



March 4, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chair, Senate Committee on
Appropriations
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on
Appropriations
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, House Committee on
Appropriations
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Appropriations
1026 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chairwoman DeLauro, and Ranking Members Shelby and Granger

On March 2, the White House submitted a formal request for a supplemental funding package to assist those suffering from the conflict in Ukraine and the continuing COVID-19 crisis. We thank you for considering this critical request, but also wish to underscore the dire humanitarian crises that continue in many parts of the world. Further, we urge you to consider the global food security implications of the continuing Ukraine conflict. The conflict in Ukraine combined with the continuing humanitarian situations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen, South Sudan, and elsewhere demand urgent attention to a degree that the current request will not sufficiently meet.

Before the war in Ukraine, the World Food Program was sounding the alarm about food crises and emergencies across the globe. In a letter dated February 10 to your committee, a coalition of 51 organizations urged the consideration of no less than \$1 billion for Food for Peace Title II emergency operations and \$2.8 billion for International Disaster Assistance (to be directed to food assistance through the Emergency Food Security Program). This was in response to what WFP estimates to be 283 million people around the world facing crisis levels of food insecurity – including 45 million facing the prospect of famine.

The conflict in Ukraine furthers the urgent need for this funding for a variety of reasons. At a basic level, we have already witnessed more than 1 million refugees fleeing the country. This number is expected to grow exponentially. However, the importance of Ukraine as a key exporter of critical staple grains to the region compounds worries of an

increasingly volatile global food security situation, as well as food price spikes not seen in more than a decade.

The Alliance to End Hunger, as well as other global food security and nutrition organizations, fear that the supplemental request – and specifically the \$500 million requested for International Disaster Assistance – will prove inadequate to meet the severe challenges around the world. We urge you to consider bolstering supplementary lifesaving food security and nutrition funding in FY22 bills or in a separate supplemental package. Thank you once again for your continued leadership, and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric P. Mitchell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Eric Mitchell
Executive Director
Alliance to End Hunger
emitchell@alliancetoendhunger.org

CC: The Honorable Chris Coons, The Honorable Lindsey Graham, The Honorable Barbara Lee, The Honorable Hal Rogers