



NATURAL RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP CIRCLE
FOR THE BEAUTY, COSMETICS, FRAGRANCE, AND FLAVOR INDUSTRIES

P R E A M B L E

Awareness of the extent of planetary challenges relating to sustainable development has attained a new intensity. Governments, communities, businesses, and individuals are now more aligned on their joint responsibility. Due to its economic importance in our society, the role of business is great; just as it has been deemed part of the problem, it can also be part of the solution.

The world is also seeing that the combination of economic development and human demographics put natural resources under stress, manifesting in fear of scarcity, speculation, and chaotic markets. Resources are scarce, and the fabric of biodiversity which sustains evolution and life is weakening. The greater part of Earth's biodiversity lies in territories principally under the custodianship of indigenous and local communities, of local farmers and harvesters.

This critical time calls for profound change, change in thought and in behavior, in business choices and decisions. We have the power to change the way our industry concludes a contract, develops a product, disposes of waste, and rebalances economic benefits in our value chains.

Indeed, we are entering a new era, one in which a business' usefulness is not only measured in economic terms, but also valued in terms of its impacts, positive and negative, on our society. Employment, environment,

resource conservation, economic well-being, health, and promotion of human knowledge and cultures are some of these impacts. The act of taking these social and societal impacts into account opens a window into immense fields of creativity to invent a new world, new business behavior, a new spirit in economic exchanges, a new humanity. Let us be the pioneers.

We, representatives of beauty, cosmetics, fragrance, and flavor companies, having already integrated into our management systems corporate social responsibility processes for a sustainable development, do hereby:

- acknowledge our responsibility as stewards of the natural resources we collectively use as inputs to our industrial activity,
- believe it is good and responsible business practice to use these resources in a way that preserves our industries' continued access to them in the future,
- realize that in order to promote more sustainable use of natural resources, we must care for and respect the custodians of these resources, the farmers and harvesters in the communities from which our industries source ingredients. These include traditional communities and indigenous peoples who are the stewards of much of the Earth's biodiversity.



DECLARATION

Guided by our values of humility, transparency, accountability, empowerment, collaboration, and respect,

we support the principles espoused in:

- **the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity** to ensure that these sourcing activities are sustainable, do not deplete biodiversity, provide economic opportunities to farmers and harvesters working at the source, and respect Intellectual Property Rights where new materials are concerned (thereby avoiding biopiracy challenges).
- **the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** to ensure that the protocol will promote practices that respect their rights to culture, identity, language, traditional plants and medicines; maintain and strengthen their own institutions, cultures, and traditions; and live according to their own needs and aspirations. We will use existing Indigenous protocols, such as the Australian "Songman Circle of Wisdom protocol," regarding them as initiatives that acknowledge local farmers wishes and needs and Indigenous culture and spirituality while creating commercial opportunities that are required for the sustainable development of traditional communities.
- **the United Nations Global Compact** to enhance the working conditions of partners in the supply chain, particularly those who harvest the crops.
- **the International Labor Organisation (I.L.O.)** principles, regulations, and guidelines.

we commit ourselves:

- **to strive to establish guidelines** and a model for the responsible procurement of natural resources. This model is destined to serve as a guideline of best practices to be shared and emulated throughout our industries and others. However, every signatory company should aim to achieve more. The signatory companies remain the owners of their relationships and projects with local communities.
- **to educate employees and supply chain partners** in our industry on these principles, to guide them when collaborating with indigenous and local producers and gatherers of raw materials in their biodiversity-friendly exploitation of natural resources.

This protocol will represent our commitment to collective action, to working for the greater good beyond the confines of competition, encouraging open dialogue and transparency in communication. As well, we promise not to use our membership in the "Natural Resources Stewardship Circle" to commercial ends, nor to use it in our marketing, advertising, or communications programs or policies.

It is in this spirit, as members of the global business community and members of the human community, that we adopt and sign our names to this Resolution.

Signed in Grasse, France, this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Name _____
Surname _____
Title _____

Signature

Company stamp



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