

Press Release

17th, Oct, 2025

Seven Japanese Companies Launch Japan's First "Responsible Seafood Procurement Roundtable" — Advancing Sustainable Sourcing through Collaboration



Tokyo, October 2nd, 2025 — Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd. announced the launch of the Japan Responsible Seafood Roundtable, an initiative that brings together seven leading seafood-related companies in Japan. The Roundtable is designed to tackle procurement challenges that individual companies find difficult to address alone, by fostering collaborative solutions across the industry.

Participating Companies (in alphabetical order)



Kyokuyo Co.,Ltd.



Marubeni Seafoods Corporation



Maruha Nichiro Corporation



Mitsubishi Corporation



Nichirei Corporation

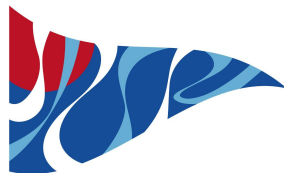


Nissui Corporation



Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd.

JRSR Logo



**責任ある水産物調達
ラウンドテーブル**

**JAPAN RESPONSIBLE
SEAFOOD ROUNDTABLE**

Background

In recent years, awareness has been growing around the sustainability of seafood products, as well as human rights and environmental issues within global supply chains. Companies handling seafood are increasingly expected to adopt “responsible procurement” practices. However, many challenges cannot be resolved by individual companies alone. In response, leading Japanese seafood companies have come together to establish this Roundtable as a collaborative framework.

Objectives

The Roundtable pursues the following three objectives to drive practical action among participating companies:

1. Ensure consistency in human rights due diligence systems and practices, establishing an effective framework for collaboration to maximize impact on priority social issues.
2. Ensure consistency in environmental due diligence systems and practices, fostering objective and effective collaboration that generates tangible improvements in environmental outcomes.
3. Jointly address challenges necessary to ensure transparent, interoperable seafood traceability in line with international standards.

Through these efforts, participating companies will promote the implementation of their procurement policies, foster the adoption of responsible sourcing practices within Japan’s seafood industry, and contribute to solving global challenges in step with international initiatives.

Key Areas of Action

- Implementation of human rights due diligence
- Implementation of environmental due diligence
- Establishment of transparent seafood traceability

Looking Ahead

The Roundtable will formally begin activities in October 2025. Member companies will share information and pursue joint actions, aiming to develop a common set of guides in 2026. The initiative also seeks to expand participation among other companies and stakeholders, advancing a responsible seafood supply chain from Japan to the world.

Comments from Participating Companies

Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd. — Yuto Mabuchi, Fresh Food Merchandiser, Seven Premium Product Development Division

As a retailer, sourcing sustainable seafood is not only a social responsibility but also a vital factor in maintaining consumer trust. By collaborating with other companies through this Roundtable, we will enhance consideration for human rights and the environment, strengthen traceability, and build effective mechanisms. We aim to contribute to the wider adoption of sustainable seafood and to addressing global challenges.

Nissui Corporation— Akihiko Nishi, General Manager, Sustainability Department

As a seafood and food manufacturer, Nissui is committed to fulfilling its responsibility to pass on the bounty of the oceans to future generations by practicing sustainable procurement. We expect this Roundtable to serve as a platform for cross-sector collaboration, generating concrete actions to address key challenges and creating a new trend in responsible seafood distribution.

Maruha Nichiro Corporation — Yusuke Sato, General Manager, Sustainability Department

Seafood is a vital protein source that consumers greatly value, yet the industry faces difficult issues including IUU fishing, the establishment of traceability, and human rights violation risks. To solve these challenges, it is essential for companies that share a commitment to responsible procurement to think, discuss, and act together in a non-competitive fr

amework. Maruha Nichiro looks forward to working with our peers through this Roundtable to take on these difficult issues, co-create solutions, and realize sustainable and responsible seafood procurement.

Comment from Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.

Aiko Yamauchi, Executive Vice President, Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.

Nearly two decades have passed since the first case of MSC Chain of Custody certification was obtained in Japan, and we have since seen steady progress in sustainable seafood procurement initiatives by Japanese companies. At the same time, new global challenges have emerged—such as the need to establish full-chain traceability and address human rights issues in the fisheries sector—ushering in a new phase for responsible seafood sourcing.

Tackling these complex issues requires collaboration across borders. For Japan's seafood market to make a genuine contribution to solving them, a platform that facilitates such collaboration is essential. Through the launch of the Responsible Seafood Procurement Roundtable, Seafood Legacy is committed to supporting Japanese companies in driving tangible progress toward responsible and sustainable seafood supply chains.

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