

Submission on the Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009.

I support the mandatory labelling of palm oil on products.

“Most of the palm oil that ends up in our food is unsustainably harvested. In fact, only eight percent of the global supply of palm oil comes from sustainable RSPO certified sources.

A sustainable palm oil industry that does not destroy anymore virgin rainforest is a reality.

The industry just needs to use land that has already been cleared. But right now there isn't the demand for palm oil that is produced this way.”

I do not want to buy a product that creates such useless destruction of rainforests and the orang-utans that live in these forests. I have seen where lush useful forests in Borneo are left like a desert with only bracken fern growing ... the sun beating down on hard infertile soil. It breaks my heart that the orang-utans are being compromised as a species for cheap oil for our consumption when alternatives are available.

I have the right to know whether the products I buy contain palm oil.

However without legislation change palm oil will remain unlabelled.

My personal view is we all have to start taking responsibility as what we are doing to the planet is not sustainable.

We have to learn how to be truthful.

Sincerely,

Karen Douglas