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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WSC supports World Anti-Counterfeiting Day

On 6 June 2018, the Global Anti-Counterfeiting Group (GACG) Network is celebrating the 20th edition of the World Anti-Counterfeiting Day (WACD). The World Semiconductor Council (WSC) strongly supports the WACD and believes it is a great initiative to highlight the anti-counterfeit measures being taken across industries. The World Anti-Counterfeiting Day enables the organisation of various events focusing on particular problems of counterfeiting & piracy under the umbrella of an international outreach campaign. This year's Global Anti-Counterfeiting Awards ceremony will also be held in Paris, France on WACD, 6 June 2018.

In 2012, the WSC has established an Anti-Counterfeiting Task Force amongst the semiconductor industry associations of China, Chinese Taipei, Europe, Japan, Korea, and the United States, with the aim of promoting activities to fight counterfeiting, incl. training, awareness raising, and encouraging purchases from authorised sources. The WSC works closely with governments and authorities on policies and regulations, and encourages domestic, bilateral and multilateral counter-measures and enforcement activities. Such enhanced anti-counterfeiting cooperation activities at the industry level alongside government agencies, customs and law enforcement agencies is instrumental to identify and stop parties involved in manufacturing or trafficking in counterfeit goods. A recent EU Joint Customs Operation on counterfeit semiconductors highlighted the ongoing illicit challenges the industry continues to face in this area¹.

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), international trade in counterfeit goods represented up to 2.5% of world trade, or up to USD 461 billion². In view of these staggering numbers, the WSC is convinced by the importance of an initiative such as the World Anti-Counterfeiting Day, and believes it to be a great way of highlighting the common cause of fighting counterfeiting – industry sectors alongside well-informed customers, and national enforcement authorities.

¹ EU Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), Press release 3/7/2017. https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/03-07-2017/olaf-helps-partners-seize-over-one-million-counterfeit-semiconductors_en.

² Figures for 2013. Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)–European Union Intellectual Property Office (EU IPO) (2016), *Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods. Mapping the Economic Impact*, http://www.gacg.org/media/documents/201/041816_Mapping_the_Economic_Impact_en.pdf.

About WSC

The World Semiconductor Council is a cooperative body of the world's leading semiconductor industry associations – consisting of the Semiconductor Industry Associations in China, Chinese Taipei, Europe, Japan, Korea and the United States – that meets annually to address issues of global concern to the semiconductor industry. The WSC also meets annually with the governments and authorities of the six regions to convey industry recommendations. The WSC is dedicated to the principle that markets should be open and competitive and works to encourage policies and regulations that fuel innovation, propel business and drive international competition in order to maintain a thriving global semiconductor industry.

More information on the WSC is available at <http://www.semiconductorcouncil.org>

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