

TTIA Statement towards a Yellow Card by the EU

The Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA) takes the recent issuing of Yellow Card by the EU Commission very seriously and wishes to convey that our Association is being proactive in resolving the concerns that have been brought up. The TTIA would like to clarify that the tuna that is received and processed in member facilities is primarily from the Western/ Central Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean which is under the control and management of their respective Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO's). TTIA members strictly follow the RFMO's guidelines and listings of IUU vessels and would only purchase fish from vessels registered within the RFMO's jurisdiction.

In addition, TTIA members follow strict chain of custody and control protocols on the fish that they purchase to ensure that a stringent and transparent tracking from catching vessel to carrier and onwards to the processing facility and final market is monitored and documented at every stage of the operation. This involves EU approved competent authorities monitoring and approving at the transshipment port, the flag state of the vessel verifying and confirming the registration and fishing activity of the fishing vessel, monitoring the discharge of the carrier in Thailand as well as final confirmation by the Thai Department of Fisheries prior to export to the EU that all documents are in compliance.

TTIA continues to work closely with the Thai Government to strengthen the legal framework of Fisheries Management legislation to improve Monitoring, Control, Inspection and Surveillance capacities. The Thai Government is moving quickly in amending and implementing the necessary changes to comply and address the EU Commission's concerns. We are confident that our efforts will yield positive results in the very near future and will issue further updates as we progress along our path to full compliance.

Thai Tuna Industry Association

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