

To: Financiers of Wilmar/SIFCA/MOPP

## **Act now! Stop your exposure to harms in MOPP**

23 November 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

In February this year SDI and Milieudefensie [published our research findings](#) about the adverse social and environmental impacts in MOPP plantations. You are related to the harms through finance of MOPP and/or Wilmar. In response to the report MOPP committed to negotiating a formal land based agreement with affected communities. However, more than 8 months later nothing has happened.

The plantation in Liberia has been operating off the radar of civil society and enforcement organizations because of the difficult access to the area. Our report exposed bad practices and human rights violations in order to inform decision makers and financiers like yourself.

In order to avoid continued exposure to harm in MOPP operations and comply with OECD and UN guidelines you have to take action. Firstly, to keep MOPP to its commitment to the formulation of a land based agreement, we request that you exert pressure on MOPP and Wilmar to fulfill the demands from the community, who are the rights holders to the land:

- ◆ Respect our land rights and FPIC, accept and support us in formalizing our customary land and start a new process of legally binding land lease agreements between communities and the company
- ◆ Develop and finance community palm oil plantations where requested
- ◆ Provide due repair and compensation for lands grabbed and farms destroyed in the past
- ◆ Stop the harassment and criminalization and remove the police units from the area
- ◆ Ensure community payments are made in line with the Land Rights Act of 2018
- ◆ Begin a process of active communication and engagement with the communities through quarterly meetings involving key stakeholders
- ◆ Review and ensure that all labor practices for employees and contractors respect legal norms and Comply with the 2015 Decent Work Act of Liberia

◆ Stop expansion until all of the above requests are met

Secondly you need to review your finance strategies in order to transition from financing the industrial palm oil sector with its structural adverse social and environmental impacts towards agro-ecology and community based forest and area management.

We request you to be transparent in your engagements with MOPP and Wilmar and inform undersigned NGOs as well as the affected community representatives of your actions.

Best wishes,

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