

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 390

To authorize emergency supplemental assistance to combat the growing humanitarian crisis in sub-Saharan Africa.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 27, 2003

Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Ms. LEE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize emergency supplemental assistance to combat the growing humanitarian crisis in sub-Saharan Africa.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Africa Famine Relief
5 Act of 2003”.

6 **TITLE I—EMERGENCY FOOD AID**
7 **TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

8 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

9 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The National Security Strategy of the
2 United States, dated September 17, 2002, concludes
3 that “[i]n Africa, promise and opportunity sit side-
4 by-side with disease, war, and desperate poverty.
5 This threatens both a core value of the United
6 States preserving human dignity and our strategic
7 priority combating global terror. American interests
8 and American principles, therefore, lead in the same
9 direction: we will work with others for an African
10 continent that lives in liberty, peace, and growing
11 prosperity.”.

12 (2) On March 19, 2002, the Director of the
13 Central Intelligence Agency testified that “[t]he
14 chronic problems of sub-Saharan Africa make it, too,
15 fertile ground for direct and indirect threats to
16 United States interests. Governments without ac-
17 countability and natural disasters have left Africa
18 with the highest concentration of human misery in
19 the world”.

20 (3) The United Nations World Food Pro-
21 gramme reports that there is an unprecedented hun-
22 ger crisis on the African continent where approxi-
23 mately 38,000,000 people face starvation.

24 (4) The scale of the humanitarian crisis in sub-
25 Saharan Africa has grown dramatically and there

1 has been an average increase of 30 percent in com-
2 modity prices since the President submitted a budg-
3 et request for food aid and other humanitarian as-
4 sistance for fiscal year 2003.

5 (5) A trip report prepared by a congressional
6 delegation that traveled to Ethiopia and Eritrea
7 from December 29, 2002 to January 4, 2003 stated
8 that “the U.S. Government will need to do more to
9 avert a disaster of biblical proportions . . . Donors,
10 including the United States, must make prompt and
11 significant food-aid pledges to help Ethiopia over-
12 come its current crisis.”.

13 (6) At a United Nations Security Council meet-
14 ing on March 12, 2002, concerning the food crisis
15 in Africa, the United States representative stated
16 that adequate levels of assistance must be provided
17 immediately to avert disaster in sub-Saharan Africa.

18 (7) On December 6, 2002, the United States
19 Agency for International Development reported that
20 “[a] number of Southern African countries are cur-
21 rently experiencing food security crises, due to a
22 combination of adverse climate conditions for two
23 consecutive growing seasons, mismanagement of
24 grain reserves, and restrictive government policies
25 that severely inhibit private sector commerce”.

1 (8) The United Nations Children’s Fund
2 (UNICEF) reports that the HIV/AIDS pandemic in
3 Africa, affecting 29,400,000 people, has exacerbated
4 the humanitarian crisis by reducing agricultural pro-
5 ductivity and food security, undercutting people’s
6 ability to recover and contributing to long-term pov-
7 erty.

8 (9) The HIV/AIDS crisis in sub-Saharan Afri-
9 ca, which strikes at working adults involved in agri-
10 cultural production, is a major component of this
11 crisis.

12 **SEC. 102. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

13 It is the sense of Congress that—

14 (1) effectively addressing the famine in sub-Sa-
15 haran Africa is in the national security interests of
16 the United States;

17 (2) the President should immediately submit a
18 request for emergency supplemental appropriations
19 to Congress for food aid and other humanitarian as-
20 sistance to reach vulnerable populations living in
21 poverty in sub-Saharan Africa;

22 (3) the President should immediately consult
23 with the chairmen and ranking members of the
24 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry,
25 the Committee on Appropriations, and the Com-

1 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the
2 Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Appro-
3 priations, and the Committee on International Rela-
4 tions of the House of Representatives to formulate
5 a legislative strategy to address the immediate and
6 long-term needs caused by the humanitarian crisis in
7 sub-Saharan Africa; and

8 (4) the United States should engage in direct
9 talks with members of the European Union and
10 other appropriate nations to increase the amount of
11 contributions from other nations to sub-Saharan Af-
12 rica.

13 **SEC. 103. EMERGENCY FOOD AID.**

14 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—**

15 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**In addition to amounts oth-
16 erwise available for such purposes, there is author-
17 ized to be appropriated \$600,000,000 for purposes
18 of the emergency assistance program under title II
19 of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assist-
20 ance Act of 1954.

21 (2) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—**Amounts appro-
22 priated pursuant to paragraph (1) are authorized to
23 remain available until expended.

1 (b) USES OF ASSISTANCE.—Amounts appropriated
2 pursuant to subsection (a) shall be used to provide human-
3 itarian assistance for sub-Saharan Africa.

4 (c) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—The entire amount
5 authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a) is des-
6 ignated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursu-
7 ant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and
8 Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

9 **SEC. 104. STRATEGY ON FOOD AID, HUMANITARIAN NEEDS,**
10 **AND NATIONAL SECURITY IN SUB-SAHARAN**
11 **AFRICA.**

12 Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment
13 of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committee
14 on Appropriations, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
15 tion, and Forestry, and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
16 tions of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations,
17 the Committee on Agriculture, and the Committee on
18 International Relations of the House of Representatives
19 a report setting forth—

20 (1) a strategy for meeting the immediate hu-
21 manitarian needs in sub-Saharan Africa;

22 (2) an assessment of how a failure to meet
23 these needs would impact United States national se-
24 curity interests in the region;

1 (3) a description of how additional food aid will
2 be provided in coordination with other forms of as-
3 sistance, particularly agricultural development, food
4 aid for development purposes, and HIV/AIDS pro-
5 grams;

6 (4) a description of how additional food aid and
7 other forms of assistance will be provided in con-
8 sultation and coordination with nongovernmental or-
9 ganizations;

10 (5) the number of people at risk of immediate
11 starvation in sub-Saharan Africa, the number of
12 metric tons of food needed to prevent widespread
13 starvation in the region and address deteriorating
14 malnutrition rates, and the minimum costs of buying
15 and delivering the aforementioned commodities; and

16 (6) the amount of funds committed by the
17 United States and other donors for the purchase of
18 food in fiscal years 2002, 2003, and 2004 to meet
19 emergency needs in sub-Saharan Africa, and the an-
20 ticipated shortfall in funding, if any.

21 **SEC. 105. COORDINATION OF FOOD AID AND OTHER HU-**
22 **MANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President in consultation
24 with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of State,
25 and the Administrator of the United States Agency for

1 International Development, is strongly urged to establish
2 a task force responsible for—

3 (1) designing a comprehensive strategy to deal
4 with the immediate needs of the humanitarian crisis
5 in sub-Saharan Africa and addressing the long-term
6 causes of food insecurity in the region, including cor-
7 ruption within certain governments of sub-Saharan
8 Africa;

9 (2) ensuring program and policy coordination
10 among agencies of the United States Government,
11 other nations, international organizations, and non-
12 governmental organizations in carrying out the poli-
13 cies set forth in this Act;

14 (3) ensuring that the distribution of humani-
15 tarian assistance provided in response to the current
16 crisis is not manipulated or politicized within the re-
17 cipient countries; and

18 (4) maintaining proper management, implemen-
19 tation, and oversight by agencies responsible for exe-
20 cuting programs authorized in this Act.

21 (b) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the task force,
22 the President should consult with the Majority and Minor-
23 ity Leaders of the Senate, the Speaker and Minority Lead-
24 er of the House of Representatives, and the chairmen and
25 ranking members of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-

1 tion, and Forestry and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
 2 tions of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture and
 3 the Committee on International Relations of the House
 4 of Representatives.

5 (c) DATE.—The task force called for in subsection
 6 (a) should be established not later than 60 days after the
 7 enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 106. INCREASING FOOD AID CONTRIBUTIONS AND**
 9 **OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**
 10 **THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

11 The President shall instruct the United States per-
 12 manent representative or executive director, as the case
 13 may be, to the United Nations, the World Food Pro-
 14 gramme, international financial institutions, and other ap-
 15 propriate international organizations to use the voice and
 16 vote of the United States to support additional food aid
 17 and other humanitarian assistance for sub-Saharan
 18 Africa.

19 **TITLE II—OTHER EMERGENCY**
 20 **ASSISTANCE**

21 **SEC. 201 INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE.**

22 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
 24 appropriated to the President \$200,000,000 for fis-
 25 cal year 2003, for purposes of section 491 of the

1 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for relief, rehabili-
2 tation, and reconstruction assistance for sub-Saha-
3 ran Africa.

4 (2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-
5 priated pursuant to paragraph (1) are in addition to
6 amounts otherwise available for such purposes and
7 are authorized to remain available until expended.

8 (b) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—The entire amount
9 authorized under subsection (a) is designated by Congress
10 as an emergency requirement pursuant to section
11 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency
12 Deficit Control Act of 1985.

13 **SEC. 202. EMERGENCY HIV/AIDS FAMILY SURVIVAL PART-**
14 **NERSHIPS.**

15 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
16 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Health
17 and Human Services \$100,000,000 to carry out sub-
18 sections (b) and (c) in sub-Saharan Africa.

19 (b) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human
20 Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for
21 Disease Control and Prevention, and in consultation with
22 the Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
23 national Development, is authorized to award grants to
24 eligible administrative organizations to award subgrants
25 to nongovernmental organizations to expand activities to

1 prevent the mother-to-child transmission of HIV by pro-
2 viding treatment, medical care, and support services to
3 HIV infected parents and their children.

4 (c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-
5 priated pursuant to subsection (a) are authorized to re-
6 main available until expended.

7 (d) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—The entire amount
8 authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a) is des-
9 ignated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursu-
10 ant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and
11 Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

12 **TITLE III—OTHER PROVISIONS**

13 **SEC. 301. DEFINITION.**

14 In this Act, the term “sub-Saharan Africa” has the
15 meaning given the term in section 107 of the African
16 Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3706).

