

November 17, 2023

Brad Adams, Esq.
Executive Director
Climate Rights International
4489 Boynton Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94707

Re: Due Diligence for avocados grown in Mexico

Dear Mr. Adams:

Thank you for sharing a summary of your research findings.

Ahold Delhaize and each of its brands remain fully committed to addressing adverse social and environmental impacts and supporting human rights throughout our supply chains. We understand the relevance of your research and we acknowledge the importance of effective social and environmental due diligence. That is why Ahold Delhaize and its brands have a comprehensive approach to achieving a deforestation- and conversion-free supply chain, no later than 2025.

All of our brands' avocado suppliers from Mexico work with third party growers registered with the Mexican government and co-packers. Furthermore, the suppliers are all members of APEAM, which requires its registered farmers and packers to comply with all laws, including the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement.

In our Standards of Engagement, Ahold Delhaize sets standards for all suppliers to ensure that Ahold Delhaize and its brands have visibility on their supply chains, to validate the origin of goods offered for sale by our brands, and to maintain high standards of business ethics and respect of human rights throughout the supply chain.

The Standards of Engagement apply to all suppliers, and we enforce them through our social compliance program, which requires all last stage of production sites in high-risk countries to demonstrate a social audit. We publicly report in our Annual Report the percentage of production locations in high-risk countries audited or certified.

In the case of suspected non-compliance with our standards of engagement, our brands conduct investigations, either internally or via independent third parties. We take all allegations of illegal deforestation in our supply chain very seriously and consider those practices a breach of our Standards of Engagement. In the case of a serious breach, our brands will initially suspend their relationship with that supplier and work with the



supplier to get the violation or adverse impact remediated. If a supplier is unable or unwilling to remediate its violation within a reasonable time frame, the brand will ultimately terminate its relationship with that supplier.

We look forward to receiving the full report and, if relevant for any of our brands' suppliers, we will promptly investigate any cases of illegal deforestation or other violations of our Standards of Engagement and address those findings accordingly.

Kind regards

Nathan Prater
Vice President, Compliance & Ethics

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