

PRESS RELEASE – February 4, 2016

## FAIR FOR LIFE COMPLETES GSCP EQUIVALENCE PROCESS BENCHMARKING

IMO's [Fair for Life Fair Trade and Social Responsibility Programme](#) today finalised the [Global Social Compliance Programme](#) (GSCP) Equivalence Process as the first product certification scheme that applies to a wide range of products, ensures fair production conditions down to farm level and is guaranteed by an independent ISO 17065 accredited certification body. By means of the GSCP Equivalence Process Fair for Life has been benchmarked against international best practice of existing sustainability systems and standards as set out in the [GSCP Reference Tools](#). The results of the benchmarking process are now available for sharing and comparing on the GSCP Equivalence Process' online platform (by registered platform users only).

*"We share the GSCP's vision of more transparency, comparability and trust in global sustainable sourcing. We are very proud to have our well established, independent Fair for Life Social & Fair Trade Programme finish the assessment. The in depth benchmarking process against the GSCP Reference code and Audit Process and Methodology tool was a valuable exercise in our continuous efforts to strengthen and further improve the Fair for Life Programme. In turn, this will further facilitate recognition of Fair for Life by different market actors with their varying social codes and expectations",* said Florentine Meinshausen, author of the Fair For Life Programme.

### GSCP Joins Forces for Sustainable Supply Chains



The Global Social Compliance Programme (GSCP) brings together key actors of the consumer goods industry to collaborate on a common goal: driving positive change and business efficiency in the areas of social and environmental sustainability along the supply chain.

Motivated by the conviction that the way forward in sustainability is through collaboration and convergence, these experts from various sectors and affiliations, including major retail companies, brand manufacturers, international organisations, academia and government, have joined forces within the GSCP framework to deliver a harmonised, global approach for more efficient and sustainable supply chains. This work is accomplished through a complete

suite of Reference Tools, a robust Equivalence Process and regular meetings and working groups. The GSCP is facilitated by [The Consumer Goods Forum](#) (CGF), a global, parity-based industry network, driven by its members.

### **Fair For Life: Certification from Purchase to Sales**

Fair For Life is a brand neutral, third party Certification Programme for Social Responsibility (“For Life”) and Fair Trade (“Fair for Life”). The programme builds on key baseline standards such as the ILO conventions, SA 8000, the social criteria of IFOAM and international Fair Trade Principles. It combines strict social, fair trade, and environmental standards with adaptability to local conditions and requires certification along the entire chain of custody. Fair for Life has gained quick acceptance and is well-known in high quality markets worldwide. More than 250 operations are currently certified against the Fair for Life Programme by [IMOsuisse AG](#) (IMO). IMO is a leading provider of international certification services for organic, ecological and social standards. As part of the [ECOCERT Group](#), it benefits from a large international network of 29 subsidiaries and operations in more than 110 countries.



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### **Additional Information**

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