

## **UNILEVER TRADING STATEMENT FIRST QUARTER 2015**

## **GOOD START TO 2015, HELPED BY CURRENCIES**

## First quarter highlights

- Turnover increased 12.3% to €12.8 billion including a positive currency impact of 10.6%
- Underlying sales growth at 2.8% with emerging markets up 5.4%
- Underlying volume growth at 0.9% and pricing up 1.9%
- Quarterly dividend up 6% to €0.302

## **Paul Polman: Chief Executive Officer statement**

"We have had a good start to the year, helped by favourable currency movements but also an improvement in underlying sales. This is despite a continued challenging trading environment in many parts of the world. The actions we have been taking to put us on track for higher levels of growth are starting to pay off. We have further strengthened the innovation pipeline, and are increasing investment behind the core of our brands, as well as extending into premium segments and new markets. We continuously strengthen our go-to-market capabilities and sharpen our execution.

Despite high levels of currency and commodity volatility, we are now starting to see more tailwinds than headwinds in our markets, and expect our initiatives to deliver a further improvement in volume growth in the remainder of the year. We remain focussed on competitive, profitable, consistent and responsible growth. Our priorities continue to be volume growth ahead of our markets, steady improvement in core operating margin and strong cash flow. This is our model for long-term value creation, as evidenced by today's consistent dividend increase."

16 April 2015







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