

Milano, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Circular 0423**

TO: Accredited Certification Bodies (or under accreditation)

IN COPY: National Accreditation Bodies

To Whom it may concern.

In case an Organization/Company with Friend of the Sea certified product/s decides to rely on a Certification Body different from the one which carried out the initial or recertification audit, to carry out the surveillance audit, the following must be applied:

- The new Certification Body shall request both Friend of the Sea and the CB which holds the certificate of the company in question the following documents: audit reports and relative CAR(s), economic pending, certificate(s);
- The new CB must analyze the documents and verify that everything is in order before proceeding with the surveillance audit (which must be done within the timeframe set initially).
- If the company successfully passes the new surveillance audit, a new certificate must be issued by the new CB keeping the same dates as the initial certificate.
- The related surveillance audit must be done within 12 months from the new initial audit, or 18 months from the recertification audit, as prescribed by the FOS 0001 rev. 9.3, section “3.10.1 Surveillance audit”, page 16.

In faith,



Paolo Bray  
Director and founder of Friend of the Sea