Press release

'PT Lonsum receives the world's highest sustainability award for oil palm'.

On Thursday evening (18th June), the Minister for Agriculture, Prof Dr Anton Apriyantono Ms, presented the world's most prized certificate for *sustainable* oil palm production to the President Director of PT PP London Sumatra Indonesia Tbk ("Lonsum" atau "Company"), Mr Benny Tjoeng, at a well-attended ceremony in Jakarta. The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certificate was awarded following four years of hard work by the Company to ensure its North Sumatra estates and factories (which covers approximately 50% of Lonsum's annual palm oil production) fully conformed to the principles and criteria (P&C) of the RSPO, as assessed by independent expert auditors.

The Secretary General of the RSPO, Dr V Rao, and the Managing Director of the accredited international auditor, TÜV Nord, Ir R Napitupulu, were in attendance, as were many other dignitaries, including Bapak Eddy Sariaatmadja, President Commissioner of Lonsum.

The Minister has led the Government's policy to promote environmentally and socially responsible palm oil development in Indonesia, a country uniquely suited to the production of crude palm oil (CPO), the world's largest and most productive vegetable oil.

Bryan Dyer, Director of Lonsum, said that the whole Company was immensely proud of achieving RSPO certification, as the RSPO sets the toughest environmental and community standards within the global palm oil industry, and its certificate for sustainable palm oil (CSPO) is the first sustainability standard in the world for any food crop. The RSPO's eight over-riding principles cover issues of transparency, legal compliance, environmental and community responsibility, best practice, continuous improvement and economic viability. The principles are supported by 39 criteria which themselves utilize 139 objective indicators, against which all of Lonsum's North Sumatra's estates and factories were assessed. However, the management firmly believed that this achievement was part of a never ending journey to ever higher standards of corporate social responsibility across all of its plantations, and all its crop sectors. The management will continue its RSPO work for the balance of the plantation.

The Roundtable embraces the whole oil palm value chain, from plantations in the tropics through to consumer products and retailers around the world, and actively includes NGO's. Last year was the first year that any company could apply for certification.

Lonsum itself was established in 1906, and is one of Indonesia's oldest and largest publically listed plantation companies. It operates 38 company owned estates and 14 plasma estates across North and South Sumatra, East and West Java, North and South Sulawesi and East Kalimantan, covering mainly oil palm and rubber, but also cocoa and tea. It operates 20 factories across the archipelago, and responsibly employs thousands of people in mainly rural locations. These recent achievements highlight Lonsum's continuing efforts to build upon the best of its heritage, whilst still setting the highest possible standards for itself today, and in the future.

For further information contact:

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