Lenten **PLEDGE**

Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

I **PLEDGE** – a statement on just consumption, food waste and post harvest losses

During this Lenten season, I will not be a passive witness to the unnecessary tragedy of almost one billion of my sisters and brothers around the world going to bed hungry tonight. While I reflect on all that I am blessed with, including the food that is God's gift to all of us in creation, springing from the soil for our daily sustenance, I remember that 15 million children worldwide die from hunger each year. That hunger still exists, when 30 to 50% of the approximately four billion metric tons of food produced each year is squandered through our own negligence, is a tragedy of untold proportions. As a person of faith, I cannot stand by while life-giving nutrients, and all of the valuable resources that were used in their production, are wasted through our own fault.

All people have a God-given right to have enough to eat each day, and our world produces more than enough food to feed us all. But hunger exists in both developing and developed countries and for all people to have access to food, we must, individually and together, tackle food waste and eliminate loss. To feed all people, we must confront the issues surrounding food production, storage and transportation, as well as consumer expectations.

In this season of prayer and repentance, I will work to reduce my own food waste, advocate for just consumption, and join with others in actions to eradicate chronic hunger and improve livelihoods. I will reflect on and respond to Jesus's words to his followers, "Gather the pieces of fish and bread that were not eaten. Don't waste anything."

Signed:
(please print your name and country)

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