General Announcement:: WILMAR RECOGNIZED AS MOST IMPROVED IN SECTOR FOR CORPORATE ACTION ON

Issuer & Securities

**DEFORESTATION** 

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# **NEWS RELEASE**

# WILMAR RECOGNIZED AS MOST IMPROVED IN SECTOR FOR CORPORATE ACTION ON DEFORESTATION

Singapore, 11 November 2014 - For addressing the challenge of removing deforestation from its supply chain, Wilmar International Limited ("Wilmar") has been recognized as the most improved company from 2013 in the Agricultural Products sector in Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)'s 2014 global forests report, 'Deforestation-free supply chains: From commitments to action'.

The CDP report looks at the disclosures from 152 companies from around the world, representing a market capitalization of over US\$3 trillion, which responded to the investor call for transparency and accountability on deforestation and forest-risk commodities. The report has been produced on behalf of 240 investors, who together represent US\$15 trillion in assets by CDP, the international NGO that drives sustainable economies.

The report recognizes those companies that have made continuous improvements along the journey from commitment to action. This is in the context of the goal of removing deforestation from agricultural supply chains by 2020, launched as part of the landmark New York Declaration on Forests in September 2014. Given the urgency of this challenge, fast-paced change in corporate practices is to be celebrated.

Kuok Khoon Hong, Chairman and CEO of Wilmar, commented: "We are honoured to be awarded the most improved company in the agricultural commodity sector for corporate action on deforestation. It is a recognition and testament to our dedication in transforming industry practices towards more sustainable development. Through the CDP report, companies will be able to access an integrated source of information that can help to identify risks and opportunities, as well as enhance business efficiency and generate cost savings. Moving forward, we will continue to engage stakeholders and organisations as we drive transparency and accountability within our industry."

Companies identified as the most improved in their sector are those that have made the biggest improvement in their total score from 2013 to 2014. Scores are awarded on CDP's respected scoring methodology, publicly available on <a href="https://www.cdp.net/en-US/Pages/guidance-forests.aspx">https://www.cdp.net/en-US/Pages/guidance-forests.aspx</a> and updated every year.

The major driver of global deforestation comes from the demand for four critical agricultural commodities – cattle products, palm oil, timber products and soy. These commodities feature in the supply chains of countless companies across sectors varying from food to fuel. The resulting deforestation is itself a key driver of climate change, accounting for some 15% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions – equivalent to the emissions from the entire transport sector.

Paul Simpson, chief executive officer at CDP, says: "Companies that regularly respond to CDP's forests program are now identifying many more of the opportunities available to them, including securing their supply chain against the risks associated with deforestation and

commodity sourcing. This, in turn, is helping to secure shareholder value.

Different parts of the supply chain are moving at different rates to tackle this issue. What is clear is that leading companies, as identified by CDP, are those that are bringing their supply chains with them on this journey."

The Report 'Deforestation-free supply chains: From commitments to action', is available on CDP's website <a href="https://www.cdp.net/CDPResults/CDP-global-forests-report-2014.pdf">https://www.cdp.net/CDPResults/CDP-global-forests-report-2014.pdf</a>.

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### **About Wilmar**

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, specialty fats, oleochemicals, biodiesel and fertiliser manufacturing and grain processing. At the core of Wilmar's strategy is a resilient integrated agribusiness model that encompasses the entire value chain of the agricultural commodity processing business, from origination and processing to branding, merchandising and distribution of a wide range of agricultural products. It has over 450 manufacturing plants and an extensive distribution network covering China, India, Indonesia and some 50 other countries. The Group is backed by a multinational workforce of about 92,000 people.

Wilmar's portfolio of high quality processed agricultural products is the preferred choice of the food manufacturing industry, as well as the industrial and consumer food businesses. Its consumer-packed products occupy a leading share in its targeted markets. Through scale, integration and the logistical advantages of its business model, Wilmar is able to extract margins at every step of the value chain, thereby reaping operational synergies and cost efficiencies. Wilmar remains a firm advocate of sustainable growth and is committed to its role as a responsible corporate citizen.

### **About CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project)**

CDP is an international, not-for-profit organization providing the only global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information. CDP works with market forces, including 767 institutional investors with assets of US\$92 trillion, to motivate companies to disclose their impacts on the environment and natural resources and take action to reduce them. CDP now holds the largest collection globally of primary climate change, water and forest risk commodities information and puts these insights at the heart of strategic business, investment and policy decisions. Please visit www.cdp.net or follow us @CDP to find out more.

### About CDP's forests program

CDP's forests program was formerly known as the Forest Footprint Disclosure Project, an initiative first pioneered by the Global Canopy Programme (<a href="www.globalcanopy.org">www.globalcanopy.org</a>). CDP began managing FFD's operations in February 2013 as part of a two year strategic merger to provide companies and investors with a single source of information for the interrelated issues of the climate, water and forests. In February 2014 FFD became fully integrated with CDP to become the forests program. CDP now holds six years of corporate forest-risk data. The Global Canopy Programme remains a prime funder for the program and acts as the principal advisor on forests and forest risk commodities to CDP.

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