[Insert CAB logo] A blue oval with a check mark and a fish

Description automatically generated

MSC Improvement Program

Marine Stewardship Council

# [CAB]

# [Fishery name]

# MSC Improvement Program Notice of Withdrawal

*Instructions for CABs*

*This template details the information required from Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) when announcing the withdrawal of a Unit(s) of Assessment from the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Improvement Program and / or MSC Improvement Product eligibility.*

*Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with your specific information where relevant.*

*Corporate Branding:*

*The CAB may format this template to comply with the CAB’s corporate identity. The CAB shall ensure that content and structure follow the template.*

*Examples of appropriate amendments are:*

* *A title page with the company logo;*
* *A company header and footer used throughout the report;*
* *Replacement of font styles;*
* *Inclusion of contact details for the assessment team members in relation to consultation*
* *Deletion of any sections that are not applicable;*
* *Deletion of introductory text or instructions; and,*
* *Addition of subheadings to improve clarity and readability.*

# MSC Improvement Program Notice of Withdrawal

**Table 1: Notice of withdrawal**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Fishery name** | |
|  | | |
| **2** | **Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA(s)) to be withdrawn** | |
| *If the fishery client is withdrawing UoA(s) from the MSC Improvement Program and the UoA(s) also have MSC Improvement Product eligibility, the eligibility to enter further chains of custody as “MSC Improvement Product” would also be withdrawn on and after the effective date of the withdrawal.*   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **UoA** | **Improvement Product eligibility withdrawal *(Yes / No / N/A)*** | **MSC Improvement Program withdrawal *(Yes / No)*** | | *UoA X* | *Yes / No / N/A (delete as appropriate)* | *Yes / No (delete as appropriate)* | | *UoA Y* | *Yes / No / N/A (delete as appropriate)* | *Yes / No (delete as appropriate)* | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | | |
| **3** | **CAB** | |
|  | | |
| **4** | **Date of the Notice of Withdrawal** | |
|  | | |
| **5** | **Effective date of the UoA(s) withdrawal** | |
| *Effective date of withdrawal is 30-days after the Notice of Withdrawal.* | | |
| **6** | **The reason for the UoA(s) withdrawal** | |
| * *Identify which MSC Improvement Program Requirements and Guidance v3.0 clause (subclauses under 3.7.1 or 4.5.1) is / are the reason for the UoA(s) being withdrawn.* * *State what information was reviewed to determine the UoA(s) should be withdrawn* * *Provide references to relevant documents e.g. Progress Verification Report, etc.* * *Reference the applicable clause(s) in the MSC Improvement Program Requirements & Guidance v3.0* | | |
| **7** | **If the UoA(s) is/are withdrawn due to no longer conforming to the Improvement Program eligibility requirements (Section 3.7, MSC Improvement Program Requirements & Guidance v3.0), which Performance Indicators are affected (please include a brief explanation of how)?** | |
|  | | |
| **8** | **If the UoA(s) is/are withdrawn for inadequate progress (Section 3.7, MSC Improvement Program Requirements & Guidance v3.0), which Performance Indicators are affected (please include a brief explanation of how)?** | |
|  | | |
| **9** | **Statement on implications for selling fish and fish products** **as “MSC Improvement Product” / making back-of-pack “MSC Improvement Product” claims after the effective withdrawal date (where there is MSC Improvement Product eligibility)**  *The withdrawal requires that the Improvement Program fishery client does not sell any fish caught in the withdrawn MSC Improvement Program UoA as “MSC Improvement Product” after the effective date of withdrawal until such time that the withdrawal is lifted. To comply with this requirement, the fishery client is not eligible to use the “MSC Improvement Product” back-of-pack claim.* | |
| **9a** | **Does the fishery client have a system in place to segregate fish based on the date of capture?** | *Yes / No* |
| **9b** | **Can fish caught before the effective date of withdrawal be sold as “MSC Improvement Product” after withdrawal from the Improvement Program and/or Improvement Product eligibility?** | *Yes / No* |
| **9c** | **If yes (to 9b) how will the harvest date and / or MSC Improvement Program eligibility status be identifiable to the first buyer?** | |
|  | | |
| **9d** | **Is this a partial withdrawal (e.g. one or some UoA(s) withdrawn)?** | *Yes / No* |
| **9e** | **If yes (to 9d) how will the remaining “MSC Improvement Product” eligible UoA(s) be identifiable to the first buyer, and distinguished from the withdrawn UoAs?** | |
|  | | |
| **9f** | **If yes (to 9d) are there any additional exclusions to eligibility set to mitigate traceability risks?**  ***Examples are:***   * ***Product forms (e.g. fish meal) being excluded from eligibility.*** * ***Trip exclusions (e.g. the trips which go both inside and outside the UoA).*** * ***Landing processes where eligibility is verified (e.g. verifying catch area or gear).*** | *Yes / No* |
| **9g** | **If yes (to 9f), please specify the exclusions to eligibility and how first buyers can check they are met.** | |
|  | | |

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*The CAB shall delete Table 2.*

**Table 2: Template version control**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date of publication** | **Description of amendment** |
| 1.0 | 29 October 2024 | N/A – new template |

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website (<https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents>).

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