

**PSM Statement on Water for Food Security and Nutrition
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Good afternoon. I am Jennifer Ragland, Director of International Government Relations and Public Affairs at The Coca-Cola Company, a proud member of the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM). Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The private sector is concerned about the improved water management required to deliver the necessary increase in food production. Collaboration among business, government and civil society is critical to addressing this concern. Together, the international community must elevate its attention to the essential contribution of water to food production throughout its value chain.

Water is at the heart of all agriculture and food businesses. It is a primary ingredient, central to manufacturing processes and needed to produce the agricultural ingredients on which food processors and manufacturers rely. Safe, accessible water is also essential to the health and economic prosperity of the communities that the private sector serves. If the communities we serve are not sustainable, we cannot have a sustainable business.

For these reasons, along with ethical drivers, water is one of our sustainability priorities. Through concerted efforts and goal setting, companies can help drive water sustainability.

At Coca-Cola, we have been able to look into our operations and make lasting changes to improve our overall water efficiency and remove unnecessary water use. Our water efficiency has improved for 12 straight years, and we are track to meet our goal of 25 percent improvement by 2020. Beyond our plants walls, we're working to replenish 100 percent of the water used in our finished beverages. Through 209 water projects across more than 61 countries, we've balanced an estimated 94 percent of water for a total of 153.6 billion liters of water replenished to communities and nature.

We're committed to sustainably source 14 key agricultural ingredients by 2020, and are working to implement our Sustainable Agriculture Guiding Principles which support our water commitments.

Addressing the food-water-energy nexus will require transformation in education, policy and governance, planning, and cooperation. The private sector is committed to doing its part and working with others to achieve global solutions. That's one of the reasons we're here today. We look forward to working together. Thank you, again, for the opportunity to share our perspective.