



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McCormick calls for industry action following EUCCP report on fraudulent practices in the European herb and spice sector

HADDENHAM, UK, November 25, 2021 – McCormick & Company, Incorporated, a global leader in flavour, welcomes the publication of the EU Food Fraud Network’s Herb & Spice Coordinated Control Plan (EUCCP) report. It follows an investigation led by the EU Commission, Europol and member state competent authorities, into alleged intentional adulteration in the herb and spice sector across 23 European countries.

As part of its ongoing commitment to quality assurance, McCormick conducted an in-depth review of its food fraud prevention and mitigation protocols. It also analysed McCormick retail products on sale across Europe, using expert external laboratories, mirroring many of the methods used by the EUCCP research team. It found no evidence of fraudulent practices. McCormick is calling on others in the herb and spice industry to operate to the same high quality standards.

The EU Food Fraud report further validates McCormick’s authenticity controls, and sourcing and manufacturing practices, which continue to lead the industry in helping to prevent herb and spice adulteration. McCormick is proud of its unmatched track record of more than 130 years in giving consumers complete confidence that our products are authentic and safe. The company remains confident in the integrity of its products because of its long standing practice of buying direct from the source and strategic supplier partners. This enables McCormick to offer consumers herbs and spices of the highest quality, flavour, aroma, and integrity.

McCormick does not tolerate any level of fraudulent activity and is concerned by the suspicious adulteration identified by the report. McCormick is determined to drive positive change across the herb and spice sector. This includes:

- **Enhancing ways to detect and report suspicious activity. This should start with the establishment of an anonymous industry-wide whistleblowing programme, available to all those involved in the end-to-end supply chain**
- **Working with all relevant stakeholders to explore ways to help consumers easily identify authentic and safe products**

Chris Jinks, President of EMEA at McCormick said: “As leaders in this sector, McCormick welcomes the publication of this EUCCP report. Although disappointed by the suspicious fraudulent activities highlighted across the broader industry, we are pleased this issue is getting

much needed attention. We do not tolerate any level of fraudulent activity and are determined to drive positive change across the industry. It is critical that consumers are aware that all herbs and spices are not of the same quality and we will work closely with industry and regulatory partners to identify offenders at every opportunity.”

About McCormick

McCormick & Company, Incorporated is a global leader in flavor. As a Fortune 500 company with over \$5 billion in annual sales across 160 countries and territories, we manufacture, market and distribute spices, seasoning mixes, condiments and other flavorful products to the entire food industry including ecommerce channels, grocery, food manufacturers and foodservice businesses. Our most popular brands include McCormick, French’s, Frank’s RedHot, Stubb’s, OLD BAY, Lawry’s, Zatarain’s, Ducros, Vahiné, Schwartz, Kamis, Kohinoor, DaQiao, Club House, Aeroplane and Gourmet Garden. Every day, no matter where or what you eat or drink, you can enjoy food flavored by McCormick.

Founded in 1889 and headquartered in Hunt Valley, Maryland USA, McCormick is guided by our principles and committed to our Purpose – To Stand Together for the Future of Flavor. McCormick envisions A World United by Flavor where healthy, sustainable and delicious go hand in hand. To learn more, visit www.mccormickcorporation.com or follow McCormick & Company on Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

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