

Feed Project SC-Meeting No 5: in-person  
October 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014



## MINUTES ASC FEED PROJECT

### SC-Meeting #5 (in-person)

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014

**Place:** Vancouver

**Attendances:** Albert Tacon, Andrew Jackson, Blake Lee-Harwood (chair), Duncan Leadbitter, Eduardo Goycoolea, Johan Verburg, Karl Tore Maeland, Michiel Fransen, Niels Alsted, Trygve Berg Lea.

**Apologies:** Ally Dingwall, Daniel Fegan, Michael Philips, Michael Tlusty, Piers Hart, Tor Eirik Homme, Valeska Weymann (GlobalG.A.P.), Dan Lee (Global Aquaculture Alliance)

**Observer(s):** Dik Wolters (GMP+), Jay Ritchlin (David Suzuki Foundation)

#### 1. Opening, round of introductions, confirmation agenda

Meeting opens at 09:14 PTZ-time. All present SC-members plus observers introduce themselves. Quorum is reached. Agenda for the meeting is approved.

#### 2. Approval of minutes 4<sup>rd</sup> SC-meeting (11<sup>th</sup> August, 2014)

**Decision:** Minutes of 4<sup>rd</sup> SC-meeting are reviewed and approved.

**Action:** Minutes will be uploaded on the Projects' website.

#### 3. Adoption of new SC-member

**Discussion:** The admission of Albert Tacon to the Steering Commission was discussed.

**Decision:** Albert Tacon is added to the Steering Commission.

**Discussion:** The search for and possible admission of Asian representative(s) to the Steering Committee was discussed. Asian representation on the SC is highly important for the project.

**Decision:** Continuous outreach will be done by the Secretariat and the Steering Committee members to find Asian representative(s).

**Action:** Secretariat will do further outreach to Asian representatives to see if potential candidate(s) can be found.

#### 4. **Secretariat project update**

Secretariat provides a short update on the main activities between the 4<sup>rd</sup> SC-meeting and this meeting. Main focus is on 2 points:

**Discussion:** The remaining open action items in the Project's Action List are highlighted and discussed.

**Decision:** Remaining open action points will be addressed and closed a.s.a.p.

**Action:** Secretariat will proceed with addressing and closing the remaining open action items, and will send the updated action item list to the SC, including the documents that are made accordingly.

**Discussion:** Secretary further highlights other activities that have happened in the period between the 4<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> SC-meeting.

**Decision:** Further work will be done in completing the Technical Working Groups and making sure that the composition is well balanced. SC agrees also on the development of a new newsletter.

**Action:** Secretary will analyze the current Technical Working Groups and advice the SC on possible additions. Secretary will also make a new edition of the newsletter and circulate this to the broader stakeholder community.

#### 5. **Reporting back on TWG-Briefing event Amsterdam**

Secretariat gives an overview of the TWG-Briefing Event in Amsterdam (4 & 5 September 2014). It was a successful kick-off event of the Technical Working Groups. Around 70% of all participants of the TWG's were present. After general introductions, each TWG had four meeting sessions during which first work steps were made.

**Discussion:** On whether more in-person meetings per TWG might be needed.

**Decision:** It will be left up to the TWG to decide if more in-person meetings are needed.

**Action:** Secretary will provide this feedback to the individual TWG's and assists in any in-person meetings, if foreseen.

## 6. Report back from TWG's to SC

The findings for each of the TWG meetings in Amsterdam were presented during the SC-meeting. Findings were categorized in:

- 1) Areas of consensus
- 2) Areas of disagreement
- 3) Feedback or points for clarification, to SC.

Feedback or points for clarification, to SC where:

For TWG-Marine:

**Discussion:** Whether all current social/labour requirements currently specified by the ASC shall be applicable to FMFO factories in the future standard (in addition to feed factories).

**Decision:** No. Given the low reputational risk of social/labour requirements in the FM/FO-factory, these requirements will not be applied to FM/FO-factories. However, social/labour requirements will be applied to fishing vessels delivering to FM/FO-factories.

**Discussion:** Whether the group would only address the question of processed aquaculture feeds and not examine wet pellets or direct feeding.

**Decision:** The ASC Responsible Feed Project will only focus on processed, commercial aquaculture feed. Wet pellets, or trash fish-feeding are not within this scope.

Other points raised:

**Discussion:** The TWG-Marine has developed a step-wise approach to gradually increase the volume of certified fishmeal.

**Decision:** The SC agrees with this approach, although defining the exact steps (percentage of certain origin) need to be further discussed within the TWG.

**Action:** The TWG-Marine will develop numbers on the volume of certified fish meal and fish oil, which form the basis for the structure of the stepwise approach.

**Discussion:** Fisheries Improvement Programs (FIP) will be important for the standard in order to get fisheries involved into improving their practises.

**Decision:** The TWG-Marine will need to define credible criteria on which a FIP must comply. Verification of the made improvement(s) against the action plan are critical.

**Discussion:** It was discussed that the uptake of this standard in Asia is paramount for the success of the project.

**Decision:** SC agrees that uptake of this initiative by Asia is paramount for the successful implementation of the standard, and indeed bringing change to the industry. The “level” of the standard will be drafted by the TWG’s and SC, and available for two rounds of public consultation and a pilot testing period. Next to this the SC and Secretariat will do extensive outreach to Asian partners to ensure awareness of the project.

For TWG-Plant:

**Discussion:** How will social standards be developed to cover such varied materials as wild caught fish, trimmings, plant materials, etc.?

**Decision:** Each TWG will look into the need for social/labour criteria within their supply chain. This might mean that in the standard, different levels of implementation of social/labour requirements are presented.

Other points raised:

**Discussion:** How to deal with ingredients that are not yet included in the current scope (e.g.: rapeseed)?

**Decision:** A framework of criteria needs to be developed in order to assess new ingredients. It will be up to the ingredient supplier to prove compliance with these criteria.

**Discussion:** FEFAC is developing a framework for responsible soy. This might be interesting for this project as well.

**Action:** Secretariat will contact FEFAC and ITC (the implementing tool of the framework) and ask for clarification.

**Discussion:** On the communication of GMO derived ingredients.

**Decision:** Use of ingredients derived from GMO organisms must be actively communicated to the next chain in the supply chain. This means that feed mills must actively communicate to their customers on the use of GMO-ingredients in their feed.

For TWG-Animal:

**Discussion:** Due to the small influence of aquaculture on the feed manufacturing processes which provide feed for the animal, which in turn become raw material for PAP’s in aquaculture feed, this TWG decided to limit their scope to the processes in the rendering facility.

**Decision:** The SC agrees with this approach.

**Discussion:** Within the use of PAP’s, two discussions emerge: one on feed safety and one on reputational/religious issues.

**Decision:** The SC decides that this TWG does not focus on feed safety. The feed standard will focus on environmental and social issues. Next to that, there are specific schemes available for feed safety.

Other points raised:

**Discussion:** Would it be possible to use same-species meal to feed to a similar species?

**Decision:** This is described within the ASC Farm Standards.

**Discussion:** How to deal with social requirements?

**Decision:** The TWG-Animal will also focus on Social criteria, but will restrict it's scope to the rendering facility.

**Discussion:** The SC recognizes that traceability of ingredients used for PAP production is an important topic.

**Decision:** SC decided that TWG-Animal will focus also on traceability.

**Action:** Secretariat will contact Asian partners to determine what the challenges are for traceability in Asia.

For TWG-Feed mill:

**Discussion:** Further guidance is needed on what should be covered in the responsible sourcing section of the standard as well as clarification on which TWG should work to develop the relevant indicators to avoid doubling up on work.

**Decision:** SC recognizes this as a priority.

**Action:** Secretariat will develop draft guidelines, circulate these with SC, and send them to TWG's.

**Discussion:** Add in auditor guidance section to the standard development template to encourage all TWGs to think about this during the standard development process.

**Action:** Secretariat will include this in the guidelines, as mentioned above.

**Discussion:** There was a discussion on which labour standard should be used for feed mills.

**Decision:** SC recognizes that this in a relatively unknown area. More details are needed for a decision.

**Action:** Secretariat will develop an overview of possible social standards.

## 7. Definition of acceptable origin

**Discussion:** There was a discussion on whether the acceptable origin should be put at the level of one chain back in the supply chain for all ingredients within the scope, or that each ingredient group will need to set their own level of acceptable origin.

**Decision:** It was decided that each TWG will define the acceptable traceability level of origin for the ingredient within the scope.

## 8. CoC and traceability

**Discussion:** Traceability of the origin of the ingredients, is paramount for successful implementation of the Standard. The SC is introduced into the issues and possibilities of proper traceability and Chain of Custody.

**Decision:** Chain of Custody will be a function of materiality, meaning that CoC will only be applied to the ingredients within the scope of this standard.

**Action:** Secretariat will include this in the guidelines, as mentioned above.

**Decision:** In addition the SC was informed on two possible methodologies for establishing reliable traceability: 1) mass balance and 2) book and claim. Book and claim will be used for ingredients coming from sources certified against RTRS (soy) and RSPO (palm oil), and mass balance will be used for the remaining ingredients.

## 9. Unit of Certification

**Discussion:** within the SC there is no clarity whether multiple feed mills belonging to one feed company, can be certified on one certificate (group certification)

**Decision:** This issues remains open, until further clarification of ASC is provided.

**Action:** Secretariat will take this back to ASC for further discussion and provide feedback to the SC.

## 10. Next steps on TWG's

**Decision:** The next working steps for the Technical Working Groups are defined as follows:

1. Set dates for the next meeting (either in-person or via teleconference)
2. Review the decisions made by the SC, and the guidance that will be delivered by the Secretariat.
3. Start with filling in the template Standard according to what is already decided, and identify those areas that remain open.

## 11. Future timelines

**Discussion:** The proposed timeline as presented by the Secretariat and discussed by the SC. An important milestone in the project will be the Public Consultation Rounds.

**Decision:** The proposed starting time for public consultation round will be May 2015. This consultation round will last for 2 months. This will have as consequence that the entire project is extended with approximately 2 months.

**Action:** Secretariat will take this proposed decision back to ASC and provide feedback to the SC a.s.a.p.

## 12. AoB

**Discussion:** The Secretariat requested an evaluation round to identify any areas of attention.

**Decision:**

- Priority should be given to include Asian representatives into the project. For this a strategy is needed.
- The timeline, once agreed, will be shared with the TWG's.

**Action:** The secretariat will include these feedback points into the action list.

### **Structure of standard**

**Discussion:** Several possible approaches for the standard structure are presented and discussed.

**Decision:** Several possible approaches will be drafted on paper and circulated to SC-members.

**Action:** Secretariat will develop possible draft standard structures and circulate them to SC.

## 13. Closing