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**TITLE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF JOINT SCOTTISH – NORWEGIAN SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM
SCOTTISH AQUACULTURE: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, 21ST AND 22ND APRIL 2009,
EDINBURGH**

Today the Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum (SARF), in conjunction with The Royal Society of Edinburgh and The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters; announced their intention to stage an international aquaculture symposium. The event - Scottish Aquaculture: A Sustainable Future, will take place in Edinburgh on 21st and 22nd April 2009.

The theme of sustainability will be explored under the four broad themes of the environment, fish health and welfare, the role of science within regulation and policy, together with the socio- economic impact of aquaculture. The symposium aims to engage delegates from a wide range of backgrounds with an interest in aquaculture and will bring together the extensive portfolio of SARF sponsored research, complemented by internationally recognized keynote speakers.

In many areas, Scotland leads the way in seeking to use science based policy, regulation and voluntary industry codes to increase the sustainability of the aquaculture sector. The symposium will explore the practical challenges of maintaining and developing a vibrant aquaculture sector in Scotland within the context of changing regulatory, global environmental and economic forces.

This high profile event will open with a reception at the Royal Society in Edinburgh and is sure to attract a wide range of decision makers from Government and industry as well as internationally respected scientists.

The symposium has already received support from SARF Members with additional sponsorship from; The Crown Estate, Biomar, EWOS, Skretting, Seafish, and Schering Plough.

Further information on the event is available from <http://www.sarf.org.uk/symposium.htm>

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Notes:

1. Economic and Social Importance

Aquaculture plays a key role within the Scottish rural economy. Currently this industry contributes around 50% by value to the Scottish food export market. Ex-farm salmon production alone is valued at £382 million per annum. There are 1142 direct jobs in salmon production and salmon processing supports 4,700 full time, part time and seasonal jobs, mainly in the remote rural communities of the Scottish Highlands and Islands (Source: Scottish Government)

2. Background on SARF

SARF -The Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum (SARF a charity registered in Scotland No. SC035745) was established in 2003 to facilitate scientific research, dissemination of results and to provide a unique, independent interface within the sector which brings together scientists, industry, NGO's, regulators and Government. SARF seeks to promote understanding of aquaculture in the context of the Scottish environment and economy and within the wider European area. Information on SARF activities is available from <http://www.sarf.org.uk>

3. About the RSE

The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) is an educational charity, registered in Scotland. Independent and non-party-political, our wide-ranging educational activities include:

- Organising lectures, debates and conferences
- Conducting major independent inquiries
- Providing educational activities for school students throughout Scotland
- Distributing over £1.7 million to top researchers and entrepreneurs
- Showcasing to the World the best of our research and development
- Increasing two-way international exchange
- Encouraging, promoting and rewarding excellence
- Offering state-of-the-art conference facilities
- Publishing internationally respected learned journals

The RSE was founded in 1783 by Royal Charter for the "Advancement of Learning and Useful Knowledge". It is regarded as Scotland's National Academy of Science and Letters. Today it has around 1400 Fellows whose expertise encompasses the full spectrum of the sciences, medicine, engineering and technology, education, law, the arts, humanities, social sciences, business, industry, the professions and public service. This multi-disciplinary perspective makes the RSE unique amongst the United Kingdom's learned societies. It is funded by a range of carefully selected charitable, public and private bodies. Its mission today is providing public benefit through the advancement of learning and useful knowledge