



Coalition for Agricultural Development

June 24, 2013

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair
The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member
State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Dirksen 127
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger, Chair
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey, Ranking Member
State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol HB-26
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Leahy and Graham, and Representatives Granger and Lowey:

The Coalition for Agricultural Development (CFAD), comprised of U.S.-based businesses, universities, NGOs and cooperatives, would like to express its sincere thanks for your continuing support in FY 2013 for global food security. It is projected that global food supplies will need to increase by an estimated 50 percent to meet demand in the next 20 years. We also face the ongoing challenge of helping 850 million hungry people to improve their nutritional status, as well as needing to be prepared to respond to the needs of those faced with natural disasters, conflict and other economic and environmental shocks. We know that Congress has faced difficult budget choices, but your continuing strong support for a package of U.S. investments in global agricultural development has been greatly appreciated by our coalition.

As we know from our own experience in the United States, raising the productivity of a country's agriculture sector makes it possible to meet the food needs of growing populations. It supports innovation and value-addition in other segments of the national economy as they respond to emerging market opportunities for farm inputs, food processing and storage, biofuels, and fiber. Success in boosting agricultural productivity also motivates farmers and ranchers to invest additional resources in their operations, improving their efficiency and sustainability. U.S. assistance programs, by placing a sustained focus on improving the productivity of both men and women small farmers and livestock owners, enables them to play a key role in modernizing commodity value chains that are critical to increasing food security, incomes and political stability in the developing world.

As a group of concerned organizations, we write to express our broad support for sustained funding for global agricultural development and food security programs in FY 2014. **We support base funding for *Feed the Future* at a level of no less than \$1.2 billion and a total of \$1.45 billion across all bilateral accounts for food security (\$245 million for food security in frontline states). We endorse the disbursement of \$158.3 million through the multilateral Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP); this represents one third of the second U.S. 3-yr commitment of \$475 million.**

We also support funding in other accounts that complement these core investments in agriculture: nutrition programming at \$200 million; the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program at \$209.5 million; the International Disaster Assistance account at \$1.6 billion; P.L. 480 Title II Food Assistance at \$1.84 billion; \$468 million for climate change response in all bilateral accounts; and the US contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) at \$32.243 million, including \$2.243 million to pay arrears from prior years.

As noted in the attached CFAD FY 2014 Issues Paper, all governments have a role to play in assuring that food and agricultural systems are robust, productive, and resilient, but United States public and private partners, along with NGOs, can make a distinct contribution by supporting: 1) *investments in institutions and infrastructure* key to improving agricultural productivity and resilience all along the value chain; 2) *agricultural research and technology innovations and extension* carried out by both public and private institutions, including universities that (as in the U.S. land grant system) combine the mandates of education, research, and community service; 3) *capacity building, education and training* to increase the productivity of farmers and livestock owners, and raise the knowledge and skills of youth, the future workforce; 4) *healthcare support services and programs to help families –especially mothers and young children – to achieve improved nutritional outcomes with the food and incomes at hand*; 5) *new tools and techniques to increase resilience to stresses related to climate-related stresses*.

As Congress considers the FY 2014 State-Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, CFAD strongly urges you to place the highest priority on U.S. foreign assistance programs that support global food security through agricultural development. We pledge our support to work with you to achieve strong funding for these critical programs.

Respectfully,

M. Peter McPherson
CFAD Co-chair

Dr. Susan G. Schram
CFAD Co-chair; contact (202) 469-6021

SIGNATURES:

ACDI/VOCA
Africare
AGCO
Association for International Agriculture
And Rural Development
Alliance for Global Food Security
Armajaro Trading Ltd.
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Auburn University
Bayer CropScience
Chemonics
CHS Inc.
CNFA, Inc.
Coffee Quality Institute
Communications Cooperative International
Congressional Hunger Center
Corporate Council on Africa
CropLife America
Cultural Practice, LLC
DAI
Dow AgroSciences
Earth Institute, Columbia University
FMC
Food for the Hungry
GIC Group
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Global Harvest Initiative
GrainPro Inc.
GROWMARK
GSC International
Guittard Chocolate
Heartland Global, Inc.
Hunger Plus, Inc.
IFDC
InterAction
International Arid Lands Consortium
International Association for Cold Storage
Construction
International Association of Refrigerated
Warehouses
International Refrigerated Transportation
Association
Iowa State University
IRD
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
Lincoln University of Missouri
Linking World Company
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
Michigan State University
Mississippi State University
Monsanto
National 4-H Council
National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Sorghum Producers
NCBA CLUSA
One Acre Fund
Oregon State University
Partnership to Hunger and Poverty in Africa
Relief International
Soil Science Society of America
Southern States Cooperative
Syngenta
TechnoServe
Tetra Tech International Development Services
Texas A&M University System
The Ohio State University
The Schaffer Global Group
Transmar Group
Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher
Education Center
University of California
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U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council
Veterinarians Without Borders
Virginia Tech
Washington State University
Weidemann Associates, Inc.
Winrock International
Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture
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World Cocoa Foundation
World Council of Credit Unions
World Food Logistics Organization
World Wide Sires, Ltd.