



长沙地区模拟联合国

Changsha District Model United Nations

Hunan University
CSDMUN2009

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WFP



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HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

Fighting hunger worldwide

The World Food Program is the United Nations frontline agency in the fight against global hunger. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization.



In emergencies, we get food to where it is needed, saving the lives of victims of war, civil conflict and natural disasters. After the cause of an emergency has passed, we use food to help communities rebuild their shattered lives.

WFP pursues a vision of the world in which every man, woman and child has access at all times to the food needed for an active and healthy life. We work with [FAO](#) and [IFAD](#), our sister UN agencies in Rome, towards that vision.

Our food assistance reaches an average of 100 million people in 80 countries every year. Almost 12,000 people work for the organization, most of them in remote areas, directly serving the hungry poor.

WFP's five objectives

1. Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies

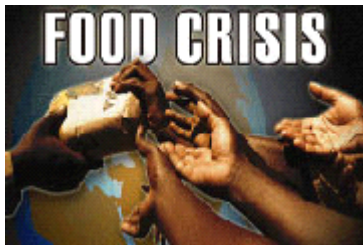


2. Prepare for emergencies
3. Restore and rebuild lives after emergencies
4. Reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition everywhere
5. Strengthen the capacity of countries to reduce hunger

FOOD CRISIS

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Assembly President, citing a billion now hungry, urges 'new politics of food'



6 April 2009 – Warning that one billion people worldwide are on the verge of starvation, the President of the United Nations General Assembly today called for “a new politics of food” emanating from the bottom up and based on the right to sustenance.

“We need to have an approach to food production that is multi-functional, that has a concern for the poor and their right to food, a concern for the earth and its right to life, a concern for communities and their right to self-governance,” Miguel D’Escoto said, as he **opened** a dialogue on the topic taking place in New York.

The discussion brought together economists, agro-ecologists, human rights specialists and other experts to discuss necessary changes in the world’s agricultural production from the perspective of the right to food, as the food crisis among the world’s poorest continues, Mr. D’Escoto said.

Every six seconds a child dies of malnutrition, according to a statement issued today by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier de Schutter, who affirmed: “The global food crisis is far from being abated.”

Mr. de Schutter, who reports to the Human Rights Council in an independent, unpaid capacity, explained that the poor will inevitably be hit by more price volatility, climate-related events and the effects of the economic crisis.

He called for a redesign of food production and trade to ensure that it serves development, the right to food and the plight of agricultural workers.



Agreeing with the Special Rapporteur that the present time presented an opportunity to profoundly reorient food policies, Mr. D'Escoto said it was important to see the food crisis as directly linked to the financial crisis, the energy crisis and climate change.

He advocated an end to "the dominance of industrialized food corporations," calling for people-oriented food systems at the local, regional and international levels.

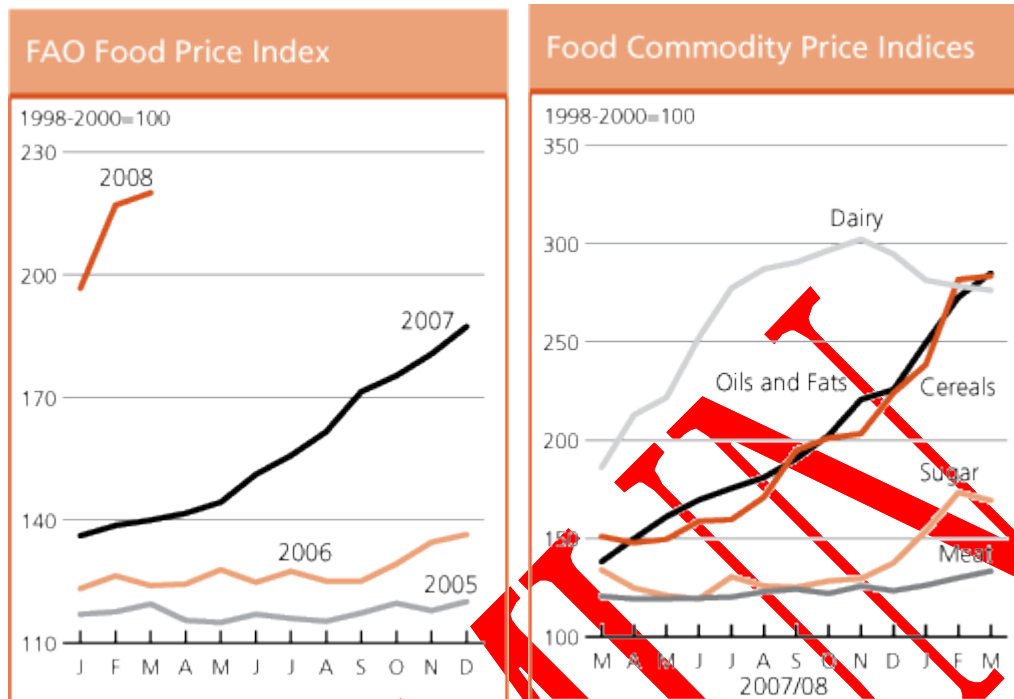
At a press conference held during the day-long General Assembly event, Mr. de Schutter explained that low commodity prices were not a solution to the food crisis in the long term. Lower prices mean that developing countries will have smaller revenues from exports and farmers have less incentive to produce food.

"The structural causes of the global food crisis remain entirely present," he said, adding that the Assembly meeting was called to bring the focus back to the problem and to ensure that the global food system was reoriented to fighting hunger and malnutrition effectively.

He said that deals currently being negotiated to allow foreign investors to lease large tracks of land to grow food in such developing countries as Sudan, Pakistan and Madagascar would probably do more harm than good unless they were specifically designed to benefit local people.

Today's General Assembly discussion follows the Madrid High-Level Meeting on Food Security for All, held on 26 and 27 January, in which Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called the right to food "a basis for analysis, action and accountability" in dealing with the food crisis.

It also precedes a possible world summit on global food security planned for November of this year.



The FAO Food Price Index continued to increase since the start of the year and by March 2008 it averaged 220, as much as 80 points (57 percent) more than in March 2007. Prices of nearly all food commodities have risen since the beginning of the year supported by a persistent, tight supply and demand situation. In 2007, the index averaged 157, up 23 percent from 2006.

The FAO Cereal Index firmed since the start of 2008, averaging 283 in March 2008, up 45 points from January. Tight supplies continue to provide support to the prices of most cereals. In recent weeks, rice prices gained most but maize prices also made further gains. Wheat prices have come under some downward pressure during the first week of April in anticipation of larger crops in 2008. However, because of low stocks, wheat prices remain high and well above the previous year's levels.

The FAO Dairy Index averaged 276 in March 2008, down 6 percent from its peak in November 2007. In terms of products, prices of milk proteins have fallen the most, as skim milk powder prices have fallen 27 percent since their peak in July 2007; butter prices have declined the least since their high in November 2007. Tight supplies from traditional exporters, strong import demand, and the exhaustion of public stocks caused an unprecedented eruption of dairy product export prices in late 2006 which has lasted through 2007.

The FAO Meat Index increased since the start of 2008 with the preliminary estimate for March 2008 at a high of 133, surpassing its previous peak in 2005. The recent gains mostly reflect the continued surge in feed prices. The extent of price increases varied



significantly depending on feed conversion efficiencies, biological lags in production responses as well as the role played by contract prices. Since the beginning of the year lamb prices have increased the most as sheep producers are rebuilding flock numbers and reducing slaughter.

The FAO Sugar Index in the first three months of 2008 averaged 166, which is 29 points above the corresponding value in 2007. Since the beginning of 2008 sugar prices have gained some momentum, underpinned by strong fund investment in commodity futures, despite an expected global sugar surplus for the 2007/08 season. In 2007, the index averaged 129, a 32 percent drop over 2006. A recovery in sugar production in traditional importing countries led to weaker sugar prices in 2007.

The FAO Oils/Fats Index in the first quarter of 2008 averaged 269, which is 133 points (or 98 percent) above the corresponding value in 2007. Constant expansion in the demand for vegetable oils and fats - for food uses but also as biofuel feedstock - combined with a slowdown in production growth has resulted in a gradual tightening of global supplies, leading to a surge in prices. On an annual basis, the index averaged 174 in 2007 compared with an average of 117 in 2006.

FAO Food Price Index						
	Food Price Index ¹	Meat ²	Dairy ³	Cereals ⁴	Oils and Fats ⁵	Sugar ⁶
2000	93	100	106	87	72	105
2001	95	100	117	89	72	111
2002	94	96	86	97	91	88
2003	102	105	105	101	105	91
2004	114	118	130	111	117	92
2005	117	121	145	106	109	127
2006	127	115	138	124	117	190
2007	157	121	247	172	174	129
2007 March	140	121	186	151	138	134
April	142	119	213	148	150	125
May	144	119	222	150	161	121
June	151	120	252	159	170	119
July	156	120	277	160	175	131
August	162	123	287	171	181	126
September	171	124	290	195	190	125



October	175	122	297	201	202	128
November	181	126	302	203	221	130
December	187	123	295	224	226	137
2008 January	197	126	281	239	250	154
February	217	130	278	282	273	173
March	220	133	276	284	285	169

¹ **Food Price Index:** Consists of the average of 6 commodity group price indices mentioned above weighted with the average export shares of each of the groups for 1998-2000: in total 55 commodity quotations considered by FAO Commodity Specialists as representing the international prices of the food commodities noted are included in the overall index.

² **Meat Price Index:** Consists of 3 poultry meat product quotations (the average weighted by assumed fixed trade weights), 4 bovine meat product quotations (average weighted by assumed fixed trade weights), 3 pig meat product quotations (average weighted by assumed fixed trade weights), 1 ovine meat product quotation (average weighted by assumed fixed trade weights): the four meat group average prices are weighted by world average export trade shares for 1998-2000.

³ **Dairy Price Index:** Consists of butter, SMP, WMP, cheese, casein price quotations; the average is weighted by world average export trade shares for 1998-2000.

⁴ **Cereals Price Index:** This index is compiled using the grains and rice price indices weighted by their average trade share for 1998-2000. The grains Price Index consists of International Grains Council (IGC) wheat price index, itself average of 9 different wheat price quotations, and 1 maize export quotation; after expressing the maize price into its index form and converting the base of the IGC index to 1998-2000. The Rice Price Index consists of three components containing average prices of 16 rice quotations: the components are Indica, Japonica and Aromatic rice varieties and the weights for combining the three components are assumed (fixed) trade shares of the three varieties.

⁵ **Oils and Fats Price Index:** Consists of an average of 11 different oils (including animal and fish oils) weighted with average export trade shares of each oil product for 1998-2000.

⁶ **Sugar Price Index:** Index form of the International Sugar Agreement prices.

World cereal supply could improve in 2008/09

Assuming that the current forecast of an increase in cereal production in 2008 will materialize, the global cereal supply situation in 2008/09 is likely to improve, paving the way for a gradual recovery from prevailing tight market conditions. With most of the anticipated production expansion to occur in several major cereal exporting countries,



exportable supplies are expected to recover significantly from their sharply reduced levels this season.

An improvement in the cereal supply/demand situation next season would be a welcome development for many Low-Income Food-Deficit Countries (LIFDCs). The very tight situation of the current 2007/08 season has led to a steady rise in world prices of all cereals, pushing up the food import bill of many importing countries and generating widespread sharp increases in domestic food prices.

The generally positive supply scenario for the new season must be considered with caution as the final outcome of harvests in 2008 still depends critically on weather during the remainder of the agricultural seasons. At this time last year, prospects for cereal production in 2007 were far better than the eventual outcome. Unfavourable climatic conditions devastated crops in Australia and reduced harvests in many other countries, particularly in Europe. But favourable climatic conditions will be even more critical for production in 2008 because world cereal reserves are depleted. Most countries are struggling with critically low stock levels and require improved world supplies in the new season. Any major shortfalls resulting from unfavourable weather, particularly in exporting countries, would prolong the current tight situation, contribute to more price rallies in world markets, and exasperate the economic hardship already facing many countries.

PRODUCTION

World cereal production to increase in 2008

FAO's first forecast for world **cereal** production in 2008 stands at a record 2 164 million tonnes (including rice in milled terms), 2.6 percent up from last year's crop, which was the previous global high. The bulk of the increase is expected in **wheat**, output of which is set to reach some 647 million tonnes, 6.8 percent up from 2007 and also a new record.

In the northern hemisphere, where many crops are already well developed, significantly larger outputs are forecast in North America and Europe. In the United States, winter wheat plantings increased by 4 percent and latest indications also point to a large expansion of the spring-sown area. Thus, assuming normal yields, this year's crop is forecast to turn out at about 60 million tonnes, well above last year and the recent average. The bulk of planting has yet to get underway in Canada but early indications point to a large area increase. In Europe, the winter wheat area has expanded in most major producing countries and crops continue to develop well throughout the region, pointing to better yields than last year's below-average levels, especially in some eastern parts that were hit by severe drought in 2007. Production in the EU is tentatively forecast to reach about 137 million tonnes this year, 13 percent up from 2007's reduced output. In the CIS countries of Europe, larger wheat areas in the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and an expected recovery in yields in the latter country after drought last year,



should help to lift the subregion's wheat output to a bumper level for 2008 over 70 million tonnes. In Asia, prospects for the winter wheat crops are generally favourable but aggregate output in the region looks likely to slip back somewhat from last year's record level. A large part of the decline is expected in Kazakhstan in the CIS region where, despite increased plantings, a return to normal yields after bumper highs last year would result in a smaller harvest. A smaller harvest is also forecast in India, after a record crop last year. In China, the largest producer in the region, this year's wheat output is expected to remain virtually unchanged from last year's record level assuming an expected increase in the spring wheat crop offsets the impact of adverse weather on some of the winter wheat in northern parts. In North Africa, wheat crop prospects are satisfactory in Egypt, the subregion's major wheat producer, and a recovery to average output in Morocco is forecast after a drought-reduced harvest last year. In the southern hemisphere, where most crops are still to be sown, early indications suggest some reduction in output in South America, but in Oceania, assuming a return to a normal season after last year's drought, output should recover sharply.

COUNTRIES INVOLVED

In **Western Africa**, a relatively good cereal crop was gathered in 2007 in the Sahel (with the exception of Senegal and Cape Verde) but coarse grain production declined significantly in a few countries along the Gulf of Guinea, notably in northern **Nigeria** and **Ghana**, leading to a tight food supply situation at regional level, with rising food prices reported in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria** and **Togo**. In the western part of the subregion, where food prices are influenced mainly by international markets due to the high dependence of these countries on wheat and rice imports, both rural and urban consumers have been affected by the prevailing high international cereal prices, notably in **Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania** and **Senegal**. Throughout the subregion the impact of high food prices will be more severe in localized areas where yields were sharply reduced by delayed rains or floods. In these areas populations may require assistance.

In **Central Africa**, although an above-average cereal harvest was gathered in **Cameroon** in 2007, soaring international food prices have pushed up domestic prices of several basic foodstuffs; this has caused serious social unrest recently. In spite of measures taken by the Government to ease the impact on the population, poor urban



consumers and vulnerable groups in rural areas, whose production was affected by dry spells or floods, need to be continuously monitored and assisted as necessary.

In **Eastern Africa**, notwithstanding generally good crops in the last two years, largely in the main producing countries of the subregion, millions of people continue to rely on humanitarian food assistance due to unfavourable weather, conflict, civil strife or a combination of these. In **Somalia**, the food security situation continues to deteriorate for more than 2 million people - including an estimated 1 million IDPs, who are in need of basic humanitarian assistance or livelihood support for at least six months. Intensive conflict in Mogadishu continues to force an average 20 000 people to leave their homes each month. With record high food prices, hyperinflation and drought in large parts of the country, communities are struggling to survive. The country desperately needs good rainfall in the next (April-June) rainy season to avoid a worsening of already extreme water and food shortages. In **Kenya**, a drastically reduced "short-rains" cereal crop and post-election political unrest have resulted in a serious humanitarian situation for an estimated 500 000 people. Some 207 000 people living in camps are facing a humanitarian emergency. The greater disruption of markets, which followed the political unrest, has produced an increase in the cost of agricultural inputs. As a result, about half of the agricultural land in North Rift, the key maize producing area, has not yet been prepared for the planting season this month. About 60 000 people are facing starvation in Taita-Taveta District alone. Acute food crises are also evident in Turkana District, while there is a gradual deterioration in food security in eastern pastoral areas. Food shortages are also reported in lowlands that experienced up to 80 percent of crop failure. In **Eritrea**, current high food prices continue to adversely affect a large number of vulnerable people. In **Ethiopia**, despite a bumper cereal harvest for two consecutive years, 8 million people remain chronically food insecure. Another 2 million are affected by civil insecurity, high food prices and localized unfavourable weather, and require emergency relief. In **Sudan**, conflicts between Misserya nomads and Sudanese security forces in northern Bahr el Ghazal are spreading to Abyei County and northern Unity States, causing market disruptions and threatening food security. In the north, as a result of continuing insecurity in Darfur, displacement and loss of livelihoods are expected to continue and malnutrition rates are likely to increase in the coming months. In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, areas in the region of Arusha and Iringa are facing a food shortage following the eruption of mount Oldongai volcano. In **Uganda**, the entire Karamoja population of 1 million people is food insecure and in need of emergency food aid as a result of flood damage, prolonged insecurity, drought in 2006, a late start to the 2007 cropping season, and falling livestock prices.

In **Southern Africa**, vulnerable populations in several countries are facing the peak of the hunger period due to exhaustion of stocks, compounded by high domestic and imported food prices. The next harvest will begin from mid-April onwards. Households who lost their current crops to floods require urgent agricultural assistance, especially



seed and fertilizer, to permit cultivation of the low lands during the secondary season which has already begun in March. Flood losses were significant in **Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi** and **Madagascar**. In **Zimbabwe**, in spite of abundant rainfall during the first half of the season, extended dry weather since February, deepening economic crisis, shortages of fertilizer and other chemicals are expected to result in a reduced harvest. Current inflation of over 100 000 percent and shortages of food and non-food items affecting the estimated 4.1 million vulnerable people are equally of concern. In **Lesotho** and **Swaziland** although some recovery is expected, asset depletion due to multiple poor harvests, widespread poverty and the impact of HIV/AIDS, have led to serious food insecurity.

In the **Great Lakes** region, serious fighting in the north-eastern parts of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** has displaced large numbers of people who require food assistance. Current peace agreements would help IDPs to resettle but they need substantial assistance to restart farming activities. Food and agricultural aid is also needed in **Burundi**, especially for resettling returnees and IDPs.

In **Far East Asia**, the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** faces severe food shortage. A sharply below-average cereal harvest in 2007 led to an estimated cereal deficit for the 2007/08 marketing year (November/October) of 1.66 million tonnes. In **Bangladesh**, over four months after Cyclone Sidr hit the country, large-scale humanitarian relief operations are still ongoing in 30 districts to assist the most affected 8.9 million people. In **Sri Lanka**, food security continues to be affected by the resurgence of civil conflict, natural disasters (recent floods), as well as rising cereal prices. The food security situation has also continued to deteriorate in the past months in **Timor-Leste** and **Nepal** due to political instability and rising food prices. In Timor-Leste, a state of emergency, declared soon after the February 11 attacks, was extended for another month to April. In **China**, 20 southern provinces suffered from disastrous cold, ice, and snow in January and February, and some 100 million people are officially estimated to have been affected. The most severely impacted crops and products include rapeseed, vegetables, fruits, forest products, and livestock products. Similarly, unusually cold weather in **Viet Nam** has been sweeping through the upland areas near the Viet Nam-China border, making it a record-long cold spell. About 150 000 hectares of rice were destroyed, with a loss of about USD 25 million and about 90 000 head of cattle or buffalo have perished. In **Indonesia** and **Bangladesh** the Avian flu situation remains critical despite containment efforts undertaken by national authorities and the international community.

In the **Near East**, in **Iraq**, following some improvement in the security situation, refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic continue to return to their homes, although large-scale movements have not yet been noted. It is estimated that around 45 000 individuals - out of a total of 1 million present in Syria - have returned to Iraq in 2007.



The internally displaced people are currently estimated at 2.77 million, of whom more than 1 million are in need of adequate shelter and food. In addition, over 1 million do not have access to regular income. Recent clashes in the country's second largest city of Basra, as well as in other southern governorates, have caused the cessation of humanitarian assistance to IDPs and vulnerable populations.

In **Central America and the Caribbean**, **Haiti**, the **Dominican Republic** and **Nicaragua** are still recovering from damage caused by tropical storms and hurricanes in late 2007.

In **South America**, severe floods in **Bolivia**, **Ecuador** and **Peru** have led to reduced plantings and yield loss of several food and cash crops such as paddy, maize, potatoes, soybean, bananas, cocoa and vegetables. In Bolivia, the important livestock sector has also suffered losses of several thousand head of cattle and reduction of pasture availability due to waterlogging.

DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE ISSUE

WFP's Response to Global Food Crisis Rome, 10 May 2008

WFP's 2008 programme aims to meet the needs of 74 million hungry and crisis-affected people around the world. Due to the rise in food prices, the World Bank has estimated that approximately 100 million people could fall deeper into poverty and may require support to meet their basic food and nutritional requirements. WFP is supporting a phased approach, involving many partners, to respond to the evolving crisis, including:

1. Immediate steps to meet urgent needs, prevent malnutrition and stabilize the situation
2. Medium term measures to boost agricultural production



3. Longer term efforts to build a conducive policy environment for pro-poor growth

The food price issue provides a new opportunity to renew efforts for coordination with partners. Meeting urgent needs and seizing the opportunity to revitalize agriculture and economic growth requires a coherent global response involving governments, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society. With sufficient resources and building on existing capacities, WFP is ready to play its part within a broader response framework in the following ways:

1. Immediate – Crisis response and Safety Nets

Poor households that already spend the bulk of their income on food are responding to the high prices by eating less, buying less nutritious food, cutting expenses in health care and education, selling assets and incurring additional debt. The result is that vulnerability is increasing as poor people mortgage their future to meet current needs. Women and children are of particular concern. A critical challenge for WFP is that price-related food insecurity will expose both rural and urban populations to greater degrees of hunger. WFP has substantial experience of conducting food assistance responses in rural areas but strategies for food insecure urban populations will require considerable adaptation of existing technical and programmatic support to governments.

Governments will need to launch emergency assistance and enhance safety net programmes to meet the urgent needs of those who are unable to produce or purchase sufficient food. These activities may include school feeding, mother and child nutritional support, assistance in the form of food, vouchers or cash transfers and employment programmes (food or cash for work). Food security and nutritional surveillance must be scaled up to identify and address needs early. In cases of civil unrest or rising malnutrition, targeted food distributions may be needed. Under the partnership umbrella, support to provide seeds and tools for low-income farmers for the next planting season may also be part of the crisis response.

WFP can help governments and partners cope with urgent needs by –

- Deploying experts to help identify who is most affected and where they are, through assessments and vulnerability analysis

- Supporting food security and nutrition surveillance

- Advising governments and partners on policies and actions that affect access to food

- Implementing targeted general food distributions to affected populations

- Scaling up WFP-supported safety nets, such as school feeding, supplementary feeding for mothers and children, employment and cash voucher programmes, resettlement grants for returnees.

- Providing a platform for agencies to expand nutrition or food security activities, such as additional take-home rations of nutritionally fortified food for younger siblings of school children

- Facilitating logistics arrangements for governments and partners to move non-food items (e.g. seeds and fertilizer)



2. Medium term – Boost Agricultural Production

The increased demand for food provides a renewed opportunity for WFP to direct its programming efforts to support the expansion of agricultural production and simultaneously fight rural poverty.

WFP can help governments and partners to boost agriculture production by –

- Supporting disaster mitigation and contingency planning
- Lending logistics support to government and partner agencies
- Purchasing food to meet its programmatic requirements in ways that benefit low-income farmers

In the context of WFP's assistance, mobilizing public and community works for land and water development (including irrigation), rural roads, construction of crop dryers and stores, pest management etc.

3. Longer term – Policy Reform

Governments will need to review and reform existing policies to mitigate the current and potential future impact of high food prices and help poor rural and urban households benefit from the opportunities that the increased demand for food creates for farmers. This includes establishing new food and cash-based social protection systems, reviewing subsidies and tariffs, addressing land reform challenges, leveraging private sector investment and implementing sustainable mechanisms to deal with international price fluctuations.

WFP can assist governments and partners with policy review and reform by –

- Advocating for the food security needs of the poor and vulnerable
- Establishing and supporting food security and vulnerability monitoring systems
- Advising on ways to strengthen national food distribution programmes and safety nets
- Piloting and supporting programming, procurement, logistics and food fortification innovations
- Sharing experiences across countries and regions
- Championing sound and sustainable policies with World Bank, UNDP, FAO, IFAD and other partners

WFP Current global programme	
Beneficiaries	74 million
Number of countries served	78
Tonnage of food	4.4 million MT
Total cost	USD \$4.3 billion



Partnership key to parliamentarians' success in tackling global challenges – Ban



5 April 2009 – Cooperation is crucial in addressing the current global issues, including the economic crisis and climate change, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed to an international gathering of parliamentarians today in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

"No country is immune from the fallout of the current crises," Mr. Ban said in a **message** to the 120th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). "Now is the time for global solidarity."

The world faces "serious, unprecedented challenges," with the global recession seemingly growing worse by the day and climate change jeopardizing the planet's future, he noted. The food crisis still looms large for hundreds of millions of people, while extremism, political instability and nuclear proliferation are also cause for great concern.

Further, Mr. Ban said, the economic crisis could roll back development gains, with the possibility that people could lose faith in their leaders and their future. "We could be on the brink of widespread social unrest," he added.

"Such grave problems can only be solved by nations working together," the Secretary-General said in his address, delivered by Abdoulaye Janneh, Executive Director of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

At the Group of 20 (G-20) summit last Friday in London, he said that he had called for a sizeable stimulus plan, reforming global rules and institutions, and rallying against protectionism.

A 'green' new deal is essential to spur economic growth, the Secretary-General underscored, with addressing climate change, even in the face of hard economic times, being absolutely essential. He also stressed the need for nations to reach agreement this December at a UN climate change conference in Copenhagen on an ambitious successor pact to the Kyoto Protocol, whose first commitment period ends in 2012.



"We need legislators such as you to help with implementation of that hoped-for deal at the national level," he said at the gathering, which will wrap up on 10 April.

"Parliamentarians play a crucial role across this agenda," Mr. Ban emphasized, telling participants that they are "change agents, well placed to build bridges between the local and the global."

The UN is very cognizant of the role of parliamentarians in world affairs, as well as of its partnership with the IPU, he said, noting that the General Assembly has encouraged the IPU to strengthen its contributions to such UN bodies as the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council.

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