



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 12, 2012

I send greetings to all those observing World Food Day.

On the streets of the largest urban centers and in the smallest rural communities, nearly one billion people around the world suffer the injustice of chronic hunger. Without nourishing food, families, communities, and entire nations are robbed of the opportunity to lift themselves out of poverty.

The United States has a moral obligation to lead the fight against global hunger, and we have put food security at the forefront of global development efforts. Through initiatives like Feed the Future, we are helping partner countries transform their agriculture sectors by investing in smallholder farmers—particularly women—who are the key to spurring economic growth and sustainably cultivating enough food to feed their people. And, to build on commitments made during the 2009 G-8 Summit at L'Aquila, Italy, the United States is also working with fellow G-8 nations through the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, which aims to help free 50 million people in sub-Saharan Africa from poverty over the next decade.

Though we have made great strides in the battle against hunger, more work remains to be done. Ensuring long-term food security is an all-hands-on-deck effort, so on World Food Day, let us each recommit to doing our part to end hunger and poverty wherever it exists and to reaching for a healthier, more prosperous future for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", with a large, stylized "B" and "O" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.