

Unilever N.V.
CEO Paul Polman
Weena 455, PO Box 760
3000 DK Rotterdam
Netherlands

11. Mai 2010

Your Complicity in the Destruction of Tropical Forests and Climate Change

Dear Mr. Polman,

Unilever is the largest purchaser of palm oil worldwide. Already large areas of rainforest in Indonesia have been destroyed in order to produce the palm oil found in your company's products. The expansion of palm oil plantations continues on and is a direct result of demand from companies such as Unilever.

The plantations of your suppliers are expanding ever further into the natural forests of Indonesia: a truly dramatic scene for Indonesia's local people, global biodiversity, and the world climate.

We have repeatedly called your attention to these scandals. However, instead of taking action Unilever prefers to appease the masses with vague promises of sustainability and continues on with business as usual.

Unilever has set its focus on certificates such as those from the RSPO, which according to Indonesian environmentalists and ROBIN WOOD will not stop the destruction of forests for palm oil. On the contrary, RSPO guidelines allow the logging of forests for new palm oil plantations and most palm oil companies involved with the RSPO continue to follow an aggressive course of expansion to the detriment of unique natural ecosystems.

It is your responsibility to put an end to this disaster. Forests and natural areas must be safeguarded from destruction for palm oil. We demand that you enforce an expansion halt for further palm oil plantations by your suppliers.

Peter Gerhardt/Jule Naundorf
Campaigner Tropical Forests, ROBIN WOOD