Sumitomo Chemical Commences Direct Sales of Crop Protection Products in Vietnam

Sumitomo Chemical Company, Ltd. ("the Company") announced that as of November 1 it has commenced the direct sale of its crop protection products to Vietnamese local dealers through Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam Co., Ltd. ("Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam"), a subsidiary of Sumitomo Chemical Singapore Pte Ltd., to further its crop protection business expansion in Vietnam.

By establishing direct sales capabilities, the Company will integrate the brand image of its crop protection products to increase sales in Vietnam.

Along with Vietnam's remarkable economic growth in recent years, its farming industry is progressively modernizing, and the market for crop protection products is growing. With Vietnam having become second only to Thailand as an exporter of rice, demand for crop protection products used for paddy rice cultivation is expected to increase in Vietnam. Sumitomo Chemical has a broad lineup of products for paddy rice farming and has been actively marketing these products. In Vietnam, however, Sumitomo Chemical had worked together with several trading companies and distributors for each of its products, and its brand image did not sufficiently penetrate into the market. Given this situation, the Company has decided to establish an organization for direct sales of its crop protection products through Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam, which until now has functioned as the local base for filing application for and holding registrations for agrochemicals. By enhancing Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam's capabilities, the Company aims to establish an efficient development and sales organization that will enable it to leverage a product lineup to deliver total solutions for paddy rice cultivation, and also aims to provide fine-tuned technical services. In addition, Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam will market the products of Nufarm, in which the Company has made a significant investment, in order to meet a wide range of needs for agriculture in Vietnam.

Sumitomo Chemical is strengthening its sales capabilities in Vietnam to further develop the market for its crop protection products in the Asian region, and also to expand and strengthen its crop protection business as it continues actively to globalize. Overview of Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam: Company Name: Sumitomo Chemical Vietnam Co., Ltd. Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam Established: July, 7, 2008 Paid-in Capital: 5,000 mil. VND (approx. ¥21 mil.) Ownership: Sumitomo Chemical Singapore Pte Ltd. (wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Chemical) Representative: Rei Nishimoto Number of Employees: 40 persons at present