

Publication: Irish Independent

Date: Friday, March 27, 2009

Page: 10

Extract: 1 of 1

Circulation: 159.363

Author:

Headline: Charities delight at Obama funds



---

## **Charity's delight at Obama funds**

**TEARFUL** Irish charity chief Niall Mellon last night thanked US President Barack Obama for passing legislation that could inject thousands of euro into his African housing project.

The construction boss spoke for the first time of his joy after being recommended for USAID

development fund cash after his army of builders from Ireland put up 11,000 houses for homeless people in South Africa.

Mr Obama personally backed the project as one of his first moves after taking office.

Mr Mellon (42) said the money would transform many more lives, as he handed a family of seven the keys to their new home near Cape Town.