



## **Editorial by Eugene Lapointe**

The decision by Iceland to resume its whaling operations, deserves praise. This decision authorizes only the resumption of one species of whales that can sustain harvesting under strict regulatory requirements and new self-imposed conditions. The people of Iceland exposed their resilience in removing barriers and used their legitimate rights and opportunities.

The courageousness and determination of this small-island nation to carry on this action despite fierce opposition from “politically motivated” decision-makers and from “financially interested” NGOs, is a major step forward to *end hunger* as call for by the second UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 2). By standing up for its beliefs in the face of criticism, Iceland is unafraid to confront the mega-financial environmental consortium to ensure the food security of its people and those in need.

Iceland has achieved what it needed to do in a world dominated by ill-advised and fake environmentalists wanting to impose their own vision, and by animal rights fanatics who gargle stereotyped expressions such as “unacceptable”, “step backward”, “inexplicable”, “cruel”, expressions that would fit them much better.

Why should interested politicians and NGOs rebuff the use of an important source of food, at a time when the world is suffering a shortage of food? With eight billion mouths to feed, food crises across the globe will worsen and that is why local communities and systems must be supported. The right to food is elementary and the UN Committee on World Food Security defined “food security” as follows: “All people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life”.

To prevent famine now and in the future, whales are a source of food that can sustain harvesting and be exploited without exterminating this precious resource.

**Thank you, ICELAND!**