

3 points for the tropical rain forests

– WWF Germany and Henkel dialogue

On July 29, WWF Germany will hand over to Henkel, Düsseldorf, postcards and e-mails it has collected as part of its initiative to protect the Indonesian rain forests. The senders of these messages ask Henkel to jointly search with WWF for solutions to protect the tropical rain forests in Indonesia and to engage itself in making the palm oil industry comply with sustainable development principles. Based on its overall commitment to sustainability, Henkel declares the following:

1. Henkel recognizes that an uncontrolled expansion of oil tree plantations will burden Indonesia's valuable tropical rain forests including their native fauna.
2. Henkel welcomes and supports that a sound discussion of this complex topic takes place within the scope of an international Round Table meeting involving all stakeholders. Henkel will therefore
 - a) contribute its expert knowledge at the international Round Table meeting in Kuala Lumpur on August 21/22;
 - b) participate in a national Round Table dialogue planned by WWF Germany for September 2003,
 - c) meet with representatives of the managing committees of WWF Germany to discuss the topic .
3. Henkel will pursue its sustainability strategy concerning raw materials based on palm oil and palm kernel oil by
 - evaluating the possibilities for further improvement in sustainability criteria jointly with its raw material suppliers, and
 - implementing any new findings worldwide as these emerge.