

# News Release

## Barry Callebaut and Côte d'Ivoire intensify cooperation on a sustainable cocoa farming model

- **Barry Callebaut and Côte d'Ivoire sign two letters of intent to work collaboratively on a model for sustainable cocoa farming**
- **Specific focus on replanting CSSV infected cocoa trees, income diversification and forest rehabilitation**
- **In addition the signatories will cooperate on community led initiatives to eradicate child labor and support women cocoa farmers and young cocoa farmers.**

*Zurich/Switzerland, June 5, 2018* – Barry Callebaut, the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products and the Conseil Café Cacao (CCC) of Côte d'Ivoire signed a letter of intent on June 4, to intensify the cooperation on sustainable cocoa farming within the 2QC framework. The purpose of the letter of intent is for both signatories to work collaboratively towards the design and validation of a sustainable cocoa farming model, with a specific focus on the clearing and replanting of cocoa trees infected with the swollen-shoot virus (CSSV) disease. Also, the cooperation will include agroforestry, more specifically income diversification for cocoa farmers and the planting of shade trees. In addition, Barry Callebaut and the CCC will work together on making cocoa cultivation more attractive to women cocoa farmers and young cocoa farmers. Finally, both parties will intensify their cooperation on community led engagement on the eradication of the worst forms of child labor. In addition a letter of intent was signed with the Ivorian Ministry of Water and Forests to work on an agroforestry model for the rehabilitation of classified forests and sustainable cocoa farming in these areas.

Antoine de Saint-Affrique, CEO of Barry Callebaut: "These letters of intent are an important step towards the design of a new model for sustainable cocoa farming. Combining the expertise and resources on the ground of the CCC, the Ministry of Water and Forests and Barry Callebaut will make interventions more impactful and accelerate the progress towards a sustainable cocoa farming sector coexisting with protected forest areas in Côte d'Ivoire, the world's largest cocoa growing country."

Alain Richard Donwahi, Minister of Waters and Forests Côte d'Ivoire: "Ensuring the coexistence of cocoa farming with the protection of our countries' classified forests is a high priority for the Ivorian government, as is also exemplified by the Cocoa and Forests Initiative Framework for Action. The letter of intent cements the strategic partnership between government and industry required to make this coexistence happen".

Yves Brahim Koné, Director General of the CCC: "Our 2QC program is all about supporting Ivorian cocoa farmers and ensuring the steady supply of the highest quality cocoa. Partnering with industry is crucial to further build sustainable cocoa farming in Côte d'Ivoire and to ensure that cocoa farming remains an attractive profession for future generations".

The signatories expect to present the first outcomes of their collaboration in early 2019.

***About Barry Callebaut Group ([www.barry-callebaut.com](http://www.barry-callebaut.com)):***

*With annual sales of about CHF 6.8 billion (EUR 6.3 billion / USD 6.9 billion) in fiscal year 2016/17, the Zurich-based Barry Callebaut Group is the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products – from sourcing and processing cocoa beans to producing the finest chocolates, including chocolate fillings, decorations and compounds. The Group runs close to 60 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of about 11,000 people.*

*The Barry Callebaut Group serves the entire food industry, from industrial food manufacturers to artisanal and professional users of chocolate, such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs, bakers, hotels, restaurants or caterers. The two global brands catering to the specific needs of these Gourmet customers are Callebaut® and Cacao Barry®.*

*The Barry Callebaut Group is committed to make sustainable chocolate the norm by 2025 to help ensure future supplies of cocoa and improve farmer livelihoods. It supports the Cocoa Horizons Foundation in its goal to shape a sustainable cocoa and chocolate future.*

***About the Conseil Café Cacao (CCC) ([www.conseilcafecacao.ci](http://www.conseilcafecacao.ci)):***

*The CCC manages all the activities within the Ivorian cocoa supply chain, including the regulation of its operators, the stabilization of supply and the further development of the cocoa quality.*

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**Contact****for the media:**

Christiaan Prins

Head of External Affairs

Barry Callebaut

Phone: +41 43 204 0376

[christiaan\\_prins@barry-callebaut.com](mailto:christiaan_prins@barry-callebaut.com)