

## **Mitsubishi Corporation's Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing Policy**

Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) pursues sustainable growth through the simultaneous generation of economic, societal and environmental value. We recognize that conserving the natural environment, which includes preventing the depletion of natural resources, and respecting human rights throughout our supply chains are key material issues for our company. Through the Food Industry Group, MC trades in food-related products and develops businesses that support the daily lives of consumers. MC is both a major buyer of seafood from global producers as well as a major supplier of seafood to markets in Japan and around the world. As such, our responsibility in relation to sustainable sourcing extends globally. Furthermore, with activities ranging from aquaculture to the purchasing, processing and wholesale of seafood, we function as a key link in the supply chain by connecting fisheries and farmers with retailers who provide seafood products to consumers.

MC, together with its group company Toyo Reizo Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to collectively as “the MC Group”), is committed to sourcing all bluefin tuna (specifically Atlantic bluefin tuna, Pacific bluefin tuna and Southern bluefin tuna) in a sustainable manner, based on sound science, to ensure the long-term continuity of the business by maintaining healthy bluefin tuna stocks for future generations. All bluefin tuna handled by the MC Group complies with the commitments and principles detailed in the Wild Caught Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing Policy and the Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Aquaculture Policy (see below).

### **1. Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing**

#### **1-1. Wild Caught Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing Policy**

In promoting sustainability for wild caught bluefin tuna, the MC Group is committed to the following:

- ✓ To encourage broader adoption and advancement of sustainable bluefin tuna fishing standards set by the programs certified by the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI).
- ✓ To actively support companies and producers with efforts to obtain GSSI certification through objective, science-based projects.
- ✓ To avoid sourcing bluefin tuna that is acquired or captured in a way that falls under the category of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing, as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), by continuously confirming regulatory compliance during procurement, while also supporting science-based marine biodiversity conservation and responsible fishery management practices.

- ✓ To avoid sourcing bluefin tuna produced in ways that contribute to the violation of human rights and/or labor rights, through the implementation of targeted and effective due diligence measures.

### 1-2. Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Aquaculture Policy

In promoting sustainable aquaculture for bluefin tuna, the MC Group is committed to the following:

- ✓ To support the advancement of sustainable bluefin tuna aquaculture standards set by the GSSI-certified programs, through active collaboration.
- ✓ To actively support farmers and fishermen with efforts to obtain GSSI certification through objective, science-based projects.
- ✓ To avoid sourcing bluefin tuna that is acquired or captured in a way that falls under the category of IUU fishing as defined by the FAO, given that bluefin tuna aquaculture is dependent on wild stock, by continuously confirming regulatory compliance during procurement, while also supporting science-based marine biodiversity conservation and responsible fishery management practices.
- ✓ To avoid sourcing bluefin tuna produced in ways that contribute to the violation of human rights and/or labor rights, through the implementation of targeted and effective due diligence measures.

## 2. Results of the Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan for Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing

Action Plan	Progress and Results
Assessment of fishery compliance with Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standards by a third-party auditor (gap analysis for Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs)).	For the Croatian purse seine fishery, a major supplier of Atlantic bluefin tuna to the MC Group, we performed a gap assessment against MSC standards and shared the issues identified with the relevant parties in Croatia. We also held regular dialogues to explore the feasibility of obtaining MSC certification.
Aim to create and implement a transparent traceability system to avoid IUU sourcing for all procured bluefin tuna by the end of fiscal year 2017.	The MC Group has developed a transparent system that enables the tracking of traceability information from catch to import for all of the bluefin tuna it handles. Currently, 100% of the bluefin tuna procured by the MC Group can be managed via this system. In addition, we engage in dialogues with relevant suppliers to confirm the avoidance of IUU practices directly.
Regular participation in stakeholder	We regularly participate in stakeholder dialogues,

dialogues with the aim of creating a sustainable aquaculture standard for bluefin tuna	including Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)-related roundtables hosted by WWF. We also engage with Japan-based and international NGOs and respond proactively to their inquiries and requests.
Develop a plan for MC to develop Best Management Practices (BMPs), intended to be implemented within fiscal year 2018, for Aquaculture Improvement Projects (AIPs)	Although we continued to attend multi-stakeholder dialogues on the development of ASC standards, due to a lack of consensus in those discussions, the MC Group was unable to develop BMPs. We plan to continue our efforts based on the progress towards developing ASC standards for bluefin tuna aquaculture through discussions among a diverse range of stakeholders.

### **3. Fiscal Year 2021 Action Plan for Bluefin Tuna Sustainable Sourcing**

Based on the results of the Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plan, the MC Group will implement a new Fiscal Year 2021 Action Plan with a focus on the following:

- ✓ To promote GSSI-certified bluefin tuna and expand the proliferation of certified products in the Japanese and global markets alike. Specifically, the MC Group aims to increase its total procurement of GSSI-certified bluefin tuna to at least 30% by 2030.
- ✓ To continue engaging in dialogues with relevant stakeholders by actively participating in meetings and other efforts towards reaching an agreement on the development of ASC or similar standards for sustainable bluefin tuna aquaculture.
- ✓ To endorse and support efforts for the Southern bluefin tuna purse seine fishery, which provides wild stock for bluefin tuna aquaculture operations in Australia, to obtain MSC certification.

### **4. Stakeholder Engagement**

The MC Group recognizes that the issues associated with bluefin tuna sourcing are complex and constantly evolving. While conducting our business in a transparent manner by maintaining regular dialogues with stakeholders, we will promote collaboration with those who share the MC Group's commitment towards sustainable bluefin tuna sourcing.