



the Jane Goodall Institute

March 15, 2010

To whom it may concern,

I fully support the proposed amendment to the Australian Senate that aims to label palm oil in relevant food products in Australia.

Having worked with primates for more than 50 years, it is with great sadness that I have witnessed a steady decline in their numbers globally.

Orang-utans possesses 97 per cent of our DNA. They think and feel in very similar ways to us. We have a responsibility to future generations to save these unique animals, our wild cousins, from extinction.

I believe that the mandatory labelling of palm oil is an important and encouraging step towards doing this. By choosing not to buy products containing unsustainably produced palm oil, Australians can show that they care about the future of this amazing species which is losing huge areas of its habitat as its rainforest home is cut down for oil palm plantations.

Legislation of this sort would make Australia one of the first nations to make a determined push for certified sustainable palm oil – and this will help to reduce the shocking decline in orang-utan numbers caused by the clear cutting of tropical forests for the production of palm oil.

I fully support this legislation and urge the Senate Community Affairs Committee to recommend this Bill be passed by the Australian Senate.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Goodall PhD, DBE
Founder – the Jane Goodall Institute &
UN Messenger of Peace