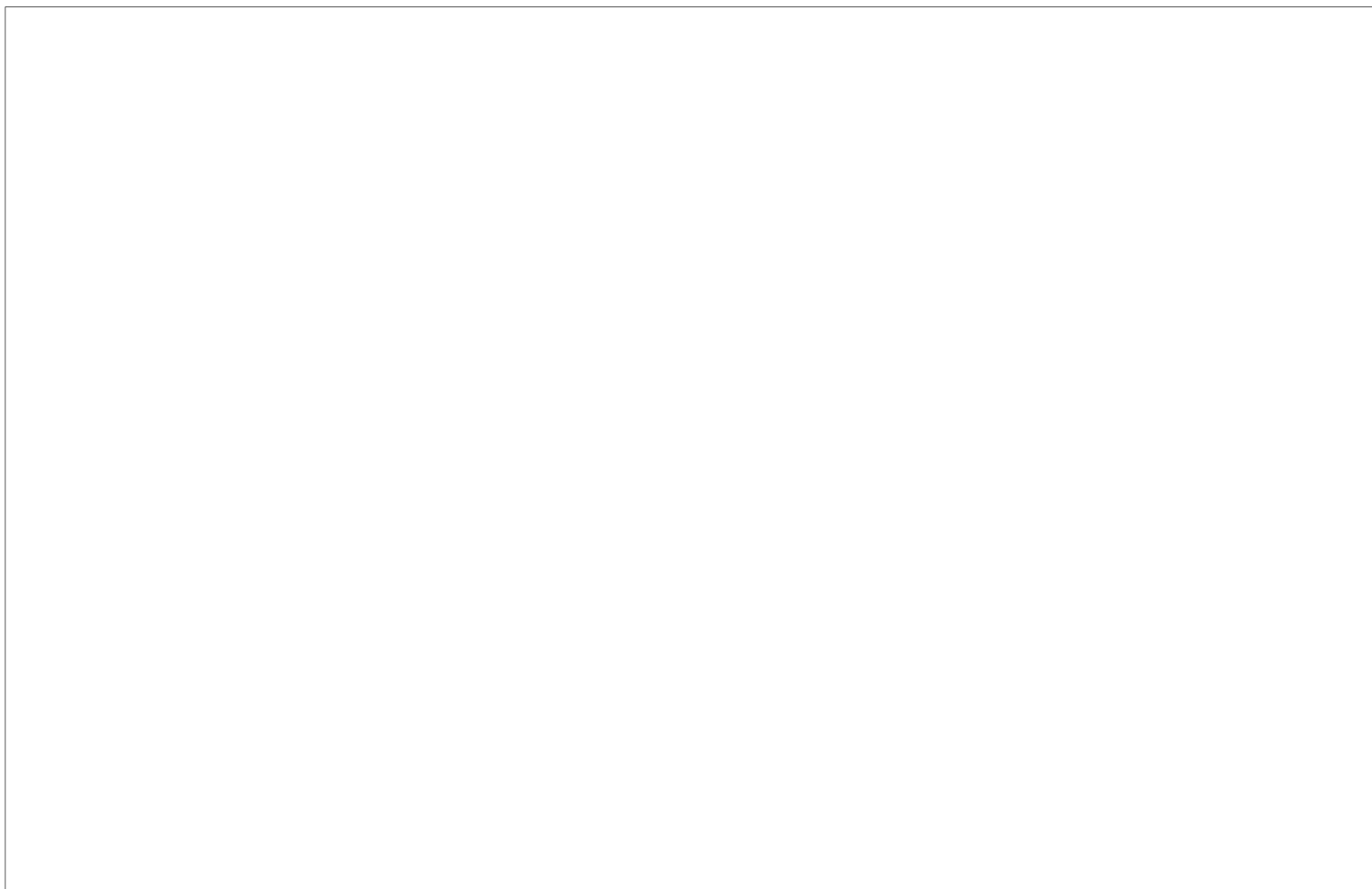


RELEASE IN PART
B5

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 8:53 PM
To: H
Subject: Franken



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Background on Somalia: The humanitarian crisis in the eastern Horn of Africa is rapidly evolving due to prolonged drought conditions, which have resulted in food insecurity, water shortages, and acute malnutrition rates well above emergency thresholds, particularly among Somali refugees arriving at camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. Almost 12 million people in the region are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. The number and condition of Somali refugees flooding into Kenya and Ethiopia is particularly alarming. As many as 20 percent of the newly arrived children under five suffer from severe acute malnutrition, which far exceeds the standard emergency rate of two or three percent. According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the total number of Somali refugees in the eastern Horn is 582,000. Ethiopia has 135,000 Somali refugees, with 20,000 arriving in June alone, while Kenya has more than 430,000 with 20,000 arriving in the last two weeks of June alone –rates strikingly higher than the 2010 monthly rates of 1,500-2,000 in Ethiopia and 4,000-6,000 in Kenya. The current flows threaten to overwhelm the existing refugee assistance infrastructure.