**Unilever’s response to GRAIN’s report raising concerns about the company’s operations in DRC**

10 August 2015

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Unilever to respond to the concerns and received the following answer:

“Unilever would like to stress that it fully met all its obligations to employees of its former consumer goods business on the sale of Marsavco in 2002 in line with DRC labour law and including a compensation package of US $10 million paid at the time. Agreement with each individual affected was registered with the labour tribunal at the time in accordance with DRC legislation and there is no justification for any claim for further compensation.  Unilever has no direct commercial relationship with Feronia and there has been no discussion on local supply relationships, workers compensation or employment conditions since the sale of the Unilever stake in PHC.  Unilever is looking into the concerns raised in the report related to production under licence by Marsavco locally but has not yet been able to verify the allegations or consider the response of the companies involved. Unilever would been happy to offer comment to the authors of the report before publication but unfortunately was not given the opportunity to do so”.