**Thailand: SIAL seminar to highlight Thai progress towards labour and social responsibility**

The Thai government has taken several steps to improve conditions for workers in the fishing and seafood industries following several adverse media reports about the hostile and dangerous environment in which many workers, particularly immigrants, are forced to toil. At SIAL 2014, a food show in Paris, the Thai government will host a seminar detailing the progress made by the public and the private sectors in Thailand towards the ultimate goal of labour and social responsibility in the fisheries and seafood sector. High-level government officials from the concerned departments within four ministries will outline various measures that their respective agencies have put into practice, in close collaboration with one another. Panellists from the Fisheries Department and the Ministry of Labour, will cover in particular the measures on Good Labour Practices, Social Responsibility as well as the roadmap to address labour issues in the Thai fisheries sector. Three other panellists from the National Police Bureau, the Department of Special Investigation (Ministry of Justice) and the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security will discuss law enforcement and prosecution. The last panellist is the Chief Executive of the Fishery Coalition of Thailand representing the private sector. His presentation will be on the private sector’s cooperation and active role to achieve better conditions in the industry. The seminar will be only part of the Thai presence at SIAL 2014. Visitors interested in food from Thailand should visit the Thailand Pavilion (Hall 4, Stand 4T08) where 135 exhibitors will have a wide range of products on display.

**Poland: Aquaculturists introduce Good Farming Practice**

Polish fish farmers and scientists have developed a code of Good Farming Practice. The code specifies good practice in fish breeding, animal welfare, environmental protection and primary fish processing. The code’s aim is to improve the conditions of farming and to communicate these improvements to give carp and trout breeding a better image. Use of the code will be voluntary. *Fish Industry Magazine, www.mprfish.com*

**Poland: Polish shipyards are building more fishing vessels for Danes**

In Gdansk recently, a partly equipped hull of a fishing vessel was launched. This is the first of four hulls which are being built by Remontowa shipyard. Another shipyard, Nauta, has an order from Danish shipyard Karstensens Skibsvaerft A/S. The contract for building two seiner hulls (one of 69.95 meter, the second 77.25 meter) was signed in July of 2013. A further contract was signed in 2014. *Fish Industry Magazine, www.mprfish.com*

**Italy: Upcoming regional conference on developing sustainable aquaculture for food security**

For many years, aquaculture actors and stakeholders in the region have been calling for a strategic commitment from governments to ensure coordinated and sustainable growth. The upcoming conference “Blue Growth in the Mediterranean and Black Sea: Developing sustainable aquaculture for food security” arranged in connection with the Italian Presidency of the European Union and with support from the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) plans to seize this momentum.

The event, to be held in Bari, Italy from 9-11 December 2014, will tackle issues of common interest to countries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea and will aim to put together a strategic vision for the sustainable development of aquaculture in order to foster socioeconomic growth and food security in the region. More information is available at www.aquaculture2014.org