

## CLARIFICATION ON MEDIA'S MISREPORTING ABOUT WILMAR'S "NO DEFORESTATION, NO PEAT & NO EXPLOITATION" POLICY

Wilmar International Limited ("Wilmar") would like to clarify misreporting in the media about the Group "rescinding" or "u-turning" on its "No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation" Policy commitment.

Referring to our integrated Policy of "No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation" announced on 5 Dec 2013, in which it is clearly stated that "Wilmar will not engage in the development of High Carbon Stock (HCS) Forests, High Conservation Value (HCV) or peat areas, nor knowingly source from suppliers engaged in the development of HCS Forests, HCV or peat areas. Wilmar will work with suppliers and provide support to rapidly shift development way from these areas." This Policy applies to <u>new areas</u> developed <u>post</u> 5 December 2013; and our commitment towards this position remains.

We do, however, recognise that there are unique situations with regard to environmental and social issues and some may take longer to resolve than others. What is important to us is the long-term commitment of suppliers to proactively address the issues. Non-compliance is dealt with on a case-by-case basis; and Wilmar has been clear that its position is to engage with its suppliers to support proactive and practical measures to address the issues. In cases where gaps arise, we will review the nature of the gaps and how they arose, the desire of the supplier to close the gaps and take all relevant facts into account. Our goal is to support our suppliers to tackle the challenges and support the development and strengthening of a responsible and sustainable industry.

We have started the process of engaging with our suppliers to explain these new requirements. We understand suppliers will need time to implement the provisions described in this Policy, and we are assuring them we will support, guide and give them time to work towards compliance.

We are also revising our existing sourcing guidelines to align with our Policy, which will then be disseminated to our suppliers to guide them towards best management practices. We will continue to build constructive dialogue with stakeholders and industry experts to support suppliers in shifting their operations away from deforestation, peatland development and any exploitation of people and local communities.

With respect to smallholders, we also recognise that they are a critical part of the industry, and that they face unique situations. We will be developing a programme in conjunction with various stakeholders to help local smallholders, indigenous communities and farmers develop their native customary land responsibly, as we understand that indigenous communities depend on this land for their livelihoods. We would also like to reach out to various government agencies to work together to look into the areas being proposed for palm development for local communities. We will be ready to offer assistance, in the form of technical and financial support, to help these farmers towards sustainable development.

## About Wilmar's Commitment to Sustainability

Wilmar International Limited is Asia's leading agribusiness group engaged in oil palm cultivation, oilseed crushing, edible oils refining, sugar milling and refining, specialty fats, oleochemicals, biodiesel and fertilisers manufacturing and grains processing. At the core of Wilmar's strategy is a resilient integrated business model that encompasses the entire value chain of the agricultural commodity processing business. Headquartered in Singapore, it has over 450 manufacturing plants globally and an extensive distribution network covering more than 50 countries. The Group is backed by a multinational workforce of about 90,000 people.

As a responsible corporate citizen, Wilmar endeavours to create and build an enduring business that is economically viable, socially beneficial and environmentally sustainable. Since 2005, Wilmar has been an active member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), an international multi-stakeholder organisation that promotes the production and use of sustainable palm oil. The Group adopts an environmental management system conforming to the RSPO Principles & Criteria and the United Nations Global Compact, amongst others. In managing oil palm plantations, it upholds stringent policies of zero-burning and non-development on peatlead while respecting the rights of communities by adopting the 'free, prior and informed consent' (FPIC) principle.

For more information on Wilmar's sustainability efforts, please visit <u>http://www.wilmar-international.com/sustainability/</u>