

News Release

Inauguration of new processing unit in Abidjan

Barry Callebaut expands its cocoa processing capacities in Côte d'Ivoire

- Major capacity expansion of +40.0% in Côte d'Ivoire by 2022
- Part of a total investment of CHF 55 million (FCFA 30 billion) over 5 years

Zurich/Switzerland and Abidjan/ Côte d'Ivoire, March 29, 2019 – Barry Callebaut, the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality cocoa and chocolate products, inaugurated March 29, 2019, its new state-of-the-art processing unit at its Zone 4C Société Africaine de Cacao (SACO) plant in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The new grinding unit, part of a CHF 55 million (FCFA 30 billion) investment, will increase SACO's cocoa bean processing capacity with over +40.0% by 2022. Once the processing unit is fully operational, Barry Callebaut will employ an additional workforce of 45 people and create 120 indirect jobs.

Antoine de Saint-Affrique, CEO of the Barry Callebaut Group, said: "This significant investment in our Cocoa processing capacities in Côte d'Ivoire is one more sign of our long term commitment to the country and to the African continent. Not only as a supplier of high quality cocoa beans but also as an industrial base and as an emerging market for cocoa and chocolate consumption, as is also exemplified by last year's opening of our first CHOCOLATE ACADEMY™ Center on the African continent in Johannesburg, South Africa".

The expansion fits with the Ivorian government's desire to increase local cocoa processing capacity in its country and is in line with Barry Callebaut's objective to supply the growing market for cocoa in West Africa with domestic supply.

Barry Callebaut has a long history of investing in cocoa processing in West Africa, through its subsidiary SACO in Côte d'Ivoire, founded in 1964. Today, the Group's two most important cocoa grinding factories, which produce cocoa liquor, cocoa butter and powder for global and regional customers, are based in Abidjan and San Pedro. Barry Callebaut will continue to invest in West Africa to serve its customers even better.

About Barry Callebaut Group (www.barry-callebaut.com):

With annual sales of about CHF 6.9 billion (EUR 6.0 billion / USD 7.1 billion) in fiscal year 2017/18, 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 about 60 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of more than 11,500 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 sustainable cocoa production 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.

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