

# National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy



**Version:** August 2020

## Our requirements

The ALDI Nord Group conducts its business in a responsible, honest and trustworthy way. For over 100, we have stood out for our traditional business values, and they are the foundation for our continued success. They are an essential condition of our growth and of the steps we take to recognise our responsibility.

As a national food retailer, our decisions have an economic impact throughout the production and supply chain. This is why we assume our responsibility for safe and fair working conditions, and for preserving the environment, our resources and animals.

ALDI has therefore formalised this National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy. It is subject to ongoing monitoring and in-depth checks. This new version of our policy is binding on us and on our business partners.

This National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy is published on our website.

# 1. Context

ALDI's commitment to animal welfare is based on our vision of quality and responsibility. We sell products of animal origin (meat, fish, eggs) and processed products whose raw material is of animal origin (e.g. ready meals, leather goods). The safety of people and animals is guaranteed through adherence to our ILO (International Labour Organization) standards-based code of conduct, production and quality standards and animal welfare standards.

The aim of ALDI's commitment to animal welfare is to continue to raise standards in the manufacture of our products, a process in which the health and welfare of animals is our priority. We are committed to raising our customers' and our employees' awareness about animal welfare through transparent information and proactive dialogue.

## 2. Scope

This National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy formalises our requirements of our business partners. This version of our purchasing policy will remain in force until a new version is published.

This National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy covers all our own brand food and non-food products that contain raw materials of animal origin. It applies to the following product specific categories:

### **Food products:**

- | Meat from all animal species
- | Eggs
- | Egg products
- | Milk and dairy products
- | Fish and other seafood products

### **Non-food products:**

- | Textiles, leather goods and shoes
- | Cosmetics

Other categories of products may be included in the scope of our National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy at a later date.

### 3. Our commitment to animal welfare

We have identified the following priority areas: a range of products focused on animal welfare, transparency and traceability, contribution to animal welfare and proactive dialogue.

#### **Selection of a range of products focused on animal welfare**

- We take animal welfare issues into account when developing our product range.
- We are committed to respecting animal welfare when developing our range of products of animal origin.
- We do not sell any products of animal origin or any processed products that contain raw materials of animal origin which do not meet our animal welfare requirements. We do not therefore sell certain products such as real fur or angora wool.
- We will cease selling battery farm eggs by the end of 2025.
- We will cease using battery farm eggs to make our food products by the end of 2020.
- The horsemeat we sell comes exclusively from the European Union.
- We include our animal welfare requirements on our purchase notes.
- By the end of 2026, all of our chicken products (raw and processed, fresh and frozen products containing more than 50% chicken) sold in France under our own brands will comply with European Chicken Commitment (ECC) criteria. In addition, by 2026, 20% of our sales volume in this range of products will come from farms that guarantee chickens have access to outdoor space or open-air shelter.

#### **Transparency and traceability**

- We guarantee supply chain transparency and, in accordance with the law, full traceability of our products is a requirement. Beyond these statutory requirements, our business partners must be able to provide ALDI with any additional information about the origin of raw materials and must therefore put in place appropriate information systems.
- In the interests of transparent customer information, we affix clear and visible labels or certificates to our product packaging, to our advertising materials and at our points of sale.

#### **Contribution to animal welfare**

- Through our National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy, we contribute to improving animal welfare beyond the statutory requirements. We build on economic and scientific advances in this field.
- We actively help to advance scientific knowledge and societal standards, and we adapt our requirements accordingly.
- We share a responsibility with our business partners to protect animal welfare and we therefore work together to achieve the objectives set out in this purchasing policy.

## **Proactive dialogue**

- We proactively communicate with our various industry stakeholders to provide transparent information. Improving animal welfare can only succeed through the joint action of all key players, including farmers, processing companies, retailers, regulatory bodies, authorities, politicians, scientists, consumers and non-governmental organisations.
- We assess the feasibility of methods and use them to ensure animal welfare issues are increasingly taken into account.
- We are a trustworthy partner for our customers. Our commitments to transparency and communication can be viewed on our website, at our points of sale and in our advertising, to raise our customers' awareness about animal welfare and help them to consider this factor in their purchases.
- We inform our employees about our commitment to animal welfare on an ongoing basis.

## 4. Responsibilities, implementation and monitoring of the National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy.

ALDI sets animal welfare targets and actions through close coordination between the Corporate Social Responsibility, Purchasing and Quality departments, as well as with its business partners. ALDI therefore takes into account the recommendations of external experts and the expectations of relevant interest groups. The targets and actions are set on a continuous improvement basis.

ALDI buyers must always comply with this National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy and the targets it contains during tendering and purchasing processes.

All suppliers of products of animal origin and products containing raw materials of animal origin will be notified of the application of our National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy. When accepting an order, our suppliers agree to adhere to this policy.

ALDI's management and directors will be regularly updated on the progress of the policy's application.

**We can only continue to work with business partners who share the values of and adhere to our National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy.**

In the event of non-compliance with our requirements, ALDI reserves the right to apply penalties.

Publication: ALDI Centrale d'Achat et Cie

This National Animal Welfare Purchasing Policy is available in French and English. In case of deviations between both versions, the French version will prevail.