

## Press release

Oslo/ Ho Chi Minh City, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2014

### **PHARMAQ and The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Vietnam signed agreement of co-operation**

*On Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, PHARMAQ and The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development signed an agreement which gives PHARMAQ the possibility to develop vaccines for several different farmed fish species in close co-operation with the Vietnamese authorities and their organisations.*

"This agreement gives PHARMAQ a strong basis for further development of vaccines for pangasius and other farmed species in Vietnam. This strengthens the company's possibilities to develop high technology products based on knowledge from Norway in close co-operation with Norwegian and Vietnamese research teams. By signing this agreement of co-operation we take an important step further in a common goal of a forward-looking, sustainable Vietnamese fish farming industry", says Morten K. Nordstad, CEO in PHARMAQ.

PHARMAQ was first engaged in development of fish vaccines for Vietnam in 2006. Since 2008 the company has been present through its own subsidiary, PHARMAQ Vietnam, with a total of 18 employees today.

In April 2013, PHARMAQ received the Marketing Authorisation for the first vaccine in Vietnam, which also represented the first time ever the fish farming nation Vietnam registered a vaccine for fish. This vaccine, targeting the most important farmed fish specie, pangasius, was tested and documented in 2009-2010 through field trial conducted in Vietnam.

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PHARMAQ is the world's leading pharmaceutical company supplying the aquaculture industry. The company provides environmentally sound, safe and efficacious health products to the global aquaculture industry through targeted research and the commitment of dedicated people. The vaccines are manufactured in a state of the art production facility in Overhalla and Oslo, Norway. Administration and research and development activities are based in Oslo and Bergen. With subsidiaries in Chile, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Turkey, Panama and Costa Rica PHARMAQ has 170 employees. The company's products are marketed in Europe, North and South America, and Asia. PHARMAQ's majority shareholder is the private equity investment firm Permira Funds. Management and employees hold a significant stake in the company. For further information, please visit our websites: [www.pharmaq.com](http://www.pharmaq.com)