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Carolina Medina Foucher
Organización Internacional Agropecuaria S.A.

Sent by email

Date: 15/07/2013

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement 27.22.3.1 for Argentine anchovy

Dear Carolina,

I write with reference to your submission on 4/07/2013 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow for the annual surveillance audit to occur two weeks after the annual deadline.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to timing of the annual surveillance audit are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC programme.

MSC notes the factors presented in your letter supporting your request, including:

- Key staff members will be more available for onsite meetings at the delayed time.
- The sustainability of fishery is unaffected by this change and delay in timing of audit will allow consideration of latest management advice sooner than existing schedule.
- Stakeholders will be informed of the change if approved.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Megan Atcheson the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email megan.atcheson@msc.org or phone +44 (0)207 246 8978.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Hoggarth'.

Dr Daniel Hoggarth
Fisheries Oversight Director
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Marine Stewardship Council
cc: ASI, lead auditor