

## STATEMENT ON THE COALITION OF IMMOKALEE WORKERS (CIW)

11 April 2013

Ahold USA is committed to offering our customers products that are produced under fair, safe and sound circumstances.

We carefully select and monitor our suppliers and require them to adhere to our Standards of Engagement, which require our suppliers to treat all employees fairly with dignity and respect, and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. We expect our suppliers to pay employees for all time worked and to pay wages that meet or exceed legal minimum requirements.

In response to concerns of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) about worker treatment, Ahold USA and its affiliates:

- Met with the CIW and other interested groups;
- Suspended purchasing tomatoes from the Immokalee region in 2010;
- Met with our suppliers located in the Immokalee region and resumed purchasing tomatoes only after they demonstrated their commitment to comply with our Standards of Engagement;
- Met with certain tomato suppliers again in 2011 and 2013 to monitor and reconfirm their commitment to comply with our Standards of Engagement.

All of our tomato suppliers clearly understand that all business relationships with Ahold USA and its affiliates are contingent on conduct that meets or exceeds our Standards of Engagement. They demonstrated extensive knowledge of our standards and fully understood their requirements, and the requirements of their subcontractors, to comply with them. Each of our tomato suppliers is committed to upholding our Standards of Engagement.

The CIW has asked Ahold USA to agree to pay a penny-per-pound to tomato workers under the CIW program. We will continue to pay a fair market price for tomatoes from suppliers who are in compliance with our Standards of Engagement, but Ahold USA will not enter into direct wage negotiations with suppliers' employees. Ahold USA will not, therefore, participate directly with the suppliers' employees in CIW's penny-a-pound program.

The tomato suppliers we are associated with in the Immokalee region are members of the Florida Tomato Growers Exchange and have adopted the CIW Fair Food Code of Conduct. The CIW Code and our Standards of Engagement are aligned in seeking the betterment of working conditions for the tomato workers. As in the past, we ask that CIW immediately share with Ahold USA any information they receive concerning the mistreatment of workers by any of our suppliers. We have not received from CIW any instances of mistreatment since our suppliers adopted the Fair Food Code of Conduct. We commit to investigate any report thoroughly and promptly and to take appropriate action, if warranted. We welcome all concerned parties to collaborate to stamp out worker mistreatment once and for all.

Ahold USA will continue to be a responsible retailer and engaged member of our community. We practice this in a variety of ways from working with reputable suppliers to giving back to the communities we serve.