

# DAILY BULLETIN

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## FOOD AID CRUCIAL TO SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRACY, POWELL SAYS

Secretary addresses 50th anniversary Food-for-Peace conference..... 1

## UNITED STATES SENDS MORE HUMANITARIAN AID TO DARFUR

USAID sends water supplies and blankets..... 2

## UNITED STATES DETAILS \$230 MILLION PLEDGE TO HELP HAITI REBUILD

Money will go for job creation, improved security, better health care ..... 3

## BOLTON URGES NORTH KOREA TO FOLLOW LIBYA'S EXAMPLE ON WEAPONS

Kim Jong Il could end isolation with right strategic choice ..... 4

## FOOD AID CRUCIAL TO SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRACY, POWELL SAYS

Secretary addresses 50th anniversary Food-for-Peace conference

The United States' 50-year-old food aid program is more important than ever in helping to safeguard democracy, extend world peace and promote development, says Secretary of State Colin Powell.

"The peace we seek can be fortified not by weapons of war, but by wheat and cotton, by milk and wool, by meat and by timber and by rice," Powell said, recalling the words of President Dwight Eisenhower who in 1954 signed the law that created the Food for Peace program.

Powell spoke July 21 at the Food for Peace 50th anniversary conference at the headquarters of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Washington.

During the program's 50 years, the United States has delivered more than 106 million metric tons of food commodities to 150 countries, according to a USAID press release.

In addition to helping the world's most vulnerable people get the nutrition they need, the program is helping countries strengthen their agricultural systems so they can outgrow the need for food aid, the release said.

Powell said U.S. food aid is helping to prevent the crisis in Sudan from worsening and highlighted what food aid has accomplished in Afghanistan and Iraq.

“We have to make sure that we are creating conditions in these countries so that people will find hope on a path to democracy and not turn away from that path and become places where terrorists can be recruited,” he said.

Powell cited other U.S. foreign aid programs as helping to fortify world peace, specifically, the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) and programs to combat HIV/AIDS throughout the world. The MCA is the administration’s supplemental aid program for developing countries that meet certain political and economic standards.

Also speaking at the conference were Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios and U.S. World Food Program Executive Director James Morris.

#### UNITED STATES SENDS MORE HUMANITARIAN AID TO DARFUR

USAID sends water supplies and blankets

The United States airlifted additional humanitarian aid to Sudan’s troubled Darfur region July 17-21, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced July 2 in a press release. The additional supplies included water bladders, blankets, and water containers.

The total value of commodities supplied to the region to date, including transportation costs, is approximately \$6.8 million, the release said.

So far, the U.S. government has provided a total of \$109.9 million in humanitarian assistance to Darfur, including 86,700 metric tons of emergency food assistance worth \$82.9 million, and continues to be proactive and engaged in the region, USAID said.

Following is the text of the press release:

WASHINGTON, DC 20523  
PRESS OFFICE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 21, 2004  
Contact: USAID Press Office

#### Additional Humanitarian Aid to Darfur

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) continues its humanitarian efforts in Sudan’s western province of Darfur. Between July 17th and July 21st, 24 water bladders, 11,685 blankets, and 31,700 water containers were airlifted to the war torn region. These relief supplies are in addition to the \$1.6 million in relief supplies sent to Darfur between July 5th and July 14th.

On July 14th, USAID shipped 12 water bladders to Darfur to accommodate the changing needs on the ground. Each full 10,000-liter water bladder can serve between 600 and 700 people. Water bladders facilitate the efficient distribution of water, minimize waiting time for water collection (frequently hours at a time), and improve security for vulnerable individuals by providing accessible water distribution centers.

As of July 21st, USAID has delivered a total of 10,830 rolls of plastic sheeting, 218,335 blankets, 38 water bladders, and 52,100 water containers via 30 airlifts to Darfur. USAID’s contribution of plastic sheeting will provide shelter for approximately 682,290 beneficiaries. The total value of the commodities to date, including transportation costs, is approximately \$6.8 million.

According to a July 15th report from the Office of the U.N. Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (UNRC) in Khartoum, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are reporting continued delays in obtaining registration to work in Sudan, visas for international staff, and customs clearance for essential equipment. Because of these restrictions, relief agencies do not have the numbers of staff or the logistical capacity to reach accessible populations. U.S. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan have asked the Government of Sudan to facilitate humanitarian access and reign in the Jingawit militias that have terrorized thousands of people. If the Government of Sudan fails to comply with its assurances, the U.N. Security Council may pass a resolution sanctioning the Sudanese Government.

The situation in Darfur is dire, especially because the rainy season is impeding the distribution of food and supplies. It is also spreading diseases such as measles, cholera and polio. Approximately 2.2 million people are affected by the crisis, including more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and an estimated 158,000 refugees that have fled to neighboring Chad. USAID Administrator Andrew S. Natsios has called the situation in Darfur the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. By the end of the year, up to 1 million people may die because of hunger, disease, and violence.

To date, the U.S. Government has provided a total of \$109.9 million of humanitarian assistance to Darfur, including 86,700 metric tons of emergency food assistance worth \$82.9 million. The U.S. Government will continue to be proactive and engaged in the region. For more information on USAID's humanitarian efforts in Sudan, please visit our website: <http://www.usaid.gov/>

#### UNITED STATES DETAILS \$230 MILLION PLEDGE TO HELP HAITI REBUILD

Money will go for job creation, improved security, better health care

By Eric Green  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- A \$230 million aid package that the United States has pledged to Haiti will be used for job creation and economic growth, budget support to Haitian government ministries, security improvements and judicial reform, support for conducting free and fair elections in the country, and for improved health care, nutrition, and education activities.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) said in a July 20 statement that the \$230 million pledge, announced that day by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell at an international donors' conference for Haiti, will be offered in addition to the current U.S. contribution to international peacekeeping efforts in the Caribbean nation.

In an itemized breakdown of the pledge, USAID said \$22 million will go for job creation through community

development activities, such as cleaning streets, canals and gullies; improving sanitation; providing potable water; rehabilitating schools and public buildings; and reconstructing roads. Longer-term efforts will focus on expanding access to credit, advancing agricultural technology, improving the climate for trade and investment and increasing job training.

Because Haiti lacks sufficient funds to meet its immediate needs, \$45 million will be used to help the Haitian government meet educational needs for the upcoming school year, supply fuel for electricity generation and waste collection, fight corruption, and rehabilitate port security, customs and key government ministries.

Another \$26 million will be targeted to provide security by improving overall administration of justice in Haiti. The re-establishment of security throughout Haiti is one of the country's most critical needs, said USAID. The agency said a team of U.S. advisers is currently in Haiti, working to improve the country's national police force, institute prison reform, and develop training for judges and prosecutors.

Some \$122 million also will be provided to avert a humanitarian crisis in Haiti by addressing urgent needs in health care, nutrition, and education, USAID said. The agency said that improving food security, preventing the spread of disease, and avoiding displacements of people are critical needs. USAID said Haiti is one of the countries targeted under President Bush's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS relief, with about \$22 million in HIV/AIDS funds currently being programmed.

A final piece of the \$230 package is \$15 million for use in the international effort to help Haiti's Provisional Electoral Council organize, conduct and observe free and fair elections in the near future. USAID said Haiti needs a "secure environment, not only for elections, but also for economic development and the growth of democratic institutions."

Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Treasury's John Taylor said in a July 21 speech in Washington that the Bush administration continues to look for ways to help Haiti expand its trade with the United States, especially in the textile and apparel industry, which comprises over 80 percent of Haiti's exports.

Taylor, the Treasury Department's under secretary for international affairs, noted the U.S. Senate passed the Haiti

Economic Recovery Act on July 16. The official said that the legislation, if ultimately approved by both chambers of the U.S. Congress, would allow Haiti “duty-free entry for apparel assembled from third-country inputs,” and would potentially provide a “significant boost to economic activity” in Haiti.

Taylor said the July 20 donors’ conference for Haiti, held at World Bank headquarters in Washington, proved very successful, raising over \$1 billion in aid from the international community for the next two years.

But he described that conference as only the “first step” in helping Haiti. History has shown that the effect of financial assistance for Haiti “often falls far short of expectations,” Taylor warned.

“The challenge going forward,” he said, “is to learn from our mistakes to ensure that this [current] donor effort translates rapidly into tangible improvements” for Haitian citizens.

The donors’ conference, co-hosted by the European Union, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations, and the World Bank, drew representatives from 30 countries and 32 international organizations. It sought \$924 million to support the Haitian government’s Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF) outlining Haiti’s priority needs and programs over the next two years. The ICF had identified \$924 million as the two-year funding gap in an overall needs assessment totaling \$1.37 billion.

Secretary of State Powell described the funds raised at the donors’ conference as a “testament to the importance that the international community places on Haiti’s return to the path of democracy, stability, and prosperity.” Powell welcomed the new interim leaders of Haiti as “partners who are determined to seize this opportunity to shape a better future for their country.”

Commenting on the amount raised, Haiti’s interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue said that he is “delighted with the result of this conference which demonstrates the level of solidarity of the international community with the people of Haiti.”

He added that “on behalf of the people of Haiti ... I heartily thank the friends of Haiti, and I repeat here the [Haitian] government’s commitment to work in close collaboration with all sectors of Haitian society to make

sure that these funds are used efficiently and transparently.”

World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn said: “We must measure our success not by the total amount raised today, but by our ability to translate these funds into tangible improvements in the everyday lives of the millions of Haitians who are pinning their hopes on all of us here. We must not fail them.”

#### BOLTON URGES NORTH KOREA TO FOLLOW LIBYA’S EXAMPLE ON WEAPONS

Kim Jong Il could end isolation with right strategic choice

The primary obstacles to development and prosperity in North Korea have been the decisions by its leader, Kim Jong Il, to support terrorist activities, build weapons of mass destruction and disregard human rights, according to John R. Bolton, under secretary of state for arms control and international security.

Speaking before an audience at the Graduate School of International Studies at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, July 21, Bolton drew an analogy between the situation in North Korea and recent developments in Libya.

“Let there be no doubt,” he said, “the case of Libya has shown concretely the benefits that can flow when leaders of isolated regimes make the strategic choice to invest in their countries’ future, and not in weapons of mass destruction.”

Bolton acknowledged that the relationship between the United States and North Korea has been paralyzed by distrust, but suggested that this was another area where Libya’s experience could serve as a model.

“It would be fair to say that the United States had no trust in Libya either,” he noted.

“Only now are we building that trust slowly,” he added. “[W]e are doing it as part of a verifiable agreement in which Libya is giving up its weapons of mass destruction

programs in exchange for a new relationship with the United States and the outside world.”

Bolton cited U.S. efforts to normalize relations with Libya after its leader, Muammar Qadhafi, decided to scrap the country’s nuclear and unconventional weapons programs in December 2003. “Resolving this conundrum with Libya was not easy,” the State Department official said, “but we found a way.”

The United States and the United Kingdom implemented a system of internationally accepted verification measures and physically helped Libya to remove or disable the infrastructure of its weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs, Bolton told the audience. As a result, Libya’s WMD programs were mostly eliminated in a period of months, with no need for a negotiated “freeze.”

“To this day, along with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the U.S. and the U.K. continue to work with the Libyans to increase our confidence that they will not reconstitute their WMD,” Bolton said.

No specific promises or rewards were guaranteed to Libya, Bolton stressed. “Rather, we held out the most attractive incentive available: the ability to naturally reap the benefits that come from participating fully in the community of nations.” By deciding to abandon its WMD programs, Bolton said, Libya ended its “pariah status” and was “no longer shunned by the outside world.”

“How ... do we move forward and encourage Kim Jong Il to make the strategic decision that Colonel Qadhafi made?” Bolton asked. The Six-Party Talks, involving the United States, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China and Russia, are the ideal framework for negotiations, he suggested, noting that the forum is transparent and offers a “truly multilateral solution.”

“We are interested in a lasting and meaningful solution to the threat posed by North Korea’s nuclear weapons program,” Bolton said. He emphasized that the four other parties in the Six-Party Talks would be involved in the implementation of a negotiated solution in North Korea, and pointed out that the United States has demonstrated sincerity and trustworthiness by keeping its word to Libya.

Bolton also noted that the United States has worked to achieve international consensus on the North Korean

nuclear weapons issue in multilateral fora, including the IAEA, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Growing confidence in the Six-Party process has allowed the United States to go into greater detail in proposing a solution to the North Korean nuclear impasse, according to Bolton.

“We hope North Korea is carefully studying our proposal and will avoid statements that dismiss it out of hand,” he added.

Relations with North Korea are at a crossroads, Bolton said. “The world is waiting for Kim Jong Il to make the right strategic choice.”

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**Please Note:** Most texts and transcripts mentioned in the U.S. Mission Daily Bulletin are available via our homepage <http://www.usmission.ch>. Select “Washington File” from the drop-down menu under “News.”