



Naturland

WILDFISCH

NATURLAND STANDARDS

SUSTAINABLE CAPTURE

FISHERY

Version 05/2023

Table of contents

Preface	3
Part A. General regulations	4
I. Contracts and certification procedure	4
1. Prerequisites for granting a producer contract	4
2. Producer contract	4
3. Standards	4
4. Conversion	4
5. Changes in the operating system	5
6. Documentation and inspection	5
7. Certification	5
8. Labelling and marketing	5
II. General (management) regulations resp. other predominant provisions	7
1. Sustainable management	7
2. Quality assurance	7
3. Non-employment of GMO and GMO derivatives	7
4. Non-use of nanomaterials	7
5. Storage	8
6. The sale of purchased merchandise	8
7. Purchase of means of production and equipment	8
8. Exchange of machinery and equipment between different operating systems (certified sustainable/ conventional)	8
9. Materials in use	8
10. Biogas plants	8
III. Social responsibility	10
1. Human rights	10
2. Freedom to accept or reject employment	10
3. Freedom of association, access to trade unions	10
4. Equal treatment and opportunities	10
5. Child's rights	10
6. Health and safety	10
7. Employment conditions	10
Part B. Regulations for Sustainable Capture Fishery	12
1. Specific management conditions and certification procedure	12
2. Ecology	12
3. Social and economic aspects	13
4. Legal framework and management	13

Preface

“Sustainability”, in the sense of these standards, is a holistic concept, including the ecological, the social, and the economical dimension.

Sustainability in the ecological sense means that the fishery is performed in such a way that integrity of the ecosystem is maintained long-term, concerning both the stocks of the economically relevant species as well as the other components of the ecosystem. A further aspect is to ensure that fish remains a particularly healthy, high-grade source of nourishment, one which we cannot allow to deteriorate as a result of environmental pollution or questionable processing methods.

Sustainability in fishery in the social sense means that those employed in this industry meet with fair working conditions, and that the living conditions of other members of the same community are not adversely affected.

Sustainability in fishery in the economic sense means that the marketing of fish encourages stable business relationships distinguished by the mutual sense of responsibility of all the members of the value chain towards each other.

Part A. General regulations

I. Contracts and certification procedure

1. Prerequisites for granting a producer contract

Prior to the conclusion of a producer contract, the association must be given the opportunity to acquire sufficient information on the external and internal conditions of the operation.

The producer is obliged to provide any information necessary to assess the conversion conditions. This includes particularly the kind of management that has been practised to date, the economic situation of the fishery and the prevailing environmental conditions (marine reserves, potential sources of pollution). If possible causes of contamination with dubious or harmful substances are detected, analyses have to be produced or tests carried out prior to the conclusion of a producer contract. These analyses may show that a producer contract is only possible under specific conditions or not at all.

All the areas where the producer operates, including production facilities and warehouses, are to be included in the description of the enterprise.

2. Producer contract

On signing the producer contract, the producer commits himself to adhering to Naturland standards and to extending the conversion to all areas of the enterprise that are managed or dealt with under his responsibility (conversion of the total fishery).

The principle of the manager's unit is to be applied, i.e. one and the same manager may not manage a conventional and a sustainable operation at the same time¹.

The conclusion of a producer contract is possible at any time of the year.

The conclusion of a producer contract does not entitle the producer to the use of the association's logo. A separate licence contract has to be concluded for this.

3. Standards

These standards are obligatory for all producers that have concluded a producer contract with Naturland. If single regulations or parts of these standards should not be applicable in certain geographic areas, the Naturland standards committee has to draft an amendment or addition to the standards which has to be passed by the assembly of delegates. Every member is entitled to submit amendment proposals to the standards committee, provided that further Naturland members (minimum of ten) support this proposal. Amendment proposals will be legally evaluated by the standards committee and submitted to a competent group of professionals for their comments.

Naturland's certification committee is entitled to allow a producer contractor to diverge from Naturland's standards in specific points, where the exception is justified, and for a limited period of time, provided that the general management according to Naturland's standards is not adversely affected.

Only the latest version of the standards as passed by the standards committee is valid. Naturland will inform the contractual producers of any changes.

If the standards are changed, a deadline can be set for the implementation of these changes.

Violations of the standards will be prosecuted according to the sanction catalogue (Appendix to the producer contract).

The validity of overriding national legislation and ordinances shall, however, remain unaffected by these standards. The certification of processing units is subject to Naturland's standards for the processing of organic aquacultural produce and produce from sustainable capture fishery (ref. www.naturland.de).

4. Conversion

During conversion, the manager introduces management practises in accordance with the principles of sustainable fishery throughout the entire operation.

The conversion of the entire enterprise must occur under economically acceptable basic conditions. It can therefore take place gradually to cover ever greater sections of the area and operation managed in accordance with the standards. Where conversion is carried out gradually, it is imperative for the areas under various stag-

¹ Manager's unit: composed of manager and operational unit. The manager is the natural person running an operation independently and responsibly (fishery manager). The operating unit is a clearly defined management sphere on which distinctly separate records are kept for inspection and documentation.

es of conversion to be clearly and explicitly delineated. Simultaneous production of products belonging to different stages of certification that cannot be clearly differentiated is not permissible.

Switching between sustainable and conventional management is prohibited.

A consultant recognised by Naturland assists in the conversion; the conversion concept is to be worked out with him.

It is possible to commence conversion at any time of the year.

5. Changes in the operating system

If new areas or products are introduced into a recognised operation, then the new areas or products are subject to the regular recognition procedure as per these standards. Care must be taken that the different stages of recognition are clearly and unmistakably differentiated or separated.

Naturland has to be notified of any changes which could have a detrimental effect on the products, especially of any sources of possible contamination. This applies particularly to areas newly included in the area farmed (e.g. sewage sludge, road traffic etc.).

6. Documentation and inspection

The currently valid details (i.e. catch statistics, the results of analyses) shall be reported to Naturland. Regarding product flow (e.g. sales), likewise, records shall be kept in accordance with Naturland's standards. Previously announced (at least once a year) and unannounced visits and inspections by personnel authorised by Naturland shall monitor adherence to the standards. They shall be provided with unrestricted access and scrutinising opportunities into all the relevant areas of the operation. Upon request, all the documents relating to the managing of the operation shall be made available and questions answered.

All stages of the value chain have to be recorded when the operation is inspected, although, in the case of fishing co-operatives, for example, individual areas can be organised in the form of an Internal Control System (ICS). Where third parties operate on behalf of the producer (e.g. treatment, storage, processing, transport), the processor must take steps (such as the conclusion of a sub-contracting agreement) to ensure that the standards are applied and that adherence to them can be monitored by Naturland.

Moreover, the fishery and Naturland together determine the following conditions which have to be complied with:

- a list of the contaminants and noxious substances (from both anthropogenic and natural sources) that are relevant to the region and the type of production
- the frequency of and processes used in the analysis of these pollutants (with reference to the water, sediment, feed and products)
- alert values of max. 50% of the critical German legal level², at which Naturland must be notified
- threshold values leading to the exclusion of the product from marketing. (as a rule, the German legal critical values²)

7. Certification

A prerequisite of certification by Naturland is the conclusion of a producer contract. It should be ensured that all those immediately involved in the fishery are included either directly or indirectly (via sub-contracting agreements).

The Naturland certification committee confirms that the producer is adhering to the standards with the annual certification letter. If the producer violates current standards, the penalties listed in the catalogue of sanctions, which is part of the producer contract, can be imposed.

It is standard practice for complaints in connection with matters within Naturland's sphere of responsibility to be addressed to Naturland's head offices in Gräfelfing, Germany.

8. Labelling and marketing

The products must be so labelled as to enable the trader legally responsible for the product to be identified. The provisions of the regulation (EU) 2018/848 and of the subsequent legislative acts as amended, as far as they apply to the EU Community logo and the declaration of origin (place where the aquaculture products were produced) are to be observed.

The use of the Naturland logo is governed by a licence agreement to be concluded with Naturland's licensing company, Naturland Zeichen GmbH.

² If corresponding critical values are not available, reference should be made to those of WHO or other professional bodies.

The consumer must be able to identify products from sustainable fishery as separate from those of organic agriculture and organic aquaculture.

To this end, the words “product of sustainable fishery” must appear on the label, on the list of ingredients or in the informative text (on the product itself and not just in the accompanying brochure) identifying the source as fishery (as distinct from organic aquaculture). In this case only the logo granted for use by Naturland Zeichen GmbH and authorised by Naturland, namely the “Wildfish” logo, may be used.

If a compound product contains less than 25% from sustainable fishery or if this ingredient is not the most important constituent or be included in the name of a product, then the requirement to show fishery as a source may be ignored.

II. General (management) regulations resp. other predominant provisions

1. Sustainable management

Organic agriculture is particularly committed to the principle of sustainable management.

This includes the respectful treatment of nature and the environment, the sustainable use of natural resources, the acceptance of social responsibility and the maintenance of economic performance.

The benefits derived from natural ecosystems and their economic performance must be maintained. Damage to ecosystems should be kept to a minimum.

Biological diversity or biodiversity of the operating unit is to be maintained and fostered as far as possible; this includes diversity of ecosystems, diversity of species and genetic diversity. Sites containing areas of high conservation value (HCV³) are subject to special safeguarding provisions.

Water and soil are valuable natural commodities whose protection is of crucial importance and which must therefore be used carefully and sustainably.

Energy should be used as efficiently as possible and renewable energy resources should be used for preference.

Whenever it is impossible to avoid creating waste, it should be disposed of in an eco-friendly manner or recycled. Organic waste should be recycled and preferably composted.

Preference should be given to using raw materials and products produced in neighbouring regions.

2. Quality assurance

Production in terms of these standards should guarantee produce of high sensory quality and safety in regard to health. To avoid contamination with prohibited substances or means which might impair their quality, appropriate measures shall be taken. In particular, the fishing operation must show from its procedures that possible environmental pollutants are closely monitored by suitable analytical methods and that prompt and comprehensive measures are taken in cases where limits are exceeded.

Where reasonable suspicion exists that the product quality is substantially impaired, Naturland should be informed. Naturland may require an analysis to be undertaken to detect the level of contamination and contamination sources and give instructions on further steps to be taken. Appropriate action has to be taken on complaints related to the compliance with Naturland certification requirements that are directed to the operation by third parties. Records shall be kept of the complaint and corrective action taken.

The fishery must manage its operations processes in such a way as to guarantee an uninterrupted cold chain between catch and sale.

3. Non-employment of GMO and GMO derivatives

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and their derivatives are incompatible with organic production. Products produced according to the Naturland standards must therefore be manufactured throughout the whole of their production and value chain without the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and GMO derivatives⁴.

The definitions given under sec. 2 of Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, and the exclusion criteria for genetic engineering of the regulation (EU) 2018/848 and of the subsequent legislative acts as amended apply.

Even the unintentional contamination of products certified by Naturland with genetically modified organisms may also lead to certification being denied.

4. Non-use of nanomaterials

By "nanomaterials", Naturland means: substances which have been consciously and deliberately designed, technically manufactured or produced by human inducement (anthropogenic) with the intention of obtaining very specific characteristics (e. g. shape, surface properties or chemical properties) at the nanoscale (approx.

³ Definition: <https://www.hcvnetwork.org/hcv-approach>

⁴ A "GMO derivative" is any substance produced from or by means of GMOs but not containing any GMOs itself. "The use of GMOs and GMO derivatives" means their use as a foodstuff, an ingredient of foodstuffs (including additives and flavouring), processing additives (including extraction solvents), animal feed, compound feed, the raw materials of animal feed, fodder additives, processing additives for animal feed, certain products for animal feed, pesticides, fertilisers, soil ameliorators, seed, vegetative propagation material and animals. For the purposes of these standards, the following definitions apply: 1. organism: any biological unit capable of reproduction or passing on genetic material. 2. genetically modified organism (GMO): an organism, the genetic material of which has been modified in such a way as is not possible in a natural manner by cross-breeding and/or natural recombination.

1 – 300 nm in at least one dimension) such as only possible at the nanoscale. Particles with larger diameters may come under this definition in cases where there is evidence of effects specific to the nanoscale at this size. Particles accidentally generated at the nanoscale, which can occur in the course of traditional processing methods (such as, for example, homogenisation, grinding, foaming, freezing) or as natural environmental elements (e.g. volcanic or airborne particles) or in foodstuffs (e. g. monosaccharides, amino acids or fatty acids) at the nanoscale are excluded from this definition.

The environmental effects on nanomaterials and their impact on human beings are so far not sufficiently known. For this reason, products grown and processed and certified by Naturland must be manufactured without the application of anthropogenic nanomaterials. Nanomaterials should also be avoided in packaging. They are only permissible if the nanomaterials are firmly integrated in the packaging material. Nanomaterials in layers or coatings which are in direct contact with products certified to the Naturland standards must not be used.

5. Storage

Storage under special conditions (controlled atmosphere, temperature control, humidity regulation and drying of the stored goods) is permitted. The application of chemical storage-protection agents is prohibited. Only storage measures that exclude the contamination of the products with harmful substances are permitted. This also applies to the materials and detergents used (ref. the regulations of Part C. General Processing Standards VI.11., where they apply to pest control). Radioactive irradiation is prohibited.

If there are products of different certification statuses in the operation, they have to be stored clearly separated. Substances which are prohibited by these standards and contravene the conversion status in question may no longer be stored in the operation (ref. also Part C. General Processing Standards VI 9. Storage, Bottling, Bagging and Transport).

6. The sale of purchased merchandise

The sale of purchased products for direct marketing, e.g. on market stalls, is possible. Regional products should be preferred wherever possible. Separate bookkeeping for all the purchased merchandise has to be done. The labelling of the products must be unequivocal with respect to their origin and method of production. The operation's own products and purchased products have to be declared separately.

Conventional merchandise may only be sold if there is proof that equivalent organic or sustainably produced products are not available. These products have to be clearly labelled as "conventionally produced".

It is not permissible to offer one and the same product from organic or sustainable and conventional production or fishery at the same time.

7. Purchase of means of production and equipment

Special attention has to be paid to the ecological impact of production means and equipment. Preference is to be given to substances on a natural basis (e.g. oils, fats). Auxiliary materials of rainforest timber are prohibited. Care should be taken to save energy.

8. Exchange of machinery and equipment between different operating systems (certified sustainable/ conventional)

The exchange of machinery and equipment (e.g. in machinery co-operations) between certified sustainable fisheries and conventional operations is possible. Machines and equipment that are also utilised by conventional fisheries must be cleaned thoroughly in the case of contamination with substances that do not comply with Naturland's standards before being used on a Naturland operation.

9. Materials in use

All products used and which come into contact with the product (e. g. containers, protective sheeting) have to be cleared with Naturland.

The aspects of environmental compatibility, conservation of energy and the avoidance of waste are to be accorded due consideration.

10. Biogas plants

Generating energy by fermenting biomass can be an important component of future energy supply within the

context of renewable energy as a whole, besides wind, water, solar and geothermal energy and combustion of organic materials like wood.

Biogas plants in the organic farm combine the production of regenerative energy in a sustainable manner with the production of high-quality and healthy food, because they mainly use waste materials, allow varied crop rotations and are very energy-efficient. Plant capacity and use should be in reasonable relation to the area of operation, so that the principle aim, food production, is guaranteed.

Sensible waste heat utilisation and very high overall efficiency are to be aimed at, to achieve greatest energy efficiency.

10.1 Biogas plants on Naturland farms

Biogas plants on Naturland farms⁵ are run basically with ecologically generated fermentation materials. Vegetable material from conventional production⁶, which serves as fermentation material to operate the power plant, is limited to max. 30%. Fermentation materials of conventional origin must comply with appendix 1 of Naturland standards on production (permissible purchased fertilisers and soil improvement agents). If certain conventionally produced substrate components are to be found on the farm at the same time as animal feed in organic quality, then the components from conventional sources must either be denatured (e. g. by adding slurry or manure, covering them with such materials, or similar measures) or be unmistakably identifiable (e. g. dyeing with food colouring, or similar measures). Naturland must be informed of the method chosen beforehand.

Where fermentation materials of more than 0.5 DU/ha/year are used for the operation of the biogas plant, then the delivery of any amount of fermentation substrate supplied which exceeds this value must be documented.

If it is necessary to co-operate with other agricultural operations to operate a biogas plant in order to acquire the necessary amounts of fermentation materials, preference should be given to organic farms.

10.2 Co-operation of Naturland farms with other biogas plants

If it is possible to co-operate with a biogas plant on a local organic farm, this shall take precedence over co-operation with a conventionally run plant.

Where a Naturland farm co-operates with a conventional biogas plant, it is only possible to take back digestate if the original matter came from the Naturland farm (e.g. clover grass). In addition, the conditions stipulated in appendix 1 of Naturland standards on production (permissible fertilisers and soil improvement agents) or B.I.3 (humus management and fertilisation), in particular the maximum amounts allowed, are to be observed⁷.

⁵ This also applies to plants which are operated by the manager of a Naturland farm as autonomous legal entities or to collectively owned plants in which he or she holds a share and are not covered by item 10.2.

⁶ Clover grass resp. grass free of mineral fertilizers and synthetic chemical pesticides is a permissible exception.

⁷ Naturland must be notified of the intention to take back digestate and this may only be done in compliance with Naturland's regulations. Digestate from biogas plants which are run solely on conventional fermented matter or on genetically modified organisms from aggregates or on liquid manure and poultry dung from conventional animal husbandry, is prohibited. No more than 15% more of the nutrient equivalent than the amount of fermentation materials originally supplied may be taken back.

III. Social responsibility

The holistic claim of Naturland standards also includes the social treatment of the people who work and live on the fisheries.

1. Human rights

The basic rights of the people living and working on Naturland operations are respected. They must comply at the minimum with the local legal requirements, respectively the human rights listed in the UN Conventions, the International Labour Organisation Conventions and Recommendations (ILO)⁸, the UN conventions on children's rights⁹ and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples¹⁰, should these be more comprehensive.

A product created under conditions violating basic human rights, under gross violation of social justice or infringing indigenous land and water rights can not be traded as a product certified by Naturland.

2. Freedom to accept or reject employment

The operations commit themselves to rejecting forced labour and any type of involuntary work. The operation shall not retain any part of the workers' salaries, benefits, property, or documents in order to force workers to remain on the fishery.

3. Freedom of association, access to trade unions

All workers have a right to freedom of association and collective bargaining, and are at liberty to exercise this right.

No one shall be discriminated against because of his or her membership in a trade union.

4. Equal treatment and opportunities

No discrimination on the basis of race, creed, sex, political opinion or membership shall be tolerated. All workers, irrespective of their sex, skin colour or religion receive the same pay and have the same opportunities for work of the same nature and same degree of responsibility.

5. Child's rights

No children shall be employed on fisheries. Children may work in the businesses of their own families or a neighbouring business provided that:

- the work is not hazardous and endangers neither the health nor the safety of the children
- the work jeopardises neither the educational nor the moral, social or physical development of the children
- the children are supervised by adults while working or have been given permission by a parent or legal guardian

6. Health and safety

All workers, employees and their families shall have access to drinking water, food, accommodation and basic medical care.

The employer is responsible for safety, health and hygiene at the workplace. If necessary, this implies holding training courses for employees to raise their awareness of any dangers at their workplace and of the contents of hygiene standards. Operations with more than 10 workers have to draw up a policy on safety at work and make these available to all employees.

7. Employment conditions

Workers, for the purpose of these standards, are, besides the permanent workers, also seasonal workers and sub-contracted workers.

⁸ <http://www.ilo.org/declaration/lang--en/index.htm>

⁹ <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

¹⁰ http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

All operations commit themselves to meeting the following requirements¹¹.

7.1 Contracts

All workers receive a written contract of employment describing the basic conditions of employment.¹² Working conditions and contracts have to be documented by the employer to be verified at any time. The employment contract shall at least define the following: job description, scope and limits of the job, and type as well as amount of remuneration.

The employment conditions of all workers have at least to comply with the respective higher of the requirements of national regulations and ILO standards.

7.2 Equal treatment

The different kinds of employment shall in no case result in the unequal treatment of any workers: all workers are considered to enjoy the same rights and working conditions including social benefits and other privileges for work of the same nature and same degree of responsibility (see III.4).

7.3 Wages

Workers shall be paid at least the official national minimum wage currently applicable or the relevant industry standard in processing operations or the wages approved on the basis of collective bargaining, whichever is the higher. Workers shall be paid in cash, or in any other manner of their choice.

7.4 Payment in kind

If they so choose, workers may receive part of their wage in kind for services such as housing, food or others offered by the operation. The value attributed to such deductions shall be fair and reasonable. Compulsive deductions from the minimum wage for such services are not permitted.

7.5 Working hours

To permit flexibility and overtime in the peak season, an annual limit of working hours or a mutual agreement on overtime requirements in the peak period is necessary. Such an agreement has to be in line with current national labour legislation and negotiated agreements.

7.6 Social benefits

The employer ensures basic coverage for maternity, sickness and retirement. Operations with more than 10 workers need to make a policy on wages and social security available to all workers.

7.7 Further education

The unit offers its employees the possibility of further education and professional training.

¹¹ Naturland may determine that in any one country the legal control of employment conditions and the opportunities for further education offered publicly suffices to ensure compliance with these standards.

¹² Legally binding contracts (in this particular case not necessarily in writing) are required even for workers not registered. Furthermore, they have to be informed of their rights.

Part B. Regulations for Sustainable Capture Fishery

The Naturland certification of products from sustainable capture fishery covers unprocessed products from both freshwater and marine fisheries, namely species of finfish and invertebrates.

The produce originates from fisheries or enhanced fisheries¹³, the formal and operational structures of which may take any of several forms, such as one-man businesses, fishing co-operatives, or fishermen bound contractually to a processing company.

1. Specific management conditions and certification procedure

1.1 Besides the general regulations for sustainable fishery listed in Part B, specific management conditions are imposed on each fishery. Taken together with the regulations under B. 2.-4., these special conditions constitute a catalogue of measures to be adopted in the management plan and quality assurance system of the fishery.

The conditions are the result of an expert survey of each fishery to be performed. Naturland decides whether to accept the list of experts proposed either by the fishery or a third party and can, where justified, reject the list or ask for changes to be made. The experts on the list should cover the following fields:

- scientific institutions which deal with the respective type of fishery (primarily for current information on the status of the stock and on the aquatic ecosystem)
- fishing authorities (legal requirements, national and international development aims)
- NGOs (social and ecological aspects)
- organisations from the fishing and/or processing industries (technical, social and economic aspects).

1.2 To ensure that the regulations compiled in the specific management conditions are kept up to date, each expert survey is performed every four years. The intervals between the expert surveys may be shortened by Naturland for substantive or structural reasons.

In principle, the fishery bears responsibility for the expert survey being performed according to schedule. This also holds true for the case that the fishery has to supply the experts with pertinent data for them to be able to assess the situation of a fishery.

The specific management conditions for each individual fishery must be approved by Naturland.

1.3 Naturland publishes the section of the inspection report which is relevant to the public on its home page, so as to reach as wide an audience as possible from whom to learn of any possible objections to the certification of the enterprise in question, to acquire additional information and to hear different points of view. This section of the inspection report is published at least four weeks before the meeting of the committee at which the certification of the enterprise is to be decided. The enterprise is given an opportunity to reply to the objections raised.

2. Ecology

2.1 The fishery performs its fishing activities in such a way that integrity of the ecosystem is maintained long-term, concerning both the stocks of the economically relevant species as well as the other components of the ecosystem.

2.2 Subject of the evaluation is the geographical catchment area of the respective fishery or the fishery's share in the total exploitation of a certain species.

2.3 In the case of species which only occur temporarily in the catchment area of the fishery, or which do not spend their whole life cycle there, an evaluation is made of whether the management form of the fishery were compatible with maintaining the total stock volume if this management form were adopted by all the enterprises involved in fishing this species in this way (exemplary character).

¹³ Enhanced fisheries are fisheries which include defined human intervention (restocking, expansion of stock, sea ranching) in addition to the actual fishing procedure. In this category fall, for example, fisheries with breeding programmes to stock bodies of water with juvenile fish. In the case of enhanced fisheries, Naturland checks them in advance to be sure this activity is ecologically safe (e. g. by pertinent scientific analyses).

- 2.4** Naturland reserves the right not to perform certification or to suspend the procedure if management of the fishery is not guided by the concept of the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), i. e. the fishing mortality rate must be below F_{msy} ($F < F_{msy}$) and the biomass of the spawning stock (SSB) must be greater than or equal to $MSY B_{trigger}$ ($SSB \geq MSY B_{trigger}$). Should no reference values be available for certain species, then as an alternative certification may be performed on the basis of the life span and manner of reproduction.
- 2.5** If no exclusively used geographic area can be attributed to the fishery (e.g. in deep-sea fishery), the evaluation is made based not only on the fishing practices of the fishery but also on the total situation of the stocks in question.
- 2.6** Practices which are generally deemed as detrimental or critical from an ecological point of view are prohibited. These include the following regulations in addition to the specific management conditions defined:
- catching marine mammals and ocean turtles
 - catching sharks for their fins ("finning")
 - the use of poisons and explosives in fishing
 - damage to coral reefs (including cold-water corals)
 - beam trawl fishing as well as demersal trawling on highly structured sea beds
 - demersal trawling without suitable escape hatches to keep bycatches to a minimum.
- 2.7** The specific management conditions govern the following in particular:
- minimum size and maximum quantities
 - equipment and techniques employed
 - close seasons and sanctuaries
 - avoidance or minimisation of bycatches
 - other measures which help to protect the aquatic ecosystem and/or individual species (e.g. protection of breeding colonies)
 - protocols for monitoring of relevant pollutants, determination of specific alert/reporting values and threshold values.

3. Social and economic aspects

- 3.1** Naturland's standards governing social responsibility apply (ref. A.III. of these standards).
- 3.2** In addition, allowances have to be made for the situation of many fishermen in the developing countries. Fisheries (resp. the processors or exporters of the fishery produce) bears responsibility not only for the fishermen to meet with fair working conditions (ref. A. III), but also for adequate living conditions out of working hours. Depending on socio-economic circumstances, those responsible must introduce the requisite measures in a suitable manner. These include especially:
- adequate board and lodging
 - access to banking and insurance services
 - health care
 - schooling for the children
 - transport possibilities

This is especially applicable if the fishermen and -women are not capable of fulfilling these basic needs from the sale of their products. This is the case, for example, when there is a glut or where seasonal yields fluctuate dramatically, and in cases of over-dependence on fishing as the sole source of income.

- 3.3** The specific management conditions govern, in particular:
- special social aspects, particularly in relation to the situation in developing countries
 - measures designed to avoid conflicts with other users of the resources

4. Legal framework and management

- 4.1** Fishing is performed in compliance with national and international law. The fishery has to be able to produce the corresponding documents and proof in full and freshly updated.

4.2 The fishery (or the processor or exporter of the fishing produce) is responsible for its staff and workers being familiar with the contents of these standards. Appropriate training sessions and material have to be provided to guarantee that the catalogue of measures is complied with.

4.3 The management of the fishery must be able to prove that the requirements laid down in the standards and the specific management conditions are implemented systematically, effectively and promptly at every level. This proof includes:

- consistent records and analysis of the catch data
- feedback between the current catch data and the fishing practice in place
- knowledge of current national and international regulations and fulfilment of the duties arising therefrom
- establishment of mechanisms guaranteeing regular communication between the fishery and the fishermen with regard to social matters
- existence of and compliance with a development plan (e.g. for deficient issues)

4.4 The specific management conditions govern in particular:

- obligatory documentation requirements and internal control system.

Naturland

Association for Organic Agriculture e.V.
Kleinhaderner Weg 1
82166 Gräfelfing | Germany

Tel. +49 (0)89-898082 - 0
Fax +49 (0)89-898082 - 90

naturland@naturland.de
www.naturland.de



Naturland