**ABF - Oxfam Behind the brands scorecard**

19 April 2016

**An ABF spokesman said:**

“We are disappointed to be positioned at the bottom of the table.

As Oxfam knows, we do not have the same business model as most of the other companies featured on the scorecard.

**So sadly the survey can never reflect the breadth and depth of our work. We have pointed this out to Oxfam many times.**

By allowing our individual businesses to make decisions and trusting our people to make the right choices, we don’t present the outside world with the same kind of policy and target-driven culture that many other companies adopt. We believe this enables us to run a more ethical business that positively contributes to the communities in which we operate.

However, we also recognise that we can always do better and we continue to develop plans to further improve our activities.

Over the past three years we are pleased that our ongoing and deepening work in corporate responsibility (CR) is reflected in an improved score on the scorecard.

The title of Oxfam’s report reflects the fact that sustainability is a ‘journey’. This is a journey ABF’s businesses are purposefully navigating, with important initiatives across our operations and supply chain. Every business, and indeed individual sites, in the group identify and prioritise the CR issues that are most material to them. As a result, each division works towards making a positive impact on both the lives they touch and the environment in which they operate. We have made significant strides in our CR activities, some of which have been recognised by Oxfam, such as our improved scores in the areas of Land and Climate.

We are proud of the work we do at ABF and will continue to drive our own answer to the responsibility agenda and use our scale to make the biggest difference we can.”

Ends