

## PRESS RELEASE

**Extended Circuit Breaker Donation Drive: The Cocoa Association of Asia partners with its members in a collection drive to benefit Tan Tock Seng Hospital and the National Centre of Infectious Disease (NCID) who's working together hand in hand to treat Covid-19 patients**

Singapore – 8<sup>th</sup> May - Today, the Cocoa Association of Asia (CAA), the leading Cocoa Association in Asia for both Cocoa and Chocolate Companies, and the associated supply chains and suppliers announced that its members have donated more than 28,000 chocolate, hot chocolate drinks and snack items to healthcare workers and front-line heroes through a donation drive managed by **Tan Tock Seng Hospital and the National Centre of Infectious Disease (NCID)**. The donations were split into 2 batches, sent on the 29<sup>th</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> May, the appreciation package containing 3000 freshly baked chocolate cookies from Olam Cocoa were sent early this morning to healthcare workers, cleaners and security crews in appreciation of their dedication.

“As Singapore residents are practicing social distancing and staying safe at home, we wanted to honor frontline healthcare professionals out there battling this virus on a daily basis” said Richard Fahey, Chairman of the CAA Association “I am honored to announce that our members are working with NCID to distribute an estimated SGD28,000 worth of nutritious cocoa and chocolate products and snacks to give the brave & resilient members of the healthcare community, a well-deserved daily break, while they put their own lives at risk”

Standing united with Singapore is Aalst Chocolate. Founded in 2003, it is Singapore's very own chocolate manufacturer which produces and exports 98% of its products to over 55 countries all over the world. Mr Richard Lee, CEO for Aalst Chocolate Pte Ltd expressed their gratitude to the selfless and courageous healthcare professionals who are battling this COVID-19 outbreak with their very own Singapore-made Aalst Milk Chocolate Raisins Daypack. *“We hope that these lovely Milk Chocolate Raisins delights provide you with a sense of comfort. Thank you for saving life with your unwavering commitment, care, and sacrifice while keeping Singapore safe in such challenging times.”* Said Mr Lee.



Photo credit: Aalst Chocolate



Quek Ngee Chuan, Vice President, Olam Cocoa, said: *“The Covid-19 pandemic has left none of us unaffected. I know that our Olam colleagues in Singapore, and around the world, are incredibly grateful to the health workers on the front line who are battling this situation every day. Along with our financial donation to [The Courage Fund](#) in Singapore to provide support for those affected by the crisis, particularly patients, healthcare and frontline*

workers, we're pleased to join the Cocoa Association of Asia's efforts in contributing cocoa treats to the staff of Tan Tock Seng Hospital Group and the National Centre for Infectious Disease. We hope this provides some relief for them during this challenging time."



"We are grateful and thankful to all front liners working hard to keep us safe. We are committed to supporting our communities where we can, and to show solidarity with front liners everywhere." said Mr Can Buharali, Director, Corporate & Government Affairs for Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa, Mondēlez International.



Photo credit: Mondēlez International

As a consumer, most of us consider chocolate as a comfort food and cocoa in its original form also has one of the richest sources of flavanols, although the level of flavanols differ in processed Cocoa products.

The donation drive details are as follows:

- Collection drive is to benefit **Tan Tock Seng Hospital and the National Centre of Infectious Disease (NCID)** who's working together hand in hand to treat Covid-19 patients
- Aalst Chocolate, Mondelez International, OLAM are early donors of this drive contributing more than SGD28,000 worth of products / 28,000 items
- Olam delivered 3000 freshly baked cookies to front-liners at TTSH/NCID this morning.

For any questions please reach out to:

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