



ECHEBASTAR

POLICY REGARDING SHARK FINNING

Shark finning (the retention of fins and discard of the remaining carcass at sea) is an abhorrent practice which contravenes various international rules and regulations, including:

- The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.
- The resolutions of a number of other international marine bodies, all of which call for minimizing waste and discards.
- Shark-related conservation and management measures of the regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) that restrict finning, regardless of fishing vessel gear type
- The legislation of several countries requiring that fins remain naturally attached to shark bodies.

As a responsible member of the fishing community, fully supportive of RFMO management measures and the conservation of marine life, Echebatar:

1. Condemns the practice of shark finning as defined above.
2. Calls on RFMO's to improve their management of shark fisheries by prohibiting shark finning, requiring full retention of shark species (excepting those prohibited or released alive), and adopting the mandatory reporting of shark catches by species.
3. Prohibits the practice of shark finning onboard its own vessels.



Borneo, December 2011