



GENTING PLANTATIONS INVESTS IN GREEN WORLD GENETICS

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 September 2022 – Genting Plantations Berhad (“GENP”) today said that it has invested in a joint control stake in Green World Genetics Sdn Bhd (“GWG”). The investment underpins a joint collaboration between GENP and GWG to establish Malaysia as an important regional seed hub and beyond that, to address the issue of national food security through the development of new crop varieties.

GENP’s association with life sciences dates back to 2006 when it drove its maiden foray into the fields of biotechnology and genomics to improve the yields and returns from oil palm. Being one of the early purveyors of life sciences and a firm believer in technology and innovation, GENP has achieved many milestones and recognitions such as being the first in the world to sequence the Oil Palm, *Jatropha* and *Ganoderma* genomes, coupled with the development of high yielding and *Ganoderma* resistant palms. Over the years, the above initiative has significantly expanded into other food as well as non-food crops and evolved to take advantage of new technologies such as Big Data, Internet of Things (“IoT”) and Artificial Intelligence (“AI”). This integrated Agriculture Technology (“AgTech”) approach has holistically enhanced its agricultural research and development to a new level.

Meanwhile, GWG is recognised as one of the few pioneering organisations in the region that engages in multi-disciplinary crop research programmes. Since its incorporation in 2007, GWG has expanded its diversified operations across the Asia Pacific region and engages with breeders from the United States, China, Thailand and Mexico in seed research and development. The company currently operates a total of 14 research centres and stations engaging in activities such as breeding, hybrid production, evaluation and stock seed multiplication for a wide range of commercial crops.

“Our investment in GWG brings together GENP’s deep genomic knowledge and GWG’s extensive germplasm collection for the development and commercialisation of optimised food crop varieties that are suitable for cultivation in tropical regions. The strategic initiative is expected to accelerate both companies’ efforts in multi-disciplinary crop improvement research programmes using biotechnological tools such as molecular marker-assisted selection,” said Tan Kong Han, Chief Executive of GENP.

GWG's Chief Executive Officer Dr Chua Kim Aik said "Quality seeds are the key to a good harvest; hence GWG's business focus is to develop high quality hybrid seeds through innovative technologies to enhance the genetic profile of crops to reduce biotic constraints such as diseases and pests, increase yield, and improve crop nutritional value and eating quality. GWG is excited to embark on our next phase of growth by leveraging on GENP's genomics expertise to fast track our efforts on crop improvement and seed development."

Importantly, the initiative is timely, in view of the growing issue of global food security arising from global climate anomalies as well as disruptions in supply chains due to the COVID-19 pandemic and protracted geo-political uncertainties.

About Genting Plantations Berhad

Genting Plantations, a subsidiary of Genting Berhad, commenced operations in 1980. It has a land bank of about 64,600 hectares in Malaysia and some 178,900 hectares (including the *Plasma* schemes) in Indonesia held through joint ventures. It owns seven oil mills in Malaysia and five in Indonesia, with a total milling capacity of 665 metric tonnes per hour. In addition, the Group has ventured into the manufacturing of downstream palm-based products.

Genting Plantations has also diversified into property development to unlock the value of its strategically located landbank and has invested significantly in agriculture technology to provide total solutions and services to our Group's core agri-business in optimising yield, improving operating efficiency, enabling traceability and enhancing sustainability.

For more information, visit www.gentingplantations.com.

About Green World Genetics Sdn Bhd

Green World Genetics Sdn Bhd ("GWG") is a Malaysian research and development based company that specialises in high quality non-genetically modified organisms ("GMO") tropical hybrid seeds breeding. GWG strongly emphasises on the application of seed research and development to develop and disseminate good seeds in order to increase yield, productivity, and quality in the agricultural sector. It is one of very few pioneering organisations in the region that is engaged in multi-disciplinary crop improvement research programmes for a wide range of commercial crops.

GWG is based in Malaysia and headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, with business operations spanning across Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa regions. The company's main activities include the breeding, production and marketing of high-quality tropical hybrid seeds.

For more information, visit www.gwgenetics.com.

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