Nestlé investigates allegations by NGOs in Laos

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Recently a group of NGOs sent us a letter raising concerns about our infant nutrition marketing practices in Laos. Nestlé takes this very seriously since we work hard to ensure that we market our infant nutrition products responsibly and in compliance with the WHO Code and national legislation.

We are currently investigating each concern in Laos and additionally have asked a leading global auditing company to verify the way our products are marketed there. We have no offices in Laos - our products are imported and sold by distributors. Nevertheless we apply the same standards as we would in a country where we have a Nestlé structure. We work together with our distributors and train them to make sure that they understand the WHO Code and the national legislation and comply with it.

We have responded to all the signatories of the letter to ask for specifics about the allegations in order to make our investigation more robust. Once these investigations are completed, we will provide the signatories of the letter with the results. If non-compliance with the WHO Code or with national legislation is found, we will immediately take corrective action and equally, will provide information about this.

Nestlé firmly believes that exclusive breastfeeding is the best way to feed a baby for the first six months of life. In the 152 countries with high infant mortality and malnutrition rates as defined by UNICEF, we are committed to following the WHO Code as a minimum requirement and to applying national legislation when this is stricter than the Code.

It is our firm intention to continually work to improve our practices. We encourage all stakeholders and the general public to communicate to us any issue they may have in order to help us attain this goal.

Please contact us at babymilk@nestle.com for further information or with any inquiries or concerns.