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## PRESS RELEASE

### THE PRC-SUB COMMITTEE ON THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND FOR DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA APPROVED EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI

The PRC Sub-Committee on the Special Emergency Assistance Fund for Drought and Famine in Africa (SEAF), at its 19<sup>th</sup> Extra-Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 16 August 2011 approved emergency relief assistance in the sum of US\$300,000 to the Government of Djibouti, following the unprecedented drought that affected more than 120,000 people and large number of animals in that country. The grant which is a symbol of solidarity with the people of Djibouti will be used for the purchase of food and non-food items to the affected population in Djibouti.

The Sub-Committee appreciated the efforts of the Government of Djibouti to mitigate the plight of the affected people and called upon Member States of the African Union, Regional and International Organizations as well as donor agencies and the international community at large to assist the efforts of the Government through the provision of required financial and material support that would enable it overcome the enormous challenges caused by the undesired situation.

At this meeting the Sub-Committee also considered the financial situation of the Fund which is continuously depleting due to lack of voluntary contributions, and in this regard, agreed to set-up a Task Force composed of five Member States, one from each Region, to propose a resource mobilization strategy and review the modus operandi of the Fund with a view to making it more responsive to emergency situations.

The PRC Sub-Committee on the Special Emergency Assistance Fund for Drought and Famine in Africa, composed of fifteen Member States, is currently chaired by Zimbabwe.

**Addis Ababa, 22 August 2011**