

EUROPEAN COMMISSION - DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
To the attention of the Director for food sustainability, international relations
Ms Nathalie CHAZE
PO Box 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

Sint-Katelijne-Waver, 28 June 2021

Support Letter Greenyard – EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES

Dear miss CHAZE,

GREENYARD's purpose is to be a driving force towards healthier lifestyles and more sustainable food chains. With a low environmental footprint compared to other food categories, fruit and vegetables are key to fulfilling the global rising demand for food and the need to respect planetary boundaries.

Our sector is depending upon nature, the availability of healthy soils, fresh water and favourable climate conditions. The world is waking up to the fact that we need to change the way we produce and consume food. As a major player in fruit and vegetables, GREENYARD wants to play an active role in the transition towards healthier and more sustainable eating habits. **GREENYARD therefore supports the “Code of Conduct for responsible food business and marketing practices”.**

The aspirational goals of the new “Code” are in line with our own commitments to strive for a more sustainable food chain.

Health and sustainability have always been at the very heart of our GREENYARD business, which is build around the vision to make lives healthier by helping people enjoy fruit and vegetables at any moment, easy, fast and pleasurable, whilst fostering nature.

The four key commitments we are working on today focus on climate change, water, zero-waste and social responsibility. They are embedded across our business, ensuring sustainability is central to everything we do. We report and review annually on our commitments. Our current commitments are fully in line with the new EU Code of Conduct:

- We will reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 50% by 2025
- We will assess the water risks of 100% of our grower base by 2025
- 100% of our consumer packaging will be recyclable by 2025
- 100% of our grower base located in risk origins will be certified for social compliance by 2025

A next review of the commitments is planned later this year (2021). Our performance on the mentioned targets and further info on our sustainability approach is available on our website (www.greenyard.group). We are happy to also disclose these figures within the context of the new EU Code of Conduct.

We cannot stress enough that this is not a path we can take alone. As food chains become increasingly long and complex, close collaboration – “from field to fork” – is essential if we are to achieve our ambitions. We especially leverage our business model based on long-term partnerships and alliances with stakeholders (from grower to retailer) to achieve improvements at every stage of the supply chain and contribute to a more sustainable way of feeding the world. We are confident that, together, we can accelerate this process, motivate others to join us on this journey and find new and creative ways to continue on our path towards a more sustainable future for us all.

Hein Deprez
Co-CEO Greenyard

