



# BUMBLE BEE SEAFOODS

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January 20, 2021

Lucien Fanomezantsoa Ranarivelo  
Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries  
Antananarivo, Madagascar

Dear Minister Ranarivelo:

Bumble Bee Seafoods and FCF Co. Ltd procure a significant amount of albacore landed in Port Louis, Mauritius which is converted into loins for shipment to the United States for use in canned products. Some of this albacore is harvested in the waters of Madagascar. We are also both clients for the [Indian Ocean Albacore Longline Fishery Improvement Project](#) (FIP). The FIP comprises Taiwanese-flagged longline vessels that operate in the Mauritius and Madagascar exclusive economic zones, and the Indian Ocean high seas. We are at the end of our first year of the FIP, for which our ultimate goal is to reach Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification for the fishery.

As you know, the management of fisheries within the territorial waters of nations is an important component to the sustainable fisheries and is one of the principles that is part of MSC certification. While we are aware Madagascar has regulations in place regarding the longline albacore fishery in its waters, to the best of our knowledge, these are not all publicly available via a website at the current time. To support the work of our FIP working towards MSC certification, would it be possible for the Ministry to publish online all of the legislation, regulations and support documentation relating to the longline albacore fishery? If these are currently available and we missed them online, we would appreciate you providing us the link to where these are located. This would also provide us with the opportunity to see how the IOTC Resolutions have been incorporated in Madagascar domestic legislation.

The FIP scoping assessed that the Ministry of Marine Resources and Fisheries Madagascar appears not to have conducted internal or external evaluations of the management system. We are interested in engaging with the Ministry to encourage internal or external evaluation of the performance of its albacore longline fishery management system.

Additionally, in support of movement towards MSC certification, we would be grateful if the Madagascar Government is able to provide evidence of application of sanctions for non-compliance in the tuna longline fisheries sector.

Finally, recalling the Madagascar Government obligation to have a National Plan of Action for the management and conservation of sharks (NPOA-Sharks), is there any information you can provide on how this is progressing with developing its NPOA-Sharks?

I look forward to hearing from you, please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MJ Kraft". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. The "M" and "J" are connected, and the "Kraft" is written in a more fluid, cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Mike Kraft

Vice President Global Sustainability – Bumble Bee Seafoods

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