# FAIRPHONE

## Fairphone to release second major system upgrade to Android 7 'Nougat'



**Amsterdam, 08.05.2018** - today Fairphone announced that this summer it will upgrade its Fairphone 2 to Android 7.1.2 'Nougat' - along with new transparent and black translucent covers that are available as of now on their webshop. This marks a rare example of a device receiving two major system upgrades, and will help to make the Fairphone 2 more long lasting. Fairphone was initially released with Android 5 and already received an upgrade to Android 6. Fairphone is the only company on the market that uses a Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 chipset to upgrade to Android 7.

**Creating a longer lasting phone: Updated software and new cases**
Fairphone is releasing this upgrade almost 3 years after the initial release of the Fairphone 2, despite the fact that the chipset it uses does not receive official support from the chipset vendor

anymore. Through the work it did with partners and by drawing on existing work that has been done by developers in the wider open source community, Fairphone was still able to release this upgrade. This will have key benefits for its users as upgrading to Android 7 will make it easier for Fairphone to keep servicing the Fairphone 2 with security updates for a longer time. Additionally the upgrade to Android 7 comes with improvements to usability such as the split screen mode and features that save energy more effectively such as the improved doze mode. The release of the popular transparent and black translucent covers create an additional incentive for users to keep their phones longer and share its story. These will be available on Fairphone's webshop for 30 Euros and extend the available colours to 6.

To have two major system upgrades for a device is rare and will make the Fairphone 2 last longer  as Olivier Hebert, CTO of Fairphone, describes: *"It is more challenging to provide upgrades to later versions of Android that meet the requirements for production releases once support for a specific chipset has been discontinued by the vendor - and success is not guaranteed from the start, but we are committed to extend the lifespan of the Fairphone 2, which is why we also committed to providing this upgrade to our customers. "*. Fairphone will now assess whether it can also upgrade its device from Android 7 to 8 in a similar way it upgrades its device from Android 6 to 7.

The upgrade will come in two different versions, a standard version with Google Mobile Services (GMS) and an open version. The open version of Android will have publically available source code, and will be shipped without pre-installed Google Mobile Services (GMS), while the standard Fairphone OS will come with these popular services. The availability of the source code also opens up the possibility that other developers could draw on the existing work done by Fairphone and adapt it to other phones with the same chipset, that still run Android 6.


**Note to the editor**
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

About Fairphone
Fairphone is a social enterprise that is building a movement for fairer electronics. By making a phone, we're opening up the supply chain and creating new relationships between people and their products. We're making a positive impact across the value chain in mining, design, manufacturing and life cycle, while expanding the market for products that put ethical values first. Together with our community, we're changing the way products are made.

www.fairphone.com

**Photos, videos, fact sheets and other materials are available at the Fairphone press page:**
https://fairphone.com/en/about/press/

**For picture content:** https://www.flickr.com/photos/fairphone/

**Fairphone 2 key technical specifications**

*Display*
5-inch, Full HD LCD display
Gorilla® Glass 3

*Platform*
Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ 801 platform,
2GB RAM

*Operating System*
Android ™ 6

*Camera*
12 megapixel rear camera

*SIM slots*
Dual SIM

*Battery*
2420 mAh removable lithium-ion battery

*Connectivity*
4G LTE/3G/2G
Wi-Fi (802.11 b/g/n/ac),
Bluetooth® 4.0 LE, GPS

*Storage*
32 GB internal storage
Expandable storage via MicroSD slot

**For additional information and interview requests, please contact:**
Lina Ruiz
Email: lina@fairphone.com
Tel: +31 20 788 44 02