

United Nations

Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations

Subject : Reducing Food Waste

Submit by: Malta

The General Assembly,

*Recognizing* the growing challenge of food waste, which poses a significant threat to global food security, this resolution letter underscores the urgency of adopting concrete measures to mitigate this issue and promote more efficient management of food resources ;

*Observing* that each year, approximately one-third of all food produced for human consumption worldwide - around 1.3 billion tonnes - is lost or wasted (Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO);

*Considering that* approximately 40% of global food losses occur at the consumption level, according to FAO, that up to 50% of fruits and vegetables are lost between harvest and retail sale, according to UNEP, and that if only 25% of the food wasted globally were recovered, it could feed 870 million hungry people, according to FAO;

*Highlighting* that food waste has devastating environmental consequences, contributing to unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and biodiversity loss, thereby exacerbating the challenges of climate change (Source: United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP);

*Recalling* the moral imperative to reduce food waste, as nearly 690 million people worldwide still suffer from hunger, and this issue hampers the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the "Zero Hunger" goal (Source: United Nations, UN);

*Noting* that food waste occurs at all stages of the food supply chain, from agricultural production to final consumption, and integrated solutions are needed to effectively address this problem;

*Encouraging* all Member States to adopt a multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach to reduce food waste, implementing policies and programs tailored to national and local contexts;

*Recognizing* the importance of public awareness and education in combating food waste, particularly in terms of adopting sustainable eating behaviors and food valorization;

*Aware* of the need to strengthen international cooperation to share best practices, technologies, and resources in the fight against food waste, and to support developing countries in their efforts to improve food security and reduce food losses;

1) *Encourage* Member States to develop and implement awareness campaigns to inform citizens about the causes and consequences of food waste, as well as ways to reduce waste at home, in schools, businesses, and public institutions,

2) *Encourage* Member States to invest in modern infrastructure and technologies for efficient food supply chain management, including proper storage, efficient transportation, equitable distribution, and inventory management,

3) *Encourage* Member States to develop policies and incentives to facilitate food donation, simplifying administrative procedures, offering tax incentives to companies and individuals contributing to food donation, and strengthening partnerships among public, private, and civil society actors.

4) *Support* research and development of innovative technologies for food waste reduction, such as mobile applications for surplus food sharing, intelligent inventory management systems, food preservation solutions, and food processing techniques for valorizing by-products, because technological solutions such as surplus food-sharing apps have the potential to significantly reduce food waste, according to World Bank studies,

5) *Encourage* Member States to strengthen international cooperation to combat food waste, sharing best practices, data, and resources, supporting regional and global initiatives to combat food waste, and integrating food waste reduction into development and humanitarian aid programs,

6) *Urge* all Member States to take concrete and effective measures to implement these recommendations and to actively cooperate with United Nations agencies, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector to achieve this crucial goal.