Constituency:  Industry, Trade & Finance

Date:  17 April 2014

Primary contact responsible for the institutional commitment to RTRS
(name, e-mail, phone number, office address)
Fiona Wheatley
Person reporting (if different)

Regions in which the organization operates in
Armenia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Bulgaria, PR of China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Gibraltar, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates.

Organization’s policy on soy
Marks and Spencer supports the production of sustainable soy and has publicly committed to exclude soy linked to deforestation from our supply chains.

Membership & Promotion

How did the organization provide information about its RTRS membership?
Through our annual Plan A sustainability report and online

What external activities were organized to promote RTRS and its P&C?
Plan A sustainability report and Plan A annual conference (workshop on sustainability standards)

Did the organization encourage proactively another one to become member of the RTRS?
M&S encourages companies in our soy supply chains to become RTRS members and engage in the development of sustainable soy.

Other relevant information on this topic

RTRS Objectives

How were the RTRS objectives considered in the organization’s (supplier) contracts?
M&S has other instruments to progress supplier sourcing criteria (eg, public commitments and policies). All M&S suppliers are made aware of our commitment to sustainable soy and our support for RTRS.
Does the organization have a self-assessment system and/or internal monitoring practices regarding RTRS objectives and its P&C?

M&S tracks our soy usage and certification status

Which actions were taken by the organization in order to improve its own performance towards sustainability?

M&S has a well integrated programme called Plan A to address the material social and environmental impacts of our business operations and supply chains. Please refer to http://planareport.marksandspencer.com

Were RTRS objectives included in the organization’s internal documentation?

Sustainable soy is included as a business objective and is supported by third party audited reporting and internal performance management.

Other relevant information on this topic

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**Support Activities**

How did your organization promote or support RTRS?

Engagement with and support for the Retail Soy Group Representative on RTRS Executive Board and participation in the Consumer Goods Forum Soy Working Group

Did your organization finance research activities?

No

Did your organization provide training in producing countries?

M&S has provided funding for a capacity building project covering over 1,000 small soy farmers in Paraguay. The objectives of the project are to train farmers on sustainable soy production with a focus on productivity, avoiding deforestation and building capacity to achieve RTRS certification.

Did your organization engage in actions to raise funds in order to support capacity building and other activities?

M&S contribution to the Paraguay project was supported by match funding from other organisations

Did your organization participate in RTRS working groups, courses or committees?

Yes, RTRS communications WG

Did your organization participate in any RTRS Public Consultations?

Indirectly via our role in the Retail Soy Working Group where we agree a common retail view on RTRS consultations and feedback via our representative on the executive board.

Other relevant information on this topic

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**Lessons Learnt on Sustainability**
How did being member of the RTRS influence your organization’s work during the year?

### Industry, Trade & Finance Specifics

What geographic regions did you operate in for the soy business?

The majority of M&S product manufacturing and livestock sourcing takes place in the UK, with the remainder being EU based. Soy sourcing is via international traders sourcing from all soy production regions.

How large was the organization’s investment and which activities did it develop in the soy sector?

M&S has invested 300,000 Euro in the Paraguay small soy farmer support programme described above

How much soy volume did your organization consume/work with?

M&S direct (food) consumption, and indirect (feed) consumption in primary livestock production was calculated to be approx 95,000 tonnes.

How much of the soy volume your organization worked with was RTRS certified? How much of physical material and how much of credits?

M&S bought RTRS credits equivalent to our use of soy in feed for our own brand Oakham Chicken production (15,000 credits)

Did you make any public claims related to purchase of certified production?

M&S will make this purchase public in our forthcoming Plan A report

Which products that encourage practices recommended by RTRS did your organization release?

n/a

Did your organization engage in long-term supply agreements/contracts with RTRS producers/traders/industries?

M&S does not directly procure soy therefore not relevant

Did you encourage your clients/customers to follow RTRS P&C?

n/a

Other relevant information on this topic

### Targets for Next Reporting Period

Outline actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote responsible soy production

Through M&S participation in both the Retail Soy Group and the Consumer Goods Forum Soy Working Group, M&S will continue to promote the leadership role RTRS can play in achieving sustainable soy production