SunOpta’s Commitment to Forest Stewardship

SunOpta has long-standing commitment to sustainability. Our commitment to supply the world with healthy and sustainable food choices has nourished our growth as a global leader in the natural and organic food industry. From day one, a cornerstone of our success has been an understanding of the link between a healthy environment and a healthy company. This awareness has propelled our environmental stewardship efforts in pursuit of becoming a restorative organization.

SunOpta recognizes that the standards and practices followed by its suppliers can positively or negatively impact the forests through expansion of agriculture or plantations into forested areas. As a food business, we are dependent on the availability of natural resources and committed to doing our part to address the critical global challenges of deforestation.

This commitment guides our management and governance of deforestation related issues. SunOpta’s ambition therefore, is to ensure that our sourcing of raw materials has not led and will not lead to deforestation by working with our suppliers to ensure they are responsible stewards of forests and forested areas from which they are sourcing materials.

SunOpta will work with supplier partners to strive towards having all raw materials sourced from forests and forested landscapes that:

- Have not led or will not lead to deforestation
- Have been produced in compliance with the SunOpta Supplier Partner Code of Conduct
- Have third party certification to internationally recognized multi-stakeholder schemes such as: The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forest Initiative (SFI), Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

The raw materials considered to have the highest impact on deforestation and forest stewardship are; palm oil and paper fiber. Therefore these materials are priorities for SunOpta to work with our supplier partners to minimize negative impacts on the forest and ecosystems. Other commodities including cocoa, coffee and soy are also of concern and will be addressed accordingly through engagement of our supplier partners.

As part of our commitment to Forest Stewardship, we will continue to enhance our programs and promote these principles to support the global effort on deforestation.