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POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, TRADE, PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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Press Release

Potential for EU-Bangladesh cooperation in aquaculture sector explored

The Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh organized a Consultative Workshop on 24th June to explore the potential for EU-Bangladesh cooperation in the aquaculture sector and exchanging views among representative counterparts. The workshop, attended by aquaculture experts, assessed the potential of the sector by verifying farmer/industry needs; identifying research and development innovation priorities of mutual benefit in support of these needs; and developing a possible agenda/road map for the follow-up.

Dr. Patrick Sorgeloos, Emeritus Professor of aquaculture at Ghent University, Belgium, led the discussion where Director General of Fisheries, country representatives from FAO and World Fish, presented different aspects of the aquaculture sector of Bangladesh including its relevance to the food security and nutrition. The workshop was actively attended by academics and business leaders involved in the aquaculture sector.

In his introductory address, Mr. Frédéric Maduraud, Deputy Head of Mission, Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh, mentioned that two information seminars were already held recently to disseminate study and research opportunities available on EU Horizon 2020 programme. The consultative workshop on aquaculture is a continuation of the process which allows Bangladeshi researchers and business sector to avail the opportunities offered by EU through its different instruments.

The workshop presentations focused on challenges and interests in seafood security issues in Europe and Asia: identification of common areas of interest and scope for cooperation with Bangladesh; EU instruments for international cooperation, and European Aquaculture technology and Innovation platform EATiP (European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation platform).

The participants, through a panel of experts, came up with recommendations to be followed up in further developing the aquaculture sector in Bangladesh. The EU side invited the representatives of the sector present in the workshop to establish a national aquaculture platform to ensure the follow-up activities.

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