

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD OF SEAFOODplus

6 OCTOBER 2004, COPENHAGEN

The External Advisory Board of SEAFOODplus convened for their first meeting during the SEAFOODplus Conference in Copenhagen 6 October 2004, where the duties of the board and the working procedures were agreed upon.

Each member of the Board presented a short evaluation statement, concentrating on the research area they had been assigned to give advice to, and gave their personal opinion on the integrated activities of SEAFOODplus as such.

Toward the end of the meeting the board as an overall evaluation of the SEAFOODplus project at present expressed the following general statements:

- 1. The EAB acknowledge the very rapid start of the Integrated Project SEAFOODplus, and if one of the goals of the EC in sponsoring mega-projects is to promote research and cooperation among institutions in different countries, the SEAFOODplus project is off to a great start.
- 2. SEAFOODplus needs to be brought to the rest of the world and the rest of the world need to be doing what SEAFOODplus is doing. There are not many food system projects as SEAFOODplus, so it will be viewed by many people world-wide.
- 3. To the extent that the SEAFOODplus project needs adjustments and potential shifts in research priorities, the EAB would like to be used as a sounding board by the SEAFOODplus Council, when changes in direction may seem warranted and to provide help in evaluation of the program and the projects as they develop.
- 4. In addition to support the RTD team in monitoring the research development, the EAB would also like to comment on industry implementation, technology transfer and technical assistance.
- 5. The EAB is enthusiastic about the scope of SEAFOODplus, the managerial strength that exists and the research efforts that have already begun.
- 6. The SEAFOODplus concept is far more than a collection of projects. It is a mode of an integration operation that must be embraced on a full international level to assure science prevails and offers a common ground for agreements to advance food safety and quality.
- 7. The EAB concludes that the SEAFOODplus programme is ambitious, multidisciplinary and creative. There are many innovative elements, and all topics within the project are considered very relevant.

John Milner Richard Shepherd Steve Otwell

Michael Morrissey Geir Lasse Taranger Allan Bremner