

April 16, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives 2433 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell,

As members of the Alliance to End Hunger, the undersigned organizations urge you to pass supplemental appropriations for humanitarian assistance included in the security supplemental bill passed by the Senate with broad bipartisan support in February. Specifically, the final package should include the Senate-approved \$9.15 billion for critically needed humanitarian, food security and resilience programs.

This request is consistent with a <u>letter</u> we sent to Appropriations leadership back in September expressing strong support for the Administration's supplemental request. Since then, the needs have grown exponentially with <u>unprecedented levels of food insecurity around the world</u>, and conflict as a key driver of hunger. With over one million people, half of the population in Gaza is experiencing catastrophic levels of food insecurity and famine is imminent.

In Sudan, nearly 18 million people, over one-third of the population, face high levels of acute food insecurity. In Haiti, instability and gang activity are driving nearly five million people, half of the population, into high levels of acute food insecurity. These are just three of the 18 *Hunger Hotspots* around the world identified in the latest joint hunger <u>report</u> by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

To address this crisis, we strongly support funding for both urgent emergency food aid programming and the resilience of communities facing acute levels of food insecurity. This includes \$50 million in Economic Support Funds (ESF), \$5.65 billion for International Disaster Assistance (IDA), and \$3.49 billion for Migration of Refugee Assistance (MRA).

As USAID Administrator Samantha Power stated to the Senate State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee last week: *"Tens of millions of lives depend on the passage of the supplemental."* There is no time to waste.

Historically, America has always been a leader in the fight against global hunger. At a time of unprecedented need, we ask that you include the \$9.15 billion for humanitarian assistance in the final security supplemental appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days, an initiative of FHI 360 Bread for the World **Cantera Partners Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) Church World Service Congressional Hunger Center** Edesia **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF)** GrainPro InterAction Meds & Food for Kids One Acre Fund **Opportunity International** RESULTS **Rise Against Hunger** Save the Children **World Food Program USA** World Renew

CC: Hon. Patty Murray, Hon. Susan Collins, Hon. Tom Cole, Hon. Rosa DeLauro, Hon. Chris Coons; Hon. Lindsay Graham; Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart; Hon. Barbara Lee