



## 1. Contents

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| Document Name: | TOR: VR Committee – ASC Standards |     |             |             |  |
| Document ID:   | Version:                          | 1.0 | Issue Date: | 15 DEC 2020 |  |
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## 1. Purpose of Document

This document describes the Terms of Reference of the ASC Variance Request Committee for Variation Requests against the ASC Standards.

## 2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1. ASC Standards and Policies:
  - 2.1.1. ASC Standards.
- 2.2. Procedures, Guidelines:
  - 2.2.1. ASC Variance Request Procedure;
  - 2.2.2. ASC Standard Setting Procedure.
- 2.3. External Guidelines:
  - 2.3.1. ISEAL Standard-Setting Code of Good Practice;
  - 2.3.2. ISEAL Assurance Code of Good Practice.

## 3. TOR -Variance Request Committee

- 3.1. The VR Committee shall consist of three (3) voting Members, two (2) non-voting Advisors and three (3) non-voting Observers, consisting in wholly of:
  - 3.1.1. VR Committee Members:
    - 3.1.1.1. ASC Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Chair;
    - 3.1.1.2. ASC Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Member, as elected by TAG;
    - 3.1.1.3. ASC Director of Standards and Science.
  - 3.1.2. VR Committee Advisors:
    - 3.1.2.1. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) member(s) with relevant expertise on the VR topic;
    - 3.1.2.2. ASC Standards and Science staff member responsible for the technical review.
  - 3.1.3. VR Committee Observers:
    - 3.1.3.1. ASC CEO;
    - 3.1.3.2. ASC Programme Assurance staff member;
    - 3.1.3.3. ASC Market Development staff member.
- 3.2. The VR Committee Members are the decision-making body.
  - 3.2.1. If consensus cannot be achieved, majority voting will be conducted.
- 3.3. The VR Committee Members shall be listed on the ASC website.
- 3.4. The VR Committee Members (3.1.1) shall automatically be appointed in response to her/his appointment to the position within ASC Standards and Science, or the ASC Technical Advisory Group.

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3.5. Membership on the VR Committee shall terminate when:

3.5.1. Employment with ASC ends, or, their position within the ASC changes;

3.5.2. Their TAG-term expires.

3.6. Members of the VR Committee shall have one or more of the following skills and knowledge-areas:

3.6.1. Vision and mission of the ASC;

3.6.2. Understanding of the ASC Certification Programme;

3.6.3. Reputation of the ASC and risks that may jeopardize it;

3.6.4. Understanding of the aquaculture sector, including related environmental and social impacts;

3.6.5. Ability to read and distill scientific information and recommendations.

#### 4. Amendment History

| Date:       | Version: | Summary of Amendment: |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 15 Dec 2020 | 1.0      | New document          |

## Annex 1 - Current VR (Variation Request) Committee Members

- Petter Arnesen, Chair of Technical Advisory Group.
- Peter Cook, Technical Advisory Group member.
- Michiel Fransen, Director of Standards and Science.

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