

**Round Table with the Norwegian Seafood Council**  
**on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2023, EBA Premises**

EBA has held a Round table headed by Eng. Mostafa El Naggari, Chairman of Agriculture and Irrigation Committee in EBA with the Norwegian Seafood Council the meeting was attended by Eng. Hassan El Shafie, Board member and Chairman of the Small and Medium Enterprises Committee in EBA, Mr. Arild Oksnevad, Counsellor, Head of Development and Business Cooperation Royal Norwegian Embassy in Cairo, Mr. Trond Kostveit, Director Africa, Norwegian Seafood Council and Mrs. Dalia Youssef, Division Director of International Relations & Membership Affairs at EBA.

➤ **Main points of discussion:**

- There are great opportunities in enhancing the trade relations between Egypt and Norway, especially in the field of fisheries, where fish are imported and processed locally such as herring and salmon.
- Egypt's imports of fish from Norway recorded about \$ 100 million during the years 2021 and 2022, while Egypt exports to Norway some agricultural crops, medicines and wood
- The Challenge in managing currency for importers by banks greatly affected the movement of trade exchange between the two countries, specifically fish imports.
- EBA is in the process of arranging a number of mutual meetings between the two countries in coordination with the Norwegian embassy to stimulate the movement of trade exchange between the two countries.
- Norwegian companies are interested in the Egyptian market, as Egypt represents an important export center to Africa, in addition to being a large market, as fish and seafood are the cheapest alternative to animal protein.
- The desire of Norway to enhance cooperation and sign partnerships with the Egyptian side in transfer of know how to increase Norwegian exports of fish and seafood.
- Egypt is one of the most important markets for marketing fish and seafood to Africa and the largest fish market in Africa, the Norwegian Seafood Council exports to Egypt from 60 to 65 thousand tons worth \$ 100 million.
- Dr. Hani El-Minshawy, Head of the Fish Division at the Chamber of Food Industries, presented a proposal to the Norwegian side to establish projects for joint manufacturing in order to rationalize imports and give priority to industrialization in Egypt.