**Host Script – Short (2 mins)**

Hello everyone, my name is [NAME] and I am [relationship to Fairtrade].

It is fantastic that so many of you have chosen to spend your [evening/morning/afternoon - *delete as appropriate*] with us.

And I am delighted to welcome you to [add event name].

We are here as part of Fairtrade Fortnight 2022; this is our chance to shine a spotlight on what the climate crisis means for the people around the world who produce the things we love to eat and drink here in the UK.

For almost 30 years, farmers, and workers in the most climate vulnerable countries have been the fundamental reason Fairtrade exists. The climate crisis is now one of the biggest threats to the livelihoods of millions of small-scale farmers and agricultural workers in low-income countries worldwide even though they have done the least to cause it. And not only are their livelihoods under threat, so too is the food we all love. We all rely on farmers to produce the food we need for a growing global population.

But despite this, the latest United Nations climate conference in Glasgow did not deliver the change we needed to tackle the climate crisis, and political leaders at COP26 were unable to commit to realistic action plans to keep 1.5 alive.

We cannot allow this situation to continue. Farmers in these climate vulnerable countries have years of experience stewarding the land they live on; they already have the knowledge to create solutions and to protect the ecosystems everybody relies on. What they do not have is the financial support to make those changes happen.

Now, these communities also face continued rising debts from Covid-19 on top of loss and damage from climate change. This debt, alongside already low incomes, mean many farming communities are unable to invest in ways to adapt to a changing climate, let alone clean energy, and the climate-smart farming methods needed to protect the planet’s forests and help restore biodiversity.

**Urgent action on climate is a matter of justice and a matter of science. We cannot rely on global summits and governments to act fast enough to solve the climate crisis. It is up to all of us – citizens, producers, businesses, and civil society organisations to come together to play our part in cutting emissions and building more pressure for real climate action to be delivered not promised at COP27 next year.**