**WFP News Video:** **First Ship Carrying Humanitarian Food Assistance Departs Odessa Port**

Shot: 12-16Aug22 Specific dates indicated below

Mykolaiv grain terminal and Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine

TRT: 1:44

**SHOTLIST:**

**:00-:16**

Trucks being loaded with wheat purchased for WFP shipment from Odesa Port to Ethiopia. Emptying the silos in the region that have remained full since Feb. 2022 is critical to allow space to safely store grain from the new harvest.

**Shot:12Aug22**

**Mykolaiv grain terminal, Ukraine**

**:16-:36**

The UN-chartered MV Brave Commander docks at Ukraine’s Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) port in Odesa to collect Ukrainian wheat grain purchased by the UN World Food Programme. It is the first shipment of humanitarian food assistance under the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

**Shot: 12Aug22**

**Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine**

**:36-:47**

MV Brave Commander being loaded with 23,000metric tons of wheat expected to go to Ethiopia.

**(these shots were provided by Ukraine Gov. Press Office)**

**Shot: 14Aug22**

**Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine**

**:47-1:20**

**SOT Marianne Ward, Dep. Country Director WFP Ukraine(English):**

“This ship will be taking 23,000 metric tons of wheat to the hungry people of Ethiopia, people who are literally on the edge of famine. We're very excited that this is the first ship to be leaving this court and that a humanitarian ship is really leading the way.

We also hope that this will be the beginning of normal operations and that Ukrainian food can start to go out and support the world and and hunger and bring down global food prices.”

**Shot: 14Aug22**

**Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine**

1:20-1:44

WFP grain ship, MV Brave Commander, departs port of Odesa

**(these shots were provided by Ukraine Gov. Press Office)**

**Shot: 16Aug22**

**Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine**

**ENDS**

**WFP News Release**

16 August 2022

**First WFP vessel leaves Ukraine, boosting efforts to get food supplies to PEOPLE threatened by Famine**

**YUZHNY / ROME –** The first maritime shipment of Ukrainian wheat grain for humanitarian operations run by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) left Ukraine’s Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port today, another important milestone in efforts to get much needed Ukrainian grain out of the conflict-hit country, back into global markets, and to countries worst affected by the global food crisis.

The shipment of 23,000 metric tons of wheat grain will go to WFP’s humanitarian response in the Horn of Africa where the threat of famine stalks the drought-hit region. It is one of many areas around the world where the near complete halt of Ukrainian grain and food on global market has made life even harder for families already struggling with rising hunger.

“Getting the Black Sea Ports open is the single most important thing we can do right now to help the world’s hungry,” said WFP Executive Director David Beasley. “It will take more than grain ships out of Ukraine to stop world hunger, but with Ukrainian grain back on global markets we have a chance to stop this global food crisis from spiraling even further.”

A record 345 million people in 82 countries are now facing acute food insecurity while up to 50 million people in 45 countries are right on the edge of famine and risk being tipped over without humanitarian support.

With commercial and humanitarian maritime traffic now resuming in and out of Ukraine’s Black Sea Port, some global supply disruptions will ease with relief for countries facing the worst of the global food crisis. Crucially, it will also allow Ukraine to empty its grain storage silos ahead of the summer season harvest.

Despite these positive developments, the world still faces an unprecedented food crisis. Immediate action is needed that brings together the humanitarian community, governments, and the private sector to save lives and invest in long term solutions. Failure will see people around the world slip into devastating famines with destabilizing impacts felt by us all.

This export of wheat is the product of strong collaboration between the private sector -- which is key in our response to the global food crisis -- and the government sector. WFP could not have arranged this shipment without critical emergency funding from USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, as well

as significant contributions from the foundation of the long-time WFP supporter and former Goodwill Ambassador Howard G. Buffett and Minderoo Foundation, the Australian philanthropic organisation of Andrew and Nicola Forrest.

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The United Nations World Food Programme is the world’s largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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