

# ISSF Annual Conservation Measures & Commitments Compliance Report

2021 Audit Period, published:  
**April 2022**

## Overview

Per the [ISSF Strategic Plan](#), *Advancing Sustainable Tuna Fisheries*, ISSF will: Ensure participating company compliance with all ISSF conservation measures – with an emphasis on traceability from product to processing facility to fishery to vessel – and communicate results publicly to promote transparency, and to support and enhance ISSF’s credibility and influence among interested stakeholders.

## Audit Process<sup>1</sup>

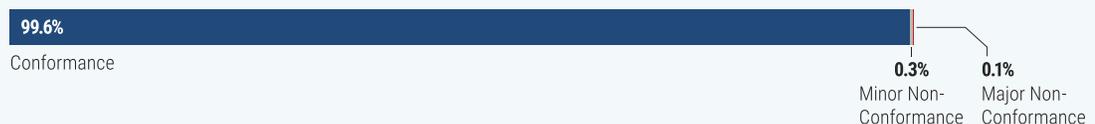
ISSF engaged MRAG Americas to conduct an audit of the performance of the participating companies against the conservation measures and commitments in-force during the above audit period. MRAG developed the following categories of conformance that provide interested stakeholders with an explanation of conformance by individual measure:<sup>2</sup>

## CATEGORIES OF COMPLIANCE

	<b>Conformance</b>	Company can provide evidence of full compliance.
	<b>Minor Non-Conformance</b>	Company does not fully comply with a particular conservation measure or commitment, but this does not compromise the integrity of ISSF initiatives. <i>Example: Participating Company submitted RFMO data beyond the stated deadline.</i>
	<b>Major Non-Conformance</b>	Company does not comply with a particular conservation measure or commitment, and this compromises the integrity of ISSF initiatives. <i>Example: Participating Company did not submit RFMO data.</i>

## AUDIT RESULTS as Reported March 2022, Updated Results

All companies; across all measures



- COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Audit Process: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MRAG Americas issued a [Notice to the ISSF Participating Companies and Vessels listed on the ProActive Vessel Register: Audit Protocol Override due to COVID-19](#) in March 2020. MRAG determined that no modifications to the audit process due to COVID-19 disruptions were necessary.
- The auditors may also make a finding of "Observation" with regard to a particular conservation measure when a Participating Company is in conformance with that measure, but there is a high risk that a non-conformance could occur inadvertently without implementing preventive action. In addition, in some circumstances where a particular conservation measure is not applicable to a Participating Company, the audit report will contain an "N/A" finding. Both of these findings are considered to be a Conformance as described above for reporting purposes.

The results included in this document are based on the independent, third-party audit of data provided directly to the auditor by ISSF participating companies, conducted in accordance with the established [Audit Protocols](#) and the [ISSA Compliance Policy](#), and show the status of compliance as of September 30, 2021. MRAG issued final individual participating company compliance reports in March 2022. [Audit reports on individual companies' remediations](#) of non-conformances after an annual report's audit period and publication date are available on the ISSF site (see reports with "Update of Compliance Status" titles).

# Aggregate Company Compliance Performance

## Tracking Aggregate Compliance

This report details the level of compliance with each conservation measure and presents aggregate compliance by individual company. A summary view of each company's compliance is presented in this report.

Each individual company's full compliance audit results for 2021 as reported by MRAG, which feed this aggregate report, were [published on the ISSF website](#) in March 2022.

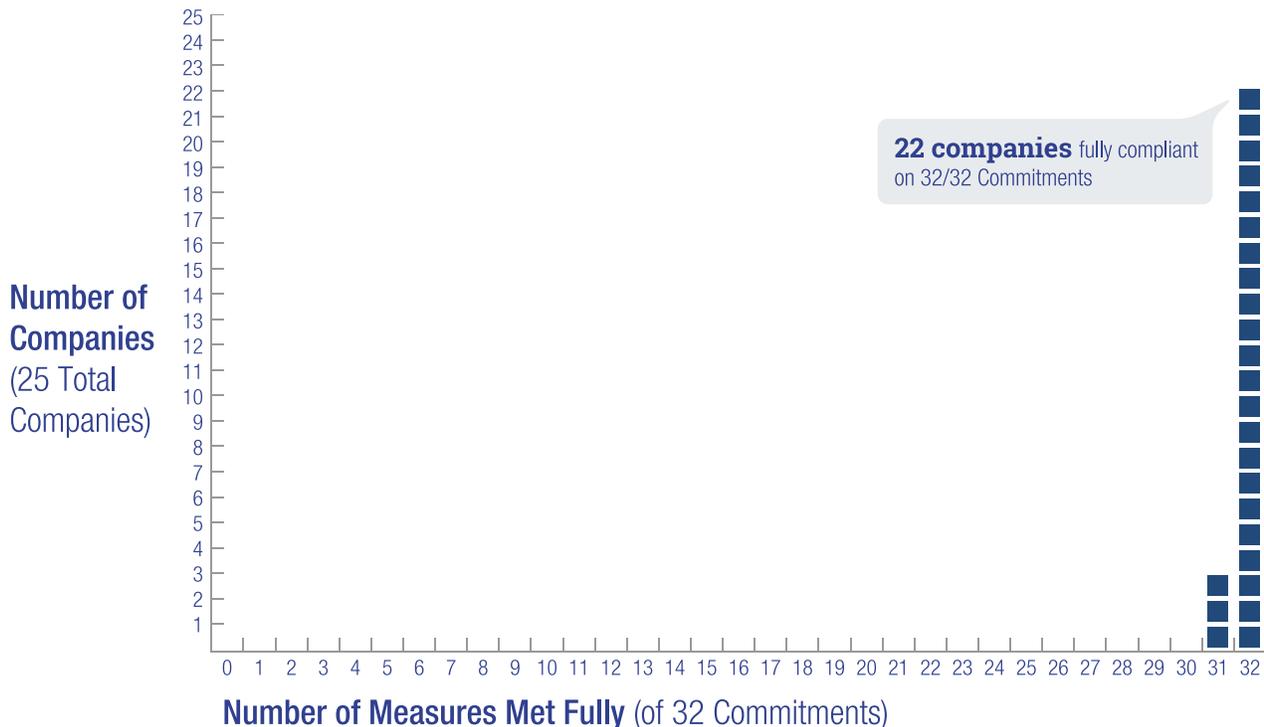
This report will be updated in the fourth quarter of 2022 to reflect any improvements in compliance by ISSF participating companies. Any improvements in a company's compliance made before the publication of the update of this report will be noted in the individual company's compliance reports, available on the ISSF website.

## Compliance Overview

MRAG's audit for the reporting period showed:

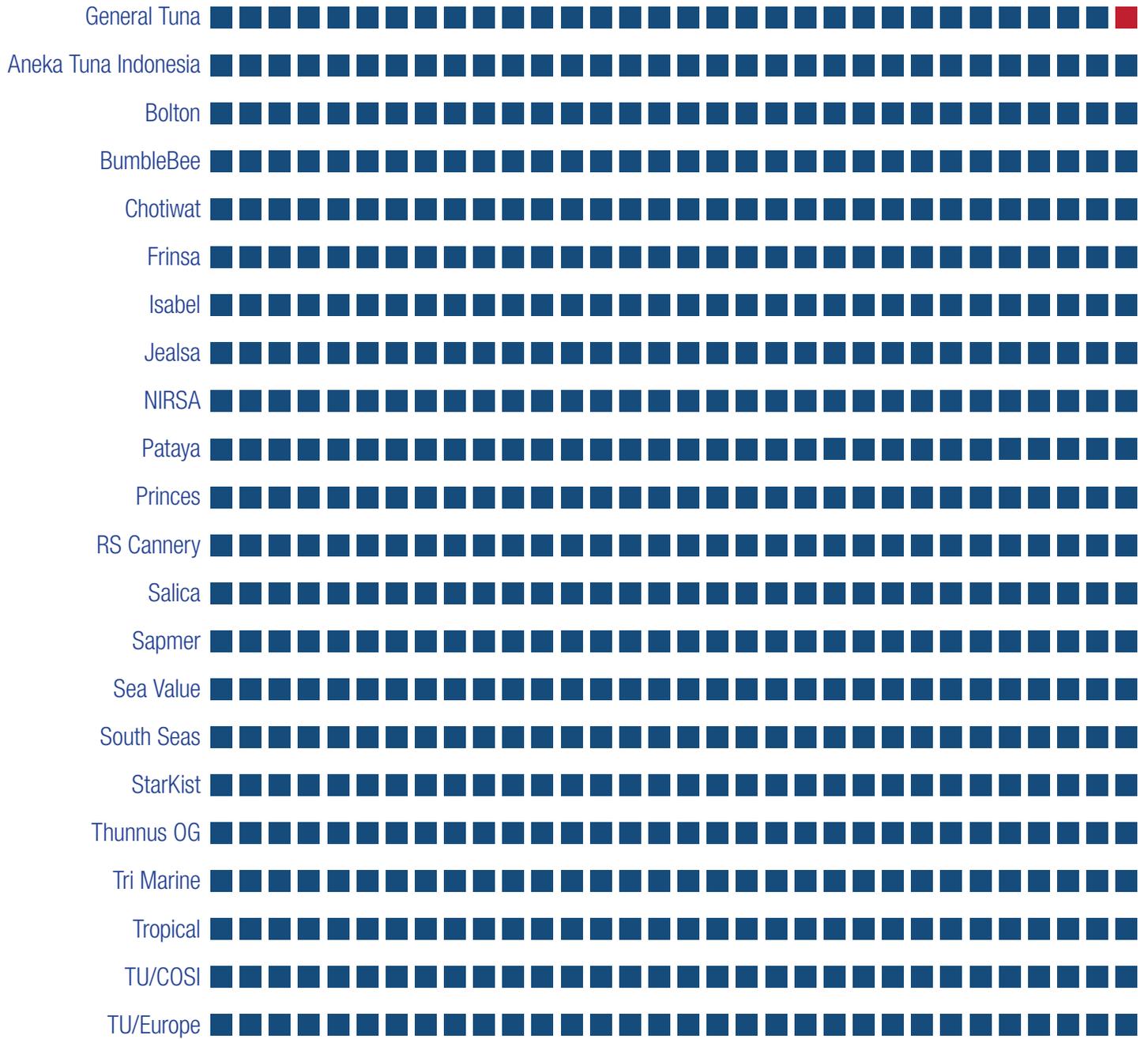
- **22 companies** were in **CONFORMANCE** with all 32 measures in effect during the reporting period.
- **2 companies** had one **MINOR NON-CONFORMANCE**.
- **1 company** had one **MAJOR NON-CONFORMANCE**.

### LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE by Individual ISSA Companies – as Reported March 2022



\*Companies are listed in order of level of compliance, then alphabetically.

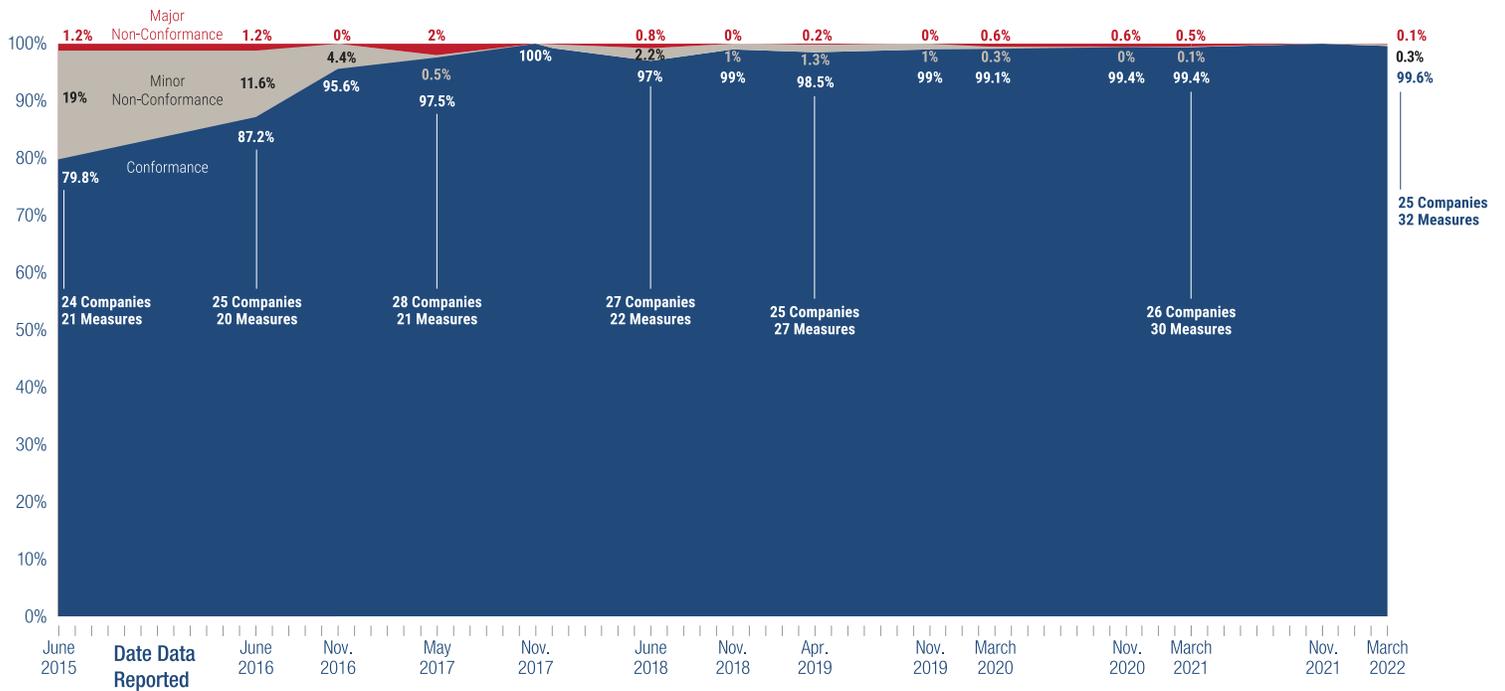
**Founding and Full Members**



**Associate Members**



## CHANGE OVER TIME IN AGGREGATE COMPLIANCE (ALL COMPANIES)



For updates on individual companies' compliance status, including remediation of any non-conformances that may be noted in this annual report, visit our [audit reports page](#).

## ISSF PARTICIPATING COMPANY COMPLIANCE BY CONSERVATION MEASURE\* (25 COMPANIES)

\*as Reported March 2022



### 1.1 RFMO Authorized Vessel Record

All purchases must be from vessels listed on the authorized vessel record of the RFMO governing the ocean area in which the tuna was caught, at the time of the fishing trip, so long as the vessel is of a size subject to listing in the RFMO authorized vessel record.

**Fully compliant: 25**



### 1.2 RFMO Participation

All purchases must be from vessels flagged to a member or cooperating non-member of RFMO relevant to fishing area.

**Fully compliant: 25**



### 2.1 Product Traceability

Participating company must demonstrate ability to trace products from can code or sales invoice to vessel and trip.

**Fully compliant: 25**



### 2.2 Quarterly Data Submission to RFMO

Send information as described in the measure to RFMO scientific bodies for each quarter by the last day of the following calendar quarter.

**Fully compliant: 25**



### 2.3 Product Labeling by Species and Ocean of Capture

On all product labeling, or through a publicly available web-based system by product, for all branded tuna products:

1. Identify the species of tuna contained in the product.
2. Identify the ocean of capture for the tuna contained in the product.

**Fully compliant: 24**  
**Minor non-conformance: 1**

	<b>2.4 Supply Chain Transparency, Audit, Reporting &amp; Purchasing Requirements</b>	All tuna is purchased from ISSF Participating Companies or <a href="#">Data Check Companies</a> ; or company publishes fishery source or supplier source categories.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.1 (a) Shark Finning Policy</b>	Company establishes and publishes policy prohibiting shark finning.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.1 (b) Prohibition of Transactions with Shark Finning Vessels</b>	Refrain from transactions with vessels that have shark finned within two years of the product purchase date (as found by RFMO or competent national authority).	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.1 (c) Prohibition of Transactions with Companies without a Public Policy</b>	No transactions with companies that do not have a public policy prohibiting shark finning.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.2 Large-Scale Pelagic Driftnets Prohibition</b>	No transactions with vessels using large-scale pelagic driftnets.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.3 Full Retention of Tunas</b>	All purse seine caught tuna (skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye) retained onboard, except those unfit for human consumption as defined, or when in the final set of a trip, there is insufficient well space to accommodate all fish caught in that set.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.4 Skipper Best Practices</b>	Unless exempt per Conservation Measure 8.1, skipper has attended an ISSF Skippers Workshop in person, has viewed the Skippers Workshop video online, or has reviewed the Skippers Guidebook.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.5 Transactions with Vessels that Use Only Non-entangling FADs</b>	Transactions only with purse seine vessels that have a public policy requiring the use of only non-entangling FADs, which meet the minimum specifications in the <a href="#">ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs</a> . Vessel owners shall not deploy “highest entanglement” FADs as described in the ISSF Guide.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>3.6 Transactions with Vessels Implementing Best Practices for Sharks, Sea Turtles and Seabirds</b>	Transactions only with those longline vessels whose owners have a policy requiring the implementation of best practices for sharks, marine turtles and seabirds.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>

	<b>NEW during this audit period</b> <b>3.7 Vessel Based FAD Management Policy</b>	<p>Transactions only with large scale purse seine and supply &amp; tender vessels with public FAD Management Policies that include activities vessels are undertaking on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comply with flag state and RFMO reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type</li> <li>Voluntarily report additional FAD buoy data for use by RFMO science bodies</li> <li>Support science-based limits on overall number of FADs used per vessel and/or FAD sets made</li> <li>Use only non-entangling FADs to reduce ghost fishing</li> <li>Mitigate other environmental impacts due to FAD loss including through use of biodegradable FADs and FAD recovery policies</li> <li>For silky sharks, implement further mitigation efforts</li> </ol>	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>4.1 Unique Vessel Identifiers – IMO</b>	All purchases must be from vessels with an IMO UVI number if the vessel is capable of being registered by IMO.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>4.2 Purse Seine Unique Vessel Identifiers</b>	All purse seine vessels with which the company transacts in tuna, and which are not able to receive an IMO UVI number, must have a TUVI issued by CLAV or ISSF.	<b>Fully compliant: 24</b> <b>Minor non-conformance: 1</b>
	<b>4.3 (a) Observer Coverage</b>	Evidence of 100% observer coverage (human or electronic) on large-scale purse seine vessels unless exempt or prevented by force majeure.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>4.4 (a) Transshipment</b>	No transactions in tuna where transportation included transshipment, except when exempt.	<b>Fully compliant: 24</b> <b>Major non-conformance: 1</b>
	<b>4.4 (c) Transshipment at Sea – Observer Coverage (Large-scale Longline)</b>	Transactions with longline vessels that conduct transshipments at sea, whether high seas, EEZ, territorial seas or archipelagic waters, only if 100% of such transshipments are observed.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>5.1 IUU Fishing</b>	No transactions with vessels on any tuna RFMO IUU vessel list.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>5.2 IUU Product Response</b>	No IUU purchases. If IUU is found, company must withdraw these products from the marketplace.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>6.1 Transaction Ban for Large Scale PS Vessels Not Actively Fishing for Tuna as of 12/31/2012</b>	Demonstrate that all purchases from large-scale purse seine vessels are from vessels actively fishing for tuna as of December 31, 2012 and listed on the ISSF Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>6.2 (e) Requirements for Inclusion in ISSF Record of Large Scale PS Vessels</b>	Demonstrate that purchases are from large-scale purse seine vessels that meet the requirements for inclusion on the ISSF Record.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>

	<b>7.1 (a) Registration of Controlled Vessels (Purse Seine and Supply &amp; Tender)</b>	Register all controlled purse seine and supply & tender vessels on the PVR.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>7.1 (b) Registration of Controlled Vessels (Longline)</b>	Register all controlled longline vessels on the PVR.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>7.2 Threshold Requirement for PVR Listing</b>	All large-scale purse seine vessels owned by the same business organization shall be in demonstrated compliance with, or otherwise exempted from, Section 6 – Capacity.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>7.3 Purchases from PVR Vessels (Purse Seine)</b>	For fishing trips beginning on or after January 1, 2016, source 100% of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna caught by large-scale purse seine vessels from vessels registered in the PVR.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>7.4 Supply and Tender Vessels</b>	For controlled supply or tender vessels that operate with purse seine vessels: (a) register all vessels on the PVR and maintain registration indefinitely; (b) ensure all are listed on the authorized vessel record of any RFMO governing the ocean area in which the tuna was caught; (c) ensure all have an IMO unique vessel identifier; and (d) ensure all are not listed on the IUU Vessel List of any RFMO.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>7.5 Purchases from PVR Vessels (Longline)</b>	Register all controlled longline vessels on the PVR.	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>8.1 Exemption for Very Small PS Vessels</b>	Very small purse seine vessels (less than 30 GT) are exempted from the following ISSF Conservation Measures: 3.4 Skipper Best Practices, 4.2 Purse Seine Unique Vessel Identifiers, 4.4(a) Transshipment	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>
	<b>NEW during this audit period</b> <b>9.1 Public Policy on Social and Labor Standards</b>	Publish a public social and labor standards policy and/or sourcing policy that applies to the supply chain, including production facilities and fishing and supply vessels, that addresses the following categories: a. Forced labor b. Child labor c. Freedom of association d. Wages, benefits, and employment contracts e. Working hours f. Health and safety g. Discrimination, harassment, and abuse h. Grievance mechanisms	<b>Fully compliant: 25</b>

