

## NEWS RELEASE

**CANNES, France (Nov. 4, 2011)**—This morning aid agencies held a joint press conference to hold the G-20 leaders' feet to the fire on what was not accomplished this week.

**World Vision Brazil's Operations Director Mauricio Cunha provided the following statement at the press conference in the final hours of the G-20 Summit:**

**Setting the stage:**

"I live in Recife, the poorest part of Brazil. Living there, I see poverty and hunger all the time—even on the same block where I live. It's a huge challenge to be in a summit like this and not see the problems of the people we work with being addressed.

As aid agencies that work in 100 countries around the world with children and families who are living in poverty, we had high hopes for what the G-20 could accomplish to not only change – but literally save—the lives of millions of people.

Every night, 925 million people go to bed hungry and right now in the Horn of Africa, children and families are struggling to live through the worst drought in 60 years."

**Stark contrast of Cannes and G-20 as a missed opportunity:**

"Today, we are in the glamorous and beautiful Cannes which provides a stark contrast to these struggles faced by millions of people. And this G-20 will be remembered as a missed opportunity.

"New world, new ideas" is a hollow slogan in light of how little has actually been accomplished. G-20 actions on food security and price volatility need to be based on the needs and perspectives of those 925 million hungry people who don't care much about Greek tragedies: they don't go to theatre, but they have their own tragedies that we need to address and be the voice for the voiceless."

**What was missed by the G-20:**

"While the G-20 has paid little attention to the need to support smallholder farmers, we are disappointed that their efforts so far have not produced concrete actions to support these farmers who grow food for their own families and are part of the solution to preventing global food shortages. Smallholder farmers produce the majority of the world's food.

Price volatility has created chaos for smallholder farmers, who, ironically, are both producers of food and also make up the majority of the food insecure. The G-20 has failed to adopt significant measures to control high volatility and this only makes the food security situation worse for those people.

The G-20 has a unique opportunity because some of these leaders have the huge challenge of fighting hunger and poverty in their own countries, so this should be the main agenda for the G-20. I hope that Mexico will write a truly new story, with new ideas."

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