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News Release

Wilmar Tops Global Leaderboard in Championing Children's Rights for Second Consecutive Year

Scores Perfect 10 in 2023 Benchmark Report by Global Child Forum

Singapore, 1 November 2023 – Wilmar International Limited (“Wilmar”) was recognised as ‘Leader’ for the second consecutive year after topping the 2023 Benchmark Report Global Leaderboard by Global Child Forum and Boston Consulting Group.

Wilmar achieved a perfect 10 score in the Food, Beverage and Personal Care sector in the report [The State of Children’s Rights & Business in 2023](#) outperforming the average score of 5.4. This is an increase from the [previous score of 9.8 in 2021](#) for the Global Benchmark where Wilmar emerged the highest scoring company in the Asia & Pacific.

This would be the second consecutive assessment Wilmar achieved full scores after also scoring a perfect 10 in the 2022 [Global Child Forum’s Food, Beverage and Personal Care benchmark](#).

A total of 795 companies from six regions across eight sectors were assessed against a comprehensive set of 25 indicators in the following four categories:

- **Governance and Collaboration**, which looks at commitments to standards and frameworks related to children’s rights.
- **Workplace**, which considers the prohibition of child labour in operations and supply chains, as well as whether family-friendly workplace policies and practices are in place and adhered to.
- **Marketplace**, which evaluates commitments to product, sales and marketing operations that reduce children’s exposure to harmful products or messaging.
- **Community and Environment**, which assesses commitment to reducing negative impacts on the environment and the community, such as pollution and displacement.

Linda Ravin Lodding, Head of Communications Global Child Forum said, “We see that companies who communicate transparently about their work gain consumer and investor trust, grow brand loyalty, attract top talent, and become part of a community of leaders driving forward the role of business in advancing and supporting children’s rights.”

The report recognised Wilmar for its policies and practices by effectively embedding children's rights into its operations while establishing comprehensive mechanisms for monitoring, transparent reporting, and implementing programmes promoting children's rights.

Daphne Hameeteman, General Manager of Sustainability (External Engagement) for Wilmar said, “We are honoured to be recognised yet again as a global leader for our efforts to safeguard the rights and wellbeing of children living with their families across our global operations. We strive to provide a safe and holistic environment with access to quality education, healthcare and amenities that will allow them to thrive.”

She further added, “We are now focusing our efforts beyond our operations as we work closely with our partners to scale up our programs by raising awareness and building capacity on child protection among the wider industry, beginning with our suppliers.”

Wilmar launched its [Child Protection Policy](#) in 2017 to further strengthen its commitment and efforts to safeguard the welfare of children living in oil palm plantations with their families. The policy superseded its longstanding No Child Labour Policy, which was in place since the company’s inception. As of the end of 2022, Wilmar has supported the education of 12,093 children of compulsory school-going age, covering 89.5% of the children living in its plantations.

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 minimising our environmental footprint, our business practices are aligned with universally acceptable social and environmental standards. Wilmar’s No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation¹ (NDPE) Policy and NDPE Sugar Policy, 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.

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¹ https://www.wilmar-international.com/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sustainability/policies/wilmar-ndpe-policy---2019.pdf?sfvrsn=7870af13_2