

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT GROUP EU PLATFORM ON FOOD LOSSES AND FOOD WASTE

1. Background

The European Union and its Member States are committed to contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goal Target 12.3¹ to halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, by 2030. To support this objective and maximise the contribution of all relevant actors, in 2016 the Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety ('DG SANTE') established the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste² ('the Platform') as an informal expert group bringing together Member States and stakeholders to actively contribute to the achievement of the target. The Platform has been operating in accordance with the Commission's horizontal rules for expert groups³ ('the horizontal rules') and is registered in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups')⁴.

During its first mandate (2016–2021), the Platform supported the Commission, Member States, regional/local authorities and stakeholders in contributing to SDG Target 12.3 by facilitating the exchange of information, learning and best practices on food waste prevention, including on national food waste prevention programmes, and monitoring of food waste levels. It also supported the implementation of relevant actions under the Circular Economy Action Plan, including the development of a common food waste measurement methodology⁵, EU guidelines on food donation⁶, the use of former foodstuffs as animal feed⁷, and work on date marking. Furthermore, the Platform supported actors in identifying and implementing food waste prevention actions at national, regional and local level, including through recommendations, evaluation tools and practical guidance.

In its second mandate (2022–2026), the Platform supported the Commission, Member States, regional/local authorities and stakeholders by continuing to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, research and best practices, supporting Member States and stakeholders in developing and implementing effective food waste prevention actions. Most importantly, it supported the Commission in the preparation of its legislative proposal for the amendment of the Waste Framework Directive⁸ and Member States in their preparations for the implementation of the amended Directive in order to reach the forthcoming food waste reduction targets. It also contributed to the development of key deliverables, including a report with examples of voluntary agreements and other forms of collaborations across Europe⁹, and a report with recommendations for actions to support food donation¹⁰. Finally, it supported the work of the European Consumer Food Waste

¹ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-consumption-production/>

² https://food.ec.europa.eu/food-safety/food-waste/eu-actions-against-food-waste/eu-platform-food-losses-and-food-waste_en

³ [Commission Decision C\(2016\)3301](#).

⁴ <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm>

⁵ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_del/2019/1597/oj

⁶ [EU Food donation guidelines](#), 2017.

⁷ [EU Guidelines for the feed use of food no longer intended for human consumption](#), 2018.

⁸ See e.g. Annex II to the Impact Assessment Report SWD (2023) 421 final

⁹ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/3803332e-2d1d-11ef-a61b-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

¹⁰ Expected to be adopted by the Platform during the 2nd half of 2026.

Forum, established by the European Commission in 2021 as a pilot project¹¹, through the involvement of its consumer food waste subgroup, which contributed to the development of a toolkit of practical resources for policymakers and practitioners.

The adoption of the revised Waste Framework Directive¹² in 2025 represents a major step forward in addressing the environmental, social, and economic impacts of food waste, and provides a crucial opportunity for the Member States to accelerate their efforts in meeting reduction goals. The amended Directive introduces legally binding food waste reduction targets for Member States to achieve by 2030: a 10% reduction in food waste generated during processing and manufacturing and a 30% (per capita) reduction jointly at retail and consumption (restaurants, food services and households), compared against the amount of food waste generated as an annual average between 2021 and 2023. In addition, Member States are required to encourage food donation and facilitate food donation agreements between economic operators and food redistribution organisations. The Directive also requires the Commission to establish a tourism correction factor by 17 October 2027 and to carry out, by the end of 2027, a review of the targets, including an assessment of the extent and causes of food waste and losses in primary production, the impact of changes in production levels on reaching the target for processing and manufacturing, and the feasibility of targets beyond 2030.

To support the above, DG SANTE has taken the initiative to amend the Platform's terms of reference and to renew the Platform's mandate for a further five-year period (2027 to 2031). Building on the achievements of its previous mandates, the Platform will continue to support the Commission, Member States, regional/local authorities and stakeholders by facilitating cooperation, promoting the exchange of knowledge and best practices, and contributing, where relevant, to the implementation of key actions and deliverables foreseen under the 2025 amendment of the Waste Framework Directive.

Under its third mandate, the Platform shall place particular emphasis on supporting actions and measures contributing to the achievement of the Member States' food waste reduction targets as set out in the amended Waste Framework Directive, while continuing to promote measures to prevent food loss and food waste across the food value chain beyond 2030.

More specifically, the Platform's tasks shall be:

- to support the Commission in its work to identify and prioritise actions to be taken at EU level in order to prevent food losses and food waste as well as support all actors in identifying and implementing appropriate actions to be taken at national, regional and local levels;
- to assist the Commission in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of policies related to food loss and food waste prevention, including the implementation of measures under the Waste Framework Directive, food waste

¹¹ Pilot projects and preparatory actions (PPs and PAs) are tools in the EU budget designed to test new policy initiatives or prepare the ground for the adoption of future programmes. PPs and PAs give Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) the possibility to initiate innovative policies and fund them before a legal act has been adopted. The financing of both new PPs and PAs and those continued from previous years must be included in the EU budget under the annual budgetary procedure. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_ATA\(2024\)762365](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_ATA(2024)762365)

¹² [Directive \(EU\) 2025/1892 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 September 2025 amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste](#), COM/2025/1892.

monitoring, reporting and evaluation, and actions supporting the achievement of the EU's food waste reduction targets;

- to support Member States in the design, implementation and evaluation of national food waste prevention programmes and measures, set out in the Waste Framework Directive;
- to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience on food waste measurement, monitoring and reporting at business and Member State level, including approaches to evaluating the effectiveness of food waste prevention actions;
- to facilitate the exchange of information, experience, challenges, lessons learned and best practices on food loss and food waste prevention, including effective interventions, innovative solutions, scientific research and practical experience;
- to contribute to strengthening the evidence base for food loss and waste prevention and the evaluation of the impact of actions/measures including through the provision of technical expertise and scientific evidence;
- to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and results from EU-funded research and innovation projects and other Union-funded initiatives, including Horizon Europe and the Single Market Programme, to support the development and uptake of effective food loss and food waste prevention measures;
- to promote dialogue on the contribution of food loss and food waste prevention to wider Union policy objectives, including sustainable food systems, climate mitigation, resource efficiency, public procurement, food security, energy and digital innovation;
- to contribute to the co-ordinated development by relevant actors of guidance and/or joint communication initiatives in selected priority areas (e.g. communication activities at the occasion of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste on 29 September);
- to contribute to and facilitate synergies with activities carried out under the global agenda to reduce food loss and waste (e.g. contribute to activities put forward by relevant international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization or the United Nations Environment Programme, among others).

Importantly, the work of the Platform is without prejudice to the role of the relevant Standing Committees (Plants, Animals, Food and Feed - PAFF, Waste Committee etc.) as well as expert groups convened in the context of the preparation of delegated acts, in accordance with the inter-institutional agreement on better law-making¹³.

The Commission is calling for applications with a view to selecting member organisations of the Platform referred to in chapter 2.1 b) to d). Current members of the Platform (2022-2026) belonging to the same categories who wish to be

¹³ Adopted on 15.03.2016.

members also during the Platform's new mandate are required to respond to this call for applications.

2. Features of the Group

2.1 COMPOSITION

The Platform shall be composed of up to 90 members representing public and private sectors.

Members shall be:

- a) competent authorities from Member States with competence in food loss and waste prevention¹⁴;
- b) EU umbrella organisations and federations involved in food waste prevention in the food supply chain (primary production, processing and manufacturing, retail and other distribution of food, restaurants and food services, food banks/charity organisations and consumers);
- c) organisations not covered by those referred to in sub-point b) which are involved in food waste prevention in the food supply chain (e.g. academia, research institutes and think tanks; banks/financial institutions; companies/groups; professional associations);
- d) non-governmental organisations with expertise in food waste prevention in the food supply chain including charity organisations;
- e) the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee;
- f) international organisations involved in food waste prevention and achievement of related Sustainable Development Goals (e.g. the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, or the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

All members shall nominate their representatives and shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise. Member organisations shall be represented at senior-level. DG SANTE may refuse the nomination of a representative by organisations referred to in sub-points b)-d) if it considers this nomination inappropriate in light of the requirements specified in chapter 4 of the call for applications. In such case, the organisation concerned will be asked to appoint another representative.

Member organisations referred to in sub-points b)-d) who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the Platform's deliberations, which in the opinion of DG SANTE do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or which resign during the mandate of the Platform, shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the Platform and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office.

¹⁴ National competent authorities designated as part of the Waste Framework directive as responsible for coordinating food waste prevention measures

2.2 APPOINTMENT

Members referred to in chapter 3.1, sub-points b) to d) shall be appointed by the Director-General of DG SANTE from applicants complying with the requirements referred to in chapter 4 of this call.

Members referred to in chapter 3.1, sub-points a), e) and f) shall be appointed by direct invitation.

The member of the Platform shall be appointed for 5 years from 1 January 2027 until 31 December 2031. They shall remain in office until the end of their term of office or until replaced.

Registration in the Transparency Register¹⁵ is required in order for organisations referred to in sub-points b) to d) to be appointed.

In order to ensure continuity and the smooth functioning of the group, DG SANTE shall establish a reserve list of suitable candidates that may be used to appoint members' replacements. DG SANTE shall ask applicants for their consent before including their names on the reserve list.

2.3 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE GROUP

The Platform shall be chaired by a representative of DG SANTE.

The Platform shall act at the request of the Chair, in compliance with the horizontal rules on expert groups.

In principle, the Platform shall meet at least two times per year on Commission premises, or, upon invitation by a Member State, on the premises of the inviting Member State. Meetings may also be held virtually or in hybrid format, depending on the circumstances.

Where necessary, DG SANTE may also convene dedicated meetings of the Platform, in order to address specific topics. The topics to be addressed at such meetings shall be identified by DG SANTE, taking into account emerging policy priorities, the needs of the Platform and, where appropriate, proposals from Platform members. Such meetings may support the exchange of best practices and research, thematic discussions, workshops, field visits and other activities, as well as the development of specific deliverables (e.g. tools, guidance, recommendations and mapping exercises), in accordance with members' interests and the evolving needs of the Platform. Key topics may include, but are not limited to, food losses in primary production and in the processing and manufacturing sectors, innovation and technological solutions, valorisation and use of side streams and 'by-products' from food production, edible or avoidable parts of food waste, redistribution/donation practices, as well as food waste generation at consumption level (in and out of home). Depending on the topic and purpose of the meeting, DG SANTE may invite all Platform members or only those members with relevant expertise or an interest in the topic concerned. Such meetings may take place in person, virtually or in hybrid format, as appropriate. To further exchange best practices of a given topic, members may also be invited to field visits.

¹⁵ <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?locale=en#en>

DG SANTE shall provide secretarial services. Commission officials from other departments with an interest in the proceedings may attend meetings of the Platform.

Members' representatives must be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the Platform, to be involved in preparatory work ahead of meetings, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion, to contribute to the work of the Platform's meetings set up to examine specific questions and to act, as appropriate, as 'rapporteurs' on an *ad hoc* basis.

As a general rule, working documents will be drafted in English and meetings will also be conducted in English, with interpretation services into English provided under specific circumstances (e.g. a presenter is unable to present in English).

As far as possible, the Platform shall adopt its opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by simple majority of the members. The members that voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

In agreement with the DG SANTE, the group may, by simple majority of its members, decide that deliberations shall be public.

Participants in the activities of the Platform shall not be remunerated for the services they offer. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the Platform shall be reimbursed by the Commission. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission^{16 17} and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The members of the Platform and their representatives, as well as invited experts and observers, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443¹⁸ and 2015/444¹⁹. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

Depending on the agenda of a given meeting, members may, on an *ad hoc* basis, ask to be accompanied by an expert(s) specialised in a given issue who will provide particular evidence on that issue. DG SANTE shall consider such requests, taking into account the overall balance in the representation of interests and in accordance with the Platform's rules of procedure, which the Platform shall adopt based on a proposal by and in agreement with DG SANTE on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups.

¹⁶ https://advanced-gateway-meetings.ec.europa.eu/document/download/c5cdccb9-e270-4fc2-b8e6-84555558a93e_en?filename=AGM%20expert%20leaflet%202023b_0.pdf

¹⁷ https://advanced-gateway-meetings.ec.europa.eu/eu-login-faq/expert-faq_en

¹⁸ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

¹⁹ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

DG SANTE may invite other experts (also on the recommendation of Platform members), including representatives from non-EU countries, with specific expertise with respect to a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the Platform on an *ad-hoc* basis.

Public entities other than Member States' authorities may be granted an observer status, in compliance with the horizontal rules, by direct invitation. Observers shall nominate their representatives. Observers' representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions of the group and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the Platform.

2.4 TRANSPARENCY

The Platform shall be registered in the Register of expert groups²⁰.

DG SANTE shall publish the following data on the Register of expert groups as regards the composition of the Platform:

- the name of Member States' authorities;
- the name of public entities other than Member States' authorities;
- the name of member organisations and the interest they represent;
- the name of observers.

All relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' submissions shall be published on the Register of expert groups and on the Commission's food waste website. Access to this website shall not be submitted to user registration or any other restriction. In particular, DG SANTE shall ensure publication of the agenda and other relevant background documents in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes. Exceptions to publication shall only be foreseen where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

3. Application procedure

Interested organisations are invited to submit their application to the European Commission, DG SANTE, as explained below.

Applications must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be helpful to include a summary of the application in English.

Organisations shall indicate the name of their representative(s) in the Platform as well as their respective function(s) in the organisation. Organisations shall designate a permanent representative and may also indicate an alternate.

²⁰ <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm>

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. All documents submitted by applicants should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially.

Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant's motivation for answering this call and stating what contribution the applicant could make to the Platform;
- a classification form duly filled in specifying the member category as well as the type of organisation for which the application is made (Annex I);
- a selection criteria form duly filled in documenting how the applicant fulfills the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call (Annex II);

For individuals indicated by organisations as their representatives, a *curriculum vitae* (CV) shall also be provided, preferably not exceeding three pages. All CVs shall be submitted in the European format ([Home | Europass](#)).

Additional supporting documents (e.g. publications) may be requested at a later stage.

Deadline for application

The duly signed applications must be sent by **21 October 2026** at the latest.

The duly signed applications must be sent **by e-mail only** to the following e-mail address: SANTE-FOOD-WASTE@ec.europa.eu with the subject “name of org/MS. - application for membership of the Platform for Food Loss and Waste”.

The date of the e-mail will be the date of sending.

4. Selection criteria

DG SANTE will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

- proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and/or international level, in areas relevant to food loss and waste prevention;
- the extent to which the organisation’s food loss and waste prevention activities support and/or are linked to other policy areas (e.g. Common Agricultural Policy, Common Fishery Policy, climate, food safety, social affairs, digitalisation and other innovative solutions and new technologies, bioeconomy, circular economy, waste management and renewable energy etc.);
- the extent to which the organisation’s food loss and waste prevention activities follow a food value chain approach, promoting inter-sectoral cooperation between key players as well as public-private partnerships;
- the extent to which the organisation evaluates the impacts of its food waste prevention activities;
- competence, experience and hierarchical level of the proposed representatives;

- good knowledge of the English language of the proposed representatives allowing active participation in the discussions and activities of the Platform;
- the extent to which organisations that were members of the Platform during its first (2016–2021) and/or second (2022–2026) mandate have actively contributed to the Platform's work beyond participation in meetings, including through contributions to discussions, deliverables, workshops or other Platform activities.

5. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by DG SANTE against the selection criteria listed in chapter 4 of this call, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants, and concluded by the appointment of the members of the Platform.

When defining the composition of the Platform, DG SANTE shall aim at ensuring, as far as possible, a high level of expertise, as well as a balanced representation of relevant know how, areas of interest and activity, as well as geographical coverage, while taking into account the specific tasks of the group, the type of expertise required as well as the relevance of the applications received.

For any further information please contact DG SANTE by e-mail at

SANTE-FOOD-WASTE@ec.europa.eu.

ANNEXES:

- Annex I: Classification form
- Annex II: Selection criteria form
- Annex III: Privacy statement

Annex I: Classification form²¹

To be filled in by all applicants

- ☐ This application is made as: **An organisation (Type C member).**

Transparency Register identification number:

Nota Bene concerning Type C members: although registration in the Transparency Register (TR) is required in order to be appointed as a Type C member of an expert group, it is not mandatory for the application procedure. Thus, interested organisations that at the time of the application are not featured yet in the TR and, as a consequence, do not have a TR identification number, may still apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a result of the call for applications, it shall register in the Transparency Register as a condition to be appointed as a Type C member.

This application is made as the following **type of organisation** (*please select only one option, taking into account the definitions indicated below*):

- ☐ a) Academia, Research Institutes and Think Tanks
- ☐ b) Banks/Financial institutions
- ☐ c) Companies/groups
- ☐ d) Law firms
- ☐ e) NGOs
- ☐ f) Professionals' associations
- ☐ g) Professional consultancies
- ☐ h) Trade and business associations
- ☐ i) Trade unions
- ☐ j) Other (please specify):

Definitions for organisation types

Academia, Research Institutes and Think Tanks

Universities, schools, research centers, think tanks and other similar bodies performing academic and/or educational activities.

Banks/Financial institutions

²¹ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Banks and other similar bodies providing financial services, including financial intermediation. All sorts of banks should be classified within this category, including national central banks.

Companies/groups

Individual companies or groups of companies operating in the business sector, whether they are national companies or multinational ones.

Law firms

Business entities formed by one or more lawyers to engage in the practice of law. The primary service rendered by a law firm is to advise clients (individuals or corporations) about their legal rights and responsibilities, and to represent clients in civil or criminal cases, business transactions, and other matters in which legal advice and other assistance are sought.

NGOs

Non-profit organisations which are independent from public authorities and commercial organisations. Some NGOs are organised around specific issues, such as environment, consumer affairs, health and human rights.

Professionals' associations

Non-profit organisations seeking to further the interests of individuals engaged in a particular profession, such as physicians, nurses, architects, engineers and lawyers. Professionals' associations are different from business associations, as they promote and defend the interests of individuals carrying on a specific profession, not the interests of companies operating in the business sector.

Professional consultancies

Firms carrying on, on behalf of clients, activities involving advocacy, lobbying, promotion, public affairs and relations with public authorities.

Trade and business associations

Private bodies representing the interests of its members operating in the business sector.

Trade unions

Organisations of workers. The most common activities performed by trade unions include the negotiation of wages, work rules, rules governing hiring, firing and promotion of workers.

Other organisations

Organisations which are not possible to classify in any other category.

Please select the **interest** represented by your organisation (***please select one or more options, taking into account the definitions indicated below***):

- ☐ a) Academia/Research
- ☐ b) Civil society
- ☐ c) Employees/Workers
- ☐ d) Finance
- ☐ e) Industry
- ☐ f) Professionals
- ☐ g) SMEs
- ☐ h) Other (please specify):

Definitions for interests represented

Academia/Research

Universities, schools, research centers, think tanks and other similar bodies performing academic and/or educational activities.

Civil society

Civil society can be defined as the aggregate of non-governmental organisations and institutions that manifest interests and will of citizens or as individuals and organisations in a society which are independent of the government.

Employees/workers

Individuals working part-time or full-time under a contract of employment whether oral or written, express or implied, and having recognized rights and duties.

Finance

The management of revenues or the conduct or transaction of money matters, as in the fields of banking, insurance and investment.

Industry

Companies and groups of companies whose number of employees and turnover or balance sheet total are higher than the ones of SMEs (see below).

Professionals

Individuals operating in a particular profession, such as physicians, nurses, architects, engineers and lawyers.

SMEs

"SME" stands for small and medium-sized enterprises – as defined in EU law: [EU recommendation 2003/361](#) .

The main factors determining whether a company is an SME are:

1. **number of employees** and
2. either **turnover** or **balance sheet total**.

Company category Employees Turnover or Balance sheet total

Medium-sized < 250 ≤ € 50 m ≤ € 43 m

Small < 50 ≤ € 10 m ≤ € 10 m

Micro < 10 ≤ € 2 m ≤ € 2 m

These ceilings apply to the figures for individual firms only. A firm which is part of larger grouping may need to include employee/turnover/balance sheet data from that grouping too.

Other interest

Interest which is not possible to classify in any other category.

Please select **one or more policy areas** in which your organisation²² operates:

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Archaeology
- ☐ Architecture
- ☐ Audiovisual and media
- ☐ Audit
- ☐ Banking
- ☐ Biodiversity
- ☐ Civil protection
- ☐ Civil service
- ☐ Climate
- ☐ Competition
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Consumer affairs
- ☐ Culture
- ☐ Cultural Heritage
- ☐ Cultural Landscape
- ☐ Customs
- ☐ Development
- ☐ Disaster Risk Reduction
- ☐ Economy
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Employment and social affairs
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Engineering (chemical)
- ☐ Engineering (civil)
- ☐ Engineering (infrastructure)
- ☐ Engineering (IT)
- ☐ Engineering (maritime)
- ☐ Engineering (space policy)
- ☐ Engineering (space research)
- ☐ Enlargement
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Equal opportunities
- ☐ External relations
- ☐ External trade
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Fisheries and aquaculture
- ☐ Food safety
- ☐ Food security
- ☐ Food waste prevention
- ☐ Forestry
- ☐ Fundamental rights
- ☐ Humanitarian aid
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Information society
- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Insurance
- ☐ Labour
- ☐ Land management

²² To be inserted as required.

- ☐ Law (civil)
- ☐ Law (corporate)
- ☐ Law (criminal)
- ☐ Law (taxation)
- ☐ Linguistics and Terminology
- ☐ Livestock
- ☐ Medical profession
- ☐ Migration
- ☐ Natural resources
- ☐ Plant production
- ☐ Public affairs
- ☐ Public health
- ☐ Public relations
- ☐ Raw materials
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Science diplomacy
- ☐ Security
- ☐ Smart specialisation
- ☐ Social service
- ☐ Space and Satellites (policy)
- ☐ Space and Satellites (research)
- ☐ Sport
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ Sustainable Development
- ☐ Systemic eco-innovation
- ☐ Tax
- ☐ Trade
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Transport
- ☐ Urban development
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Other

For organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members

Name of the organisation²³:

Functional mailbox of the organisation (if available):.....

Surname of the representative proposed:

First name of the representative proposed:

(optional) Surname of the alternate representative:

(optional) First name of the alternate representative:

Surname of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

First name of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

Date:

Signature

²³ It is mandatory to use exactly the same name used when registering in the Transparency Register.

Annex II: Selection criteria form²⁴

To be filled in by all applicants

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and/or international level, in areas relevant to food loss and waste prevention	
The extent to which the organisation's food loss and waste prevention activities support and/or are linked to other policy areas (e.g. Common Agricultural Policy, Common Fishery Policy, climate, food safety, social affairs, digitalisation and other innovative solutions and new technologies, bioeconomy, circular economy, waste management and renewable energy etc.)	
The extent to which the organisation's food loss and waste prevention activities follow a food value chain approach, promoting inter-sectoral cooperation between key players as well as public-private partnerships	
The extent to which the organisation evaluates the impacts of its food waste prevention activities	
Competence, experience and hierarchical level of the proposed representatives	
Good knowledge of the English language of the proposed representatives allowing active participation in the discussions and activities of the Platform	
The extent to which organisations that were members of the Platform during its first (2016–2021) and/or second (2022–2026) mandate have actively contributed to the Platform's work beyond participation in meetings, including through contributions to discussions, deliverables, workshops or other Platform activities.	

For organisations applying to be appointed as Type C members

²⁴ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Name of the organisation²⁵:

Functional mailbox of the organisation (if available):.....

Surname of the representative proposed:

First name of the representative proposed:

(optional) Surname of the alternate representative:

(optional) First name of the alternate representative:

Surname of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

First name of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

Date:

Signature

²⁵ It is mandatory to use exactly the same name used when registering in the Transparency Register.

Annex III: Privacy Statement

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

Processing operation: *Selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities²⁶ and publication of personal data on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ("the Register of expert groups").*

Data Controller:

- *Secretariat-General, Unit H3 (for the processing operation "Providing a public register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities", DPR-EC-00656), and*
- *Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, Directorate E – Food Safety, Sustainability and Innovation, unit E1 – General Food Law, Food Waste, and Food Information to Consumers (for the processing operation "Selection of members of the Commission expert group 'EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste' and establishment of a reserve list" DPR-EC-01066).*

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1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter 'the Commission') is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal

²⁶ Provisions included in this privacy statement referring to expert groups equally apply to their sub-groups.

data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.

This privacy statement explains the reasons for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, of the Data Protection Officer and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

This privacy statement concerns the following processing operations:

(1) “selection of members of Commission expert groups and other similar entities” undertaken by the Commission department which runs the selection process for your expert group and which is the Data Controller for the selection process, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, E - Food Safety, Sustainability and Innovation, unit E1 General Food Law, Food Waste, and Food Information to Consumers, and

(2) “publication of personal data on the Register of expert groups and other similar entities” undertaken by the Commission, Secretariat-General, Unit H3 which is the Data Controller together with the Commission department managing your expert group.

As a rule, the selection of expert group members is carried out via public calls for applications, except for Member States’ authorities and other public entities and for certain representative bodies established by Union legislation for advice in specific areas. In exceptional cases, the College of Commissioners may appoint directly members of expert groups.

The Register of expert groups and other similar entities is a public database containing a list of Commission expert groups and other similar entities and their sub-groups. The Register provides information for each expert group, including personal data on the members of the expert groups, their alternate, and of the observers, and information may be provided about members’ and observers’ representatives. The Register also includes documents that are produced and discussed by expert groups and which can contain personal data.

For the purpose of this privacy statement and the corresponding records, the term “expert groups” describes Commission expert groups in the sense of Article 2(1) of Commission Decision C(2016)3301²⁷ and their sub-groups, as well as other similar entities in the sense of Article 2(2) of Commission Decision C(2016)3301 and their sub-groups.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operations:

The Data Controllers collect and use your personal data to manage Commission expert groups, in particular by selecting their members and observers, and to ensure transparency on expert groups’ membership and activities. In that context, in order to select among the applicants who best fulfil the selection criteria mentioned in the call for applications, Commission services collect and assess personal information of candidate members and observers of the expert groups, of representatives of candidate members and observers, and of immediate family members of candidate members to be appointed in personal capacity to act independently and in the public interest.

²⁷ Commission Decision C(2016)3301 of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups.

Furthermore, Commission services collect and assess personal information of observers and members' and observers' representatives of the expert groups which are appointed directly and not selected through a public call for applications.

For candidates, personal data are stored by the Commission service managing the expert group. Some types of personal data of individuals appointed as members (either appointed in personal capacity to act independently and in the public interest or to represent a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area) are made publicly available on the Register of expert groups (as described under Headings 4 and 5 of this privacy statement). The names of the representatives of organisations, Member States and other public entities, as well as the name of specific national departments or other public authority which they represent may also be made publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

We process your personal data, because processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), since it allows for the selection of members of expert groups (individuals appointed as members in a personal capacity, individuals appointed to represent a common interest and organisations) and also increases the transparency on expert groups. Processing is also necessary to comply with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 5(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725). The Union act for such necessary processing under Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is Commission Decision C(2016)3301 of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups and in particular Articles 10 and 22 thereof.

As regards, in particular, the declarations of interests filled in by candidate members to be appointed in a personal capacity in expert groups, the processing of personal data serves the public interest of enabling the Commission to verify in the process of selection the experts' independence in providing advice to the Commission. Furthermore, the public disclosure of declarations of interests of those experts once appointed allows for public scrutiny of the interests declared by these experts, which is necessary in order to ensure public confidence in the independence of these experts. The public disclosure of declarations of interests also ensures a high degree of transparency with respect to the membership of expert groups and aims at contributing to fostering the integrity of the experts in question.

The names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities are usually not published in the Register of expert groups, as those persons only express the position of the organisation or entity that they represent, and, therefore, it is the name of the organisation, Member State's authority or other public entity that matters to ensure transparency of the work of the expert group. Any publication of names of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities in the Register of expert groups is based on consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), unless specific and exceptional circumstances make it necessary to publish them to achieve the purpose of the processing operation, in accordance with Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. No other types of personal data of representatives is published.

The submissions of members in the context of the work of expert groups and subgroups are generally made public, with personal data withheld where appropriate.

In the cases when the group is chaired by a person different than the Commission or its services, the name of this person may be published on the basis of consent (Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725).

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out these processing operations, the Data Controller may collect the following categories of personal data:

- *Name;*
- *Function;*
- *Contact details (for example, e-mail address, telephone number, mobile telephone number, fax number, postal address, company and department, country of residence, IP address);*
- *Information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria (for example, expertise, technical skills and languages, educational background, professional experience, including details on current and past employment);*
- *Nationality;*
- *Gender;*
- *Interest represented (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups representing a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area and for organisations applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups, as well as for their designated representatives);*
- *Information included in the declarations of interests, including personal data of immediate family members as required in the declaration of interests (only for individuals applying to be appointed as members of expert groups or sub-groups in a personal capacity).*
- *Personal data that may be included in submissions of members of expert groups.*

The provision to the Commission service of the personal data required is mandatory to meet a legal requirement of selecting members of expert groups as set in Commission Decision C(2016)3301. In principle, for individuals appointed as members or observers in personal capacity to act independently and in the public interest and for individuals appointed as members or observers to represents a common interest, the types of personal data listed above (with the exception of contact details and information for the evaluation of selection criteria or eligibility criteria) are made publicly available on the Register of expert groups, in order to comply with the legal requirement to ensure transparency on the composition and functioning of Commission expert groups. If you do not provide the personal data required, possible consequences are that you will not be considered for selection as a member of an expert group or, if already selected, your membership will be suspended.

The submissions of members in the context of the work of expert groups and subgroups are generally made public, with personal data withheld where appropriate.

With the prior freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous consent of the representatives of organisations, Member States' authorities and other public entities, their names may also be published on the Register. They may furthermore be published in specific and exceptional circumstances where such publication is necessary to achieve the purpose of the processing operation.

The name of a person chairing the group, when this person is not from within the Commission (i.e. the group elects a chair from among its members or the Commission or its services appoint

an individual as chair), may be published with his/ her prior freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous consent.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing. The following modalities apply:

- The competent Commission services keep personal data submitted to them as part of rejected applications for three years after the end of the selection process and do not process them for other purposes; these personal data are not published on the Register of expert groups.
- The expert group and some types of personal data of its members and observers, as described in Heading 4, are published on the Register of expert groups during the duration of existence of the expert group.
- When an individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of an expert group listed in the Register of expert groups, all personal data related to this individual, including a declaration of interests, is removed from the Register and is therefore not public anymore.
- The competent Commission services keep personal data for the period during which the relevant individual is a member or an observer or a representative of a member or of an observer of the group and for five years after the date on which the individual is no longer member or observer or representative of a member or observer of the group. Following this five-year period, the personal data is transferred to the historical archives and a review takes place no later than 25 years after that transfer to the historical archives to evaluate whether to keep the data permanently or to delete some or all data.
- When a group is closed down, it remains published in the Register of expert groups for five years, with the indication 'Closed'. Those types of personal data other than the declarations of interests of members appointed in personal capacity that were published while the group was active remain visible on the Register of expert groups during these five years. On the contrary, the said declarations of interests are removed from the Register after closure of a group and are therefore not public anymore; they are however kept by the competent Commission service for a period of five years after the closure of the group. Following this five-year period after the closure of the group, the personal data is transferred to the historical archives and a review takes place no later than 25 years from that transfer to evaluate whether to keep the data permanently or to delete some or all data.
- An XML file is created daily with all the information regarding active groups. All versions of this file, showing the situation of the Register of expert groups as of the day it was created, are stored in a file server for 5 years and are not public.

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

Personal data submitted in paper form is stored in the competent Commission service. All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored on the servers of the Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed.

Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of members of expert groups is provided to the Commission staff authorised for carrying out this processing operation and to other authorised Commission staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Certain personal data collected, as explained in Headings 4 and 5, are publicly available on the Register of expert groups.

The XML files referred to in Heading 5 are only accessible to a reduced number of users in the Secretariat-General (System Owner) and IT development team within the Commission (System Supplier).

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, EU Court of Justice, European Ombudsman) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients. The further processing of those data by those public authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

The information we collect will not be given to any third party, except to the extent and for the purpose we may be required to do so by law.

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) and Article 35 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data is inaccurate or incomplete. Under certain conditions, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing and the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data on grounds relating to your particular situation in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

As indicated in Heading 4, if you are a representative of an organisation, Member State or another public entity, you may consent to have your name published on the Register of expert groups. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Data Controller. The withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn the consent.

Finally, and only as regards the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups, you may submit a request to the competent Commission service for a derogation where justified on compelling legitimate grounds in relation to your specific situation (such as the case where the publication of your name on the Register of expert groups could endanger your security or integrity).

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller or, in case of conflict, the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

Data subject requests shall be handled within one month from receipt of the request by the Commission. That period may be extended pursuant to 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. Should more time be required to handle the request for justified reasons, the data subject shall receive a holding reply from the unit responsible for the request.

9. Contact information

- The Data Controller

Regarding the personal data collected in the course of the process of selection of the members of the expert groups, if you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint, please contact the functional mailbox of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, E - Food Safety, Sustainability and Innovation, unit E1 General Food Law, Food Waste, and Food Information to Consumers at SANTE-FOOD-WASTE@ec.europa.eu.

Likewise, as regards the data published on the Register of expert groups, please contact the corresponding Data Controller Secretariat-General, Unit H3: SG-EXPERT-GROUPS@ec.europa.eu.

- The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

These specific processing operations will be included in the DPO's public register with the following Record references: DPR-EC-01066 and DPR-EC-00656.