



"Open Letter to All Multinationals Resuming Palm Oil Sourcing from REPSA in Sayaxché, Guatemala despite its failure to consult with and address the grievances of indigenous communities affected by ecocide, intimidation and violations of human rights", 10 June 2021, Rainforest Action Network: [https://www.ran.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/OpenLetterToAllBuyers\\_REPSAGuatemala\\_06102021.pdf](https://www.ran.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/OpenLetterToAllBuyers_REPSAGuatemala_06102021.pdf)

### **Nestlé's response as of 28.06.2021**

In 2018 Nestlé suspended purchasing from Olmeca (REPSA) after we identified non-compliances with Nestlé's Responsible Sourcing Standard. Since then, we engaged with Olmeca in their efforts to improve their Responsible Sourcing practices. Specifically, we set out expectations around community and worker relations, wastewater management, health and safety conditions, anti-corruption policies, and engaging stakeholders, including NGOs, in this work.

Since their suspension, and subsequent efforts to improve practices, we observed a very positive transformation in Olmeca's commitment and performance in sustainability. We monitor Olmeca's practices monthly and can confirm that Olmeca delivered on Nestlé's expectations for re-entry. Olmeca put sound resources and policy actions in place to systematically reshape the way their business operates with regards to sustainability. They are now a leading company in Guatemala for sustainability, having demonstrated transparency on challenges and progress, and a willingness to engage with critical stakeholders.

We welcome Olmeca's progress, but our engagement with Olmeca, and expectations for their continuous improvement does not stop here. Nestlé continues to require that all palm oil sourced from Olmeca complies with Nestlé's Responsible Sourcing Standards and with Olmeca's Responsible and Sustainable Production of Palm Oil Policy. We will continue to engage Olmeca and monitor their progress against these policies and against the action plans they have laid out, to fully implement environmental and human rights due diligence systems.

We expect that Olmeca will continue to make all efforts to engage local stakeholders, including direct dialogue with local NGOs. We also expect public transparency about their progress, including addressing stakeholder grievances and regular reporting through public progress reports. Nestlé reserves the right to review and potentially suspend purchases from Olmeca if their actions fall below the standards we expect of them.