

Press release – Croix, France, 6 March 2020

## *Auchan Retail is expanding its commitment to the fight against plastic as a signatory to the European Plastics Pact*

Auchan Retail announced today that it has signed the European Plastics Pact. This public-private initiative, led by a European network of companies, states and NGOs, aims to better streamline the use and end-of-life of single-use packaging and plastic products to limit upstream environmental leakage.

Under this pact, by making the fight against the proliferation of plastics one of its main CSR priorities, Auchan Retail is reasserting a commitment that goes right to the heart of its Auchan 2022 business plan.

### **Reducing the use of plastics in all contexts**

Auchan Retail has placed plastics reduction at the forefront of its CSR commitments. In February 2019, the retailer signed the National Plastic Pact for plastic packaging in France. Today, by signing the European Plastics Pact, Auchan Retail is reaffirming its desire to take action at an international level. By 2022, it will have made a strong commitment to eliminate plastic packaging for food services and self-service fruit and vegetables for all the countries in which it operates. Likewise, 100% of the packaging used in Auchan products will be reusable, recyclable or compostable.

### **Coming together to reduce the use of plastics**

In 2019, two years ahead of European regulations, Auchan Retail developed an alternative range (based on wood, bagasse, etc.) to disposable plastic tableware, thereby saving more than 880 tonnes of plastic per year.

Following the example of Poland, Spain, Portugal, Luxembourg and Taiwan, all French stores now offer reusable nets in the fruit and vegetable section to eliminate as many plastic bags as possible. Alternatives to checkout plastic bags, meanwhile, are already available in all countries.

Auchan Retail is also working to develop alternatives to specific plastic film or packaging for organic fruit and vegetables (labels, rings, ribbons, laser engraving), as

well as eliminating plastic from the packaging of certain Auchan food and non-food products (removing plastic packaging film for vegetable drinks or removing plastic from light bulb packs).

Lastly, bulk purchase offers are expanding in all Auchan stores, in many different forms. In some countries, this even extends to a bulk offers for liquids (condiments, household products, beauty products). Similarly, customers in Poland, France and Luxembourg can bring their own containers to reduce the need for packaging.

Auchan Retail uses Ecobox stations for recycling plastic bottles (PET) in its hypermarket car parks throughout France. These are already present in 100 hypermarkets, with 100 million plastic bottles recycled to date.

## About Auchan Retail

Present in 14 countries, Auchan Retail encompasses all food trade formats (hypermarkets, supermarkets, convenience stores, click-and-collect and e-commerce) with 2,293 points of sale. Auchan Retail places its customers at the heart of its strategy by offering them a phygital shopping experience combining physical stores with the digital ecosystem, as well as exclusive, high-quality products at the best possible prices. Next-generation retailers, campaigners for good, healthy and local products, Auchan Retail's employees work responsibly with customers, farmers and suppliers so that everyone can improve their quality of life by eating better. [www.auchan-retail.com](http://www.auchan-retail.com)

### Press contacts

Auchan Retail - Marie VANOYE - [mvanoye@auchan.com](mailto:mvanoye@auchan.com) - +33 (0)7 64 49 78 06  
Presse & Cie: Véronique Rétaux [vretaux@presse-cie.com](mailto:vretaux@presse-cie.com) - +33 (0)6 30 07 93 35