

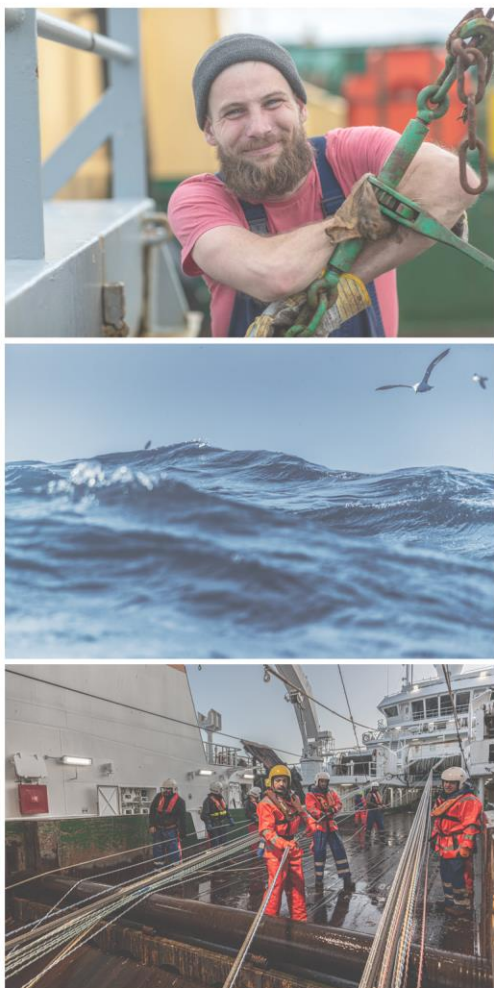


Policy on prophylactic use of antibiotics and growth promoting substances

PP Group doesn't own and operate fish farms herself, but sources and sells fish and seafood products originating from responsibly operated aquaculture. Aquaculture should be accompanied by best animal welfare practices safeguarding the health and well-being of the farmed seafood at reasonably best achievable level, thereby aiming to minimize the need to use medicines.

Antibiotics are also medicines and as such only to be used for curative purposes against bacterial diseases. There are well motivated reasons to minimize the need of medicines in aquaculture as much as possible, and this especially applies to antibiotics. These compounds are known to induce resistant bacterial strains, for which these medicines are rendered ineffective, also for human medical purposes. Apart from this, residues of certain medicines may have an impact on the food safety, for which strict regulations on type and quantity of medicines for aquaculture are in place. Any prophylactic use is thus not allowed, and any curative application may only be done in view of animal welfare purposes and within the legal constraints of applicable veterinary regulations. In addition, there is a special group of 'critically important antimicrobials' defined by the WHO (World Health Organization). These medicines are regarded as an extremely valuable resource across the spectrum of modern medicine. These medicines are essential for the treatment of specific infections in humans, and should be used as little as possible for veterinary applications in order to prevent bacterial resistance. For that reason, these specific medicines shall be used only as a last resort.

Apart from obvious factors as e.g. food and oxygen, the growth of animals in captivity may be promoted by certain other substances. For instance, some antimicrobial medicines may suppress the natural microflora in the aquaculture system, thereby indirectly promoting the growth of the farmed seafood by diminishing the energy and nutrient cost associated to the coexistence with this microflora. Other factors may directly have a growth promoting effect in the physiology of the animal, such as certain hormones. The use of such 'undesirable growth promoting substances' is equally not allowed under our policy. 'Undesired growth promoting substances' are here defined as deliberately added substances, other than normally employed substances as e.g. feed and oxygen, that do not represent a nutritionally essential element such as e.g. minerals and vitamins, that act in the physiology of the farmed seafood in a manner not encountered in nature. Pharmaceutical and/or endocrinal active compounds fall under this definition and are thus not allowed under this policy. Apart from the mentioned reasons as e.g. bacterial resistance and food safety issues, there is the valuable element of consumer perception, for which this policy is in place.





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Questions?

If you have questions about this policy or wish to raise a concern please contact the CSR Department of PP Group via csr@pp-group.eu or telephone number +31 (0)71 789 00 00 (Monday-Friday during office hours).

This policy, our procedures and internal audits are designed to ensure that PP Group complies with all applicable laws and regulations and will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure that it remains current and effective.

**Approved by the board of PP Group
Valkenburg, 1 July 2022**

