

PRESS RELEASE



Unilever partners with global suppliers to drive quality for South African consumers

Thursday, 18 December, 2014

Johannesburg – Anglo-Dutch FMCG multinational, Unilever has agreed new partnerships with several global packaging suppliers, bringing global capabilities and investment to South Africa. The partnership will enable Unilever to accelerate the introduction of product innovations with world-class quality and create new jobs.

This forms part of the company's goal to deliver world class capabilities in Africa to accelerate innovations that drive growth and continuous improvement in quality and service for consumers.

According to Unilever Chief Supply Chain Officer Pier Luigi Sigismondi, the partnerships will be a key element of Unilever's investment strategy in South Africa. The investments, which include the Anderboldt and Midrand factories, will facilitate the manufacture of Home Care and Ice Cream



products of popular brands such as Omo, Skip, Handy Andy, Ola and Magnum.



Speaking during a one week visit to Unilever South Africa, Sigismondi said: "Consumers expect the best quality from Unilever. They look to us for exciting new product innovations to market. Our partnerships will ensure that we can grow our business over the long term through great product quality and service. This kind of collaboration will also provide a much needed skills transfer and technological capability in South Africa."

Furthermore, Sigismondi described the partnerships as a demonstration of Unilever's commitment to South Africa saying the multinational has made investments of close to R3 billion in the last four years and had worked closely with partners such as the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to bring the investments to life.

"With 57% of our sales coming from the emerging markets in 2013 and South Africa being key in the Africa business, we will continue to seek ways to generate sustainable growth in this country. Our investments in South Africa



form part of Unilever's Sustainable Living Plan (USLP), which aims to double the size of our business whilst reducing our environmental footprint and increasing our positive social impact. The investments will allow us to better serve South African consumers with green technology innovation, such as rainwater harvesting, as well as improve service levels to our retail customers," concluded Sigismondi.



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About Unilever:

Unilever is one of the world's leading suppliers of Food, Home and Personal Care products with sales in over 190 countries. We work with 174,000 colleagues around the world and generated annual sales of €49.8 billion in 2013. Over half



of our company's footprint is in the faster growing developing and emerging markets (57% in 2013). Working to create a better future every day, we help people feel good, look good and get more out of life. Our portfolio includes some of the world's best known brands, 14 of which - Knorr, Persil / Omo, Dove, Sunsilk, Hellmann's, Surf, Lipton, Rexona / Sure, Wall's ice cream, Lux, Flora / Becel, Rama / Blue Band, Magnum and Axe / Lynx - now generate a turnover of €1 billion or more.



Our ambition is to double the size of our business, whilst reducing our overall environmental footprint (including sourcing, consumer use and disposal) and increasing our positive social impact. We are committed to helping more than a billion people take action to improve their health and well-being, sourcing all our agricultural raw materials sustainably by 2020, and decoupling our growth from our environmental impact. Supporting our three big goals, we have defined nine commitments, underpinned by targets encompassing social, environmental and economic areas. See more on the Unilever Sustainable Living Plan at www.unilever.com/sustainable-living/.

Unilever has been recognised in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Indexes for 14 consecutive years. We are included in the FTSE4Good Index Series and attained a top environmental score of 5, leading to inclusion in the FTSE4Good Environmental Leaders Europe 40 Index. Unilever has been named sector leader of the CDP's Forests programme for three consecutive years, and in 2014 led the list of Global Corporate Sustainability Leaders in the GlobeScan/SustainAbility annual survey - for the fourth year running. Unilever was named LinkedIn's third most sought-after employer worldwide in 2013.

For more information about Unilever and its brands, please visit www.unilever.com.

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