



# Ajinomoto joins the World Business Council for Sustainable Development

**Geneva, Switzerland 4**<sup>th</sup> **September 2024** – The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) welcomes Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (the Ajinomoto Group), a Japanese multinational food and biotechnology corporation, as its newest member, joining over 225 businesses dedicated to accelerating the transition to a more sustainable world.

The Ajinomoto group provides a variety of products, services and solutions ranging from seasonings, quick nourishment foods, frozen foods, amino acids, semiconductor materials, and pharmaceuticals.

The Ajinomoto Group, which has been researching and applying the functions of amino acids for over 100 years, has created a vast variety of new materials, functions, technologies, and services. By developing a unique scientific approach called "AminoScience," the Group maximizes its resources to resolve social issues and contribute to people's well-being. This approach underpins the production of a wide range of products, services and solutions.

The Group now sells products in over 130 countries and regions, primarily in Japan, ASEAN, and Latin American countries. While steadily reducing negative impacts such as <u>environmental burdens</u>, the Ajinomoto Group strives to create more positive societal impacts by leveraging its strength in "AminoScience".

Embracing a scientific and innovative approach is essential for transforming food systems to meet food security challenges effectively. The role of new, existing, and emerging technologies is critical in this transformation. To foster agricultural and food innovation, it is also important to create an enabling environment that includes technology development, regional and international collaboration, and robust technology foresight and assessment, as well as facilitating investments in research and development, human capital, infrastructure, and knowledge flow is crucial.

"The expectation for the transformation of the agri-food system is rising worldwide. In addition to reducing negative impacts within our value chain, it has become clear that our technology, know-how, products, and services can significantly contribute to positive impacts for customers and society," said Taro Fujie, President & Chief Executive Officer, Ajinomoto Co., Inc. "Participation in the activities of WBCSD, which aims to realize the vision of over 9 billion people thriving within the planet's boundaries by 2050, is aligned with the Ajinomoto Group's purpose of "contributing to the well-being of all human beings, our society, and our planet with 'AminoScience'".





Through this membership, the Ajinomoto Group will contribute to the Agriculture & Food Pathway and the Climate Imperative. By collaborating with stakeholders from various fields and industries within WBCSD, the group aims to create and enhance societal impact by contributing to greenhouse gas reduction through the utilization of avoided emissions.

Commenting on Ajinomoto joining the organization, Peter Bakker, President & CEO, WBCSD, said, "We are delighted to welcome Ajinomoto to our global network and commend their dedication to fostering positive change in agriculture and food systems. Their expertise and collaborative spirit will be crucial in tackling global sustainability challenges, particularly in accelerating greenhouse gas reduction efforts within the agriculture and food sector. With growing momentum of WBCSD memberships globally, we look forward to continuing to unite global businesses across industries and help them navigate towards a more sustainable future."

#### **ENDS**

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#### About the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a premier global, CEO-led community of over 200 of the world's leading sustainable businesses. Our mission is to accelerate the required transformation of businesses, their value chains, and the systems in which they operate, to limit the impact of the climate crisis, restore nature and tackle inequality.

Together with our members, we tackle the pressing sustainability challenges of the climate emergency, the loss of nature, and mounting inequality. We offer solutions to accelerate value chain transformation across essential sectors of business activity, including food & agriculture, products & materials, energy, transport & mobility, and built environment. We are also collectively reshaping financial systems to reward sustainable decision-making through a lower cost of capital and helping businesses succeed.

We empower our community of business leaders to raise ambition for a better world, deliver action at speed and scale in their operations and value chains, and sharpen the accountability of





their performance. Our members are driving progress within their businesses through the exchange of best practices, education, standards and protocols, and tools and technology.

Our member companies come from all business sectors and all major economies, representing a combined revenue of more than USD \$8.5 trillion and 19 million employees. Our global network of almost 70 national business councils gives our members unparalleled reach across the globe.

Together, we are the leading voice of business for sustainability, united by our vision of a world in which 9+ billion people can live well, within planetary boundaries, by mid-century.

## www.wbcsd.org

## **About Ajinomoto Group**

The Ajinomoto Group will contribute to the well-being of all human beings, our society and our planet with "AminoScience" based on the corporate slogan "Eat Well, Live Well.". The Ajinomoto Group has offices in 34 countries and regions and sells products in more than 130 countries and regions. In fiscal 2023, sales were 1.4392 trillion yen (9.9 billion U.S. dollars).

www.ajinomoto.com