

Calendar No. 86107TH 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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21, 2001

Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. WELLSTONE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. LUGAR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JULY 12, 2001

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, without amendment

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),*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

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

12 (2) Thirty-three of the world’s 41 poorest debt-
13 or countries are in sub-Saharan Africa and an esti-
14 mated 291,000,000 people, nearly one-half of sub-
15 Saharan Africa’s total population, currently live in
16 extreme poverty on less than \$1 a day.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (9) Despite sub-Saharan Africa’s enormous de-
2 velopment challenges, United States companies hold
3 approximately \$12,800,000,000 in investments in
4 sub-Saharan Africa, greater than United States in-
5 vestments in either the Middle East or Eastern Eu-
6 rope, and total United States trade with sub-Saha-
7 ran Africa currently exceeds that with all of the
8 independent states of the former Soviet Union, in-
9 cluding the Russian Federation. This economic rela-
10 tionship could be put at risk unless additional public
11 and private resources are provided to combat poverty
12 and promote equitable economic growth in sub-Saha-
13 ran Africa.

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

23 (11) Failure to effectively address sub-Saharan
24 Africa’s development needs could result in greater
25 conflict and increased poverty, heightening the pros-

1 pect of humanitarian intervention and potentially
2 threatening a wide range of United States interests
3 in sub-Saharan Africa.

4 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

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

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

19 (A) health, including efforts to prevent,
20 treat, and control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, ma-
21 laria, and other diseases that contribute to mal-
22 nutrition and hunger, and to promote maternal
23 health and child survival;

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

1 (C) agriculture, including strengthening
2 subsistence agriculture as well as the ability to
3 compete in global agricultural markets, and in-
4 vestment in infrastructure and rural develop-
5 ment;

6 (D) private sector and free market develop-
7 ment, to bring sub-Saharan Africa into the
8 global economy, enable people to purchase food,
9 and make health and education investments
10 sustainable;

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

14 (F) micro-finance development; and

15 (G) debt relief that provides incentives for
16 sub-Saharan African countries to invest in pov-
17 erty-focused development, and to expand demo-
18 cratic participation, free markets, trade, and in-
19 vestment;

20 (3) the President should work with the heads of
21 other donor countries and sub-Saharan African
22 countries, and with United States and sub-Saharan
23 African private and voluntary organizations and
24 other civic organizations, including faith-based orga-

1 nizations, to implement the strategies described in
2 paragraph (2);

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

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

14 (A) the results of the implementation of
15 those strategies as of the date of the report, in-
16 cluding the progress made and any setbacks
17 suffered;

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

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

22 (D) the role and extent of cooperation of
23 the governments of sub-Saharan countries and
24 other donors, both public and private, in com-

- 1 bating poverty and promoting equitable eco-
- 2 nomic development.

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