



GENERAL MILLS

October 26, 2010

Ms. Susan Millward
Animal Welfare Institute
900 Pennsylvania Ave Se
Washington, DC 20003-2140

Dear Ms. Millward:

General Mills shares your concern about the role of palm oil expansion in deforestation. We are also concerned about the impact on tropical rainforests, including the impact on biodiversity and endangered species associated with such deforestation.

We have analyzed General Mills' use of palm oil. While General Mills does not purchase any palm oil directly, we do purchase ingredients produced from palm oil from suppliers. Overall, we calculate that General Mills' use of palm oil and palm derivatives is relatively modest – less than one-tenth of one percent of world exports.

Nevertheless, we feel that responsible companies can impact issues via principled purchasing practices – and we have engaged our suppliers directly in discussions about palm oil production.

Already, each of our suppliers is a member and supporter of the Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil. General Mills has pledged to reinforce the RSPO by limiting our purchases only to RSPO members, and we will continue to engage our suppliers to monitor their commitments.

Again, thank you for taking the time and effort to contact us. We intend to continue to monitor this issue closely.

Sincerely,

Harry Kendall