

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 53

Encouraging the development of strategies to reduce hunger and poverty, and to promote free market economies and democratic institutions, in sub-Saharan Africa.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21, 2001

Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Encouraging the development of strategies to reduce hunger and poverty, and to promote free market economies and democratic institutions, in sub-Saharan Africa.

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2        *concurring),*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This concurrent resolution may be cited as the “Hun-  
5        ger to Harvest: Decade of Support for Sub-Saharan Africa  
6        Resolution”.

7        **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8        Congress finds the following:

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

6           (2) Thirty-three of the world's 41 poorest debt-  
7           or countries are in sub-Saharan Africa and an esti-  
8           mated 291,000,000 people, nearly one-half of sub-  
9           Saharan Africa's total population, currently live in  
10          extreme poverty on less than \$1 a day.

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

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

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

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

8           (7) Despite these immense challenges, the num-  
9 ber of sub-Saharan African countries that are mov-  
10 ing toward open economies and more accountable  
11 governments has increased, and these countries are  
12 beginning to achieve local solutions to their common  
13 problems.

14           (8) To make lasting improvements in the lives  
15 of their people, sub-Saharan Africa governments  
16 need support as they act to solve conflicts, make  
17 critical investments in human capacity and infra-  
18 structure, combat corruption, reform their econo-  
19 mies, stimulate trade and equitable economic  
20 growth, and build democracy.

21           (9) Despite sub-Saharan Africa’s enormous de-  
22 velopment challenges, United States companies hold  
23 approximately \$12,800,000,000 in investments in  
24 sub-Saharan Africa, greater than United States in-  
25 vestments in either the Middle East or Eastern Eu-

1       rope, and total United States trade with sub-Saha-  
2       ran Africa currently exceeds that with all of the  
3       independent states of the former Soviet Union, in-  
4       cluding the Russian Federation. This economic rela-  
5       tionship could be put at risk unless additional public  
6       and private resources are provided to combat poverty  
7       and promote equitable economic growth in sub-Saha-  
8       ran Africa.

9               (10) Bread for the World Institute calculates  
10       that the goal of reducing world hunger by one-half  
11       by 2015 is achievable through an increase of  
12       \$4,000,000,000 in annual funding from all donors  
13       for poverty-focused development. If the United  
14       States were to shoulder one-fourth of this aid bur-  
15       den—approximately \$1,000,000,000 a year—the  
16       cost to each United States citizen would be one  
17       penny per day.

18               (11) Failure to effectively address sub-Saharan  
19       Africa’s development needs could result in greater  
20       conflict and increased poverty, heightening the pros-  
21       pect of humanitarian intervention and potentially  
22       threatening a wide range of United States interests  
23       in sub-Saharan Africa.

24 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

25       It is the sense of Congress that—

1           (1) the years 2002 through 2012 should be de-  
2           clared “A Decade of Support for Sub-Saharan Afri-  
3           ca”;

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

14                (A) health, including efforts to prevent,  
15                treat, and control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, ma-  
16                laria, and other diseases that contribute to mal-  
17                nutrition and hunger, and to promote maternal  
18                health and child survival;

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

21                (C) agriculture, including strengthening  
22                subsistence agriculture as well as the ability to  
23                compete in global agricultural markets, and in-  
24                vestment in infrastructure and rural develop-  
25                ment;

1 (D) private sector and free market develop-  
2 ment, to bring sub-Saharan Africa into the  
3 global economy, enable people to purchase food,  
4 and make health and education investments  
5 sustainable;

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

9 (F) micro-finance development; and

10 (G) debt relief that provides incentives for  
11 sub-Saharan African countries to invest in pov-  
12 erty-focused development, and to expand demo-  
13 cratic participation, free markets, trade, and in-  
14 vestment;

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

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

1           (5) 120 days after the date of adoption of this  
2 concurrent resolution, and every year thereafter, the  
3 Administrator of the United States Agency for  
4 International Development, in consultation with the  
5 heads of other appropriate Federal departments and  
6 agencies, should submit to Congress a report on the  
7 implementation of those strategies, including the ac-  
8 tion taken under paragraph (3), describing—

9           (A) the results of the implementation of  
10 those strategies as of the date of the report, in-  
11 cluding the progress made and any setbacks  
12 suffered;

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

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

17           (D) the role and extent of cooperation of  
18 the governments of sub-Saharan countries and  
19 other donors, both public and private, in com-  
20 bating poverty and promoting equitable eco-  
21 nomic development.

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