



Ms. Alexandra Nikolakopoulou  
Head of Unit  
DG SANTE  
European Commission  
Breydelstraat 4  
1040 Brussels  
Belgium

Düsseldorf, 30 June 2021

## LETTER OF INTENT

Dear Ms. Nikolakopoulou,

It is with great optimism and the firm belief that with joint forces we can truly create a sustainable supply chain from farm to fork that today, I would like to thank you for reaching out to align on this business critical matter. I am pleased to inform you that METRO will proudly join the list of first signatories of the "EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Business and Marketing Practices".

As a leading international wholesale specialist with operations in 34 countries, we understand that to balance the demand of an ever-growing population with the limits of planetary resources, we need to build a more sustainable food industry and join forces in order to do so in an even more impactful way.

To this end, we, at METRO, have pursued ambitious and purposive work in the field of sustainability for more than two decades now. I can assure you that we will join the Code of Conduct in this spirit. We will not only contribute to the common aspirations outlined in the "Code of Conduct", but intend to go beyond by committing to the second component of the "Code of Conduct" with existing and new commitments and transparent reporting of the following key sustainability objectives:

- **Food Waste**

- In 2016, METRO AG committed to the Consumer Goods Forum Resolution on Food Waste with the aim of reducing food waste by 50% in own operations by 2025.

- **Assortment**

- **Reformulation:** Within our own brand range, we revise applicable products for reformulation to reduce fat, salt and sugar content and/or eliminate additives.
- **Sustainable Supply Chains:** METRO is working towards more sustainable supply chains. We have strong policies and efficient action plans in place to



- transform our own brand range, especially in the fields of fish & seafood, palm oil and soy.
- **Climate neutrality in our own operations by 2040** METRO has decided to go one step beyond our existing climate target for 2030 and strives towards climate neutrality in our own global business operations by 2040. This ambitious target entails an extensive set of measures supported by heavy investments in technology and innovation, which mainly encompasses zero emission stores for new store buildings, energy saving measures as well as phasing out fluor gases in cooling and fossil heating, and increasing the use of photovoltaic systems and electrification of the company's car fleet.

We will gladly submit our full rationale and motivation in due time. For now, we want to make sure to support the successful and effective launch of the Code of Conduct as we see a broad adoption throughout the whole food supply chain as the strong signal towards European policy makers and the general public that is needed for the Code of Conduct to become a trusted and forceful tool in the transformation of the diverse food sector.

Kind regards,

Dr. Steffen Greubel  
CEO  
METRO AG