



# GMP+ International Corporate Governance

Transparency

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# 1. Introduction

GMP+ International is an international operating non-profit private organization that owns and manages a feed certification scheme for Feed Safety Assurance (GMP+ FSA) and Feed Responsibility Assurance (GMP+ FRA). The GMP+ Feed Certification (FC) scheme facilitates feed companies to (responsibly) produce and deliver safe feed. It covers the whole feed chain, including activities like storage & transshipment, transport and laboratory analyses.

GMP+ International has established a respectable governance model that guarantees consistency, independency, responsibility and transparency among our GMP+ community.

This document explains GMP+ International's governance on the following topics:

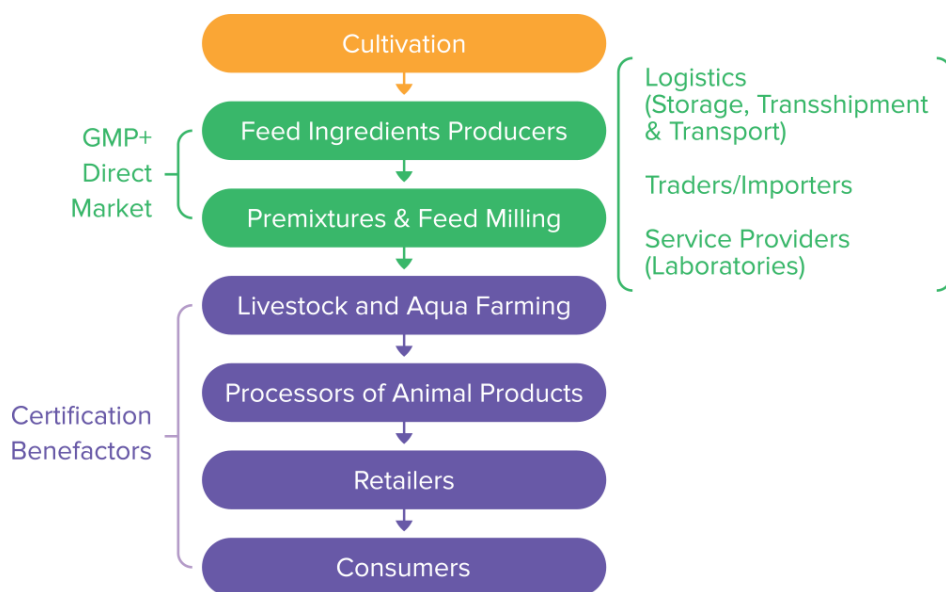
- Involvement of stakeholders;
- Integrity policy;
- Regulations on the ownership and strategic operations.

## 2. Company profile

GMP+ International is a private company with limited liability under Dutch law. GMP+ International chose this corporate entity for several reasons. One of the reasons was to enable the organization to act independently without influence of GMP+ FC certified companies or their groups of interest in the operational management. The Managing Director has decision-making power and the Articles of Association provide the framework for the operations of the organization. According to the Articles of Association, which follow the Dutch law for private companies, the Managing Director needs approval for some strategic or substantial decisions of its General Shareholders Meeting or the Supervisory Board, to formalize. There is no shareholder demand on value expressed in money or dividend. GMP+ International is a private owned non-profit organization that strives for the non-competitive goal: Feed Safety Worldwide. Our goal is facilitating the participants to comply with feed safety and responsibility demands in the market.

The GMP+ Feed Certification scheme enables companies in the animal feed chain to comply with market- and social demands concerning safe and responsible production and operation. The scheme provides international applicable standards which are uniform requirements for the whole feed supply chain. In addition, Country Notes are released, which enable companies to comply with specific national demands.

The scheme standards and the requirements of certification are developed transparently together with partners from subsectors in the feed and food chain. Moreover, reliable independent Certification Bodies check these requirements. Furthermore, GMP+ International offers more information through the GMP+ Company database, newsletters, workshops and seminars to support companies to meet the certification requirements. In this way, GMP+ International contributes to Feed Safety Worldwide.



### 3. Vision, mission, core values and payoff

Our vision: Everyone in the world should have access to safe food. Therefore, every company in the feed chain should be committed safe feed.

Our mission: We deploy a certification scheme that facilitates companies in contributing to safe feed safety worldwide. To keep our scheme and Community up to date we gather and the valuable information worldwide, regarding feed safety assurance.

Our core values: Thought leadership, market focus, pragmatic, together.

GMP+ Payoff: Feed Safety Worldwide.

## 4. Involvement of stakeholders

The management and development of our GMP+ Feed Certification scheme and related services are based on support, involvement and engagement of (inter)national stakeholders from the whole feed and food chain. GMP+ International actively connects with them through networks and partnerships with feed companies, feed and food associations, other certification schemes for good agriculture practices (G.A.P.) as well as feed or food safety assurance, governmental organizations, consultants and knowledge institutes.

The stakeholders add value to our certification scheme and services through:

- Practical input and contribution to the development of the certification scheme and related services.
- Market focus and customers satisfaction.
- Involvement in communication and business development.
- Collaborations and alignment of certification schemes for livestock and aqua farming and for food processing.
- Mutual recognition with and harmonization of other feed certification schemes.
- Creating capacity in the market to distribute knowledge and support feed companies in feed safety management.
- Systematical knowledge transfer via training and education to feed companies, consultants, Certification Bodies (auditors) and governmental organizations.



[ image: stakeholders in the GMP+ Community]

Our goal is to enable the collaboration of all stakeholders in our network and engage them through the GMP+ Community. With the GMP+ Community we provide an international platform for exchange of information, knowledge and experiences with stakeholders. We intensify communication and collaboration with the Community by analyzing and understanding, what is needed to facilitate feed companies all over the world to secure feed safety and responsible work methods in alignment with the market demands.

## 5. Decision making process

Our decision-making process is based on two principles:

- a. Multi-stakeholders' participation
- b. Public consultation.

In this particular process, the International Expert Committee Animal Feed (IEC) has a crucial role. GMP+ International operates in accordance with the principle of well-balanced multi-stakeholders' participation. Trade associations in the feed and food chain as well as food companies, which endorse the vision, mission, core values and ambitions of GMP+ International can express their commitment and engagement by becoming partner of the organization. When there is no trade association in a country that represents a certain subsector in the food chain as a partner, individual food companies may apply to become a partner.

GMP+ International grants feed and food partners the possibility to nominate candidates for its IEC and its subcommittees. The [IEC](#) has a maximum of 19 members (2019)

Subsector	Number of seats
a. Production of dry feed materials	1
b. Production of moist feed materials	1
c. Production of feed additives	1
d. Trade in and collection of feed materials	1
e. Storage and transshipment of feed materials and feeds	2
f. Treatment of feed materials	1
g. Forage trade	1
h. Transport and chartering of feed materials and feeds	2
i. Production of pet foods	1
j. Production of premixtures and compound feeds	4
k. Livestock farming	1
l. Processing, wholesale and retail of animal products for human consumption (food sector)	1

GMP+ International is the scheme holder. The IEC provides the management of GMP+ International with advice concerning the structure and content of the scheme and the certification requirements.

Details are discussed in following subcommittees:

- GMP+ Subcommittee Production
- GMP+ Subcommittee Trade & Collection
- GMP+ Subcommittee Transport
- GMP+ Subcommittee Certification & Compliance
- GMP+ Subcommittee Responsible Feed
- GMP+ Technical Committee Feed Support Products



The tasks, composition and working method of the IEC and the subcommittees are described in the [Regulation for GMP+ International Expert Committee Animal Feed](#) and the [Regulation for GMP+ International Subcommittees Animal Feed](#).

For partners, GMP+ International has the [Regulation for Partnership of GMP+ International Animal Feed](#). As GMP+ International focusses on business interests, partnerships with trade associations are only allowed, with those who represent companies in one of the following economic activities:

- a. Production of feed ingredients (primary & industrial production)
- b. Traders and brokers of feed ingredients and feeds
- c. Transport and chartering of feed ingredients and feeds
- d. Storage and transshipment of feed ingredients and feeds
- e. Production of pre-mixtures concentrates and compound feeds
- f. Livestock farming
- g. Processing, wholesaling and retail of animal products intended for human consumption (food sector)

Based on market demands GMP+ International experts prepare a draft document. Organizations or companies that don't fit within the above mentioned descriptions, but do want to give feedback are able to take part in the public consultations regarding draft documents. This process is visualized in the following flowchart:



## 6. Integrity

The integrity of the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme involves three parties with different roles and responsibilities:

- **Certified companies** must comply with the requirements of the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme standards in a trustworthy way. A proper feed safety culture in a feed company is an essential condition to realize it.
- **Certification Bodies** have the responsibility of assessing and certifying companies in a competent and impartial way.
- **GMP+ International**, as the scheme owner, is responsible for setting appropriate normative standards, setting adequate rules of feed certification, and carry out effective compliance assessments of the certification process and the integrity policy.

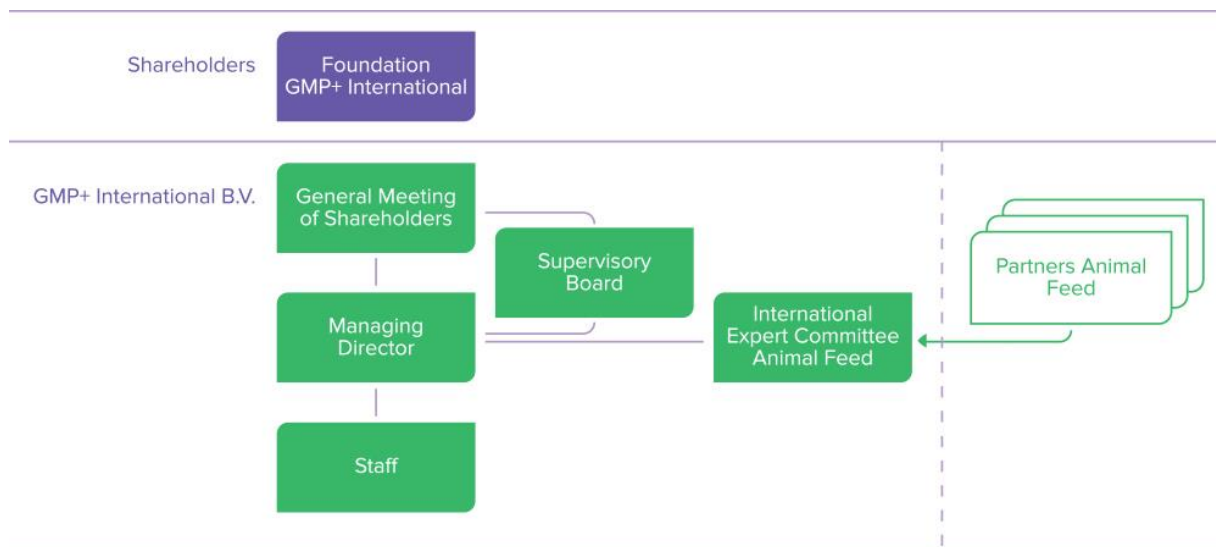
This integrity policy has several goals:

- a. Guarantee consistent implementation of the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme worldwide.
- b. Encourage the improvement of Certification Bodies.
- c. Give feedback to GMP+ International.
- d. Determine the ambiguous points in our normative documents.
- e. Follow up of complaints, rumors and investigate fraud.
- f. Achieving a continuous improvement of the certification process.

GMP+ International has an [integrity policy](#) document.

## 7. Ownership and strategic operations

GMP+ International is a private company with limited liability under Dutch law (B.V.), registered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce under registration number 27364542.



### Shareholder:

The sole shareholder is called "Stichting GMP+ International". This foundation is composed of ten Dutch associations representing the whole Dutch feed chain. The goal is to include more international shareholders.

The shareholders are represented in the General Shareholders Meeting of GMP+ International.

The role of the General Shareholders Meeting has been regulated by Dutch law. It concerns appointment (and dismissal) of the Managing Director and the members of the Supervisory Board, approval of certain strategic issues and approval of the annual financial report. They are not involved in tactical and operational issues.

### Supervisory Board:

The Supervisory Board advises the Managing Director on the management of the organization and strategic operations. For certain decisions, determined by Dutch law, the Managing Director needs approval of the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board consists of three persons. They are not involved in the feed business. They are also not involved in tactical and operational matters. The responsibilities and tasks of the Supervisory Board are described in the Articles of Association as well as in the Regulation Supervisory Board.

### Managing Director:

The Managing Director governs the company. This is regulated in Dutch law. He is fully entitled to act and is responsible for all operations. According to legal and statutes stipulations, for some decisions the Managing Director needs approval of the General Shareholders Meeting or the Supervisory Board. The Managing Director is supported by the GMP+ International staff. In the management team, he is supported by an Operations Director. His responsibilities and tasks are written down in Articles of Association, the *Management Regulation*, and in the *Regulation Supervisory Board*.

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#### Disclaimer:

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