



Revised July 2015

Avon recognizes that palm oil is a significant cause of tropical deforestation and peatland depletion, which can result in the loss of natural habitats for endangered species, and also has known human rights issues.

Although more than 80 percent of palm oil is used for food products, it also is one of many natural oils used in personal care products. Avon is not a significant user of palm oil or palm kernel oil (PKO) and predominantly uses ingredients that are derivatives of palm oil and PKO.

As a company, we are committed to protecting the environment and respecting and upholding the human rights of the communities and workers affected by our operations and supply chain. That is why Avon adopted its first Palm Oil Promise in 2011 outlining our guidelines for purchasing sustainably sourced palm oil and joined the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) to help continue the development, implementation and verification of credible global standards for sustainable palm oil. Since 2011, we have supported the production of sustainable palm oil through the GreenPalm program, which means that for every estimated ton of palm oil derivative we use in the production of our products, we have paid a voluntary premium to a palm oil producer that is operating within the RSPO strict guidelines for social and environmental responsibility.

Avon's Commitment to Responsible Palm Oil

Avon wishes to increase our support of responsible palm oil sourcing and is therefore issuing this more comprehensive Palm Oil Promise to ensure greater traceability and responsible sourcing in our palm oil supply chain. The traceability of palm/PKO derivatives is complex and we know this will not be an easy journey, but Avon is committed to implementing a plan to achieve responsible palm oil sourcing. We are dedicated to working in collaboration with our suppliers to ensure palm oil, palm kernel oil, and derivatives used in Avon products globally meet the following principles.

Avon's Responsible Palm Oil Principles

Avon's revised palm oil guidelines are designed to hold our suppliers accountable to the following sourcing principles:

Avon will buy palm oil, palm kernel oil (PKO) and palm/PKO derivatives from suppliers that meet the below practices across their entire supply chain:

- Deforestation-free

- No development on and protection of High Conservation Value Areas (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests¹ from conversion due to plantation expansion or new plantation development
- Trace their palm oil to a point in the supply chain where they can demonstrate the palm oil meets our sourcing principles
- From growers that protect peatlands of any depth from new plantation development and have a no burning policy
- From growers using best management practices² for palm oil plantations on existing peat soils
- From growers that comply with all relevant local, national, and international laws
- From growers that track and report on the carbon footprint of their production
- From growers that are conflict-free and protective of the rights of workers and indigenous communities
 - In accordance with the International Labor Organization (ILO) Core Conventions and the [Avon Supplier Code of Conduct](#)
 - Suppliers involved in land use and acquisition will respect the rights of local communities to give or withhold their Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) to operations on lands to which they hold legal, communal, or customary rights.³
- Compliant with existing RSPO Principles and Criteria, or equivalent standard

Avon suppliers also must commit to having a credible and accessible grievance mechanism that allows stakeholders and workers to report concerns without fear of recrimination or dismissal.⁴ New or existing conflicts should be managed and resolved through a transparent, accessible and consultative process.

Recognizing the importance of smallholders in the global palm oil supply chain and the unique challenges they face, Avon suppliers should facilitate the inclusion of smallholders into the supply chain, and when possible support them through the process of achieving compliance with these principles.

¹ HCV as defined by the HCV network: <https://www.hcvnetwork.org/about-hcvf/the-six-high-conservation-values>; HCS as defined at <http://highcarbonstock.org> by the HCS Steering Group.

² Best management practices as prescribed by the “RSPO Manual on Best Management Practices (BMPs) for existing oil palm cultivation on peat.”

³ In accordance with the definitions and guidance in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the UN FAO’s Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure.

⁴ Suppliers should follow the guidance regarding grievance mechanisms from the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.