



INTERNATIONAL **SALMON** FARMERS ASSOCIATION

## **Pledge from The International Salmon Farmers Association**

Salmon Farming is a Global Success Story

- Approx 15 billion healthy meals are produced every year.
- More than 130,000 jobs around the world are created.
- The global annual production has passed a value of more than \$10 billion (USD).

Those are the results brought about by the sheer will, unwavering belief, hard work and innovation of the world's first salmon farmers.

Fifty years ago in Norway, two brothers who were frustrated by poor fishing tried something different. They built a cage to grow Atlantic salmon in the ocean. In other parts of the world – Chile, Canada and Scotland – others were taking the first steps toward salmon aquaculture too. All these remarkable pioneers faced significant challenges, but refused to give up. Instead, they choose innovation and collaboration to overcome any obstacles. It was those pioneers who started the strong, sustainable salmon farming industry we have today - one that provides impressive social and economic benefits and healthy food to communities around the world.

Today the world's salmon farmers produce more than 2 million tonnes of salmon annually. The value of this production is impressive at more than \$10 billion USD. Whether you are eating fresh salmon sushi, a grilled salmon fillet or smoked salmon, the odds are it has been farmed by a company represented by ISFA; in Chile, Norway, Canada, Faroe Islands, Scotland, Iceland, Ireland, the United States or Tasmania.

Not only has farmed salmon become a staple of healthy, nutritious and affordable diets, but the industry has become an economic driver and social mainstay of coastal and rural communities all over the world. Salmon farming employs thousands of people, generates billions of dollars into local economies and provides leadership and training opportunities for young people so that they can work and raise families in their home communities. In addition to the direct jobs created on the farms, hatcheries and processing plants, the industry generates indirect jobs in feed manufacturing, packaging, transportation, research, veterinary medicine and the supply and service sectors as well as spin off jobs in retail and tourism.

The innovation and technology developed within the global salmon farming industry, especially in the feed sector, processing or other unique equipment contributes to the development of farming other marine and freshwater species. That means you now see

companies traditionally associated with salmon doing fish farming and other businesses in Asia, South America and throughout Europe.

Salmon farming has come of age. It is now one of the most efficient protein producers in the world. Salmon farms fit within the natural systems, producing one of the healthiest foods with a minimal environmental footprint.

We have a strong commitment for further expansion of the production of farmed Atlantic salmon, for the benefit of our coastal communities as well as for the world who needs more aquatic food. To do so, we need to overcome challenges in securing sustainable feed resources. And we need to take care of our natural environment and secure responsible interaction with wild salmon stocks. And finally, we need access to sea area to be able to produce the farmed salmon. Recently, there has been a huge development in the production methods, both regarding land based production and production in the open sea; in exposed areas. At the same time, production methods are continually improved for the production in open sea cages. The lessons learned here, may be significant for other species than salmon. It is our belief, that the annual production of farmed Atlantic salmon may be close to 3 million tonnes by 2030.

We're proud to represent the salmon farming industry. And we are proud to know that the financial strength, the know-how and the innovation in the salmon farming industry may play a significant role in increasing the production of other species.

We are proud to declare that we fully support the Shanghai Declaration: Aquaculture for food and sustainable development. ISFA will do its best to secure that the goals in the declaration are met.

Yours Sincerely,

President of The International Salmon Farmers Association (ISFA),

Trond Davidsen

Oslo, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021