# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SEC FORM 17-C

## CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

1. Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

Jul 30, 2021

2. SEC Identification Number

9170

3. BIR Tax Identification No.

040000400016

4. Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter

UNIVERSAL ROBINA CORPORATION

5. Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation

**Philippines** 

- 6. Industry Classification Code(SEC Use Only)
- 7. Address of principal office

8th Floor, Tera Tower, Bridgetowne, E. Rodriguez, Jr. Avenue (C5 Road), Ugong Norte, Quezon City, Me

Postal Code

1110

8. Issuer's telephone number, including area code

(632) 8633-7631 to 40

9. Former name or former address, if changed since last report

N/A

10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the SRC or Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA

Title of Each Class	Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding and Amount of Debt Outstanding	
Common	2,204,161,868	

11. Indicate the item numbers reported herein

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PSE Disclosure Form 4-31 - Press Release References: SRC Rule 17 (SEC Form 17-C) Section 4.4 of the Revised Disclosure Rules

Subject of the Disclosure			
Press release			
Background/Description of the Disclosure	ground/Description of the Disclosure		
Please see attached press release entitled "URC	hed press release entitled "URC RAISES 2021 DIVIDENDS ON HIGHER NET INCOME"		
Other Relevant Information  N/A			
Filed on behalf by:			
Name	Maria Celia Fernandez-Estavillo		
Designation	Corporate Secretary		



#### URC RAISES 2021 DIVIDENDS ON HIGHER NET INCOME

Universal Robina Corporation (URC) announced a 5% increase in dividends and a share buy-back plan for 2021 on the back of higher net income and significantly stronger cash position. For the first half of 2021, URC reported net income after tax of Php 8.5 billion, up 42% versus the same period last year, due to a one-time gain from sale of idle land as well as benefits from the Comprehensive Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act.

URC's strong financial position is also expected to be further bolstered by cash proceeds from the sale of its remaining 60% stake in the Unisnack Oceania joint venture, when regulatory approvals are completed. At the end of the first half of 2021, URC's balance sheet had a healthy cash balance of Php 17.3 billion, net debt of Php 26.3 billion and a low gearing ratio of 0.42. With continued strong cash flow foreseen, URC is raising 2021 dividends to Php 3.30 per share versus Php 3.15 per share in recent years. In addition, returns to shareholders will be increased through a share buy-back plan initially targeted at Php 3 billion.

URC's operating results continue to be solid. Net sales for the six months ending June 30, 2021 reached Php 68.5 billion, a 2% increase compared to the same period last year, driven by the continued recovery of the international business units and growth from the commodities division. Operating income for the same period held at Php 8.2 billion, same versus last year, as pricing initiatives and cost savings were able to partially offset increasing input costs and changes in mix.

#### SALES PERFORMANCE PER BUSINESS

Branded Consumer Foods (BCF): Sales of domestic and international branded consumer foods amounted to Php 51.7 billion for the first half of the year. Domestic revenues closed at Php 29.2 billion, a 7% decline versus last year, as the Philippine business cycles through a higher base last year from pantry-loading, and as consumer sentiment and trading conditions remained weak. Despite this, the company continued to increase shares amidst the declining market. International revenues continue to recover, with a 13% growth in the first half to reach Php 21.6 billion as all clusters grew versus last year. Both Vietnam and Thailand were key drivers as they recorded high double-digit growth for the period.

**Agro-Industrial & Commodities (AIC):** Sales of our Agro-Industrial & Commodities division for the first half increased by 2% versus last year to Php 16.8 billion. The Commodity Foods Group's +13% growth was mainly driven by the contribution of last year's acquisitions, Central Azucarera de La Carlota and Roxol Bioenergy Corporation. The Agro-Industrial Group's sales declined by 15%, with lower sales volumes due to the strategic downsizing of its hog farming operations.

### URC CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE

Irwin Lee, URC President and CEO, said, "The COVID-19 pandemic continues to weigh down markets. Despite these challenges, we were still able to continue to gain market shares, grow topline, maintain profit, and increase cashflow. We are holding strong in weak market conditions in this crisis; but also using this crisis to prepare and reshape our business for long term sustained value creation. This gives us confidence to continue investing for growth while increasing returns to shareholders."

