## UN Food Systems Summit Coalition of Action Sustainable Productivity Growth for Food Security and Resource Conservation

## **Declaration of Support**

Agriculture faces the daunting challenge of producing more food to meet the nutrition needs of a growing world population while at the same time coping with climate change and evertightening natural resource constraints. This challenge is made even more complex by the fact that unless safe and nutritious food is affordable, and reliably accessible, food security and malnutrition will persist. In addition, unless farmers and farm workers make decent incomes, poverty will grow, and farming will fail.

We recognize that given tightening natural resource constraints, raising the productivity of existing natural resources—rather than bringing new resources into production—is the only viable option to meet food security needs of current and future generations. Only through sustainable productivity growth can we meet the world's growing nutrition needs without bankrupting farmers, consumers, and nature.

We also recognize that while agricultural productivity growth is a necessary part of the solution, it is not sufficient to ensure all desired outcomes. Delivering on the multi-objective potential of agricultural productivity growth requires a holistic, systems approach to resource conservation and efficiency.

We recognize that a Coalition of Action focused on *sustainable* productivity growth could help break silos and deliver on agricultural productivity growth's potential to accelerate progress across multiple sustainability objectives.

We therefore join with likeminded countries and organizations in supporting the formation of a Coalition of Action on Sustainable Productivity Growth for Food Security and Resource Conservation, as described in the annex to this declaration.

Name:

W. Daren Coppock

President & CEO

Title:

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Agricultural Retailers Association

Signature:

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Submit to Elise Golan, Director of Sustainable Development, Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, <u>elise.golan@usda.gov</u> and Cathy McKinnell, FAS Food Systems Summit Coordinator, Senior Policy Advisor, Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture <u>Cathy.McKinnell@usda.gov</u>.

Date: