Mars is committed to our 'No Deforestation, No Peatland and No Exploitation' policy and to upholding human and land rights across forest-risk supply chains.

Since the launch of our Palm Positive plan in September 2019, we have transformed how we buy palm oil to prevent deforestation and to advance respect for human rights across our suppliers' extended supply chains. In 2020, we announced our deforestation-free milestone, based on rigorous mapping, management, and monitoring. Through simplification, we have focused on awarding longer-term contracts to suppliers who can commit to our environmental, social, and ethical expectations, while driving positive improvements on their own plantations and throughout their extended supply chains.

We were made aware of concerns regarding land use and Agropalma in March 2022, raised by Chain Reaction Research. We met with Agropalma to better understand the allegations and the actions they have taken, which deal with many of the same allegations as those in the letter we received from Global Witness. Agropalma was forthcoming. They cited their compliance with local regulations and shared a court agreement with the community group in question. When we received your letter in September 2022, which contained some additional allegations, we reengaged Agropalma for further clarification and response on the issues you highlighted. We are encouraging Agropalma to investigate what happened and take action as appropriate, and will monitor that process.

To create long-term change, we work with suppliers such as Agropalma, third party experts and a range of civil society stakeholders who are creating a path for robust community engagement, sustainable oil palm farming and natural resource management. As part of our theory of change, to support suppliers as they improve their approach to managing human rights risks, we helped Agropalma initiate a program with Verite focused on human rights. This program includes specific work on community grievance mechanisms and management of grievances.

Mars is committed to supporting the work to end deforestation and human rights risks in our palm oil supply chain. We believe that by simplifying our supply chain, we can engage our suppliers more meaningfully, and are doing so with Agropalma. We also understand that endemic human rights issues in the palm oil sector remain complex and too big for one company to completely solve, and so we continue our leadership through the Consumer Goods Forum, the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, the Leadership Group on Responsible Recruitment and other cross sector collaborations to drive collective, sustained action.