

GMP+ CHAIN PARTNERS REGULATION

1. Introduction

GMP+ International manages the GMP+ Feed Certification (GMP+ FC) scheme, with the GMP+ Feed Safety Assurance (GMP+ FSA) module and the GMP+ Feed Responsibility Assurance (GMP+ FRA) module.

For GMP+ International it is important to have partners representing stakeholders in the feed and food chain worldwide, sharing and supporting the vision, values and ambitions of GMP+ International regarding feed safety and responsibility assurance. Besides that, GMP+ International aims to consult stakeholders in the development of the GMP+ FC scheme and other activities. This document regulates GMP+ partnership with these stakeholder groups.

2. Partners scope

The scope or partnership in this regulation is:

- a. Associations representing companies in the feed supply chain that are in the scope of the GMP+ FC scheme.
- b. Associations representing companies in livestock and aqua farming, processing of animals and animal products and in distribution of animal products to the consumer (retail).
- c. Food companies involved in processing animal and animal products and retail.

3. Partners' types

- 3.1 A trade association or company representing companies with any of the subsectors listed below, has the option of becoming a partner of GMP+ International.

Subsectors

- a. Production of feed materials
- b. Production of feed additives
- c. Trade and collection
- d. Storage and transshipment
- e. Treatment of feed materials
- f. Transport and chartering of transport (road, rail, inland waterway, sea shipping)
- g. Production of pet foods
- h. Production of premixes and compound feeds

Subsectors

- i. Laboratory testing and other services to feed companies
- j. Livestock and aqua farming
- k. Processing, wholesale and retail of animal products for human consumption (food sector)

3.2 In the event that no trade association represents the scope of economic activity in a certain country for potential partners, individual food companies within that scope are allowed to become a partner of GMP+ International, when there are (possibly) no conflicts of interest and it will not be detrimental to GMP+ International's independency.

4. Benefits of Partners

- Is allowed to nominate candidate member for the International Expert Committee, the international subcommittees and or technical working groups in charge of advising about the GMP+ FC scheme for the scope it represents; if no seat is available, it has always access to agenda and documents for the experts meetings.
- Can participate in a national GMP+ advisory committee, when there is a need for such a platform in a certain country.
- Is a visible active partner of an internationally leading platform for setting the best practices for feed safety assurance.
- Has access to all draft documents that are being prepared by subcommittees and the International Expert Committee Animal Feed and their proposals.
- Receive all Early Warning messages.
- Will be closely involved in the continuing improvement of the GMP+ FC scheme.
- Has access to GMP+ International's publications related to animal feed and the Database Risk Assessment Feed Materials.
- Receives the bi-annual newsletter and will be involved in consultations about strategic issues.
- Participation to GMP+ International conferences, forum, seminar or workshop as resource speaker and or contributor when invited.

5. Code of Principle

5.1 The following principles express the vision, values and ambitions of GMP+ International regarding its certification scheme for feed safety & sustainability / responsibility assurance. GMP+ International's partners endorse these principles.

5.2 GMP+ International's partners:

- a. Endorse the mission and vision of GMP+ International and the way GMP+ International wants to achieve this.

- b. Are committed to respond – on behalf of all the links in de feed chain – to concerns of the animal production chain and consumer concerns relating to food safety in an appropriate, adequate and convincing manner. Both human health and animal health are included in this approach. Human and animal health surpass economical and commercial interests.
- c. Encourage continuous improvement, development and understanding of the best practices in feed safety and sustainability assurance in a trustworthy, conscientious and consistent manner. Best practices are related to the latest insights regarding (i) quality assurance management, (ii) Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (iii) the application of good manufacturing practices (prerequisite programs) and (iv) traceability.
- d. Endorse that preventive and corrective measures with regards to feed safety assurance are based on the latest scientific knowledge, but in case of doubts or lack of knowledge, the precautionary principle will have to be applied.
- e. Endorse the establishment and maintenance of an international, chain-oriented certification scheme which serves as a basis for all types of feed companies, recognizing the mutual dependence of all links in the feed (supply) chain. This also involves aiming for specific, national (end) product standards to comply with additional national requirements.
- f. Recognize and endorse the shared responsibility of every company and link in the feed chain for the common interest of an optimal feed safety & sustainability / responsibility assurance in the feed (supply) chain, in order to comply with legal requirements and feed safety & responsibility assurance related to downstream (animal production) food chain demands.

5.3 GMP+ International's partners:

- a. Communicate openly with GMP+ International and its partners in case of common interests regarding feed safety & responsibility.
- b. Participate actively in consultation procedures and meetings of GMP+ International.
- c. Communicate openly with stakeholders in the feed and food chain, with governmental organizations and with other stakeholders regarding feed safety & responsibility assurance.
- d. Encourage the acceptance and application of the GMP+ FC scheme within their supplier companies, customers and the official authorities in their country or location, and worldwide, or with equivalent certification schemes.

6. Partner's Contribution

- 6.1 Partner's annual financial contribution is € 1,000 (VAT exclusive) per subsector. If an organization or a company subscribes for partnership for more than one subsector, GMP+ International grants 25% discount.
- 6.2 GMP+ International is entitled to review the contribution amounts annually, under the condition that the updated rates will be published latest five months before the concerning calendar year.
- 6.3 GMP+ International is entitled to deviate from the foregoing stipulation in special situations.

7. Subscription and Acceptance

- 7.1 An interested organization or company can register as a GMP+ International feed & food chain partner by filling in the application form included in Appendix I, which is available from the website of GMP+ International (www.gmpplus.org). By subscribing, it fully endorses the code of principles and recognizes to respect the duties mentioned before.
- 7.2 GMP+ International is qualified to decide on acceptance of a candidate partner. Rejection will always be motivated. Acceptance and rejection will be confirmed in writing. In the event of acceptance, partnership will be automatically renewed on an annual basis as per 1st January, unless the partnership is cancelled in accordance with the notice period as referred to below.
- 7.3 At the moment of application, a partner will grant the right to GMP+ International to publish the logo of the partner in communication related to its partnership program.

8. Subscription and Acceptance

- 8.1 A partner may terminate its partnership exclusively as per 1st January of the subsequent year, provided that the partner sends a notice of cancellation of its partnership latest four months in advance by writing.
- 8.2 GMP+ International is qualified to decide on termination of partnership if a partner fails to comply with the partner's obligations. Termination will be effectuated by writing with a clear motivation, and termination will be published after four weeks of the date of the letter. The termination will be null and void if the relevant organization or company complies with its duties in a convincing manner.

9. Final Stipulations

This regulation replaces the Regulation for Partnership of GMP+ International of June 1, 2012. This regulation will take effect from September 1, 2019.

Rijswijk, 12 March 2020

ANNEX: GMP+ INTERNATIONAL CHAIN PARTNER APPLICATION FORM

Name of the organization	:	
Street + no.	:	
Place	:	
Postcode	:	
P.O. Box	:	
Postcode P.O. Box	:	
Telephone number	:	
Fax number	:	
Country of location	:	
E-mail address	:	
Website address	:	
Registration number (Chamber of Commerce)	:	
Subsector representing	:	
Type of organization	:	
Name of the contact person	:	
E-mail address contact person	:	
VAT number	:	
Bank account number	:	
Swift Code	:	
IBAN	:	

Undersigned,

- a. Requests hereby to become partner of GMP+ International as mentioned in Regulation of GMP+ Partnership for Animal Feed.
- b. Declares to have read and to endorse the code of principles
- c. Declares to have read and to comply with all duties related to the partnership
- d. Allows GMP+ International to publish above mentioned information of the organization
- e. Allows GMP+ International to publish the organization's logo or ideogram, which will be forwarded to GMP+ International.

Date of Participation :
Name of Association :
Name of Representative :
Designation :
Signature :

Note to version 2 of May 17, 2011

To harmonize the division of the subsectors of stakeholders in the Regulation for Partnership on the one hand and in the Regulations for the International Expert Committee and the Subcommittees on the other hand, this adaption was necessary. As a result, in section 3.1 the subsector 'Storage and transshipment of feed materials and feeds' has been added. Additionally, the subsector 'Treatment of feed materials' has been added because of a need in the market to look for possible standards regarding that issue too.

Note to version 3 of December 1, 2011

Some GMP+ certified companies are also involved in the production, trade and transport of so-called co-products for fermentation. The Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation initiated in cooperation with the companies involved in the biogas fermentation sector the development of a standard for assuring the quality of so-called co-products used in fermentation. The involved stakeholders requested GMP+ International to combine this standard with the GMP+ FSA scheme because of efficiency and available experience.

This adapted version of the regulation enables the stakeholders in the whole biomass fermentation chain (production, trade and transport of co-products for fermentation and the biomass fermentation sector) to get involved in the determination and maintenance of the intended standard via partners (see section 3.1).

Note to version 4 of June 1, 2012

In the second half of 2012, GMP+ International will launch a Responsible Biomass Certification scheme for non-feed products which will be separated from the GMP+ certification scheme for feed. At first, the involvement of the non-feed biomass stakeholders via partnership was enabled by version 3 of this regulation.

Because non-feed biomass products will be regulated in a separate scheme, it is necessary to regulate partnership regarding this scheme separated from feed related partnership as mentioned in this regulation. By this version 4, the non-feed stakeholders are deleted, because for them the Regulation for GMP+ Partnership for Responsible Biomass has been established. To distinguish the current regulation with the new one, it has been renamed as 'Regulation of GMP+ Partnership for Animal Feed'. Additionally, some minor improvements have been carried through.

Note to version 5 of September 2, 2019

General update of the regulation to the situation in 2019.

Note to version 6 of March 12, 2020

We added a new subcategory as possible partner: laboratory testing and other services to feed companies.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0