Brussels, October 6th 2021

Dear Mrs. Cassady

Thank you for your letter to Mr. Ferrero and Mr. Civiletti

We take very seriously the issues you raise, including the situation in North and East Kalimantan, and we’ve been having regular meetings with your team over the past months.

Ferrero is firmly committed to build a sustainable and transparent palm oil value chain. As a baseline, we source palm oil that is 100% certified, segregated and traceable back to plantations. We go beyond this already high requirement, that directly addresses the complexities of the industry, with initiatives guided by three key areas outlined in our latest Palm Oil Charter: human rights & social practices, environmental protection & sustainability, and supplier transparency. To this regard we’ve just published our new Palm Oil Action Plan to outline further how this strategy will play out. Moreover, we are active members of POIG (Palm Oil Innovation Group) and HCSA (High Carbon Stock Approach) of which RAN is also member.

While there’s more we will need to do, we are proud our approach is recognized as leading among industry peers, for example in the recently published WWF scorecard.

When it comes to the issues you mention in North and East Kalimantan, there is urgent need of concerted action, and not scattered analysis or studies from different companies. We therefore would like to hear more about your views and approach on how to catalyze meaningful impact. In our views, the Forest Footprint analysis you propose would not constitute in itself ‘real action’, as you advocate, especially in the context of the degree of transparency our company already provides.

Looking forward to discussing further with you and other relevant stakeholders how to put in place impactful solutions to some of these challenges

Kind Regards,

Francesco Tramontin
Vice President Group Public Policy Center