

4th March 2010 - Paris, France

GFSI successfully benchmarks the GLOBALG.A.P Aquaculture and Livestock schemes

GFSI announces today that it has formally recognised the alignment of the food safety elements of the GLOBALG.A.P Aquaculture and Livestock scopes with the GFSI Guidance Document Version 5.

The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by The Consumer Goods Forum, announced today that the food safety elements of the GLOBALG.A.P Aquaculture scheme Version 1.0-2_Mar10 and Livestock Version 3.0-4_Mar10 scheme have been given full recognition by the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors. This announcement concludes a major piece of work that has been carried out during the last year, following the earlier recognition of the food safety elements of the GLOBALG.A.P Fruit and Vegetable scope.

Jürgen Matern, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Vice President, Strategic Quality Management, Metro AG said *"Since the announcement made by GFSI in May 2009 regarding the alignment of the GLOBALG.A.P fruit and vegetable scope with the GFSI Guidance Document, we have continued our collaboration to further our food safety harmonisation efforts. We are very pleased that we have successfully completed the benchmark of two additional GlobalGAP scopes. We also look forward to building on our existing relationship with GlobalGAP to streamline our benchmarking activities."*

Nigel Garbutt, Chairman of GLOBALG.A.P. added *„Producers, farmers and growers will also benefit from a harmonised set of Good Agricultural Practice food safety criteria applicable to agricultural production around the globe."*

About GFSI

The GFSI, managed by the Consumer Goods Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide.

About GlobalG.A.P

GLOBALG.A.P is a private sector body that sets voluntary standards for the certification of agricultural products around the globe. The GLOBALG.A.P standard is primarily designed to reassure consumers about how food is produced on the farm by minimising detrimental environmental impacts of farming operations, reducing the use of chemical inputs and ensuring a responsible approach to worker health and safety as well as animal welfare.

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The Consumer Goods Forum

The Consumer Goods Forum is an independent global parity-based Consumer Goods network. It brings together the CEOs and senior management of around 650 retailers, manufacturers, service providers and other stakeholders across 70 countries.

The Forum was created in June 2009 by the merger of CIES - The Food Business Forum, the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) and the Global CEO Forum. The Consumer Goods Forum is governed by its Board of Directors, which includes an equal number of manufacturer and retailer CEOs and chairpersons. Forum member companies have combined sales of EUR 2.1trillion.

The Forum provides a unique global platform for thought leadership, knowledge exchange and networking between retailers, manufacturers and their partners on collaborative, non-competitive issues. Its strength lies in the privileged access it offers to the key players in the sector as well as in the development and implementation of best practices along the value chain.

It has a mandate from its members to develop common positions on key strategic and practical issues affecting the consumer goods business and to focus on non-competitive collaborative process improvement. With its headquarters in Paris and its regional offices in Washington, D.C., Singapore, Tokyo and Shanghai, The Consumer Goods Forum serves its members throughout the world.

For more information, please visit www.mygfsi.com

This press release is also available on the website <http://www.theconsumergoodsforum.com>

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