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### **NEWS RELEASE**

# WILMAR ACHIEVES CORE NET PROFIT OF US\$606 MILLION FOR 1H2024, 5% HIGHER THAN 1H2023

- Strong growth in Food Products and Feed & Industrial Products
- Lower contributions from Plantation & Sugar Milling
- Generated US\$1.79 billion net cash from operating activities, free cash flow of US\$906.2 million
- Interim tax-exempt dividend maintained at \$\$0.06 per share

## **Highlights**

In US\$ million	1H2024	1H2023	Change
Revenue	30,934.6	32,538.0	-4.9%
EBITDA	1,789.2	1,654.3	8.2%
Profit before tax	742.2	697.7	6.4%
Net profit	579.6	550.9	5.2%
Core net profit	606.3	577.2	5.0%
Earnings per share – fully diluted (US cents)	9.3	8.8	5.7%

Singapore, August 13, 2024 – Wilmar International Limited ("Wilmar" or "the Group"), Asia's leading agribusiness group, reported a 5% increase in core net profit to US\$606.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2024 ("1H2024") (1H2023: US\$577.2 million). Including losses from non-operating items, net profit was US\$579.6 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$550.9 million).

The improvement was driven by better performances in the Feed & Industrial Products and Food Products segments but partially offset by lower contributions from the Group's joint ventures & associates as well as sugar milling operations.

Revenue across all the Group's core segments declined as commodity prices decreased in 1H2024 compared to 1H2023. Overall revenue for 1H2024 declined 5% to US\$30.93 billion (1H2023: US\$32.54 billion) though this was partially offset by higher sales volume during the period.

# **Business Segment Performance**

Food Products (Consumer Products, Medium Pack and Bulk) achieved a robust 77% increase in pre-tax profit to US\$146.3 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$82.7 million). The improvement was driven by stronger sales volume and a decline in commodity prices which led to lower raw material costs.

Overall sales volume for Food Products grew 7% to 15.6 million metric tonnes ("MT") (1H2023: 14.6 million MT), backed by volume growth across all sub-segments.

Feed & Industrial Products (Tropical Oils, Oilseeds & Grains and Sugar) reported a 34% growth in pre-tax profit to US\$534.0 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$399.0 million), mainly driven by increase in sales volume and improvement in crushing margins in the second quarter of 2024. Profit contributions from both tropical oils and shipping businesses remained comparable against the corresponding period in the previous year.

Overall sales volume for Feed & Industrial Products increased 8% to 30.2 million MT, with higher sales volume across all sub-segments.

**Plantation & Sugar Milling** recorded a 14% decline in pre-tax profit to US\$53.9 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$62.9 million), with weaker performance in the sugar milling business. Performance for sugar milling was impacted by the temporary change in ethanol production policy in India. The palm plantation business performed better on the back of lower plantation costs despite poorer weather conditions, which resulted in a 6%

reduction in fresh fruit bunch production to 1,947,213 MT in 1H2024 (1H2023: 2,079,749 MT).

The **Others** segment, which comprises mainly Head Office related expenses as well as profit and loss on investment activities, recorded a pre-tax loss of US\$59.0 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$30.2 million loss).

Share of results of **Joint Ventures & Associates** declined 58% to US\$83.2 million in 1H2024 (1H2023: US\$198.9 million), mainly due to lower contributions from the Group's investments in Europe, China and Africa.

#### Dividend

The Board has approved an interim tax exempt (one-tier) dividend for 1H2024 of S\$0.06 per share. The interim dividend will be paid on August 29, 2024.

## **Strong Balance Sheet and Cash Flows**

In line with the decrease in commodities prices and lower seasonal working capital requirements, net loans and borrowings reduced by US\$434.2 million to US\$17.22 billion as of 30 June 2024. This also led to an improvement in net gearing ratio, from 0.88x in FY2023 to 0.87x in 1H2024.

During the period, the Group generated strong operating cash flows of US\$1.79 billion. Capital expenditure for the period (including advances paid) was lower at US\$846.4 million (1H2023: US\$1.16 billion) while US\$39.6 million (1H2023: US\$142.2 million) was used for the acquisition of subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates. Together with dividend distribution of US\$563.4 million and the US\$434.2 million decrease in net debt, the Group had a cash outflow of US\$1.10 billion and free cash flow of US\$906.2 million at the end of the reporting period.

As at 30 June 2024, total assets stood at US\$55.72 billion and shareholders' funds at US\$19.77 billion. The Group also had US\$36.14 billion of unutilised banking facilities.

# **Prospects**

Mr. Kuok Khoon Hong, Chairman and CEO of Wilmar said, "The Group achieved a satisfactory set of results despite the challenging operating environment across most of our businesses during 1H2024. Refining margins for tropical oils are expected to remain challenging whilst demand and margin for soybean meal products are expected to improve with lower soybean prices. Nevertheless, strong operating cashflow, coupled with reduced capital expenditure in the first half of the year, has allowed the Group to maintain its interim dividend payout. Overall, we are cautiously optimistic that performance for the rest of the year will be satisfactory."

**About Wilmar** 

Wilmar International Limited, founded in 1991 and headquartered in Singapore, is today

Asia's leading agribusiness group. Wilmar is ranked amongst the largest listed

companies by market capitalisation on the Singapore Exchange.

At the core of Wilmar's strategy is an integrated agribusiness model that encompasses

the entire value chain of the agricultural commodity business, from origination, to

processing, branding, merchandising and distribution of a wide range of edible food and

industrial products. The Group's business activities include oil palm cultivation, oilseed

crushing, edible oils refining, flour and rice milling, sugar milling and refining,

manufacturing of consumer products, ready-to-eat meals, central kitchen products,

specialty fats, oleochemicals, biodiesel and fertilisers as well as food park operations. It

has over 1,000 manufacturing plants and an extensive distribution network covering

China, India, Indonesia and some 50 other countries and regions. Through scale,

integration and the logistical advantages of its business model, Wilmar is able to extract

margins at every step of the value chain, thereby reaping operational synergies and cost

efficiencies.

Supported by a multinational workforce of about 100,000 people, Wilmar embraces

sustainability in its global operations, supply chain and communities.

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