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S.384

Global Food Security Act of 2009 (Introduced in Senate)

TITLE I--POLICY OBJECTIVES, PLANNING AND COORDINATION

SEC. 101. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to promote global food security, to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, to alleviate poverty, to improve agricultural productivity and rural development, to support the development of institutions of higher learning that will enhance human capacity, entrepreneurial skills and job creation, agricultural research and technology, and the dissemination of farming techniques to all parts of the agriculture sector, and to support sustainable farming methods.

SEC. 102. COMPREHENSIVE FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) Special Coordinator- The President shall designate an individual to serve in the Executive Office of the President as the Special Coordinator for Food Security. The coordinator shall assist the President by--

- (1) advising the President on international food security issues;
- (2) taking such actions as are necessary to ensure the coordination of the food security efforts and programs of the United States, including the activities of Federal agencies; and
- (3) overseeing the development and implementation of the strategy described in subsection (b).

(b) Content of Strategy- The strategy referred to in subsection (a)(3) is a comprehensive food security strategy that--

- (1) includes specific and measurable goals, benchmarks and time frames, and a plan of action to achieve the objectives described in section 101;
- (2) seeks, to the greatest extent possible, to encourage the leverage of--
 - (A) resources of private sector providers of agriculture inputs, processors, and marketers, including through the Global Development Alliances of the United States Agency for International Development and other measures;
 - (B) consultation with the academic and research community, private voluntary organizations, and other program implementers;
 - (C) the coordination of United States food security efforts with similar efforts of international organizations, international financial institutions, the governments of developing and developed countries, and United States and international nongovernmental organizations; and
 - (D) the incorporation of approaches directed at reaching women living in poverty.
- (3) provides appropriate linkages with United States international health programs, such as the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief;
- (4) reflects a whole-of-government approach that incorporates and encompasses the programs of relevant Federal departments and agencies that engage in some aspect of food security, including the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Department of the Treasury, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (5) provides annual monitoring and evaluation of the program addressing progress toward improving access to food, availability of food, utilization of food, and risk factors associated with food insecure populations.

(c) Implementation- The United States Agency for International Development shall be the lead agency in implementing the strategy described in subsection (b).

SEC. 103. REPORTS.

(a) Annual Reports-

- (1) IN GENERAL- Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than December 31 of each year thereafter through 2014, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of the strategy described in section 102(b).

(2) CONTENT- The report required under paragraph (1) shall include--

- (A) a copy of the strategy and an indication of any changes made in the strategy during the preceding calendar year;
- (B) an assessment of progress made during the preceding calendar year toward meeting the objectives described in section 101 and the specific goals, benchmarks, and time frames specified in the strategy described in section 102(b);
- (C) a description of United States Government programs contributing to the achievement of the objectives described in section 101, including the amounts expended on such programs during the preceding fiscal year; and
- (D) an assessment of United States efforts to encourage and leverage business and philanthropic participation in United States food security programs and to coordinate such programs with similar efforts of international organizations, international financial institutions, the governments of developing and developed countries, and United States and international nongovernmental organizations.

(3) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT- Not later than 270 days after the submission of each report under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that contains--

- (A) a review of, and comments addressing, the report submitted under paragraph (1); and
- (B) recommendations relating to any additional actions the Comptroller General determines to be necessary to improve a global food security strategy and its implementation.

(b) Program Review-

(1) IN GENERAL- Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing--

- (A) an assessment of progress made during the preceding four years toward meeting the objectives described in section 101 and the specific goals, benchmarks, and time frames specified in the strategy described in section 102(b); and
- (B) an evaluation of the impact during the preceding four years of United States food security programs on food security, health, and economic growth in countries suffering from chronic food insecurity.

(2) BASIS FOR REPORT- The report required under paragraph (1) shall be based on assessments and impact evaluations utilizing sound quantitative and qualitative methodologies and techniques used in the behavioral sciences.

TITLE II--BILATERAL PROGRAMS

SEC. 201. AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND NUTRITION.

(a) Authority- Section 103(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a(a)(1)) is amended--

- (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking `; and' and inserting a semicolon;
- (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting `; and'; and
- (3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:
 - `(D) to expand the economic participation of people living in extreme poverty and those who lack access to agriculturally productive land, including through productive safety net programs and health and nutrition programs, and to integrate those living in extreme poverty into the economy;
 - `(E) to support conservation farming and other sustainable agricultural techniques to respond to changing climatic conditions and water shortages; and
 - `(F) to improve nutrition of vulnerable populations, such as children under the age of two years old, and pregnant or lactating women.'

(b) Authorization of Appropriations- There is authorized to be appropriated to the President to provide assistance under section 103 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a) for the purpose of carrying out activities under this section, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purpose--

- (1) \$750,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
- (2) \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- (3) \$1,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;
- (4) \$2,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2013; and
- (5) \$2,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 202. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

Section 103A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a-1) is amended in the first sentence--

- (1) by striking `, and (3) make' and inserting `, (3) make'; and
- (2) by striking the period at the end and inserting `, and (4) include research on biotechnological advances appropriate to local ecological conditions, including genetically modified technology.'

TITLE III--UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE**SEC. 301. AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.**

Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2220a et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

TITLE XII--UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE**SEC. 296. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

- (a) Findings- Congress makes the following findings:
 - (1) Agriculture has been a driver of economic growth as the foundation of industry and commerce in developed countries.
 - (2) Institutions of higher education, including vocational education, can promote a robust agriculture sector through the dissemination of knowledge, the building of human capital, research and technology, and extension.
 - (3) According to a World Bank study, higher education contributes to national productivity, raises living standards, and improves the ability of a country to compete globally.
 - (4) Enrollment rates in higher education are 5 percent in Africa, 10 percent in South Asia, 19 percent in East Asia, and 23 percent in North Africa and the Middle East.
 - (5) Universities in the United States have a history of serving as engines of development.
 - (6) Many universities in the United States have experience in partnering with foreign universities on faculty and student exchanges, curriculum development, joint research projects, and extension.
 - (7) Land-grant universities and other universities in the United States have demonstrated their ability to cooperate with international agencies, educational and research institutions in other countries, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations worldwide in expanding global agricultural production, processing, business and trade, and promoting better management of agricultural and natural resources, including adaptation to the effects of climate change, to the benefit of aid recipient countries and the United States.
 - (8) Population growth will exert pressures on food supplies and prices and require investments in increased agricultural productivity, processing, marketing, trade, research, extension, and technology in order to provide food security, ensure health, and build the basis for economic growth.
 - (9) United States foreign assistance support for higher education has declined from the 1990s.
 - (10) Global food security is in the interest of the United States because it promotes stability and economic growth, increases trade opportunities, and alleviates hunger and poverty.
- (b) Purpose- The purpose of this title is to authorize United States assistance that promotes food security, agriculture productivity, rural development, poverty and malnutrition alleviation, and environmental sustainability by engaging the expertise of United States institutions of higher education in collaboration with public and private institutions in developing countries.

SEC. 297. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

- (1) UNITED STATES UNIVERSITIES- The terms `United States universities' and `United States institutions of higher education' mean those colleges or universities in each State, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia--
 - (A) now receiving, or which may hereafter receive, benefits under the Act of July 2, 1862 (commonly known as the First Morrill Act) (7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), or the Act of August 30, 1890 (known as the Second Morrill Act) (7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), which are commonly known as `land-grant' universities;
 - (B) institutions now designated or which may hereafter be designated as sea-grant colleges under the National Sea Grant College and Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.), which are commonly known as sea-grant colleges;

`(C) Native American land-grant colleges as authorized under the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note); and

`(D) other United States colleges and universities that--

`(i) have demonstrable capacity in teaching, research, and extension (including outreach) activities in the agricultural sciences; and

`(ii) can contribute effectively to the attainment of the objective of this title.

`(2) ADMINISTRATOR- The term `Administrator' means the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

`(3) PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERS OF UNIVERSITIES- The term `public and private partners of universities' includes entities that have cooperative or contractual agreements with universities, which may include formal or informal associations of universities, other education institutions, United States Government and State agencies, private voluntary organizations, nongovernmental organizations, firms operated for profit, nonprofit organizations, multinational banks, and, as designated by the Administrator, any organizations, institutions, or agencies incorporated in foreign countries.

`(4) AGRICULTURE- The term `agriculture' means the science and practice of activities related to food, feed, livestock, or fiber production, processing, marketing, distribution, utilization, and trade, and encompasses the study and practice of family and consumer sciences, nutrition, food sciences, forestry, wildlife, fisheries, aquaculture, floraculture, livestock management, veterinary medicine, and other environmental and natural resource sciences.

`SEC. 298. AUTHORITY.

`(a) In General- In order to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, establish global food security, promote growth in agricultural productivity, trade expansion, and the sustainable use of natural resources, and alleviate poverty, the President is authorized to provide assistance on such terms and conditions as he may determine to implement program components through United States land-grant universities, other eligible universities, and public and private partners of universities in the United States and other countries, consistent with sections 103 and 103A of this Act, for the following purposes:

`(1) Research on problems affecting food, agriculture, forestry, livestock, and fisheries.

`(2) Improved human capacity and institutional capacity for the global application of agricultural and related environmental sciences.

`(3) Agricultural development and trade research and extension services to support the access of rural populations to national and global markets.

`(4) The application of agricultural sciences to solving food, health, nutrition, rural income, and environmental problems, especially among chronically food insecure populations.

`(b) Types of Support- Assistance provided pursuant to this section may include support for--

`(1) continued efforts by international agricultural research centers and other international research entities to provide a global network, including United States universities and foreign universities, for international scientific collaboration on crops, livestock, forests, fisheries, farming resources, sustainable agricultural and land management technology, and food systems of global importance;

`(2) long-term collaborative research support programs between United States and foreign institutions of higher education including the training of students, teachers, extension specialists, and researchers;

`(3) broad dissemination of agricultural research through extension, cooperatively with existing public or private extension systems;

`(4) the participation of universities and public and private partners of universities in programs of multilateral banks and agencies that receive United States assistance;

`(5) an expansion of learning opportunities about agriculture for students, teachers, school administrators, community leaders, entrepreneurs, and the general public through international internships and exchanges, graduate assistantships, faculty positions, and other means of education and extension;

`(6) competitive grants to United States universities, public and private partners of universities, and universities in other countries for research, institution and policy development, extension, training, and other programs for global agricultural development, trade and the responsible management of natural resources; and

`(7) support for developing and strengthening national agricultural research systems in developing countries.

`(c) Objectives- Programs under this title shall be carried out so as to utilize the capabilities of United States universities to assist--

` (1) in developing institutional capacity in recipient countries for classroom teaching in agriculture, plant and animal sciences, human nutrition, vocational training, extension services, and business training;

` (2) in agricultural research conducted in recipient countries, at international agricultural research centers, or in the United States;

` (3) in the planning, initiation, and development of extension services through which information concerning agriculture, farming techniques, environment, nutrition, and related subjects will be made available to farmers and farming communities in recipient countries; and

` (4) in the exchange of educators, students, and scientists for the purpose of assisting in successful development in recipient countries.

` (d) Role of Administrator- The President shall exercise his authority under this title through the Administrator.

` (e) Collaborative Research Support Program- Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 201(b) of the Global Food Security Act of 2009, up to \$45,000,000 may be made available annually for the Collaborative Research Support Program for fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

` (f) Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research- Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 201(b) of the Global Food Security Act of 2009, up to \$50,000,000 may be made available annually for core long-term research for the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research for fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

` (g) Board for Higher Education Collaboration for Technology, Agriculture, Research, and Extension-

` (1) ESTABLISHMENT- The Administrator shall establish a permanent Board for Higher Education Collaboration for Technology, Agriculture, Research, and Extension (referred to as `Board') for purposes of assisting the Administrator in the administration of the HECTARE Program, the Collaborative Research Support Program, and all other manner of university engagement authorized under this title.

` (2) MEMBERSHIP- The Board shall consist of at least 7 members, of whom--

` (A) not less than 4 shall be selected from United States universities; and

` (B) not less than 3 shall be selected from representatives of nongovernmental organizations or international education consortia devoted to agriculture research and education.

` (3) DUTIES- The duties of the Board shall include the following:

` (A) Responsibility for advising the Administrator on issues related to the planning, implementation, and monitoring of activities described in this title.

` (B) Advising the Administrator on the formulation of basic policy, program design, procedures, and criteria for the HECTARE Program.

` (C) Advising the Administrator on the qualifications of interested institutions of higher education based on--

` (i) their ability to work collaboratively to improve agricultural production, scientific research, and the dissemination of sustainable agricultural technologies;

` (ii) their commitment to expanding and applying their academic, teaching, research, and outreach capacities; and

` (iii) their commitment to partner with private organizations, civil society, other universities, and government entities.

` (D) Advising the Administrator on which countries could benefit from programs carried out under section 299 and have an interest in establishing or developing agricultural institutions that engage in teaching, research, or extension services.

` (E) Making recommendations to the Administrator on the means to improve the effectiveness of activities authorized by this title and undertaken by universities and public and private partners of universities.

` (F) Assessing the impact of programs carried out under this title in solving agricultural problems, improving global food security, addressing natural resource issues, and strengthening institutional capacity at foreign university partners in developing countries.

` (G) Reviewing issues concerning implementation of this title as requested by universities and making recommendations to the Administrator on their resolution.

` (H) Advising the Administrator on any and all issues as requested.

` (4) REVIEW OF COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM- Not later than 1 year after the appointment of the members of the Board, the Board shall conduct a review of the Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) with regard to the research focus of existing CRSP activities and their relevance to

addressing hunger, malnutrition, agricultural productivity, and poverty alleviation, and shall make recommendations to the Administrator to strengthen the CRSP program.

`(5) SUBORDINATE UNITS- The Administrator may authorize the Board to create such subordinate units as may be necessary for the performance of its duties.

`(6) ANNUAL REPORT CONSULTATION- The Board shall be consulted in the preparation of the annual report required by section 299A and on other agricultural development activities related to programs under this title.

`(7) TERM- The terms of members shall be set by the Administrator at the time they are appointed.

`(8) REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES- Members of the Board shall be entitled to such reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties (including per diem in lieu of subsistence while away from their homes or regular place of business) as the Administrator deems appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

`SEC.

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