

One Hundred Seventh Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday,
the twenty-third day of January, two thousand and two*

Concurrent Resolution

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This concurrent resolution may be cited as the “Hunger to Harvest: Decade of Support for Sub-Saharan Africa Resolution”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Despite some progress in recent years, sub-Saharan Africa enters the new millennium with many of the world’s poorest countries and is the one region of the world where hunger is both pervasive and increasing.

(2) Thirty-three of the world’s 41 poorest debtor countries are in sub-Saharan Africa and an estimated 291,000,000 people, nearly one-half of sub-Saharan Africa’s total population, currently live in extreme poverty on less than \$1 a day.

(3) One in three people in sub-Saharan Africa is chronically undernourished, double the number of three decades ago. One child out of seven dies before the age of five, and one-half of these deaths are due to malnutrition.

(4) Sub-Saharan Africa is the region in the world most affected by infectious disease, accounting for one-half of the deaths worldwide from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, cholera, and several other diseases.

(5) Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 70 percent of adults, and 80 percent of children, living with the HIV virus, and 75 percent of the people worldwide who have died of AIDS lived in Africa.

(6) The HIV/AIDS pandemic has erased many of the development gains of the past generation in sub-Saharan Africa and now threatens to undermine economic and social progress for the next generation, with life expectancy in parts of sub-Saharan Africa having already decreased by 10–20 years as a result of AIDS.

(7) Despite these immense challenges, the number of sub-Saharan African countries that are moving toward open economies and more accountable governments has increased, and these countries are beginning to achieve local solutions to their common problems.

(8) To make lasting improvements in the lives of their people, sub-Saharan Africa governments need support as they act to solve conflicts, make critical investments in human capacity and infrastructure, combat corruption, reform their

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economies, stimulate trade and equitable economic growth, and build democracy.

(9) Despite sub-Saharan Africa's enormous development challenges, United States companies hold approximately \$12,800,000,000 in investments in sub-Saharan Africa, greater than United States investments in either the Middle East or Eastern Europe, and total United States trade with sub-Saharan Africa currently exceeds that with all of the independent states of the former Soviet Union, including the Russian Federation. This economic relationship could be put at risk unless additional public and private resources are provided to combat poverty and promote equitable economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa.

(10) Bread for the World Institute calculates that the goal of reducing world hunger by one-half by 2015 is achievable through an increase of \$4,000,000,000 in annual funding from all donors for poverty-focused development. If the United States were to shoulder one-fourth of this aid burden—approximately \$1,000,000,000 a year—the cost to each United States citizen would be one penny per day.

(11) Failure to effectively address sub-Saharan Africa's development needs could result in greater conflict and increased poverty, heightening the prospect of humanitarian intervention and potentially threatening a wide range of United States interests in sub-Saharan Africa.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States should declare “A Decade of Support for Sub-Saharan Africa”;

(2) not later than 90 days after the date of adoption of this concurrent resolution, the President should submit a report to Congress setting forth a five-year strategy, and a ten-year strategy, to achieve a reversal of current levels of hunger and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa, including a commitment to contribute an appropriate United States share of increased bilateral and multilateral poverty-focused resources for sub-Saharan Africa, with an emphasis on—

(A) health, including efforts to prevent, treat, and control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other diseases that contribute to malnutrition and hunger, and to promote maternal health and child survival;

(B) education, with an emphasis on equal access to learning for girls and women;

(C) agriculture, including strengthening subsistence agriculture as well as the ability to compete in global agricultural markets, and investment in infrastructure and rural development;

(D) private sector and free market development, to bring sub-Saharan Africa into the global economy, enable people to purchase food, and make health and education investments sustainable;

(E) democratic institutions and the rule of law, including strengthening civil society and independent judiciaries;

(F) micro-finance development; and

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(G) debt relief that provides incentives for sub-Saharan African countries to invest in poverty-focused development, and to expand democratic participation, free markets, trade, and investment;

(3) the President should work with the heads of other donor countries and sub-Saharan African countries, and with United States and sub-Saharan African private and voluntary organizations and other civic organizations, including faith-based organizations, to implement the strategies described in paragraph (2);

(4) Congress should undertake a multi-year commitment to provide the resources to implement those strategies; and

(5) 120 days after the date of adoption of this concurrent resolution, and every year thereafter, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, should submit to Congress a report on the implementation of those strategies, including the action taken under paragraph (3), describing—

(A) the results of the implementation of those strategies as of the date of the report, including the progress made and any setbacks suffered;

(B) impediments to, and opportunities for, future progress;

(C) proposed changes to those strategies, if any; and

(D) the role and extent of cooperation of the governments of sub-Saharan countries and other donors, both public and private, in combating poverty and promoting equitable economic development.

Attest:

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate.