

March 6, 2026

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned organizations write to express our support for your efforts to reform the United Nations in ways that deliver value to U.S. farmers, ranchers, growers, food manufacturers, and agribusinesses. As the United States rightly reassesses its role across the UN, the election of the next Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) presents a rare opportunity to put America first by reasserting U.S. leadership within this consequential UN agency. We therefore respectfully request that your Administration back a U.S. candidate for Director-General, specifically Ms. Beth Bechdol, who is uniquely positioned to win the election and lead meaningful FAO reform, delivering another victory for your America First agenda while strengthening rural America.

An American has not led FAO in more than seventy years, even as the United States remains its largest financial contributor. A strong American Director-General can realign FAO in ways that better reflect U.S. interests, such as focusing FAO's core functions to serve the 21st century needs of the agricultural sector. Realigning FAO's strategic focus will ensure that American producers can compete on a fair and level global playing field. If the United States does not act, others with very different priorities will shape FAO's direction for years to come.

You have made clear that America's farmers are "the backbone of our country," and we deeply appreciate your commitment to ensuring they have the tools, markets, and policies needed to succeed. With U.S. agricultural exports valued at \$171 billion in 2025, we welcomed your recognition of FAO's value when it was not included in your January 7, 2026 Presidential Memorandum on withdrawal. With Beth at the helm, FAO becomes a practical tool for delivering results for rural America—opening markets for U.S. products and technology, advancing science-based policies, supporting plant and animal health, promoting food safety, and helping U.S. farmers compete more effectively in global markets.

Beth is not only the right U.S. candidate, she is the strongest candidate. In her current role as Deputy Director-General of FAO, she has earned the confidence of Members across all regions and is uniquely positioned to secure a decisive victory. Her experience also equips her to drive necessary bureaucratic reform with no learning curve. From day one, she will impose budget discipline, prioritize efficiency and cost control, demand accountability to Member States, and shift FAO's focus from endless planning to measurable delivery. Beth's election would open a new chapter at FAO moving from ideology and bureaucratic bloat to transparency, accountability, and results.

Your decision to support Beth as Deputy Director-General during your first term was wise and effective. Raised on a seven-generation farm in rural Indiana, Beth brings a farmer's insistence on

practicality and accountability. She began her career at the U.S. Department of Agriculture under President George W. Bush and has consistently championed farmers, science, innovation, and modern agricultural systems. Her record at FAO confirms that she delivers outcomes, rejects empty rhetoric, and is prepared to lead the organization.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations endorse Beth's candidacy in the strongest possible terms and stand ready to mobilize our international networks to support her. We respectfully request that you designate her as the official U.S. candidate and direct coordinated Cabinet-level engagement, supported by the full weight of U.S. diplomatic and political resources, to secure her election. Backing a strong American candidate for FAO Director-General advances your America First agenda by restoring U.S. leadership, delivering for rural America, and securing a lasting legacy in global agriculture that strengthens our economic prosperity, national security, and long-term stability.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Almond Alliance  
American Beverage Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Mushroom Institute  
American Seed Trade Association  
American Soybean Association  
American Spice Trade Association  
Animal Health Institute  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Beck's Superior Hybrids  
Blue Diamond Growers  
California Citrus Quality Council  
California Walnut Commission  
Calorie Control Council  
Corn Refiners Association  
Corteva Agriscience  
Council of Producers & Distributors of  
Agrotechnology (CPDA)  
CropLife America  
Demeter Lp  
Edible Oil Producers Association  
Elanco  
FieldWatch  
Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association  
of the United States  
Food and Agricultural Export Association  
Food and Agriculture Export Alliance

Fresh Produce Association of the Americas  
Global Farmer Network  
Halderman Farm Management Service, Inc.  
Idaho Dairymen's Association, Inc.  
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association  
Indiana Corn Growers  
Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.  
Indiana Pork Producers Association  
Indiana Soybean Alliance, Inc.  
International Council of Beverages  
Associations  
International Dairy Foods Association  
International Food Additives Council  
International Fresh Produce Association  
Iowa State Dairy Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Kansas Livestock Association  
Keystone Cooperative  
L&M Glick Seed  
Meat Institute  
Milk Producers Council  
Mississippi Farm Bureau  
Missouri Agribusiness Association  
National Alliance of Independent Crop  
Consultants  
National Association of State Departments of  
Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Corn Growers Association

National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National Fisheries Institute  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Oilseed Processors Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Potato Council  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Turkey Federation  
Nebraska Agri-Business Association  
North American Export Grain Association  
North American Millers' Association  
North American Renderers Association  
Northeast Dairy Producers Association  
Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association  
Pet Food Institute  
Premier Companies

Schulze Dairy LLC  
Southern Crop Production Association  
Strategic Digital Communications  
Sweetener Users Association  
Texas Seed Trade Association  
The Agricultural Alumni Seed Improvement  
Association, Inc.  
The Center for Dairy Excellence  
The Fertilizer Institute  
U.S. Dairy Export Council  
U.S. Grains & BioProducts Council  
U.S. Meat Export Federation  
U.S. Soybean Export Council  
U.S. Wheat Associates  
United Animal Health  
US Dry Bean Council  
USA Poultry & Egg Export Council  
USA Rice  
Wine Institute  
World Brewing Alliance

cc:

The Honorable Marco Rubio, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture  
The Honorable Jamieson Greer, United States Trade Representative