

National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy



Version: March 2016

ALDI Nord has developed an International Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy providing the overall guidelines for animal welfare in ALDI Nord. To make the International Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy more concrete, the individual ALDI Nord countries have the possibility to develop National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policies. The national policies provide detailed information on our current commitment and define national measures and targets in the five animal welfare focus areas of ALDI Nord: product range selection geared to animal welfare, transparency and traceability, inspections and audits, contribution to animal welfare, and proactive dialogue.

The National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy of ALDI Denmark applies to all ALDI private label food and non-food products containing animal-based raw materials.

Product range selection geared to animal welfare

When designing our product range, we take basic animal welfare aspects into consideration.

The following measures have already been implemented:

- We sell organic products with the EU organic logo and the Danish organic logo (the red Ø), i.e. products containing animal-based raw materials, branded products and products branded with “Økolivet”, our own organic logo. Apart from the higher environmental requirements involved in the production of organic products, the production also requires a higher degree of animal welfare.
- We do not sell wool produced on the basis of the Mulesing method.
- We sell certified products containing animal-based raw materials, for example:
 - We sell ASC and MSC certified fish and seafood. This ensures the use of environmentally friendly fishing methods, a responsible exploitation of fish stocks and sustainability throughout the entire aquaculture supply chain. We have developed a Fish Purchasing Policy, which provides guidelines for all our fish and seafood purchases.
 - We cater for those of our customers who buy vegetarian or vegan foods by offering vegetarian and vegan products, and we continuously add such products to our product range.

- We comply with the industry standard of Danske Æg, and none of our suppliers of eggs practise beak trimming.
- As a result of our target of selecting a product range which improves animal welfare, we do not sell certain animal products:
 - We signed the fur free declaration of the Fur Free Retailer Programme in 2015 making a public commitment not to sell products made of real fur.
 - We do not sell products made of angora wool.
 - We do not sell rabbit meat.
 - We do not sell quails or quail eggs.
 - We do not sell foie gras.
 - We do not sell eels, sharks, swordfish or marlins. Furthermore, we do not sell fish species that are classified as protected, temporarily protected or endangered in international lists of endangered/protected species. Further information can be found in our Fish Purchasing Policy.
 - We do not sell any protected or endangered animal species.

We have set the following **targets** in this area:

- We will increase the share of organic products containing animal-based raw materials in our product range. This applies especially to fresh meat and poultry as well as refrigerated products containing animal-based raw materials.
- We will continuously adjust our product range of traditional chicken products to include alternative animal welfare friendly products.
- We will continuously adjust our product range of traditional pork products to include alternative animal welfare friendly products.
- We will continuously adjust our product range of traditional beef products to include alternative animal welfare friendly products.
- We will continuously phase out eggs from caged hens as an ingredient in our processed food, in products that have a significant content of egg.
- We will continuously convert our fish and seafood product range to ensure that it only includes sustainable certified products.
- We will expand our product range of vegetarian and vegan products certified with the European V-label, which is the official label for vegetarian and vegan products from the European Vegetarian Union. Furthermore, we will establish our own brand for vegetarian and vegan products.
- We will only sell ASC certified tiger prawns from the end of 2016.
- We will no longer sell lobsters or any products containing lobster from the end of 2016.
- We will only sell Dolphin Safe certified tuna from the end of 2016.
- We will perform an annual internal animal welfare review of our product range and continuously incorporate new knowledge and experience into our national targets.

Transparency and traceability

We design our supply chain in a way that ensures transparency and complete traceability of our products.

- We expect full traceability of all of our products containing animal-based raw materials as such traceability is pivotal to ensuring increased animal welfare. Our suppliers must be able to make such information available to us at our request, and they must have established appropriate procedures in that respect.
- The packaging of our fish and seafood products as well as our other fish and seafood products (both wildy caught fish and aquaculture products) provides detailed information as a result of our extended consumer-friendly product labels. In addition to the information required by law, information is provided on the exact fishing equipment used, the date of the catch and the specific aquaculture method used, if possible.
- We find it important that our fresh meat derives from animals born, raised and slaughtered in the same country in order to minimise unnecessary transport of live animals. Most of our poultry and pork are produced in Denmark. These products are clearly marked with the Danish heart label.
- Our certified products are clearly marked on the product packaging, in our advertising material, in our retail stores and on our website. In that way, our customers are provided with maximum information.
- All fresh meat purchased in Brazil comes from slaughterhouses that have signed the Cattle Agreement. In that way, the traceability of these products is ensured, and we can exclude any connection to the deforestation of the Amazon rainforest. Social aspects, such as forced labour, the rights of the indigenous peoples and land grabbing, are also taken into consideration.

We have set the following additional **targets** in this area:

- We strive to ensure complete traceability of our leather and lambskin products throughout the entire supply chain.

Inspections and audits

Our suppliers conduct the audits and inspections required by Danish law.

Furthermore, we have set the following **targets** in this area:

- We will set minimum animal welfare requirements for products containing animal-based raw materials. More specifically, the requirements will apply to areas such as husbandry, feeding, transport, slaughtering and the use of antibiotics. The minimum requirements will be included in our supplier contracts, and our suppliers will therefore be obliged to comply with them.
- In collaboration with our suppliers, we will develop a self-control system to ensure compliance with ALDI Denmark's minimum requirements.
- We will conduct an annual sustainability review of the animal welfare of our product range.
- We will conduct an annual sustainability review of our product range of fresh and canned fish and seafood as well as our other fish and seafood products.

Contribution to animal welfare

Our animal welfare initiatives aim at increasing the level of animal welfare beyond the statutory requirements. We focus on the initiatives that are economically and scientifically feasible.

- We expect our suppliers to participate proactively in the drafting and continuous development of industry standards, to participate in initiatives and networks or to launch their own animal welfare projects.
- We continuously collaborate with our suppliers and other stakeholders to improve animal welfare.

We have set the following additional **targets** in this area:

- We will expand our active participation in relevant animal welfare initiatives and networks to increase our commitment to animal welfare.
- We will expand our collaboration with suppliers to improve animal welfare, for example in areas relating to the conditions of caged and cage-free hens, broiler breeding and fixation of pigs.

Proactive dialogue

We engage in a proactive and transparent dialogue with our stakeholders, and we are in particular a reliable partner for our customers and suppliers.

- We increase the awareness of animal welfare among our customers. We do that by showing our commitment to animal welfare on the packaging of our products, on our website, in our retail stores and in our advertising and sales material (for example by means of certificates and labels).
- We continuously inform our employees of our commitment to animal welfare.
- We engage proactively in dialogue with relevant organisations and stakeholders to strengthen our commitment, knowledge and networks.

We have set additional **targets** in this area:

- We will continue to regularly inform our employees of our commitment to animal welfare.
- We will enhance our efforts to increase our customers' knowledge and awareness of animal welfare through the development of communication and marketing initiatives in the area.
- We will extend and continuously engage in a constructive dialogue with relevant stakeholders and organisations.

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This National Animal Welfare Policy is available in Danish and English. In case of discrepancies, the Danish version will take precedence.