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“Over much of what for me has been an exciting and fulfilling career, I’ve been engaged with the challenge of building bridges across the ever-widening gulf between the fortunate few and the increasingly desperate many,” he says. “It will take time and significant effort before we see sustained progress... There are some positive signs. There are some visionary leaders.”

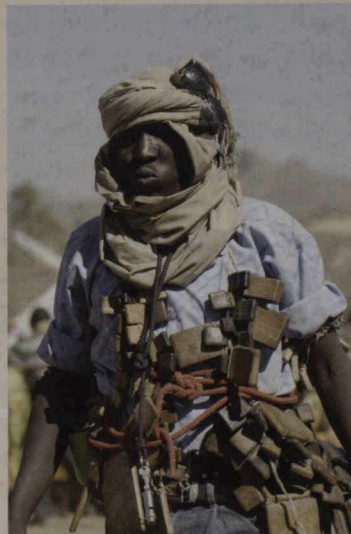
In a few countries there has been sustained growth, he says, but conflict continues to wipe out progress and cause massive suffering, and there are persistent instances of bad leadership and governance, although fewer than five or 10 years ago.

“It’s certainly a challenge, and there are really good days and really bad days,” he says. “You can’t be optimistic or pessimistic. You have to be realistic. Almost a billion people cannot simply be left out or even behind.” ♣

**See Ambassador  
Bob Fowler’s photographs  
at [www.robertfowler.com](http://www.robertfowler.com).**



Zam Zam IDP camp,  
North Darfur, Sudan



Jabel Marra, South Darfur,  
Sudan



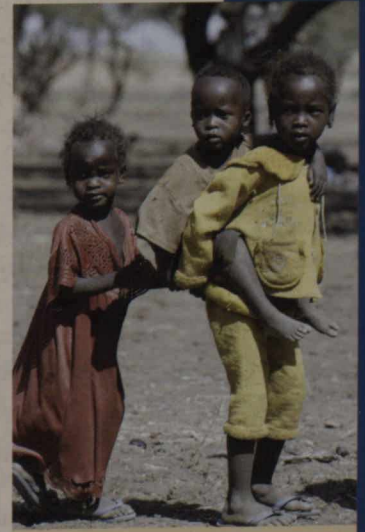
Bunia IDP camp, Ituri Province,  
Democratic Republic of the  
Congo



World Food Programme  
Food for Work, Kibungo,  
Rwanda



World Vision feeding station for  
AIDS victims, northern Uganda



Zam Zam IDP camp,  
North Darfur, Sudan