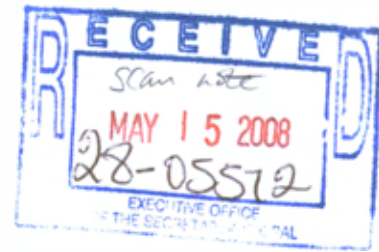


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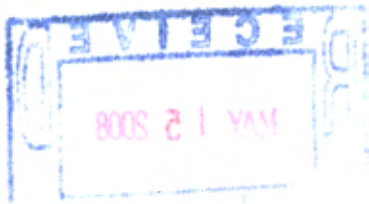


**Note to the Secretary-General**

**GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND  
THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (CERF)**

1. As a result of the unprecedented rise in food prices, CERF is expecting an increase in requests for funding of related humanitarian programmes. So far this year, the Fund has already allocated almost USD 66 million to food interventions by all UN agencies as compared to USD 37 million allocated during the first four and half months of 2007.
2. I have therefore decided to reserve USD 100 million from current resources of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to respond to the most immediate life-saving activities in sectors directly linked to the effects of this crisis (food, agriculture, health, nutrition, and logistics).
3. The global prioritization of countries will be undertaken with key stakeholders (i.e. FAO, WFP, World Bank, UNICEF, etc) using the most up-to-date information (FAO Global Information and Early Warning System/Crop Prospects and Food Supply, WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, and UNICEF ongoing assessments).
4. It is important to highlight in discussions with Member States, and in public statements on this issue, the need to replenish the CERF in the near future and to encourage donors to make additional contributions to the Fund to enable it to do all it needs to do in 2008.
5. Thank you for your assistance in highlighting the role CERF continues to play in addressing the crisis. I am including a draft press statement which your Spokesperson could use to make the announcement on this allocation for example during the noon briefing. I would be happy to address any additional questions you may have.

John Holmes  
15 May 2008



United Nations



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Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

To: Mr. Nambiar,

Please find attached, for your approval, a note from Mr. Holmes on his decision to reserve \$100 million from current resources of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). In this connection, he has also submitted a draft press announcement, to be read out by the Spokesperson at a noon briefing.

The draft press announcement is attached for your approval.

Nicholas Haysom  
15 May 2008

Cc: KWS

28-05572

Note to Mr. Nambiar

**GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND CERF**



Please find attached a note from Mr. Holmes to the Secretary-General on the global food crisis and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

I would be grateful if you could kindly submit the attached to the Secretary-General.

*John G. Holmes*

John Holmes  
15 May 2008

## **Bullet points for the Spokesperson**

### **Global food crisis and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)**

- The United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, John Holmes, has decided to reserve USD 100 million from current CERF resources to respond to the most immediate life-saving activities in sectors directly linked to the effects of the recent rise in global food prices (food, agriculture, health, nutrition, and logistics).
- Since its inception in 2006, CERF has shown that it is a successful humanitarian funding mechanism that ensures that aid is delivered in an effective, fast and predictable way.
- So far this year, the Fund has already allocated almost USD 66 million to food interventions by all UN agencies as compared to USD 37 million allocated during the first four and half months of 2007. Overall, the Fund has disbursed almost \$800 million in its short history.
- Given the likely extra demands on the Fund from food-related emergencies, and from multiple crises and disasters around the world, the need to replenish CERF in the near future is evident. The Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator are therefore encouraging all donors and potential donors to make additional contributions to the Fund beyond the USD 425 million already pledged for 2008.

*Approved*

*by*