b. Technical Summaries of FP7/FP6 aquaculture projects
3. Consultation workshops on proposals
4. Open access to results/products – application

During the last year, a massive amount of work has been done within EATIP in order to develop the Vision Documents and draft SRIAs for each Thematic Area. Overall, the progress can be summarised as the following:

- Start-up of Aquainnova – Oslo (Feb 2010)
  - Meeting of the Operating Council
    - Chairs/Facilitators for each TA
- Population of the Thematic Areas (TA)
  - >230 experts involved in different TA meetings during 2010 and early 2011
- Methodologies were designed, for consistency between TAs, for developing
  - Key Aims and Goals
  - Sub-goals (Ideas that respond to the Goals)
  - Action Plans (Implementation)
- Meetings of all Thematic Areas for debate/decision (2010-2011), including teleconferences and use of EATIP Basecamp forum
- Preparation of Vision, SRIA and Action Plans for each TA (completed March 2011)

Once the work started on the consolidation of individual TA documents for consultation, it was discovered that we have > 550 pages...and it is necessary to prepare an overarching EATIP Vision and SRIA - based on these extensive, comprehensive and detailed TA documents

*The EATIP Board has decided that this should have a maximum of 20-24 pages and should address a broader audience, rather than being a consultative reference document (the role of the compilation of the TA documents).*



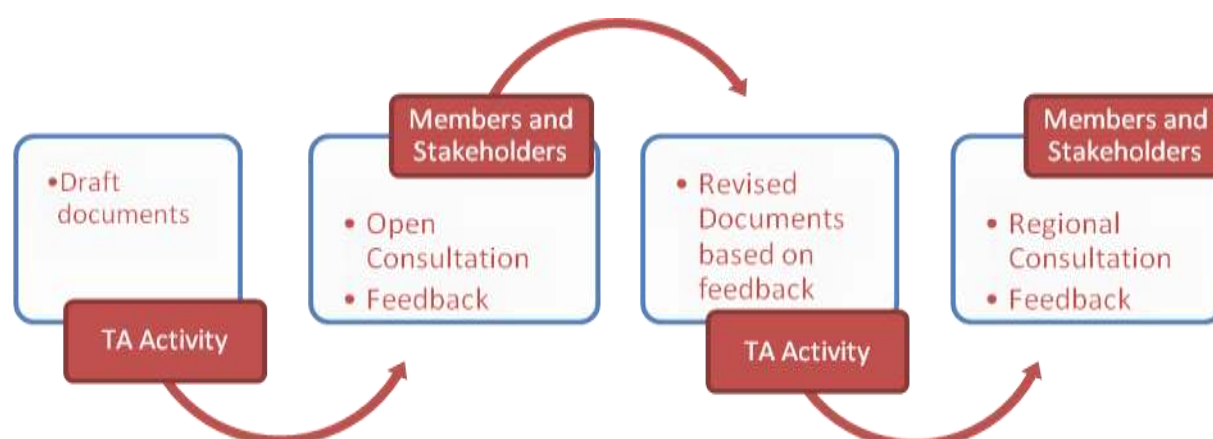
The next step is consultation on the full Vision/SRIA documents, which will be:

- Internal (within EATIP) consultation
  - until end-May 2011

followed by

- External consultation
  - Through web-site
  - Through stakeholder meetings
  - Facilitated workshops
  - And will be held during 2011

The facilitated workshops will target a wider audience than those involved in the development of the existing documents, notably expertise and opinions outside of EATIP itself, respecting the following procedure



This will assure the good governance principles put forward as an objective of 'Aquainnova'.

### Sectoral Mapping and RTD Survey

Alistair Lane made a presentation on the work done on the RTD survey and sectoral mapping on research activities. This presentation is annexed.

The main activities and work achieved in this aspect are:

- Establishing sectoral and policy positions concerning the status and development of each EATIP Thematic Area
- Developing a RTD summary per Thematic Area containing a compilation of past and in-progress EU RTD projects (Project Technical leaflets)
- Identification and basic assessment of research outcomes generated by EU research projects per Thematic Area and their potential impact

The survey included the following aspects:

- 121 EU projects, having relevance to the TAs, were identified (of which 31 in FP7)
- A Matrix was designed so as to (self-)identify outputs and impacts of each project
- The coordinators' perception – consortium, collaboration, knowledge management, follow up... - was requested
- The survey indicated the difficulty of obtaining results on past projects (FP6) versus current or recently finished projects (FP7).

A large number of Technical Leaflets have been rewritten/developed and, as these are completed, are published on the EATIP website.

Special (relevant) compilations are to be provided to the participants of the consultative workshops;

### **Preparing the Vision and SRIAs**

It was recognised that, with 8 Thematic Areas, a consistent methodology was required so as to provide a common and coherent approach to the development of these important documents. In addition, since the Thematic Areas are composed of professional people from diverse backgrounds and with differing expertise, assuring the common approach has been essential.

These points were the point of much discussion within the core Aquainnova team and within the individual Thematic Areas. Since these met separately during the year, all worked independently of each other – involving more than 200 experts from different components of the aquaculture value chain. Mr. David Murphy of AquaTT made a comprehensive presentation on the methodology developed and its application within the different Thematic Areas of EATIP.

The details of the methodology developed and its application are to be found in the presentation that is annexed.

The evident cross-fertilisation between stakeholders within the Thematic Areas has been an added value result for EATIP – “Bridging the Gap”.

Each Thematic Area has thus had the freedom to develop its own Vision for Aquaculture in 2030 as well as its SRIA; the latter has focused on identifying key goals that respond to the Vision and the sub-goals needed to achieve each key goal.

- Each Key Goal has to be justified and explained, noting how its achievement would impact on the Vision, as well as being accompanied by broad assessments on risks/opportunities and sustainability.
- Further to this, the sub-goal topics have been identified as belonging to RTD, Technology Transfer or Policy, individually or as a mix. An assessment of the impact and outcomes was made as well as identifying the expertise required to achieve the work.
- Finally, for each sub-goal, a timeline to achievement has been estimated, with a cost scale where possible.

The key observations of the work at this point are the following:

- The Thematic Areas have produced significant documents with detailed justifications
- These remain as drafts and should be treated as such
  - members have the possibility to make comments in the short term
  - open consultation will be made via the EATIP website
  - special thematic consultation workshops will be organised during 2011
- There is still a need for TA interaction so as to harmonise these documents and identify further the cross-cutting goals (e.g. Communication, Education...)

There is still a need for editing – mainly to reduce length, repetition and duplication - of all of the TA documents.

The Thematic Area products that have been prepared for this EATIP meeting are the fruit of team efforts and good will between the contributors, notably by

- TA Chairs & Facilitators
- Core Group Members of each TA
- EATIP Secretariat & core Aquainnova Team

## The Vision Documents

The concerns of those active in professional aquaculture appear as the following:

1. Identifying and knowing how to advance (the sector or their business)
  - firmly
  - faster
  - effectivelyso as to develop the European aquaculture industry.

But this also means knowing:

- how to devote constrained and scarce RTDI resources more efficiently
- how to focus on really important issues
- how to assure effective transfer of knowledge from industry to science and vice versa

EATIP's core priorities are:

- Establish a strong relationship between aquaculture and the consumer
- Assure a sustainable aquaculture industry
- Consolidate the role of aquaculture in society

and all agree that RTDi is a very important part of the solution to these issues and priorities but it must

- Contribute solutions that we need
- Have qualified teams that can do the work
- Do the work effectively & economically
- Make an impact on the profession
- Make an impact on knowledge

In other words, RTDi has to make a difference!

The Draft EATIP Vision and Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda presented at the meeting have been based on the outputs of the Thematic Areas, which are valuable and detailed developments that represent a phenomenal amount of work. These are available for consultation as integrated documents – by Thematic Area.

The EATIP Vision has been adapted to include European challenges (Europe 2020) and societal challenges. It is thus not just a 'shopping list' for projects.

The Structure of the document is as follows:

- Foreword
- Key Messages and Summary:
- The Vision for European Aquaculture
  - ❑ Strategic guidelines for aquaculture
  - ❑ The Challenges for Europe and for Aquaculture
- The European Challenge for Aquaculture
  - ❑ Opportunities
- The Future for Aquaculture: What will the sector look like in 20 years?
- The Strategic Research Agenda - "Achieving the Vision"
  - ❑ The Visions and Key Goals of the Thematic Areas
  - ❑ Conclusions
- The Action Plan
- Recommendations of the EATIP

The draft document was prepared just before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and, following discussion within the Board and the Operating Council, the conclusions were that it needs to be reviewed since:

**Specific shortcomings were identified (from debate in the meeting) as being:**

- The Vision should incorporate the individual TA Vision Statements and exist as a single document – avoiding overlap and repetition and the first part should ‘sell’ aquaculture and be needs-based and goal oriented
- Noting specifically:
  - Text is too vague
    - Overlap and repetition
    - Recognise cross-cutting diversities
    - Identify top-level goals
    - Overall Vision is required rather than separate statements
  - Need clear (numbered) targets
    - Quantifiable objectives (e.g. rate of growth/year ?)
  - Professional stakeholders - needs to see his needs addressed
    - Include identified industry concerns
  - Too green, too defensive, too politically correct?
    - Be bolder, step up pressure
- Use the term ‘seafood’ (instead of fish and shellfish)
  - & Aquatic organisms for non-food
- Higher accent (recognition) towards freshwater aquaculture
- Discards should be considered – big EU issue
  - Strategies needed for by-product (fisheries) use
- Non-productive legislation
- European aquaculture must be competitive in a global market
- European growth levels must catch up with global levels
- We are already the best – but barriers to growth must be removed
- Modern concepts to consider
  - Environmental services (e.g. carbon sink provided by mollusks)
  - Aquaculture for biofuels and novel biotech products
- Include biotech – marine biotechnology
  - Incorporate aquaculture within this sphere
- Need tools to oversee all of the advantages of aquaculture
- Improve aspects on communication needs and image (of the sector)
- Need clarity on GMOs and genetics
- Need to promote aquaculture
  - Productivity, competitiveness, creativity, innovation
- Enumerate arguments, observations with figures:
  - 2030 production and value, markets, products, employment
  - Values of where we want to be (FCR, pricing)
- Competitiveness = within EU or outside EU – quantitative terms needed
  - Growth = in EU or outside EU
- Note the impact of the environment ON aquaculture
  - Positive effects of aquaculture

- Seaweed/algae production as alternatives for feeds?
  - New uses for algae
- Integrated Multitrophic Aquaculture
  - Link to successful procedures in Asia?
  - Provide through Aqasem09
- Note: High quality does not necessarily mean high price (vs. EU Strategy arguments)
- Low energy protein source + other ingredients
  - Still a very healthy product (even if lower in PUFA)
- (Positive) Interactions between aquaculture and fisheries + domestication of species
  - E.g. position of tuna fisheries vs. aquaculture potential
  - Role in conservation and enhancement (restocking activities)
  - Needs discussion with other players in coastal economies (ICZM?)
- Need to see/identify what society want from aquaculture
  - How does aquaculture contribute to food security – put into Vision
- Try to link TA sub-goals to (main) European species
- Role of public sector vs. industry in development
  - What can the industry do on its own?
  - Funding? Concentrate funding?
- 10 year perspective useful for FP8
- Is the Vision too short term?
- Mirror groups will follow the issues at National level
  - More specific, adapted to local, national specialities & issues
- Learn from the market
- Livestock (inc. Aquaculture) only provides a small contribution for human consumption - >50% from plants
- New species – experience indicates that to be successful, a new species takes 10-15 years and a lot of money; approach needs to be very specific and focused.

## The Strategic Research & Innovation Agendas

Each of the Thematic Areas was represented by appropriate participants (Chair, Facilitator or Member of the Core Group), who presented the conclusions and recommendations of each Thematic Area, focusing on their Visions and Key Goals (see Annexed Powerpoint summary).

1. Product Quality, Consumer Safety & Health – Rune Larsen
2. Technology & Systems – Laszlo Varadi
3. Managing the Biological Lifecycle – Beatrice Chatain
4. Sustainable Feed Production – Maria Alexis
5. Integration with the Environment – Fernando Torrent
6. Knowledge Management – David Murphy
7. Aquatic Animal Health & Welfare – Patrick Smith
8. Socio-Economics & Management – Selina Stead

A debate with participants ensued, moderated by Lara Barazi-Yeroulanos

## Observations from the Assembly

Additional notes from the AGM:

- How to assure integration of the EATIP Thematic Areas?
  - Most have worked in 'isolation' for last year
  - Need to avoid overlap in observations and recommendations
- Technology can also lead to loss of jobs
  - Looking to improve systems and productivity
- Bio-prospecting – a new area to be considered
- High quality does not necessarily mean a high price
- Health benefits (e.g. for children's nutrition) need further promotion – well-being and health need balancing with the risk-based approach of the legislator – more work on risks vs. benefits.
- Aquaculture economics is not in the vision – as a science it is missing
  - Very important in the choice of species and farming systems
- Management needs professionalization
- Need to build discussions on a scientific basis, follow by work that reflects good, better science
- How to see what society wants from aquaculture? Need to show how aquaculture contributes to food security in the Vision.
- Consultation should involve related sectors – e.g. oceanography, biotech – through ETPs?
  - Create links so as to be better positioned and recognised

**EATIP has to be a focal point for the knowledge generated, dissemination and promotion of innovation; needs to create conditions to attract investment.**

*It is an OPEN document that needs to be refined and while it was suggested that this be finished and printed end-May 2011, the Board agreed that the inputs from the consultation period and related workshops were necessary before this step and the valuation of clear targets is agreed as a priority.*

## Actions on Thematic Area proposals

Aquainnova must now move towards both internal and open consultation on the products that have been prepared. However, neither EATIP nor Aquainnova itself has to wait until the end of the Aquainnova project to take action or to promote initial conclusions and recommendations.

Inevitably, the constitution of the European calls is made well in advance of their publication, requiring widespread consultation with different Member State Authorities, programme committees and representative bodies, such as EATIP. The quality and the coherence of the EATIP Vision/SRIAs and Action Plans therefore has to be of the highest level so as to assure success in promoting topics of interest from the Action Plans.

- The Action Plans proposed will be assessed within the Aquainnova project and prioritised
- Short-term Knowledge Transfer priorities may be implemented in 2011/12.

- Linking the Aquainnova positions to work of other, related European Knowledge Transfer projects (including Intranemma, MarineTT, MG4U) will also make best use of resources and positions in other areas of interest.

For the credibility of the actions and the content developed, an open and transparent process is being assured.

### *Knowledge transfer actions*

The knowledge management/transfer area is a subject of high interest and priority within Europe so as to address the 'European paradox' where high quality and innovative research is done but its translation into professional activities is visibly lacking. Integral to this issue is how knowledge is managed and transferred.

'Aquainnova' and other projects such as Marine TT (Marine projects), MG4U (Marine Genomics) all have components which review and summarise the work and achievements of EU RTD projects; they increasingly look at identifiable outcomes and project 'products' so as to promote implementation of applicable results and obtain further impacts of the work achieved. This approach is directly in line with Europe 2020 and the Innovation Union.

The knowledge and exploitable results of these projects are packaged and disseminated so as to

1. facilitate and accelerate the commercial application of research results (i.e. industry);
2. inform and direct further research (i.e. the research community);
3. support evidence-based policy making (i.e. policy makers)
4. provide accurate scientific knowledge to organisations with a mandate to communicate environmental messages to the public ( e.g. Governments, Associations, NGOs...).
5. show a measurable return on European investment in RTD (European Commission, funding agencies; governments...)

### *Additional discussion points*

- a) The question was raised as to whether EATIP itself would get more closely involved in Research/Innovation projects (cf. support & coordination actions).
  - The response was that clear mechanisms would be needed and the role of EATIP would need to be clarified and defined; EATIP cannot be both judge and jury.
- b) Where will Europe be involved at the global level (concerning aquaculture and its development)?
  - This is a discussion that needs to be held and is needed
- c) Should EATIP be a focal point for dissemination and for communication of knowledge generated
  - This is an activity that merits examination and discussion
  - To manage knowledge well, it will be necessary to attract investment
    - EATIP should promote the uptake of research that has an impact

A representative of the European Commission said that the presentations and the discussions constituted very useful and very valuable information; it was also noted that the Commission was



using both industrial and academic representatives from the EATIP Thematic Areas in expert panels for issue assessment.

EATIP should be talking on behalf of all stakeholders – but by being industry-driven, should be focused on needs-based issues and goal-oriented.

## Conclusions

The presentations demonstrated the achievement of an enormous amount of work since the previous meeting, which has been built on the efforts of more than 200 experts from different backgrounds in aquaculture. This work has been assisted by the 'Aquainnova' project, which has allowed a broader scope to be incorporated that has included RTD surveys and the development of methodologies for a range of tasks that have been set.

The documentation prepared by the Thematic Areas is comprehensive and detailed. The integration of these papers into a common EATIP Vision document is a challenge and needs to be drafted so as to include measurable objectives and clear goals within its timeframe. Appreciation of the Assembly's comments and the conclusions of the open consultation will be taken into account.

The consultation period will allow this to be achieved, accounting for different regions and species, using both an individual approach (web-based) and facilitated workshops. These are to be held in

1. Warsaw (Poland) – 15-16 June 2011 – focusing on freshwater aquaculture
2. Oslo (Norway) – 21-21 September 2011 – marine coldwater aquaculture
3. Spain- November 2011 – Mediterranean aquaculture
4. France – early 2012 – Shellfish aquaculture

A final workshop, presenting the conclusions and recommendations will be organised in Brussels in the spring of 2012.

With this, the Chairman thanked the representatives of the Thematic Areas and the Assembly for their excellent contributions to the meeting and to EATIP's objectives.