



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**News Release**

## **Wilmar Retains Top Regional Position in Global Child Forum Report for Children's Rights Protection**

**Singapore, 16 March 2021** – Wilmar International Limited (Wilmar) is recognised as the top scoring company in the Food, Beverage and Personal Care category as well as the overall best performing company in Southeast Asia for protecting and strengthening children's rights in the recently released corporate sector benchmark report by the Global Child Forum in collaboration with Boston Consulting Group, titled "[The State of Children's Rights and Business in Southeast Asia 2020](#)".

Wilmar scored 9.4 out of 10, outperforming the average score of 4.8 in the Food, Beverage and Personal Care category and the average score of 5.0 across all categories in Southeast Asia. Wilmar was previously assessed by Global Child Forum to be the best performing company in the region in their 2018 report, titled "[Corporate Responses to Protecting Children's Rights in Southeast Asia](#)". Global Child Forum also identified Wilmar to be among the top global achievers in the 2019 global benchmark study, titled "[The State of Children's Rights and Business: From Promise to Practice](#)".

Cajsa Wiking, Secretary General for Global Child Forum, said, "The corporate sector has an enormous role to play in driving social development and, as such, have an opportunity to act as agents of positive change for children and their rights."

Ms Cajsa continued, "Global Child Forum's benchmark scores some of the world's largest companies on children's rights and we are pleased to note that Wilmar International has achieved a top score in the 2020 Southeast Asia benchmark, placing them in the 'Leader' category. This speaks to their proactive stance on children's rights which can serve as an inspiration for other companies."

Global Child Forum is a leading independent non-profit forum for children's rights. Founded in 2009 by the Swedish Royal Family, Global Child Forum gathers leaders from governments, private sector, academia and civil societies to promote cross-sector partnerships as well as to promote the sharing of knowledge and best practices in its efforts to achieve and strengthen children's rights.

Jeremy Goon, Chief Sustainability Officer of Wilmar, said, "We continue to prioritise improving and strengthening our commitments and initiatives that safeguard the rights and wellbeing of our employees and their families, which include over 12,000 children living in our plantations with their parents. It is evident that children are among those most impacted and marginalised by the challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. It is therefore crucial for children to have a secure childhood and uninterrupted access to education."

Since June 2020, Wilmar has been engaging teachers and schools within and surrounding its plantations in Ghana, Indonesia<sup>1</sup> and Malaysia<sup>2</sup> to ensure children's rights and access to education were not adversely impacted.

Mr Goon further added, "We continue to be driven and encouraged by the recognitions we receive for our efforts. While we are deeply honoured by such acknowledgements, we are conscious of the importance of continuing to strengthen our commitments and efforts to protect the rights of our workers, their families and the communities where we are located."

Wilmar was ranked number one for the agriculture sector and number three across all industries in East Asia and Pacific in the 2020 Corporate Human Rights Benchmark (CHRB). Wilmar also achieved the highest scores in Asia and ranked top ten globally in the 2020 Benchmark Findings Report on the Food & Beverage sector published by KnowTheChain.

## **ABOUT WILMAR'S SUSTAINABILITY**

Wilmar International Limited, founded in 1991 and headquartered in Singapore, is today Asia's leading agribusiness group. Wilmar is ranked amongst the largest listed companies by market capitalisation on the Singapore Exchange. Wilmar's business activities include oil palm cultivation, oilseed crushing, edible oils refining, sugar milling and refining, manufacturing of consumer products, specialty fats, oleochemicals, biodiesel and fertilisers as well as flour and rice milling.

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](#) (NDPE) Policy underpins our aspiration to make a positive impact and drive transformation across the palm oil industry.

For more information, please visit [www.wilmar-international.com/sustainability](http://www.wilmar-international.com/sustainability).

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

Ravin Trapshah  
*Sustainability Communications*  
Wilmar International Limited

[ravin.trapshahismail@my.wilmar-intl.com](mailto:ravin.trapshahismail@my.wilmar-intl.com)

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.wilmar-international.com/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sustainability/sustainability-brief---supporting-children's-rights-to-education-during-covid-\(indonesia-and-ghana\)---final.pdf?sfvrsn=a11fd8d5\\_2](https://www.wilmar-international.com/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sustainability/sustainability-brief---supporting-children's-rights-to-education-during-covid-(indonesia-and-ghana)---final.pdf?sfvrsn=a11fd8d5_2)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.wilmar-international.com/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sustainability/sustainability-brief---supporting-childrens-right-to-education-during-covid-19.pdf?sfvrsn=d4ab5531\\_2](https://www.wilmar-international.com/docs/default-source/default-document-library/sustainability/sustainability-brief---supporting-childrens-right-to-education-during-covid-19.pdf?sfvrsn=d4ab5531_2)