

THE WHITE HOUSE

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**FACT SHEET: ENDING FAMINE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA**

**Presidential Action**

**President Bush and the other G-8 Leaders endorsed today a new initiative to help prevent famine by improving worldwide emergency assessment and response systems, raising agricultural productivity, and helping 5 million chronically food insecure people in Ethiopia attain food security by 2009.**

**The Challenge:** Millions of people face hunger or food insecurity in Eritrea, Somalia, the Sudan, Kenya, and Uganda. At least **five million Ethiopians are “chronically food insecure”**, i.e., unable at some time in any year to secure an adequate supply of food for survival.

**U.S. Leadership:** President Bush believes that **famine is a preventable tragedy** and he is determined to do more. The United States is the world’s leader in food aid, **providing more than \$1.4 billion in emergency aid and 56 percent of all contributions** to the UN’s World Food Program in FY 2003, a year of unusually high emergency food aid needs.

**G-8 Action:** President Bush led the G-8 in endorsing an initiative on *Ending the Cycle of Famine in the Horn of Africa*, which commits the G-8 to:

- Improve worldwide **emergency assessment and response** systems;
- Support programs to raise **agricultural productivity** and promote rural development in food insecure countries;
- **Assist Ethiopia to attain food security for 5 million people by 2009;** and
- Work with other donors to **meet fully the emergency assistance needs in the Horn of Africa** and other famine-prone regions.

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