SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RUBBER SUPPLY CHAIN POLICY ("SNRSCP")

1. INTRODUCTION

Halcyon Agri Corporation Limited ("HAC") is committed to promoting, developing and implementing the sustainable and responsible use of natural rubber throughout its supply chain.

Sustainable governance of the natural rubber supply chain is essential to preserve biodiversity and to ensure local communities experience continued economic local communities experience development and livelihood sustenance.

The natural rubber supply chain includes industrial plantations, smallholder farmers, dealers, processing plants, manufacturers and distributors. HAC strives to be a global steward to work together with all stakeholders within our supply chain and the industrial sector to advance natural rubber sustainability.

This Policy applies to HAC and all its subsidiaries, including factories and plantations that HAC owns, manages, or invests in and all third party natural rubber agents from whom HAC deals with.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY

2.1 Support and protect the rights of workers, land owners, indigenous people and local communities;

2.2 Promote responsible acquisition and management of land for growing natural rubber;

2.3 Develop and drive practices for traceability of natural rubber across the supply chain;

2.4 Develop and implement best environmental standards in cultivation, harvesting and processing of natural rubber;

2.5 Support the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and advocate principles of equity by engaging rights-holders throughout the supply chain; and

2.6 Actively engage with our supply chain to communicate and ensure compliance with this Policy.
3. **WORKING CONDITIONS & LIVING ENVIRONMENT**

Working with its supply chain, HAC strives to protect the rights of all its supply chain stakeholders and create a positive work environment at every level by upholding the following principles:

3.1 Protect the health and safety of employees and their families by ensuring mobility and accessibility to quality healthcare facilities, providing education on best safe-work practices and raising awareness on health and safety risks.

3.2 Protect the health and safety of employees, visitors, contractors and suppliers by providing suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) and ensuring that work areas are satisfactorily safe.

3.3 Prohibit all forms of discrimination based on gender, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, union membership, ethnicity, nationality, age, social status, physical or mental disability.

3.4 Maintain adequate working conditions and provide employees with employment contracts, salaries at least equal to the country’s minimum wage for an equivalent job, fair working hours, freedom to join or form trade unions and collective bargaining in accordance with applicable national and international laws (ILO Convention 110).

3.5 Actively engage in the economic and social development of local communities by creating direct or indirect job opportunities to increase their employability.

3.6 Prohibit any form of labour exploitation such as child or forced labour, or any forms of mental or physical coercion towards direct or indirect employees and contractors by committing to the eight fundamental ILO Conventions on rights at work.

3.7 Maintain decent living conditions for employees living on-site by ensuring a minimum liveable surface area per worker, access to safe drinking water, sufficient food, electricity and sanitation facilities. (ILO convention 110).

4. **RESPONSIBLE LAND ACQUISITION & USE**

HAC will work with its supply chain and relevant stakeholders to promote a natural rubber supply chain that is socially and environmentally responsible and improves the livelihoods and economic viability of local communities by upholding the following principles:

4.1 Comply fully with all applicable local and national legislation for land use, respect and protect Customary Land Tenure Rights and prohibit any Land Grabbing approaches.

4.2 Implement specific mechanisms to facilitate resolution of land disputes and respect indigenous and local communities’ rights (ILO Convention 169).

4.3 Act responsibly without compromising local food supplies and grant fair compensation to local communities for land conservation measures or commercial land use.
4.4 Apply Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) methodology and guidelines developed by the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) for land acquired and/or transformed for industrial plantation use.

5. **ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION**

HAC is committed to, and expects its Suppliers who cultivate, harvest or process natural rubber for HAC’s use, to be socially responsible and environmentally friendly by upholding the following principles:

5.1 Develop and implement proper land use plans to prevent overexploitation of natural resources using an integrated landscape management approach and best management practices for soil and peat.

5.2 Commit to achieving zero net deforestation and ensure that land is appropriate for industrial natural rubber planting by determining where natural ecosystems should be protected by utilising the High Conservation Value (HCV), High Carbon Stock (HCS), or other equivalent land assessment and management toolkits.

5.3 Protect forest areas from illegal activities and prohibit any form of rubber production on known peat land and the use of fire in the preparation of new planting areas, re-planting areas or any other developments.

5.4 Respect community rights on use of water resources by creating buffer zones to protect natural waterways and mitigate any adverse effect on surface or ground water sources during natural rubber cultivation, harvesting and processing in accordance to national legislation and environmental best practices.

5.5 Impose strict standards regarding the use, safe handling, storage and disposal of all chemicals and their by-products. Minimise use of chemical (fertilisers) and pesticides and prohibit use of chemicals and pesticides listed under the Stockholm Convention, Rotterdam Convention and World Health Organisation (WHO) Class 1A & 1B.

5.6 Take appropriate measures, where necessary, to reduce odour produced from rubber milling.

5.7 Implement and maintain systems for the collection, segregation, recycling and disposal of waste or by-products generated by farming, industrial operations or by employees and their families.

5.8 Undertake reasonable efforts to maximize water recycling in production process, optimize energy usage where possible and practicable and to minimize scrap rubber.

6. **ETHICS & TRANSPARENCY**

HAC takes a strong stance against corruption and requires all stakeholders to uphold the following principles:

6.1 Prohibit corruption in any guise or form and adopt a zero-tolerance approach on corruption across the value chain.
6.2 Develop and adopt the use of transparent grievance mechanism processes for local communities, employees and all stakeholders.

6.3 Practice free and fair competition, in compliance with local antitrust and competition laws.

7. **GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES & YIELD IMPROVEMENT**

HAC encourages suppliers to undertake every reasonable effort to ensure maximum yield is obtained from existing planted and replanted natural rubber trees by upholding the following principles:

7.1 Provide practical training sessions and dissemination of information on rubber cultivation and agricultural standards to groups of growers, cooperatives, smallholders and suppliers.

7.2 Minimise the use of chemical inputs and promote the use of natural fertilizers, biological pest and disease control methods for all new planting and replanting efforts in industrial plantations.

7.3 Target smallholder projects, such as agroforestry and outgrower programmes that aim to improve yields, livelihoods and environmental conservation practices and create work opportunities for local communities.

8. **TRACEABILITY**

HAC will support the development of methods to trace natural rubber across the supply chain and will:

8.1 Engage in and support the development of tools and processes to trace natural rubber across the supply chain.

8.2 Work with suppliers and smallholder farms to map supply chain and, where possible and practical, develop environmental and social risk maps.

8.3 Work towards full disclosure of the source provenance of natural rubber from Industrial Plantations.

8.4 Ensure traders provide source provenance information back to natural rubber processor level.

9. **POLICY IMPLEMENTATION & COMPLIANCE**

HAC is committed to the corruption-free and transparent implementation of this Policy and its principles and expects all its suppliers to act likewise. HAC reserves the right to conduct audits on its suppliers as deemed appropriate and expects that:

9.1 Suppliers shall comply with this Policy and shall transmit it to the relevant members of their supply chain. HAC requires suppliers to monitor compliance by reasonable means.
9.2 Substantiated non-compliance and/or failure to close agreed identified gaps in compliance will result in suspension or termination of the business relationship.

9.3 Violations of this Policy may be confidentially and anonymously reported to HAC via the grievance mechanism published on its corporate website.

9.4 HAC, where possible and practical, will seek to be an active participant in appropriate processes and programs that deliver sustained economically viable social and environmental benefits to the natural rubber industry.

9.5 HAC will report on the progress of implementation of this Policy transparently in its annual sustainability report and periodically on HAC’s website.

9.6 HAC commits to interacting with relevant local stakeholders to ensure an inclusive and participatory approach to monitoring and developing sustainable best practices.

9.7 HAC reserves the right to update, enhance or revamp this Policy at any given time, for any given reason or as deemed appropriate by future findings, interactions with stakeholders in the value chain and experiences gained through the implementation of this Policy.
GLOSSARY

Customary Land Tenure Rights: As defined by the Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO), customary tenure is a set of rules and norms that govern community allocation, use, access, and transfer of land and other natural resources. The term “customary tenure” invokes the idea of “traditional” rights to land and other natural resources: “the tenure usually associated with indigenous communities and administered in accordance with their customs, as opposed to statutory tenure usually introduced during the colonial period”.

FPIC (UN-REDD): Guidelines by the UN-REDD for stakeholder engagement using the principle of "Free, prior and informed consent" (FPIC). The UN-REDD Programme is the United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries. 'Free consent' to mean consent that is free of any manipulation, interference, coercion or intimidation. ‘Prior consent’ to mean communicating information to the relevant stakeholders in good time and before any final decision is made. ‘Informed consent’ to mean involving relevant representative institutions, providing information that is comprehensible and accessible, such as assessments, action plans, project summaries, and any other relevant information.

Fundamental ILO Conventions: The 8 fundamental conventions are Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention (No. 87), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98), Forced Labour Convention (No. 29), Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105), Minimum Age Convention (No. 138), Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182), Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100), Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (No. 111).

HCV Approach: The High Conservation Value (HCV) approach is designed to maintain or enhance environmental and social values in production landscapes based on six values covering species diversity (HCV 1), landscape-level ecosystems (HCV 2), rare ecosystems/habitats (HCV 3), critical ecosystem services (HCV 4), community livelihood needs (HCV 5) and cultural values (HCV 6).

HCS Approach: The High Carbon Stock (HCS) approach is a methodology that distinguishes forest areas for protection from degraded lands with low carbon and biodiversity values that may be developed.


ILO Convention 169: Convention on Indigenous peoples’ right to self-determination within a nation-state, while setting standards for national governments regarding Indigenous peoples’ economic, socio-cultural and political rights, including the right to a land base.

Industrial Plantations: Natural rubber plantations with an area planted or replanted with more than 50 hectares of natural rubber.
Land Grabbing: Land grabbing is land acquisitions or concessions that are based on one or more of the following characteristics: (i) in violation of human rights, particularly the equal rights of women; (ii) not based on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of the affected land-users; (iii) not based on a thorough assessment, or are in disregard of social, economic and environmental impacts, including the way they are gendered; (iv) not based on transparent contracts that specify clear and binding commitments about activities, employment and benefits sharing, and; (v) not based on effective democratic planning, independent oversight and meaningful participation. This definition has been obtained from the International Land Coalition.

Rotterdam Convention: A multilateral treaty to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals.

Smallholder: Small-sized, usually family run farm with a typical size of between one hectare to 10 hectares. Smallholders are characterized by using mainly family labour for production, and using the produce as a source of family income.

Stockholm Convention: An international environmental treaty on Persistent Organic Pollutants signed in 2001 and effective from May 2004, that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants

Suppliers: Entities or individuals that directly supply HAC or its subsidiaries with products or services related to natural rubber.