



## **Statement of Support to the Shanghai Declaration, Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20**

### ***Global Seafood Alliance & The Center for Responsible Seafood***

The Global Aquaculture Alliance and the Responsible Aquaculture Foundation have expanded the scope of their missions to include wild catch; consequently, they have rebranded to become the Global Seafood Alliance (GSA) and The Center for Responsible Seafood (TCRS), respectively. Both GSA and TCRS are pleased to participate in the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20 and to commit to the Shanghai Declaration: Aquaculture for Food and Sustainable Development.

We strongly support the common vision for an aquaculture sector that leads the way towards more productive, efficient, resilient, climate-smart and socially responsible food systems, fulfils its potential to meet the increasing demand for safe, healthy and affordable aquatic food and aquatic products, with reduced impacts on the global environment, contributes to human well-being and helps to eradicate poverty, malnutrition and hunger, and matures in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable way.

Each of the priorities articulated in the Declaration resonate with aspects of our mission. In particular, we wish to express support for the following:

- A4. GSA has developed a comprehensive suite of Best Aquaculture Practices and Best Seafood Practices certification standards that assume compliance with the three dimensions of sustainable food systems.
- A13. For 20 years, GSA has hosted an annual meeting of aquaculture stakeholders called GOAL: Global Outlook for Aquaculture Leadership. It includes representatives of retail, food service, importers, processors, feed companies, farmers, hatcheries, equipment and service providers, government representatives, and conservation groups. It is an opportunity to identify and discuss issues and arrive at consensus solutions. GSA commits to continue this meeting to help align stakeholders to common sustainability goals.

- B1. TCRS is developing a network of seafood communities to encourage collaboration and interaction. The Feeds Community will offer an online feed formulation database that will include a parameter for carbon emissions of each raw material. This will allow formulators to formulate not only based on nutrient levels and cost, but also on carbon emissions.
- C2. TCRS has engaged in several World-Bank-supported projects to investigate how to better manage aquaculture diseases, and one is currently underway with small-holder black tiger shrimp farmers in Bangladesh. It has also conducted projects on fish welfare funded by the Open Philanthropy Project. These learnings have been incorporated into several online educational modules that are available free of charge. We commit to develop a Continuing Professional Development program which will offer certification to both industry leaders and practitioners.
- C7. GSA had developed standards for Biosecurity Area Management that have been implemented in Ireland and Colombia. We commit to roll this program out globally in the coming decade.
- D6. GSA has developed a risk-based, laboratory testing program to verify the food safety of aquaculture products. It involves collecting random samples of finished product at the originating processing plant, testing for antimicrobial residues and pathogens at certified laboratories, and holding the data in an immutable database. This program has been pilot tested in three countries. We commit to roll it out globally.
- E8. GSA has developed a digital lot-based traceability model for tracing seafood throughout the supply chain to the consumer. This involves collection of key data elements from the hatchery, farm, feed mill, and processing plant for aquaculture products and from the fishery, vessel, and processing plant for the wild caught products. Information about provenance, sustainability credentials, and the product story can be conveyed to the consumer via a QR code. We commit to develop this program on an industry-wide scale to provide greater transparency and accountability throughout the seafood value chain.
- I1. GSA also initiated a Vanguard standard on Climate Action, which will focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from feeds and feed ingredients and from farm operations. It will also encourage renewable energy and circular economies to reduce waste.

GSA and TCRS wish the Shanghai Conference great success in driving sustainability of aquaculture.

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