



World Food
Programme

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The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

**Malawi: World Aids Day
Thursday 01 December 2005
Video Release**

Language: English
Length: 2:35

Shot list:

Shot 11 November 2005

0- 0:34 - Mwanza, Malawi –Various shot of trucks and truck drivers waiting at boarder post with Mozambique

0:34 – 0:50 - Mwanza, Malawi – Wellness Center at boarder post with Mozambique

0:50 – 1:12 - Mwanza, Malawi SOT:

Dorothy Hector,
WFP Logistics

“This wellness center is geared to help transporters. The truck drivers themselves, the sexual... the sex workers that work the area and anybody else that’s there to understand AIDS, understand what sexually transmitted infections are, and hopefully mitigate the pandemic and proliferation of the disease”.

1:12 – 1:39 - Mwanza, Malawi – Various shots of consultations inside the Wellness Clinic

1:39 – 1:56 – Mwanza, Malawi –
SOT:

Bernard Ntimbui
Truck driver

“It’s a good idea for the people who are travelling. If you get sick you can go and consult them. They will tell you exactly what’s happening, and if you can be treated then that’s fine. It’s a very good idea to put the clinic at a point like this”.

1:39 – 2:35 - Mwanza, Malawi –Various shot of trucks and truck drivers waiting at boarder post with Mozambique



WFP News Release

29 November 2005

WORLD AIDS DAY 2005

HOOKERS, TRUCKERS AND AIDS: PREVENTION AT THE 'PIT STOP'

BLANTYRE – Sex workers, truck drivers, storemen and port workers now all have access to information, counselling on HIV and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases where and when they need it most, thanks to an innovative new project launched by the United Nations World Food Programme and partners TNT, the Swedish International Development Agency and the Malawian Ministry of Health.

In response to the dramatic food crisis currently gripping Malawi, trucks contracted by WFP are among the dozens of heavy vehicles that queue up every night at the Mwanza border crossing to pass customs clearance. Mwanza is the busiest border crossing, handling 70 percent of all road freight into Malawi. Since January, some 600 WFP trucks have crossed the border on their way to and from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

“Long nights, young men far from home, and an abundance of poor young women makes this a perfect location for HIV to spread – and an ideal place to intervene to stop it. That is why Mwanza was the first place WFP and its partners chose to install the ‘Muyende Bwino Pit Stop’, the first Wellness Centre in Malawi,” said Dom Scalpelli, WFP Country Director in Malawi.

Conscious of the possibility that its own transport workers might be contributing to the spread of HIV, WFP and TNT, the global mail, express and logistics company, established the Wellness Centres as a way to give truckers – and the communities they pass through – access to life-saving information on how to avoid contracting HIV and passing it on to others. Treatment for minor ailments and sexually transmitted diseases is also available, in addition to referrals to voluntary counselling, testing and treatment for HIV. The centres are open when their clients need them most.

WFP is mounting a relief operation in Malawi to reach more than 4 million people no longer able to feed themselves as a result of drought and the government’s dwindling ability to cope as farmers, workers and civil servants continue to succumb to the deadly AIDS pandemic. One in every seven adults in the country is HIV positive.

“AIDS has cut a huge swathe through Malawian society. In a country where poverty is endemic and drought a regular feature of rural life, the effects of the pandemic have been truly catastrophic,” Scalpelli said.

WFP is a major transport provider to poor countries – including 21 of the 25 countries worst-affected by AIDS. With more than 5,000 trucks carrying food to hungry people in more than



80 countries, plus countless workers in ports, warehouses, railways and airports, its contractors and staff work along the corridors where HIV rates are among the highest in the world. And since they travel to some of the most remote places in the world, they can contribute to the spread of the disease.

HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness activities are provided to all of WFP's staff worldwide, and offered to transport workers in places like Ethiopia and Myanmar.

WFP offers assistance to families affected by HIV and AIDS in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Its food and nutritional support helps keep people with HIV healthy for longer. Good nutrition ensures that antiretroviral treatment is most effective, keeping people alive for longer and preventing mothers from passing the virus to their babies. Food helps children from families where a parent is sick or has died from AIDS related causes to stay in school.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency: each year, we give food to an average of 90 million poor people to meet their nutritional needs, including 61 million hungry children, in at least 80 of the world's poorest countries. **WFP -- We Feed People.**

WFP Global School Feeding Campaign – For just 19 US cents a day, you can help WFP give children in poor countries a healthy meal at school – a gift of hope for a brighter future.

Visit our website: www.wfp.org

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