

Federación Nacional de Asociaciones Provinciales de Empresarios Detallistas de Pescados y Productos Congelados

Madrid, July 2nd, 2021

## FEDEPESCA'S PLEDGE WITH EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES

FEDEPESCA is the Spanish National Federation of Regional Associations of Fish and Frozen Products Retailers. We represent small and traditional fish shops since 1978. We represent more than 7.000 of the associated establishments of the 10.000 currently existing in Spain. This sector employs more than 23.000 people and it's essential so consumers can find fisheries products, that are required in every healthy and balanced diet. From FEDEPESCA we represent the interest of Spanish small fish shops, we try to boost innovation and competitiveness in our sector, we lead collective projects to improve small businesses conditions, we also work closely with the public administration and other stakeholders and we try to enhance our sector's standing.

From FEDEPESCA we appreciate the creation of the *EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES*, since we are highly committed with the main objectives described in it. A healthy, balanced and sustainable diet, the prevention and reduction of food loss and waste or the progress towards a climate neutral food chain through the implementation of good practices in our activity and in the activity of the businesses we represent are priority areas for our Federation.

We have also put the spotlight on the circular economy and in the improvement of the efficiency in our environment. Also, in social issues such as the commitment to achieve a sustained and inclusive economic growth, or in issues related to the labour market.

Resources, especially fish stocks are a major area for our Organisation. We are involved in the disclosure of different policies coming from the EU (*Common Fisheries Policy*) and others coming from Spain, so the society can understand and appreciate the great effort is being done related to the sustainability of resources.

All these issues are addressed by our Organisation by means of several projects or other activities.

For the reasons mentioned above, we are honoured to be one of the signatories of this code and we pledge to subscribe the obligations listed in the Code (Point 1.4 of the Code).

From FEDEPESCA we believe that the *EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES* can be a strong motivator for the Food Value Chain that makes possible the improvement in areas related to sustainability, efficiency, social responsibility, amongst others, and guarantees a healthy, sustainable and balanced diet for all the citizens in the European Union.

## María Luisa Álvarez General Director of FEDEPESCA