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Food and Agriculture  
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Продовольственная и  
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Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

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# CONFERENCE

## Forty-first Session

Rome, 22-29 June 2019

### International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (Draft Resolution)

#### Executive Summary

The Government of Argentina proposed the establishment of an International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (FLW), on 29 September each year, in an effort to raise awareness at all levels of the need for concerted attention to reduce FLW and promote global efforts and collective actions toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 12.3: “By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.” Reducing FLW would contribute to increasing the efficiency and sustainability of food systems to deliver better on nutrition, food security as well as on environmental benefit.

*Extract from the Report of the 160<sup>th</sup> Council Session (3-7 December 2018):*

19. The Council [...] endorsed:

- d) the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COAG on the observance by the UN System of an “International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste” on 29 September every year.

#### Suggested action by the Conference

The Conference may wish to approve the draft resolution in Annex and to request the Director-General to transmit it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring 29 September as International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste.

*Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:*

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**Resolution .../2019****International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste****THE CONFERENCE,**

**Considering** the urgent need to raise awareness of the economic, social and environmental impacts of Food Loss and Waste (FLW) and of the need for actions to stem the problem of FLW;

**Recalling** that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 12.3 calls for halving per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains (including post-harvest losses) by 2030;

**Recognizing** that high levels of FLW reduce the efficiency of the value chain, and thus the sustainability of food systems;

**Recognizing** that high levels of food losses negatively impact the availability of and access to food, as well as incomes in poorer segments of society in middle- and low-income countries;

**Noting** that FLW are drivers of climate change and environmental degradation;

**Noting** that reducing FLW will also directly impact a number of other SDG Goals;

**Cognizant** of the urgent need to raise awareness and to educate food supply chain actors and consumers in particular, in order to bring about behaviour change toward achieving the sustained reduction of FLW;

**Expressing** concern that current efforts to address FLW reduction are highly fragmented;

**Cognizant** of the critical role of the private sector in bringing about a reduction in FLW at the global level;

**Recognizing** that the observance of an International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste would contribute significantly to raising awareness at all levels, of the need to reduce FLW and promote global efforts and collective actions toward achieving SDG target 12.3.;

**Stressing** that costs arising from the implementation of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste, and FAO involvement, will be met by voluntary contributions;

**Requests** the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring 29 September of each year as the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste.

(Adopted on ... June 2019)