



THIRD QUARTER RESULTS 2005 AND INTERIM DIVIDENDS

Continued progress towards improving competitiveness.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(unaudited)

Third Quarter 2005			€ million	Nine Months 2005		
Current rates	Current rates	Constant rates		Current rates	Current rates	Constant rates
			Continuing operations:			
10 224	4%	2%	Turnover	29 591	3%	2%
1 594	(4)%	(6)%	Operating profit	4 251	(6)%	(6)%
1 453	(4)%	(5)%	Pre-tax profit	3 835	(7)%	(7)%
1 025	(11)%	(12)%	Net profit from continuing operations	2 776	(8)%	(8)%
			Total operations:			
1.46	25%	24%	EPS NV (Euros)	3.17	6%	6%
21.86	25%	24%	EPS PLC (Euro cents)	47.49	6%	6%

Interim dividend of €0.66 per NV ordinary share and 6.77p per PLC ordinary share.

KEY FEATURES OF THE QUARTER

- **Underlying sales grew by 3.5%, entirely from volume.**
- **Aggregate market shares are stable.**
- **Cost saving programmes and an improved mix more than compensated for higher input costs.**
- **The step-up in advertising and promotions continued in the quarter. Operating margin was 15.6%.**
- **Total earnings per share grew by 25%, including a net profit of €448 million on the sale of UCI.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S COMMENT

This is now the fourth quarter of improved sales performance. I remain encouraged with the overall progress made in increasing competitiveness while driving cost efficiency.

The higher and more consistent weight of market investment behind our priorities is showing through in continued volume growth and stable market shares, with some gains in key battlegrounds. To date, there has been a pick-up in growth in Personal Care, in Developing and Emerging markets and from Vitality inspired innovation. However Western Europe remains difficult and we have not yet made the progress in restoring growth that we have elsewhere.

Our savings programmes are delivering well and, together with an improved mix, they have enabled us to fully offset the impact of higher input costs.

We are making good progress with the move to 'One Unilever' around the world, which will enable us to realise the potential of our scale in each country while simplifying the business.

The new organisation is sharpening attention on both consumer relevant innovation and our relationships with our customers. These changes will take time to gain full traction and are key to supporting future growth.

Patrick Cescau

Group Chief Executive

3 November 2005