

# MEWAH INTERNATIONAL INC.

(Company Registration No.: CR-166055)

# NEWS RELEASE : FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# **MEWAH REPORTS STRONGER Q1 PERFORMANCE**

- > Sales volume up 17.4% and 29.2% on YOY and QOQ
- > Net profit up 30.0% and 61.1% on YOY and QOQ
- > Despite challenging times, Group's margins remain resilient.
- > Balance sheet remains strong with low net debt to equity ratio of 0.68.

# **Results Highlights**

	Q1 2016	Q1 2015	Change (YOY)	Q4 2015	Change (QOQ)
Sales volume (MT000)	1,094.1	931.6	17.4%	846.5	29.2%
Revenue (US\$'million)	711.4	692.6	2.7%	540.3	31.7%
Average selling prices (US\$)	650.2	743.5	-12.5%	638.3	1.9%
<b>Operating margin</b> (US\$'million)	25.2	24.3	4.0%	24.6	2.4%
<b>Operating margin per MT</b> (US\$)	23.1	26.0	-11.2%	29.0	-20.3%
Profit before tax (US\$'million)	3.9	2.8	39.4%	6.3	-38.1%
Net profit * (US\$'million)	2.9	2.2	30.0%	1.8	61.1%

\* Profit after tax attributable to equity holders of the Company

Singapore, May 13, 2016 – Mainboard-listed Mewah International Inc. ("Mewah", "the Group" or "the Company"), an integrated agri-business group that is one of the largest palm oil processors in the world by capacity, today announced financial results for its first quarter ended 31 March 2016 (Q1 2016).

Despite challenging times, the Group reported a net profit of US\$2.9 million for the quarter, 30.0% higher than corresponding quarter last year (Q1 2015) and 61.1% higher than previous quarter (Q4 2015).

The Group achieved sales volume of 1,094,100 metric tonne ("MT"), up 17.4% on Year-over-Year ("YOY") and up 29.2% on Quarter-on-Quarter ("QOQ").

12.6% lower average selling prices resulted in the revenue increasing by only 2.7% to US\$711.4 million when compared to last year. However on QOQ, the revenue increased by 31.7% on the back of 1.9% higher prices and 29.2% jump in sales volume.

Amid tough operating conditions for the industry, Group's margins remained under pressure. The Group achieved operating margin of US\$23.1 per MT compared to U\$26.0 last year and US\$29.0 previous quarter. Due to strong volume growth total operating margin of US\$25.2 million was still 4.0% higher than last year and 2.4% higher than previous quarter.

The Company said in the announcement, "With drought conditions resulting from El-Nino affected crops in Indonesia and Malaysia, and worries grew that there would be lower palm oil availability, As a result, Crude Palm Oil ("CPO") prices surged 20% during the quarter to 2,700 ringgit, about 46% higher than the low of 1,850 ringgit in end August, 2015. As Ringgit also strengthened against the US Dollar during the quarter, the increase was even sharper in terms of US Dollar prices. By the end of the quarter CPO was trading at US\$690, an increase of 33% over the price of US\$520 in the beginning of the year or 59% higher than the price of US\$435 in August last year.."

It added, "After weak sales towards the end of the last year, the Group saw renewed demand from destination markets, particularly for the Bulk segment and industrial buyers keen to stock more inventories in view of growing concerns over the availability of palm oil and a bullish view on the prices."

## **Segmental Performance**

#### **Bulk segment**

	Q1 2016	Q1 2015	Change	Q4 2015	Change
Sales volume (MT'000)	861.2	725.4	18.7%	569.7	51.2%
Revenue (US\$'million)	543.4	512.3	6.1%	337.9	60.8%
Average selling prices (US\$)	631.0	706.2	-10.6%	593.1	6.4%
Operating margin (US\$'million)	16.3	14.4	13.2%	2.8	482.1%
Operating margin per MT (US\$)	18.9	19.9	-5.0%	4.9	285.7%

For the quarter, the Group registered strong sales volume of 861,200 MT for bulk segment, up 18.7% and 51.2% on YOY and QOQ respectively.

Revenue grew 6.1% to US\$543.4 million supported by 18.7% improved sales volume despite 10.6% lower average selling prices. On QOQ, revenue was up by 60.8%.

The group reported 13.2% increase in total operating margin to US\$16.3 million on the back of 18.7% increase in sales volume despite lower operating margin of US\$18.9 per MT compared to US\$19.9 last year. On QOQ, operating margin was almost five times of low base of US\$2.8 million in previous quarter.

The segment contributed 78.7% of total sales volume, 76.4% of total revenue and 64.7% of total operating margin of the Group for the quarter.

# **Consumer Pack segment**

	Q1 2016	Q1 2015	Change	Q4 2015	Change
Sales volume (MT'000)	232.9	206.2	12.9%	276.8	-15.9%
Revenue (US\$'million)	168.0	180.3	-6.8%	202.4	-17.0%
Average selling prices (US\$)	721.3	874.4	-17.5%	731.2	-1.4%
Operating margin (US\$'million)	8.9	9.9	-10.1%	21.8	-59.2%
Operating margin per MT (US\$)	38.2	48.0	-20.4%	78.8	-51.5%

For the quarter, the Group registered sales volume of 232,900 MT for Consumer Pack segment, up 12.9% on YOY but 15.9% lower than the impressive volume achieved in previous quarter.

Revenue declined 6.8% to US\$168.0 million due to 17.5% lower average selling prices despite 12.9% higher sales volume on YOY. On QOQ, revenue was down by 17.0%.

Higher sales volume but lower operating margin of US\$38.2 per MT compared US\$48.0 last year resulted in total operating margin decreasing by 10.1% to US\$8.9 million on YOY. On QOQ, operating margin was down by 59.2%.

The segment contributed 21.3% of total sales volume, 23.6% of total revenue and 35.3% of total operating margin of the Group for the quarter.

### **Balance Sheet**

The Group's balance sheet remained strong with debt to equity ratio of 0.84 or net debt to equity ratio of 0.68.

The Group had a cycle time (inventories days add trade receivables days less trade payables days) of 64 days compared to 68 days last year.

#### **Future Outlook**

The Company noted in its results announcement, "CPO Prices are expected to be supported in the near term due to expected drop in production and lower inventory levels in Malaysia and Indonesia. Indonesian Government's recent mandate to increase palm oil use in biodiesel to 20% from 15%, recent increase in the crude oil and competing vegetable oil prices are further expected to provide support to CPO Prices. However lower production and bullish outlook may prompt the plantations to defer their sales putting pressure on the Refiners to pay premium to get the deliveries. CPO prices depend on palm oil industry demand-supply dynamics as well as on global economic conditions. With its strategically strong position in the value chain of the industry, the Group remains well positioned to avail any opportunities that the improved conditions might offer."

## About Mewah International Inc.

Mewah International Inc. ("Mewah" or the "Group") is an integrated agri-business focused on edible oils and fats. One of the largest palm oil processors in the world by capacity, Mewah produces a wide range of refined and fractionated vegetable oils and fats principally from palm oil. It also produces oils and fats from lauric oils, such as palm kernel oil and coconut oil; and from soft oils, such as soybean oil, canola oil, sunflower seed oil and corn oil. Featuring integrated operations throughout the edible oils and fats value chain, from sourcing and processing of raw materials to packing, branding, merchandising, shipping and distribution of the products, Mewah's products are sold to customers in more than 100 countries, duly supported by its wide range of brands including long established and well recognized Oki and Moi brands.

The Group's business consists of two business segments namely the Bulk segment and Consumer Pack segment. The Bulk segment produces and sells vegetable-based edible oil and fat products, in bulk form primarily to distributors and factories involved in the production of confectionery, bakery products and other food items. The Consumer Pack segment produces vegetable-based edible oil and fat products, in the form of consumer packs and sells under Group's own brands and under the brands of third parties, primarily to importers and distributors at destination markets. The specialty fats and confectionary oils are sold primarily to distributors, and factories involved in the products, the Group also sells rice and dairy products in consumer pack form under its own brands.

Mewah Group has been in operation since the 1950s. Today, Mewah has grown to be one of the largest edible oils and fats businesses with a current total refining capacity of 10,000 MT a day or 3.5 million MT annually. Mewah currently has four refineries and processing plants, two packing plants, a biodiesel plant and a dairy manufacturing facility in Malaysia and one packing plant in Singapore.

Mewah was listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited on November 24, 2010.

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