



World Food
Programme

Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي

The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

World Food Programme Executive Director

James T. Morris

Biography

James T. Morris became the tenth Executive Director of the United Nations' World Food Programme at the beginning of April 2002.

As head of WFP, Mr. Morris oversees the world's largest food aid organisation, which last year fed 77 million people in 82 countries at a total cost of US\$1.74 billion.

After just four months as Executive Director, Mr. Morris was appointed UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Special Envoy on the humanitarian crisis in southern Africa, which is now gripped by a major food emergency.

For over 35 years, James T. Morris has combined a distinguished career of business and organizational management with a personal life of public service. Both his career decisions and his volunteer activities have reflected a commitment to improving the lives of others with a special interest in young people at risk and giving something back to his community and his country.

After serving six years in Indianapolis (IN) city government, primarily as chief of staff for the mayor Richard Lugar, Morris moved to the Lilly Endowment, Inc. in 1973. Morris began as director of community development for the Endowment, one of the world's largest charitable foundations. He quickly moved to vice president, executive vice president and then president, and served in that role for six years, until 1989.

Morris then became chairman and chief executive officer of IWC Resources Corporation and Indianapolis Water Company. Under his leadership, IWC grew to a \$200 million holding company with 2,500 employees. During his tenure, Morris developed strategic growth initiatives and created company sponsored privatization initiatives. He enhanced employee development through recognition programs, diversification, human relations and educational opportunities.

While serving in these leadership roles and on several corporate boards, Morris has carved time out of this already busy schedule for volunteer activities. Morris was affiliated with the United States Olympic Committee as treasurer and as chairman of the audit and ethics committee, is a member of the Board of Governors of the American Red Cross, and is chairman of the Board of Trustees of Indiana University. He has contributed time and guidance to many civic and community organizations.

Morris earned his BA in Political Science from Indiana University and an MBA from Butler University.

Morris is married to Jacqueline Harrell Morris. They have three children and four grandchildren.

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