



MSC POLICIES ON FORCED AND CHILD LABOUR

UPDATE TO SECLG | AUG 2020 | LEAH BUCKLEY

MSC position on forced and child labour



The MSC condemns the use of forced or child labour and recognises the importance of social issues when considering sustainability.

We are continuously improving our program and continue to work with other organisations engaged in trying to develop measures and approaches which are outside the scope of our environmental programme, to address human and labour rights issues within the seafood industry.



WHAT POLICIES ARE IN PLACE?

MSC Labour policy development

2014

Policy introduced to exclude entities prosecuted for forced labour violations in the previous two years from the MSC program

2018

Policy on labour practices at sea introduced

2019

Policy on labour practices in supply chain introduced

2020

MSC Board reiterates direction for MSC to continue to work with other organisations to address human and labour rights issues and explore Policy of Association



LABOUR PRACTICES AT SEA



All MSC-certified fisheries and at-sea supply chain organisations are required to publicly report on the measures being taken to address forced and child labour.

These reports can be found on [Track a Fishery](#).

Labour practices at sea

1. Composition of fishery client group on behalf of who the statement is provided

2. Responsibility for labour regulation (management authorities)

3. Risk identification and mitigation

4. Crew recruitment

5. Engagement with fish worker groups

6. Crew contracts

7. Audits and labour inspections

8. National minimum age requirements

9. Repatriation

10. Debt bondage

11. Grievance and remedy mechanisms

12. Identification documents

13. Additional comments



Benefits of the templates



Facilitate open reporting

Increase knowledge on what is largely an unreported issue

Build a picture of how MSC fisheries are trying to address this issue

A large fishing boat is shown on the sea under a cloudy sky. The boat has a white hull and a dark superstructure. A bird is flying in the sky above the boat. The sea is dark blue with whitecaps.

WHAT comes next?

MSC PRIORITIES 2020

Review: Review and analysis of templates

Policy Development: Policy of Association

Engagement & Learning: Grievance Mechanisms

Funding & Support: £100,000 in Ocean Stewardship Funding for observer safety





Thank you

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