
BOLTON FOOD SHARK FINNING POLICY



BOLTON FOOD condemns shark mutilation.

BOLTON GROUP'S Business Unit FOOD publicly assumes as its own the commitment contained in the Conservation Measure 3.1(a) (CM 3.1(a)) of ISSF and adheres unreservedly to the policy of "express prohibition of any type of commercial activity and / or relationship with other companies that carry out, promote or defend the mutilation of sharks for commercial use exclusively of its fins ("shark finning").

The ISSF board of directors, in a meeting held in Miami, FL, USA., during the month of January 2012, has adopted Resolution 12-01 (now CM 3.1(a)) by which it urges the member companies of the Foundation to prohibit the so-called "shark finning", that is, the mutilation of live sharks for commercial use of fins (discarding the remaining carcasses of the specimen at sea). The reasons that have led to the adoption of CM 3.1(a) are the following:

- It should be remembered that the objective of the ISSF is to facilitate, in support of the RFMO mandates, the effective conservation and management of both tuna resources and the ecosystem of which they are part.
- The practice of "shark finning" threatens shark populations and violates the U.N. FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.
- Shark finning has contributed significantly to increasing uncertainty about the value of total biomass and the composition of shark species caught.
- Several countries have already enacted national laws that suppress finning.

In August 2021, ISSF announced updates in its existing shark-finning measures 3.1(a) – *Shark Finning Policy*, 3.1(b) – *Prohibition of Transactions with Shark-Finishing Vessels*, and 3.1(c) – *Prohibition of Transactions with Companies without a Public Policy Prohibiting Shark Finning*, in order to strengthening shark protection by requiring seafood companies by December 31, 2022, to enact policies requiring all retained, incidentally caught sharks to be landed with their fins naturally attached.

BOLTON FOOD agrees that, in addition to decreasing shark finning, such policies will help to improve data collection, species identification, and monitoring and enforcement.

BOLTON FOOD commits to comply with ISSF CM 3.1 (a), (b) and (c) and so, requires all its tuna suppliers to ban shark finning, to require tuna vessels to land all incidentally caught sharks (if retained) with their fins naturally attached, and to report their capture¹.

BOLTON FOOD, in accordance with the ISSF requirement, does not carry out commercial transactions with companies that own vessels that practice shark finning, or with companies that have not made public a policy prohibiting this activity and requiring sharks to be landed with fins naturally attached, if retained.

In order to determine if a tuna vessel is carrying out finning activities, BOLTON FOOD will be based on the conclusions of the investigations carried out by the RFMOs and by the national governments. After a period of 2 years from the date of the conclusion of the investigation, BOLTON FOOD may resume operations with vessels involved in shark finning activities, provided there are no new incidents.

¹ Except for the species that are prohibited by laws or regulations of the RFMOs, or those individuals which are released alive.



For more informations click [here](#)



BOLTON
GROUP

Bolton Group S.r.l. csu
Via G.B. Pirelli, 19 - 20124 Milan - Italy - Tel +39 02 677561