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The #123 Food Loss and Waste Pledge for Climate Action

The purpose of this Pledge is to express the Scottish Government's commitment to help halve global food waste and reduce food loss by at least 25% by 2030.

It is widely recognised that food loss and waste contributes up to **10% of global GHG emissions**. This implies that halving food loss and waste would help countries to achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) beyond their commitments in the Paris Agreement and help companies in their race to NetZero.

About: Scottish Government

In the year 2023, the Scottish Government, acting in compliance with its constitution, rules and regulations and within existing resources, will embed food loss and waste considerations across relevant policies and strategies, including the Good Food Nation Plan; the Local Food Strategy; and the Agricultural Reform Programme, as well as through the review of the 2019 Food Waste Reduction Action Plan, and our circular economy and waste Route Map to 2025 and beyond, to help meet our 33% food waste reduction target by 2025.

This commitment aligns with the following 'Impact Areas for the Pledge':

- Policy & regulation for FLW reduction
- Reductions along the value chain
- Reduction at the national and subnational (city) level
- Measurement and monitoring of FLW
- Awareness, education and behaviour change

This commitment is additional to any previous commitments made regarding food loss and waste, namely:

- Our voluntarily participation in the Courtauld Commitment 2030 to reduce food waste by 50% per capita by 2030.

In support of lesson learning and mutual accountability, the Scottish Government commits to providing, in compliance with the Scottish Government's status and its applicable rules and regulations, information on progress and impact achieved to monitor progress of the pledge.

This information will be included in the annual progress report of the Food is Never Waste Coalition (which will contribute to the Global Stocktake (GST) that will take place at COP28 in 2023 in the United Arab Emirates) or the Champions 12.3 Annual Progress Report.

Disclaimer

This pledge is a non-binding statement and is not intended to create any legally enforceable rights or obligations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a cursive 'G' and a long horizontal stroke.

MAIRI GOUGEON

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform, and Islands
Edinburgh, 29 September 2023

