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GoviEx Uranium sponsors US\$1 million in food aid and appeals for support for expanded international relief commitments to famine-stricken Niger

ARLIT, NIGER – Govind Friedland, Chief Executive Officer of GoviEx Uranium, announced today that emergency food supplies purchased with a \$1 million donation from GoviEx have been distributed to help relieve hunger and malnutrition among approximately 30,000 residents of communities in the Arlit region of north-central Niger.

With nearly seven million people reportedly affected by hunger throughout Niger, the United Nations considers the situation to be one of the biggest humanitarian crises in Africa this year.

“We know from the first-hand reports of GoviEx representatives on the ground that the shortage of food and livestock fodder has contributed to a crisis that now threatens the health of tens of thousands of children,” Mr. Friedland said.

“International support is making a difference, but Niger still requires concerted relief aid from governments, international organizations and corporations to ensure adequate food supplies and improved food-chain management capacities that can help to secure the future for some of the neediest people in the world.”

Jean Chretien, a senior international business adviser to GoviEx and a former Prime Minister of Canada, said companies have a role to play in helping to ensure the success of emergency aid programs. “The GoviEx lead is an example of a company recognizing a need and providing financial resources that support agencies have converted to timely, on-the-ground delivery of assistance in a form best suited for the requirements of the local communities.”

The GoviEx donation was administered through the Canada-based Centre for International Studies and Cooperation organization, which is experienced in organizing emergency relief efforts.

Truckloads of food purchased with the GoviEx donation, including 1,000 tons of millet, 237 tons of rice and 14 tons of a children’s vitamin supplement, were distributed to recipients representing approximately 5,000 families in October. The distribution followed a delivery ceremony in Arlit that was attended by regional officials, governors, local chiefs and area residents and chaired by Colonel Goukoye Abdoukarim, President of Niger’s High Authority for Food Security. Colonel Goukoye thanked GoviEx on behalf of the national government and the residents for the company’s commitment to community support and for underwriting the purchase and delivery of food.

Following GoviEx’s initiative, the Government of Canada also contributed aid valued at CDN\$4.7 million in funds, food supplies and education to help address the needs of Niger residents.

GoviEx Uranium Inc. is a private company focused on the exploration and development of its tenements in Niger.

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Colonel Abdoukarim Goukoye (far right), President of Niger's High Authority for Food Security, attended the food delivery ceremony with GoviEx representative Aminou Boukary (centre-left, red-striped tie).



Area residents in line to receive GoviEx food aid being distributed in Arlit, in north-central Niger.