

---

# FISHERY By Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

---

---

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL

---



<b>FISHERY By Product:</b>	Atlantic Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Iceland ICES (Division Va)
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2010
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	Vito Ciccia Romito

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 5	CCM Code:

**This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.**

1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: Fishmeal Association of Iceland		
Address:		
Country:	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Vito Ciccia Romito	Mike Platt	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By product surveillance
2. Fishery By Product		
		Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
3. Fishery By Product Location		
		Iceland ICES (Division Va1/Va2)
4. Fishery Method		
		Mid-water trawl or purse seines
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Highly Compliant with IFFO RS standard

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
Auditor to check that the fish by products used by the factory have had a fish by product Surveillance.
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
If the Atlantic Mackerel is to be used whole, solely for fishmeal it would need further investigation, but as by-product it complies with the IFFO RS standard.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME	
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the by product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the conservation of the fishery.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the conservation of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is established and works efficiently toward the conservation of the stock.
<p><b>Determination:</b> <i>Iceland has a responsible management regime that works efficiently towards the conservation of the stock. Therefore the use of mackerel byproduct for fishmeal/fishoil production is welcome.</i></p> <p><b>North East Atlantic distribution.</b></p> <p>Three stocks of the Atlantic Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) are recognized in the North East Atlantic. The southern stock spawns in Spanish and Portuguese waters, the western stock spawns in the Bay of Biscay and around Ireland and the third stock spawns in the North Sea. The mackerel is not currently known to spawn in Icelandic waters but migrates there occasionally and can then be found all around the country (<i>Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture</i>).</p> <p><b>Management framework and procedure</b></p> <p>Icelanders have structured a fisheries management system to ensure responsible fisheries, focusing on the sustainable utilization of the fish stocks and good treatment of the marine ecosystem (<i>Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture</i>). According to Icelandic law the total allowable catch (TAC) is set by the Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture and this decision should be based on scientific advice from the Icelandic Marine Research Institute (MRI). The present comprehensive fisheries management system is based on Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs). The Ministry is supported by the Marine Research Institute, the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratory (IFL) and the Directorate of Fisheries. The Directorate is responsible for implementing legislation on fisheries management. It collects and publishes data and other fisheries statistics. It issues fishing permits to vessels and allocates catch quotas (<i>Directorate of Fisheries</i>).</p> <p>Data suggests that the distribution of the mackerel spawning and feeding areas may have expanded in recent years. Mackerel has recently been commercially fished in areas where it was previously not fished, particularly in the Icelandic EEZ. Following the <b>ICES MSY framework, fishing mortality is to be reduced to 0.22 (FMSY), resulting in a total catch of 646 000 tonnes in 2011. This is expected to lead to a sustainable SSB of 2.75 million tonnes in 2012.</b></p>	

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the conservation and management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exist, and existent research is considered adequate for the long term conservation of the target, non-target and physical environment
<p><b>Determination:</b> <i>Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exist, and existent research is considered adequate for the long term conservation of the target, non-target and physical environment</i></p> <p><b>Data and methods of stock assessment</b></p> <p>The latest stock assessment procedure for Atlantic Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) in the North East Atlantic is <b>based on catch numbers-at-age for the period 1972 - 2009 and triennial egg survey estimates of SSB from 1992 to 2010</b>. The provisional 2010 SSB estimate from egg survey was 4.13 million tonnes compared to 3.26 million tonnes in 2007. In the past, estimates of total mortality have been similar to those obtained from tag-recapture studies. Some sampling for discards has been carried out since 2000 and a formal requirement was initiated in the EU in 2002 (ICES 2010). The 2002 and 2005 triennial egg surveys in the North Sea both indicate similar egg production, but in 2008 egg production decreased by about 40% (ICES 2010). However the analytical assessment in 2009 indicates continued increase in the spawning stock biomass from 2002-2009 (<i>Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture</i>).</p> <p><b>Bycatch and damage to physical environment</b></p> <p>In the Icelandic and Faroese fisheries, in the north-western part of the distribution area, mackerel has been taken together with herring. This has been less of an issue in 2010 because of <b>horizontal segregation of the stocks</b> (ICES 2010). In addition, according to Icelandic law, discards are prohibited. All catches must be landed. This management measure should allow for a <b>reasonable measurement of Icelandic bycatch amount and appropriate action</b> (<i>Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture</i>). As the mackerel fisheries operate midwater trawl or purse seines gear, damage to the physical environment should be <b>minimal to negligible</b>.</p>	
C. STOCK STATUS	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish by product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	The fish by-product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The fish by product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish by product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish by product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.
<p><b>Determination:</b> <i>The Mackerel fishery has an established management framework (as illustrated in section 4A) and the species is not at present in the IUCN Red list and therefore not vulnerable to extinction.</i></p>	

## 5. REFERENCES

- R1. Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture  
<http://www.fisheries.is/management/>
  
- R1.2 <http://www.fisheries.is/main-species/pelagic-fishes/atlantic-mackerel/>
  
- R.2 Directorate of Fisheries  
<http://www.fiskistofa.is/>
  
- R.3 Marine Research Institute  
[http://www.hafro.is/index\\_eng.php](http://www.hafro.is/index_eng.php)
  
- R.4 ICES, 2010. Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic (combined Southern, Western, and North Sea spawning components)  
<http://www.ices.dk/committe/acom/comwork/report/2010/2010/mac-nea.pdf>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864		
Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 5 of 5
		CCM Code:

**This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.**