Food Loss and Waste Call to Action for the COP31 Presidency and Climate High-Level Champion

We, a consortium of international NGOs working to reduce food loss and waste worldwide, commend the COP31 Presidency and Climate High-Level Champion for prioritizing zero food waste through the Zero Waste and Circular Economy package, developed in partnership with the Zero Waste Foundation.

Reducing food loss and waste offers one of the most immediate, cost-effective and impactful opportunities to reduce waste, methane and other greenhouse gas emissions – while strengthening food security, addressing hunger, and supporting resilient communities.

At COP30, we committed to the Plan to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) on **Advancing Food Security and Nutrition through Food Recovery and FLW Reduction**, which brings together food loss and waste efforts across more than 50 countries. At COP31, we aim to build on this momentum by turning commitment into collective action on the following goals by 2030:

1. Provide food to people and improve nutrition outcomes for communities facing hunger through food recovery;
2. Reduce food loss and waste; and
3. Avoid greenhouse gas emissions.

We urge global leaders also to turn their strong signals of intent into meaningful action. We, therefore, call for COP31 to deliver the following actions:

1. **Formally recognize the urgency and opportunity of advancing food loss and waste reductions as a cross-cutting climate solution**, aligned with the priority focus on Zero Waste and Food Security at COP31, and beyond.
2. **Turn existing global and national commitments on food loss and waste into concrete policies, implementation road maps and reduction targets** backed by political will, on the basis of available science, good policy practices, and solid monitoring and evaluation frameworks.
3. **Include food loss and waste reduction in all relevant COP31 negotiated outcomes** and **promote "the COP31 Declaration on Reducing Food Loss and Waste for Climate Action, Food Security and Resilient Food Systems"** that launched at COP31 and is open for endorsement by countries on the road to COP32.
4. **Unlock needed financial flows** to accelerate food waste reductions, improve food security, cut methane emissions, and build resilient communities. These

financial resources should prioritize existing solutions frameworks and must reach national and sub-national actors that are delivering progress on the ground.

These actions reinforce our ask of national governments – as outlined in the Global Action Drive's 'Food Loss & Waste Call to Action for National Governments" -- to embed food loss and waste action in their national strategies to meet the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

As leading non-governmental organizations with global reach and strong in-country networks, we are committed to delivering on the PAS and advancing this agenda by providing technical expertise, knowledge-sharing and reporting tools; building coalitions; and driving meaningful solutions across sectors and geographies to build a more resilient, more efficient, and more equitable food system.

We look forward to working with you and all leaders committed to our shared vision of a world with zero food waste that improves food security; reduces emissions; and creates a stronger, healthier, and more sustainable future for all people.

Signed by the following organizations:

- Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP)
- Ambition Loop
- GAIA
- ReFED
- The Global FoodBanking Network
- World Resources Institute
- WRAP
- WWF