

STATEMENT

Attention: Assignment Editors/Foreign Editors

World Vision response to Minister Oda's announcement on Horn of Africa funding

October 5, 2011

World Vision Canada's President and CEO, Dave Toycen:

"The figures released today by Minister Oda show the generosity of Canadians, in spite of tough economic circumstances. We're grateful for the more than \$12 million Canadians have donated to World Vision Canada's Horn of Africa relief efforts and we can assure everyone who made a donation that their money is helping children and families in need."

"This crisis in the Horn of Africa is far from over and we're seeing indicators that conditions will continue to get worse in some areas before they get better. The Canadian government must ensure this \$70 million does two things: funds the immediate needs in the Horn of Africa where more children are dying every day and funds long-term programs that boost food security in the Horn of Africa where 750,000 people are at risk of dying in the coming months."

"We're also grateful that Minister Oda has acknowledged the need for a long-term response that takes into account that this is a regional crisis. The government match is an important way to inform and encourage Canadians and we encourage the government to match donations for all future emergencies."

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World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.