Policy Commitment to Ban Transshipment at Sea

Thai Union is committed to eradicating human trafficking or human rights violations of any kind should it be found in our supply chain. We believe the way to accomplish this goal is to make human trafficking economically non-viable for those who practice it.

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing hinders conservation, threatens marine ecosystems and can in some circumstances allow human rights violations to exist. To ensure full transparency and traceability, Thai Union works with our suppliers, regulators and scientific communities to develop and implement measures to eliminate IUU fishing.

As one of the founding members of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF), we are committed to following Resolution 14-03 which calls upon the industry to refrain from transactions with purse-seine caught tuna that are transshipped at sea. We are also committed to following any amendments to this resolution.

To support transparency in the global tuna supply chain, Thai Union is committed to the implementation of the Proactive Vessel Register (PVR) program. We are committed to increasing the proportion of our tuna purchases from PVR-listed vessels. We are also committed to 100% trade sanctions against vessels excluded from the Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs) vessel lists or those in the IUU black list.

Additionally, in April 2015, our Group ceased all purchases from motherships and transshipment vessels in the territorial waters of Thailand. Thai Union only sources Thai-caught seafood from vessels that can demonstrate legality through the provision of Marine Catch Purchase Documents (MCPDs – the equivalent to EU Catch Certificates) certified by the Royal Thai Government’s Department of Fisheries. All tuna raw material from purse seiner vessels that are not in Thai waters must have independent observers on board to monitor and record the fishing operations, to ensure that transshipment at sea is not taking place.