



## NEWS RELEASE

### CERTIFICATION FOR SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL PRODUCTION

- One of the first few companies in the palm oil industry to attain the RSPO certification.

Singapore, January 20, 2009 – Wilmar International Limited (“Wilmar” or “the Group”), Asia’s leading agribusiness group, is pleased to announce that its wholly-owned Business Unit, PPB Oil Palms Berhad, has been awarded the certification for sustainable palm oil production, in accordance with the rigorous standards of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (“RSPO”). Three of its mills have been awarded the RSPO certification, which collectively produce approximately 123,000 metric tonnes of sustainable crude palm oil annually from their supply base of four plantations of more than 19,400 hectares in the state of Sabah, East Malaysia.

The award is a testament to the Group’s strong commitment towards sustainable palm oil production, based on sound management and active engagement with the different stakeholders in the palm oil supply chain. Wilmar hopes to achieve certification for all its mill operations within the next four years.

Mr Kuok Khoon Hong, the Group’s Chairman and CEO said, “We are proud to be one of the first few recipients of the RSPO certification, the only recognized certification system in the market. The award is the culmination of months of hard work and a recognition of the efforts of our team. I see this as only the beginning of Wilmar’s sustainability roadmap; we will continue to work tirelessly towards sustainable palm oil production.”

PPB Oil Palms received its certification from Control Union World Group, a RSPO-accredited certification body, following an in-depth audit process that found the Group’s plantation and mill operating practices comply with RSPO’s Principles and Criteria.

“It is indeed an accomplishment, given the complexity of the requirements and the significant number of interests – including stakeholder opinions – that must be considered and taken into account. But more significantly, the invaluable experience gained in the process has strengthened our management systems. We will strive for continual improvement, and to ultimately outperform the comprehensive and stringent standards required by the RSPO’s certification programme”, said Mr Jeremy Goon, Group Head of Corporate Social Responsibility.

#### About Wilmar

The Wilmar Group, founded in 1991 as a palm oil trading company, is today Asia’s leading agribusiness group. It ranks amongst the largest listed companies by market capitalisation on the Singapore Exchange.

Its business activities include oil palm cultivation, edible oils refining, oilseeds crushing, consumer pack edible oils processing and merchandising, specialty fats, oleochemicals and biodiesel manufacturing, and grains processing and merchandising.

Headquartered in Singapore, its operations are located in more than 20 countries across four continents, with a primary focus on Indonesia, Malaysia, China, India and Europe. Backed by a staff force of approximately 70,000 people, over 170 processing plants and an extensive distribution network, its products are sold to more than 50 countries globally.

Over the years, it has established a resilient integrated agribusiness model that captures the entire value chain of the agricultural commodity processing business, from origination and processing to the branding, merchandising and distribution of a wide range of agricultural products. Through scale, integration and the logistical advantages of its business model, it is able to extract margins at every step of the value chain, resulting in significant operational synergies and cost efficiencies.

Wilmar is a member of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil and a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact.

For more information on the Group, please see [www.wilmar-international.com](http://www.wilmar-international.com)

### About PPB Oil Palms

PPB Oil Palms Berhad is a plantation group principally engaged in oil palm cultivation and milling of fresh fruit bunches in East Malaysia and Indonesia. The Group's goal is to remain profitable, stay competitive and achieve sustainable growth with appropriate strategies to maintain an equitable balance between commercial success and environmental considerations.

Accordingly the Group adheres to the principles of sustainable agriculture in the management of its plantations operations. In all green-field development, the Group has a policy of developing only degraded lands for oil palm cultivation. Other aspects that relate positively to environmental conservation are prescribed in its Agriculture Manual to ensure that its estates adopt the best management practices.

### On Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) Certification

The RSPO certification is a voluntary system aimed at promoting sustainable palm oil development, taking into account economic, environmental and social aspects of palm oil production in a balanced way. It was set up by the RSPO, a global, multi-stakeholder initiative made up of different players in the entire palm oil production supply chain, including plantation companies, manufacturers, merchandisers and retailers of palm oil or related products, industry associations, civil organizations and financial institutions. The principle objective of RSPO is “to promote the growth and use of sustainable palm oil through co-operation within the supply chain and open dialogue between its stakeholders.”

For more information on RSPO, please see [www.rspo.org](http://www.rspo.org).