

**Statement by Leila Salazar-Lopez at ADM's Annual Meeting
November 8, 2007**

Good Morning Chairwoman Woertz, Board of Directors and fellow shareholders. My name is Leila Salazar-Lopez. I am a shareholder, as well as the Campaign Director for Rainforest Action Network's recently launched Rainforest Agribusiness Campaign. Our organization has been in dialog with Corporate Affairs about our concerns. One result of our dialog is the commitment by ADM to sign the Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor in Brazil. But let me clarify that this has not yet been signed. There is a long road ahead for our concerns to be adequately addressed.

I am here with Indigenous and community leaders from Brazil, Paraguay and Papua New Guinea. These leaders have traveled thousands of miles to express their concerns about the impacts of ADM, Bunge and Cargill's soy and palm oil operations on their communities and environment. It is very disappointing that ADM has denied three out of four of these leaders the right to be in this room and to address you—even though they possess the appropriate paperwork, and as I see hear, there are plenty of empty seats. It is very important for all of you to hear first-hand about the realities of ADM's global operations. In my experience attending the shareholder meetings of companies such as Chevron, Conoco Phillips and ExxonMobil, I have never experienced rules that intentionally deny representatives of shareholders the right to attend and speak.

So, let me tell you what is happening. Tropical rainforests—the heart and lungs of our planet and home to most species on earth—are being cleared and burned; Indigenous and traditional communities, as well as small farmers, are being displaced from their land; communities health and survival are threatened by the spraying of toxic chemicals and the use of herbicides and fungicides on the land; worker's rights are not upheld and there is no system in place currently to assure that slave labor (a major problem in Brazil and elsewhere) is not being used in plantations that supply ADM. Additionally, when communities try to express their concerns to your company representatives on the ground, they are ignored. When they try to express their concerns to local authorities, they are either ignored or violently repressed. This is the reality of the impacts of soy and palm oil on communities. ***

In a time of global climate change, it is not acceptable to source soy and palm from vital tropical forests that have been cleared and burned. Indonesia and Brazil are the 3rd and 4th largest global greenhouse gas emitters, due to the clearing and burning of forests. Ironically, much of the new land clearing is to make way for palm oil plantations that will be the source for the global demand for biofuels. We are very concerned about ADM's new direction as a bioenergy company. We ask you to consider the impacts on tropical rainforests, communities, our global climate and our global food supply as land formerly used to grow food is being converted to land for fuel crops.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to express my concerns about the Wilmar Group, the largest palm oil producer in the world. ADM holds a controlling share in Wilmar, so must be held accountable for Wilmar's operations. Last July, our partners in Indonesia and FOE Netherlands released a report highlighting the social, environmental and cultural violations of the Wilmar Group. In the village of Senujuh, on the island of Borneo in Indonesia, a community I visited in July, Wilmar has not returned 400 ha of community-owned land that Wilmar has admitted is outside of their concession. This company is being investigated by members of the RSPO -the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil- and the IFC, the financial lending arm of the World Bank, for these violations. ADM should disassociate itself from companies that continually violate human rights, the environment and the law.

After meeting with RAN in early September, ADM has agreed to sign the Pact for the Eradication of Slave Labor in Brazil. ADM is the last major agribusiness company operating in Brazil to make this commitment. Now, we hope that this commitment will be upheld in Brazil and in all other countries where ADM does business. It's not enough to sign the Pact. Our supporters and members agree. That's why they've written you thousands of e-mails (over 7,000 to be exact just in October), letters and signed our petitions. Here are some of the petitions and letters we have gathered. We will continue to inform the public, shareholders and the media until rainforest destruction and human rights abuses come to a halt. For more information on our campaign, please talk to us afterwards or visit ran.org.

Thank You!

***First three paragraphs were read, and the rest was summarized because time ran short.