## AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

# January 30, 2025



Dear

We are writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), a Charles River Laboratories (CRL) shareholder. We have just learned that CRL intends, despite an impending trade suspension, to import a shipment of endangered long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) from Cambodia to Canada on February 3, 2025.

This shipment coincides with the opening day of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Standing Committee's critical week-long meeting, during which discussions and voting on the <u>CITES Secretariat's recommendation to suspend trade in long-tailed</u> <u>macaques from Cambodia</u> are scheduled to take place. The CITES Secretariat has moved for a suspension of trade following evidence presented by the US CITES Management Authority in November 2024 of wild-caught macaques being laundered as captive-bred as well as unsustainable breeding practices in the Cambodian monkey farms. These recommendations underscore the urgency of addressing the exploitation of these endangered primates and ensuring compliance with the CITES treaty.

As shareholders, we must all be concerned that Charles River Laboratories has apparently chosen to exploit this narrow window before an anticipated trade suspension to import another shipment of macaques from Cambodia. This action appears to prioritize short-term profit over ethical considerations, international conservation efforts, and the company's long-term stability.

The February 3<sup>rd</sup> scheduled shipment into Canada comes nearly two years after CRL had five shipments of long-tailed macaques from Cambodia denied clearance by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Those monkeys continue to languish in legal limbo in the U.S., and CRL has confirmed in their SEC filings that "The carrying value of the inventory related to these shipments was approximately \$27 million." Given the steady decline of CRL share value, the company is in no position to once again find itself as a monkey daycare facility.

Given the high likelihood that trade in Cambodian macaques will be suspended following the CITES Standing Committee meeting February 3-8, 2025, as shareholders, the question that must be asked is what does Charles River

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Laboratories intend to do with these newly imported animals if they cannot be used for research or trade? What will CRL do when it finds itself unable to re-export specimens derived from Cambodian-origin macaques in Canada? USFWS officials denied CRL's re-export permits for Cambodian-origin specimens in early 2023. Canada is a CITES signatory and is expected to abide by the decisions that regulate trade.

We urge you to call on Charles River Laboratories to cancel this shipment and commit to halting all imports of long-tailed macaques from Cambodia and other countries with unresolved CITES compliance issues. This is an opportunity for CRL to demonstrate ethical leadership and align with global conservation efforts, thereby protecting its reputation, shareholder value, and the welfare of these endangered animals.

Sincerely,

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