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Glenn Cooke  
CEO  
Cooke Inc.

Aquatic Life Institute is an international non-profit organization dedicated to improving the welfare conditions of aquatic animals in the food system. We lead the Aquatic Animal Alliance, a coalition of 118 organizations around the world collaborating for aquatic animals.

We are [pleased to share this information webinar](#) tailored to the corporate sector, explaining aquatic animal welfare, highlighting global trends, key welfare recommendations, and best industry practices. Over 100 large scale seafood buyer representatives registered for this event.

We also wanted to address a concerning fact as we are aware that Cooke is advancing the process to acquire a majority stake in Nueva Pescanova in Spain and we want to highlight the unsustainable pursuit of this company to build an octopus farm in the Canary Islands in Spain.

Numerous animal and environmental protection organizations, scientists, and politicians have expressed serious concerns about [these projects](#), since they present risks to animal welfare, biodiversity and biosafety, environmental degradation, antibiotic resistance, public health, food safety, and the livelihoods of coastal communities. In the attached document you will find an in-depth analysis of all these risks.

We sent a [comprehensive letter](#) signed by over 140 organizations to the environmental agency in the Canary Islands, highlighting the many issues and uncertainties surrounding this potential farm's operation. This letter was covered by multiple media outlets around the world including [The Fish site](#), [Agencia EFE](#), [Seafood source](#) and many others. There is also a [public petition](#) to establish a European law banning Octopus farms currently signed by 140,000 people.

Due to these concerns and uncertainties, Nueva Pescanova still lacks the necessary permits to start operations. In fact, the company was expected to produce profits for a few years now, but has been unsuccessful so far.

Octopus farming is clearly a non-profitable venture because sustainable octopus farms are not feasible. Sustainable development by definition refers to meeting the demands of current generations without jeopardizing the needs of future generations, taking into account economic growth, environmental care, and social well-being. Under these principles, octopus farms cannot be sustainable.

Policy makers are also taking a stance against unsustainable farming practices and proposals as recently [witnessed in Hawaii](#) where an octopus farm was shut down, and Washington State, where a bill is making its way through the state legislature that will ban all future octopus [farming endeavors](#).

We urge Cooke to not overlook this concerning aspect of Nueva Pescanova's operation, and make informed decisions on the course of action of this acquisition. Please reach out to [catalina@ali.fish](mailto:catalina@ali.fish) if you would like to discuss the matter further.

Sincerely the undersigned organizations below:

**Action for Protection of Animals Africa**  
**Action For Dolphins**  
**AEL Advocacy**  
**Africa Network for Animal Welfare USA**  
**African Marine Mammal Conservation Organization**  
**Alexandria Turtle And Wildlife Rescue**  
**Alianima**  
**Anima International**  
**Anima Naturalis**  
**ANIMAL**  
**Animal Advocacy Africa**  
**Animal Advocates International**  
**Animal Empathy Philippines**  
**Animal Equality**  
**Animal Friends Croatia**  
**Animal Justice Canada**  
**Animal Interfaith Alliance**  
**Animal Kingdom Foundation**  
**Animal Law Italia**  
**Animal Nepal**  
**Animal Rights Center Japan**  
**Animal Society e.V.**  
**Animals Aotearoa**  
**Animals Don't Speak Human**  
**Animal Welfare Advocates Association the Gambia**  
**Animal Welfare Concern**  
**Animals Australia**  
**Animals Now**  
**Apon Welfare**  
**Aquatic Life Institute**  
**ARAF-PLATEAU DOGON**  
**ARBA**  
**Arusha Society for the Protection of Animals**  
**Aware**

**BC SPCA**  
**Catholic Concern for Animals**  
**Coalition of African Animal Welfare Organisations**  
**Compassion in World Farming**  
**Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation**  
**Crustacean compassion**  
**The Dark Hobby**  
**Deutscher Tierschutzbund**  
**Dharma Voices for Animals**  
**Dieren Bescherming**  
**Djurens Rätt**  
**Dyrenes Alliance**  
**Education for African Animals Welfare**  
**Essere Animalì**  
**Estonian Union for the Protection of Animals**  
**Ethical Farming Ireland**  
**FAADA**  
**Factory Farming Awareness Coalition**  
**Feedback Global**  
**Fish Welfare Initiative**  
**F.R.E.E**  
**Fórum Animal**  
**Friends of Phillip**  
**Ghana Animal Welfare Society**  
**Green REV Institute**  
**Humane Africa Trust**  
**The Humane Global Network**  
**The Humane League**  
**Humánný pokrok**  
**In Defense of Animals**  
**Institute of Animal Law Asia**  
**Invisible Animals (Nevidimi Zhivotni)**  
**Kafessiz Türkiye**  
**Keiko Conservation**  
**Kitwe Animal Welfare Society**  
**Kurdistan Organization for Animal Rights Protection**  
**Kyma**  
**L214**  
**Lady Freethinker**  
**Lilongwe Society for Protection and Care of Animals**  
**National Council of SPCAs**  
**Nepal Animal Welfare and Research Center (NAWRC)**  
**Nurture Imvelo Trust**  
**Ocean Born Foundation**  
**Ocean Preservation Society**  
**Oikeutta eläimille**

**OIPA - International Organization for Animal Protection**  
**ONG Sante Animale Afrique (SAA)**  
**Pacma**  
**Plataforma ALTO**  
**Planet For All**  
**Protección Animal Ecuador (PAE)**  
**Proyecto ALA**  
**PAZ**  
**RENTAS**  
**Rwanda Animal Welfare Organization (RAWO)**  
**SAFCEI**  
**SAFE**  
**Samayu**  
**Sea First**  
**Sentient Media**  
**Shellfish Network**  
**Shrimp Welfare Project**  
**Sibanye Animal Welfare and Conservancy Trust**  
**Sinergia Animal**  
**Sống Thuận Chay**  
**SPCA Montreal**  
**SPCA New Zealand**  
**SPCA Selangor**  
**Tanzania Animals Protection Organization**  
**Tanzania Animal Welfare Society (TAWESO)**  
**Tikobane Trust**  
**Tourists Against Trophy Hunting**  
**University of Guilan**  
**Utunzi Animal Welfare Organization**  
**Vegetarianos Hoy**  
**Vissenbescherming**  
**Voices for Animals**  
**Voters for animals rights**  
**We Animals**  
**Welfare Footprint Project (Center for Welfare Metrics)**  
**Welfarm**  
**West Africa Centre for the Protection of Animal Welfare (WACPAW)**  
**WTS**