

Paris, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2008



## **SALE OF THE HOME GARDEN ACTIVITIES: VILMORIN POSTPONES FINALIZATION OF ITS AGREEMENT WITH PLAN SAS AND ACCOMPANIES FINANCIAL REORGANIZATION OF FLORA FREY**

### **UPDATE ON THE SALE OF THE HOME GARDEN ACTIVITIES**

Confirming its strategic orientations, as presented in October 2007 to withdraw from its home garden activities (seeds and garden products), in May of this year, Vilmorin set out its global roadmap and provisional schedule for this withdraw.

These activities comprise the companies Oxadis (France), Flora Frey and Sperling (Germany), CNOS Vilmorin (Poland) and Suttons (United Kingdom) and in 2006-2007 made combined sales of 142 million euros.

The situation to date with regard to ongoing negotiations is as follows.

> **In spite of the efforts made by all the parties involved in recent weeks, Vilmorin and the Plan SAS group have not as yet managed to finalize their agreement concerning the take-over of the companies Oxadis and CNOS Vilmorin.**

Certain financial and technical aspects are still in the process of being validated and require further negotiations, with the result that the transaction will not be closed, as initially planned, by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

> Vilmorin can also confirm that negotiations are currently being conducted with a financial investor for a firm offer to take over the companies Flora Frey and Sperling.

This operation, which is intended to facilitate the continuing industrial and commercial reorganization of these two companies, will involve the prior restructuring of their equity before June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008, financed by Vilmorin.

> **Taking the points as presented above into account, Vilmorin estimates that the net, non-recurring charge involved in the results of the home garden activities should come to between 10 and 15 million euros.**

In compliance with IFRS standard 5, this charge will be presented in the income statement in the discontinued operations line.

### **OUTLOOK FOR THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR**

On the basis of analysis and trends of its different activities over the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007-2008, Vilmorin can confirm its prospects for growth in its sales and operating margin as presented in the disclosure of sales at the end of the third quarter, closed on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2008:

> 5% increase in its vegetables activity, and growth of at least 15% in its field seeds activity,

> significant increase in its operating margin which should reach 12% of its consolidated sales (revenue from ordinary activities).

## COMING DISCLOSURES FOR FISCAL 2007-2008

**Tuesday August 5<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the end of the day:** disclosure of the sales for the year.

**Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the end of the day:** disclosure of the results for the year.

*Vilmorin is the fourth largest seed company in the world, and expert in the creation of novel vegetable and field crop plants. Based on a sustainable, responsible vision of its development, Vilmorin's strategy is a successful combination of its research capacity and constant strong international growth that strengthens its position as a word player.*

*Listed on Euronext Paris (compartment A), Vilmorin's quotation is included in the Next 150, CAC Mid 100, SBF 250 indices and is eligible for SRD. ISIN code: FR0000052516 (RIN).*

*Website: [www.vilmorin.info](http://www.vilmorin.info)*

For any further information, please contact:

Daniel JACQUEMOND

Chief Financial Officer

E-mail: [daniel.jacquemond@vilmorin.info](mailto:daniel.jacquemond@vilmorin.info)

Claire PLANCHE

Financial Communication Officer

E-mail: [claire.planche@vilmorin.info](mailto:claire.planche@vilmorin.info)

Vilmorin & Cie BP 1 – F-63720 CHAPPES

Tél: + 33 (0)4 73 63 41 95 Fax: + 33 (0)4 73 63 41 80