

Letter of support for GLOBALG.A.P. Hop Sub-scope from IHGC

November 2016

TO: GLOBALG.A.P. Technical Committee

RE: Support for the creation of a GLOBALG.A.P. Hop Sub-scope

Members of the Technical Committee:

The International Hop Growers' Convention represents 17 hop producing countries along with 16 hop handler/processor companies. Sustainability and best practices for hop production and harvesting operations have gained attention from both the hop and brewing industries in recent years. Awareness of food safety practices that ensure high quality, safe ingredients have increased. The hop producing and brewing industries are working together to ensure common goals are achieved. Our industries are committed to enhancing positive impacts on the environment, our communities, and our employees.

The inclusion of a GLOBALG.A.P. Hop Sub-scope will insure that hop growers worldwide have access to an internationally recognized global food safety initiative (GFSI) standard for farm production and harvesting. This proposal does not seek to replace existing GFSI programs (such as ISO 9001, or SQF), or regulatory and public programs like EU Food Legislation / Food Hygiene Regulations and SAI Global. This simply provides another option that is *specific* to the hop industry.

On behalf of the International Hop Growers' Convention, we support the HGA Technical Committee's establishment of a GLOBALG.A.P. Hop Sub-scope.

Sincerely,

IHGC President
Mr. Leslie A. Roy