#### **Disclaimer**

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The Summary Financial Statement in the Unilever Annual Review 2007 has been examined by our auditors.

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The information is given as of the dates specified, is not updated, and any forward-looking statements are made subject to the reservations specified on page 37 of this Annual Review.

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# Growing as One



Unilever made good progress in 2007. Our underlying growth was 5.5% – the third consecutive year of accelerating sales growth.

These results are a tribute to our success in implementing our strategy. We made big strides in each of our key priority areas – the fast-growing markets of Asia, Africa and Latin America; growth in personal care; and a higher proportion of our sales coming from Vitality products.

The success of our One Unilever programme, the introduction of more multi-country organisations and other changes to our operating model have streamlined the business, simplified decision making and made Unilever a leaner, fitter, more responsive company.

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# Highlights of the year



# Financial highlights

- Underlying sales growth of 5.5%
- Operating margin of 13.1%, with an underlying improvement of 0.2 percentage points
- Earnings per share from continuing operations up 12%
- Total regular dividends to rise by 7%



- (1) From continuing operations.
- (2) Sterling translated for convenience only.
- (3) For \$ conversions, see the Summary Financial Statement on pages 25 and 26.

0.70

(4) In addition, a one-off dividend of €0.26 per Ordinary NV share and 17.66p per Ordinary PLC share was paid in December 2006.

# How we performed

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The two parent companies, Unilever N.V. (NV) and Unilever PLC (PLC), together with their group companies, operate effectively as a single economic entity (the Unilever Group, also referred to as Unilever or the Group). This Annual Review therefore deals with the operations and the results of the Unilever Group as a whole. The Unilever Annual Review (which contains the Summary Financial Statement) and Annual Report and Accounts are produced in Dutch and English.

#### **Forward-looking statements**

This document contains certain statements that are neither reported financial results nor other historical information. These statements are forward-looking statements including within the meaning of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. For a description of factors that could affect future results, reference should be made to the full 'Cautionary statement' on page 37.

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# Highlights of the year continued

# Global highlights

- Widespread growth across regions and categories
- Key driver is strategic focus on developing and emerging markets, personal care and Vitality
- Increasing contribution from price in response to rising commodity costs
- Strong cost savings programmes delivering €1 billion in the year
- Substantial progress made with portfolio development and accelerated restructuring
- Named International Supplier of the Year by Tesco for the second year running
- Wal-Mart's 2007 Supplier of the Year for Sustainable Engagement

# Regional highlights







#### **Europe**

- Turnover of €15 205 million (38% of Group)
- Underlying sales growth of 2.8%
- Operating profit of €1 678 million
- Operating margin of 11.0%
- Marked improvement in Western Europe
- Outstanding performance in Russia
- Improved growth in all major countries including UK, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands

# Asia Africa • Turnover of €11 540 million (29% of Group) • Underlying sales growth of 11.1% • Operating profit of €1 596 million • Operating margin of 13.8% • Strong growth reflecting vibrant markets and priority placed on building business in this region

All major developing and emerging businesses growing strongly

• Continued good progress in China

# **Key facts**

# 174 000

employees at the end of 2007

# 21

nationalities among our top level group of 113 managers

# around 100

countries in which we operate

# over 81 000

employees given access to the webenabled Learning Management System in the first year

# €89m

contributed to communities around the world in 2007

# 9 years

as foods producers sector leader of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes

# €868m

spent on R&D worldwide

# over 1/3

reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy per tonne of product produced over 1995-2006



# Our global brands

Our strong portfolio of foods, home and personal care brands is trusted by consumers the world over. Among them, the top 25 brands account for over 70% of our sales.



# Savoury, dressings and spreads

- Turnover of €13 988 million
- Underlying sales growth of 5.0%

Knorr

Hellmann's

Blue Band

Becel/Flora

Bertolli



# Ice cream and beverages

- Turnover of €7 600 million
- Underlying sales growth of 4.2%

Lipton

Heartbrand ice creams (Magnum)

Slim•Fast

Some of our brands may be marketed under alternative names in certain countries.



# Our €1 billion global brands

Becel/Flora Hellmann's Omo
Blue Band Knorr Rexona

Dove Lipton Sunsil.

Heartbrand ice creams Lux Surf





#### Personal care

- Turnover of €11 302 million
- Underlying sales growth of 6.7%

Lux

Sunsilk

Dove

Rexona

Axe

Pond's

Vaseline

Lifebuoy

Signal

#### Home care

- Turnover of €7 297 million
- Underlying sales growth of 6.1%

Surf

Omo (Persil)

Radiant (Rin)

Comfort

Cif

Domestos

Sunlight

# A message from Michael Treschow



#### Our mission

Unilever's mission is to add Vitality to life. We meet everyday needs for nutrition, hygiene and personal care with brands that help people feel good, look good and get more out of life.

# Michael Treschow became the first independent Non-Executive Chairman of the Boards of Unilever in May 2007.

When I joined Unilever in May 2007 I was aware that the Unilever Executive led by Patrick Cescau was driving a process of sweeping change aimed at transforming the Group. Since then I have visited a number of Unilever operations in Asia and Europe. I have met with many employees and learned a great deal about the brands which the Group sells and the technology which underpins them. I have also spoken to investors to get their perceptions of the business.

All of these encounters have confirmed the preconceptions which I had before joining the Group: Unilever is a business with an extraordinary portfolio of brands, talented people, deep roots in developing and emerging markets, a strong commitment to sustainability and a distinctive corporate culture.

The Group's strong performance in 2007, with higher growth and an improvement in underlying margin, is something about which the entire business can feel proud. It is also further validation that the strategy being pursued by Patrick and his team is the right one, and that this strategy is being executed very effectively.

This strategy with its sharp focus on Vitality products, developing markets and faster growing product areas like personal care has dramatically changed the business. The structure is much leaner and simpler. It is enabling Unilever to maximise its considerable advantages of buying, manufacturing and marketing scale.

Some of the restructuring which has taken place has led to a reduction in employee numbers. Decisions which have an impact on employees' lives and livelihoods are never taken lightly. However, I have been impressed and reassured by the caring and responsible way in which the Group has executed these changes.

#### The Boards in 2007

Corporate governance in Unilever has undergone radical change in the period since 2004. We continue to ensure that we meet the highest standards in all the markets in which we operate.

The composition of the Boards themselves has also evolved. We have enriched their diversity and experience with three new Non-Executive Directors: Narayana Murthy, Hixonia Nyasulu and Genevieve Berger.



# Kenya

It was with great sadness that we learned in January 2008 of the deaths of nine of our employees on the Unilever tea plantation in Kericho. All of them were victims of the violence which followed the presidential elections.

I have been heartened by the Group's response to the tragedy. It made a donation of \$1 million to the World Food Programme to assist with food aid in the country at large. In parallel the *Lipton* and *PG Tips* brands, which source much of their tea from Kenya, made available funds to help both the bereaved and the many other employees who lost their homes and possessions in the troubles.

"I am proud that we have Boards that are properly equipped to give Patrick and his team all the support that they need."

Narayana, co-founder and Chairman of Infosys Technologies Limited, brings a deep knowledge of emerging markets and expertise in IT as well as impressive business leadership skills. Hixonia is a highly experienced Non-Executive Director with Sasol Ltd. She is also an Advisory Board Member of JP Morgan South Africa and brings first-hand experience of African markets. Genevieve contributes her impressive expertise in research and development; she is Professor of Biophysics and Medical Imaging at Paris University VI and Chairman of the Advisory Board 'Health' for the EU Commission for Research.

All three joined our Corporate Responsibility and Reputation Committee when they took up their posts in May. Their appointment to this committee, now chaired by Lord Brittan, signals its growing importance and the Group's commitment to keeping sustainability at the heart of its activities.

Each of the newcomers was given an extensive programme of induction covering key issues facing the business.

In September 2007 we also welcomed Jim Lawrence as our new Chief Financial Officer; he will be proposed for election as an Executive Director at the AGMs in May 2008. Jim, who came from General Mills, is a Non-Executive Director of British Airways and Avnet. He replaced Rudy Markham who retired in 2007 after a distinguished career spanning four decades.

Whilst welcoming Jim, we will be saying goodbye to two Directors who are leaving. Kees van der Graaf after 32 years service in the business, most recently as President, Europe and Ralph Kugler, currently President, Home and Personal Care, who has served the business for 29 years. On behalf of the Boards I thank them both for the significant contribution they have made to our business throughout their careers.

During the year, we also said goodbye to Jean-Cyril Spinetta who stepped down as a member of the Boards and the Remuneration Committee. I would like to acknowledge his wise counsel and experience during his term as a Non-Executive Director.

In our Board meetings, we have discussed a wide range of topics including the Group's annual plan, performance in key markets such as Russia and China, organisation and talent, and the role of science and technology. We also reviewed and fully agreed the Unilever strategy and the new plans to accelerate change, including portfolio change and business restructuring.

An important part of my role is consistently to evaluate the effectiveness of the Boards. In 2007 our Senior Independent Director and I conducted a formal assessment, including performance-related interviews with each Board member. The findings were discussed by the Boards and will result in further improvements.

I am proud that we have Boards that are properly equipped to give Patrick and his team all the support that they need.

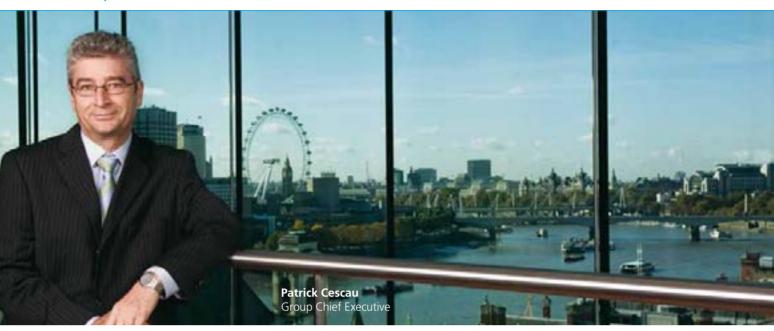
On a personal note, I find this an exciting time to work for Unilever. The business is doing well and, with its wealth of talented people, its great global brands and its ambitious business plans, is on track to do even better. On behalf of the Boards, I would like to thank all the Group's employees around the world for all that they have done in 2007. I look forward to serving the Unilever Group to the very best of my ability in the years ahead.

ideal perchat.

**Michael Treschow** 

Chairman

# Group Chief Executive's review



2007 was a good year for Unilever. We have grown consistently, achieving our best underlying sales growth in a decade. Despite a challenging cost environment, we also delivered an increase in underlying operating margin.

I am pleased to report on a good year for Unilever – one in which we continued to grow competitively, consistently and profitably. With a clear growth strategy and an organisational structure to support it, there is growing evidence of improved momentum in our business.

In 2007 underlying sales grew by 5.5% – the third consecutive year of accelerating sales growth. At the same time, we achieved an underlying improvement in our operating margin, despite sharply rising commodity costs. Our growth was broad-based, across all our major regions and categories.

**In Europe** we achieved growth of nearly 3% – up from 1% the year before. The benefits of all the structural changes we have made in this region over the past three years are now coming through both in terms of growth and underlying margin.

Russia was the star performer – with growth in the high teens – but all our major European businesses grew in 2007.

**In the Americas** full year growth was 4%. Brazil and Mexico showed an improving performance during the year, while the US grew solidly at 3%.

**In Asia Africa** we recorded 11% growth. The performance reflects not just the vibrancy of these markets but also the high priority which we place on building our business in this part of the world. Once again, India and China were important contributors to our success.

The picture was equally strong across our categories, driven by some great innovations.

"With a clear growth strategy and an organisational structure to support it, there is growing evidence of improved momentum in our business."



# **Growth at a glance**

# A strategy for growth

# A leaner. fitter business

# Expanding D&E markets

developing world helps fuel our growth.

"In 2007 we focused on bigger innovations and rolled them out faster around the world."

Home care had a strong year, fuelled by an excellent performance from our laundry business where the Dirt is Good brands strengthened still further on the back of innovations like Persil Small & Mighty. We also had great success in household care with innovative new variants of brands like Cif and Domestos.

Our Foods category also did very well. Our largest brand *Knorr* came close to €4 billion in sales. *Lipton* tea prospered from a series of good innovations and so too did ice cream. Unilever Foodsolutions, our global food service business, also turned in another good performance, confirming the important opportunity that out-of-home consumption offers us.

#### An endorsement of our strategy

These results are testimony to the fact that our strategy of focusing resources on brands, categories and countries with the highest growth and profit potential is working.

One key area is developing and emerging (D&E) markets. Over the next few years consumer spending in these markets will overtake developed countries in terms of purchasing power parity. Unilever has an unparalleled footprint in the developing world, as well as an extensive knowledge of local consumers and a proven ability to deliver health, hygiene and nutrition products which meet the needs of populations which are growing in size, wealth and aspiration.

Personal care – another strategic priority – saw continued strong growth, at nearly 7%. It continues to be our fastest-growing business, with strong global brands like Dove, Pond's, Lux and Rexona.

Our Vitality mission – to help people feel good, look good and get more out of life – remains central to our strategy, inspiring products such as a very low fat variant of Hellmann's mayonnaise; Amaze snacks, with nutrients to help support the mental development of school-aged children; Lipton Linea slimming teas; and the Dove pro age range with benefits for mature women.

Of course, our brands must be constantly refreshed to retain their edge. In 2007, across each of our major categories, growth was driven by a combination of innovation - new products and new mixes – and renovation – the strengthening of existing brands through new variants, new packaging or new marketing.

# Group Chief Executive's review continued

# Shakti

# Reaching the world's newest consumers



One in eight people on the planet live in an Indian village. Hindustan Unilever's Shakti Entrepreneur Programme helps women in rural India set up small businesses as direct-to-consumer retailers. The scheme equips women with business skills and a way out of poverty as well as creating a crucial new distribution channel for Unilever products in the large and fast-growing global market of low-spending consumers. By 2010 the Shakti network aims to have reached 600 million consumers.

#### **Unilever Executive**

The Unilever Executive (UEx) is responsible for the performance of the Group, guided by the Group Chief Executive.

- 1 Sandy Ogg
  Chief HR Offic
- 2 Patrick Cescau Group Chief Executive
- 3 James Lawrence Chief Financial Office
- 4 Ralph Kugler
  President Home and Personal Care
- 5 Harish Manwani President Asia Africa
- 6 Kees van der Graaf President Europe
- 7 Vindi Banga President Foods
- 8 Michael Polk
  President Americas

"During the year we made significant progress in reshaping the organisation to create a leaner, more flexible business structure."

In 2007 we focused on bigger innovations and rolled them out faster around the world. *Clear*, a shampoo with superior anti-dandruff active delivery technology, was launched simultaneously in several countries, including three of the biggest hair care markets in the world – China, Russia and Brazil. We also achieved a better transfer of mixes across continents and cultures, in some cases creating new markets. For example, we successfully launched our male deodorant brand *Axe* in Japan. After just six months it is the leader in its market

#### A leaner, fitter business

During the year we made significant progress in reshaping the organisation to create a leaner, more flexible business structure.

Our One Unilever operating model is being implemented in every major country. We are now taking this a step further with the creation of new multi-country organisations – clusters of neighbouring countries with one central management structure, leveraging regional scale through shared services for functions such as HR, IT and Finance. These changes are all part of our accelerated programme of restructuring announced last summer.

We further shaped our portfolio through disposals and acquisitions, including the announced sale of Boursin and Lawry's – brands that offered limited growth potential for Unilever. We also announced agreements to acquire the *Buavita* vitality drinks brand in Indonesia and – only recently – Inmarko, the leading ice cream business in Russia. These transactions accelerate our strategy of building leadership positions in fast-growing markets.

This is the right strategy for Unilever but – like any strategy – it is only as good as the execution. That is why we also continue to build our strengths in critical areas such as consumer marketing and customer development. In both cases our progress was recognised externally. In marketing, we received a clutch of awards at the Cannes International Advertising Festival, with *Dove* and *Axe* achieving three 'Grand Prix' trophies. In customer development, Unilever was named International Supplier of the Year by Tesco for the second year running.

We are also raising our game in research and development (R&D), recognising the crucial role technology can play in the quality of our innovations. Underlining the importance of R&D, we appointed our first Chief Technology Officer, Neal Matheson, in 2007. Neal leads the development of world class capabilities in science and technology and champions excellence in all our innovation activity.

Of course, some changes required difficult decisions. In Europe, the restructuring is leading to significant job losses. But painful as these decisions have been, they are the right ones for the long-term health of the business.



#### Keeping sustainability at the heart of Unilever

We believe Unilever can only continue to thrive if we conduct our business in a sustainable manner.

Integrating social, economic and environmental considerations therefore sits at the heart of many of our brand strategies. A great demonstration of this was the decision to source all of our tea from sustainable, ethical sources. To support this significant change, we asked the Rainforest Alliance to start auditing our tea suppliers with immediate effect. The aim is to have all *Lipton Yellow Label* and *PG Tips* tea bags sold in Western Europe certified by 2010 and all *Lipton* tea bags sold globally by 2015.

We also set the ambitious target of a further 25% reduction in the business's  $CO_2$  emissions from energy sources used in production by 2012. And we continued to develop our partnerships with key retail customers, sharing our sustainability expertise to support them in achieving their goals. Wal-Mart responded by naming us 2007 Supplier of the Year for Sustainable Engagement.

# transformation

Our One Unilever programme is already streamlining the business by creating single operating companies for each country and outsourcing parts of our IT, HR and Finance functions. In 2007 we announced plans to accelerate our change programme further by developing more multi-country organisations (MCOs) – clusters of countries with a single centralised management and shared functions. MCOs reduce duplication and free up resources to focus on customers and consumers. All regions announced or continued to implement MCOs in the year. The newly announced MCOs include Benelux; Germany, Austria and Switzerland; UK/Ireland; and Central Africa.

Accelerating

#### The year ahead

Notwithstanding some economic uncertainty and the rising costs of many materials, we are confident that Unilever can grow consistently, profitably and competitively in 2008.

The changes we have made in recent years leave Unilever more resilient and better placed than ever before to meet challenges and respond to opportunities. We have a more flexible, dynamic structure, an increasingly powerful brand portfolio, an unparalleled footprint in the developing world, and – in 2008 – we have another exciting programme of innovations and new product launches. Furthermore, we operate in sectors less susceptible than others to the effects of an economic downturn: people will always need to eat, wash and clean their homes.

For all these reasons we remain optimistic about the year ahead and confident of making further progress towards our longer-term financial objectives.

On a personal note I would like to thank two members of the Unilever Executive who will leave us in 2008 – Kees van der Graaf and Ralph Kugler. They have been valued colleagues over many years and I thank them for their contribution. Indeed, I would thank the whole of my Executive team, including two great additions during the year, Mike Polk and Jim Lawrence, the latter joining from outside as our new Chief Financial Officer. Thanks also to my colleagues on the Boards, under our new Chairman, Michael Treschow, and especially to every one of our employees around the world for their invaluable contribution to the business's progress in 2007.

Working together, as One Unilever, I am confident that we can look forward to delivering continued success in 2008.





Our brands are household names in many countries around the world.

We create products that appeal to people's different preferences, based on our deep understanding of consumers' varied habits and lifestyles.

#### Food and nutrition

We aim to provide foods which both taste great and are good for you, and, in so doing, become the world's leading food and nutrition business.

To fulfil our goal, we are systematically improving the nutritional profile of our product range through our Nutrition Enhancement Programme. By the end of 2007 we had assessed the nutritional composition of all our products – totalling over 22 000 recipes – and removed a further 2 750 tonnes of saturated fat, 170 tonnes of salt and 5 000 tonnes of sugar. This is in addition to the substantial reductions already made by 2006.

We are also committed to ensuring that consumers are able to make informed choices when buying our products. As well as listing nutritional information on the back of packaging, we are implementing the Choices programme, with a front-ofpack stamp that identifies products which meet internationally accepted dietary advice. In 2007 we continued rolling the programme out globally together with other food companies, under the auspices of the Choices International Foundation. This was launched during 2007 and is advised by an independent scientific committee. The stamp can now be found on products in more than 50 countries around the world. See www.choicesinternational.org for more information.



We focus on three key areas of consumer benefit when developing new products: functional foods, lighter options, and naturalness and authenticity. For example, in 2007 we developed *Promise Activ SuperShots*, a Vitality shot with added natural plant sterols, ingredients that are clinically proven to help actively remove cholesterol as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol

Meanwhile, Hellmann's Extra Light uses citrus fibre to create a great tasting, very low fat mayonnaise. Because of its low fat content the product has a higher margin – particularly valuable at a time of increasing edible oil costs.

Lipton Green Tea in the US, Lipton Linea slimming teas in Europe, and Lipton Milk Tea in Asia all flourished by exploiting tea's credentials as a healthy beverage. And a new range of restaurant-quality frozen meals from Bertolli, which are packed with fresh vegetables and ready to eat in minutes, was a hit with North American consumers.

#### Landmark pledge on sustainable tea

Unilever took a historic step in 2007 when it committed to buying all its tea from sustainable, ethical sources – transforming the tea industry and improving the crops, income and livelihood of 2 million people across three continents. *Lipton*, the world's largest tea brand, and *PG Tips*, one of the UK's leading brands, became the first to carry the Rainforest Alliance logo, showing they meet the independent organisation's strict sustainability criteria – covering areas such as wildlife protection, water conservation and fair treatment of workers. The first certified tea was supplied to restaurants and the catering trade in Europe; all *Lipton* tea bags sold globally are expected to be certified by 2015.

on the web

www.unilever.com/lipton

#### Health, hygiene and beauty

The desire to be clean and healthy and to look good is universal. Our home and personal care brands have promoted health, hygiene and beauty since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and continue to play a vital role in millions of homes around the world today.

In 2007 our household cleaning business had a particularly successful year, with brands such as *Cif* and *Domestos* helping it grow by 9%. From simple soap bars to the most technically advanced concentrated liquids, our laundry brands are also growing fast.

In skin care, the *Pond's* brand went from strength to strength in South East Asia, China and India, powered in part by the launch of a new anti-ageing range. *Vaseline* was our fastest-growing global skin brand, with underlying sales growth of more than 8%. *Vaseline Cocoa Butter* range was its most successful launch in the US in ten years. The brand also announced the *Vaseline* Skin Fund, which is expected to launch in the UK and the US in 2008 – and give 1 million people better access to information about managing skin complaints.

# Senior Executive Seminar

The Senior Executive Seminar, our pioneering leadership development programme, was led this year by leading business academic C K Prahalad. The event brought together 28 of our top leaders to examine key business issues, with a particularly strong external focus. They concentrated on developing and emerging markets, visiting more than 50 companies and 20 NGOs to gain insights into global trends and practices for opening up opportunities at the 'bottom of the economic pyramid'. The group's findings have been shared with the Unilever Executive and Board of Directors, and are helping to shape further our approach in these markets.

on the web

www.unilever.com

#### Global review continued

Our deodorant brands also made good progress in 2007, with Axe and Rexona both achieving double-digit growth. Rexona is the world's leading deodorant brand and Axe holds a leading position in male deodorants (see box, page 21).

Oral Care returned to growth in Europe while continuing its robust performance in Indonesia, China and Africa – aided by innovations such as a combined toothpaste and mouthwash. During the year we announced the extension of our partnership with the FDI World Dental Federation, which represents more than 1 million dentists, and we work together with the FDI in oral health promotion and education programmes.

#### Science and technology

We are proud of our reputation as a world leader in research and development. In 2007 we achieved growth across our categories both through innovation - new products and new mixes – and through renovation – the strengthening of existing brands with new variants, packaging or advertising.

We strive to bring innovations to market more swiftly than ever before. Following the completion of a major reorganisation of our research and development (R&D) activities, we have concentrated R&D in global and regional centres in order to make the very best use of our resources and create centres which are innovation powerhouses. We are also increasingly working on fewer, larger scale projects, having carefully chosen those that we think will deliver the most value to the business either in terms of product sales or margin improvements.

Recent developments include Amaze Brainfood – a range of nutritious snacks and drinks that are specifically designed to support mental development in children. The 2006 launch was the result of a €40 million, four-year R&D project. Already selling well in Turkey, Amaze is expected to launch in India in 2008.

We have also developed a breakthrough technology that includes the use of Ice Structuring Proteins (ISP) in ice cream. This enables a wide range of ice cream innovations, including significantly healthier options and better quality ice cream. Ice creams that contain ISP are available in a number of countries in the Americas and Asia Africa regions. For Europe, regulatory approval is being sought under the EC Novel Foods Regulation.

In the kitchen, new Sunlight hand dishwashing liquid keeps working on the sponge for longer because it turns to gel on contact with water. Its ultra-concentrated formula uses less water in the production process and less packaging. It is being rolled out in eight countries. And the environmentally friendly lightweight design and fast-drying formulation of our new roll-on deodorant, launched under the Rexona, Axe and Dove brands, also proved popular with consumers.

This year also saw the simultaneous launch in a number of countries of Clear anti-dandruff shampoo with superior anti-dandruff active delivery technology (see box, page 15). Its formulation is based on one common 'chassis' with add-on refinements for different scalp and hair types.

#### Corporate responsibility and sustainability

We aim to manage and grow our business in a responsible and sustainable way.

Our new Brand Imprint programme enables brands to integrate social, economic and environmental drivers into their development plans. An early example of Brand Imprint's potential is our decision to source all our tea sustainably and work with the Rainforest Alliance to achieve certification for our tea estates (see box, page 13).

Our new Brand Imprint programme enables brands to integrate social, economic and environmental drivers into their development plans.

Another significant step was taken by our ice cream brand Ben & Jerry's, which announced plans to invest €2.4 million over the five years 2007 to 2012 in reducing its impact on climate change through initiatives covering every stage of its European production process.

During the year we reviewed our sustainability strategies for agriculture (from which about two-thirds of our raw materials come), packaging, water and greenhouse gases. Many of our major retail customers are focusing on sustainability and, by sharing our expertise in this area, we are able to strengthen our relationships with them and grow our business.

For example, the consumer and environmental benefits of our concentrated laundry detergent, all Small & Mighty, were promoted by Wal-Mart, helping the brand grow sales in the US to \$140 million in 2007. Small & Mighty, which uses less water, less packaging and less fuel for transport, has now launched in Europe across the brand portfolio, for example Persil, Surf and Omo. The success of our ongoing partnership with Wal-Mart led the world's largest retailer to name us 2007 Supplier of the Year for Sustainable Engagement.

# Global Diversity Board

Our leaders make diversity a top business priority. Signalling this commitment, the Global Diversity Board draws together 15 leaders from all business functions and is diversity agenda into our business processes and tracking the progress of diversity initiatives. It also champions new ways of working to boost employees' personal vitality.

#### **Brands with missions**

Our brands have the power to change people's lives for the better.

The second-biggest preventable killer of children in the world is diarrhoea, and yet simple hand-washing with soap can cut diarrhoeal diseases significantly. In 2007, in partnership with UNICEF, we piloted an education programme for schoolchildren in Uganda highlighting the importance of hand-washing with soap, underpinned by our soap brand Lifebuoy. Coupled with this, the Unilever Marketing Academy helped develop health promotion campaigns in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. During the year the brand grew by 9%.

Throughout the year, our Goodness of Margarine campaign spread the message in Europe that margarine contains essential fats and vitamins helpful in maintaining a healthy heart. The results were excellent and the campaign is rolling out further in 2008.

The Family Goodness spreads brand is raising funds as part of our threeyear partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) to provide nutritious school meals for children living in poverty. We are also sharing our nutrition and hygiene expertise and helping WFP develop a school education campaign as well as review the need for fortified foods.

#### Clear thinking goes global

One of our top priorities in 2007 was the simultaneous launch of Clear anti-dandruff shampoo in a number of countries – China, Russia, Brazil (three of the biggest hair care markets in the world), the Philippines, Pakistan, Egypt and Arabia. The brand has an innovative formula with superior anti-dandruff active delivery technology and is our first major Asian hair brand mix to go global. Its success shows the power of a centralised, consistent global approach to packaging, formulation and marketing.

#### www.unilever.pk/clear

Meanwhile, a major healthy eating campaign, Knorr Eat Colour, encouraged consumers to eat colourful vegetables, with the help of a range of new colourthemed products. The campaign was based on the insight that vegetables' bright hues indicate the presence of different beneficial antioxidants.

The Dove Campaign for Real Beauty made strides in its mission to raise the self-esteem of women. By the end of 2008 the Dove Self-Esteem Fund aims to have reached 1 million young girls in 20 countries through partnerships with organisations such as the Eating Disorders Association and Girl Scouts of America. Sales of *Dove* products are growing rapidly.

Our Dirt is Good positioning – which is used across countries on our main brands including Persil, Omo and Skip – is also flourishing. It promotes children's learning and development through physical activity while the brands' innovative formulations mean parents don't need to worry about getting their children's clothes clean after outdoor play.



# Putting safety first

We regard safety as an essential element of a successful and sustainable business and take seriously our responsibility to provide a safe workplace. We aim to improve continuously the health, safety and well-being of everyone working for or on behalf of Unilever to a standard on a par with the very best of our peers. A key measure of our progress in this area is our total recordable accident frequency rate, which In 2007 this decreased to 0.26 accidents per 100 000 hours worked, declining from 0.46 in 2004

on the web

www.unilever.com



#### Growth

The region sustained its improving trend in 2007 with underlying sales growth of 2.8% for the year. The improvement was driven by relentless focus on better in-market execution, rejuvenation of the quality and value of our core products, and an introduction of new innovations. Consumer demand in our categories was steady throughout the year.

Overall we saw improving trends almost everywhere. Russia was the outstanding performer, but all major countries grew in the year, including the UK, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. In France sales were slightly up in a challenging market.

#### **Profitability**

The operating margin, at 11.0% for the year, reflects a higher net charge for restructuring, disposals and one-off items compared with 2006. Before these items, the operating margin showed an underlying improvement of 0.9 percentage points, driven by lower overheads as a result of the One Unilever programme and reduced advertising and promotions costs.

#### **Accelerating change**

We made substantial progress with portfolio development and restructuring.

At the start of 2008 we completed the expansion of the successful international partnership for Lipton ready-to-drink tea with PepsiCo to include all countries in Europe. We also completed the sale of Boursin, and announced the acquisition of the leading Russian ice cream company Inmarko.

We formed four new multi-country organisations and announced the streamlining or closure of ten factories. The roll-out of a single SAP system across the region continues with two-thirds of turnover in the region now on stream and full implementation expected to be largely completed by the end of 2008.

#### Magnum tempts European consumers

consumers the ultimate containing Madagascan vanilla ice cream, caramel wrapped in Belgian dark chocolate. It has the highest around the stick. Launched and Portugal, Magnum Temptation is the first expression of the brand's

on the web

www.unilever.com/heartbrand



#### No hiding place for toilet germs

were given a powerful new weapon in the fight germs, with the launch of Domestos Zero Limescale bleach. Its development was inspired by research showing that many more to and destroy limescale,

on the web

www.unilever.com/domestos

#### **Innovation**

We continued to target innovations mainly at Vitality opportunities. In ice cream, we introduced Frusì frozen yoghurt with wholegrain cereals and real fruit pieces and low calorie Solero smoothies. Lipton Linea slimming teas were launched in France, Switzerland and Portugal. Growth in Hellmann's was boosted by new extra light mayonnaise with citrus fibre technology.

The new Dove pro-age range of products is building well in Europe as well as elsewhere, and Dove Summer Glow self-tanning and body lotions are now available in most countries. Clear anti-dandruff shampoo was launched in Russia, with good consumer response. Small & Mighty concentrated liquid laundry detergents were launched in seven European countries.

#### **Highlights – Europe**

at current rates of exchange

€ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	15 205	15 000	1.4%
Operating profit	1 678	1 903	(11.9)%
Operating margin	11.0%	12.7%	
£ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	10 373	10 227	1.4%
Operating profit	1 145	1 298	(11.8)%
\$ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	20 740	18 810	10.3%
Operating profit	2 289	2 387	(4.1)%

#### at constant 2006 rates of exchange

	Change
Turnover	1.3%
Underlying sales	2.8%
Operating profit	(11.7)%

# Developing people in innovative ways

We aim to offer our people stimulating ways to broaden their skills and experience while at the same time giving something back to the community. Salvatore Lucia, a Supply Chain Manager from Italy, was one of the Unilever specialists seconded to the World Food Programme (WFP) as part of their professional development. He is helping WFP Ghana deliver its school feeding and nutrition programme – and learning valuable skills to bring back to the business

on the web

www.unilever.com

Regional performance: The Americas

# A solid performance in a tough market

One Unilever is simplifying operations. In 2007 Argentina, Mexico and Brazil moved to single head offices; the US will follow in 2008.



#### Growth

Underlying sales grew by 4.1% in the year, with an increasing contribution from pricing which was up 2.6% for the year.

In the US, overall consumer demand held up well in our categories. Market growth in home care and personal care slowed somewhat in the second half year, but this was compensated for by robust demand in foods. Our own sales in the US grew solidly, up 3.2% for the year, despite lower sales of ice cream.

Our business in Mexico made good progress in the second half of the year and Brazil showed an improved performance in the fourth quarter. Argentina, Andina and Central America performed well throughout.

#### **Profitability**

The operating margin, at 14.7% for the year, was 1.1 percentage points lower than the previous year. Before the impact of restructuring, disposals and one-off items, the margin was 0.4 percentage points lower than last year. This was due to an increase in advertising and promotions and the impact of substantial cost increases, which have not yet been fully offset by price increases and savings programmes.

#### **Accelerating change**

The One Unilever programme is simplifying operations throughout the region. Argentina, Mexico and Brazil all moved to single head offices in 2007, while the US will follow in early 2008. Sales force integration is under way in a number of countries. A single SAP system has been implemented in the US, with Latin America already on one system.

We set up a joint venture with Perdigão to develop our heart-health margarine Becel in Brazil and disposed of our local Brazilian margarine brands. We also announced an agreement for the disposal of Lawry's

#### **Guilt-free mayonnaise**

enthusiastically to a campaign highlighting the health benefits of Hellmann's Light, a variant of global leader Hellmann's. The campaign, aired in as one spoonful of olive oil particularly in Argentina and Brazil.



on the web

www.unilever.com/hellmanns



#### Dove pro•age woos fabulous fifty-somethings

Dove pro•age range proved aged 50 and over in North America and Europe The multimedia campaign, shot by top celebrity photographer Annie middle-aged women The pro-age range doesn't meets the specific hair

on the web

www.unilever.com/dove

seasonings, while the sale process of the North American laundry business is under way.

#### Innovation

New varieties of *Knorr* bouillons and soups in Latin America further advanced the brand's Vitality credentials. Hellmann's 'real' campaign highlights its simple ingredients which are naturally rich in Omega 3, in both the US and Latin America. In the US, we introduced Promise Activ SuperShots, a Vitality shot with added natural plant sterols, ingredients that are clinically proven to help actively remove cholesterol as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol.

Innovation in personal care reflected the more global approach. Clear anti-dandruff shampoo was successfully launched in Brazil, while the Dove pro-age range of skin care, deodorants and shampoos was introduced in the US at the same time as in Europe. In laundry, the Dirt is Good platform continued to build across Latin America, now including a variant with built-in fabric softener.

#### **Highlights – The Americas**

at current rates of exchange

€ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	13 442	13 779	(2.4)%
Operating profit	1 971	2 178	(9.5)%
Operating margin	14.7%	15.8%	
£ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	9 170	9 395	(2.4)%
Operating profit	1 344	1 484	(9.4)%
\$ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	18 334	17 279	6.1%
Operating profit	2 689	2 731	(1.5)%

#### at constant 2006 rates of exchange

	Change
Turnover	3.5%
Underlying sales	4.1%
Operating profit	(3.4)%

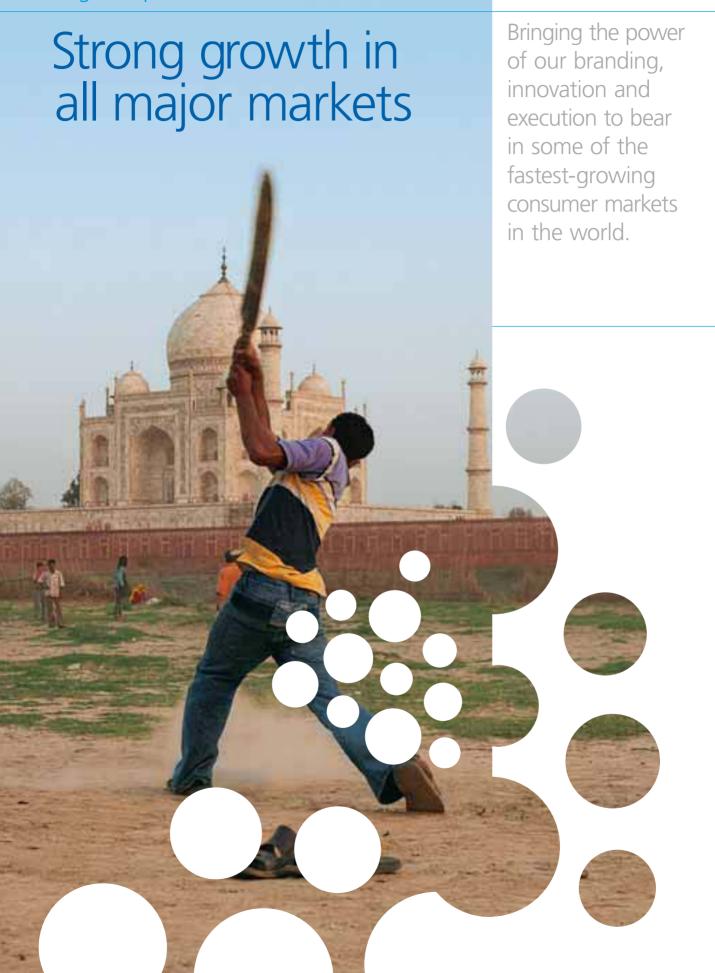
# New ways of working

We are committed to finding fresh ways of working that improve business effectiveness, enhance work-life balance and benefit the environment. We created four 'Telepresence' video-conferencing rooms: in Englewood Cliffs, Rotterdam, London and Singapore. Telepresence uses high-definition video screens with life-size images around a single 'virtual' table, to replicate as closely as possible a face-to-face meeting. It is also the first technology of its kind to be certified by the CarbonNeutral Company. A further eight rooms will be added in 2008.

on the web

www.unilever.com

# Regional performance: Asia Africa



#### Growth

The strong underlying growth of 11.1% for the year reflects both the vibrancy of these markets and the high priority we place on building our business in the region. It includes a healthy balance of volume and price, up by over 7% and 3% respectively.

Growth was consistent throughout the year and was broad-based across categories and countries, including established markets such as India, Indonesia, the Philippines, South Africa and Turkey, which all grew in double digits; significant product areas such as laundry and personal wash; and emerging product areas like ice cream and deodorants. China remains a kev priority and grew strongly for the third consecutive year.

We drove growth across all income levels, from highly affordable packs to premium positions. This was supported by new brands and products that leveraged our global platforms and excellent in-market execution.

#### **Profitability**

The operating margin, at 13.8%, was 1.6 percentage points higher than last year. This included the €214 million accounting profit resulting from the reorganisation of our shareholdings in South Africa. Before the effects of this transaction, disposals and restructuring charges, the operating margin showed an underlying increase of 0.2 percentage points. The improvement was driven by volume growth, pricing actions and savings programmes which more than offset higher input costs and increased advertising and promotions.

#### **Accelerating change**

We announced the acquisition of the Buavita brand of fruit-based vitality drinks in Indonesia, which was completed early in January 2008.

As part of the One Unilever programme we now have a single SAP system in place in four countries as the basis for a common

#### Soup solution causes a stir in China

is part of many people's daily diet. Knorr Bouillon Gel, launched in China under the Knorr Dense Soup Treasure name, consumers eager to replicate the hassle. Made with highwhich consumers can add their own choice of fresh



www.unilever.com/knorr

#### Axe/Lynx scores in Japan

brand, made a triumphant entry into the Japanese market and quickly became the country's top-selling male deodorant. The launch of the young Japanese male, examining his attitude towards dating, use of

on the web

www.unilever.com/axe

regional platform, while the reorganisation of our shareholdings in South Africa and Israel facilitates the new organisation.

#### **Innovation**

on the web

The new, more global, approach to innovation was evident in the 2007 programme. Clear anti-dandruff shampoo was launched in China, Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan and the Philippines. In Japan. we launched the Axe brand and Dove pro•age skin care products. An improved range of *Dove* shower products was extended to North East Asia, while Lifebuoy soap was launched in South Africa and a new variant brought to India. In laundry, the new Dirt is Good product, packaging and communication were introduced to Thailand.

The Moo range of ice creams was extended throughout the region. Knorr seasonings were rejuvenated with premium ingredients, as in Europe, and in China we launched a new form of *Knorr* bouillons for preparing thick soups. At the same time new, more affordable, tubs and sachets are attracting new users of spreads in several countries.

#### Highlights – Asia Africa

at current rates of exchange

€ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	11 540	10 863	6.2%
Operating profit	1 596	1 327	20.2%
Operating margin	13.8%	12.2%	
<u>f</u> million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	7 873	7 406	6.3%
Operating profit	1 089	905	20.3%
\$ million	2007	2006	Change
Turnover	15 741	13 622	15.6%
Operating profit	2 177	1 665	30.8%

#### at constant 2006 rates of exchange

	Change
Turnover	10.6%
Underlying sales	11.1%
Operating profit	27.6%

# Standards of Leadership

Our 'Standards of Leadership' programme is a set of behaviours aimed at ensuring that every manager takes personal responsibility for delivering Unilever's agenda through excellence in strategy execution. During the year, the framework was rolled out globally to an enthusiastic response. In Asia the process was particularly effective, with managers across 15 countries attending interactive workshops. Individuals made personal commitments to 'live the behaviours' and to model them in their

on the web

www.unilever.com

#### **Board of Directors**



#### **Chairman**

#### 1. Michael Treschow<sup>1,2</sup>

Nationality: Swedish. Aged 64. Chairman since May 2007. Chairman, Telefonaktiebolaget L M Ericsson. Non-Executive Director, ABB Group, Board member, Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation. Chairman, AB Electrolux 1997-2007 and Confederation of Swedish Enterprise 2004-2007.

#### Vice-Chairman

#### 2. The Lord Simon of Highbury CBE<sup>3,4,5</sup>

Nationality: British. Aged 68. Appointed 2000. Non-Executive Director, Suez Group. Director, CEPS, Belgium. Member of the International Advisory Council, FITCH, France. Member of the International Advisory Board, Dana Gas Corporation. Senior Advisor, Morgan Stanley International. UK Government Minister 1997-1999. Group Chief Executive, BP p.l.c. 1992-1995 and Chairman 1995-1997.

#### **Executive Directors**

#### 3. Patrick Cescau **Group Chief Executive**

Nationality: French. Aged 59. Group Chief Executive since April 2005. Joined Unilever 1973. Appointed Director 4 May 1999. Previous posts include: Chairman, Unilever PLC and Vice-Chairman, Unilever N.V. 2004-2005. Foods Director 2001. Financial Director 1999. Controller and Deputy Financial Director 1998-1999. President, Lipton USA 1997-1998. President and CEO, Van den Bergh Foods USA 1995-1997. Chairman, Indonesia 1991-1995. External appointments include: Non-Executive Director, Pearson plc.

#### 4. Kees van der Graaf **President Europe**

Nationality: Dutch. Aged 57. President Europe since April 2005. Joined Unilever 1976. Appointed Director 12 May 2004. Previous posts include: Foods Director 2004, Business Group President, Ice Cream and Frozen Foods 2001. Executive Vice-President, Foods and Beverages Europe 1998. Senior Vice-President, Global Ice Cream category 1995. External appointments include: Board member, ECR (Efficient Consumer Response). Member, Supervisory Boards of ANWB Club (Algemene Nederlandse Wielrijdersbond) and ANWB B.V.

#### 5. Ralph Kugler<sup>6</sup>

President Home and Personal Care Nationality: British. Aged 52. President Home and Personal Care since April 2005. Joined Unilever 1979. Appointed Director 11 May 2005. Previous posts include: President Home and Personal Care Europe 2001. Business Group President, Latin America 1999. Chairman, Unilever Thai Holdings 1995. Chairman, Unilever Malaysia 1992. External appointments include: Non-Executive Director, InterContinental Hotels Group PLC.

#### 6. James Lawrence\* **Chief Financial Officer**

Nationality: American. Aged 55. Appointed Chief Financial Officer 1 September 2007. External appointments include: Non-Executive Director, British Airways Plc and Avnet, Inc. Previous posts include: various senior positions at General Mills, Inc. 1998-2007, including Vice Chairman 2006-2007, **Executive Vice President-International** 2000-2006 and Chief Financial Officer 1998-2007. Executive Vice President and CFO, Northwest Airlines 1996-1998, President and CEO, Pepsi-Cola International (Asia, Middle East, Africa) 1992-1996, and Chairman, LEK Partnership 1983-1992.





#### **Non-Executive Directors**

#### 7. Professor Genevieve Berger<sup>6</sup>

Nationality: French. Aged 53. Appointed 2007. Professor, Medical University Teaching Hospital, Paris. Member, Technical Committee, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Chairman, Advisory Board, Health for the European Commission. Director, Biotech and Agri-Food Department 1998-2000 and Director of Technology 2000, the French Ministry for Education. Director General, National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), France 2000-2003.

# 8. The Rt Hon The Lord Brittan of Spennithorne QC, DL<sup>7</sup>

Nationality: British. Aged 68. Appointed 2000. Vice-Chairman, UBS Investment Bank and Chairman, UBS Limited. Director, UBS Securities Company Limited. Member, International Advisory Committee of Total. Member, European Commission and Vice-President 1989-1999. Member, UK Government 1979-1986. Home Secretary 1983-1985 and Secretary of State for Trade and Industry 1985-1986.

#### 9. Professor Wim Dik8

Nationality: Dutch. Aged 69. Appointed 2001. Professor at Delft University of Technology. Chairman, Supervisory Boards of Tele Atlas N.V., Zesko Holding B.V., and Chairman, Advisory Board of Spencer Stuart Netherlands. Non-Executive Director, Aviva plc, LogicaCMG plc and Stage Entertainment B.V. Chairman and CEO, Koninklijke PTT Nederland (KPN) 1988-1998 and Koninklijke KPN N.V. (Royal Dutch Telecom) 1998-2000. Minister for Foreign Trade, Netherlands 1981-1982.

#### 10. Charles Golden<sup>8</sup>

Nationality: American. Aged 61. Appointed 2006. Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer and Director, Eli Lilly and Company 1996-2006. Non-Executive Director, Clarian Health Partners, Hillenbrand Industries, Inc. and Eaton Corporation. Member of Finance Committee, Indianapolis Museum of Art.

#### 11. Byron Grote<sup>8</sup>

Nationality: American/British. Aged 60. Appointed 2006. Chief Financial Officer, BP p.l.c.

#### 12. Narayana Murthy<sup>6</sup>

Nationality: Indian. Aged 61. Appointed 2007. Chairman, Asia Business Council, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Infosys Technologies Limited. Director, DBS Bank, DBS Group Holdings, Infosys Consulting, Inc., Infosys Technologies (China) Company Limited, New Delhi Television Ltd.

#### 13. Hixonia Nyasulu<sup>6</sup>

Nationality: South African. Aged 53. Appointed 2007. Non-Executive Director, Barloworld Ltd, JP Morgan SA, Sasol Ltd and Tongaat-Hulett Group Ltd. Member, Banking Enquiry Panel, South African Competition Commission.

#### 14. Kees Storm<sup>9</sup>

Nationality: Dutch. Aged 65. Appointed 2006. Chairman, Executive Board AEGON N.V. 1993-2002. Chairman, Supervisory Board KLM Royal Dutch Airlines N.V. Board member and Chairman of Audit Committee, InBev S.A. Board member and Audit Committee member, Baxter International, Inc. Member, Supervisory Board, Pon Holdings B.V. Member, Supervisory Board, AEGON N.V.

#### 15. Jeroen van der Veer<sup>1,2</sup>

Nationality: Dutch. Aged 60. Appointed 2002. Chief Executive, Royal Dutch Shell plc. Former Member, Supervisory Board of De Nederlandsche Bank N.V. 2000-2004.

- 1 Member Nomination Committee
- 2 Member Remuneration Committe
- 3 Chairman Nomination Committee
- 4 Chairman Remuneration Committee
- 5 Senior Independent Director
- 6 Member Corporate Responsibility and Reputation Committee
- 7 Chairman Corporate Responsibility and Reputation Committee
- 8 Member Audit Committee
- 9 Chairman Audit Committee
- \* James Lawrence will be proposed for election as an Executive Director at the 2008 AGMs

# Summary Financial Statement

This Summary Financial Statement is a summary of information contained in Unilever's financial statements, Report of the Directors and the Report of the Remuneration Committee as set out in the Unilever Annual Report and Accounts 2007.

This statement does not contain sufficient information to allow as full an understanding of the results and state of affairs of Unilever, and of its policies and arrangements concerning Directors' remuneration, as would be provided by the full Annual Report and Accounts.

Copies of the Unilever Annual Report and Accounts 2007, which are produced in both English and Dutch, can be accessed directly or ordered through www.unilever.com/investorcentre Shareholders may also elect to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for all future years by request to the appropriate share registrars. Further details are provided on page 36.

The auditors have issued unqualified audit reports on the full accounts and the auditable part of the Report of the Remuneration Committee. The United Kingdom Companies Act 1985 requires the auditors to report if the accounting records are not properly kept or if the required information and explanations are not received. They are also required to report whether the information in the Report of the Directors is consistent with the audited consolidated accounts. Their reports on the full financial statements and the auditable part of the Report of the Remuneration Committee contain no such statements.

The following Summary Financial Statement should be read together with the narrative set out earlier in this Annual Review which includes, to the extent applicable, any important future developments or post-balance sheet events.

#### Reporting currency and exchange rates

The sterling and US dollar figures shown in this document have been provided for the convenience of users and do not form part of the audited accounts of the Unilever Group. These figures have been translated from euros using the following rates of exchange:

	Annual a	verage rates	Year-end rates		
	2007	2006	2007	2006	
€1 = f	0.6822	0.6818	0.7342	0.6712	
€1 = \$	1.3640	1.2540	1.4710	1.3170	

The summary consolidated balance sheet is translated at yearend rates and the summary consolidated income statement and summary consolidated cash flow statement are translated at annual average rates.

#### **Summary accounting policies**

The consolidated accounts have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the European Union (EU) and in accordance with Book 2 of the Civil Code in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom Companies Acts 1985 and 2006. They are also in accordance with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

The consolidated accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise indicated in the Accounting information and policies as set out in note 1 to the Annual Report and Accounts.

Due to the operational and contractual arrangements in place between NV and PLC, they form a single reporting entity for the purposes of presenting consolidated accounts. Accordingly, the accounts of the Unilever Group are presented by both NV and PLC as their respective consolidated accounts.

#### Dividend

The Boards have resolved to recommend to the Annual General Meetings on 14 May and 15 May 2008 the declaration of final dividends on the ordinary capital of PLC and of NV respectively in respect of 2007 at the rates shown in the tables below.

The dividend information given below, including the comparative amounts for 2006, is expressed in terms of the nominal share values which have applied since 22 May 2006 following the split of NV shares and the consolidation of PLC shares which were approved at the 2006 AGMs

IFRS requires that dividends approved after the balance sheet date are not reflected in the financial statements for the current reporting period. As a result, the final 2006 dividends are reflected in the financial statements for 2007, and the proposed final 2007 dividends, if approved by shareholders at the AGMs, will be reflected in the financial statements for 2008.

The proposed final dividends will be paid in accordance with the timetable set out on page 37.

NV	2007	2006
Per Ordinary €0.16 share of NV		
Interim	€0.25	€0.23
Final	-	€0.47
Proposed final	€0.50	
	€0.75	€0.70
One-off		€0.26
Total	€0.75	€0.96
PLC	2007	2006
Per Ordinary 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>9</sub> p share of PLC		
Interim	17.00p	15.62p
Final	<u>-</u>	32.04p
Proposed final	34.11p	-
	51.11p	47.66p
One-off	<u> </u>	17.66p
Total	51.11p	65.32p



#### **Dividends for US shareholders**

		dinary €0.16 re of NV		dinary 3¹/∍p re of PLC
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Interim Final	\$0.3612 -	\$0.2934 \$0.6363	\$0.3525 -	\$0.2983 \$0.6357
Proposed final*	\$0.7311	_	\$0.6684	-
One-off	\$1.0923 -	\$0.9297 \$0.3316	\$1.0209 -	\$0.9340 \$0.3372
Total	\$1.0923	\$1.2613	\$1.0209	\$1.2712

<sup>\*</sup>Proposed final dividends have been translated into US dollars at the rate of exchange ruling on 6 February 2008 (€1 = \$1.4621, £1 = \$1.9595). These dividends will be paid using the exchange rates ruling on 14 May 2008 for PLC and 15 May 2008 for NV.

#### **Unilever** website

The maintenance and integrity of the Unilever website are the responsibility of the Directors; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.

Legislation in the Netherlands and the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

# Independent auditors' statement to the shareholders of Unilever PLC

We have examined the Summary Financial Statement in euros which comprises the summary consolidated income statement, summary consolidated statement of recognised income and expense, summary consolidated balance sheet and summary consolidated cash flow statement and Summary Report of the Remuneration Committee in euros set out on pages 26 and 27 and 31 to 35.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Review and Summary Financial Statement in accordance with applicable law.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the Summary Financial Statement within the 2007 Annual Review with the full annual accounts, the Report of the Directors and the Report of the Remuneration Committee, and its compliance with the relevant requirements of section 251 of the United Kingdom Companies Act 1985 and the regulations made thereunder.

We also read the other information contained in the Annual Review and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the Summary Financial Statement.

This statement, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the shareholders of Unilever PLC as a body in accordance with section 251 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this statement is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

#### Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 1999/6, 'The auditors' statement on the Summary Financial Statement' issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom. Our reports on the Unilever Group full annual accounts describe the basis of our audit opinions on those financial statements and the Directors' Remuneration Report.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the Summary Financial Statement is consistent with the full annual accounts, the Report of the Directors and the Report of the Remuneration Committee of Unilever Group for the year ended 31 December 2007 and complies with the applicable requirements of section 251 of the Companies Act 1985, and the regulations made thereunder.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors London, United Kingdom

10 March 2008

# Independent auditor's report to the shareholders of Unilever N.V.

We have audited whether the Summary Financial Statement of the Unilever Group in euros for the year 2007, as set out on pages 26 and 27, has been derived consistently from the audited consolidated accounts of the Unilever Group for the year 2007. In our auditor's report dated 10 March 2008 we expressed an unqualified opinion on these consolidated accounts. The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Statement in accordance with the accounting policies as applied in the 2007 full annual accounts of Unilever Group. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Summary Financial Statement.

#### Scope

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law. This law requires that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the Summary Financial Statement has been derived consistently from the consolidated accounts. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the Summary Financial Statement has been derived consistently, in all material respects, from the consolidated accounts.

#### **Emphasis of matter**

For a better understanding of the Group's financial position and results and the scope of our audit, we emphasise that the Summary Financial Statement should be read in conjunction with the consolidated accounts, from which the Summary Financial Statement has been derived and our unqualified auditor's report thereon dated 10 March 2008. Our opinion is not qualified in respect of this matter.

Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 10 March 2008 PricewaterhouseCoopers Accountants N.V. Prof Dr J A van Manen RA

# Summary Financial Statement continued

	€n	nillion	£m	nillion	\$ m	nillion
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006
Continuing operations Furnover	40 187	39 642	27 416	27 028	54 815	49 71
Operating profit	5 245	5 408	3 578	3 687	7 155	6 783
After (charging)/crediting:						
Restructuring Business disposals, impairments and other Gains on US healthcare and UK pensions	(875) 306 –	(704) 196 266	(597) 209 –	(480) 134 181	(1 194) 416 –	(883 246 334
let finance costs	(252)	(721)	(171)	(491)	(345)	(904
Finance income Finance costs Preference shares provision Pensions and similar obligations	147 (550) (7) 158	128 (590) (300) 41	100 (374) (5) 108	87 (402) (204) 28	201 (752) (10) 216	160 (74° (374° 51
hare of net profit/(loss) of joint ventures hare of net profit/(loss) of associates Other income from non-current investments	102 50 39	78 36 30	69 34 27	53 25 20	139 69 53	98 46 36
Profit before taxation Taxation	5 184 (1 128)	4 831 (1 146)	3 537 (770)	3 294 (782)	7 071 (1 539)	6 059 (1 438
Net profit from continuing operations Net profit from discontinued operations	4 056 80	3 685 1 330	2 767 54	2 512 907	5 532 109	4 62° 1 668
let profit	4 136	5 015	2 821	3 419	5 641	6 28
Attributable to: Minority interests Shareholders' equity	248 3 888	270 4 745	169 2 652	185 3 234	338 5 303	339 5 950
Combined earnings per share From continuing operations Basic earnings per share	€1.32	€1.19	£0.90	£0.81	\$1.81	<b>\$</b> 1.49
oiluted earnings per share	€1.28	€1.15	£0.87	£0.78	\$1.75	\$1.44
rom discontinued operations asic earnings per share illuted earnings per share	€0.03 €0.03	€0.46 €0.45	£0.02 £0.02	£0.31 £0.31	\$0.03 \$0.03	\$0.57 \$0.56
From total operations Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	€1.35 €1.31	€1.65 €1.60	£0.92 £0.89	£1.12 £1.09	\$1.84 \$1.78	\$2.06 \$2.00
Summary consolidated statement of recognised incom		e for the yea		<b>December</b> nillion		nillion
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006
air value gains/(losses) net of tax: On cash flow hedges On available-for-sale financial assets Actuarial gains/(losses) on pension schemes net of tax Currency retranslation gains/(losses) net of tax	84 2 542 (413)	6 15 853 (335)	57 1 369 470	4 10 582 (379)	113 3 739 1 249	8 19 1 070 823
Net income/(expense) recognised directly in equity	215	539	897	217	2 104	1 920
let profit	4 136	5 015	2 821	3 419	5 641	6 289
otal recognised income and expense	4 351	5 554	3 718	3 636	7 745	8 209
Attributable to: Minority interests	237	242	184	161	379	346



	<b>Summary</b>	consolidated	balance	sheet as	at 31	December
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•	€n	€ million		£ million		\$ million	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	
Goodwill	12 244	12 425	8 989	8 340	18 011	16 363	
Intangible assets	4 511	4 781	3 312	3 209	6 636	6 296	
Property, plant and equipment	6 284	6 276	4 614	4 213	9 244	8 266	
Pension asset for funded schemes in surplus	2 008	1 697	1 474	1 139	2 953	2 235	
Deferred tax assets	1 003	1 266	736	849	1 475	1 667	
Other non-current assets	1 324	1 126	974	755	1 950	1 484	
Total non-current assets	27 374	27 571	20 099	18 505	40 269	36 311	
Inventories	3 894	3 796	2 859	2 549	5 728	5 001	
Trade and other current receivables	4 194	4 254	3 079	2 854	6 170	5 601	
Current tax assets	367	125	269	84	539	164	
Cash and cash equivalents	1 098	1 039	806	697	1 615	1 368	
Other financial assets	216	273	159	184	318	360	
Assets held for sale	159	14	117	9	234	17	
Total current assets	9 928	9 501	7 289	6 377	14 604	12 511	
Financial liabilities	(4 166)	(4 458)	(3 059)	(2 992)	(6 128)	(5 871)	
Trade payables and other current liabilities	(8 017)	(7 838)	(5 886)	(5 261)	(11 793)	(10 323)	
Current tax liabilities	(395)	(579)	(289)	(388)	(580)	(761)	
Provisions	(968)	(1 009)	(711)	(677)	(1 425)	(1 329)	
Liabilities associated with assets held for sale	(13)		(9)		(19)		
Total current liabilities	(13 559)	(13 884)	(9 954)	(9 318)	(19 945)	(18 284)	
Net current assets/(liabilities)	(3 631)	(4 383)	(2 665)	(2 941)	(5 341)	(5 773)	
Total assets less current liabilities	23 743	23 188	17 434	15 564	34 928	30 538	
Financial liabilities due after one year	5 483	4 377	4 026	2 938	8 066	5 765	
Non-current tax liabilities	233	272	171	182	343	359	
Pensions and post-retirement healthcare liabilities: Funded schemes in deficit	827	1 379	607	925	1 217	1 816	
Unfunded schemes	2 270	3 398	1 667	2 281	3 340	4 475	
Provisions	694	826	510	555	1 020	1 088	
Deferred tax liabilities	1 213	1 003	891	673	1 785	1 321	
Other non-current liabilities	204	261	150	176	300	343	
Total non-current liabilities	10 924	11 516	8 022	7 730	16 071	15 167	
Shareholders' equity	12 387	11 230	9 095	7 537	18 221	14 789	
Minority interests	432	442	317	297	636	582	
Total equity	12 819	11 672	9 412	7 834	18 857	15 371	
Total capital employed	23 743	23 188	17 434	15 564	34 928	30 538	

#### Summary consolidated cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December

	€ million		£ m	£ million		\$ million	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	
Cash flow from operating activities Income tax paid	5 188 (1 312)	5 574 (1 063)	3 540 (895)	3 801 (726)	7 076 (1 790)	6 990 (1 333)	
Net cash flow from operating activities	3 876	4 511	2 645	3 075	5 286	5 657	
Interest received Net capital expenditure Acquisitions and disposals Other investing activities	146 (983) (50) 264	125 (934) 1 777 187	100 (671) (34) 179	86 (637) 1 211 128	200 (1 341) (68) 360	157 (1 171) 2 228 235	
Net cash flow from/(used in) investing activities	(623)	1 155	(426)	788	(849)	1 449	
Dividends paid on ordinary share capital Interest and preference dividends paid Change in borrowings and finance leases Share buy-back programme	(2 182) (552) 1 338 (1 500)	(2 602) (605) (3 281)	(1 489) (377) 913 (1 024)	(1 774) (412) (2 238)	(2 976) (753) 1 824 (2 046)	(3 264) (758) (4 114)	
Other movements on treasury stock Other financing activities	442 (555)	98 (182)	302 (378)	67 (124)	603 (758)	123 (228)	
Net cash flow from/(used in) financing activities	(3 009)	(6 572)	(2 053)	(4 481)	(4 106)	(8 241)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	244	(906)	166	(618)	331	(1 135)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	710	1 265	477	868	935	1 498	
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes	(53)	351	18	227	58	572	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	901	710	661	477	1 324	935	

# Corporate governance

Unilever constantly keeps its corporate governance arrangements under review, and it is our practice to comply, where practicable, with the highest standards of applicable codes and respond to developments appropriately.

#### The Unilever Group

Unilever N.V. (NV) and Unilever PLC (PLC) are the two parent companies of the Unilever Group, having separate legal identities and separate stock exchange listings for the shares of NV and PLC, which are not interchangeable. However, together with their group companies, they operate effectively as a single economic entity and constitute a single reporting entity for the purposes of presenting consolidated accounts.

In order to ensure unity of governance and management, they have the same Directors and are linked by a number of co-operation agreements. In particular, the Equalisation Agreement regulates the mutual rights of the two sets of shareholders, including a formula for paying dividends. These features mean that all shareholders, whether of NV or PLC, share in the prosperity of the whole business.

Further details of these agreements are contained in the Annual Report and Accounts 2007 and are also available on www.unilever.com/investorcentre/corpgovernance

NV and PLC are holding and service companies. Unilever's businesses are carried out by their subsidiaries around the world. Shares in group companies are held ultimately by either NV or PLC, or jointly by the two companies, in varying proportions.

Unilever has divided its business into three regions, The Americas, Asia Africa and Europe, which are responsible for delivering top and bottom line results, implementing proven brand mixes in their region and focusing on building capabilities with customers. The regions are complemented by two category teams, Foods, and Home and Personal Care, which are responsible for the brand development process including innovation, brand positioning and communication and category strategies. In 2008 these teams will be brought together under a single leadership.

#### **Unilever policies**

The implementation of and compliance with our governance structure is facilitated through a business-orientated policy framework. Unilever policies are universally applicable within the Unilever Group. They are mandatory and have been developed to ensure consistency in key areas within our worldwide operations. They cover operational and functional matters, and govern how we run our business, in order to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

Unilever policies include: the Code of Business Principles, the Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers, the Compliance Manual for Listing Rules and Disclosure and Transparency Rules (including the Unilever Share Dealing Code), the Risk Management Policy, the Corporate Pensions Policy and the Accounting and Reporting Policy.

The Code of Business Principles is Unilever's statement of values and represents the standard of conduct we require from all of our employees. Our Code of Ethics applies to the senior executive, financial and accounting officers and comprises the standards prescribed by the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Code of Business Principles Hotline is a confidential way for employees to submit concerns regarding accounting and auditing issues anonymously and handles all alleged violations of the Code of Business Principles. Copies of the Code of Business Principles, the Code of Ethics and the Share Dealing Code are posted on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre/corpgovernance

Unilever aims to share these standards and values with its suppliers and contractors through its Business Partner Code which, in turn, is based on its Code of Business Principles. It sets out standards on ten key points of business integrity, labour standards, consumer safety and the environment.

#### **Developments in corporate governance**

Unilever constantly keeps its corporate governance arrangements under review. NV and PLC are subject to various corporate governance requirements and best practice codes, the most relevant being those in the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. It is Unilever's practice to comply, where practicable, with the highest level of these codes, and respond to developments appropriately.

Following his appointment as a Non-Executive Director at the AGMs in May 2007, Unilever appointed its first independent Non-Executive Chairman, Michael Treschow, in succession to Antony Burgmans who retired as Chairman at those meetings. In September 2007, the office of the Joint Secretaries came to an end, and the position of a single Group Secretary was introduced and adopted by the Boards.

More information on our corporate governance arrangements is set out in 'The Governance of Unilever', the Boards' statement of their internal arrangements, which can be found at www.unilever.com/investorcentre/corpgovernance



#### The Boards

Unilever's Directors are Directors of both NV and PLC. Taking into account their respective roles as Executive and Non-Executive Directors, collectively they are ultimately responsible for the management, general affairs, direction and performance of the business as a whole.

Directors are elected by shareholders at the AGMs of NV and PLC and make themselves fully accountable by submitting themselves for re-election each year. Our nomination procedures are designed to ensure that the same people are the Directors of both companies.

Based on the evaluation of the Boards, its Committees and its individual members, the Nomination Committee recommends to the Boards a list of candidates for nomination at the AGMs of both NV and PLC. In addition, since 2006 shareholders have been able to nominate Directors to this list although to do so they must put a resolution to both the NV and PLC AGMs in line with local requirements for requisitioning a resolution. In order to ensure that the Boards remain identical anyone being elected a Director of NV must also be elected as a Director of PLC and vice versa. If an individual fails to be elected to both companies then they will be unable to take their place on the Boards.

The Boards currently comprise a Chairman, three Executive Directors and ten independent Non-Executive Directors. They meet at least seven times a year to consider material matters for NV, PLC and the Unilever Group. These matters include, for example, results announcements, the Annual Report and Accounts, dividends, corporate strategy, annual plans, risks and controls, major business transactions, and Board appointments and remuneration.

Unilever has a separate Chairman and Group Chief Executive. There is a clear division of responsibilities between their roles.

The Chairman is an independent Non-Executive Director and he is primarily responsible for leadership of the Boards, ensuring their effectiveness and setting their agendas. He is also responsible for ensuring that the Boards receive accurate, timely and clear information.

The Group Chief Executive has been entrusted, within the parameters set out in the Articles of Association of NV and PLC and The Governance of Unilever, with all the Boards' powers, authorities and discretions in relation to the operational management of Unilever.

The Non-Executive Directors share responsibility for the execution of the Boards' duties, taking into account their specific responsibilities, which are essentially supervisory. They, in particular, comprise the principal external presence in the governance of Unilever and provide a strong independent element. Our Non-Executive Directors are chosen for their broad and relevant experience and international outlook, as well as their independence.

Key elements of their role and responsibilities as Non-Executive Directors include strategy, scrutiny of performance, risk management, controls, remuneration, succession planning,

reporting to shareholders, governance and compliance. They also form the Audit Committee which is fully compliant with the applicable rules in the Netherlands, UK and the US, the Nomination Committee, the Remuneration Committee, and in majority the Corporate Responsibility and Reputation Committee. The Non-Executive Directors meet as a group, without the Executive Directors present, under the chairmanship of Mr Treschow. In addition they usually meet before each Board meeting with the Group Chief Executive and the Group Secretary.

#### **Board induction and training**

Upon election, Directors receive a comprehensive Directors' Manual and are briefed thoroughly on their responsibilities and our business. Ongoing training is provided by way of site visits, presentations, circulated updates, teach-ins and agenda items at Board meetings on, among other things, Unilever's business, corporate governance, regulatory developments, and investor relations matters.

In particular, during 2007 the Boards were given a presentation by our external legal advisers on the new directors' duties under the UK Companies Act 2006.

A more detailed corporate governance statement, as well as the annual reports of the Audit, Nomination, Remuneration, and Corporate Responsibility and Reputation Committees, is contained in the Unilever Annual Report and Accounts 2007. This Annual Report, our Code of Business Principles, NV's and PLC's Articles of Association and The Governance of Unilever are available on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre/corpgovernance The Governance of Unilever contains, amongst other things, our rules on 'Independence' of Directors and the terms of reference of the Board Committees.

#### **Executive Directors' service contracts**

The Executive Directors are full-time employees of Unilever. Information about their remuneration can be found on pages 31 to 35 of this Annual Review. More detailed information can be found in the Report of the Remuneration Committee in the Annual Report and Accounts 2007 and on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre

The Remuneration Committee takes the view that the entitlement of the Executive Directors to the security of 12 months' notice of termination of employment is in line both with the practice of many comparable companies and the entitlement of other senior executives within Unilever.

It is our policy to set the level of severance payments for Directors at no more than one year's salary, unless the Boards, at the proposal of the Remuneration Committee, find this manifestly unreasonable given circumstances or unless otherwise dictated by applicable law.

The Executive Directors submit themselves for re-election at the AGMs each year. The Nomination Committee carefully considers each nomination for re-appointment.

# Corporate governance continued

The Directors stop holding executive office on ceasing to be Directors. Those appointed prior to 2004 retire at the latest by the age of 62. Appointees from 2004 onwards retire at an age between 60 and 65, as decided by either them or Unilever.

#### **Compliance**

Unilever is subject to the corporate governance requirements in the Netherlands, the UK and, as a foreign private issuer, in the US. All of these requirements were taken into account when structuring our Board arrangements, details of which are set out in The Governance of Unilever.

Details of our compliance with governance requirements in the Netherlands. UK and US are contained in the Annual Report and Accounts 2007 and can also be found on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre

In the US, we are fully compliant with the Listing Standards of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) applicable to foreign private issuers, and our corporate governance practices do not significantly differ from those followed by US companies listed on the NYSE.

Disclosures in relation to the implementation of the EU Takeover Directive can be found in the Annual Report and Accounts 2007.

#### **Board changes**

The current Executive Directors held office throughout the year, and their biographical details are shown on page 22.

Leon Brittan, Wim Dik, Charles Golden, Byron Grote, David Simon, Jean-Cyril Spinetta. Kees Storm and Jeroen van der Veer were re-elected as Non-Executive Directors of NV and PLC at the 2007 AGMs. In addition, Genevieve Berger, Narayana Murthy and Hixonia Nyasulu were appointed as Non-Executive Directors, and Michael Treschow became our first independent Non-Executive Chairman. Biographical details for the existing Non-Executive Directors are found on pages 22 and 23.

At the 2007 AGMs, Rudy Markham retired as an Executive Director but remained as Chief Financial Officer until his successor, Jim Lawrence, was appointed on 1 September 2007. Lynda Chalker also retired as a Non-Executive Director at the 2007 AGMs, and in September 2007 Jean-Cyril Spinetta stepped down as a Non-Executive Director due to personal reasons.

At the 2008 AGMs all of the current Executive Directors and the Non-Executive Directors will be nominated for re-election with the exception of Kees van der Graaf and Ralph Kugler who will step down from the Boards. In addition, Jim Lawrence will be proposed for election as an Executive Director at the 2008 AGMs following his appointment as Chief Financial Officer in September 2007. Biographical details for Mr Lawrence are contained in the 2008 AGM Notices and on our website at

# Diversity statement

Diversity in Unilever is about inclusion, embracing differences, creating possibilities and growing together for better business performance. We embrace diversity in our workforce: this means giving full and fair consideration to all applicants and continuing development to all employees regardless of gender, nationality, race, creed, disability, style or sexuality. Diversity plays a vital role in ensuring we

The commitment to diversity is set right at the top of our business. It is driven by the Global Diversity Board, chaired by Group Chief Executive Patrick Cescau, who has emphasised that "diversity is critical to our business competitiveness and long-term sustainability"

Unilever is one of the world's most culturally diverse companies, with 21 different nationalities represented among our top level group of 113 managers worldwide.

In 2007 we worked to embed diversity even more firmly into our day-to-day business decisions, via our talent management and people processes, from appointments to development. As part of the Human Resources planning process our business units are also developing specific diversity plans that are aligned to the priorities and

We continue to carry out quarterly measurement and tracking of diversity against our objectives, using the HR Strategy in Action tool. Gender remains an important priority and is reviewed by the UEx.



# Summary remuneration report

During 2007 the Remuneration Committee continued to progress on the five strategic principles that serve as the platform for Unilever's approach to remuneration for the Unilever Executive. These principles not only pertain to our Executive Directors but to all Unilever's leadership levels. They provide the basis for our remuneration structure, as explained in greater detail in the following pages, and direct that pay should be:

- aligned with shareholders' interests;
- robustly linked to performance;
- aligned with strategic priorities;
- market competitive; and
- · easy to understand and communicate.

The overriding objective is to ensure that Unilever recruits and retains the best performers, and effectively incentivises them to achieve superior results. It is also our aim to manage the differing elements of total remuneration in a fully integrated manner.

During 2007 these five principles provided the foundation for important changes to the level and structure of Unilever's incentive plans. At our 2007 AGMs shareholders approved the introduction of a new share-based incentive plan which appropriately aligned our programme with our peer company market. The Committee also increased the annual incentive opportunity for Executive Directors while leaving base salary levels unchanged. Together these changes have placed a greater emphasis on performance-based rewards relative to fixed pay and play a critical role in driving improved business results.

During the second half of 2007 Jim Lawrence was appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Unilever. Jim Lawrence's election to the Boards is subject to shareholders' approval at the AGMs in May 2008. However, in the interests of transparency and good governance, a summary of his remuneration arrangements has been included in this year's report.

The year 2007 marked a continuation of the Group's momentum of improved performance. The focus on growth priorities, together with stronger innovation, improved speed to market and better in-market execution, has delivered consistent, and we believe. sustainable growth. Underlying operating margins have improved and a strong start was made in implementing an acceleration to the implementation of the One Unilever reorganisation programme.

Based on the performance over 2007 the annual incentive awards were on average 128% of base salary across the Unilever Executive team. A GPSP (Global Performance Share Plan) long-term incentive award will vest in 2008 for 121% based on the performance period 2005-2007. The minimum vesting level for the performance period 2005-2007 was in 2005 set at 2% per annum average USG (underlying sales growth) and €12.2 billion UFCF (ungeared free cash flow), whereas up to 200% could vest for USG exceeding 4% per annum and with UFCF more than €13.2 billion. Targets were set before the disposal of European Frozen Foods and before the disposal of UCI. The targets have been adjusted by the impacts of these disposals. A TSR (total shareholder return) long-term incentive award will also vest in 2008. The vesting was 50% for the performance period 2005-2007. Unilever ranked 8th within the comparator group of peer companies.

Over the last three years to December 2007 Unilever has created more than €20 billion of shareholder value. Looking forward to 2008 we expect the group leadership to deliver improvement against our longer-term objectives and, as a result, our shareholders and our executives will be duly awarded.

In September 2007 Jean-Cyril Spinetta stepped down as a Non-Executive Director for personal reasons. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jean-Cyril for his contributions to Unilever and our Committee. His wise counsel and experience have been most helpful. We wish him all the best for the future. We are currently working to replace Jean-Cyril with a new recruit for our Committee during 2008. Michael Treschow was also appointed a member of our Committee on 6 February 2008.

**David Simon** Chairman of the Remuneration Committee Jeroen van der Veer

#### **Remuneration policy 2007**

Fixed

Element	Payment	Value determination	Plan objectives/Key drivers
Base salary	Cash	Market median	Attraction and retention of high performing key executives
Pension	Cash	Directors stay in their home country pension fund or an alternative of similar value. Bonus not pensionable	Attraction and retention of high performing key executives

#### Variable

Element	Payment	Indicative levels at face value as % of base pay	Plan objectives/Key drivers
Annual incentive	Cash (75%) Shares (25%)	Executive Directors: target 87% (range 0%-150%) Group Chief Executive: target 113% (range 0%-200%)	Delivery of trading contribution (Unilever's primary internal measure of economic value added) and top-line growth targets
			Individual responsibility for key Unilever business objectives
Global Share Incentive Plan	Shares	Grant level for Executive Directors: up to 120% in 2007 (from 2008 onwards up to 180% is allowable)  Grant level for Group Chief Executive: up to 135% (from 2008 onwards up to 200% is allowable)  In exceptional circumstances the Committee may exceed the limits  Vesting level: 0-200% of grant	Shareholder return at upper half of peer group. See page 32 Ungeared free cash flow as the basic driver of Unilever shareholder returns Top-line revenue growth as essential to Unilever's long-term value creation
Share Matching Plan	Shares	25% of annual incentive is paid in shares: these shares are matched one for one	Alignment with shareholders' interests

# Summary remuneration report continued

A significant proportion of the Executive Directors' total reward is linked to a number of key measures of Group performance to create alignment with the strategy, business priorities and shareholder value.

The total remuneration package for Executive Directors is intended to be competitive in a global market with a strong emphasis on performance related pay.

Internal and external comparisons are made with the reward arrangements for other senior executives within Unilever to support consistent application of Unilever's executive reward policies.

In setting targets for the performance measures, the Committee is guided by what would be required to deliver top third shareholder value. This is reflected in both the short-term and long-term performance targets.

#### Base salary

The Remuneration Committee reviews base salary levels annually, taking into account external benchmarks, within the context of Group and individual performance. The Committee decided not to increase the salaries in 2007 in order to place more emphasis on performance related pay and less on fixed pay.

#### **Annual incentive**

The annual incentive arrangement rewards Executive Directors for the delivery of trading contribution (Unilever's primary internal measure of economic value added) and top-line growth targets, as well as for their individual contribution to Unilever's business strategy.

In 2007 the Remuneration Committee reviewed annual incentive levels in light of the strategic remuneration principles. Given the desire to enhance the focus on performance-linked pay and to ensure arrangements are market competitive, the Committee decided to increase annual incentive opportunities. In 2007 the opportunity for Executive Directors was increased to a maximum of 150% of base salary and for the Group Chief Executive up to 200%. Up to 120% of salary will be based on Unilever's business result targets (133.3% for Group Chief Executive) and a maximum of 30% of salary will be based on individual business targets (66.7% for Group Chief Executive). The target levels are around 60% of maximum. Aggressive business targets mean that maximum levels are only payable for exceptional performance.

The performance criteria for the annual incentive are:

- trading contribution: this is Unilever's primary internal measure of economic value added. It is calculated from trading result after a deduction for tax and a charge for asset use. Trading result is the internal management measure of profit that is the most consistent with operating profit. Increases in trading contribution reflect the combined impact of top-line growth, margin improvement and capital efficiency gains. It is well aligned with our objective of a progressive improvement in return on invested capital and with shareholder value creation;
- underlying sales growth: this focuses on the organic growth of Unilever's turnover; and
- individual business and leadership targets: these are tailored to each individual's responsibilities to deliver certain business objectives supporting the strategy. Individual contribution is assessed against robustly set measures and targets to ensure both objectivity and 'stretch'.

Achievement of targets is measured at the end of the year and the payment takes place the following March. 25% of the annual incentive is delivered to the Executive Directors in the form of shares in NV and PLC, which are matched by a conditional award of 'matching shares', as further described under the section on long-term incentives below.

#### Long-term incentives

At the 2007 AGMs shareholders approved the new Unilever Global Share Incentive Plan (GSIP) for employees and Executive Directors.

The new plan supports the Committee's strategic remuneration principles for executives. The number of shares vesting is linked to improvements in Unilever's performance over a three-year period. The plan integrates and replaces two previous long-term plans, the GPSP and TSR Long-Term Incentive Plan, making Unilever's long-term arrangements simpler and easier to understand.

The long-term incentive for Executive Directors now consists of two elements, both of which are delivered in shares:

- Global Share Incentive Plan; and
- Share Matching Plan (linked to annual incentive).

Executive Directors are required to demonstrate a significant personal shareholding commitment to Unilever. Within five years of appointment, they are expected to hold shares worth 150% of their annual base salary. This reinforces the link between the executives and other shareholders

#### Global Share Incentive Plan (GSIP)

Under the GSIP annual awards of shares in NV and PLC are granted to Executive Directors. The actual number of shares received at vesting after three years depends on the satisfaction of performance conditions.

For the 2007 awards, the vesting of shares is conditional on the achievement of three distinct performance conditions over the performance period. The performance period is the three-year period which began on 1 January 2007 and ends on 31 December 2009.

The vesting of 40% of the shares in the award is based on a condition measuring Unilever's relative TSR against a comparator group of 20 other companies over that three-year period. TSR measures the return received by a shareholder, capturing both the increase in share price and the value of dividend income (assuming dividends are reinvested). The TSR results are compared on a single reference currency basis. No shares (in the portion of the award subject to TSR) will vest if Unilever is ranked below position 11 of the TSR ranking table over the three-year period. 50% of the shares will vest if Unilever is ranked 11th among the peer group, 100% if ranked 7th, and 200% will vest if Unilever is ranked 3rd or above in the table. Straight-line vesting will occur between these points.

The TSR peer group is as follows:

Avon	Colgate	Kraft	PepsiCo
Beiersdorf	Danone	Lion	Procter & Gamble
Cadbury Schweppes	Heinz	L'Oréal	Reckitt Benckiser
Clorox	Kao	Nestlé	Sara Lee
Coca-Cola	Kimberly-Clark	Orkla	Shiseido



The vesting of a further 30% of the shares in the award is conditional on achieving an underlying sales growth target.

The vesting of the final 30% of the shares in the award is conditional on achieving an ungeared free cash flow target which is the basic driver of the returns that Unilever is able to generate for shareholders.

Vesting of the business performance-focused parts of an award depends on meeting challenging objectives. There will be no vesting if performance is below the minimum of the range, 25% vesting for achieving minimum and 200% vesting only at or substantially above the top end of the range.

Performance for each condition will be assessed independently from the other conditions over the performance period. Shares will only vest if and to the extent that the respective performance conditions are satisfied. There will be no re-testing.

#### Share Matching Plan (linked to the annual incentive)

The Share Matching Plan enhances the alignment with shareholders' interests and supports the retention of key executives. In addition, the necessity to hold the shares for a minimum period of three years supports the shareholding requirements.

The Executive Directors receive 25% of their annual incentive in the form of NV and PLC shares. These are matched with an equivalent number of matching shares. The matching shares will vest after three years provided that the underlying shares have been retained during this period and the Executive Director has not resigned or been dismissed.

The Remuneration Committee considers that there is no need for further performance conditions on the vesting of the matching shares because the number of shares is directly linked to the annual incentive (which is itself subject to demanding performance conditions). In addition, during the three-year vesting period the share price of NV and PLC will be influenced by the performance of Unilever. This, in turn, will affect the ultimate value of the matching shares on vesting.

#### **Executive Directors' pensions**

The policy beginning in 2007 is that new Executive Directors will be members of the all-employee pension arrangement in their home country (or an alternative of similar value) and will pay employee contributions at the same rate as other employees in that arrangement.

Executive Directors appointed prior to 2007 have a defined benefit pension of two-thirds of final salary, payable at retirement from age 60.

Annual incentive is not pensionable except for Executive Directors appointed prior to the change of policy in 2005 (Patrick Cescau, Kees van der Graaf and Rudy Markham who retired in 2007) for whom annual incentive is pensionable up to a maximum of 20% of base salary.

#### Other benefits and allowances

Executive Directors enjoy similar benefits to those enjoyed by many other employees of Unilever.

#### Serving as Non-Executive on the Board of another company

Some of the Executive Directors serve as a Non-Executive on the Boards of other companies. In 2007 Unilever required that all remuneration and fees earned from outside directorships are paid directly to Unilever. The policy has been amended in 2008.

#### **Arrangements for Jim Lawrence**

Jim Lawrence joined Unilever in September 2007 as Chief Financial Officer. He will be proposed for election to the Boards of NV and PLC at the AGMs in May 2008. Given Unilever's objective of balancing remuneration more clearly towards performance-linked variable pay the agreed package follows this policy direction. His salary in 2007 was set at US\$1 100 000 per annum; the maximum annual incentive in 2007 was 150% of salary and the grant under the GSIP in 2007 was 49 962 each of NV shares and PLC shares. He will be in a pension plan similar to that of Unilever in the US, which is a defined contribution plan. To compensate for the forfeiture of incentives from his former employer, a cash allowance was paid on appointment of US\$1 million (with a pro rata claw back over three years) and restricted shares of 35 565 each of NV and PLC were granted (at award value US\$2.5 million). These will vest for 1/3 after one year of service, 1/3 after two years of service and 1/3after three years of service.

Jim Lawrence has purchased 295 508 NV shares and 240 000 PLC ADRs.

#### **Future developments**

The Remuneration Committee continues to monitor trends and changes in the market. It keeps a watching brief on the continuing alignment between Unilever's strategic objectives and the reward policy for Executive Directors.

From 1 January 2008 the UK all-employee pension plan benefit changed for new hires from final salary to a combination of career average earnings (up to a limit of £38 000) and defined contribution above the limit. Existing employees are being given the option to move to the new plan or to remain in the previous plan (subject to certain changes including paying higher individual contributions). The latter affects the UK-based Executive Directors Patrick Cescau and Ralph Kugler.

The performance range for the GSIP 2008 award (performance period 2008-2010) will be in respect of average underlying sales growth 4%-6.4% per annum and for cumulative ungeared free cash flow €10.5 billion-€15.5 billion.

#### **Commentary on 2007 remuneration**

In 2007, base salary levels were benchmarked against those paid in other major global companies based in Europe, excluding companies in the financial sector. The Committee decided not to increase base salaries for 2007 and to place greater emphasis on performance-based pay.

#### Annual incentive

The annual incentive awards for 2007 were subject to achievement of underlying sales growth and trading contribution targets in combination with individual key strategic business targets. The Committee measured the results against the targets set and determined the annual incentive amounts for 2007.

# Summary remuneration report continued

#### Long-term incentive arrangements

- Global Share Incentive Plan
   The first award was made in 2007 with a performance period 2007-2009. Vesting will be in 2010.
- Global Performance Share Plan
  The performance period for the first awards made under the
  plan ended on 31 December 2007. Vesting will be in May 2008
  (three years after award).

#### • TSR Plan

In 2007 the conditional shares awarded in 2004 lapsed. Vesting was based on the TSR performance of Unilever (when ranked against its defined peer group with competitors) over the three-year performance period which ended 31 December 2006. For this period, Unilever was ranked 13th in its peer group and therefore no vesting occurred for this award and the shares lapsed in March 2007.

- Share Matching Plan
   In 2007 the matching shares originally granted in 2004
   on a conditional basis vested, subject to fulfilment of the
   retention conditions.
- Executive Share Options
   The grants of executive share options made in 2004 became exercisable as from 2007. As the 2004 grant was based on Unilever's EPS performance, the options at vesting were subject to no further conditions.

#### **Pensions**

The Netherlands all-employee pension plan benefit basis was changed from final salary to career average earnings at 31 December 2006. This had a small impact on the accrued pension of the Netherlands-based Executive Director.

During 2007 individual contributions paid by Executive Directors in the UK were paid through salary sacrifice arrangement.

#### **Non-Executive Directors**

The Non-Executive Directors receive fees from both NV and PLC. No other remuneration is given in respect of their Non-Executive duties from either NV or PLC, such as annual incentives, share-based incentives or pension benefits.

The level of their fees reflects their commitment and contribution to the companies. The Chairman's levels were reviewed and increased with the appointment of Michael Treschow as Chairman in 2007.

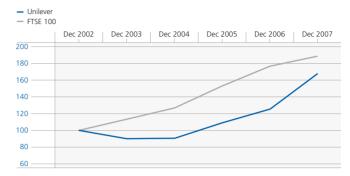
#### Additional statutory and other disclosures

Unilever's share performance relative to broad-based equity indices

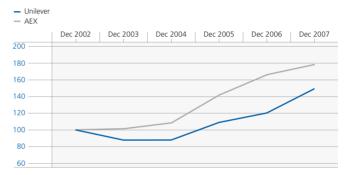
The UK Companies Act 1985 (schedule 7A) requires us to show Unilever's relative share performance, based on total shareholder return, against a holding of shares in a broad-based equity index for the last five years. The Remuneration Committee has decided to show Unilever's performance against two indices, namely the FTSE 100 Index, London, and the Euronext AEX Index, Amsterdam as these are the most generally used indices in the UK and the Netherlands, where we have our principal listings.

#### Five-vear historical TSR performance

Growth in the value of a hypothetical £100 holding over five years FTSE 100 comparison based on 30 trading day average values



Growth in the value of a hypothetical investment over five years AEX comparison based on 30 day average values



#### Role and responsibilities

The Committee is responsible for making proposals to the Boards on the reward policy for Executive Directors. It is also responsible for setting individual reward packages for Executive Directors and for monitoring and approving all share-based incentive arrangements. The Committee meets at least three times a year and, during 2007, it met on five occasions.

#### Structure and role

During 2007 David Simon served as Chairman of the Committee with Jeroen van der Veer and Jean-Cyril Spinetta as Non-Executive members. Jean-Cyril Spinetta stepped down as a Director in September 2007. Michael Treschow was appointed a member of the Committee on 6 February 2008.



#### Advice and assistance

The Committee does not formally retain remuneration consultants. It seeks professional advice from external advisers as and when required. During 2007, the Committee sought advice from Towers Perrin (an independent firm of human resources specialists) on market data, reward trends and performance related pay. Towers Perrin also provides general consultancy advice to Unilever group companies on employee rewards, pension, communications and other human resource matters.

The Group Secretary attends all Committee meetings and advises on matters of corporate governance.

The Group Chief Executive can be invited to attend Committee meetings to provide his own insights to the Committee on business objectives and the individual performance of his direct reports. Naturally, he does not attend when his own remuneration is being discussed.

During 2007 the Non-Executive Chairman could, in his role as Chairman of the Boards, also attend meetings.

#### **Remuneration for individual Executive Directors**

The following table gives details of the remuneration received in 2007 (including the value of vested share match and options exercised) by each Executive Director individually.

Other income arising from

		Annual	Emolumen	nts 2007			long-te	rm incenti of option	ves and		
		Allowances								Grand	Grand
	Base	and other	Value of		Total	Total	Option	Share		total	total
	salary	payments <sup>(a)</sup>	benefits(b)	Bonus <sup>(c)</sup>	2007	2006	gains	match	TSR/LTIP	2007	2006
Name and Base Country	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	,000	'000
Patrick Cescau (UK) <sup>(d)</sup>	€1 426	€129	€47	€2 346	€3 948	€2 727	€50	€63		€4 061	€2 940
	[£973]	[£88]	[£32]	[£1 600]	[£2 693]	[£1 860]	[£34]	[£43]		[£2 770]	[£2 005]
Kees van der Graaf (NL)	€798	€27	€9	€988	€1 822	€1 202	_	€60	_	€1 882	€1 287
	[£544]	[£19]	[£6]	[£674]	[£1 243]	[£819]		[£41]		[£1 284]	[£877]
Ralph Kugler (UK)	€861	€56	€11	€1 033	€1 961	€1 313	_	€53	_	€2 014	€1 414
	[£587]	[£38]	[£8]	[£705]	[£1 338]	[£895]		[£36]		[£1 374]	[£964]
Rudy Markham (UK) <sup>(e)</sup>	€406	€9	€15	€498	€928	€1 517	_	€54	_	€982	€2 111
	[£277]	[£6]	[£10]	[£340]	[£633]	[£1 035]		[£37]		[£670]	[£1 440]

- (a) Includes: allowance in lieu of company car; blind trust fees compensation; compensation for loss of net income because part of the salary was paid in the Netherlands; entertaining allowance and employers cost for the all-employee savings plan in the Netherlands. All allowances are taxable in the country of residence apart from the entertaining allowance which is currently tax free in the Netherlands.
- (b) Includes: benefits for company car; housing (for business use) instead of hotel; medical insurance and private use chauffeur driven cars. Included are benefits that are taxable in the country of residence. In addition, Unilever provides support to Executive Directors in relation to spouse's travel expenses when travelling together on company business. This amount is capped at 5% of base salary and for 2007 totalled €168 559 (£114 991) (including related taxes payable).
- (c) Bonus of the year 2007. Includes: the value of both the cash element and the element paid in shares of NV and PLC. In addition to the element of the bonus paid in shares each Executive Director is awarded, on a conditional basis, an equivalent number of matching shares.
- (d) Group Chief Executive.
- (e) Rudy Markham stepped down as Director at the May 2007 AGMs. He retired from Unilever at 31 October 2007. In the table above are the emoluments for the period January - May 2007. His emoluments for the period June - October were in total: €1 140 000 (£777 708).

Figures have been translated into euros using the following exchange rate: €1 = £0.6822 (2006: €1 = £0.6818).

The Summary Financial Statement was approved by the Boards of Directors on 10 March 2008.

**M Treschow** P Cescau

Chairman **Group Chief Executive** 

#### Contact details

#### **Electronic communications**

Shareholders of PLC can elect not to receive paper copies of the Annual Review and other shareholder documents but to be alerted by email to view these documents on our website. To register, or to find out more, please visit www.unilever.com/shareholderservices and select the e-communication option.

NV shareholders participating in the Shareholders' Communication Channel will be able to appoint a Proxy electronically to vote on their behalf at the AGM in 2008.

#### **Dividend reinvestment plans**

NV and PLC shareholders have the opportunity to reinvest their cash dividends in order to buy additional shares in those companies through its dividend reinvestment plans.

Shareholders in NV, who hold their (depositary receipts for) ordinary shares in Euroclear Nederland through an admitted institution of Euronext Amsterdam, can participate in a dividend reinvestment plan arranged and administered by ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Further details of this plan can be found within the 'Dividends' section of our corporate website www.unilever.com or by contacting ABN AMRO Bank N.V. on +31 (0)76 57 99 600.

#### **Share registration**

Netherlands

N.V. Algemeen Nederlands Trustkantoor ANT Claude Debussylaan 24 1082 HD Amsterdam

Telephone +31 (0)20 522 2555
Telefax +31 (0)20 522 2500
Website www.ant-trust.nl
Email registers@ant-trust.nl

#### UK

Computershare Investor Services PLC The Pavilions Bridgwater Road Bristol BS99 6ZY

Telephone +44 (0)870 600 3977 Telefax +44 (0)870 703 6119

Website www.unilever.com/shareholderservices Email web.queries@computershare.co.uk

#### USA

Citibank Shareholder Services PO Box 43077 Providence, RI 02940-3077

Toll free phone (inside US) 888 502 6356 Toll phone (outside US) +1 781 575 4555

Website www.citibank.com/adr

Email citibank@shareholders-online.com

on the web

www.unilever.com/investorcentre

Shareholders in PLC are able to purchase additional shares at low commission rates through a dividend reinvestment plan that is administered by the registrars, Computershare Investor Services PLC. Further details of this plan can be found within the 'Dividends' section of our corporate website <a href="https://www.unilever.com">www.unilever.com</a> or by contacting Computershare Investor Services on +44 (0)870 600 3977.

In addition, for holders of NV New York Registry Shares or PLC ADRs, it is possible through Citibank, N.A. to open an International Direct Investment Plan account that takes advantage of reduced brokerage commissions and service costs to purchase additional New York Registry Shares or ADRs, as appropriate, with cash dividends. Further details of the International Direct Investment Plan can be gained by contacting IDI Plan, Citibank, N.A., PO Box 43077, Providence, RI 02940-3077, USA or by calling toll free on 888 502 6356 if you are within the US or on +1 781 575 4555 from outside the US.

#### **Ouarterly results announcements**

These are available on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre in English, with figures in euros, sterling or US dollars. In Dutch they are available at www.unilever.nl/onsbedrijf/beleggers

#### **UK** capital gains tax

The market value of PLC 3½p ordinary shares at 31 March 1982 would have been 76.84p per share. Since 1982, PLC ordinary shares have been sub-divided on two occasions and consolidated on two occasions. First, with effect on 26 June 1987, the 25p shares were split into five shares of 5p each. Secondly, with effect on 13 October 1997, the 5p shares were split into four shares of 1.25p each. Thirdly, with effect on 10 May 1999, the shares were consolidated by replacing every 112 shares of 1.25p each with 100 shares of 1.4p each. Lastly, with effect on 22 May 2006, the shares were consolidated by replacing every 20 shares of 1.4p each with nine shares of 3½p each.

#### **Listing details**

NV ordinary shares and depositary receipts for ordinary shares are listed on Euronext Amsterdam and as New York Registry Shares on the New York Stock Exchange. The ordinary shares, the depositary receipts for ordinary shares and the New York Registry Shares are exchangeable on a 1:1 basis. NV (depositary receipts for) cumulative preference shares are listed only on Euronext Amsterdam.

PLC ordinary shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange and as American Depositary Receipts on the New York Stock Exchange. Each ADR represents one underlying ordinary PLC share.

Further information relating to our shares is available on our website at www.unilever.com/investorcentre

#### **Shareholder questionnaire**

We would welcome your views on our online Annual Review. A questionnaire in English is available on our website at www.unilever.com/annualreview

# Financial calendar and addresses

#### Financial calendar

Annual (	General Meetings						
PLC	11.00am 14 May 2008 London						
NV	10.30am 15 May 2008 Rotterdam	10.30am 15 May 2008 Rotterdam					
Annound	cements of results						
First Quar First Half		8 May 2008 31 July 2008	Third Quarter Final for Year	30 October 2008 5 February 2009			
Dividono	de on ordinary capital						

Final for 2007 – announced 7 February 2008 and to be declared 14 May 2008 for PLC and 15 May 2008 for NV

	Ex-dividend date	Record date	Payment date
NV	19 May 2008	21 May 2008	19 June 2008
PLC	21 May 2008	23 May 2008	19 June 2008
NV – New York Registry Shares	19 May 2008	21 May 2008	19 June 2008
PLC – American Depositary Receipts	21 Maý 2008	23 Maý 2008	19 June 2008

Interim for 2008 - to be announced 30 October 2008

	Ex-dividend	Record	Payment
	date	date	date
NV	5 November 2008	7 November 2008	3 December 2008
PLC	5 November 2008	7 November 2008	3 December 2008
NV – New York Registry Shares	5 November 2008	7 November 2008	3 December 2008
PLC – American Depositary Receipts	5 November 2008	7 November 2008	3 December 2008

Cumulative preference shares NV

	Announced	Ex-dividend	Record	Payment
	date	date	date	date
4%	5 December 2008		10 December 2008	2 January 2009
6% and 7%	5 September 2008		10 September 2008	1 October 2008

#### **Addresses**

Rotterdam London

Unilever N.V. Investor Relations Department Weena 455, PO Box 760 3000 DK Rotterdam The Netherlands

Unilever PLC Investor Relations Department Unilever House 100 Victoria Embankment London FC4Y 0DY United Kingdom

Telephone Telephone Telefax +44 (0)20 7822 5754 Telefax +44 (0)20 7822 5754

Any queries can also be sent to us electronically via www.unilever.com/contactus

#### **Unilever** website

Shareholders are encouraged to visit our website www.unilever.com which has a wealth of information about the Unilever Group. There is a section designed specifically for investors at www.unilever.com/investorcentre

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The two parent companies, Unilever N.V. (NV) and Unilever PLC (PLC), together with their group companies, operate effectively as a single economic entity (the Unilever Group, also referred to as Unilever or the Group). This Annual Review therefore deals with the operations and the results of the Unilever Group as a whole. The Unilever Annual Review and Annual Report and Accounts are produced in Dutch and English.

trademarks owned by or licensed to companies within

currency. The figures in this Annual Review are expressed in euros with translations, for convenience purposes, into sterling and US dollars.

In the commentary on pages 16 to 21, sales growth is stated on an underlying basis at constant exchange rates and excluding the effects of acquisitions and disposals. For further information, please refer to our website at

The term shares as used in this document should, with respect to shares issued by NV be construed to include depositary receipts for shares issued by Foundation Unilever N.V. Trust Office, unless the context otherwise requires or unless it is clear from the context that this is not the case. The exchange rates used in the preparation of this Annual Review are given on page 24

#### Cautionary statement

This document may contain forward-looking statements, including 'forward-looking statements' within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as 'expects', 'anticipates', 'intends' or the negative of these terms and other similar expressions of future performance or results, including financial objectives to 2010, and their negatives, are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based upon current expectations and assumptions regarding anticipated developments and other factors affecting the Group. They are not historical facts, nor are they guarantees of future performance. Because these forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, there are important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, competitive pricing and activities, consumption levels, costs, the ability to maintain and manage key customer relationships and supply chain sources, currency values, interest rates, the ability to integrate acquisitions and complete planned divestitures, the ability to complete planned restructuring activities, physical risks, environmental risks, the ability to manage regulatory, tax and legal matters and resolve pending regulatory developments, political, economic and social conditions in the geographic markets where the Group operates and new or changed priorities of the Boards. Further details of potential risks and uncertainties affecting the Group are described in the Group's filings with the London Stock Exchange, Euronext Amsterdam and the US Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Annual Report and Accounts on Form 20-F. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this document.

Except as required by any applicable law or regulation, the
Group expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking
to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forwardlooking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the Group's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

This document does not comply with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (US GAAP) and should not therefore be relied upon by readers as such. The Group's Annual Report on Form 20-F for 2007 is separately filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission and is available on our corporate website www.unilever.com In addition, a printed copy of the Annual Report on Form 20-F is available, free of charge, upon request to Unilever PLC, Investor Relations Department, Unilever House, 100 Victoria

www.unilever.com/annualreview



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Registered in England and Wales Company Number: 41424



