

**Feed Project Meeting No 2: In person,  
October 31st, 2013**



## **MINUTES ASC FEED PROJECT**

### **Meeting #1 (in-person)**

**Date:** 31<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**Place:** Intercontinental Hotel, Hong Kong

**Attendances:** Chair: Blake Lee-Harwood (BLH) , Ally Dingwall (AD), Andrew Jackson (AJ), Daniel Fegan (DF), Eduardo Goycoolea (EG), Michael Tlusty (MT), Piers Hart (PH), Tor Eirik Homme (TEH), Trygve Berg Lea (TBL), Duncan Leadbitter (DL), Michiel Fransen (MF)

**Apologies:** Michael Philips (MP), Chris Ninnes (CN)

**Observer(s):** Maylinn Nunn (MN)

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

Meeting opens at 08:16am HKG-time. All present SC-members plus observer introduced themselves. Agenda for the meeting approved.

#### **2. Approval of minutes from meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**Decision** Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013, TelCo reviewed and approved. All in favour.

**Action:** ASC will upload pdf-version to the ASC-website.

#### **3. Project overview and focus**

The overall ambition and structure of the project was outlined. Chair explained and emphasized the focus of the meeting itself.

**Discussion:** relating to role and rights of observers during SC-meetings

**Decision:** agreed that presence of observers permitted. Their presence to be approved by the steering committee in advance and recorded by the Secretariat. Observers are non-voting and expected to abide by the rules of the SC.

**Discussion:** relating to the exact role of the Technical Working Group (TWG).

**Decision:** TWGs report and give recommendations to SC. SC will advise in writing if recommendations will not be followed.

**Discussion:** relating to the MoU between ASC, GAA and GG and their roles of the G.A.A. and GlobalG.A.P. in this Project.

**Decision:** G.A.A. and GlobalG.A.P. are important participants in this project. They may participate as observers to the SC and will be invited to participate in a technical working group that will consider the interface of other certification programmes with the Feed Dialogue. The details on this TWG have not yet been elaborated.

**Action:** ASC will coordinate with all related certification programmes to facilitate their future participation and report back to SC.

**Discussion:** relating to how project communication will be coordinated.

**Decision:** the website of ASC will serve as the main conduit for disseminating project information.

**Action:** ASC will develop a communications strategy for the SC to consider at its next meeting.

**Discussion:** relating to how the proposed certified fish feed volume (10-12% by 2020) was set. The target is proposed as a reasonable expectation given the complexities and appetite of the sector for certification.

**Action:** the Secretariat will relate this percentage to anticipated growth of ASC certified farmed fish volume and report back to SC.

**Discussion:** relating to how the current feed requirements in the ASC Farm Standards will relate to the Feed Standard.

**Decision:** the feed efficiency requirements will remain in their current form, but the sourcing of raw material will be reviewed by the Feed Dialogue.

**Discussion:** relating to whether the Feed Standard development will follow ISEAL's Code for Standard Setting.

**Action:** the development of the Feed Standard will follow ISEAL's Code.

#### **4. Approval of governance documents**

Three documents were presented for feedback and approval.

1. Terms of Reference:

**Decision:** SC approved this document.

**Action:** ASC will upload the pdf-version on the ASC-website.

2. Commitment Letter:

**Discussion:** SC discussed the intent and appropriateness of the wording of the Commitment Letter. The intent of the letter was to ensure that all members of the SC were committed to the development of the Feed Standard.

**Decision:** The current wording was accepted.

3. Process Guidance Document:

**Discussion:** relating to the composition of the SC and their financial contribution to the project.

**Decision:** SC is committed to finding Asian representatives to serve on the Steering Committee. A 12 member SC was thought appropriate to give breadth of representation and efficient decision making capacity.

**Action:** ASC will update document and share with SC.

**5. Discussion paper & 6. Setting the scope**

DL presented a paper related to the scope of the standard. Four issues were discussed.

**Discussion:** what is the best way to construct a feed standard that delivers the greatest improvement to the sustainable production of feed ingredients?

**Decision:** the standard needs to be: aspirational, reward purchasers, achievable, able to service a growing industry, simple, provide reassurance to the value chain, set positive example, will include fish feed factories, generate trust and transparency, provide stepwise mechanisms to achieve the standard, should not reinvent the wheel and be transformational.

**Decision:** the unit of certification will be the feed plant itself and the standard will have three parts:

1. cross-sector principles covering: legal, environmental, traceability, social responsibility and GMP issues.
2. Sector principles
3. Ingredient criteria

**Discussion:** what is the most effective methodology for deciding on ingredients for inclusion?

**Recommendation 1:** a cross cutting principle needs to include those elements of responsible manufacturing already captured in existing standards rather than inventing new ones.

**Action:** a TWG will be established to consider the bounds of responsible manufacturing and on trade flows of ingredients.

**Recommendation 2:** the Standard should not restrict the use of ingredients; which are not covered in it.

**Decision:** ingredients covered by the standard will be determined by TWGs. One consideration will be the scale of the known environmental impacts. A rationale as to why an ingredient will be considered eligible for inclusion in the standard (or not) will be developed for SC sign-off.

**Recommendation 3:** a threshold level is needed to decide on which ingredients should be included in the standard.

**Discussion:** related to the discussion above.

**Decision:** volume and known environmental impacts will be two key considerations.

**Discussion:** an overview of the main ingredients used per species and region is needed.

**Action:** ASC will review the topic and report to SC.

**Recommendation 4:** what will be the consideration of GM ingredients.

**Decision:** it was agreed that the general tenets of the ASC standard should be followed in that the standards do not position whether GM products should be allowed but that transparency on their inclusion is vital. If buyers wish to exclude fish fed on GM ingredients the information provided should allow such a decision to be taken.

**Overall Scope Consideration:** the SC concluded that key ingredients that should be included in the scope of the feed standard should, at least, include: fish meal and fish oil, soy, wheat, palm oil and terrestrial animal products

## 7. Future Work Plan

**Discussion:** the SC considered the future work and composition of Technical Working Groups

**Recommendation 1:** each TWG will be led by a member of the SC.

**Decision:** all in favor.

**Recommendation 2:** TWG will start with draft whitepapers in order to speed up the process.

**Decision:** SC members will write the initial scope for the following whitepapers:

1. Marine animal ingredients (scope by DL)
2. Terrestrial animal ingredients (scope by AD)
3. Plant ingredients (scope by DF)
4. Micro ingredients (scope by AJ)
5. Supply chain issues (scope by TBL)
6. Feed mill considerations (scope by TBL)

White papers will be then developed by consultants and handed over to SC by mid March 2014.

**Recommendation 3:** within the SC sufficient expertise is present on marine ingredients; no external expertise for draft whitepaper is needed.

**Decision:** all in favor.

**Recommendation 4:** it was proposed to invite FEFAC (European Feed Manufacturers' Federation) as observer for future meetings

**Decision:** all in favor.

**Action:** FEFAC will be invited.

**Recommendation:** related to having CABs in separate Technical Working Group

**Decision:** all in favor

**Action:** SC will take this into consideration when establishing the TWG's.

#### 8. A.O.B.

**Discussion:** how to deal with byproducts?

**Decision:** SC agreed that byproduct use should be considered in the relevant white paper.

**Decision:** the use of the term 'Artificial Feed' should be changed to Compound Feed' in the discussion paper

**Action:** discussion papers will be adjusted.

**Decision:** In-person meetings will be held twice a year. Teleconferences will be arranged as needed. The next in-person meeting will be at either Boston or Brussels Seafood Show

**Decision:** the SC confirmed the appointment of Blake Lee-Harwood as SC Chair for the duration of the project.

**9. Closing**

Meeting closed at 16.37.