

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE News Release

# Wilmar Emerges World Number 1 in the Global Child Forum's Food, Beverage and Personal Care Benchmark

**Singapore/Kuala Lumpur, 15 December 2022** – Wilmar International Limited ("Wilmar" or "the Group") has been recognised as the best performing company in Global Child Forum's recent Food, Beverage and Personal Care benchmark<sup>1</sup>. Wilmar emerged number one globally among a total of 310 of the world's most influential companies that were assessed by Global Child Forum, which is a leading independent non-profit forum for children's rights.

Wilmar scored a perfect 10 for its efforts in safeguarding children's rights and well-being, which was an increase from its previous score of 9.8. The score was based on an assessment covering these impact areas:

- Governance & Collaboration: Company Commitment & Engagement
- Workplace: Company Operations & Supply Chains
- Marketplace: Product Safety & Marketing
- Community & Environment: Contribution & Impact

General Manager of Group Sustainability at Wilmar, Perpetua George, said, "We are heartened by the recognition of our continuous efforts in safeguarding the protection and welfare of children. Wilmar understands that beyond having zero tolerance for child labour and exploitation, it is also critical to ensure the safety and well-being of children are upheld while providing them with access to quality education and an enabling environment for them to thrive. Wilmar also supports the education of more than 10,000 school-going children living in our plantations globally."

"We have initiated numerous proactive initiatives like programmes in educating children about identifying and preventing sexual harassment and this goes a long way in empowering children. This acknowledgement from Global Child Forum serves to boost our motivation to continue on the right path and will encourage us to further strengthen our efforts," she explained.

In 2021, Wilmar was also the top-scoring company in the Global Child Forum Global Benchmark and the best-performing company in Asia & Pacific for protecting and strengthening children's rights<sup>2</sup>.

For over a decade, Global Child Forum has been benchmarking companies' progress and process on children's rights in order to help companies have a positive impact on children's lives," says Katarina Mellström, the organisation's Secretary-General. "We recognise the achievements of companies that are leading the way while also encouraging other companies to act in the best

 $<sup>^{1}\,\</sup>underline{\text{https://globalchildforum.org/the-state-of-childrens-rights-and-business-2022-food-beverage-personal-care/}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://globalchildforum.org/global-benchmark-report-2021/

interest of a child's well-being. The benchmark is one such tool that can support companies on their journey."

The Global Child Forum recognition comes on the heels of this week's highlight where Wilmar maintains its inclusion in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) World Index<sup>3</sup> this year and ranks amongst the world's most sustainable food companies. This recognition marks Wilmar's second consecutive year on the DJSI World Index and third straight year on the DJSI Asia Pacific Index.

Wilmar ranks third amongst the Food Products companies on DJSI World Index and is the only Food Products company from Singapore in this Index. With a score of 75 out of 100, which is an improvement from 70 in 2021, the Group is in the 94<sup>th</sup> percentile of all Food Products companies reviewed. It achieved a better performance in the categories of Environmental (76), Social (73) and Governance & Economic (75).

In addition to Global Child Forum and DJSI, Wilmar's sustainability efforts and leadership position have been recognised in other international benchmarks, such as:

#### FTSE4Good Index Series

Wilmar retained its position in this Index in the semi-annual review in 2022.

## Sustainable Palm Oil Transparency Toolkit (SPOTT)

Wilmar was ranked top in 2022 out of 100 palm oil producers, processors and traders for a second consecutive year with an improved total score of 93.2%.

## Corporate Human Rights Benchmark (CHRB)

Wilmar was ranked second globally out of 127 companies in 2022.

Since 2017, Wilmar has signed more than 18 Sustainability-Linked Loans, securing over US\$2.2 billion of sustainable financing, which remains part of our holistic approach to integrate sustainability principles into the business operations at every level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.spglobal.com/esg/csa/djsi-csa-annual-review?utm\_source=sims3&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=sa\_in&utm\_id=djsirebalance

#### **ABOUT WILMAR'S SUSTAINABILITY**

As a leading agribusiness group, Wilmar recognises that we have a fundamental role to play in developing quality products required by the world while ensuring we have a responsible and sustainable manner of production. We adopt a holistic approach to sustainability that is fully integrated with our business model.

Guided by the philosophy that our business must enhance stakeholder value while minimizing our environmental footprint, our business practices are aligned with universally acceptable social and environmental standards. Wilmar's No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation<sup>4</sup> (NDPE) Policy and NDPE Sugar Policy<sup>5</sup>, introduced in 2013 and 2021 respectively, underpin our aspiration to make a positive impact and drive transformation across the palm oil and sugar sectors.

For more information, please visit www.wilmar-international.com/sustainability.

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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 $<sup>{\</sup>color{blue} ^{4}} \underline{\text{http://www.wilmar-international.com/sustainability/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/No-Deforestation-No-Peat-No-Exploitation-Policy.pdf}$ 

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