

**Advancing Global Food Resilience: A GHI Perspective on Food Security, Safety,  
Emergency Preparedness, and the Right to Food and Health:  
A Call to Action**

We invite all panelists and stakeholders of the GHI Congress 2025 to co-sign this Call to Action and plan to engage in the proposed work. Your expertise will shape a global roadmap for food resilience and justice. Together, we can influence policy, inspire innovation, and uphold the right to safe and sufficient food for all. We invite *all* GHI members to serve as leaders of the initiatives identified here. GHI Leadership will stay in touch with project leaders. Our goal is to see great progress by our next Congress.

**Executive summary**

In a world facing significant population growth, escalating climate disruptions, geopolitical instability, and widening inequalities, access to safe, nutritious, and accessible food is more urgent than ever. Our mission is to align food laws with the latest scientific consensus, enabling innovation while safeguarding public health, all with the priority of providing “food dignity,” that is, food support initiatives that prioritize the dignity and human rights of individuals accessing them, ensuring they are treated with respect and have choices, rather than solely focusing on providing basic sustenance. This Call to Action presents the Global Harmonization Initiative’s (GHI) unified vision for strengthening global food systems through science-based regulation, international collaboration, and inclusive innovation. GHI’s approach recognizes that access to nutritious, culturally appropriate, and enjoyable food is a fundamental human right.

This Call also introduces the *Food Integrity Africa* initiative, a regional movement led by GHI’s Communication Director Catherine Odhiambo, aimed at empowering African nations to build resilient, transparent, and equitable food systems and support GHI food safety clubs and other food safety and security educational initiatives.

**Methodology:**

GHI members representing academia, industry, and special consumer interest groups, e.g., dealing with religious and allergy-related issues, will work together on specific projects to develop recommendations that, once affirmed by the full GHI organization, can be taken to government leaders for consideration and implementation. In this way, we can create enforceable frameworks that protect

vulnerable populations and support our belief that access to food and good health are fundamental human rights.

## **GHI's philosophy and strategic pillars and specific follow-up actions**

***Food Security and Emergency Preparedness:*** GHI advocates for globally harmonized protocols to ensure rapid, coordinated responses to food crises, as highlighted in the GHI World Congress 2025. Members who addressed this issue at the Congress are encouraged to work together to develop specific recommendations for improvement. Ideally, the group can provide more details for a Rotterdam Declaration on Global Food Emergency Readiness, a globally harmonized framework for food emergency response that covers early warning systems, cross-border coordination, and rapid deployment of safe food supplies during crises.

***Food Safety:*** We promote evidence-based standards that reduce foodborne risks and eliminate unnecessary trade barriers that waste safe food, as highlighted at the GHI World Congress 2025. Members who addressed this issue at the Congress are encouraged to work together to develop specific recommendations for improvement, developing a charter that delineates best practices for accessing safe, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food. This charter could provide governments and international bodies with wording that could be embedded into national constitutions and global treaties to guarantee access to food as a human right.

### ***The Global Food Safety Science Accord***

There is great need for an open-access, multilingual scientific repository to support evidence-based policymaking in food safety and emergency preparedness—especially in low- and middle-income countries. A first step would be to develop a plan of action as to how to launch this key initiative.

### ***The GHI Youth Food Resilience Pledge***

Engage the next generation by launching a GHI youth-led initiative to promote food literacy, emergency preparedness, and/or sustainable food practices in schools and universities worldwide. This activity will build on the GHI Food Safety clubs for greatest impact.

### ***The (new!) Food Integrity Africa Initiative***

GHI's Communication Director Catherine Odhiambo will lead this new regional movement, aimed at empowering African nations to build resilient, transparent, and equitable food systems that can be trusted. Food integrity is a holistic concept that

goes beyond just preventing contamination. It means that the food is what it claims to be: it is safe, authentic, and nutritious; production processes are transparent, ethical and sustainable, and respectful of people and the planet. The Africa Initiative will also support GHI food safety clubs and other food safety and security educational initiatives in Africa. Specifically, the focus of the Initiative's collaboration with GHI is to:

- Grow awareness and signatures for the Call to Action;
- Boost visibility of GHI's whistleblower platform within African networks;
- Design the framework for the Truth Tracker, a tool to counter food misinformation;
- Create shared content or mentions within GHI channels and Congress outputs;
- Explore a small cross-sector roundtable if capacity allows.