

Joint Declaration of Intent

between

Government of Ghana

and

World Cocoa Foundation

The government of Ghana, represented by the Ghana Cocoa Board (Cocobod), and the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), represented by its president and 12 members of its Board of Directors comprising the world's largest chocolate and cocoa companies¹, herewith jointly endorse the alignment of CocoaAction with the national cocoa productivity and livelihoods improvement priorities. The two parties:

Recognize that...

The cocoa sector is of great importance to the Ghanaian economy (>9% of agricultural GDP and 25% of export earnings). Ghanaian cocoa production, in turn, currently represents over 20% of global supply, making Ghana the second largest cocoa producing country in the world

Recognize that...

- Ghana relies on the cocoa sector as an important driver of rural job creation and economic development. Industry, in turn, depends on successful cocoa farms as a sustainable basis of their business. Hence, industry shares interest in promoting cocoa productivity and livelihoods improvements in order to maintain constant supply of quality cocoa from Ghana, in view of rising global demand
- In connection with industry's desire to better coordinate support for the cocoa sector, and in response to governments calling for industry to be more coordinated, industry leaders have voluntarily achieved an

¹ As of May 20, 2014, the companies are: ADM; Armajaro; Barry Callebaut; Blommer; Cargill; Ecom; Ferrero; The Hershey Company; Mars, Incorporated; Mondelēz International; Nestlé; and Olam.

unprecedented alignment of their actions and investments to achieve scale and impact in their cocoa sustainability efforts. More efficient and effective investment and collaboration with the government is much needed as cocoa farmers continue to face poor living standards and cocoa farming is losing its appeal for younger generations. Reviving the cocoa sector will take many years and thus requires a long-term commitment. This is due to:

- The predominance of unproductive farms and old trees that are vulnerable to pest and disease, as well as farmers' lack of access to higher yielding, pest and disease resistant planting material for farm rehabilitations and high quality harvests
- Declining soil fertility and lack of access to and knowledge about the appropriate application of fertilizer, and generally poor environmental stewardship
- Inadequate knowledge about good agricultural practices (GAP)
- Growing competition from other cash crops

Other actors in the cocoa supply chain, including companies, donors, non-governmental organizations and others, are needed if this effort is to be strengthened and ultimately succeed.

Agree that...

- CocoaAction will serve as a platform for voluntary high-level industry-government collaboration and dialogue to promote cocoa sustainability. Building on the unprecedented alignment among industry, CocoaAction will coordinate their activities with the strategy and commitments of the Government of Ghana in a spirit of co-creation to drive effective country-led cocoa development and sustainability
- CocoaAction will at times support and at other times complement the national cocoa sector development strategy and together support the Ghana Cocoa Platform which is the national coordinating mechanism for sustainability initiatives

Commit to working together and with cocoa supply chain partners in pursuit of the following 2020 goals:

- Improve livelihoods and economic opportunities in cocoa communities through modernizing, professionalizing and diversifying cocoa farming and providing a catalyst for better community development, including working towards eradicating child labor.
- Our shared vision is that farmers' living and working conditions will have seen lasting improvements; specifically, we expect that by 2020 at least 100,000 farmers in Ghana will have increased their productivity by at least 100%. This will have been achieved through a combined focus on measures to increase productivity and community development. Farmers will use improved planting material to rehabilitate their farms, have access to and know how to use fertilizer to increase their yields and apply good agricultural practices. At the same time, cocoa farming will be supported by healthy and thriving communities, supporting child protection programs, basic education, youth involvement, and support women in their desire to have greater influence in their communities' development

Commit to...

- Engaging in transparent sharing of relevant information and regular joint progress reviews and evaluation of activities to facilitate continuous learning and improvement of strategies and implementation approaches

In particular, the WCF signatory companies will...

- Support combined productivity and community development interventions each year, benefiting at least 100,000 cocoa farmers in Ghana by 2020
- Commit to WCF or other implementing organizations and partners the resources necessary to conduct the activities as approved initially by its Board of Directors and subsequently by the parties
- Scale up innovative approaches to agricultural extension

- Share expertise and measure the effectiveness of interventions over time, based on objective and quantitative and qualitative indicators, and share insights and results
- Help align important stakeholders including other industry players, international donors, NGOs, etc. in order to expand reach and impact

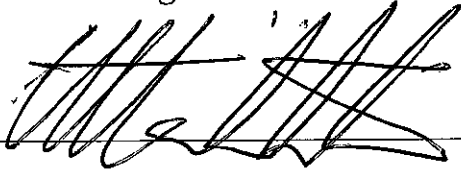
In particular, the Government of Ghana will...

- Mobilize and strengthen national institutions, as well as local authorities to act as partners in the execution of CocoaAction, particularly in facilitating the strategies enabling access to planting material and inputs, and farmer education
- Maintain momentum on sector transformation through the national processes such as the Ghana Cocoa Platform, co-invest in CocoaAction and complementary activities, and facilitate the capturing of knowledge to ensure dissemination of insights and activities nationally

The signatories of this declaration invite...

...other actors in the cocoa supply chain to join with their commitments to strengthen this effort.

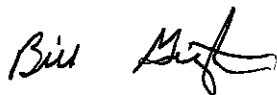
Accepted and Agreed: **For the Government of Ghana**



Date: 22ND MAY 2014

By: Dr. Stephen Opuni
Chief Executive, Ghana Cocoa Board

Accepted and Agreed: **World Cocoa Foundation**



Date: 22 May 2014

By: Mr. Bill Guyton,
President, World Cocoa Foundation