From: Carol Williams  
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 6:00 PM  
To: Wendy Halder  
Subject: FW: ADRA responds to food & drought crisis in the Horn of Africa

FYI

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From: ADRA International [mailto:adrareponds@adra.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 5:57 PM  
To: Carol Williams  
Subject: ADRA responds to food & drought crisis in the Horn of Africa
Thousands flock to IDP camps for food, water, and hope.

"There is no food to take care of our needs and water is scarce," says Fatima with tears streaming down her face.

**Will you help us save lives?**

Today, more than 5 million children are close to starvation in the Horn of Africa. The worst drought in 60 years is drying up water points and destroying crops. Food prices are soaring making it impossible for parents to even buy what little food is available for their children.

In the Horn of Africa there are already 10 million people in crisis in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Djibouti. The number is increasing on a daily basis with no hope of letting up until 2012. ADRA is already supplying food, water, shelter, and livestock feed.

Fatima is a 39-year-old widow and mother of eleven children. She lives in eastern Kenya on the border of Somalia. In 2005 Fatima’s family was very wealthy according to Somali standards. Her husband, Alkadir had camels, sheep, cattle, goats and donkeys, and he was one of the key decision makers among the elders in the district. During this time, a severe drought struck and he lost three quarters of his flock.

"My husband was in shock and he almost went mad from this loss," Fatima shares while sobs rack her body. "My husband and his friend decided that they wouldn’t wait until their entire flock was gone. So they crossed the Ethiopian border in search of pastures and water only to meet a worse situation there. The remaining livestock died and they both came back with just their walking sticks."

Fatima’s eyes seem to be watching the past where hopelessness, pain and anguish seem to be engulfing her. With tears furiously streaming down her sun-scorched cheeks she continues, "When my husband came back, he fell into a severe depression that later developed into a stroke and after five years of struggle he died. After his death, his friends and relatives gave, 5 camels, 10 cattle, 30 goats, 20 sheep and 5 donkeys to my children and I. We struggled with life on our own without our breadwinner, and we managed to recover almost a quarter of the flock we used to have. However, as fate would have it, the same "Satan" has mercilessly struck again with another worse and severe drought." Fatima then breaks down into an anguish cry of hopelessness and through heavy sobs, she says, "We have lost half of our flock, we have no means to take care of them and there is no food to take care of our needs and water is scarce."
Fatima is single-handedly taking care of her children. Currently they are blessed when they have one meal a day and are too often going without any food for days at a time. Fatima sent her livestock to Ethiopia in hope of pasture and water. Now she cannot even get a goat or one of her livestock to sell so that she can buy food for her family.

**We urgently need your financial support today. Please contact ADRA as soon as you are able and give generously to save lives.**