NEWS RELEASE

LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY ACCEPTS FIRST OLAM SCHOLARS

Singapore, October 15 2015 – Olam International Limited (“Olam”), a leading agri-business operating across the value chain in 65 countries, announced today that they have awarded the first three Olam scholarships for nationals of sub-Saharan Africa to study at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore (LKY School) to Atta Rita Felicia Foufouet and Chimdessa Tsega. They will also receive Olam mentoring throughout their studies.

The Olam International MA Scholarship for Change Catalysts in African Markets for the LKY School was established to foster strong leadership, good governance and economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa while strengthening links with Singapore for a future of shared prosperity. The scholarships have been awarded to aspiring and capable graduate students of sub-Saharan Africa nationalities who wish to pursue higher studies in public policy and administration at this international centre of excellence and who can demonstrate their commitment to working in their country or region.

From a high standard of applicants from across Africa, the LKY School scholars, Rita, from Côte d’Ivoire and Chimdessa from Ethiopia, were selected based on their academic achievements and promise, leadership potential and entrepreneurial spirit and will be studying for a Master in Public Administration and Master in Public Policy, respectively.

On receiving the Olam scholarship, Chimdessa said:

“The Olam Scholarship will allow me to fulfil my professional ambition and further my role in public service to become part of a network of the country’s future leaders. Studying for a Masters of Public Policy at the LKY will enhance my academic competence, research skills and professional network and enable me to successfully contribute to the developmental of my country.”

Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Professor Kishore Mahbubani said:

“We are delighted that Olam has agreed to sponsor scholarships for students from Africa to study at the LKY School. We congratulate Olam on seeing the value of public policy education in strengthening African economies. This Olam Scholarship programme will remove financial barriers for talented Africans, like these candidates, to obtain world class public policy education which they will apply when they return to work in their home countries after graduation. We are confident that they will contribute to the long-term development of their respective countries. We warmly welcome Chimdessa and Atta Rita at the LKY School and we wish them a fruitful journey here.”
Recognising the role the private sector can play in sustainable development, Sunny Verghese, Olam’s Co-Founder, Group Managing Director and CEO, said

“As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, Olam is looking ahead to the generation of future leaders that will shape the next 25 years and beyond.1 With our long heritage in Africa and almost 80% of our operations in emerging markets today, we are fully committed to the development of these regions and the development of world-class African talent will be at the heart of this.

He added:

“Through the scholarships at the LKY School and Olam’s mentoring of awardees, we hope to play our part in creating a generation of change agents who will contribute to economic transformation, provide good governance, empower communities and strengthen the African economies of the future.”

In addition to the LKY School, Olam is offering scholarships at other international centres of excellence, including Harvard Business School, The London School of Economics and Political Science and INSEAD Business School. The programme will award up to 10 scholarships each year to postgraduate students wishing to complete further studies in development economics, business management, and public policy and administration.

The Olam Scholarships programme builds on existing investments in education for children and adults at a community level through the Olam Livelihood Charter, and our ongoing commitment to developing local talent for management positions through programmes such as the West Africa Management Trainee Programme.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1 The Olam Scholarships Programme is one of four commitments made in Olam’s 25th anniversary year to address some of the challenges facing the next generation, such as food, water and energy security, the impact of climate change, sustainable and inclusive growth, and good governance. The others are: The Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security; The Olam Foundation and the Building Sustainable Futures Forum.

About Olam International

Olam International is a leading agri-business operating across the value chain in 65 countries, supplying various products across 16 platforms to over 13,800 customers worldwide. From a direct
sourcing and processing presence in most major producing countries, Olam has built a global leadership position in many of its businesses. Headquartered in Singapore and listed on the SGX-ST on February 11, 2005, Olam currently ranks among the top 50 largest listed companies in Singapore in terms of market capitalisation and is a component stock in the S&P Agribusiness Index and the DAXglobal Agribusiness Index. Olam is the only Singapore firm to be named in the 2009, 2010 and 2012 Forbes Asia Fabulous 50, an annual list of 50 big-cap and most profitable firms in the region. It is also the first and only Singapore company to be named in the 2009 lists for the Global Top Companies for Leaders and the Top Companies for Leaders in the Asia Pacific region by Hewitt Associates, the RBL Group and Fortune. More information on Olam can be found at www.olamgroup.com. Olam is located at 9 Temasek Boulevard #11-02 Suntec Tower Two Singapore 038989, Telephone: +65 63394100, Facsimile: +65 63399755.

**About NUS Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy**

Established in 2004, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy runs exchange programmes with 16 global universities. It enrolls some 400 students from over 70 countries in its four Masters and Ph.D. programmes. The school boasts long-term partnerships with global institutions including the Harvard Kennedy School, and was the first Asian school to join the Global Public Policy Network established by Columbia SIPA, the London School of Economics and Sciences Po. The school curriculum spans across multiple disciplines and is complemented with case studies and a problem-based learning approach. Students from the LKY School can expect to extend their learning well beyond the walls of the classroom, and to benefit from strong empirical evidence and contextual narratives that emphasise Asian and international dimensions. By providing opportunities for the education and training of the next generation of Asian policymakers and leaders, the LKY School aims to raise the standards of governance throughout the region, improve the lives of the people in the region and, in so doing, contribute to the transformation of Asia.

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