DECLARATION ON SURPLUS FOOD SHARING AND REDISTRIBUTION

Supporting global efforts on climate action, food security and the transition to a circular economy.

Good food, that is safe, nutritious and appropriate food, is being lost or wasted while people go hungry and communities face growing pressure from climate breakdown, food insecurity and social fragmentation. Food loss and waste prevention at source is the priority, but where safe and nutritious surplus does arise, food sharing and redistribution is a recognised circular economy solution that saves resources, prevents good food from going to waste, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. This is also an effective way to bring people together and to improve access to nutrition, thereby supporting food security, and promoting healthy and connected communities, in line with global commitments under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goals 2 (Zero Hunger), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and 13 (Climate Action).

We express our support for accelerating efforts to prevent food loss and waste through surplus food sharing and redistribution, and we commit to:

1. Recognising surplus food sharing and redistribution as an effective solution that supports global efforts on climate action, food security, food systems transformation, and the transition to a circular economy.

2. Taking a food-first approach to surplus edible food, prioritising getting safe, nutritious and appropriate food, to people that can use it ahead of other uses.

3. Incorporating surplus food sharing and redistribution in whole of government approaches to food security, social cohesion and public health; and in responses aimed at alleviating the impact of, and adapting to, climate breakdown-related disruption, including in climate action plans, sustainable food systems strategies and Nationally Determined Contributions.

4. Supporting scalable surplus food sharing and redistribution by working together with food systems stakeholders to develop evidence informed measures that remove barriers to surplus food donation, support surplus food donation frameworks, and facilitate investment in innovative food sharing infrastructure and solutions. These include community food hubs, social shops, farm-level food recovery programmes, and digitally based redistribution.