

Mr Mark Callaghan  
Managing Director  
Cadbury  
636 St Kilda Rd  
Melbourne  
Vic 3004

Dear Mr Callaghan,

The members of CLRI(NSW), which represents approximately 3,500 Catholic sisters, brothers and priests and their associates in NSW, were delighted to hear that Cadbury UK and Cadbury Ireland had made the decision to have Dairy Milk Chocolate and Cadbury's hot chocolate beverage certified as Fairtrade products.

CLRI(NSW) and its members have many concerns regarding the production of chocolate – low wages, exploitative labour practices and the use, in some cases, of child labour. The average yearly wage for cocoa farmers fluctuates between \$30 and \$110. Commodity markets, which control the price of cocoa, are volatile and make life very insecure for small farmers. Ivory Coast and Ghana, despite being major producers of cocoa, remain very impoverished countries.

Of greater concern is the issue of child labour. In 2000 a US State Department investigation estimated that 284,000 children were involved in the production of cocoa – small children wielding machetes, spraying pesticides and slicing pods. Of these children around 12,000 had been sold into slavery; indentured for a lifetime to provide the raw materials for western luxury items.

Given the commitment of Cadbury UK and Ireland I urge you to achieve Fairtrade certification for Cadbury Dairy Milk and associated products in Australia and New Zealand and make a stand against practices which impoverish people and enslave children.

I look forward to hearing of further developments.

Yours sincerely,