



FOR RELEASE

**Apical Group Publishes Fourth Sustainability Report in 2019
– ‘Sustainable Business Today for a Better Tomorrow’**

Kuala Lumpur, 15 September 2020 – Apical Group, one of the largest palm oil processors, traders and exporters in Indonesia, released its 2019 Sustainability Report (SR2019) today. This report offers a comprehensive approach to sustainability reporting using the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards as the basis of its annual disclosures, and its content has been verified by an external third party for the first time.

Apical’s fourth sustainability report published annually since 2016 focuses on how Apical continuously strives to operate responsibly from within and throughout its supply chain to build a more sustainable world for future generations. This theme aligns with its business philosophy of doing what is good for the community, country, climate and customer, and only then will it be good for the company.

This report seeks to provide a transparent account of Apical’s sustainability performance and progress towards its commitments. This is evidenced by the extended scope of reporting in the 2019 report as compared to previous years, which now offers information on Apical’s operations in China and Spain.

To provide the Group’s stakeholders with greater confidence on the information and data provided in this report, Apical has engaged Control Union to provide independent assurance for the key environmental, social and governance disclosures in this report. The assurance statement and scope of data assured is available on page 60 of the report.

Dato’ Yeo How, President of Apical Group said, “Apical has developed a new strategy in 2019 to further promote sustainable business throughout our operations and supply chain by 2025. As we continue to expand our business and look to double our refining capacity, more measures will be put in place to ensure that we source from suppliers who can comply with our requirements. We are also in the midst of updating our sustainability policy, ensuring our commitments remain relevant and reflect the right priorities going forward.”

Apical’s SR2019 also presents the Group’s support for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and indicates its plan to further contribute to six prioritised goals which the company believes it has the biggest opportunity to advance. In 2019, Apical conducted a prioritisation exercise to identify the SDGs which it was able to best support and advance, leveraging on its capabilities and reach. From the exercise, six



SDGs were prioritised for Apical to focus on – these are detailed further within the report.

Dato' Yeo How added, "The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the need for businesses to focus on sustainable practices and resilience. Achieving our sustainability goals is something we remain fully committed to, more so than ever. Partnerships and collaborations are crucial to achieving these goals and the SDGs, which is why we will also continue to explore opportunities for collaborations with stakeholders."

Over the past years, Apical Group has actively benchmarked its operations against global standards and best practices to achieve its strategic sustainability goals. Guided by its vision to be a leading, sustainable and global integrated edible oils player, Apical seeks to drive positive social, environmental and living standards for all stakeholders, especially smallholders and communities.

Moving forward, Apical Group is focused on one of its core values, **continuous improvement**, to build upon its current progress. In 2020, Apical plans to address its own areas for improvement by strengthening its Sustainability Policy and supplier compliance to the policy, implement time-bound action plans for policy compliance and increase reporting on implementation progress through the development of a comprehensive social assessment framework.

Apical Group's 2019 Sustainability Report is accessible on its website.

Read [Apical Group SR2019](#)



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About Apical

Apical Group Ltd is one of the largest exporters of palm oil in Indonesia, owning and controlling an extensive spectrum of the palm oil business value chain from sourcing to distribution. It also engages in the refining, processing and trading of palm oil for both domestic use and international export. Its operations are located in Indonesia, China and Spain, and include five refineries, three biodiesel plants, an oleochemical plant and a kernel crushing plant. Apical's business is built on a broad sourcing network in Indonesia with integrated refinery assets at strategic locations. These are strengthened by efficient logistic channels supported by Apical's own infrastructure to deliver to a wide range of clients from international trade houses to local industrial buyers. With its unique business model, Apical has been able to control product quality and address sustainability and food safety issues, while running highly efficient operations at its world-class refineries and integrated storage and bulking facilities.

About Apical's Sustainability

Since launching the Apical Sustainability Policy in 2014, Apical has made great strides in its transformation journey by adopting global standards and best practices within its operations, subsidiaries and in partnership with suppliers. Its refineries have been certified by the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) since 2010 and it has been a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) since 2011. It achieved full traceability to mills in 2015 and has targeted full traceability to plantations by 2020. The Group promotes the protection of high conservation value (HCV) and high carbon stock (HCS) areas, peatland and towards positive socio-economic development. Its sustainability partners include Earthworm Foundation, Proforest and Daemeter to ensure responsible sourcing, integration and continuous improvement to its supply chain transformation. Apical is committed to sustainable operations as the fundamental principle of its business to deliver high value products for today's global market demands.

For more information, please visit Apical's [website](#).

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