

16 October, 2025

Re: Civil Society Endorsements of the Special Rapporteur's report on <u>Corporate Power</u> and <u>Human Rights in Food Systems</u>

To the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, United Nations Human Rights Office –

Warm greetings. On the occasion of World Food Day 2025, it is our pleasure to offer support and endorsement for your efforts to advance and protect the Right to Food. As civil society organizations committed to the cause of human rights, we commend and uplift the findings of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in your recent report on corporate power and human rights in food systems. Through our ongoing work spanning the intersections of food, agriculture, land, forests, biodiversity, climate and human rights, we underscore the critical need to curtail corporate power as a means to advance the human right to food.

Under this cover, we are pleased to share with you the endorsements of a number of civil society organizations and individuals who are proud to affirm and advance your critical mission.

In solidarity,

Jeff Conant
Senior International Forests Program Manager
Friends of the Earth U.S.

The undersigned organizations commend and uplift the findings of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in his recent report on corporate power and human rights in food systems. Through our ongoing work spanning the intersections of food, agriculture, land, forests, biodiversity, climate and human rights, we underscore the critical need to curtail corporate power as a means to advance the human right to food.

At a time when food prices are preventing access to healthy food for ordinary working people, when food itself is being weaponized in conflict regions to drive mass famine, displacement, and genocide; when industrial agribusiness is driving a death spiral of species loss, land grabbing, petrochemical poisoning and climate emergency; and when the United States has abandoned its responsibility to the international community and is aggressively undermining global human rights, it is urgent that global civil society step up to affirm, uphold and advance the human right to food.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food has recently issued a report on "corporate power and human rights in food systems," in which it is noted that "Corporate power in food systems is highly concentrated, allowing a relatively small group of people to shape food systems in a way that serves the ultimate goal of profit maximization instead of the public good." The report calls for efforts to "curtail corporate power; ensure food markets are fair and stable; and hold corporations accountable for human rights violations in food systems."

The UN Special Rapporteur's identification of corporate power as a root cause of these intersecting crises inspires us and calls us to action.

I therefore pledge to uphold, defend and protect the human right to food. With my words and my actions, recognizing both the extent and the limits of my personal power and ability, I pledge to stand with efforts to reject the weaponization of food and hunger; to support local food and farm economies; to expose and challenge corporate control of food and food systems; and generally to affirm that food is and should be treated not as a brute commodity for speculation, but as a human right and a public good.

## **Organizational endorsements**

ActionAid USA

Adasina Social Capital

BankTrack

Bank.Green

Blue Dalian

Coffee Watch

Foodrise

Friends of the Earth US

Friends of the Earth (England, Wales & Northern Ireland)

IRPAD/Africa

Network for Social Justice and Human Rights (Brazil)

Oakland Institute

Profundo

Rainforest Action Network

## **Individual signatories**