



**United Nations Association in Canada**  
**Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies**

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Letter to the Editor  
Ottawa Citizen

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**A bold step**

The Ottawa Citizen editorial (*Some Food for Thought-May 1st*) rightly applauds the Government of Canada for its announcement to immediately increase our international food aid by \$50 million dollars, most to be distributed through the World Food Programme. The further decision to untie that food aid from the obligation to purchase 50 per cent of the aid from Canadian producers is of dramatic importance in addressing the underlying causes of this hunger crisis. This bold step of the Government will assist in meeting dire hunger needs and will have a longer-term impact on the growth of local capacity to meet local needs in a timely and efficient manner.

This is a generous reaction to an immediate need that merits loud applause. The editorial's call for a prosperous country like Canada to make this the first step in a larger commitment to meeting the internationally accepted target of 0.7 percent for foreign aid is also to be commended and is truly key in sustainable solutions to pressing global needs

This is the kind of action that Canadians expect of their government and that has built Canada's solid international reputation at the United Nations – and in other international fora. Bravo!

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