

## A Proposal for Combating World Hunger LEVEL 1

A

### Combating World Hunger

World Hunger is a very serious problem facing many of today's developing nations such as Africa. There are many different explanations out there as to why so many people are hungry. One of the causes of world hunger is recurring famine. Many of the African nations suffer from famine caused by natural disasters like droughts. Frequent warfare and disease can also cause famine. Famine has a drastic affect on many African nations. In these regions there is lack of food, seeds for growing food, training, as well as death and disease.

Governments of these developing nations need help from the rest of the world so that they can fight against long-term famine in their own countries. In order to do this, the governments of developing countries need money.

#### Step 1 – Getting rid of International Debt

The first step in solving on-going famine is to get rid of international debt. Countries from all worlds carry debts, but it is the fourth- and fifth-world countries that suffer the most. Interest rates rose in the 1980s- 90s, causing their debts to increase; world prices also fell at this time, meaning that developing countries were receiving less money than they needed to repay their debts (Jubilee). Debt repayments now cost between one-quarter and one-third of their total income, money that could be used to provide food, fund education and health-care projects. Governments of poor countries have to ask to have their debts forgiven. Once this happens, developing countries *can* and most likely *will*, put their money towards health-care and education.

#### Step 2 – Providing Proper Supplies and Education

In order to eat people must know how to grow the nutritious food they need to survive. The government needs to provide people with the proper supplies and education they need to grow healthy and nutritious food. This is vital to solving on-going famine. With the proper supplies and education people will not suffer from a lack of vitamins and so decrease their risk of disease. The only problem with this strategy is that most of these countries experience major weather conditions that limit their ability to grow food. Due to this the Government must also teach the people when the good time of year to grow food is, and provide them with enough supplies to last them through the harsh weather conditions. This is a very crucial step because providing people with the education they need they will no longer be suffering from hunger or health problems.

B

### Step 3 – Providing Proper Health Care

Health care in underdeveloped nations is practically non-existent. Because of the lack of food in these countries people suffer from many diseases because of malnutrition and starvation. Diseases that will eventually lead to an early death. Health care in these countries is very limited because it is expensive, and most people do not have the money to get the proper health care they need. The Government could start up a Doctors internship in the needed countries. This will not only give the country a second chance it will also give the doctors a very good experience and give those in need a second chance at survival. Proper health care is very crucial for survival in a country like Africa. "Their extreme vulnerability to malnourishment leads to many deaths and many serious diseases." (Africa's Fight Against Famine) Children are affected severely without proper health. Most children only live to their fifth birthday. These countries deserve the health care they need. The government can do this.

By taking these three steps, governments can combat the world hunger problem we face in our world today. The governments of these struggling countries need to open their eyes and actually see what is going on in their countries and try to prevent it. Thousands of people are dying of hunger each day. Governments can solve this by taking these three steps. These steps are manageable and could work.

#### Works Cited

World Vision Organization. *Africa's Fight Against Famine*. 2003. 16 May 2003.  
<http://who.int/mediacentre/release/who63.html>

"Causes of Famine" (no date) 16 May 2003.  
<http://webspawner.com/users/oalopez>

Jubilee 2000 – Debt Cancellation  
<http://www.globalchange.com/debtrelief.htm>

**Teacher's Notes****Knowledge and Understanding**

- The student describes recurring famine as a cause of a world hunger with limited effectiveness. The student correctly notes that famine can be an ongoing condition, generated by both natural and manmade causes (e.g., drought, disease, warfare), and that it affects “many African nations”. However, the student tends to state the obvious (e.g., that there is a lack of food in famine-stricken regions) and does not provide enough detail (e.g., does not explain that food supplies and livestock are often destroyed during times of military action) for the examination of such a complex issue.

**Thinking**

- The student analyses famine as a cause of world hunger with limited effectiveness. The student recognizes that famine involves an immediate shortage of food and understands that it can have long-term effects on a region (e.g., shortage of seeds to produce future crops; the spread of disease). However, the student’s analysis is superficial and does not show evidence of in-depth research.

**Communication**

- The student communicates information and ideas with limited clarity. The student provides an appropriate structure for the proposal and includes a three-step strategy to be carried out by the government of a region experiencing ongoing famine conditions: applying for release from foreign debt; providing the local population with the means to sustain agriculture; providing adequate health care. However, some arguments are circular (e.g., “Because of the lack of food in these countries people suffer from many diseases because of malnutrition and starvation.”). In other places, meaning is unclear because of missing words or confusing wording (e.g., “This is a very crucial step because providing people with the education they need they will no longer be suffering from hunger or health problems.”).

**Application**

- The student develops a three-step strategy that is limited in effectiveness. The student acknowledges that debt relief is essential to the rest of the strategy, but does not explain how it can be obtained. The student also assumes that a government relieved of debt will invest in feeding and educating the population and providing health care. Steps 2 and 3 are practical approaches to relieving the effects of long-term famine, but the student does not explain how the steps will be implemented or what support will be needed.
- The student justifies the three-step strategy with limited effectiveness. The student reasons that immediate debt relief followed by long-term programs could alleviate the problem of recurring famine. However, this solution does not apply, for example, to war-torn areas. Also, the student suggests that governments are unaware of the problem of hunger, which is unlikely and reflects a simplistic view on the part of the student.

**Comments**

This work is representative of solid level-1 performance. The student demonstrates a limited degree of achievement of the expectations in all four categories of knowledge and skills.

**Next Steps**

In order to improve his or her performance, the student needs to:

- make reference to specific areas in Africa that experience recurring famine;
- support the feasibility of each step by providing more details about implementation and examples of successful implementation in specific countries;
- acknowledge the difficulties involved in implementing certain strategies (e.g., reducing international debt) by offering more detailed suggestions;
- avoid stating the obvious and making simplistic conclusions;
- proofread carefully to ensure that wording is clear and sentences are properly structured.