

## **PROPOSAL TO JOIN THE GLOBAL GHOST GEAR INITIATIVE (GGGI)**

Presented for endorsement at IWC68  
by the co-chairs of the Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Debris

# STATEMENT OF SUPPORT



## Recognizing that:

1. The Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) is a cross-sectoral alliance committed to driving solutions to the problem of lost and abandoned fishing gear, better known as ghost gear, worldwide.
2. The GGGI aims to improve the health of marine ecosystems, protect marine life from harm, and safeguard human health and livelihoods. It does this by working globally and locally to build evidence, define best practices and inform policies, and catalyze and replicate solutions.
3. While encouraging progress has been made in this area in some countries and sectors, worldwide collaboration is required to effect change at a scale that will match the size of the problem.
4. Founded on the best available science, the GGGI is the first initiative dedicated to tackling the problem of ghost gear at a global scale. The GGGI's strength lies in the diversity of its participants including the fishing industry, private sector, academia, national and international institutions and civil society organizations.
5. The GGGI is comprised of organizations that work to advance the GGGI's mission and aims, that represent perspectives across sectors, and who participate in constructive dialogue.
6. The GGGI supports and contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 agenda. The GGGI specifically supports the delivery of goals 2, 3, 12, 17, and 14, specifically target 14.1. which calls to "prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds."

In signing this Statement of Support, we agree to support the GGGI's mission and goals as outlined in the GGGI Participation System. Further, acknowledging that ALDFG or 'ghost gear' is a global issue of concern and is causing significant harm to marine ecosystems, marine animal health and welfare as well as human health and livelihoods; and accepting that mitigating ALDFG impacts at scale will require a global multi-stakeholder approach with the active engagement of governments, civil society, the private sector, the fishing industry and national and international institutions, the signatories of this statement agree to:

7. Commit to ensure that all communications relating to our organization's involvement with the GGGI is accurate, evidence-based and in line with the GGGI's mission.
8. Work with GGGI leadership and other signatories to ensure the GGGI is an effective, cross-sectoral alliance for preventing, reducing and mitigating the problem of ghost gear in our ocean.
9. Welcome the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) and support the commitment to improve the health of marine ecosystems; protect marine life from harm; and safeguard human health and livelihoods by working globally and locally to build evidence; define best practices and inform policies; and catalyze and replicate solutions.
10. Agree to advance the GGGI's mission and aims, including through active participation in constructive dialogue with all relevant partners, supporting GGGI objectives in national and international fora, including through providing active support for GGGI related initiatives, in accordance with our own strategic priorities.

## We hereby declare our support for the GGGI.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO JOEL BAZIUK AT [JOELBAZIUK@GHOSTGEAR.ORG](mailto:JOELBAZIUK@GHOSTGEAR.ORG)**

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_