

KERRY GROUP PLC

# Meat Position Statement

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As the global population increases and incomes rise, there is growing demand for a protein rich diet. Meat is a vital source of protein and micro-nutrients and can form an important part of a healthy, balanced diet. However, given the environmental and social challenges associated with meat production, there is a clear requirement to ensure it is produced in the most sustainable manner possible.

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As a Group, Kerry does not own or operate any farms although we do source a range of meat and meat products through trusted supply partners. The majority of meat proteins which we source are used within our Kerry Foods division, where we produce added value branded and customer branded chilled foods for the UK and Irish consumer foods markets and selected international markets. A small proportion of meat and meat based products are also used within our Global Taste & Nutrition Division.

## Scope

Within the broader category, there are particular classes of meat that represent a large proportion of our annual requirements. In fact, poultry, pork and beef account for 90% of Kerry Foods' total annual meat spend. Consequently, our efforts to ensure more responsible meat sourcing are focused on these three important categories within Kerry Foods.

## Our Approach

We understand that animal welfare is key concern for customers and consumers of our meat products. Kerry's approach to this issue is informed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council's (FAWC) internationally recognised 'Five Freedoms' and the Group's animal welfare statement sets out the minimum requirements which must be met.

We are aware of the increasing levels of concern regarding the use of growth promoters and antibiotics in animals raised for food. We accept that that these treatments play a part in safeguarding animal health and welfare but where used, they must be administered responsibly and in accordance with relevant EU regulation.

Kerry also recognise the environmental footprint associated with meat based products, much of which occurs at farm level. The use of natural resources, the contribution to global emissions and links to deforestation are often associated with meat production. We work with many suppliers who are already employing best practice and we will continue to engage with them and other industry partners to examine ways to reduce the environmental impacts of our products. We will also support efforts to reduce the impacts from feed production in line with the Group's overall position on deforestation.

Kerry's Supplier Code of Conduct sets out clear requirements on the fair treatment of workers and the protection of human rights by all of those who do business with the Group. We use the SEDEX platform to help monitor supplier performance and to identify those partners who may operate in areas of higher risk. Where appropriate, we will undertake further assessments of any meat suppliers, to ensure continued compliance with this code.

## Implementation and Monitoring

Our efforts to promote more responsible meat sourcing will be led by category teams supported by relevant functional personnel and the Group's Sustainability Council. Kerry will evaluate performance on a regular basis and will provide updates on our progress at least annually on our website and/or in our Annual Report.