



SEARCH

- Home
 - TV & Video
 - U.S.
 - World**
 - Politics
 - Justice
 - Entertainment
 - Tech
 - Health
 - Living
 - Travel
 - Opinion
 - iReport
 - Money
- Sports >

New package of proposed European Union sanctions against Russia has been prepared and is being considered, EU spokeswoman says.

Part of complete coverage on **Environment**

U.N. chief: Hunger kills 17,000 kids daily

November 17, 2009 6:56 a.m. EST

Recommend 383 people recommend this. Sign Up to see what your friends recommend.



Anti-hunger campaigners demonstrate at the Colosseum in Rome on Sunday ahead of the world food security summit.

Rome, Italy (CNN) -- Somewhere in the world, a child dies of hunger every five seconds -- even though the planet has more than enough food for all.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon laid out this sobering statistic as he kicked off a three-day summit on world food security Monday in Rome.

"Today, more than 1 billion people are hungry," he told the assembled leaders. Six million children die of hunger every year -- 17,000 every day, he said.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

More than 1 billion hungry, U.N. official says at summit for world food security

Ban Ki-moon: "Small-holder farmers are the heart and soul of ... poverty reduction"

Some aid groups express skepticism about summit

More than 60 leaders attend summit, but only one Group of Eight leader

RELATED TOPICS

- [Hunger](#)
- [Farm Aid](#)
- [United Nations](#)
- [Global Climate Change](#)

The summit opened with the leaders adopting a declaration to renew their commitment to eradicating **hunger**. They promised to do so by promoting investment, reversing the decline in funding for agriculture and tackling the effect of **global warming** on food security.

Urgent action is critical, Ban said. In 2050, the world will need to feed 2 billion more mouths -- 9.1 billion in all.

The steps Ban proposed included providing **farmers** with seeds and land and offering them access to better markets and fairer trade.

"These small-holder farmers are the heart and soul of food security and poverty reduction," he said. "Our job is not just to feed the hungry but to empower the hungry to feed themselves."

The summit came under criticism even before it began, with some aid groups skeptical that it would accomplish much.

The United Nations hopes that donors will go beyond affirming their support to end hunger and fulfill a promise they made during a Group of Eight meeting in July to increase food aid significantly.

Though more than 60 world leaders are at the summit, all but one of the G-8 leaders were absent.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is hosting the gathering. The United States sent the head of the U.S. Agency for International Development, and Britain sent two ministers.

During his speech, Ban also tied the global warming crisis to hunger

ADVERTISEMENT

NewsPulse

Most popular stories right now

[Apple to beef up security measures after nude photo leak](#)

[Who the heck is Jack Ma? Meet the man who built Alibaba](#)

[It's official: Nevada gets Tesla's Gigafactory](#)

[Elizabeth Warren: The market is broken](#)

[Obamacare site hacked but nothing taken, HHS says](#)

[Explore the news with NewsPulse >](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

careerbuilder.com

- Healthcare Jobs
- Sales and Marketing Jobs
- Finance Jobs

Quick Job Search

Keywords City

Job type State

[more options >](#)

eradication.

The melting of Himalayan glaciers will affect the livelihood of 300 million people in China and up to 1 billion throughout Asia, he said. And African farmers might see harvests drop by 50 percent by 2020.

The United Nations has scheduled a climate summit next month in Copenhagen, Denmark.

"There can be no food security without climate security," Ban said. "They must produce results."

"The world is impatient for us to make a difference. I, too, am impatient. And I am committed."

The United Nations also seeks commitment from the public, making an online appeal for individual donations to fight hunger. The U.N. World Food Program's "Billion for a Billion" campaign aims to reach 1 billion individuals.

"If a billion Internet users donate a dollar or a euro a week, we can literally transform the lives of a billion hungry people across the world," said Josette Sheeran, the World Food Program's executive director.

Small donations can make a big difference, Sheeran said.

"Year in, year out, governments have supported WFP in its mission to feed the world's hungriest people, but they cannot be expected to do it alone," Sheeran said. "It's time for members of the public to act."

Recommend 383 people recommend this. Sign Up to see what your friends recommend.

FOLLOW THIS TOPIC +

More World

- Pakistan's Malala: Global symbol, but still just a kid
- Karadzic calls himself 'tolerant,' says foes plotted massacre
- UK blocks hacker McKinnon's extradition to U.S.

Sponsored Links

- LifeLock® Official Site**
LiveLifeFree™ With ID Theft Protection.
- Extended Stay America**
Get Fantastic Amenities, low rates! Kitchen, Ample Workspace, Free WIFI
- Looking to save money?**
Get 2 Bonus Checks/yr. for driving safe from Allstate.

SEARCH

POWERED BY Google

Home | Video | U.S. | World | Politics | Justice | Entertainment | Tech | Health | Living | Travel | Opinion | iReport | Money | Sports
Tools & widgets | RSS | Podcasts | Blogs | CNN mobile | My profile | E-mail alerts CNN shop | Site map | Contact us