



Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **BELGIAN PALM OIL MARKET PLEDGES TO BECOME SUSTAINABLE BY 2015**

*Brussels, 30 January 2011* – The Belgian Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil has launched its charter to promote the use of certified sustainable palm oil in Belgium. The charter pledges that by the end of 2015, all palm oil designated for the Belgian market will be produced based on the sustainability criteria of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).

The charter was signed by several parties<sup>1</sup> in the palm oil supply chain – from processors and product manufacturers to industry associations. They have committed to produce and source RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and boost the transformation towards a fully sustainable market.

Darrel Webber, the Secretary General of RSPO demonstrates his support for the Belgian charter and states: *“The establishment of the Belgian Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil is a highly commendable and progressive initiative undertaken by organizations towards 100% sourcing of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) by 2015. The Belgian Alliance demonstrates strong commitment and leadership in promoting sustainability among European product manufacturers, continuing the positive trend initiated by the Dutch national industry commitment in 2010. It is an exemplary endeavour which we hope more European consumer markets can typify and commit themselves in order to increase the uptake of CSPO. Today RSPO CSPO represents 11% of all palm oil produced globally. To this end, RSPO looks forward to working closely with the Belgian Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil and its members to raise consumer awareness of sustainable palm oil.”*

Adam Harrison, Vice-President of the RSPO and Senior Policy Officer for Food and Agriculture World Wildlife Fund, highlights the collaborative nature of the Belgian initiative: *“WWF welcomes the Belgian Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil which demonstrates to the Belgian industry the importance of tackling sustainability through cooperation. WWF urges all companies using palm oil to set ambitious time bound targets for procuring certified sustainable palm oil, both in Belgium and in the other countries they are active, and begin buying it as soon as possible, so that we can realize our shared vision for a future where sustainable palm oil is the norm.”*

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<sup>1</sup> Supporters of the Belgian Alliance on Sustainable Palm oil include (1) FEVIA, the Belgian Federation of the Food Industry, (2) Choprabisco, the Royal Belgian Association of the Biscuit, Chocolate, Pralines and Confectionary Industry, (3) Cargill, (4) Fuji Oil Europe (5) Belgian Association of the Margarine Industry (6) Unifa, the Belgian Union of Manufacturers and Importers of Products for the Bakery, Pastry, Chocolate and Icecream Industry (7) FGBB, the Belgian Federation of Bakeries and (8) Belgapom, the professional organisation of the Belgian Potato Trade and Processing industry. For more information, visit <http://www.sustainablepalm.be/>

RSPO recognizes that initiatives like the Belgian and Dutch National Commitments are of crucial importance in order to boost the uptake of CSPO and should be regarded as best practices in Europe. RSPO eagerly awaits the next national industry commitment to 100% sourcing of certified sustainable palm oil by 2015 and calls on other European countries to follow these examples and solidify Europe's leadership in responsible supply chain practices.

#### **About RSPO**

In response to the urgent and pressing global call for sustainably-produced palm oil, the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) was formed in 2004 with the objective of promoting the growth and use of sustainable oil palm products through credible global standards and engagement of stakeholders. The seat of the association is in Zurich, Switzerland, while the secretariat is currently based in Kuala Lumpur with a satellite office in Jakarta.

RSPO is a not-for-profit association that unites stakeholders from seven sectors of the palm oil industry - oil palm producers, palm oil processors or traders, consumer goods manufacturers, retailers, banks and investors, environmental or nature conservation NGOs and social or developmental NGOs - to develop and implement global standards for sustainable palm oil.

Such multi-stakeholder representation is mirrored in the governance structure of RSPO such that seats in the Executive Board and project-level Working Groups are fairly allocated to each sector. In this way, RSPO lives out the philosophy of the "roundtable" by giving equal rights to each stakeholder group to bring group-specific agendas to the roundtable, facilitating traditionally adversarial stakeholders and business competitors to work together towards a common objective and make decisions by consensus.

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**A SNAPSHOT OF KEY FACTS:**

	<b>To date (January 2012):</b>	<b>2011:</b>
Total volume of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil ( <b>CSPO</b> ) to date:	Consistent with 2011	5,573,202 metric tonnes (Mt)
Total volume of Certified Sustainable Palm Kernel ( <b>CSPK</b> ) to date:	Consistent with 2011	1,296,488 metric tonnes (Mt)
Production volume of CSPO by market:	Consistent with 2011	Malaysia: 2,691,606 Mt / 48% Indonesia: 2,293,963 Mt / 41% Rest of the world: 589, 443 Mt / 11% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papua New Guinea: 406,010 Mt / 7%;</li> <li>• Brazil: 125, 793 Mt / 2%;</li> <li>• Solomon Islands: 28,820 Mt / 1% ;</li> <li>• Colombia: 28,820 Mt / 1%</li> </ul>
Total production area of CSPO:	Consistent with 2011	1,130,968 hectares
Production area of CSPO by market:	Consistent with 2011	Malaysia: 534,861 hectares / 47% Indonesia: 465,745 hectares / 41% Rest of the world: 130,364 hectares /12% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papua New Guinea: 86,386 hectares / 8%;</li> <li>• Brazil: 33,272 hectares / 3% ;</li> <li>• Solomon Islands: 6,234 hectares/ 1%;</li> <li>• Colombia: 4,472 hectares</li> </ul>
Total number of <b>grower companies</b> certified:	Consistent with 2011	29
Total number of <b>grower companies</b> certified by market:	Consistent with 2011	Total: 31 **(the variance in number of grower companies compared to row above is due to the fact that some grower companies operate in more than one market/country) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia: 17</li> <li>• Malaysia: 11</li> <li>• Brazil: 1</li> <li>• Colombia: 1</li> <li>• Solomon Islands: 1</li> </ul>
Total number of <b>mills</b> certified:	Consistent with 2011	135
Total number of certified mills <b>by market:</b>	Consistent with 2011	Total: 135 mills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malaysia: 73</li> <li>• Indonesia: 49</li> <li>• Papua New Guinea: 7</li> <li>• Brazil: 4</li> <li>• Solomon Islands: 1</li> <li>• Colombia: 1</li> </ul>
Total number of supply chain <b>companies</b> certified:	144	114

Total number of supply chain facilities certified:	283	226
Year on year CSPO Uptake:	-	2008 (certification began): 2.7% 2009: 25.3% 2010: 46.2% 2011: 52%
% of CSPO of global Crude Palm Oil	Over 11%	Over 10%
Total number of members:	To date: 761 members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordinary Members: 573</li> <li>• Affiliate Members: 101 members</li> <li>• Supply Chain Associates: 87 members</li> </ul>	Total: 701 members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordinary Members: 531</li> <li>• Affiliate Members: 96 members</li> <li>• Supply Chain Associates 74 members</li> </ul>
Top 5 largest membership by country:	United Kingdom: 17.3% Malaysia: 17% Indonesia: 15.4% Germany: 11.5% Netherlands: 10% France: 10%	Malaysia: 18.6% United Kingdom: 16.9% Indonesia: 15.9% Netherlands: 10% Germany: 10%
Top 3 largest membership by stakeholder group:	Consumer Goods Manufacturers: 33.7% Processors & Traders: 36.3% Growers: 17.3% Retailers: 6.5% Banks: 1.6% NGOs (Social & Environmental): 4.7%	Processors & Traders: 37.5% Consumer Goods Manufacturers: 32.1% Growers: 17.5%